

CHAPTER 6

DEMOGRAPHY

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CHAPTER 6

DEMOGRAPHY

This chapter deals with the size, growth, geographic location and characteristics of the population and with components of population change, namely births, deaths, marriage, divorce and migration.

The sources of the statistics in this chapter are population censuses, population surveys, State and Territorial registers of births, deaths and marriages, records of courts dealing with divorce, and other administrative records such as passenger cards required from international travellers and records of electoral roll and family allowance transfers.

With the proclamation of the *Constitution Alteration (Aboriginals) Act* 1967 on 10 August 1967, the provision in section 127 of the Constitution requiring the exclusion of Aborigines in reckoning the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth or of a State or other part of the Commonwealth was repealed. Accordingly, population and vital statistics for all dates subsequent to 10 August 1967 no longer exclude full-blood Aborigines. Also, estimates for periods back to 30 June 1961 have been revised to include Aborigines.

A list of publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics which contain detailed population statistics is given at the end of this chapter.

THE POPULATION

The population census

Basic enumerations of the population have been made since the early days of settlement in Australia. The early enumerations were known as 'musters'. A census conducted in New South Wales in 1828 became the first in a series of regular censuses in that colony. Periodic censuses were taken in the other Australian colonies. The first simultaneous censuses of all the Australian colonies was taken in 1881. The first national census was taken in 1911. It was followed by others in 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954, 1961 and at five yearly intervals thereafter. A special article on early censuses appears in Year Book No. 15 of 1922. A special article outlining the history, purposes, legal basis, organisation and publication of results of population censuses appears in Year Book No. 53 of 1967, pages 164-170.

Every census from 1881 has inquired into age, sex, marital status, birthplace, nationality or citizenship and occupation. A wide variety of other topics has been included from time to time.

The most recent census in Australia was conducted on 30 June 1976. In addition to the basic demographic topics mentioned above, questions were asked on income (included for the first time since 1933); the effects of handicaps; child care arrangements; and mortgage repayments. This Year Book contains data on characteristics of the population based on preliminary processing of all schedules. The data from the 1976 Census on internal migration comes from the main processing stage, based on a sample of the schedules. The sample included all the schedules from the Northern Territory and from non-private dwellings (e.g. hotels, hospitals, jails), together with 50 per cent of the remaining householders' schedules.

The population census in Australia is de facto, i.e. persons are enumerated where they spend census night even though that may not be where they usually live. Visitors to Australia are enumerated if they are in Australia on census night, regardless of the duration of their stay. Foreign diplomatic personnel and their families resident in Australia, and Australians out of the country are excluded.

Despite elaborate arrangements aimed at obtaining complete coverage, it is not possible to ensure that a census schedule is returned for every individual. Some error inevitably remains for various reasons (e.g. inadvertent omission of very young children, missed dwellings or occupied dwellings mistakenly taken as unoccupied). Since 1966, sample surveys have been taken soon after each census to discover the approximate extent of under-enumeration and the effects on the census results of mis-statement or non-reply to specific questions. From these studies it appears that under-enumeration has increased over the most recent censuses. Under-enumeration of the population of Australia at the 1976 census is estimated to have been 2.7 per cent. Estimated under-enumeration of State populations is shown in *Population of States and Territories Adjusted for Under-Enumeration as shown by Post-Enumeration Survey* (2409.0). Under-enumeration varies from location to location and for populations of different ages and other characteristics. These and similar problems are common to all population censuses and, although under-enumeration has increased in Australia since the 1971 census, it is of a similar order to that experienced by comparable countries.

Population estimates

The census enumeration, adjusted for under-enumeration, forms the basis for quarterly estimates of the population prepared by sex and State. These are calculated by updating for subsequent births and deaths and for overseas and interstate migration. Age estimates are prepared annually for each State and Territory. Small area estimates are also made annually.

From 1976, and retrospectively to June 1971, the overseas migration component is defined as the excess of arrivals over departures of permanent and long-term movements. Long-term includes visits to or absences from Australia lasting one year or longer. Previously, all overseas movement was included. Since 1961, interstate movement which enters the calculation of population estimates for the States and Territories has excluded holiday, business or other short term movements. Thus, quarterly changes due to short term overseas movement are reflected in Australian and State population figures prior to 1971 but not thereafter, and quarterly movements due to interstate travel are reflected in population figures prior to 1961 but not thereafter.

Estimates of the population as at 30 June 1971 and 30 June 1976 are based on the population as counted at the time of those censuses with an adjustment for under-enumeration. The estimate of the population as at 30 June 1971 is 12,937.2 thousand compared with the counted population of 12,755.6 thousand. The estimate of the population as at 30 June 1976 is 13,915.5 thousand compared with the counted population of 13,548.5 thousand. The preliminary estimate of the population as at 30 June 1979 is 14,417.2 thousand. While adjustments have been made to the estimates of the age and sex of the population of each State and of the population of each local government area, it is not possible to adjust all the statistical material derived from the census.

The quarterly estimates from June 1971 to June 1976 have also been revised to take into account the 1976 census and to allow for under-enumeration at that and the preceding census.

Mean populations, by sex, are calculated for calendar and financial years to the formula—

$$\text{Mean population} = \frac{a + 4b + 2c + 4d + e}{12}$$

where *a* is the population at the end of the quarter immediately preceding the twelve month period, and *b*, *c*, *d* and *e* are the populations at the end of each of the four succeeding quarters. Mean populations are used in the calculation of crude rates.

Size and growth of Australia's population

When Europeans first settled in Australia, the Aboriginal population is believed to have been at least 300,000. The Aboriginal population suffered a drastic decline in numbers over the next 145 years so that by 1933 it is estimated to have totalled about 67,000. It has since risen (to about 161,000 in 1976).

The population of Australia reached 1 million in 1858, 5 million in 1918 and 14 million early in 1977.

From 1861 natural increase has been the major element in population growth, and immigration the most variable. In the years 1861 to 1890, total growth on average exceeded 3 per cent a year and natural increase 2 per cent. The rate of natural increase declined during the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth century, and this, together with a near cessation of immigration during that period, reduced the rate of growth from 3.70 per cent in 1861–70 to 1.63 per cent in 1901–10.

The 1914–18 war was the dominating influence in the decade 1911–1920: during the war and immediate post-war years the birth rate rose and immigration was resumed. In the economic depression of the 1930s, however, natural increase fell to its lowest level ever and immigration ceased; indeed, in some years, overseas departures exceeded arrivals.

With the outbreak of the 1939–45 war, Australia entered a new phase. The immediate effect of the war was to increase the number of marriages and births. The increasing births more than offset the rise in deaths due to war casualties and higher civilian death rates. Migration in these years was negligible.

The period 1947 to 1961 was marked by a continued high natural increase and a resumption of immigration, the latter resulting in very high net gains in each of the four years 1949 to 1952.

Between 1961 and 1970, net migration continued at about the same level as in the previous decade, but there were declines in the crude birth rate and the rate of natural increase. The years since 1971 have been characterised by a reduced rate of natural increase due to a decline in the birth rate and lower levels of net migration; together, these have resulted in the lowest rate of population

growth for 30 years 1.02 per cent in 1975 and 1976. In 1978, the rate of growth was 1.18 per cent, of which 0.82 per cent was due to natural increase and 0.36 per cent to net migration. The estimates in the following table relate to the end of December. Estimates for the end of June are given in other tables.

POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF GROWTH

| Period | Population at end of period ('000) (a) | Average annual rate of growth (b) (per cent) | | |
|-----------|--|--|-------------------|-------|
| | | Natural increase | Net migration (c) | Total |
| 1851-1860 | 1,145.6 | | | |
| 1861-1870 | 1,647.8 | 2.47 | 1.23 | 3.70 |
| 1871-1880 | 2,231.5 | 2.07 | 1.01 | 3.08 |
| 1881-1890 | 3,151.4 | 2.05 | 1.46 | 3.51 |
| 1891-1900 | 3,765.3 | 1.73 | 0.07 | 1.80 |
| 1901-1910 | 4,425.1 | 1.53 | 0.10 | 1.63 |
| 1911-1920 | 5,411.3 | 1.60 | 0.43 | 2.03 |
| 1921-1930 | 6,500.8 | 1.32 | 0.53 | 1.85 |
| 1931-1940 | 7,077.6 | 0.79 | 0.05 | 0.85 |
| 1941-1950 | 8,307.5 | 1.13 | 0.47 | 1.61 |
| 1951-1955 | 9,311.8 | 1.38 | 0.95 | 2.31 |
| 1956-1960 | 10,391.9 | 1.40 | 0.83 | 2.22 |
| 1961-1965 | 11,505.4 | 1.27 | 0.74 | 1.98 |
| 1966-1970 | 12,663.5 | 1.11 | 0.91 | 1.94 |
| 1971-1975 | (d) 13,849.3 | 1.08 | 0.49 | 1.59 |
| 1971 | (d) 13,070.0 | 1.29 | 0.81 | 2.11 |
| 1972 | (d) 13,283.9 | 1.19 | 0.43 | 1.64 |
| 1973 | (d) 13,490.6 | 1.03 | 0.51 | 1.56 |
| 1974 | (d) 13,709.5 | 0.96 | 0.65 | 1.62 |
| 1975 | (d) 13,849.3 | 0.90 | 0.10 | 1.02 |
| 1976 | (d) 13,991.2 | 0.83 | 0.18 | 1.02 |
| 1977 | (d) 14,163.5 | 0.84 | 0.39 | 1.23 |
| 1978 | (d) 14,330.9 | 0.82 | 0.36 | 1.18 |

(a) Excludes full-blood Aboriginals prior to 1961. (b) The average annual rates of population growth for periods greater than one year are calculated on the compound interest principle. The rates refer to the population at the beginning of the period. Discrepancies between the sum of the rate of growth due to natural increase and net migration and the rate of total growth are due to intercensal adjustment. (c) From 30 June 1971, net migration is defined as the excess of overseas arrivals over overseas departures classified as permanent and long term movement. (Long term includes visits to and absences from Australia lasting one year or longer.) From 30 June 1933 to 30 June 1971, net migration represents the excess of all arrivals over all departures. Prior to 30 June 1933, net migration includes discrepancies disclosed by the various censuses, which were corrected by adjusting recorded overseas departures. (d) These population estimates and rates of growth incorporate revisions resulting from an examination of evidence of under-enumeration in the 1976 and 1971 censuses. The estimated population at 31 December 1970 used to compute rates of growth thereafter was 12,799,600.

Projections of the population

Projections of Australia's population are made using the component method in which a base population is brought forward year by year by applying assumptions about future trends of fertility, mortality and the characteristics of overseas migration.

The projections given here cover the years to 2011 and are based on provisional estimates of the population for 1978. The assumptions used in the projections are as follows:

Fertility. Rates were chosen on the assumptions that first births will stabilise by about 1981 at a level somewhat lower than that experienced by recent generations of women; that the proportion of women with one child who will have a second child will remain more or less the same; and that the falling off in fertility rates among women who have 3 or more children will continue until 1984. The overall effect will be a further small decline of fertility followed by a rise to replacement level in 1984. Constant rates are assumed thereafter.

Mortality. It is assumed that the 1975-76 age specific mortality rates will apply for the duration of the projections except that infant mortality is assumed to continue to decline. It was assumed that the annual rate of improvement would decline by about one per cent per annum bringing the infant mortality rate to 7.7 for males and 6.0 for females in 2011.

Migration. Net immigration has been projected at an illustrative level of 50,000 persons per year. The age-sex composition is based on the pattern of permanent arrivals and departures in the 5 years 1972 to 1977.

According to these projections, the population will number 17.4 million in 2011 without further immigration and 19.6 million with net immigration at 50,000 persons a year, immigration having contributed 2.2 million to the growth of the population.

PROJECTED POPULATION OF AUSTRALIA: 1978 TO 2011

| 30 June-- | Excluding migration after 30 June 1978 | Resulting from | Including |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| | | net immigration at the illustrative level of 50,000 persons a year after 30 June 1978 | net immigration at the illustrative level of 50,000 persons a year after 30 June 1978 |
| | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1978p | 14,259.0 | .. | 14,259.0 |
| 1979 | 14,359.9 | 50.6 | 14,410.5 |
| 1980 | 14,460.8 | 102.4 | 14,563.1 |
| 1981 | 14,564.9 | 155.4 | 14,720.3 |
| 1986 | 15,154.7 | 440.9 | 15,595.6 |
| 1991 | 15,734.6 | 753.2 | 16,487.8 |
| 1996 | 16,262.4 | 1,085.0 | 17,347.4 |
| 2001 | 16,705.2 | 1,436.0 | 18,141.3 |
| 2006 | 17,058.1 | 1,809.2 | 18,867.3 |
| 2011 | 17,375.4 | 2,205.3 | 19,580.7 |

The average annual rate of growth will rise from 0.7 per cent to 0.8 per cent and will then decline to 0.4 per cent, if there is no further immigration. The birthrate on the assumptions used will rise from 15 per thousand to 17 per thousand and will then decline to 14 per thousand. The crude death rate will rise from 8 per thousand to 11 per thousand.

With immigration at 50,000 persons a year, the average annual rate of growth will fall from 1.1 per cent to 0.7 per cent. The crude birthrate will rise from 15 per thousand to 17 per thousand and will then fall to 15 per thousand. The death rate will rise from 8 per thousand to 10 per thousand.

PROJECTED AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES OF GROWTH (a), AUSTRALIA 1978 TO 2011
(per cent)

| | Excluding migration after 30 June 1978 | | | Including net immigration at the illustrative level of 50,000 persons a year after 30 June 1978 | | | | |
|---------------------|---|--------|-------------------|---|--------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | Births | Deaths | Rate of growth | Births | Deaths | Natural increase | Net immi- gration | Rate of growth |
| 1978-81 | 1.55 | 0.84 | 0.71 | 1.56 | 0.84 | 0.72 | 0.35 | 1.07 |
| 1981-86 | 1.68 | 0.88 | 0.80 | 1.70 | 0.87 | 0.83 | 0.33 | 1.16 |
| 1986-91 | 1.67 | 0.92 | 0.75 | 1.70 | 0.90 | 0.80 | 0.31 | 1.12 |
| 1991-96 | 1.62 | 0.96 | 0.66 | 1.65 | 0.92 | 0.72 | 0.30 | 1.02 |
| 1996-2001 | 1.53 | 0.99 | 0.54 | 1.56 | 0.95 | 0.61 | 0.28 | 0.90 |
| 2001-06 | 1.44 | 1.02 | 0.42 | 1.49 | 0.97 | 0.51 | 0.27 | 0.79 |
| 2006-11 | 1.42 | 1.06 | 0.37 | 1.48 | 1.00 | 0.48 | 0.26 | 0.74 |

(a) Calculated using the compound interest principle. The rates are split between the components of natural increase and net migration according to the relative size of each component.

The proportion of juveniles aged under 15 will fall from 26 per cent to 21 per cent without immigration or 22 per cent with immigration. The proportion of elderly aged 65 and over will rise from 9 per cent to 12 per cent without immigration or 11 per cent with immigration. The proportion of the population aged 15 to 64 will increase from 65 per cent to 67 per cent whether or not there is any further immigration.

