

1986 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING

NEW ISSUE

# THE 1986 CENSUS DICTIONARY

**IAN CASTLES**  
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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(P)

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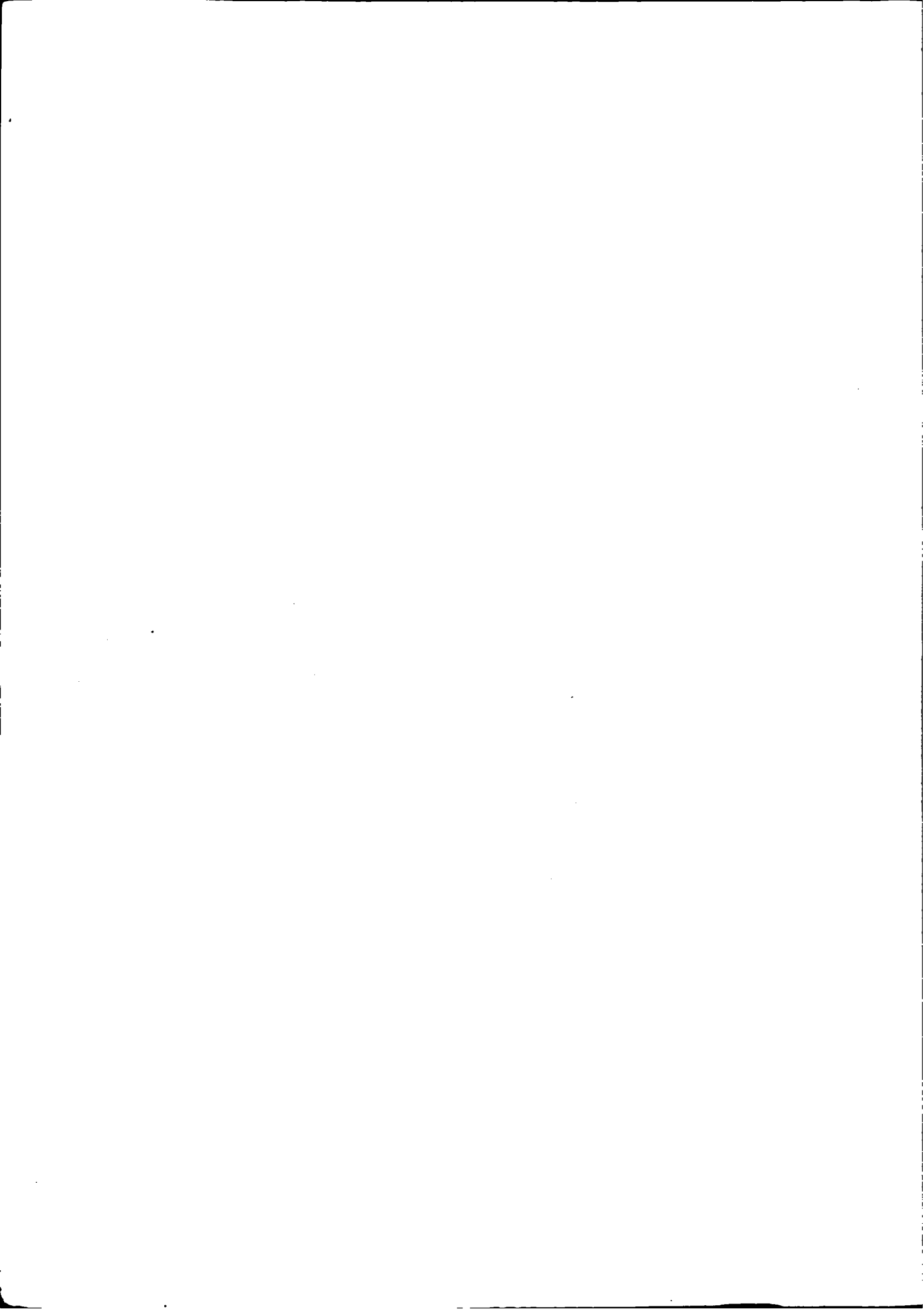
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## INTRODUCTION

The 1986 Census Dictionary has been designed as a basic reference document for the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. Where necessary, the dictionary refers readers to other information papers which provide further information on topics of interest.

The Census Dictionary provides users of census data with definitions of concepts and terminology used in the census. Additional information is given in entries where it was decided that this would lead to a greater appreciation of the subject matter concerned.

Cross-reference to other entries conveniently relates topics associated with one another. Cross-references are indicated by the use of CAPITAL LETTERS in the text of the entries.

Definitions of terms used in census field collection, input processing and output of census material are included. These should enable users of census data to obtain a more complete understanding of all the procedures involved in conducting the census.

The census collects and disseminates information on a range of characteristics associated with dwellings, families and persons. Census characteristics (variables) are derived from the final unit record file (FURF). For each entry that refers to a census variable the mnemonic (a three letter code, e.g. HIN for household income) is printed alongside the entry heading. This will assist users of the Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0), in which mnemonics are used extensively to reduce bulk.

Many of the entries relate directly to census questions. A census household form is provided at Appendix A and a personal form at Appendix B.

Several entries contain information of historical interest or relate to previous censuses. In particular, the dictionary draws comparisons and points out differences between censuses.

The classifications used for census variables are outlined but are not themselves listed in the dictionary. More detailed information on census classifications is contained in the following:

- . Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0)
- . Australian Standard Industrial Classification: Volume 1 - Classified List of Industries (Census 86: no catalogue number)
- . Australian Standard Industrial Classification: Volume 2 - Alphabetic List of Primary Activities (Census 86: no catalogue number)
- . A number of publications associated with the Australian Standard Classification of Occupation (ASCO)
- . Australian Standard Geographical Classification (1216.0).

Note that the Industry and Occupation classification documents would be needed only if exhaustive lists of occupations and industries in unit groups were required. The Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables contains adequate detail for most purposes.

Users should be aware that two of the above classifications, the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) and the Australian Standard Classification of Occupation (ASCO) are being used in the population census for the first time. The Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCLO) is no longer used.

The ABS expects that the 1986 Census Dictionary will be an essential complement to the library of census data users.

I would like to acknowledge the considerable effort put into the drafting of the 1986 Census Dictionary by John De Hoog, John Stamoulis and Karen Gorrell, and the checking and editing tasks performed by other members of the Output Planning and Production Team.