PROJECTED AGE DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN AGE

| 30 June | Excluding migration after 30 June 1978 | | | Median age (years) | Including net immigration at illustrative level of 50,000 persons a year | | | Median age (years) |
|---------|---|-------|-----------|--------------------------|--|-------|-----------|--------------------------|
| | Age distribution (per cent) | | | | Age distribution (per cent) | | | |
| | 0-14 | 15-64 | 65 & over | | 0-14 | 15-64 | 65 & over | |
| 1978 | 26.2 | 64.6 | 9.2 | 28.9 | 26.2 | 64.6 | 9.2 | 28.9 |
| 1981 | 25.0 | 65.4 | 9.7 | 29.8 | 25.0 | 65.4 | 9.6 | 29.7 |
| 1986 | 23.6 | 66.3 | 10.2 | 30.9 | 23.9 | 66.2 | 10.0 | 30.6 |
| 1991 | 22.9 | 66.3 | 10.8 | 32.0 | 23.4 | 66.2 | 10.5 | 31.6 |
| 1996 | 23.2 | 65.7 | 11.1 | 33.1 | 23.7 | 65.7 | 10.6 | 32.6 |
| 2001 | 22.7 | 66.3 | 11.0 | 34.1 | 23.2 | 66.4 | 10.4 | 33.3 |
| 2006 | 21.8 | 67.0 | 11.2 | 35.1 | 22.4 | 67.1 | 10.5 | 34.3 |
| 2011 | 21.1 | 67.1 | 11.9 | 36.0 | 21.8 | 67.3 | 11.0 | 34.8 |

Location of the population

For historical, climatic and economic reasons the population of Australia is concentrated in capital cities and other major towns, mainly on the south and east coasts of the continent. In June 1978, 69.79 per cent of the population lived in the national capital, the six State capital cities and five other major towns of 100,000 or more persons (metropolitan statistical divisions and statistical districts). Of these, only Canberra is located inland. The percentage of the population living in rural areas has declined over the years as the major cities and towns have attracted most of the population growth; there have been periods when the rural population has actually declined in numbers. This trend, however, appears to have slowed considerably since 1971. The percentage of the population living in capital cities and major towns of over 100,000 is highest in New South Wales (75.6 per cent), followed by Victoria (74.8 per cent), South Australia (72.3 per cent), Western Australia (70.8 per cent), Queensland (51.8 per cent) and Tasmania (40.2 per cent).

POPULATION IN CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER MAJOR TOWNS OF 100,000 PERSONS OR MORE (^{'000 persons})

| | 30 June 1976 | 30 June 1977 | 30 June 1978 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sydney (a) | 3,094.8 | 3,121.8 | 3,155.2 |
| Melbourne (a) | 2,672.0 | 2,694.1 | 2,717.6 |
| Brisbane (a) | 985.9 | 995.1 | 1,004.5 |
| Adelaide (a) | 912.1 | 922.8 | 930.5 |
| Perth (a) | 820.1 | 843.8 | 864.9 |
| Newcastle (b) | 370.5 | 372.3 | 375.3 |
| Canberra (b) | 221.8 | 227.0 | 234.7 |
| Wollongong (b) | 218.9 | 220.3 | 222.0 |
| Hobart (a) | 162.7 | 164.5 | 166.5 |
| Geelong (b) | 135.6 | 137.9 | 139.8 |
| Gold Coast (c) | 122.1 | 125.9 | 133.1 |
| Total | 9,716.5 | 9,825.5 | 9,944.1 |
| Percentage of total population | 69.83 | 69.81 | 69.79 |

(a) Statistical division (b) Statistical district. (c) Provisional estimate of statistical district.

While there has been a continuous growth in all States this century, there has been a noticeably higher rate of growth in Western Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. Tasmania and South Australia have had the least growth.

POPULATION OF STATES AND TERRITORIES

('000 persons)

| | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.(a)</i> | <i>Aust.</i> |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| 3 April 1881 | 749.8 | 861.6 | 213.5 | 276.4 | 29.7 | 115.7 | 3.5 | .. | 2,250.2 |
| 5 April 1891 | 1,127.1 | 1,140.1 | 393.7 | 315.5 | 49.8 | 146.7 | 4.9 | .. | 3,177.8 |
| 31 March 1901 | 1,354.8 | 1,201.1 | 498.1 | 358.3 | 184.1 | 172.5 | 4.8 | .. | 3,773.8 |
| 3 April 1911 | 1,646.7 | 1,315.6 | 605.8 | 408.6 | 282.1 | 191.2 | 3.3 | 1.7 | 4,455.0 |
| 4 April 1921 | 2,100.4 | 1,531.3 | 756.0 | 495.2 | 332.7 | 213.8 | 3.9 | 2.6 | 5,435.7 |
| 30 June 1933 | 2,600.8 | 1,820.3 | 947.5 | 580.9 | 438.9 | 227.6 | 4.9 | 8.9 | 6,629.8 |
| 30 June 1947 | 2,984.8 | 2,054.7 | 1,106.4 | 646.1 | 502.5 | 257.1 | 10.9 | 16.9 | 7,579.4 |
| 30 June 1954 | 3,423.5 | 2,452.3 | 1,318.3 | 797.1 | 639.8 | 308.8 | 16.5 | 30.3 | 8,986.5 |
| 30 June 1961(b) | 3,918.5 | 2,930.4 | 1,527.5 | 971.5 | 746.8 | 350.3 | 44.5 | 58.8 | 10,548.3 |
| 30 June 1966 | 4,237.9 | 3,220.2 | 1,674.3 | 1,095.0 | 848.1 | 371.4 | 56.5 | 96.0 | 11,599.5 |
| 30 June— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1971 | 4,679.4 | 3,520.4 | 1,881.4 | 1,185.3 | 1,043.1 | 390.2 | 91.9 | 145.6 | 12,937.2 |
| 1972 | 4,746.9 | 3,577.4 | 1,932.5 | 1,202.4 | 1,070.9 | 392.2 | 96.6 | 158.0 | 13,177.0 |
| 1973 | 4,793.4 | 3,628.4 | 1,987.3 | 1,217.9 | 1,089.8 | 395.7 | 99.7 | 168.2 | 13,380.4 |
| 1974 | 4,839.4 | 3,676.8 | 2,046.1 | 1,236.2 | 1,117.4 | 399.3 | 104.4 | 179.6 | 13,599.1 |
| 1975 | 4,884.5 | 3,719.1 | 2,084.0 | 1,252.1 | 1,146.7 | 404.7 | 89.4 | 190.9 | 13,771.4 |
| 1976 | 4,914.3 | 3,746.0 | 2,111.7 | 1,261.6 | 1,169.8 | 407.4 | 101.4 | 203.3 | 13,915.5 |
| 1977 | 4,956.7 | 3,782.3 | 2,136.8 | 1,276.8 | 1,197.1 | 410.6 | 105.5 | 208.2 | 14,074.1 |
| 1978 | 5,011.8 | 3,818.4 | 2,166.7 | 1,287.6 | 1,222.3 | 413.7 | 112.5 | 215.6 | 14,248.6 |
| 1979 | 5,075.8 | 3,853.3 | 2,196.4 | 1,294.3 | 1,241.9 | 417.7 | 115.7 | 222.1 | 14,417.2 |
| Percentage of total population in 1979 | 35.21 | 26.73 | 15.23 | 8.98 | 8.61 | 2.90 | 0.80 | 1.54 | 100.00 |

(a) Part of New South Wales before 1911. (b) Figures before 1961 exclude Aborigines, later figures do not. The estimates from June 1971 for each State and Territory are made from the 1971 census results, with augmented adjustments for under-enumeration to make the total balance with the estimates for Australia made retrospectively from 1976.

General characteristics of the population

The age composition of the population is presented in Plate 29, page 99 in the form of a pyramid. The decrease in the number of births in the 1970s can be seen in the undercutting of the pyramid for ages six and under. The post-war 'baby boom' is shown in the bulge at age 32.

ESTIMATED AGE DISTRIBUTION: 30 JUNE 1978
('000)

| <i>Age Group (years)</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 0-4 | 597.1 | 566.8 | 1,163.9 |
| 5-9 | 677.1 | 646.8 | 1,323.8 |
| 10-14 | 635.9 | 599.7 | 1,235.6 |
| 15-19 | 662.6 | 629.2 | 1,291.9 |
| 20-24 | 604.8 | 591.7 | 1,196.5 |
| 25-29 | 585.9 | 577.5 | 1,163.4 |
| 30-34 | 563.8 | 536.2 | 1,100.1 |
| 35-39 | 449.9 | 425.0 | 874.9 |
| 40-44 | 399.2 | 378.5 | 777.7 |
| 45-49 | 391.9 | 366.9 | 758.8 |
| 50-54 | 396.7 | 379.3 | 776.0 |
| 55-59 | 342.4 | 346.7 | 689.1 |
| 60-64 | 279.8 | 302.9 | 582.7 |
| 65-69 | 227.3 | 262.2 | 489.6 |
| 70+ | 324.7 | 499.9 | 824.5 |
| All ages | 7,139.1 | 7,109.4 | 14,248.6 |

Although the numbers of men and women aged 15 and over are nearly equal, there are more single men than single women and there are more widows than widowers. The first phenomenon is attributable to women generally marrying about 2 years younger than men, and the second to their greater longevity. In 1976, 29 per cent of the male population aged 15 and over was single, 64 per cent married (excluding 2.2 per cent married but recorded as permanently separated), 2.7 per cent widowed and 2 per cent divorced. For females the figures were 21 per cent single, 62.5 per cent married (excluding 2.7 per cent married but permanently separated), 11 per cent widowed and 2.5 per cent divorced.

MARITAL STATUS OF THE POPULATION 1954 TO 1976
(Per cent distribution)

| Census | <i>Never married</i> | | <i>Married</i> | <i>Married but permanently separated</i> | <i>Widowed</i> | <i>Divorced</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|--|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | <i>Under 15</i> | <i>15 and over</i> | | | | | |
| MALES | | | | | | | |
| 1954 | 28.9 | 21.2 | 45.4 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| 1961 | 30.6 | 20.7 | 44.5 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| 1966 | 29.9 | 21.4 | 44.5 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| 1971 | 29.3 | 20.7 | 45.6 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 100.0 |
| 1976 | 28.0 | 21.0 | 46.1 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 100.0 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | |
| 1954 | 28.3 | 15.4 | 46.1 | 1.5 | 7.9 | 0.8 | 100.0 |
| 1961 | 29.8 | 14.8 | 45.1 | 1.5 | 7.9 | 0.8 | 100.0 |
| 1966 | 28.9 | 15.7 | 44.9 | 1.5 | 8.1 | 0.9 | 100.0 |
| 1971 | 28.2 | 14.9 | 46.1 | 1.5 | 8.2 | 1.1 | 100.0 |
| 1976 | 26.6 | 15.6 | 45.9 | 2.0 | 8.1 | 1.8 | 100.0 |

In 1976, people born overseas made up 20 per cent of the population, about the same as 1971 but an increase on earlier censuses. The proportion of males who were overseas-born has been higher than for females: in 1976, 21 per cent as compared with 19 per cent for females.

AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS-BORN POPULATION
(per cent of total population)

| Census | <i>Australian born</i> | | | <i>Overseas born</i> | | |
|--------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
| 1954 | 83.9 | 85.6 | 85.7 | 16.1 | 14.4 | 14.3 |
| 1961 | 81.4 | 84.8 | 83.1 | 18.6 | 15.2 | 16.9 |
| 1966 | 80.2 | 82.9 | 81.6 | 19.8 | 17.0 | 18.4 |
| 1971 | 78.5 | 81.0 | 79.8 | 21.5 | 19.0 | 20.2 |
| 1976 | 78.9 | 80.8 | 79.8 | 21.1 | 19.2 | 20.2 |

The proportion of the population of working age (taken as 15 to 64) increased between 1971 and 1978, particularly among those aged 15-44 who, as a proportion of the total population, increased from 42.9 per cent to 45.0 per cent.

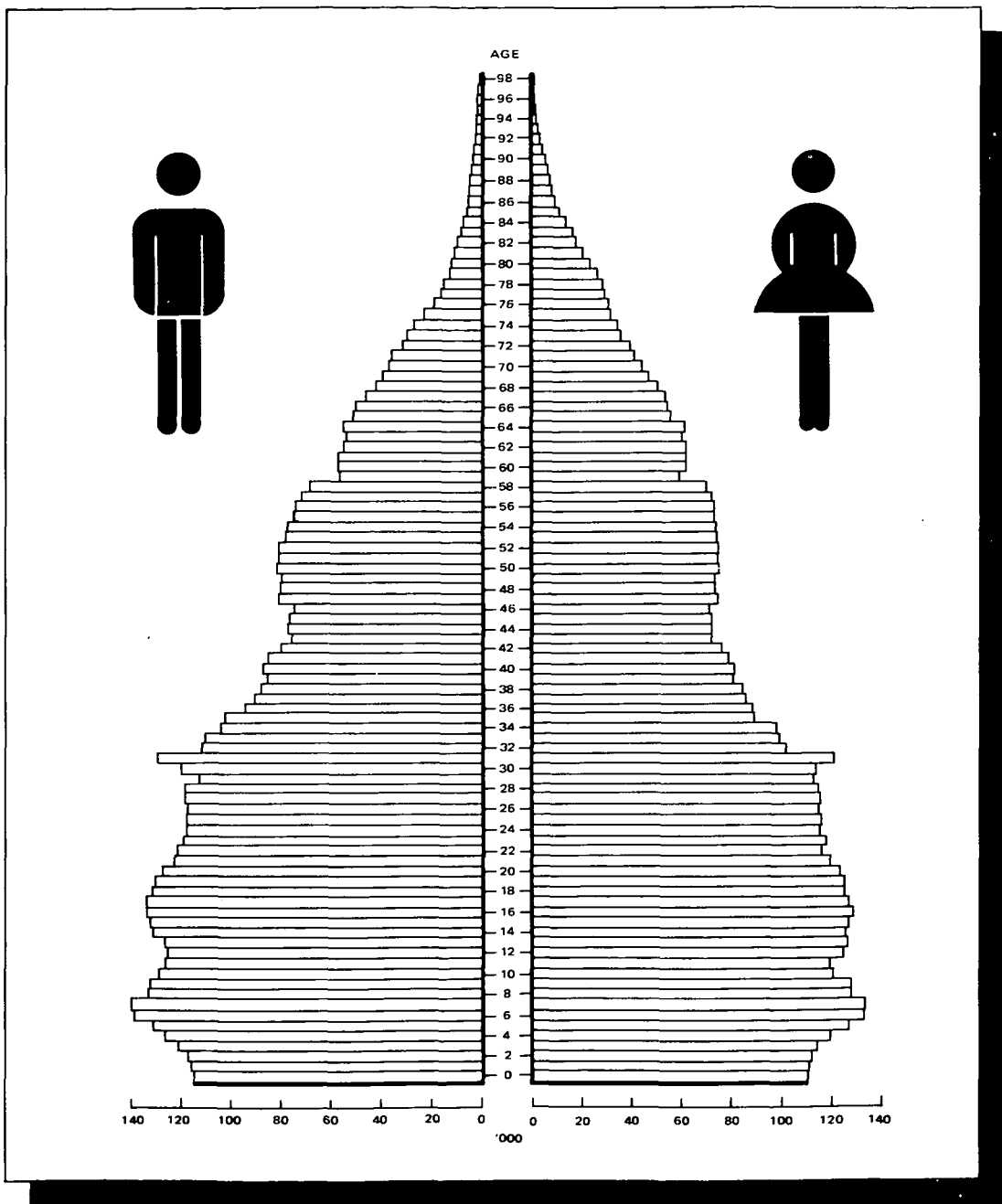
The number of persons in the population aged under 15 made up a reduced percentage of the total population: 26.1 per cent in 1978 as compared with 29.0 per cent in 1971. The numbers aged 65 and over, i.e. the age of retirement increased from 8.4 per cent to 9.2 per cent.

POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS: 1961 TO 1978

| 30 June | Number ('000) | | | | Per cent | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------|----------|-------|-------|-------------|
| | Under 15 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | Under 15 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over |
| MALES | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 1,626.2 | 2,244.2 | 1,057.8 | 384.2 | 30.6 | 42.2 | 19.9 | 7.2 |
| 1966 | 1,748.2 | 2,517.5 | 1,161.8 | 414.1 | 29.9 | 43.1 | 19.9 | 7.1 |
| 1971 | 1,920.9 | 2,844.7 | 1,284.1 | 456.5 | 29.5 | 43.7 | 19.7 | 7.0 |
| 1976 | 1,932.7 | 3,133.3 | 1,394.9 | 518.4 | 27.7 | 44.9 | 20.0 | 7.4 |
| 1977 | 1,920.2 | 3,199.1 | 1,401.5 | 534.6 | 27.2 | 45.3 | 19.9 | 7.6 |
| 1978 | 1,910.1 | 3,266.3 | 1,410.8 | 552.0 | 26.8 | 45.8 | 19.8 | 7.7 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 1,550.8 | 2,102.7 | 1,032.3 | 510.1 | 29.8 | 40.5 | 19.9 | 9.8 |
| 1966 | 1,665.0 | 2,375.9 | 1,142.0 | 575.0 | 28.9 | 41.3 | 19.8 | 10.0 |
| 1971 | 1,827.6 | 2,701.3 | 1,272.8 | 629.3 | 28.4 | 42.0 | 19.8 | 9.8 |
| 1976 | 1,834.1 | 3,002.1 | 1,382.2 | 717.7 | 26.4 | 43.3 | 19.9 | 10.4 |
| 1977 | 1,822.9 | 3,069.3 | 1,387.9 | 738.6 | 26.0 | 43.7 | 19.8 | 10.5 |
| 1978 | 1,813.3 | 3,138.2 | 1,395.8 | 762.1 | 25.5 | 44.1 | 19.6 | 10.7 |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | 3,177.0 | 4,346.9 | 2,090.0 | 894.2 | 30.2 | 41.4 | 19.9 | 8.5 |
| 1966 | 3,413.2 | 4,893.4 | 2,303.8 | 989.1 | 29.4 | 42.2 | 19.9 | 8.5 |
| 1971 | 3,748.5 | 5,546.0 | 2,556.9 | 1,085.9 | 29.0 | 42.9 | 19.8 | 8.4 |
| 1976 | 3,766.8 | 6,135.4 | 2,777.1 | 1,236.1 | 27.1 | 44.1 | 20.0 | 8.9 |
| 1977 | 3,743.1 | 6,268.3 | 2,789.4 | 1,273.3 | 26.6 | 44.5 | 19.8 | 9.0 |
| 1978 | 3,723.4 | 6,404.5 | 2,806.6 | 1,314.1 | 26.1 | 45.0 | 19.7 | 9.2 |

Note: Full-blood Aborigines are included from, but not before, 1966.

AGE PYRAMID OF THE POPULATION, 1978



POPULATION OF AUSTRALIA : AGE LAST BIRTHDAY, BY SEX; 30TH JUNE 1978

The masculinity of the population is expressed as the number of males per 100 females. This ratio is influenced by the age structure: masculinity at birth is about 105.5, but higher male mortality gradually erodes the difference so that the numbers of males and females would tend to be about the same soon after age 50 in the absence of migration, and the masculinity ratio progressively declines thereafter. The overall masculinity of the population has been declining and in 1978 was 100.42.

MASCULINITY IN EACH AGE GROUP (males per hundred females)(a)

| 30 June | Age in years | | | | Total |
|---------|--------------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | 0-14 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | |
| 1961 | 104.86 | 106.73 | 102.46 | 75.31 | 102.24 |
| 1966 | 105.00 | 105.96 | 101.73 | 72.02 | 101.45 |
| 1971 | 104.85 | 105.87 | 100.40 | 72.17 | 101.17 |
| 1976 | 105.38 | 104.37 | 100.92 | 72.24 | 100.62 |
| 1977 | 105.34 | 104.22 | 100.99 | 72.35 | 100.52 |
| 1978 | 105.34 | 104.08 | 101.07 | 72.43 | 100.42 |

(a) Based on census results adjusted for mis-statement of age and, for 1971 and 1976, for under-enumeration.

The Aboriginal population

A brief account was given of the Australian Aboriginal population, its origin and its numbers as estimated from time to time in Year Book No. 17, pages 951-61. A special article by A. R. Radcliffe Brown dealing with the estimated number and distribution of the Aboriginal population at the date of the first settlement of European people in the continent appeared in Year Book No. 23, pages 687-696. That article arrived at an estimated minimum Aboriginal population of 251,000, based on the evidence available at the time; however estimates of upwards of 300,000 persons have since been assessed.

The task of collecting data on the Aboriginal population is difficult, raising problems of coverage, definition and reporting. For this reason, statistics, even of the total Aboriginal population, should be treated with caution. This applies particularly to comparison of the changes in numbers from one census to another which can be affected by social attitudes and by changes made in the nature of the question in an attempt to improve coverage and reporting. For the censuses of 1971 and 1976 the question was designed to distinguish those persons who identify themselves as Aboriginals or Torres Strait Islanders.

ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS (a)
(persons)

| State | 30 June 1971 | 30 June 1976 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| New South Wales | 23,873 | 40,450 |
| Victoria | 6,371 | 14,760 |
| Queensland | 31,922 | 41,345 |
| South Australia | 7,299 | 10,714 |
| Western Australia | 22,181 | 26,126 |
| Tasmania | 671 | 2,942 |
| Northern Territory | 23,381 | 23,751 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 255 | 827 |
| Total Australia | 115,953 | 160,915 |

(a) Definition of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders based on the race to which persons of mixed origin consider themselves to belong and is not comparable with previous data.

Compared with the rest of the Australian population, Aboriginal women have very high rates of fertility and Aboriginal people at all ages suffer high rates of mortality. At the time of the 1971 census, the average issue of married Aboriginal women was 4.1 children (excluding still-born children), but had declined to 3.3 by 1976. Acknowledging the probability of high reporting error among this group, this represents a total fertility rate still well above that of the population as a whole. The expectation of life at birth for Aboriginal Australians may be as low as 50 years, compared with 73 years for the rest of the population.

Internal migration

The 5-yearly censuses and occasional internal migration surveys (conducted in conjunction with the population survey) are important sources of information for internal migration. Estimates of interstate migration are also made from address changes notified to the Electoral Office and the Department of Social Security.

The 1971 census set out to measure internal migration by asking respondents where they usually lived and where they had lived 5 years before. An analysis of this data is given in the Census Monograph *Internal Migration in Australia* listed at the end of this chapter. An additional question was added to the 1976 census which asked where the respondents had lived one year before and data derived from this question is included in the tables below.

Internal migration surveys were conducted in respect of each of the twelve-month periods ending 30 April to 1974 and for the twelve-month periods ended 31 December 1974, 31 January 1977 and 30 September 1978. In these surveys, the usual place of residence of respondents at the beginning and end of the reference period was ascertained. Estimates were made of the number and characteristics of those who changed their residence. (Because the estimates are based on information from occupants of a small sample of dwellings, the imprecision due to sampling variability should be kept in mind. Standard errors of estimates are published in the detailed bulletins providing the survey results. These publications are listed at the end of this chapter.)

The internal migration surveys show that about 14 to 17 per cent of all persons aged 15 and over change their residence within a twelve-month period. Of those who change their residence, about 50 per cent remain within the same capital city, slightly over 10 per cent are interstate movements and about 4 per cent are movements between State capital cities.

The New South Wales net internal migration loss reached a peak in 1973-74 when there was a net loss of 20,600 persons aged 15 and over; the State capital, Sydney, lost an estimated 26,600 persons in this age group. Since then these losses have diminished. For the twelve months ended 30 September 1978 migration flows in and out of Sydney were roughly in balance. Queensland has consistently recorded net gains throughout the seventies. Brisbane also experienced gains until the twelve months ended January 1977 when a net loss was recorded. In the twelve months ended 30 September 1978 movements in and out of Brisbane (like Sydney) were approximately equal. Since 1973-74, Western Australia has also experienced net gains, a large proportion of this going to Perth.

While the pattern of net migration gain or loss has varied over the years, the age and sex composition of those who changed residence has been rather consistent: the masculinity ratio remains around 50 to 51 per cent, and movers show a concentration in the ages 20 to 34 (58 per cent of all movers in the twelve-month period ended September 1978).

INTERNAL MIGRATION

(*000 persons)

| Year ended | Within State capitals | Into State capitals | Out of State capitals | Net capital city gain | Moved to another State or Territory | Total movers | Did not move | Total |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| 30 April— | | | | | | | | |
| 1972(a) | 714.5 | 116.0 | 103.3 | 12.7 | 157.2 | 1,393.1 | 7,561.5 | 8,954.6 |
| 1973(a) | 815.3 | 118.8 | 128.8 | -10.0 | 170.3 | 1,584.2 | 7,479.4 | 9,063.6 |
| 1974(a) | 810.3 | 118.0 | 128.3 | -10.3 | 170.4 | 1,592.6 | 7,645.3 | 9,237.9 |
| 31 December— | | | | | | | | |
| 1974(a) | 682.5 | 97.3 | 105.9 | -8.6 | 151.3 | 1,342.9 | 8,044.6 | 9,387.5 |
| 30 June— | | | | | | | | |
| 1976(b) | 755.4 | 108.5 | 129.7 | -2.1 | 174.4 | 1,522.4 | 7,684.1 | 9,206.5 |
| 31 January— | | | | | | | | |
| 1977(a) | 816.3 | 113.1 | 101.6 | 11.5 | 161.9 | 1,581.1 | 8,161.6 | 9,742.7 |
| 30 September— | | | | | | | | |
| 1978(a) | 827.4 | 120.8 | 123.4 | -2.6 | 193.5 | 1,684.1 | 8,522.1 | 10,206.2 |

(a) Includes non-institutionalised civilians aged 15 years and over at the time of the survey who were resident in Australia at the beginning and end of the survey year. Changes of residence away from and back to the same address during the survey year are not counted. State capital cities exclude Canberra and Darwin. (b) Census data covering the population aged 15 years and over, but excluding persons overseas in 1975, and those who failed to answer the question about place of usual residence one year before. These figures do not include any adjustment for under-enumeration.

INTERSTATE MIGRATION

| Year ended | | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. |
|--|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| NET GAIN (+) OR LOSS (-) ('000 PERSONS) | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 April | 1973(a) | -17.5 | + 6.9 | +10.4 | -2.9 | -1.3 | +1.1 | (b) | +3.5 |
| | 1974(a) | -20.6 | - 3.2 | + 9.1 | -1.2 | +7.3 | +2.7 | -2.8 | +8.8 |
| 31 December | 1974(a) | -16.3 | - 3.7 | + 5.7 | -1.3 | +8.2 | +1.6 | (b) | +6.4 |
| 30 June | 1976(c) | -11.1 | - 9.4 | + 8.8 | +1.0 | +6.7 | -0.6 | +2.0 | +2.7 |
| 31 January | 1977(a) | -13.5 | + 5.3 | + 2.7 | +2.9 | +5.5 | -2.0 | -2.5 | +1.6 |
| 30 September | 1978(a) | (b) | -10.5 | + 6.4 | -1.8 | +4.1 | -2.1 | +2.3 | +1.7 |
| NET GAIN OR LOSS PER TEN THOUSAND OF AUSTRALIAN POPULATION (d) | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 April | 1973(a) | -19.31 | + 7.61 | +11.47 | -3.20 | -1.43 | +1.21 | (b) | +3.86 |
| | 1974(a) | -22.30 | - 3.46 | + 9.85 | -1.30 | +7.90 | +2.92 | -3.03 | +9.53 |
| 31 December | 1974(a) | -17.36 | - 3.94 | + 6.07 | -1.38 | +8.74 | +1.70 | (b) | +6.82 |
| 30 June | 1976(c) | -12.06 | -10.21 | + 9.56 | +1.09 | +7.28 | -0.65 | +2.17 | +2.93 |
| 31 January | 1977(a) | -13.86 | + 5.44 | + 2.77 | +2.98 | +5.65 | -2.05 | -2.57 | +1.64 |
| 30 September | 1978(a) | (b) | -10.25 | + 6.23 | -1.73 | +4.02 | -2.03 | +2.23 | +1.64 |

(a) Non-institutionalised civilians aged 15 years and over at the time of the survey whose usual residence at the end of the survey year was in another State or Territory than at the beginning of the year and who were resident in Australia on both dates. (b) Very small estimate subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. (c) Census data covering the population aged 15 years and over but excluding persons overseas in 1975, and those who failed to answer or inadequately answered the question about place of usual residence one year before. These figures do not include any adjustment for under-enumeration. (d) Necessarily, but contrary to normal practice, the population (non-institutionalised civilians aged 15 years and over) is that at the end of the period.

VITAL STATISTICS

Registration of vital events, i.e. births, deaths and marriages, has been compulsory throughout Australia since 1856. The total number of these occurrences is available for each year since the 1860s and more detailed information since the 1910s. The number of divorces has been published since 1891, but other details have been published on a consistent basis only since the 1950s.

Crude rates are the number of vital events per thousand of the mean population of a particular year. *Natural increase* is the excess of births over deaths. In 1978, births numbered 224,181, deaths 108,425 and the natural increase was 115,756. The rate of natural increase for that year was 8.12 per thousand of the mean population made up of crude birth rate 15.73 and crude death rate 7.61. This represented a considerable decline since 1955-60 when the birth rate was 22.59, the death rate 8.78 and natural increase 13.81.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND NATURAL INCREASE

| Period | Number | | | Crude rates per 1000 of mean population | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---|--------|------------------|
| | Births | Deaths | Natural increase | Births | Deaths | Natural increase |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 222,459 | 86,488 | 135,971 | 22.59 | 8.78 | 13.81 |
| 1961-65 | 232,952 | 95,465 | 137,487 | 21.34 | 8.75 | 12.60 |
| 1966-70 | 240,325 | 107,263 | 133,062 | 19.95 | 8.90 | 11.05 |
| 1971-75 | 253,438 | 111,216 | 142,222 | 18.99 | 8.32 | 10.67 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 264,969 | 109,760 | 155,209 | 20.11 | 8.33 | 11.78 |
| 1973 | 247,670 | 110,822 | 136,848 | 18.51 | 8.28 | 10.23 |
| 1974 | 245,177 | 115,833 | 129,344 | 18.03 | 8.52 | 9.51 |
| 1975 | 233,012 | 109,021 | 123,991 | 16.92 | 7.91 | 9.00 |
| 1976 | 227,810 | 112,662 | 115,148 | 16.37 | 8.10 | 8.27 |
| 1977 | 226,291 | 108,790 | 117,501 | 16.08 | 7.73 | 8.35 |
| 1978 p | 224,181 | 108,425 | 115,756 | 15.73 | 7.61 | 8.12 |

There were 102,958 marriages in 1978, a crude rate of 7.23. Divorces numbered 40,525 bringing the crude divorce rate to 2.84, which was a reduction from a peak of 4.55 in 1976.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

| Period | Number | | Crude rates per 1,000 of mean population | |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|--|---------|
| | Marriages | Divorces | Marriage | Divorce |
| Annual averages— | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 73,854 | 6,788 | 7.50 | 0.69 |
| 1961-65 | 83,250 | 7,611 | 7.63 | 0.70 |
| 1966-70 | 106,188 | 10,738 | 8.81 | 0.89 |
| 1971-75 | 111,802 | 17,405 | 8.36 | 1.30 |
| Annual totals— | | | | |
| 1973 | 112,700 | 16,266 | 8.42 | 1.22 |
| 1974 | 110,673 | 17,744 | 8.14 | 1.30 |
| 1975 | 103,973 | 24,307 | 7.55 | r1.76 |
| 1976 | 109,973 | 63,267 | 7.90 | r4.55 |
| 1977 | 104,918 | 45,175 | 7.45 | 3.21 |
| 1978 | 102,958 | p40,525 | 7.23 | p2.84 |

Births and fertility

Special interest attaches to fertility as an element of population change. Fertility has had considerable impact on the population structure. Extensive studies have revealed patterns of fertility which justify attempts to predict the numbers of future births. In 1971, there was a record 276,362 births but the number of births has declined progressively in each year since. In 1978, there were 224,181 births.

Live births

Extensive statistics of live births are available since the 1910s. These include information about sex of children, the incidence of multiple births, marital status of the parents, the number of previous issue to the mother's existing marriage, the duration of marriage, the age of parents and their country of birth.

With rare exceptions, statistics indicate an excess of male over female births. In 1978, there were 114,964 male births and 109,217 female births, a masculinity ratio of 105.26.

The proportion of children born to parents not married to each other at the time of birth has been increasing. In 1951-55, 3.97 per cent of births were ex-nuptial. In 1978, there were 24,744 ex-nuptial births, 11.04 per cent of the total, the highest proportion recorded.