Ian Castles  
Australian Statistician

September 1986

ABORIGINAL DWELLING INDICATORABD

This is a FURF variable which is derived from ABORIGINAL ORIGIN (ABL), FAMILY NUMBER (FNO), RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) and LOCATION OF SPOUSE/PARTNER (SPL). It identifies private dwellings in which one or more Aboriginals or Torres Strait Islanders (TSI) were enumerated. It further classifies such dwellings according to whether the reference person or spouse/partner of a primary family unit, or other person(s), was Aboriginal or TSI. This field applies only to occupied private dwellings, and caravans etc in caravan parks.

The classification has changed since 1981 in several ways. In 1981 it only identified those private dwellings where the reference person and/or spouse of a primary family unit was reported as Aboriginal or TSI. It also separately identified Aboriginals and TSIs, whereas in 1986 no such distinction is made.

The data item allows easy study of the characteristics of households containing Aboriginals or TSIs. Enumeration of Aboriginal communities, particularly in remote areas, requires special field procedures. Isolation, dispersion and language all pose problems warranting special consideration. Comprehensive field maps, special Aboriginal enumerators, as well as assistance in completing forms, are part of the special procedures used to ensure that as complete a coverage as possible of the Aboriginal population is obtained.

ABORIGINAL ORIGINABL

This is a FURF variable which classifies each person into Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or Other categories.

A question pertaining to this topic has been asked in all Australian censuses since Federation. Prior to 1971, respondents were asked to give their race and, where race was mixed, to specify the proportion of each. In 1971 and 1976, a tick box approach was used, with the categories of European, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Other. In 1981 the question was changed to identify persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin. The main purpose of the question is to identify the number and distribution of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in Australia.

A check is performed during processing that ANCESTRY and BIRTHPLACE are consistent with the answer given to the question on Aboriginal origin.

The data are used to determine the socio-economic characteristics of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and to study their mortality and fertility.

Prior to the 1971 Census Aborigines were identified so that they could be specifically excluded from the census counts. This was required by Section 127 of the Constitution which stated that '.... in reckoning the number of people of the Commonwealth, or of a State or other part of the Commonwealth, Aboriginal natives shall not be counted.'

Section 127 was repealed following a referendum held on 27 May 1967. In order to meet the statistical requirements of the Commonwealth and State authorities responsible for Aboriginal affairs, the 1971 Census question sought to classify each person as being of European, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or other origin. This also occurred in the 1976 Census. In the 1981 and 1986 Censuses, however, the question asked only for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

See SAMPLE FILES.

#### ABORIGINAL EVALUATION STUDY

A number of problems are known to exist with Aboriginal data from the 1976 and 1981 Censuses. These problems include coverage and definitions. To obtain more accurate statistics on the Aboriginal population and to help the ABS evaluate coverage of the Aboriginal population in the 1986 Census, an Aboriginal Evaluation Study (AES) was conducted in late July 1986.

Population samples of Aborigines from areas known to have a high proportion of Aborigines in Sydney, Melbourne and country towns in New South Wales and Victoria were included in the AES.

The AES will provide valuable information regarding the nature of enumeration problems which, in turn, will be of use in improving future enumeration procedures.

Results and analysis of the Survey will be contained in the statistical publication Census 86 - Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders: Australia, States and Territories. This publication will be available in late 1987.



## ADDRESS

Address information is used in a number of important ways. The address provided on the front of the census form helps the census field staff in trying to ensure that no dwellings are omitted from the census enumerations.

The address of usual residence on census night (Question 6) is used:

- (a) to establish the STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA) of persons not usually resident in the dwelling in which they were enumerated; and
- (b) as helpful information in determining family relationships of persons within dwellings.

Addresses of usual residence at one year and five years before census date (Questions 7 and 8), also coded to SLA, provide much sought after information on movements of people within Australia. This information may also occasionally be used in the codings of relationship and family type.

Once coded to SLA, the addresses are no longer required. No addresses are recorded on the census computer file; they are destroyed when the census forms themselves are destroyed, shortly after the coding of the forms is completed.

Addresses are also used in the POST ENUMERATION SURVEY when trying to locate census forms to match with interview results.

For usual address, see USUAL RESIDENCE.

## ADDRESS OF WORKPLACE

Used to help identify the establishment that a person is employed in for INDUSTRY (IND) coding purposes and to obtain a WORK DESTINATION zone (DZN) for use in JOURNEY TO WORK studies.

ADOPTED CHILD

The census does not seek to identify adopted children. An adopted child would in most cases be reported as a child of Person 1 and/or Person 2 in the relationship question and be coded in the same way as natural offspring. Responses to the ancestry question may also be affected.

See DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD TYPE (CHT)

ADULT

An adult in census family definitions is any person aged 21 years and over, or aged 15-20 years and not a full-time student.

ADULT EDUCATION

The census did not seek information on this topic as such. Cross-classification of age with responses to the question 'Is the person attending a school or any other educational institution' may, however, meet some of the need for information on this topic.

See EDUCATION for information on education obtained in the 1986 Census.

ADULT FAMILY CHILD

See CHILD and RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

AGEAGE

This is a FURF variable which classifies each person's age into single year categories from 0 to 109.

Where the respondent failed to state an age, it was imputed using other information on the form and specially constructed random age tables. Data on the incidence of age not stated is available from the ABS.

Age is a basic census item that has been included in all Australian censuses. Because age is a basic determinant of lifestyle, it is very frequently cross-classified with other variables in census outputs.

Age is used during processing as a cross edit with many other census variables. It is also used as a constraint on the applicability of a question to various sub-populations.

Below are some of the major cases where age constraints apply.

- (a) If age is under 5 years, then the State and SLA of usual residence five years ago (RSV, RLV, IMI) are not applicable. See USUAL RESIDENCE.
- (b) If age is less than one year, then the State and SLA of usual residence one year ago (RSO, RLO, IMI) are also not applicable. See USUAL RESIDENCE.
- (c) If age is under 15 years, then the following items are not applicable:
  - . AGE LEFT SCHOOL (ALS)
  - . WORK DESTINATION (DZN)
  - . INDUSTRY SECTOR (GNG)
  - . HOURS WORKED (HRS)
  - . INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC)
  - . INDUSTRY (IND)
  - . LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS)
  - . MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE (MMO)
  - . MARITAL STATUS (MST)
  - . OCCUPATION (OCC)
  - . QUALIFICATION (QAL)
  - . ISSUE (TIL, TIS)
  - . METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT)
  - . YEAR HIGHEST QUALIFICATION OBTAINED (YOQ)
  - . YEAR FIRST MARRIED (YFM).
- (d) Age must not be less than PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA (PER).
- (e) Age constraints apply when determining family situations, i.e. family reference person and spouse must both be 15 years of age or over. It is used by coders to distinguish between dependent family children and adult family children. See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF), FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON.