LIVE BIRTHS: SEX AND NUPTIALITY

| Period | Live births | | | Ex-nuptial live births | | | Per-centage of total | Per 1000 of mean population |
|-------------------|-------------|---------|---------|------------------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Male | Female | Persons | Mascu-linity | Persons | Mascu-linity | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 114,288 | 108,171 | 222,459 | 105.65 | 10,027 | 104.49 | 4.51 | 1.02 |
| 1961-65 | 119,777 | 113,175 | 232,952 | 105.83 | 13,798 | 106.88 | 5.92 | 1.26 |
| 1966-70 | 123,326 | 116,999 | 240,325 | 105.41 | 18,937 | 105.11 | 7.88 | 1.57 |
| 1971-75 | 130,047 | 123,391 | 253,438 | 105.39 | 24,520 | 106.71 | 9.69 | 1.88 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 126,969 | 120,701 | 247,670 | 105.19 | 24,198 | 104.69 | 9.77 | 1.81 |
| 1974 | 126,295 | 118,882 | 245,177 | 106.24 | 23,408 | 108.79 | 9.55 | 1.72 |
| 1975 | 119,850 | 113,162 | 233,012 | 105.91 | 23,705 | 107.83 | 10.17 | 1.72 |
| 1976 | 116,838 | 110,972 | 227,810 | 105.29 | 23,064 | 108.20 | r10.12 | 1.66 |
| 1977 | 116,551 | 109,740 | 226,291 | 106.21 | r23,314 | 106.03 | 10.30 | 1.66 |
| 1978 | 114,964 | 109,217 | 224,181 | 105.26 | 24,744 | 106.73 | 11.04 | 1.74 |

About 1 per cent of confinements result in twin births and about one in 10,000 in triplets. Quadruplets occur about once in 250,000 confinements. The likelihood of multiple confinement is about 0.9 per cent for the first nuptial confinement, rising to about 1 per cent at the second confinement and to as much as 1.5 per cent at the fourth and subsequent confinements. The incidence of multiple births also rises with age of mother. In 1978 there were 219,780 single confinements, 2,181 twin confinements, 37 cases of triplets, and 1 of quadruplets.

LIVE BIRTHS AND CONFINEMENTS: PLURALITY

| Period | Confinements | | | | Total |
|------------------|--------------|-------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | Single | Twin | Triplet | Other multiple | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 217,397 | 2,542 | 26 | — | 219,965 |
| 1961-65 | 227,948 | 2,509 | 26 | — | 230,483 |
| 1966-70 | 235,132 | 2,481 | 25 | 2 | 237,640 |
| 1971-75 | 248,459 | 2,488 | 25 | 1 | 250,973 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | |
| 1973 | 242,776 | 2,448 | 28 | — | 245,252 |
| 1974 | 240,437 | 2,367 | 23 | 2 | 242,829 |
| 1975 | 228,525 | 2,223 | 28 | 1 | 230,777 |
| 1976 | 223,264 | 2,281 | 19 | 1 | 225,565 |
| 1977 | 222,223 | 2,020 | 23 | 3 | 224,269 |
| 1978 | 219,780 | 2,181 | 37 | 1 | 221,999 |

Since the 1950s, there has been a decline in the proportion, and since 1971 in the number, of women having three or more children to their marriage. During the 1950s and early 1960s the median age of mother at first nuptial birth declined, but in recent years it has risen. In 1978, median age at first birth was 24.85 years.

NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS: BIRTH ORDER

| Period | Birth order | | | | | | 7 and over | Total nuptial (a) | Ex-nuptial | Confinements |
|------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | | |
| NUMBER OF CONFINEMENTS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 65,695 | 57,532 | 40,920 | 22,968 | 11,299 | 5,558 | 6,075 | 210,047 | 9,918 | 219,965 |
| 1961-65 | 69,281 | 57,971 | 40,818 | 23,612 | 12,125 | 6,160 | 6,862 | 216,829 | 13,655 | 230,483 |
| 1966-70 | 80,999 | 62,930 | 37,446 | 18,899 | 8,961 | 4,489 | 5,213 | 218,937 | 18,707 | 237,644 |
| 1971-75 | 88,120 | 74,641 | 36,914 | 15,216 | 6,006 | 2,805 | 2,959 | 226,674 | 24,299 | 250,973 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 85,707 | 74,004 | 35,694 | 14,444 | 5,779 | 2,642 | 2,996 | 221,282 | 23,970 | 245,252 |
| 1974 | 86,248 | 75,996 | 34,810 | 13,362 | 4,784 | 2,195 | 2,213 | 219,629 | 23,200 | 242,829 |
| 1975 | 81,543 | 73,456 | 33,036 | 11,653 | 3,979 | 1,873 | 1,699 | 207,267 | 23,510 | 230,777 |
| 1976 | 78,086 | 73,338 | 33,505 | 11,130 | 3,584 | 1,497 | 1,534 | 202,692 | 22,873 | 225,565 |
| 1977 | 78,588 | 70,859 | 34,596 | 11,032 | 3,438 | 1,349 | 1,263 | 201,135 | 23,134 | 224,269 |
| 1978 | 76,999 | 68,759 | 34,783 | 11,248 | 3,307 | 1,224 | 1,134 | 197,461 | 24,538 | 221,999 |

MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHER

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 23.54 | 26.43 | 28.86 | 30.99 | 32.66 | 33.95 | 35.03 | 27.18 | 24.23 | 27.11 | |
| 1961-65 | 23.12 | 25.72 | 28.35 | 30.64 | 32.51 | 33.88 | 35.02 | 26.54 | 22.54 | 26.38 | |
| 1966-70 | 23.14 | 25.63 | 28.21 | 30.54 | 32.53 | 34.06 | 35.42 | 25.92 | 21.37 | 25.67 | |
| 1971-75 | 23.60 | 25.96 | 28.21 | 30.55 | 32.53 | 34.09 | 36.84 | 25.87 | 21.12 | 25.58 | |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 23.60 | 25.92 | 28.17 | 30.52 | 32.50 | 34.05 | 36.89 | 25.84 | 21.00 | 25.55 | |
| 1974 | 23.77 | 26.09 | 28.23 | 30.52 | 32.67 | 34.12 | 36.94 | 25.96 | 21.10 | 25.66 | |
| 1975 | 23.95 | 26.25 | 28.32 | 30.57 | 32.67 | 34.30 | 36.96 | 26.07 | 21.29 | 25.76 | |
| 1976 | 24.23 | 26.22 | 28.45 | 30.40 | 32.38 | 34.30 | 37.32 | 26.22 | 21.60 | 25.91 | |
| 1977 | 24.59 | 26.39 | 28.64 | 30.53 | 32.41 | 34.54 | 37.08 | 26.46 | 21.51 | 26.13 | |
| 1978 | 24.85 | 26.56 | 28.75 | 30.48 | 32.46 | 33.98 | 37.99 | 26.65 | 21.55 | 26.28 | |

(a) Includes those for whom birth order was not stated; in 1978 there were 7 such cases.

Since 1971, there has been a decline in the number of confinements occurring in the early years of marriage. The number of confinements to marriages of 10 years duration and longer has been declining since the 1950s.

NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS: DURATION OF MARRIAGE

| Period | Duration of marriage, completed years | | | | | | | | Not stated | Total |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|------------|---------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15 and over | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 27,590 | 24,161 | 23,475 | 20,987 | 18,605 | 60,449 | 24,531 | 10,249 | n.a. | 210,047 |
| 1961-65 | 31,046 | 24,775 | 24,885 | 22,237 | 18,843 | 58,855 | 25,149 | 11,038 | n.a. | 216,829 |
| 1966-70 | 31,920 | 25,903 | 27,566 | 25,253 | 20,831 | 57,457 | 20,415 | 9,100 | 491 | 218,937 |
| 1971-75 | 27,249 | 25,841 | 30,072 | 29,674 | 25,544 | 64,690 | 16,676 | 6,373 | 556 | 226,674 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 26,433 | 24,721 | 29,853 | 30,054 | 25,376 | 61,951 | 15,999 | 6,221 | 674 | 221,282 |
| 1974 | 24,238 | 24,339 | 29,524 | 30,133 | 26,487 | 64,543 | 14,546 | 5,257 | 562 | 219,629 |
| 1975 | 20,890 | 23,327 | 26,657 | 28,089 | 25,725 | 64,302 | 13,519 | 4,312 | 446 | 207,267 |
| 1976 | 18,774 | 21,231 | 25,706 | 26,555 | 25,359 | 67,668 | 13,136 | 3,822 | 441 | 202,692 |
| 1977 | 18,757 | 20,583 | 23,507 | 25,774 | 24,269 | 70,369 | 13,960 | 3,560 | 356 | 201,135 |
| 1978 | 18,269 | 20,205 | 21,919 | 23,830 | 23,745 | 71,459 | 14,322 | 3,327 | 385 | 197,461 |

Fertility

General fertility rates, which are the number of births to women of any age per thousand females aged 15-44, are the simplest measure of fertility. These have been calculated for the three years' births around each census from 1881 and provide a consistent series for nuptial and ex-nuptial fertility as well as for total fertility.

The rates show a substantial decline in fertility over the total period with a low point in 1932-34 and a minor recovery peaking in 1960-62. The general rate of 78 births per thousand females aged 15-44 was only 46 per cent of the rate in 1880-82. The decline has been greater among married women, the rate for 1975-77 of 107 per thousand being only 33 per cent of the 1880-82 rate. Ex-nuptial fertility in 1975-77 was 23 per thousand, 64 per cent above 1880-82.

FERTILITY RATES: AUSTRALIA

| Period | Births per 1000 women, aged 15-44 years | | | Index numbers (base year 1880-82 = 100) | | |
|---------|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | Nuptial births per 1000 married women, aged 15-44 years | Ex-nuptial births per 1000 single, widowed or divorced women, aged 15-44 years | Total births per 1000 women, aged 15-44 years | Nuptial births per 1000 married women, aged 15-44 years | Ex-nuptial births per 1000 single, widowed or divorced women | Total births per 1000 women, aged 15-44 years |
| 1880-82 | 170 | 321 | 14 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1890-92 | 159 | 332 | 16 | 94 | 103 | 114 |
| 1900-02 | 117 | 235 | 13 | 69 | 73 | 93 |
| 1910-12 | 117 | 236 | 13 | 69 | 74 | 93 |
| 1920-22 | 107 | 197 | 11 | 63 | 61 | 79 |
| 1932-34 | 71 | 131 | 7 | 42 | 41 | 50 |
| 1946-48 | 104 | 160 | 11 | 61 | 50 | 79 |
| 1953-55 | 109 | 149 | 14 | 64 | 46 | 100 |
| 1960-62 | 112 | 154 | 18 | 66 | 48 | 129 |
| 1965-67 | 95 | 132 | 21 | 56 | 41 | 150 |
| 1970-72 | 100 | 134 | 29 | 59 | 42 | 207 |
| 1975-77 | 78 | 107 | 23 | 46 | 33 | 164 |

Age specific birth rates provide a measure of changing patterns of fertility within the fertile ages. The sum of these rates, the *total fertility rate*, is a more useful measure of change than the general fertility rate since it takes into account the changing age structure of the population within the fertile ages. The total fertility rate represents the number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime if she experienced the rates of the year shown. Fertility is declining at all ages. The decline started first with the older ages in the 1950s, and spread progressively to the younger ages. Fertility for ages 15-19 years has been declining in the 1970s. The total fertility rate, which rose in the 1950s, has since declined and in 1978 was 1.979.

AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES(a)

| Period | Age group (years) | | | | | | Total fertility(b) | |
|---------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | | 45-49 |
| 1951-55 | 39.54 | 192.81 | 192.97 | 123.51 | 65.05 | 20.50 | 1.53 | 3.180 |
| 1956-60 | 44.20 | 216.42 | 211.47 | 126.06 | 63.91 | 18.96 | 1.45 | 3.412 |
| 1961-65 | 46.50 | 203.95 | 207.15 | 122.38 | 59.18 | 17.54 | 1.19 | 3.289 |
| 1966-70 | 49.39 | 172.59 | 187.64 | 103.03 | 46.84 | 12.89 | 1.00 | 2.866 |
| 1971-75 | 48.02 | 154.84 | 170.63 | 85.69 | 34.25 | 8.65 | 0.59 | 2.513 |
| 1973 | 47.93 | 151.28 | 164.85 | 82.70 | 32.88 | 8.45 | 0.60 | 2.443 |
| 1974 | 44.42 | 146.07 | 161.27 | 79.25 | 29.51 | 7.30 | 0.46 | 2.342 |
| 1975 | 40.37 | 134.44 | 150.95 | 74.96 | 26.40 | 6.17 | 0.37 | 2.168 |
| 1976 | 35.55 | 129.22 | 147.34 | 73.06 | 24.28 | 5.57 | 0.41 | 2.077 |
| 1977 | 32.59 | 123.06 | 147.23 | 74.84 | 24.01 | 5.06 | 0.30 | 2.035 |
| 1978 | 30.38 | 116.87 | 145.93 | 74.22 | 23.63 | 4.49 | 0.25 | 1.979 |

(a) Number of births per 1,000 women in each age group. Excludes particulars of full-blood Aborigines before 1966. (b) The sum of the age specific rates multiplied by 5 and divided by 1,000. This is the number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime if she experienced the rates of the year shown.

The *gross reproduction rate* is derived from total fertility and the ratio of female to total births. It indicates the number of female children who would be born on average to women supposing the rates from which it was calculated were to apply throughout the reproductive period. It is an indication of the extent to which the population is reproducing itself except that it does not allow for females who failed to survive to the end of the childbearing period. The *net reproduction rate* allows for such mortality. It is obtained by multiplying the age-specific rates by the survivor proportions in the corresponding age group of the stationary or life table population. Mortality in childhood and young adulthood is now so low that there is little difference between current gross and net reproduction rates. In 1978 the gross and net reproduction rates were at their lowest recorded level.

GROSS AND NET REPRODUCTION RATES

| Period | Gross reproduction rate | Net reproduction rate | Life tables used |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1954 | 1.559 | 1.499 | 1953-55 |
| 1961 | 1.728 | 1.672 | |
| 1966 | 1.400 | 1.357 | |
| 1971 | 1.427 | 1.386 | 1970-72 |
| 1972 | 1.314 | 1.277 | |
| 1973 | 1.191 | 1.157 | |
| 1974 | 1.135 | 1.102 | |
| 1975 | 1.053 | 1.023 | |
| 1976 | 1.012 | 0.983 | |
| 1977 | 0.987 | 0.958 | |
| 1978 | 0.964 | 0.937 | |

Fertility of Australian Marriages. This series is designed to show the pattern of fertility within marriage. Births in each year and at each duration of marriage to parents who were married in Australia are related (per thousand) to Australian marriages of the relevant number of years earlier.

The sum of these rates for all duration is the *index of current marriage fertility* and indicates the number of children marriages would produce according to the recorded fertility of that year.

Fertility in the first two to three years of marriage has fallen very substantially. For instance, fertility in the first year of marriage fell from 369 births per thousand marriages in 1956-60 to 167 in 1978. There has also been a substantial decline for marriages of ten years duration or longer from 292 per thousand at durations 10-14 years in 1956-60 to 124 per thousand in 1978. At longer durations the fall is proportionally greater still. There has been no rise at medium durations to compensate for the decline early and late in marriage. The index of current marriage fertility declined from the equivalent of 2.7 children per marriage in 1956-60 to 1.7 in 1978.

The annual rates accumulated according to year of marriage show the experience of successive marriage cohorts. These marriage generation tables demonstrate an increasing delay by couples in having their first child. The marriages of 1955-56 had 1,262 children per thousand marriages by the end of the fourth year of marriage, compared with 1,314 for those married in 1960-61, and 784 for those married in 1974-75.

FERTILITY OF AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGES: ANNUAL RATES

| Births occurring in— | Duration of marriage (years) | | | | | | | | | | Total |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----|-------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | Under 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total under 5 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20 and over | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 369 | 317 | 309 | 277 | 243 | 1,515 | 751 | 292 | 101 | 26 | 2,685 |
| 1961-65 | 377 | 304 | 311 | 281 | 239 | 1,512 | 741 | 293 | 100 | 22 | 2,668 |
| 1966-70 | 302 | 248 | 278 | 265 | 227 | 1,320 | 663 | 234 | 79 | 17 | 2,313 |
| 1971-75 | 232 | 211 | 248 | 249 | 219 | 1,159 | 606 | 178 | 54 | 14 | 2,011 |
| Annual rates— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 228 | 201 | 240 | 246 | 214 | 1,129 | 581 | 170 | 54 | 12 | 1,946 |
| 1974 | 206 | 202 | 240 | 242 | 215 | 1,105 | 572 | 152 | 45 | 9 | 1,883 |
| 1975 | 185 | 192 | 222 | 228 | 205 | 1,032 | 544 | 135 | 37 | 9 | 1,757 |
| 1976 | 172 | 185 | 214 | 222 | 206 | 999 | 555 | 126 | 32 | 7 | 1,719 |
| 1977 | 163 | 182 | 206 | 214 | 201 | 967 | 567 | 129 | 30 | 6 | 1,699 |
| 1978 | 167 | 170 | 193 | 207 | 195 | 933 | 569 | 124 | 27 | 6 | 1,659 |

FERTILITY OF AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGES(a)

| Marriages of year— | Completed duration of marriage (years) | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| 1955-56 | 352 | 674 | 983 | 1,262 | 1,511 | 2,262 | 2,497 |
| 1960-61 | 403 | 721 | 1,039 | 1,314 | 1,536 | 2,194 | 2,379 |
| 1965-66 | 324 | 575 | 855 | 1,125 | 1,356 | 1,961 | .. |
| 1970-71 | 282 | 502 | 742 | 984 | 1,189 | .. | .. |
| 1971-72 | 257 | 458 | 698 | 926 | 1,137 | .. | .. |
| 1972-73 | 228 | 430 | 652 | 874 | 1,075 | .. | .. |
| 1973-74 | 206 | 398 | 512 | 827 | 1,023 | .. | .. |
| 1974-75 | 185 | 370 | 577 | 784 | .. | .. | .. |
| 1975-76 | 172 | 354 | 547 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1976-77 | 163 | 333 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1977-78 | 167 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

(a) Cumulated number of births per thousand marriages.

Birth expectations

An Australia-wide survey of birth expectations of married women was conducted in November 1976 as a supplement to the regular quarterly population survey of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Questions were directed to ever-married women under the age of 40. Information was obtained about the birth date and sex of each child and the number of children still living. Women married at the time of the survey were asked how many children they expected to have, altogether and in the next 5 years, and when they expected the next child to be born.

The survey results indicate a preference for the 2-child family. For instance, of the women covered by the survey (married and aged 15-39) who had not had any children, 48.2 per cent expected to have two children, compared with only 6.1 per cent who expected to have one child, 21.0 per cent three or more, and 19.7 per cent did not expect to have any children. Five per cent of these women expected to have children but were uncertain of the number. Similarly, 48.5 per cent of those with one child expected to have one more, as against 26.6 per cent expected to stop with one, and 22.7 per cent expecting two or more additional children. Of those with two children, 84.2 per cent expected to have no more children. These figures exclude women who did not know whether they would have any further children.

MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-39(a): LIVE-BORN AND EXPECTED CHILDREN, NOVEMBER 1976
(per cent)

| <i>Additional children expected</i> | <i>Women whose live-born children numbered</i> | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| | <i>None</i> | <i>One</i> | <i>Two</i> | <i>Three or more</i> |
| None | 19.7 | 26.6 | 84.2 | 94.0 |
| One | 6.1 | 48.5 | 11.3 | 4.9 |
| Two | 48.2 | 17.3 | 3.5 | 0.7 |
| Three or more | 21.0 | 5.4 | 0.6 | (b) |
| Uncertain of number | 5.0 | 2.2 | 0.4 | (b) |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Excludes women in institutions and the Australian defence forces, and also women who did not know whether they expect to have any (more) children. (b) Small estimates subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses.

If the birth expectations of these women are realised, the families of younger women will be smaller on average than those now approaching the end of their reproductive life. Thus, the expected average family size (live-born plus expected children) of married women under 25 is 2.3 compared with an average family size of 2.9 for married women aged 35-39 at the time of the survey.

MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-39(a): AVERAGE ISSUE, EXPECTED CHILDREN AND TOTAL EXPECTED FAMILY SIZE, NOVEMBER 1976

| | <i>Number of women ('000)</i> | <i>Average number of live-born children</i> | <i>Average number of additional children expected</i> | <i>Average number of live-born and expected children</i> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| BY AGE | | | | |
| Age group (years)— | | | | |
| 15-19 | 40.0 | 0.5 | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| 20-24 | 307.8 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 2.3 |
| 25-29 | 429.7 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 2.4 |
| 30-34 | 394.4 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 2.6 |
| 35-39 | 348.3 | 2.9 | (b) | 2.9 |
| Total | 1,520.2 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 2.5 |

BY DURATION OF CURRENT MARRIAGE

| | <i>Number of women ('000)</i> | <i>Average number of live-born children</i> | <i>Average number of additional children expected</i> | <i>Average number of live-born and expected children</i> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Duration (years)— | | | | |
| Less than 2 | 161.4 | 0.4 | 1.9 | 2.3 |
| 2 and under 5 | 301.6 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2.2 |
| 5 and under 10 | 459.1 | 1.9 | 0.4 | 2.4 |
| 10 years or longer | 598.0 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 2.9 |
| Total | 1,520.2 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 2.5 |

(a) Excludes women in institutions and the Australian defence forces, and also women who did not know whether they expected to have any (more) children. (b) Small estimate subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses.

Mortality

The number of deaths per year is in excess of 100,000 a year. The increase from previous decades arises from the overall growth of the population, and from the advanced age of an increasing proportion of the population. The crude death rate, which fell from over 12 per 1,000 at the beginning of the century to 7.61 per 1,000 in 1978, can be expected to rise slowly as a result of further aging of the population, unless there is a more than off-setting drop in age specific death rates.

General mortality

Between 1953-55 and 1960-62 mortality declined in every age-group. Between 1960-62 and 1970-72 there were further declines in most age groups, particularly infant mortality. However, increases in mortality were recorded for males aged 15-24 years. Since 1970-72, there have been further decreases in mortality at most ages.

Mortality is greater for males than for females at every age. It is relatively high in the first year of life (13.98 per 1,000 males and 10.86 per 1,000 females in 1977), very low in childhood and young adulthood, and then rises in middle and old age.

AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES^(a)

| <i>Age group (years)</i> | <i>1953-55 (b)</i> | <i>1960-62 (b)</i> | <i>1965-67 (b)</i> | <i>1970-72 (b)</i> | <i>1975-77 (b)</i> | <i>1975</i> | <i>1976</i> | <i>1977</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| MALES | | | | | | | | |
| Under 1(c) | 25.18 | 22.36 | 20.85 | 18.85 | 15.27 | 16.29 | 15.15 | 13.98 |
| 1-4 | 1.69 | 1.15 | 1.08 | 0.99 | 0.78 | 0.84 | 0.76 | 0.73 |
| 5-9 | 0.67 | 0.52 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.39 |
| 10-14 | 0.63 | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.42 | 0.39 | 0.38 | 0.40 | 0.40 |
| 15-19 | 1.51 | 1.23 | 1.33 | 1.50 | 1.51 | 1.55 | 1.50 | 1.47 |
| 20-24 | 1.82 | 1.62 | 1.67 | 1.75 | 1.73 | 1.69 | 1.68 | 1.80 |
| 25-29 | 1.68 | 1.49 | 1.48 | 1.38 | 1.29 | 1.31 | 1.21 | 1.38 |
| 30-34 | 1.79 | 1.69 | 1.64 | 1.49 | 1.41 | 1.45 | 1.39 | 1.34 |
| 35-39 | 2.40 | 2.26 | 2.45 | 2.31 | 1.99 | 2.07 | 1.97 | 1.95 |
| 40-44 | 3.64 | 3.67 | 3.82 | r3.45 | 3.29 | 3.33 | 3.35 | 3.11 |
| 45-49 | 6.01 | 5.96 | 6.14 | 6.06 | 5.67 | 5.86 | 5.58 | 5.66 |
| 50-54 | 10.44 | 10.01 | 10.45 | 9.92 | 9.21 | 9.65 | 9.17 | 8.86 |
| 55-59 | 17.03 | 16.57 | 16.96 | 16.58 | 14.78 | 15.38 | 14.97 | 14.06 |
| 60-64 | 26.58 | 26.44 | 27.59 | 26.59 | 23.77 | 24.15 | 24.31 | 22.98 |
| 65-69 | 41.28 | 41.68 | 43.66 | 42.04 | 37.42 | 37.54 | 38.19 | 36.51 |
| 70-74 | 64.53 | 63.04 | 66.84 | 63.45 | 57.92 | 59.15 | 58.82 | 55.74 |
| 75-79 | 98.77 | 94.43 | 99.77 | 99.99 | 88.24 | 86.57 | 93.79 | 85.82 |
| 80-84 | 145.88 | 141.83 | 146.95 | r143.42 | 135.05 | 133.25 | 140.40 | 127.09 |
| 85 and over | 248.14 | 243.69 | 241.98 | r230.68 | 227.86 | 225.46 | 238.79 | 216.44 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | | |
| Under 1(c) | 19.88 | 17.57 | 16.35 | 14.37 | 11.85 | 12.13 | 12.44 | 10.86 |
| 1-4 | 1.35 | 1.08 | 1.14 | 0.78 | 0.59 | 0.66 | 0.54 | 0.57 |
| 5-9 | 0.50 | 0.38 | 0.34 | 0.33 | 0.27 | 0.26 | 0.27 | 0.26 |
| 10-14 | 0.37 | 0.29 | 0.27 | r0.26 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.22 |
| 15-19 | 0.58 | 0.50 | 0.54 | 0.59 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.47 | 0.56 |
| 20-24 | 0.67 | 0.60 | 0.63 | 0.58 | 0.51 | 0.49 | 0.50 | 0.54 |
| 25-29 | 0.83 | 0.71 | 0.72 | 0.67 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.55 |
| 30-34 | 1.11 | 0.95 | 0.98 | 0.89 | 0.75 | 0.77 | 0.75 | 0.70 |
| 35-39 | 1.74 | 1.47 | 1.54 | 1.44 | 1.21 | 1.31 | 1.19 | 1.14 |
| 40-44 | 2.55 | 2.26 | 2.31 | 2.23 | 1.98 | 2.02 | 1.94 | 1.93 |
| 45-49 | 4.19 | 3.65 | 3.86 | 3.63 | 3.15 | 3.27 | 3.13 | 3.08 |
| 50-54 | 6.43 | 5.55 | 5.87 | 5.56 | 4.91 | 4.95 | 4.93 | 4.88 |
| 55-59 | 9.25 | 8.14 | 8.67 | r8.29 | 7.42 | 7.70 | 7.43 | 7.13 |
| 60-64 | 14.75 | 13.31 | 13.56 | 13.01 | 11.57 | 11.83 | 11.61 | 11.36 |
| 65-69 | 23.89 | 21.99 | 21.94 | 20.70 | 18.32 | 18.93 | 18.66 | 17.37 |
| 70-74 | 40.93 | 37.14 | 37.47 | 35.79 | 30.01 | 31.36 | 30.19 | 28.72 |
| 75-79 | 69.72 | 63.18 | 62.37 | 60.24 | 51.99 | 51.70 | 53.91 | 50.72 |
| 80-84 | 117.36 | 105.10 | 107.93 | 100.96 | 89.36 | 89.71 | 91.54 | 86.20 |
| 85 and over | 213.69 | 210.20 | 197.73 | r187.16 | 182.26 | 176.78 | 192.55 | 177.10 |

(a) Number of deaths per 1,000 of population of the same age group and sex. The populations used in the calculation of these rates are based on census populations at 30 June 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1976; and estimates at 30 June for intercensal years. Since 1971, the population figures have been adjusted for under-enumeration.

(b) Average annual rate per 1,000 of census population, based on deaths in the three year period, i.e. census year and the years preceding and following it.

(c) Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

AGE AT DEATH, 1977

| Age at death (years) | Number | | | Per cent | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| Under 1 | 1,629 | 1,192 | 2,821 | 2.70 | 2.46 | 2.59 |
| 1-4 | 363 | 268 | 631 | 0.60 | 0.55 | 0.58 |
| 5-9 | 259 | 166 | 425 | 0.43 | 0.34 | 0.39 |
| 10-14 | 256 | 132 | 388 | 0.42 | 0.27 | 0.36 |
| 15-19 | 959 | 348 | 1,307 | 1.59 | 0.72 | 1.20 |
| 20-24 | 1,068 | 313 | 1,381 | 1.77 | 0.65 | 1.27 |
| 25-29 | 809 | 314 | 1,123 | 1.34 | 0.65 | 1.03 |
| 30-34 | 721 | 356 | 1,077 | 1.20 | 0.73 | 0.99 |
| 35-39 | 856 | 476 | 1,332 | 1.42 | 0.98 | 1.22 |
| 40-44 | 1,215 | 712 | 1,927 | 2.01 | 1.47 | 1.77 |
| 45-49 | 2,259 | 1,150 | 3,409 | 3.75 | 2.37 | 3.13 |
| 50-54 | 3,482 | 1,843 | 5,325 | 5.77 | 3.80 | 4.89 |
| 55-59 | 4,634 | 2,386 | 7,020 | 7.68 | 4.92 | 6.45 |
| 60-64 | 6,432 | 3,437 | 9,869 | 10.66 | 7.09 | 9.07 |
| 65-69 | 8,091 | 4,410 | 12,501 | 13.41 | 9.10 | 11.49 |
| 70-74 | 8,553 | 5,537 | 14,090 | 14.18 | 11.42 | 12.95 |
| 75-79 | 7,713 | 7,220 | 14,933 | 12.79 | 14.89 | 13.73 |
| 80-84 | 5,694 | 7,836 | 13,530 | 9.44 | 16.17 | 12.44 |
| 85-89 | 3,698 | 6,438 | 10,136 | 6.13 | 13.28 | 9.32 |
| 90-94 | 1,288 | 3,002 | 4,290 | 2.14 | 6.19 | 3.94 |
| 95-99 | 286 | 825 | 1,111 | 0.47 | 1.70 | 1.02 |
| 100 and over | 39 | 106 | 145 | 0.06 | 0.22 | 0.13 |
| Not stated | 16 | 3 | 19 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| Total | 60,320 | 48,470 | 108,790 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Perinatal mortality

Perinatal deaths comprise foetal deaths (stillbirths) and neonatal deaths (deaths within 28 days after birth). From 1972, statistics of stillbirths have been compiled on the basis of amended legislation in all States which provides for all foetal deaths of at least 20 weeks gestation or 400 grams weight to be registered. Previously, the statistics were based on a minimum of 28 weeks gestation. Neonatal deaths account for about 70 per cent of all deaths occurring within the first year of life.

In 1977, there were 4,096 perinatal deaths registered in Australia, which continued the decline in numbers and rates since 1972, the first year in which perinatal deaths were tabulated uniformly throughout Australia. Of these 4,096 deaths, 2,130 were foetal deaths and 1,966 were neonatal deaths.

The neonatal death rate continued its long historical decline, falling to 8.69 per 1,000 live births in 1977. The total infant mortality rate fell to 12.47.