AGE FIRST MARRIED

See YEAR FIRST MARRIED (YFM).

AGE LEFT SCHOOLALS

This is a FURF variable which is applicable to all persons aged 15 years and over. The question on age left school is designed to indicate the highest level of primary or secondary education completed. For persons without post-secondary qualifications (as indicated by Question 23) age left school is a good indicator of the educational level attained. Age left school is asked instead of 'level of schooling' to overcome confusion caused by differences, present and past, between various State and overseas education systems.

ALS is checked by editing against various other items. If a school leaving age has been reported for a person, that person should not state an age less than his/her age of leaving school. Further, a person should not be reported as attending pre-school, primary or secondary school (see EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP)) if they state an ALS.

ALS is important for users engaged in the planning of education facilities, estimating the demand for courses and assessing the likely usefulness of extension courses or other educational programs. It is also used as an indicator of disadvantage in that it shows the level of education reached by persons with no post-school qualifications.

ANCESTOR

For information on this term, see RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF). The term ancestor is used in the family classification only and should not be confused with the question about a person's ancestry - see ANCESTRY.

ANCESTRYANA, ANB and ANC

A question on ancestry was asked for the first time in the 1986 Census. Each person was asked to state their ancestry.

The answers to this question depended, to some extent, on how a person perceived their ancestry. Some persons may have indicated their origins dating back several generations. Others may have disregarded parentage and considered themselves as Australian only.

In the guide delivered with each census form, people were advised that it was quite acceptable to base responses to this question on their grandparents ancestry, and that persons of mixed ancestry who did not identify with a single group should answer with their multiple ancestry.

There are two FURF variables which classify each person's ancestry. If one ancestry is reported ANA is used; if two ancestries are reported ANA and ANB are used. If three or more ancestries are reported, only the first two listed are used. ANC is a combination of ANA and ANB, which provides all the common combinations for tabulation purposes.

The 1981 Census of Population and Housing showed that:

- . 41 per cent of Australia's population was either born overseas or had at least one parent born overseas.
- . 23 per cent of the population had at least one parent born in a non-English speaking country.
- . About 1.6 million persons aged five years and over spoke a language other than English at home.

These facts formed the backdrop to the public debate about future directions in multiculturalism for Australia that occurred prior to the 1986 Census resulting in many demands for better data on the ethnic background of Australia's population.

See ETHNICITY COMMITTEE.

APARTMENTS

Apartments are treated the same as flats. See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

AREA OF COLLECTION DISTRICT

This is the area in hectares as calculated by the Division of National Mapping of the Department of Resources and Energy through their digitising process. It is not an official area calculation due to the inexactness inherent in the digitising process.

The digitising process involves plotting the boundary of a collection district (CD) using a discrete number of points. This results in a degree of inaccuracy since these points are joined by straight lines (which may not precisely follow the boundary). The area of a CD is, therefore, a two dimensional area calculation within a specified perimeter. Topological aspects of a collection district are not considered.

The areas of larger geographic levels are calculated by aggregating the areas of the component collection districts. For example, the calculation of area for a legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (by aggregation of areas of component collection districts) for census purposes may not correspond to the legally determined area which, in turn, may be subject to measurement error.

See COLLECTION DISTRICT.

ASCO

See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS.

ASIC

See INDUSTRY (IND).

ASCO-CCLO LINK

Previous censuses have coded occupation using the CLASSIFICATION AND CLASSIFIED LIST OF OCCUPATIONS (CCLO), but in 1986 occupation data were coded to the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS (ASCO). To aid comparison of occupation data between censuses, a quantitative link between ASCO and CCLO is to be produced. This link will be derived by coding a five per cent sample of census occupation responses in accordance with both occupation classifications. Data obtained from this sample will be available on magnetic tape and to a limited degree in publication form.

See OCCUPATION (OCC).

ASGC

See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION.

ASSISTANT COLLECTOR

Assistant collectors were appointed by CENSUS FIELD OFFICERS to assist in remote area enumeration of Aborigines. They included adult educators, Aborigines, and other persons with a knowledge of Aborigines and their lifestyles.

AUSSTATS

Ausstats is a time series data base management system used for storing, retrieving and manipulating time series data. Facilities are also available for storing non-time series data.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) has installed AUSSTATS on its national network, CSIRONET, and the ABS has utilised this development to store statistics from its publication data base. CSIRONET will make these statistics available to users with access facilities.

AUSTRALIAN BORN

See BIRTHPLACE.

### AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS TEMPORARILY OVERSEAS

These people are excluded from the census. For information on how data on this topic are used in estimating Australia's population, see CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION and ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION.

### AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS (ASCO)

This is a new standard occupation classification which has been developed jointly by the ABS and the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. It has been used in the census for coding responses to the census questions (29 and 30) on occupation (see Appendix A). It is an hierarchically structured classification, based on kind of work (defined as skill level and skill specialisation), of which three levels are used for census purposes. These are:

- . major groups - numbering 8
- . minor groups - numbering 52
- . unit groups - numbering 337.

There is one more (more detailed) level - occupations (numbering 1079), which are not separately identified for census purposes. An occupation is a set of jobs which requires the performance of a common set of tasks. The unit group consists of one or more ASCO occupations and is the basic coding level used in the census. Unit groups are designed to be as homogeneous as possible in terms of skill level and skill specialisation, within the limits of statistical feasibility.

Minor groups each consist of one or more unit groups, selected so that each minor group is still quite homogeneous in terms of skill level and slightly less homogeneous in terms of skill specialisation.

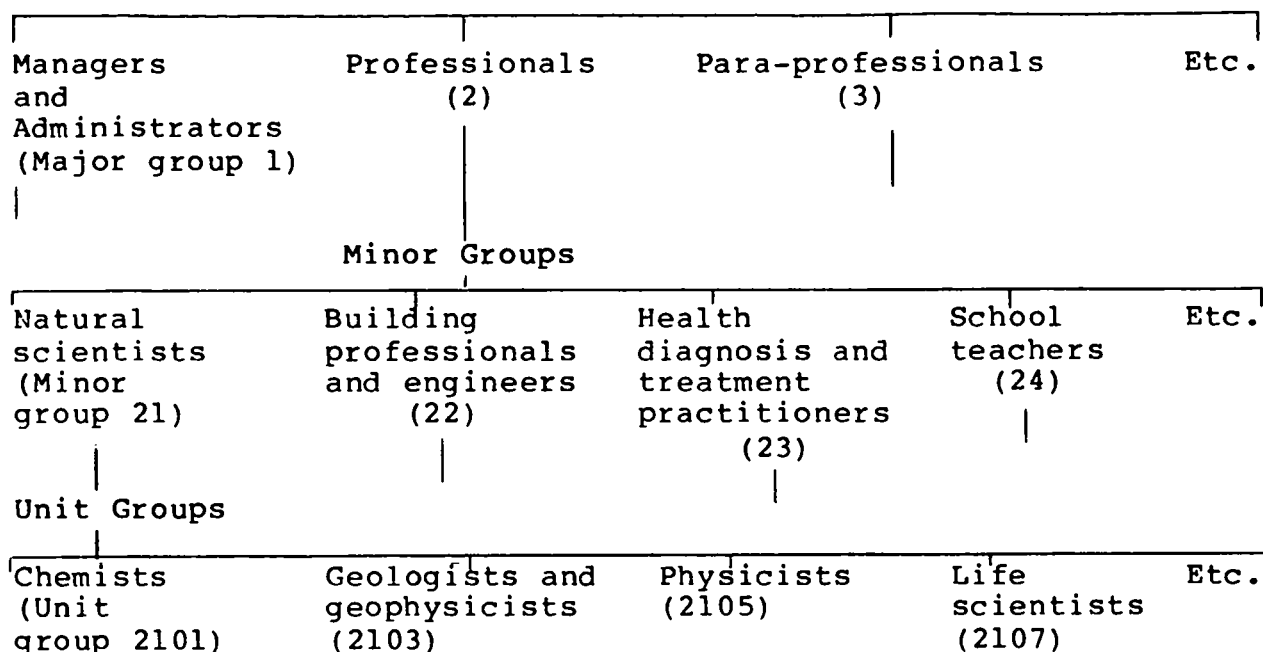
Major groups are the broadest level of ASCO. Each consists of a number of minor groups, selected so that major groups are as homogeneous as possible in terms of skill level, although quite heterogeneous in terms of skill specialisation.

The ASCO unit group code is made up of four digits. The first digit in the code represents the major group, the second digit the minor group and the third and fourth digits the unit group.



The following diagram illustrates the ASCO structure:

### Major Groups



There were a number of cases which required special treatment when attempting to allocate an ASCO occupation code. Examples of these special cases are:

- (a) Members of the clergy and religious orders were treated as follows:
- (i) bishops, cardinals, archbishops and other religious administrators were coded to other specialist managers (code 1399);
  - (ii) priests, rabbis, pastors, archdeacons etc, comprising the bulk of the clergy were coded to ministers of religion (code 2607); and
  - (iii) persons in religious orders who indicated specific tasks such as teaching or nursing were coded according to task information.

Members of contemplative orders such as nun (no teaching tasks), friar or monk, who were not codable to any of the above, were not allocated an ASCO code as they were not, by current definition, in the employed labour force.

- (b) Military personnel were previously included in a separate category of occupation which was used exclusively for all military personnel. There is no ASCO group which relates specifically to all military occupations, and military personnel were coded to various groups scattered throughout the classification, generally according to rank, occupation and tasks performed, as follows:
- (i) higher ranking commissioned officers (commodore, brigadier or air commodore and above) to general managers (code 1201);
  - (ii) lower ranking commissioned officers to specific occupation code or, by default, to code 1319, commissioned officers (management); and
  - (iii) non-commissioned officers and other ranks to specific occupation code.
- (c) Inmates of institutions (prisons, psychiatric care institutions etc) were classed as not in the labour force, and therefore were not allocated an ASCO occupation code, except where they were in paid employment outside the institution (on day release or similar provisions).
- (d) a person who does not report a codable occupation title or task, but is the wife of a self-employed or employer farmer, and:
- (i) reports herself as self-employed or employer, is coded to farmer
  - (ii) reports herself as unpaid helper, is coded to farmworker.

Persons who declared themselves (questions 26 and 27) to be in the labour force and employer, self-employed or family helper (question 28) were in general included in the employed labour force, whatever their occupation response. Occupation for these persons was coded:

- . to an ASCO occupation if possible from title and/or task responses.
- . to 'occupation inadequately described' if response was 'housewife', 'home duties' or similar, or no apparent attempt to provide occupation had been made but was not codable.
- . to 'not stated' if there was no response, or if no attempt at occupation/task description.

Persons who declared themselves in the labour force as wage/salary earner were coded as follows:

- . To ASCO occupation if possible from title and/or task responses.
- . To 'occupation inadequately described' if an apparent attempt to provide occupation was not codable.
- . To 'not stated' if there was no response or no attempt at occupation task description.
- . Respondent was deleted from labour force if occupation/tasks indicated home duties etc.

No attempt was made to impute occupation (except in the cases of farmer's wife above) from nature of business or industry of employer.

There are a number of reference and coding manuals, and indexes, available from the ABS. See Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers.

#### AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC)

The ABS used a new classification for coding geographic areas for the 1986 Census. The Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) is an hierarchically structured classification used for the identification and classification of spatial units (geographic areas).

The ASGC will be used in most censuses and surveys within the ABS for the dissemination of data. This allows for greater comparability of statistics within the ABS and a standardisation of terminology.

The ASGC is used for dissemination only of census data. A separate geographic structure exists for the census field collection system. It should, however, be noted that the COLLECTION DISTRICT is unique to both the ASGC and field collection system. In fact, it is the basic unit of both geographic hierarchies.

The principal ASGC areas used for census purposes are:

COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD)  
STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA)  
STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION (SSD)  
STATISTICAL DIVISION (SD)  
STATE/TERRITORY (S/T)  
URBAN CENTRE/(RURAL) LOCALITY (UC/L)  
LEGAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA)  
SECTION OF STATE  
STATISTICAL DISTRICT (S DIST)  
STATISTICAL REGION (SR)

A separate entry defining each of the above geographic areas is included in this dictionary.