INFANT DEATHS

| Period | Number | | | Per 1,000 live births | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------|-------|
| | Less than 1 month | 1-11 months | Total | Less than 1 month | 1-11 months | Total |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 3,353 | 1,330 | 4,683 | 15.07 | 5.98 | 21.05 |
| 1961-65 | 3,260 | 1,264 | 4,525 | 13.99 | 5.43 | 19.42 |
| 1966-70 | 3,141 | 1,208 | 4,349 | 13.07 | 5.03 | 18.10 |
| 1971-75 | 2,930 | 1,185 | 4,115 | 11.52 | 4.66 | 16.18 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 3,175 | 1,255 | 4,430 | 11.98 | 4.74 | 16.72 |
| 1973 | 2,927 | 1,158 | 4,085 | 11.82 | 4.68 | 16.49 |
| 1974 | 2,854 | 1,104 | 3,958 | 11.64 | 4.50 | 16.14 |
| 1975 | 2,330 | 995 | 3,325 | 10.00 | 4.27 | 14.27 |
| 1976 | 2,251 | 899 | 3,150 | 9.88 | 3.95 | 13.83 |
| 1977 | 1,966 | 855 | 2,821 | 8.69 | 3.78 | 12.47 |
| males | 1,123 | 506 | 1,629 | 9.64 | 4.34 | 13.98 |
| females | 843 | 349 | 1,192 | 7.68 | 3.18 | 10.86 |

STILL BIRTHS

| Period | Number | Per 1,000 of all births (still and alive) |
|-----------------|--------|---|
| Annual average— | | |
| 1956-60 | 3,293 | 14.6 |
| 1961-65 | 2,946 | 12.5 |
| 1966-70 | 2,563 | 10.6 |
| 1971-75 | 2,772 | 10.8 |
| Annual totals— | | |
| 1973(a) | 2,924 | 11.7 |
| 1974 | 2,914 | 11.8 |
| 1975 | 2,414 | 10.3 |
| 1976 | 2,403 | 10.4 |
| 1977 | 2,132 | 9.3 |
| 1978p | 2,119 | 9.4 |

(a) Prior to 1972 based on foetal deaths of minimum 28 weeks of gestation. Since 1972 includes foetal deaths of at least 20 weeks of gestation or 400 grammes weight.

Life expectancy

Life tables are measures of life expectancy compiled from the death rates prevailing over a period. They form the basis for the *stationary population* which is the population that would result from a constant number of births each year which had been subject at each age to the life table mortality rates.

Since 1921, official life tables have been calculated from the separate male and female populations as enumerated at the census, and the deaths of the three years around the census. Earlier life tables were compiled for decennial periods 1881-90, 1891-1900 and 1901-10. Life tables have also been prepared in recent years using annual age estimates and the deaths of a particular year.

A key value in life tables is the expectation of life remaining at each age. Expectation of life, particularly at birth, improved at every age in the first half of this century. Since 1953-55 and 1970-72 there was little change in expectation of life. However, since 1970-72 there have been significant improvements, particularly in expectation of life at birth which has increased between 1970-72 and 1977 from 67.8 years to 69.9 for males and from 74.5 years to 76.8 for females.

COMPLETE EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT SELECTED AGES

| Period | Expectation of life (a) at | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| | Birth | | 1 year of age | | 20 years of age | | 40 years of age | | 60 years of age | |
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 1901-11 (b)(c) | 55.2 | 58.8 | 60.0 | 62.9 | 44.7 | 47.5 | 28.6 | 31.5 | 14.4 | 16.2 |
| 1920-22 (b)(c) | 59.2 | 63.3 | 62.7 | 66.0 | 47.0 | 50.0 | 30.1 | 33.1 | 15.1 | 17.2 |
| 1932-34 (b)(c) | 63.5 | 67.1 | 65.5 | 68.7 | 48.8 | 51.7 | 31.1 | 34.0 | 15.6 | 17.7 |
| 1946-48 (b)(c) | 66.1 | 70.6 | 67.3 | 71.5 | 49.6 | 53.5 | 31.2 | 34.9 | 15.4 | 18.1 |
| 1953-55 (b)(c) | 67.1 | 72.8 | 67.9 | 73.5 | 50.1 | 55.1 | 31.7 | 36.0 | 15.5 | 18.8 |
| 1960-62 (b)(c) | 67.9 | 74.2 | 68.5 | 74.5 | 50.4 | 56.2 | 31.8 | 37.0 | 15.6 | 19.5 |
| 1965-67 (c) | 67.6 | 74.2 | 68.1 | 74.4 | 50.0 | 56.0 | 31.4 | 36.9 | 15.3 | 19.5 |
| 1970-72 (c) | 67.8 | 74.5 | 68.3 | 74.7 | 50.2 | 56.4 | 31.6 | 37.2 | 15.4 | 19.7 |
| 1973 (d) | 68.6 | 75.5 | 68.9 | 75.6 | 50.8 | 57.2 | 32.1 | 37.9 | 15.8 | 20.4 |
| 1974 (d) | 68.4 | 75.4 | 68.6 | 75.4 | 50.6 | 57.0 | 31.9 | 37.7 | 15.7 | 20.2 |
| 1975 (d) | 69.2 | 76.2 | 69.3 | 76.1 | 51.2 | 57.6 | 32.6 | 38.4 | 16.3 | 20.8 |
| 1976 (d) | 69.3 | 76.3 | 69.4 | 76.2 | 51.2 | 57.7 | 32.5 | 38.4 | 16.1 | 20.7 |
| 1977 (d) | 69.9 | 76.8 | 69.9 | 76.6 | 51.7 | 58.1 | 33.1 | 38.8 | 16.6 | 21.1 |

(a) The average number of additional years a person of the given age and sex might expect to live if the age-specific death rates of the given period continued throughout his/her lifetime. (b) Excludes particulars of full-blood Aboriginals prior to 1967. (c) Based on Official Life Tables calculated by the Australian Government Actuary. (d) Based on annual life tables calculated by the Australian Statistician. These tables are based on age estimates revised in light of the 1976 Census results adjusted for under-enumeration and mis-statement of ages.

The inverse of the expectation of life at birth is sometimes called the *true death rate*. This rate is a measure of mortality unaffected by the current age structure of the population, and is therefore a better measure of change than crude death rates.

TRUE DEATH RATES

| Period | True death rate(a) | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------|
| | Males | Females |
| 1953-55 | 14.89 | 13.75 |
| 1960-62 | 14.72 | 13.48 |
| 1965-67 | 14.79 | 13.49 |
| 1970-72 | 14.75 | 13.42 |
| 1972 | 14.60 | 13.28 |
| 1973 | 14.59 | 13.25 |
| 1974 | 14.63 | 13.27 |
| 1975 | 14.45 | 13.13 |
| 1976 | 14.43 | 13.11 |
| 1977 | 14.31 | 13.03 |

(a) Number of deaths per 1,000 in stationary population.

Marriages

The *Australian Marriage Act 1961* came into operation on 1 September 1963, placing the marriage laws throughout Australia on a uniform basis. Marriages may be celebrated by a minister of religion registered as an authorised celebrant, or by a district registrar or other person authorised by the Attorney-General. The minimum marriageable age is 18 years for males and 16 years for females. A judge or magistrate may, in exceptional circumstances, make an order authorising a male who has attained 16 years or a female who has attained 14 years to marry a person of marriageable age.

In 1978, 77 per cent of grooms and 78 per cent of brides were marrying for the first time; 3 per cent were widowers and 4 per cent widows; and 20 per cent of grooms and 18 per cent of brides had been divorced. The proportion of marriages involving divorced persons increased sharply in 1976 and slightly thereafter. This is associated with the larger numbers of divorces granted since the introduction of the *Family Law Act 1975*.

Median age at first marriage declined during the 1950s and 1960s but has risen slightly in recent years. In 1978 it was 23.94 years for males and 21.55 for females. In 1978, 4.5 per cent of grooms and 21.6 per cent of brides married under the age of 20.

MARITAL STATUS AT MARRIAGE

| Period | Grooms | | | Brides | | | | Total brides |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------------------|-----------|--------|----------|--------------|
| | Bachelors | Widowers | Divorced | Total bride-grooms | Spinsters | Widows | Divorced | |
| NUMBER | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 66,364 | 3,086 | 4,404 | 73,854 | 65,579 | 3,305 | 4,970 | 73,854 |
| 1961-65 | 75,384 | 3,063 | 4,803 | 83,250 | 74,962 | 3,218 | 5,070 | 83,250 |
| 1966-70 | 96,438 | 3,320 | 6,430 | 106,188 | 96,341 | 3,568 | 6,279 | 106,188 |
| 1971-75 | 99,203 | 3,473 | 9,126 | 111,802 | 99,287 | 3,810 | 8,705 | 111,802 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 99,741 | 3,614 | 9,345 | 112,700 | 99,950 | 3,906 | 8,844 | 112,700 |
| 1974 | 97,872 | 3,367 | 9,434 | 110,673 | 98,031 | 3,764 | 8,878 | 110,673 |
| 1975 | 89,912 | 3,308 | 10,753 | 103,973 | 90,010 | 3,681 | 10,282 | 103,973 |
| 1976 | 86,792 | 3,777 | 19,404 | 109,973 | 87,434 | 4,378 | 18,161 | 109,973 |
| 1977 | 81,172 | 3,385 | 20,361 | 104,918 | 81,694 | 3,999 | 19,225 | 104,918 |
| 1978 | 79,581 | 3,279 | 20,098 | 102,958 | 80,142 | 3,818 | 18,998 | 102,958 |

MARITAL STATUS AT MARRIAGE—*continued*

| Period | Grooms | | | Total bride- grooms | Brides | | | Total brides |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| | Bachelors | Widowers | Divorced | | Spinsters | Widows | Divorced | |
| MEDIAN AGES | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 24.73 | 56.50 | 39.25 | 25.37 | 21.57 | 47.61 | 35.44 | 21.99 |
| 1961-65 | 24.16 | 56.60 | 40.41 | 24.69 | 21.32 | 49.25 | 36.63 | 21.67 |
| 1966-70 | 23.54 | 56.69 | 39.75 | 23.94 | 21.19 | 50.05 | 36.08 | 21.50 |
| 1971-75 | 23.33 | 57.78 | 37.25 | 23.86 | 20.99 | 51.13 | 33.04 | 21.43 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 23.31 | 58.06 | 36.97 | 23.85 | 20.97 | 51.31 | 33.18 | 21.41 |
| 1974 | 23.28 | 58.13 | 36.75 | 23.83 | 20.92 | 51.21 | 33.02 | 21.37 |
| 1975 | 23.37 | 57.99 | 36.40 | 24.06 | 20.97 | 51.35 | 32.82 | 21.55 |
| 1976 | 23.62 | 57.86 | 36.56 | 24.89 | 21.23 | 51.19 | 32.58 | 22.24 |
| 1977 | 23.76 | 58.43 | 35.92 | 25.17 | 21.35 | 50.88 | 32.24 | 22.48 |
| 1978 | 23.94 | 58.54 | 35.95 | 25.41 | 21.55 | 51.81 | 32.37 | 22.71 |

AGE AT MARRIAGE

| Period | Age | | | | | | | 50 and over | Total |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|---------|
| | Under 20 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | | |
| GROOM | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 3,320 | 31,620 | 19,721 | 8,245 | 3,630 | 2,139 | 1,606 | 3,573 | 73,854 |
| 1961-65 | 5,278 | 38,845 | 20,344 | 7,495 | 3,799 | 2,154 | 1,498 | 3,837 | 83,250 |
| 1966-70 | 7,917 | 55,824 | 23,398 | 7,008 | 3,544 | 2,473 | 1,763 | 4,258 | 106,185 |
| 1971-75 | 8,427 | 59,058 | 24,374 | 7,408 | 3,425 | 2,376 | 1,970 | 4,765 | 111,802 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 8,383 | 59,413 | 24,800 | 7,428 | 3,375 | 2,373 | 2,030 | 4,898 | 112,700 |
| 1974 | 8,472 | 58,059 | 24,415 | 7,408 | 3,356 | 2,268 | 1,943 | 4,752 | 110,673 |
| 1975 | 7,399 | 52,512 | 23,510 | 7,674 | 3,685 | 2,352 | 1,998 | 4,843 | 103,973 |
| 1976 | 6,302 | 49,614 | 25,659 | 9,776 | 5,198 | 3,450 | 3,057 | 6,917 | 109,973 |
| 1977 | 5,242 | 46,059 | 24,908 | 10,750 | 5,216 | 3,399 | 2,915 | 6,429 | 104,918 |
| 1978 | 4,592 | 44,011 | 25,337 | 11,229 | 5,451 | 3,447 | 2,691 | 6,200 | 102,958 |

BRIDE

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 18,568 | 33,626 | 9,209 | 4,325 | 2,647 | 1,753 | 1,373 | 2,353 | 73,854 |
| 1961-65 | 23,454 | 39,370 | 8,760 | 3,553 | 2,416 | 1,715 | 1,367 | 2,616 | 83,250 |
| 1966-70 | 30,475 | 53,356 | 10,334 | 3,521 | 2,143 | 1,764 | 1,545 | 3,047 | 106,185 |
| 1971-75 | 34,319 | 51,846 | 12,363 | 4,280 | 2,279 | 1,733 | 1,621 | 3,362 | 111,802 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 34,679 | 51,794 | 12,716 | 4,393 | 2,238 | 1,743 | 1,653 | 3,484 | 112,700 |
| 1974 | 34,753 | 50,162 | 12,530 | 4,397 | 2,252 | 1,665 | 1,582 | 3,332 | 110,673 |
| 1975 | 31,483 | 45,872 | 12,581 | 4,742 | 2,521 | 1,752 | 1,642 | 3,380 | 103,973 |
| 1976 | 28,063 | 45,891 | 15,755 | 6,866 | 3,892 | 2,641 | 2,356 | 4,509 | 109,973 |
| 1977 | 24,827 | 44,208 | 15,692 | 7,360 | 3,945 | 2,519 | 2,229 | 4,138 | 104,918 |
| 1978 | 22,290 | 44,094 | 16,114 | 7,810 | 4,026 | 2,525 | 2,121 | 3,978 | 102,958 |

Marriage rates of the marriageable population provide a measure of changing marriage patterns. Marriage rates have been calculated for the three years around the census per thousand single, widowed and divorced males, females and persons.

The rates for 1975-77 were 64.86 for males, 61.92 for females, and 63.36 for persons.

The proportion of all marriages celebrated by civil officers rose to 34.4 per cent of all marriages registered in 1978. This proportion has nearly doubled since 1973.

MARRIAGE RATES OF MARRIAGEABLE POPULATION

| Censal period | Per thousand single, widowed and divorced, aged 15 and over | | | Per thousand persons | |
|---------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Males rate | Females rate | Persons rate | Rate | Index |
| 1880-82 | 39.38 | 63.56 | 48.63 | 7.62 | 100 |
| 1890-92 | 36.50 | 35.50 | 44.04 | 7.28 | 96 |
| 1900-02 | 37.32 | 48.39 | 42.14 | 7.27 | 95 |
| 1910-12 | 45.80 | 55.33 | 50.12 | 8.74 | 115 |
| 1920-22 | 54.00 | 58.08 | 55.97 | 8.75 | 115 |
| 1932-34 | 41.70 | 44.13 | 42.88 | 7.12 | 93 |
| 1946-48 | 71.89 | 70.60 | 71.24 | 10.15 | 133 |
| 1953-55 | 64.20 | 66.46 | 65.32 | 7.92 | 104 |
| 1960-62 | 61.50 | 63.07 | 62.27 | 7.34 | 96 |
| 1965-67 | 68.06 | 68.04 | 68.05 | 8.32 | 109 |
| 1970-72 | 70.34 | 67.11 | 68.69 | 9.09 | 119 |
| 1975-77 | 64.86 | 61.92 | 63.36 | 7.84 | 103 |

Divorce

The *Matrimonial Causes Act 1959-66* provided for dissolution of marriage on one or more of 14 grounds. It also provided for nullity of marriage and for judicial separation. This Act, which came into operation in 1961, replaced separate State and Territory legislation. The *Family Law Act 1975*, which came into operation on 5 January 1976, provides for a single ground for divorce—irretrievable breakdown of marriage—and for nullity of marriage on the ground that the marriage is void.

Statistics prior to 1976 in the following tables relate to divorces granted under the *Matrimonial Causes Act* or under previous State or Territory legislation. Statistics for 1976 differentiated between divorces granted under *Matrimonial Causes* and *Family Law* legislation. Although *Family Law* legislation provides for petitions filed before 1976 to be heard under the superseded *Matrimonial Causes* legislation, statistics of divorces granted after 1976 make no such differentiation.