Statistical Retail Area and Statistical Region Sector are two other geographic units of the ASGC. They are not, however, used in standard census outputs.

Further information concerning the ASGC can be found in Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0). The ASGC is also available on magnetic tape. The above publication contains an order form.

#### AUSTRALIAN STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (ASIC)

The Australian Standard Industrial Classification, 1983 Edition, Volume 2 (1202.0) (ASIC) describes the standard system used in the ABS for classifying business establishments by industry. It has been developed as part of an integrated statistical system to ensure that each individual establishment (e.g. shop, factory, mine) is classified to the same industry in all statistical compilations in which it is included.

The ASIC is structured into four levels, namely Divisions (the broadest level), Subdivisions, Groups and Classes. Each ASIC class is defined in terms of the activities designated as primary to it (e.g. class 2188 - Wine and Brandy; the primary activities are the manufacturing of argol, brandy, carbonated wines, wines, cider, etc). Each group is defined in terms of the activities designated as primary to the classes within that group.

Australian industry is split into 13 ASIC divisions, which are represented by the alpha characters A to M in the ASIC code. These are divided into 48 subdivisions, represented by the first two digits of each code. The subdivisions contain 124 groups, which are represented by the first three digits in the ASIC code. All four digits of the code represent the ASIC classes, which number 594. An example follows:

Division	C	:	Manufacturing
Subdivision	21	:	Food, beverages and tobacco
Group	216	:	Bread, cakes and biscuits
Class	2163	:	Biscuits.

The primary activities of ASIC class 2163 are described as the manufacture of biscuit crumbs, biscuits (except pet biscuits), ice cream cones or wafers, rusks, shortbread biscuits and unleavened bread.

For more detailed information refer to the reference documents, Australian Standard Industrial Classification: Volume 1 - Classified List of Industries (no catalogue number) and Australian Standard Industrial Classification: Volume 2 - Alphabetic List of Primary Activities (no catalogue number).

#### AUSTRALIAN STATISTICS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Australian Statistics Advisory Council was established by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975. Under Section 18(1) of the Act, the Council is to advise the Minister and the Statistician on:

- '(a) the improvement, extension and coordination of statistical services provided for public purposes in Australia;
- (b) annual and longer term priorities and program of work that should be adopted in relation to major aspects of the provision of those statistical services; and
- (c) any other matters relating generally to those statistical services.'

Part of the role of the ASAC involves monitoring progress on the development of the census, including public awareness campaigns, consultations with users on what information they need from the census and how this should be disseminated, and proposals for output products. In particular, ASAC advised the Minister on topics being considered for inclusion in the census.

BATHROOM

The 1976 Census included information on whether households share or have sole use of a bathroom, and how the bath water was heated. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

BEDROOMS IN PRIVATE DWELLING, NUMBER OFBED

This is a FURF variable which provides a count of the number of bedrooms in each occupied private dwelling.

The number of bedrooms in an occupied private dwelling is derived from question H1 on the census form.

The data provided by BED allow the calculation of occupancy ratios (number of persons per bedroom). When using occupancy ratios it must be remembered that they are based on persons present in households on census night, not persons usually resident.

This characteristic is not applicable to caravans etc in caravan parks, unoccupied and non-private dwellings.

BENEFITS (PENSIONS)

The 1976 Census collected information on type of benefits or pensions received. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Receipt of benefits or pensions should have been included in the amount reported in response to question 24 on the census form, which asked of each person 'gross income (including pensions and/or allowances)'.

Information on benefits is collected in the monthly population surveys conducted by the ABS.

## B

BIRTHPLACE

BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER  
 BIRTHPLACE OF INDIVIDUAL  
 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER

BPF  
BPL  
BPM

These are FURF variables which contain codes for the country of birth of each person (BPL) and of each person's father (BPF) and mother (BPM). There are 99 categories in each classification.

The birthplace classifications list the current names of countries. If a person uses a former name of a country, then the current name is given. For example, Rhodesia responses would be coded to Zimbabwe.

In respect of BIRTHPLACE OF INDIVIDUAL (BPL), in all censuses before and including 1976, persons born in Australia were required to record the State or Territory in which they were born. In 1981 and 1986 only 'Australia' as a country was required to be specified for Australian born.

In 1981 the classifications used for birthplace of father (BPF) and birthplace of mother (BPM) contained only 40 categories. In 1986 the BPF and BPM classifications are the same as that of birthplace of individual (BPL).

If birthplace of individual was not stated on the census form, an attempt was made to impute it from other answers or from responses for other family members. If birthplace could not be imputed and a code for 'not stated' was given. If BPL was 'Australia', the PERIOD OF RESIDENCE (PER) was coded as 'not applicable'.

Data on birthplace of individual are used in the analysis of the immigrant composition of the Australian population. They enable the study of migrant groups, in terms of fertility, mortality rates and socio-economic characteristics, to be carried out.

Data on birthplace of parents are used in studies of the origin and composition of the Australian population. They aid the analysis of the impact of migration flows from particular countries, and of Australian born people with overseas born parents.

See ANCESTRY (ANC), CITIZENSHIP (CIT), LANGUAGE (LAN) and ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN (ENG).



BLENDED FAMILY

A BLENDED FAMILY is one where there was a child or children from a previous relationship residing with a couple on census night where one of the couple was the natural parent and the other had no blood relationship.

Question 4 on the census form asked for each person's relationship to person 1/person 2. For children there were multiple choices for response to enable census coders to determine the status of children within the PRIMARY FAMILY.

A child reported as a child of both person 1 and person 2 or of a lone parent was classified as a natural/adopted child.

Where a couple was present and a child was reported as being a child of the FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON only or of the spouse/partner only, the child was classified as a step-child in the primary family. Step-children in a secondary family were not separately identified.

Families based on de facto partnerships were treated in exactly the same manner as families based on a married couple. This is the first census in which de facto relationships have been separately classified.

For information on coding procedures used in the 1981 census, refer to 'Census 81 - Dwelling, Household and Family' (2150.0).

See MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE.

BOARDER

See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

BOARDING HOUSE

See NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (NPD).

BOARDING SCHOOL

See USUAL RESIDENCE.

BOAT

See HOUSEBOAT and STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

BOUNDARY DESIGN

Boundaries are used in the census to define various geographic areas. The basic geographic area used in the census is the COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD). All other census geographic areas can be formed by aggregating CDs.

CD boundaries may need to be varied, or new boundaries created, from one census to the next, because of population shifts or growth and changes to legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA boundaries. Boundary changes are implemented by splitting the original CD into two or more new CDs. Where possible the original boundary is retained in order to maintain comparability of current census data with past censuses.

New CD boundaries are designed with reference to information obtained from:

- . aerial photography
- . government authorities
- . census collector comments from the previous census
- . local knowledge
- . field inspections.

To aid the census collector in identifying his/her area, boundaries follow physical features wherever possible.

See Census 86 -Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Geographic Code List (2188.0).

BUYING/OWNING A DWELLING

See NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC).

### CAMPERS OUT

Persons who spent census night sleeping in the open, in cars or truck cabins, in roadside caravans, in tents other than those in caravan parks, temporarily in boats, etc are counted as campers out.

Census collectors were instructed to visit, on census night, the places in their COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) where it was likely that persons may have been sleeping out, for example roadside parking areas and park benches. They were to ask any such persons if they had been counted elsewhere. If not, they were to issue them with a census form and help with the completion of the form, if necessary. Note that not all persons in this category are enumerated, due to their transiency.

Campers out comprise one category of the NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (NPD) classification. Such persons are included in the population of the area in which they were enumerated. However, their place of usual residence is obtained and they would be included in their STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA) of usual residence in those tables which show the usual resident population of an area.

### CAPITAL CITY STATISTICAL DIVISION

Capital city statistical divisions are predominantly urban in character and the boundaries are delineated to contain the anticipated urban development of the capital cities (and associated urban centres) for a period of at least twenty years. The original boundaries were delineated in 1966 using boundary criteria developed by Dr. G.R. Linge. In his publication, The Delimitation of Urban Boundaries (1965), he sets out the methodology by which these boundaries are delineated. Population changes over successive years have resulted in reviews and amendments to the boundaries. Considerable changes have been made for the 1986 Census. A capital city statistical division boundary should delineate an area which is now, or is expected to be, socially and economically oriented towards the metropolitan area in question. A capital city statistical division consists of complete STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS (SLAs) where possible. This fixed boundary (as distinct from an urban boundary, which may vary over time) will delineate an area which for general statistical purposes is free from the practical problems imposed by a moving boundary, but which nevertheless represents the city in a wider sense.

## CARAVANS

Enumeration of persons in caravans requires special procedures which vary depending on whether they are located:

- (a) in caravan parks;
- (b) on residential allotments, as a sole structure;
- (c) on residential allotments, with one or more other structures; or
- (d) at roadside parking areas, on open land.

Occupied boats in marinas are also included in this category.

In previous censuses caravan parks were treated as NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS (NPD) and a separate PERSONAL FORM was given to each person. No family data were collected on the estimated 50,000 families in these parks in 1981.

In caravan parks in the 1986 Census, each occupied caravan, tent, cabin, campervan, etc in a caravan park and occupied boat in a marina was treated as a separate household and given a household form for the household to complete. Data on relationships between persons in these households are therefore available so that household composition can be identified for this important group.

Generally, caravans etc in caravan parks and boats in marinas are excluded from tables which are concerned with the following characteristics (which for the most part have little or no relevance to caravans or boats and on which therefore no information was collected). NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC); FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED (FUF); LANDLORD (LLD); MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS (ALM); weekly rent (RNT); BEDROOMS IN PRIVATE DWELLING, NUMBER OF (BED). Caravans etc in caravan parks and boats in marinas are, however, included in tables involving the characteristics STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR), in which they constitute one of the categories, and MOTOR VEHICLES, NUMBER OF (VEH).

Note that caravans etc in caravan parks and boats in marinas are excluded from private dwelling counts. They are a new and separate classification of dwelling. See DWELLING.

Unoccupied caravans etc in caravan parks and unoccupied boats in marinas were not counted in the census.

Occupied caravan on a residential allotment, as a sole structure  
This was treated as a private dwelling.

Caravan on a residential allotment with one or more other  
structures

This may have been treated as a separate private dwelling, or an  
extension of another structure.

Consider a house with a caravan in its back yard. If a caravan  
was occupied by persons who did not share the facilities of the  
house, then a separate household, and therefore separate private  
dwelling, was recorded for the caravan. Otherwise it was  
regarded as a room attached to the main dwelling (assuming that  
these family members shared the facilities of the main dwelling  
and the occupants were included on the household form for the  
main dwelling).

Caravans at roadside parking areas or on open land

Persons in these caravans were regarded as campers out.  
Occupants received personal forms rather than household forms,  
and were counted under the non-private dwelling category CAMPERS  
OUT.

Unoccupied caravans on residential leases were treated the same  
way as, and included with, unoccupied private dwellings. See  
REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED (RUN).

The case of a manager of a caravan park or marina required  
special mention. Regardless of whether the manager of a caravan  
park or marina was living in a caravan, house or flat situated in  
the caravan park or marina, the manager's residence was  
enumerated as a private dwelling and classified as such (see  
STRUCTURE OF DWELLING).

See also MARINAS.

## CATALOGUE OF 1986 CENSUS TABLES

The Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0) is the basic reference for finding out what census data are available in tabular form in publications, on microfiche and or on magnetic tape. It describes the tabulations of data available; the basic classifications and codes; and recodes of classifications which are available for tabulation.

A catalogue is also available for previous censuses.

## CCL0

See CLASSIFICATION AND CLASSIFIED LIST OF OCCUPATIONS.

## CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT 1905

Population counts have been conducted from a very early period in Australia's history. Initially, these counts were solely head counts called 'musters', which were important as a means of matching food and other supplies to the number of people needing them. The first regular census was taken in New South Wales in 1828 using census taking methods essentially adapted from methods used in England at that time.

With Federation, census-taking became the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government. In 1905, the Census and Statistics Act was passed which gave authority to the Governor-General to appoint a Commonwealth Statistician, whose duties included the taking of the census.

The Act in its original form stipulated that a census was to be taken in 1911 and every tenth year thereafter. The Act also stipulated a number of topics which must be asked in each census: name, age, sex, relationship, marital status, duration of marriage, birthplace, nationality, period of residence, religion, occupation, material of outer walls and number of rooms in the dwellings. It also allowed for other topics to be included as prescribed.