When comparing the number and rate of decrees granted from year to year it should be borne in mind that the availability of judges to hear petitions lodged can affect the number of decrees granted. A rise in one year may be due wholly or in part to the clearing of a backlog of cases from an earlier year. In addition, changes to legislature, rules or practices may also affect the number of divorce applications.

Following a sharp rise in the number of divorces in 1976, the first year of *Family Law* legislation, the number dropped by 29 per cent to 45,175 in 1977. However, this number was still 86 per cent higher than the number granted in 1975 under *Matrimonial Causes* legislation. The preliminary total for 1978 is 40,525.

DIVORCE: DISSOLUTION, NULLITY AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION

| Period | Petitions filed | Petitions granted |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Annual averages— | | |
| 1956-60 | 8,310 | 6,788 |
| 1961-65 | 9,955 | 7,611 |
| 1966-70 | 13,089 | 10,738 |
| 1971-75 | 22,704 | 17,405 |
| Annual totals— | | |
| 1973 | 21,308 | 16,266 |
| 1974 | 26,855 | 17,744 |
| 1975 | 28,383 | 24,307 |
| 1976 | 66,092 | 63,267 |
| Matrimonial Causes | - | 15,743 |
| Family Law | 66,092 | 47,524 |
| 1977 | 41,628 | 45,175 |
| 1978p | 40,918 | 40,525 |

Duration of marriage, age at marriage and age at divorce

The median duration of marriages dissolved in 1977 was 10.94 years. Of the 45,150 marriages which were dissolved, 46.0 per cent had lasted less than ten years, 31.0 per cent between ten and twenty years and 23.0 per cent more than twenty years.

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, YEARS MARRIED

| Period | Years married | | | | | | 25 and over (a) | Total | Median duration of marriage |
|------------------|---------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| | 0-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 486 | 2,157 | 1,726 | 1,075 | 624 | 644 | 6,712 | 11.74 | |
| 1961-65 | 501 | 1,999 | 1,747 | 1,329 | 926 | 1,040 | 7,542 | 13.56 | |
| 1966-70 | 903 | 2,937 | 2,146 | 1,685 | 1,429 | 1,581 | 10,681 | 13.41 | |
| 1971-75 | 1,693 | 5,478 | 3,432 | 2,398 | 1,930 | 2,417 | 17,349 | 11.92 | |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 1,568 | 4,828 | 3,002 | 2,222 | 1,831 | 2,204 | 15,655 | 12.14 | |
| 1973 | 1,624 | 5,209 | 3,121 | 2,181 | 1,793 | 2,268 | 16,196 | r11.79 | |
| 1974 | 1,672 | 5,612 | 3,571 | 2,382 | 1,941 | 2,510 | 17,688 | 11.80 | |
| 1975 | 2,401 | 7,861 | 4,873 | 3,353 | 2,481 | 3,288 | 24,257 | r11.60 | |
| 1976 | 9,791 | 19,108 | 11,421 | 7,917 | 6,200 | 8,793 | 63,230 | 10.97 | |
| 1977 | 7,802 | 12,960 | 8,383 | 5,630 | 4,374 | 6,001 | 45,150 | 10.94 | |

(a) Includes 2 not stated 1974, 1 not stated 1975, 3 not stated 1976, 2 not stated 1977.

In 1977, the median age at marriage of divorcing husbands was 23.33 years and of wives 20.71 years. Of husbands, 11.67 per cent had been aged under 20 at marriage and 53.62 per cent aged 20-24; of wives 40.70 per cent had been aged under age 20 and 41.96 per cent between 20-24.

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, AGE AT MARRIAGE

| Period | Age at marriage (years) | | | | | | | | | | Total dissolutions | Median age | |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------|
| | Under 20 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60 and over | | | |
| HUSBAND | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 491 | 3,521 | 1,983 | 753 | 363 | 187 | 101 | 56 | 29 | 26 | 32 | 7,542 | 24.64 |
| 1966-70 | 946 | 5,271 | 2,567 | 932 | 448 | 238 | 129 | 73 | 37 | 37 | 3 | 10,681 | 24.17 |
| 1971-75 | 1,856 | 9,354 | 3,686 | 1,210 | 552 | 292 | 174 | 94 | 51 | 46 | 34 | 17,349 | 23.46 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 1,591 | 8,415 | 3,428 | 1,144 | 472 | 276 | 143 | 99 | 49 | 37 | 1 | 15,655 | 23.53 |
| 1973 | 1,667 | 8,717 | 3,416 | 1,132 | 538 | 275 | 156 | 92 | 48 | 49 | 106 | 16,196 | 23.44 |
| 1974 | 1,899 | 9,581 | 3,758 | 1,248 | 555 | 274 | 167 | 81 | 42 | 39 | 44 | 17,688 | 23.38 |
| 1975 | 2,816 | 13,326 | 4,924 | 1,528 | 724 | 396 | 262 | 119 | 79 | 66 | 17 | 24,257 | 23.28 |
| 1976 | 7,130 | 34,036 | 12,872 | 4,257 | 2,038 | 1,195 | 678 | 391 | 263 | 235 | 135 | 63,230 | 23.35 |
| 1977 | 5,268 | 24,209 | 9,328 | 3,041 | 1,380 | 755 | 471 | 299 | 157 | 178 | 64 | 45,150 | 23.32 |
| WIFE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 2,347 | 3,265 | 1,026 | 430 | 218 | 112 | 56 | 29 | 15 | 10 | 34 | 7,542 | 22.15 |
| 1966-70 | 3,781 | 4,614 | 1,231 | 477 | 263 | 149 | 80 | 42 | 23 | 18 | 3 | 10,681 | 21.69 |
| 1971-75 | 6,662 | 7,710 | 1,630 | 592 | 317 | 185 | 108 | 58 | 27 | 24 | 35 | 17,349 | 20.89 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 5,968 | 6,959 | 1,522 | 551 | 307 | 151 | 99 | 50 | 19 | 24 | 5 | 15,655 | 20.90 |
| 1973 | 6,111 | 7,253 | 1,493 | 552 | 302 | 180 | 102 | 51 | 26 | 23 | 103 | 16,196 | 20.91 |
| 1974 | 6,734 | 8,025 | 1,614 | 574 | 322 | 196 | 81 | 49 | 33 | 17 | 43 | 17,688 | 20.88 |
| 1975 | 9,569 | 10,698 | 2,199 | 792 | 388 | 265 | 162 | 85 | 36 | 42 | 21 | 24,257 | 20.77 |
| 1976 | 24,632 | 27,354 | 5,906 | 2,148 | 1,210 | 728 | 504 | 279 | 166 | 124 | 179 | 63,230 | 20.99 |
| 1977 | 18,377 | 18,944 | 4,233 | 1,514 | 835 | 496 | 303 | 180 | 83 | 111 | 74 | 45,150 | 20.71 |

At time of divorce, the median age of husbands was 36.1 years and of wives 33.0 years. A total of 26.8 per cent of husbands and 37.9 per cent of wives were aged under 30 years when the marriage was dissolved.

Children of the marriage

For the years to which the Matrimonial Causes Act applied, children of the marriage were defined as living children under the age of 21 at the time of the petition. Under previous legislation there were differences between States. The Family Law Act defines them as children of the marriage if they were under the age of 18 at the time of application. In 1977, of the dissolutions granted under the Family Law Act, no children were involved in 36 per cent of the dissolutions, while 23 per cent of the dissolutions involved 1 child, 24 per cent 2 children and 16 per cent 3 or more children.

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NUMBER OF CHILDREN

| Period | Number of children to the marriage | | | | | 5 and over dissolutions | Total children | Average number of children | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | 2,318 | 1,810 | 1,466 | 657 | 278 | 190 | 6,720 | 8,946 | 1.33 |
| 1961-65 | 2,834 | 1,950 | 1,611 | 753 | 279 | 143 | 7,568 | 9,347 | 1.24 |
| 1966-70 | 3,628 | 2,656 | 2,428 | 1,212 | 497 | 261 | 10,681 | 14,588 | 1.37 |
| 1971-75 | 5,628 | 4,062 | 4,200 | 2,147 | 874 | 438 | 17,349 | 24,840 | 1.43 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 | 5,198 | 3,690 | 3,669 | 1,885 | 817 | 396 | 15,655 | 22,172 | 1.42 |
| 1973 | 5,245 | 3,834 | 3,894 | 2,025 | 818 | 380 | 16,196 | 23,078 | 1.42 |
| 1974 | 5,615 | 4,138 | 4,431 | 2,194 | 863 | 447 | 17,688 | 25,505 | 1.44 |
| 1975 | 7,870 | 5,467 | 6,031 | 3,029 | 1,254 | 606 | 24,257 | 34,992 | 1.44 |
| 1976 | 23,606 | 14,751 | 14,422 | 6,761 | 2,542 | 1,148 | 63,230 | 73,645 | 1.16 |
| 1977 | 16,381 | 10,473 | 11,005 | 4,857 | 1,679 | 755 | 45,150 | 57,878 | 1.28 |

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS

Statistics of overseas arrivals and departures are compiled from incoming and outgoing passenger cards which are collected from all travellers under the *Migration Act 1958*. Earlier statistics were obtained from passenger lists required under various Acts.

Since 1924, overseas travellers have been classified into two principal categories which distinguish movements for short terms from movements for longer periods (including permanent movements). Revised questions for travellers were introduced in 1958 and again in 1974. The 1958 revision enabled the separation, after 1959, of permanent from other long-term movements and also the identification of former settlers departing. The 1974 revisions improved the classification without change of principle. The principal categories of overseas movement are:

Permanent—consists of persons arriving with the stated intention of settling permanently in Australia (settlers), and Australian residents (including former settlers) departing with the stated intention of residing permanently abroad. Before 1974, former settlers were not so classified unless they had spent at least 12 months in Australia.

Long-term—consists of overseas visitors arriving and Australian residents departing with the stated intention of staying in Australia or abroad respectively for 12 months or more; and visitors departing and residents returning who have stayed in Australia or abroad respectively for 12 months or more. Until 1974, Australian residents returning were classified as long-term only if their time spent abroad included a period of 12 months in any one country. Their classification is now governed solely by their total absence from Australia.

Short-term—consists of overseas visitors arriving and Australian residents departing whose intended or actual period of stay in Australia or abroad respectively is less than twelve months.

The classification of overseas movements is based on statements made by the traveller on arrival in or departure from Australia. The statistics represent the travellers' intentions at the time of arrival or departure; travellers may subsequently change their intentions, and this must be borne in mind in interpreting the statistics.

A comparison of overseas arrivals and departures in 1978 with those in 1950 indicates a present predominance of tourists, thereby also accounting for the great increase in the volume of travel, now mostly by air. In 1950 there were 250,404 arrivals and 97,899 departures, compared with 1,814,822 arrivals and 1,762,480 departures in 1978. Total arrivals remained at the 1950 levels until the early 1960s and total departures increased only slowly. In 1950, short-term movement accounted for 30.3 per cent of arrivals and 78.7 per cent of departures. The percentages had increased to 91.5 per cent and 94.1 per cent respectively in 1978. An upsurge of international tourism, particularly by Australian residents, occurred in the 1970s. The volume of sea travel has changed little over the period

(the figures exclude pleasure cruises in the south west Pacific beginning and ending in Australia), so that in 1978 only 1.5 per cent of arrivals and departures had travelled by ship. Net gain, i.e. the excess of total arrivals over total departures, until recently provided a satisfactory measure of the population gain from international migration. In recent years, however, distortions arising from seasonality of short-term arrivals and departures have become very large. For the purpose of estimating the population of Australia and the States and Territories, therefore, the migration components of population growth has been measured since 1 July 1971 by reference to permanent and long-term movements only.

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: AUSTRALIA 1956-1978(a)

ARRIVALS

| Period | Permanent and long-term movement | | | Short-term movement | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Per- manent Settlers arriving | Long-term | | Total permanent and long-term arrivals | Overseas visitors arriving | | | Total arrivals | |
| | | Australian residents returning | Overseas visitors arriving | | Australian residents returning | In transit | Other | | Total |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 123,153 | 61,922 | 16,841 | 50,903 | 67,744 | 252,819 |
| 1961-65 | 115,198 | 22,258 | 14,770 | 152,226 | 117,041 | 28,685 | 102,776 | 131,461 | 400,727 |
| 1966-70 | 160,813 | 36,148 | 24,481 | 221,442 | 259,700 | 41,476 | 255,800 | 297,275 | 778,417 |
| 1971-75 | 109,687 | 57,751 | 26,254 | 193,692 | 631,446 | 74,356 | 401,569 | 475,925 | 1,301,063 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 105,003 | 65,021 | 27,370 | 197,394 | 620,842 | 73,074 | 399,050 | 472,124 | 1,290,360 |
| 1974 | 121,324 | 63,320 | 26,984 | 211,628 | 752,218 | 78,166 | 454,517 | 532,683 | 1,496,529 |
| 1975 | 54,117 | 58,352 | 19,858 | 132,327 | 880,609 | 78,222 | 437,801 | 516,023 | 1,528,959 |
| 1976 | 58,317 | 59,875 | 23,312 | 141,504 | 968,265 | 66,462 | 465,406 | 531,868 | 1,641,636 |
| 1977 | 75,640 | 57,700 | 27,472 | 160,813 | 973,677 | 53,032 | 510,249 | 563,281 | 1,697,771 |
| 1978 | 68,419 | 57,938 | 28,389 | 154,745 | 1,029,482 | 57,501 | 573,093 | 630,594 | 1,814,822 |

DEPARTURES

| Period | Permanent and long-term movement | | | Short-term movement | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Permanent | | Total permanent and long-term departures | Australian residents departing | Overseas visitors departing | Total permanent and long-term departures | Australian residents departing | Overseas visitors departing | Total departures |
| | Former settlers departing | Other residents departing | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 42,161 | 61,224 | 68,430 | 171,815 |
| 1961-65 | 9,698 | 6,798 | 16,496 | 37,905 | 12,719 | 67,120 | 118,624 | 135,006 | 320,749 |
| 1966-70 | 23,191 | 8,752 | 31,942 | 56,219 | 14,349 | 102,511 | 258,824 | 308,321 | 669,656 |
| 1971-75 | 26,622 | 12,032 | 38,654 | 66,430 | 22,984 | 128,067 | 647,608 | 479,015 | 1,254,690 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 30,325 | 13,105 | 43,430 | 64,964 | 21,506 | 129,900 | 638,141 | 481,901 | 1,249,942 |
| 1974 | 21,849 | 11,902 | 33,751 | 66,228 | 24,401 | 124,380 | 769,650 | 515,378 | 1,409,408 |
| 1975 | 18,315 | 10,769 | 29,084 | 66,405 | 23,327 | 118,816 | 911,815 | 506,454 | 1,537,084 |
| 1976 | 16,815 | 9,918 | 26,733 | 68,526 | 20,631 | 115,890 | 973,799 | 512,468 | 1,602,156 |
| 1977 | 14,171 | 8,591 | 22,762 | 64,091 | 19,182 | 106,035 | 971,253 | 540,943 | 1,618,230 |
| 1978 | 14,027 | 10,933 | 24,960 | 58,519 | 19,643 | 103,122 | 1,062,234 | 597,123 | 1,762,480 |

EXCESS OF ARRIVALS OVER DEPARTURES

| Period | Permanent and long-term movement | | | | | | Short-term movement (a) | | | | | Total |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|-------|
| | Permanent | | | Long-term | | | Total permanent and long-term | Short-term | | | | |
| | Settlers | Others | Total | Australian residents | Over-seas visitors | Total long-term | | Australian residents | Over-seas visitors | Total short-term | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956-60 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 80,992 | 699 | -686 | 12 | 81,004 | |
| 1961-65 | 105,500 | -6,798 | 98,702 | -15,648 | 2,051 | -13,597 | 85,106 | -1,583 | -3,544 | -5,127 | 79,978 | |
| 1966-70 | 137,622 | -8,752 | 128,870 | -20,071 | 10,132 | -9,939 | 118,931 | 876 | -11,046 | -10,169 | 108,762 | |
| 1971-75 | 83,065 | -12,032 | 71,034 | -8,679 | 3,271 | -5,408 | 65,625 | -16,163 | -3,090 | -19,253 | 46,373 | |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 74,678 | -13,105 | 61,573 | 57 | 5,864 | 5,921 | 67,494 | -17,299 | -9,777 | -27,076 | 40,418 | |
| 1974 | 99,475 | -11,902 | 87,573 | -2,908 | 2,583 | -325 | 87,248 | -17,432 | 17,305 | -127 | 87,121 | |
| 1975 | 35,802 | -10,769 | 25,033 | -8,053 | -3,468 | -11,521 | 13,512 | -31,207 | 9,568 | -21,639 | -8,126 | |
| 1976 | 41,502 | -9,918 | 31,584 | -8,653 | 2,681 | -5,972 | 25,611 | -5,534 | 19,400 | 13,864 | 39,480 | |
| 1977 | 61,469 | -8,591 | 52,878 | -6,391 | 8,291 | 1,900 | 54,778 | 2,424 | 22,338 | 24,762 | 79,540 | |
| 1978 | 54,392 | -10,933 | 43,458 | -581 | 8,746 | 8,165 | 51,623 | -32,752 | 33,471 | 719 | 52,342 | |

(a) Statistics of short-term movements since 1974 are estimates based on sampling.