In 1930 the Act amended the years in which the census could be conducted by the addition of the words 'or at such other times as prescribed' after 'be taken in every tenth year'.

Since 1961 a census has been held every five years because of the need to collect, more frequently, data that can only be produced by complete enumeration. In 1977 an amendment was made to the Act to have future censuses carried out on a quinquennial basis from 1981, and at such other times as are prescribed.

The Census and Statistics Amendment Act (No 2), 1981, proclaimed on 1 March 1983, removed the provision of the original Act requiring that certain topics be included in the census and others be prescribed by regulation. This gives greater flexibility in consideration of census content and ensures that all topics are subject to the scrutiny of the Parliament before each census. All census topics for 1986 were prescribed by regulation.

Other legislation which is relevant to the taking of the census includes:

- . Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975
- . Census and Statistics Amendment Act 1977
- . Census Regulations 1985 No. 18
- . Statistics Regulations
- . Determination under the Census and Statistics Act 1905.

#### CENSUS COLLECTOR

Census collectors are employed for the collection of census data. Each collector is assigned one or more COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) to enumerate, which constitutes approximately a 10 day workload.

Census collectors are temporary employees engaged according to Statistics Regulations. They are responsible for the delivery to and collection of census forms from, every dwelling within their CD(s). These include private dwellings, caravan parks and non-private dwellings. (Non-private dwellings which are expected to have at least 30 residents on census night, and large caravan parks, are enumerated by SPECIAL COLLECTORS. However, the census collector still has overall responsibility to ensure that all residents are enumerated).

Approximately 33,000 census collectors and special collectors were employed for the 1986 Census.

## CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION

This is a count of every person who spent census night in Australia, including persons on vessels in or between Australian ports, or on board long-distance trains, buses or aircraft.

Persons were counted where they were on census night, which may not be where they usually live. Visitors to Australia were counted regardless of how long they had been in the country or how long they planned to stay. Australian residents out of the country on census night, and overseas diplomatic personnel in Australia and their families, are out of the scope of the census. Such counts are frequently referred to as de facto census counts or as being on an actual location basis.

While every effort is made to achieve a complete census count, some under-counting inevitably remains for various reasons (e.g. inadvertent omission of very young children, treatment of some dwellings as unoccupied when in fact they are occupied, and failure to find all dwellings). Refusal by householders to complete the census form is not a significant cause of under-counting.

This type of count provides a snapshot, or typical situation in any given area. For example, a holiday resort such as the Gold Coast would show a very large count compared with the count of people who usually reside there. Characteristics of persons counted there, such as occupation, industry and income, would not be indicative of the work opportunities in the area, but would supply a lot of information about the visitors.

Census counts on a place of enumeration basis can be provided for individual CDs or any aggregations thereof. Typical areas are STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS (SLAs), POSTCODES, STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, State Government planning regions etc. See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION.

There are three different types of population figures released by the ABS. The following summary provides a brief overview. For more information, see CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE and ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION.



## Conceptual Bases

### 1. Census Count - Place of Enumeration (C)

- . includes overseas visitors;
- . excludes Australians overseas;
- . excludes adjustment for underenumeration.

Available for the following geographic levels:

- . Australia
- . State/Territory
- . statistical division
- . statistical subdivision
- . statistical local area (SLA)
- . statistical region
- . statistical district
- . legal local government area (LGA)
- . postcode
- . Commonwealth electoral division
- . State electoral division
- . urban centre
- . rural locality
- . collection district;

and non standard aggregations of collection districts.

### 2. Census Count - Place of Usual Residence (U)

Coding is done to Statistical Local Area

- . excludes overseas visitors;
- . excludes Australians overseas;
- . excludes adjustment for underenumeration.

Available for the following geographic levels:

- . Australia
- . State/Territory
- . statistical division
- . statistical subdivision
- . statistical local area (SLA)
- . statistical region
- . statistical district
- . legal local government area; (LGA)

and non standard aggregations of statistical local areas.

### 3. Estimated Resident Population

- . excludes overseas visitors;
- . includes estimates of Australians overseas;
- . includes adjustment for estimated underenumeration.

Available for the following geographic levels:

- . Australia
- . State/Territory
- . statistical division
- . statistical subdivision
- . statistical local area
- . statistical district
- . legal local government area.

#### CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE

This is a count of all persons within the scope of the census on the basis of where they usually live, rather than where they were enumerated on census night (see CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION). Each person was required to state his/her address of usual residence, which was coded to STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA) (see USUAL RESIDENCE).

Census counts compiled on this basis are less likely to be influenced by seasonal factors such as school holidays, snow seasons etc. and provide more precise information about the usual residents of an area.

Because each person was coded to an SLA of usual residence it is only possible to produce data for SLAs or aggregations thereof. Standard aggregations are STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS, STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, STATISTICAL REGIONS and STATISTICAL DISTRICTS.

These counts form the basis of the ABSs ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION but are different because:

- (a) census counts are not adjusted for estimated underenumeration and
- (b) Australians temporarily overseas are excluded from the census count.

There are three different types of population figures released by the ABS. See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION for a summary of the three types.

### CENSUS DIVISION

A census division is an area devised by the ABS, and is a statistical collection area which generally corresponds closely to a Commonwealth (Australian) Electoral Division. Due to the size of some electoral divisions, some may be split to form two census divisions.

Census divisions, being administrative areas, approximate electoral divisions because of the advantages in using the regional network of the Australian Electoral Commission, where possible, to administer the census collection system. These advantages include the Commission:

- (a) having regional offices throughout Australia;
- (b) being apolitical;
- (c) being knowledgeable of the area each office is required to administer; and
- (d) having suitable resources, including staff, available.

Census divisions bear no resemblance to STATISTICAL DIVISIONS. Census divisions are used for census collection purposes while statistical divisions are designed for output purposes for census and other collections.

### CENSUS FIELD OFFICERS

Census field officers were appointed to assist with Aboriginal enumeration for the 1986 Census.

Their responsibilities included:

- . identification of major Aboriginal groups/communities in each collection district;
- . organisation of census awareness materials and planning activities for Aboriginal communities;
- . visiting Aboriginal communities to establish contact and promote census awareness;
- . compiling a list of possible Aboriginal contacts who could help with the enumeration;

- . in urban and non-remote rural areas, assisting in the recruitment and training of field staff for Aboriginal areas;
- . in remote areas, responsibility for all aspects of the Aboriginal field system, including the training and recruitment of ASSISTANT COLLECTORS, and the supervision of the actual collection operations.