Migration to Australia

Migration to Australia is regulated by the *Migration Act* 1958-1973 which came into force on 1 June 1959. Any person entering Australia after the commencement of the Act without having been granted an entry permit or who is not within an exempted class is a prohibited immigrant. Exempted persons include diplomatic, and consular representatives of other countries, and seamen and air crew who enter with leave in Australian ports.

Prior to January 1975, citizens of the United Kingdom and Ireland were able to travel to Australia without obtaining any authority to do so; but, with the introduction of a non-discriminatory policy, they are now required to meet the same requirements as all other prospective migrants. Because of reciprocal arrangements on travel between the Australian and New Zealand governments, New Zealanders may come to Australia and Australian citizens may enter New Zealand as they wish.

Immigration has contributed substantially to Australia's post war population growth. In the post-war years, some 3.5 million migrants have arrived, of which an estimated 80 per cent settled. They and those of their children born in Australia have been responsible for about half of Australia's post war population growth.

In 1978, settler arrivals were 68,419 having risen from a post-war lowest level of 54,117 in 1975. The highest annual post-war level was 185,325 in 1970. The composition of the settler intake (in terms of source countries) has also altered markedly, as the table following shows.

SETTLERS ARRIVING BY COUNTRY OF LAST RESIDENCE

| | <i>Number</i> | | <i>Per cent</i> | |
|---|----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | <i>1970</i> | <i>1978</i> | <i>1970</i> | <i>1978</i> |
| South Africa | 1,751 | 2,878 | 0.9 | 4.2 |
| Other Africa | 3,799 | 1,237 | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| <i>Total Africa</i> | <i>5,550</i> | <i>4,115</i> | <i>3.0</i> | <i>6.0</i> |
| Canada | 2,080 | 840 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| U.S.A. | 4,909 | 1,234 | 2.7 | 1.8 |
| Other America | 4,262 | 2,497 | 2.3 | 3.7 |
| <i>Total America</i> | <i>11,251</i> | <i>4,571</i> | <i>6.1</i> | <i>6.7</i> |
| India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka | 4,119 | 1,036 | 2.2 | 1.5 |
| Lebanon | 3,974 | 1,502 | 2.1 | 2.3 |
| Malaysia and Singapore | 1,501 | 7,892 | 0.8 | 11.5 |
| Turkey | 4,399 | 903 | 2.4 | 1.3 |
| Other Asia | 4,014 | 10,427 | 2.2 | 15.2 |
| <i>Total Asia</i> | <i>18,007</i> | <i>21,760</i> | <i>9.7</i> | <i>31.8</i> |
| U.K. and Ireland | 77,522 | 16,754 | 41.8 | 24.5 |
| Austria | 12,790 | 362 | 6.9 | 0.5 |
| Germany | 5,106 | 982 | 2.8 | 1.4 |
| Greece | 10,098 | 1,053 | 5.4 | 1.6 |
| Italy | 8,843 | 2,007 | 4.8 | 2.9 |
| Yugoslavia | 15,717 | 1,443 | 8.5 | 2.1 |
| Other Europe | 14,102 | 3,539 | 7.6 | 5.2 |
| <i>Total Europe</i> | <i>144,178</i> | <i>26,140</i> | <i>77.8</i> | <i>38.2</i> |
| New Zealand | 5,532 | 10,416 | 3.0 | 15.2 |
| Other Oceania | 807 | 1,401 | 0.4 | 2.1 |
| <i>Total Oceania</i> | <i>6,339</i> | <i>11,817</i> | <i>3.4</i> | <i>17.3</i> |
| Not Stated | .. | 16 | .. | .. |
| Total | 185,325 | 68,419 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Each year Australia loses a proportion of its previous migrant intakes. Additionally, partly as a result of the high international mobility of professional and skilled workers, substantial numbers of Australians take up job opportunities overseas.

Eligibility for entry for settlement is restricted to certain family members and fiancées and fiancés of Australian residents, to others who possess skills, qualifications, personal or other qualities which represent an economic, social or cultural gain to Australia, and to refugees.

The grant of passage assistance is restricted to refugees and skilled workers in demand in Australia.

DEMOGRAPHY

SETTLER ARRIVALS

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Assisted</i> | <i>Unassisted</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Annual averages— | | | |
| 1961-65 | 67,426 | 47,772 | 115,198 |
| 1966-70 | 107,496 | 53,317 | 160,813 |
| 1971-75 | 58,176 | 51,511 | 109,687 |
| Annual totals— | | | |
| 1973 | 49,822 | 55,181 | 105,003 |
| 1974 | 52,194 | 69,130 | 121,324 |
| 1975 | 21,345 | 32,772 | 54,117 |
| 1976 | 15,840 | 42,481 | 58,321 |
| 1977 | 17,532 | 58,108 | 75,640 |
| 1978 | 19,549 | 48,870 | 68,419 |

SETTLER ARRIVALS BY AGE

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Age in years</i> | | | | | | <i>All ages</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | <i>0-4</i> | <i>5-14</i> | <i>15-24</i> | <i>25-44</i> | <i>45-64</i> | <i>65 and over</i> | |
| MALES | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 6,831 | 10,532 | 15,379 | 21,776 | 4,535 | 919 | 59,972 |
| 1966-70 | 10,542 | 15,434 | 21,184 | 32,272 | 5,809 | 1,243 | 86,484 |
| 1971-75 | 7,411 | 10,009 | 12,878 | 20,326 | 3,921 | 1,247 | 55,792 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 7,455 | 9,227 | 12,350 | 19,169 | 3,859 | 1,207 | 53,267 |
| 1974 | 8,149 | 11,048 | 13,397 | 23,452 | 4,317 | 1,402 | 61,765 |
| 1975 | 4,124 | 4,968 | 4,011 | 8,673 | 1,735 | 1,063 | 24,575 |
| 1976 | 3,996 | 5,543 | 5,339 | 9,556 | 2,105 | 1,183 | 27,722 |
| 1977 | 5,205 | 7,221 | 8,009 | 12,410 | 3,461 | 1,344 | 37,650 |
| 1978 | 4,577 | 6,768 | 7,463 | 11,351 | 2,897 | 1,378 | 34,434 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 6,333 | 9,772 | 14,248 | 18,262 | 5,135 | 1,476 | 55,226 |
| 1966-70 | 9,909 | 14,435 | 17,751 | 24,132 | 6,240 | 1,861 | 74,328 |
| 1971-75 | 6,952 | 9,301 | 13,685 | 17,445 | 4,787 | 1,725 | 53,895 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 6,983 | 8,729 | 13,123 | 16,449 | 4,728 | 1,724 | 51,736 |
| 1974 | 7,527 | 9,988 | 14,940 | 20,053 | 5,250 | 1,801 | 59,559 |
| 1975 | 3,908 | 4,671 | 6,990 | 9,676 | 2,807 | 1,491 | 29,544 |
| 1976 | 4,100 | 5,314 | 6,537 | 9,830 | 3,280 | 1,538 | 30,599 |
| 1977 | 4,821 | 6,597 | 8,070 | 12,104 | 4,595 | 1,803 | 37,990 |
| 1978 | 4,062 | 5,651 | 7,578 | 11,202 | 3,738 | 1,754 | 33,985 |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 13,164 | 20,305 | 29,627 | 40,038 | 9,670 | 2,395 | 115,198 |
| 1966-70 | 20,451 | 29,869 | 38,935 | 56,405 | 12,049 | 3,104 | 160,813 |
| 1971-75 | 14,363 | 19,311 | 26,563 | 37,771 | 8,708 | 2,972 | 109,687 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | | | |
| 1973 | 14,438 | 17,956 | 25,473 | 35,618 | 8,587 | 2,931 | 105,003 |
| 1974 | 15,676 | 21,036 | 28,337 | 43,505 | 9,567 | 3,203 | 121,324 |
| 1975 | 8,032 | 9,639 | 11,001 | 18,350 | 4,542 | 2,554 | 54,117 |
| 1976 | 8,096 | 10,857 | 11,876 | 19,386 | 5,385 | 2,721 | 58,321 |
| 1977 | 10,026 | 13,818 | 16,075 | 24,518 | 8,056 | 3,147 | 75,640 |
| 1978 | 8,639 | 12,419 | 15,041 | 22,553 | 6,635 | 3,132 | 68,419 |

SETTLER ARRIVALS BY MARITAL STATUS

| Period | <i>Never married</i> | | | | Total |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | <i>Under 15 years</i> | <i>15 years and over</i> | <i>Married</i> | <i>Widowed and divorced</i> | |
| MALES | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 17,364 | 20,190 | 21,800 | 618 | 59,972 |
| 1966-70 | 25,976 | 25,742 | 33,668 | 1,098 | 86,484 |
| 1971-75 | 17,420 | 14,750 | 22,595 | 1,027 | 55,792 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | |
| 1973 | 16,682 | 14,067 | 21,374 | 1,144 | 53,267 |
| 1974 | 19,197 | 15,508 | 25,829 | 1,231 | 61,765 |
| 1975 | 9,092 | 4,664 | 10,377 | 442 | 24,575 |
| 1976 | 9,541 | 6,710 | 10,888 | 581 | 27,720 |
| 1977 | 12,426 | 9,631 | 14,826 | 767 | 37,650 |
| 1978 | 11,345 | 8,451 | 13,808 | 830 | 34,434 |
| FEMALES | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 16,105 | 13,245 | 23,377 | 2,500 | 55,226 |
| 1966-70 | 24,344 | 12,530 | 34,125 | 3,330 | 74,328 |
| 1971-75 | 16,246 | 9,752 | 25,055 | 2,842 | 53,895 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | |
| 1973 | 15,712 | 8,916 | 23,970 | 3,138 | 51,736 |
| 1974 | 17,498 | 10,863 | 28,183 | 3,015 | 59,559 |
| 1975 | 8,559 | 5,521 | 13,614 | 1,849 | 29,544 |
| 1976 | 9,361 | 5,473 | 13,886 | 1,877 | 30,597 |
| 1977 | 11,378 | 6,319 | 17,874 | 2,419 | 37,990 |
| 1978 | 9,700 | 5,955 | 15,950 | 2,380 | 33,985 |
| PERSONS | | | | | |
| Annual averages— | | | | | |
| 1961-65 | 33,468 | 33,435 | 45,177 | 3,118 | 115,198 |
| 1966-70 | 50,320 | 38,272 | 67,793 | 4,427 | 160,813 |
| 1971-75 | 33,666 | 24,502 | 47,651 | 3,869 | 109,687 |
| Annual totals— | | | | | |
| 1973 | 32,394 | 22,983 | 45,344 | 4,282 | 105,003 |
| 1974 | 36,695 | 26,371 | 54,012 | 4,246 | 121,324 |
| 1975 | 17,651 | 10,185 | 23,991 | 2,290 | 54,117 |
| 1976 | 18,902 | 12,182 | 24,779 | 2,458 | 58,321 |
| 1977 | 23,804 | 15,950 | 32,700 | 3,186 | 75,640 |
| 1978 | 21,045 | 14,406 | 29,758 | 3,210 | 68,419 |

Refugees

Australia has opened its door to many refugees. Of almost 1 million people settled by the International Refugee Organisation between 1947 and 1952, Australia accepted 170,700, a total exceeded only by the United States of America. Since the early 1950s, crises have occurred which have increased the complexity of the world refugee problem, including the Hungarian uprising of 1956, its counterpart in Czechoslovakia in 1968, the continuing flow of refugees from Yugoslavia up to the late 1960s and early 1970s, the expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972, the events following the change of government in Chile in 1973, the fighting in Cyprus and the Lebanon, and the end of the war in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in 1975. Australia continues to offer resettlement opportunities to refugees from many parts of the world, in particular from South East Asia. Between 1975 and 1979 Australia has accepted 29,140 Indo-chinese refugees, of a total of an estimated 400,000 refugees and displaced persons accepted from all parts of the world since 1945.

REFUGEE ARRIVALS

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Assisted</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Annual average— | | | |
| 1956-60 | 5,904 | n.a. | n.a. |
| 1961-65 | 1,799 | n.a. | n.a. |
| 1966-70 | 7,446 | n.a. | n.a. |
| 1971-75 | 2,773 | 7,776 | 10,549 |
| Annual totals— | | | |
| 1973 | 1,473 | 7,241 | 8,714 |
| 1974 | 1,686 | 7,013 | 8,699 |
| 1975 | 853 | 3,302 | 4,155 |
| 1976 | 865 | 3,231 | 4,096 |
| 1977 | 2,202 | 7,272 | 9,474 |
| 1978 | 8,790 | 1,682 | 10,472 |

Citizenship

The grant of citizenship is controlled by the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948*. Citizenship may be acquired by birth in Australia, by birth abroad to Australian parents, or by grant of citizenship to persons resident in Australia under conditions prescribed in the Act.

An amendment to the legislation in 1973 meant that all persons are now eligible for the grant of Australian citizenship provided that they have lived in Australia for at least three years, are of good character, have an adequate knowledge of English and of the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship, and declare that their intention is to reside permanently in Australia.

PERSONS GRANTED AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Number</i> |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Annual averages— | |
| 1956-60 | 44,412 |
| 1961-65 | 43,823 |
| 1966-70 | 40,934 |
| 1971-75 | 61,182 |
| Annual totals— | |
| 1973 | 57,102 |
| 1974 | 87,549 |
| 1975 | 84,059 |
| 1976 | 118,189 |
| 1977 | 70,706 |
| 1978 | 65,094 |

Sources

Comprehensive statistics on aspects of demography are in the following publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics:

1976 Census publications including: *Population of States and Territories Adjusted for Under-Enumeration as Shown by Post-Enumeration Survey* (2212.0); *Summary of Population and Dwelling Characteristics: States, Territories and Australia* (2409.0 to 2417.0); *Characteristics of the Population and Dwellings: States, Territories and Australia* (2418.0 to 2426.0); *Characteristics of the Population and Dwellings in Local Government Areas* (2427.0 to 2434.0).

Australian Life Tables (3305.0).

Birth Expectations of Married Women (3215.0).

Births, Australia (3301.0).

Deaths, Australia (3302.0).

Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly (3101.0).

Divorces, Australia (3307.0).

Estimated Age Distribution of the Population (3201.0).

Fertility of Australian Marriages (R Series, Demog 2)—Occasional Paper

Internal Migration (3408.0).

Internal Migration in Australia, D. T. Rowland, Census Monograph, Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Demography, Australian National University, 1979 (3409.0).

Marriages, Australia (3306.0).

Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (3401.0, 3402.0, 3404.0).

Perinatal Deaths, Australia (3304.0).

Projections of the Population of Australia (3204.0).

Projections of the Population of the States and Territories of Australia (3214.0).