#### CENSUS FORM

See HOUSEHOLD FORM and PERSONAL FORM and APPENDIXES A and B.

#### CENSUS LIAISON OFFICER

Each office of the ABS has a Census Liaison Officer, who is the contact point for certain specific census matters. They are involved in, or aware of, all aspects of the census and can be contacted for any census queries which cannot be satisfied through the Information Services staff, who are the first point of contact.

#### CENSUS REGULATIONS

In all censuses prior to 1986, the topics for the census were prescribed in two ways. The CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT 1905 stipulated certain topics that must be asked in each census (see the entry in this dictionary) and therefore were included as a matter of course, and other topics were prescribed in Census Regulations tabled in Parliament.

The Census and Statistics Amendment Act (No 2), 1981, proclaimed on 1 March 1983, removed the provision of the original Act requiring that certain topics be included in the census. Hence, for the 1986 Census, all topics were prescribed by Census Regulations tabled in Parliament.

Census regulations on operational matters are no longer required because of amendments to the Census and Statistics Act and statistics regulations.

CENSUS SUBDIVISIONSDV

For administrative purposes, CENSUS DIVISIONS are divided into census subdivisions. Usually census subdivisions are units designed to group together roughly equal numbers of collection districts (about 12 to 15). These are generally the workload areas of GROUP LEADERS. In no case does a census subdivision boundary cut a legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA) boundary; this enables census subdivisions to be aggregated to form legal local government areas.

A census subdivision in no way resembles a STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION. A census subdivision is designed for collection purposes while a statistical subdivision is designed for output purposes.

See COLLECTION DISTRICT and CENSUS DIVISION.

CENTROID

The centroid is the geographic centre of a collection district as determined by the Division of National Mapping of the Department of Resources and Energy. This point is then allocated appropriate latitude and longitude, enabling census data to be easily produced for any aggregation of collection districts falling within an area defined by a user. For example, a user may require data for the area within a twenty kilometre radius of a particular point reference. This is achieved by obtaining the latitude and longitude of the point reference and aggregating all those collection districts which have centroids falling within a twenty kilometre radial distance of the point reference.

CHILD

The definition of child for census purposes is complex. It depends on the family situation of the person in question. In general, any person under 15 years of age is regarded as being a child, but not all such persons are identified as children in family related output variables, and the variable AGE must be used to determine whether or not they are children.

C

The following persons under 15 years of age who were enumerated in households are not included in family related output variables:

- (a) persons (whether related or not) living in a group house - these were coded to group household member in the RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) and FAMILY NUMBER (FNO) variables.
- (b) persons who, on census night, were located in households but not at their usual place of residence, and were not a member of any family within the household. Such persons, some of whom would have been reported as 'boarder', were coded to 'non-family member' in the RLF and FNO variables. Those who were at their place of usual residence were treated as family members, and were given the RLF code 'dependent family child' and the FNO code 'primary family'.
- (c) persons who were living alone - such persons were given the RLF and FNO code 'lone person household'.

Persons of any age living in NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS were not subject to family or household coding.

The term adult family child has been introduced for the 1986 Census. An adult family child is a child of the family who had no spouse or children present or temporarily absent on census night, e.g. a 25 year old son who usually lives with his parents, or who was visiting his parents on census night. See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD.

For census purposes adult family children are those persons aged 15 years and over, but not full-time students, who were identified as members of a family in a household. Full time students 15-20 years who were identified as family members were classified as dependent family children.

Users should take account of the definitions used above when using statistics on children. The distinction between child and DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD must be kept in mind.

### CHILDMINDING FACILITIES

The 1976 Census asked for information on types of childminding facilities used. This information was not sought in the 1981 or 1986 censuses.

Information on childminding facilities is collected periodically in the monthly population surveys conducted by the ABS.

### CHOROPLETH MAP

A choropleth map portrays the values of an attribute as they vary between geographic units. Each value of an attribute is represented by a symbol or colour which is distinguishable from those symbols or colours representing the other values of that attribute. When these symbols or colours are mapped onto a geographical area, they give a quick picture of the distribution of the values of the attribute.

For example, consider the percentage of overseas born persons in statistical local areas (SLAs) within a statistical subdivision. The percentage of overseas born could be divided into appropriate ranges e.g. 0-10%, 11-20%, 21-30%, 31% and over. Each range could then be given a different colour or symbol, and each SLA in the subdivision given the appropriate colour or symbol, depending on the percentage of overseas born in the SLA. This would then give a picture of the distribution of percentage of overseas born in the subdivision.

ABS can produce choropleth maps for a wide range of census variables for standard and non-standard geographic areas.

For the 1986 Census (as with 1976 and 1981) a series of social atlases will be produced containing many choropleth maps representing some aspects of the demographic, social and economic structure of major cities in Australia.

CITIZENSHIPCIT

This is a FURF variable in which persons are classified according to whether or not they are Australian citizens.

A question on nationality was first asked in 1921, in which respondents were required to indicate what nation they were subjects of by means of birthplace, parentage or naturalisation. From 1933 to 1961, 'nationality' was asked. In 1966 and 1971 the term 'nationality' or 'citizenship' was used. Since 1976 the question has used the term 'citizenship'. The major reasons for asking about citizenship are to obtain information on the propensity of different migrant groups to take out citizenship and to measure the size of groups eligible to vote.

In the 1981 Census respondents were required to state their country of citizenship, whereas the 1986 Census question asked only whether the person was an Australian citizen.

CLASSIFICATION

This is the whole body of classes assigned to a variable; for example, the variable (or characteristic) BIRTHPLACE has a number of classes, i.e. countries. Each country is a category (class) in the BIRTHPLACE classification.

To reduce a large range of different responses to a manageable number of categories for output purposes, it is necessary to classify them in a way which groups together like or related responses. The aim is to simplify output and thus reduce its bulk; to avoid specification of classes which would contain only a few responses, thus decreasing the risk of the inadvertent identification of individual persons; and optimise the utility of the data.

A coding index is a reference document which indicates the category or class to which responses should be coded. The allocation of responses to classes is generally done by assigning a code (representing the appropriate class) to each response. There are often several ways in which a basically similar response may be expressed; thus, RC, Roman Catholic, or Roman Church may be coded to Catholic. The coding index should cover, and indicate the same codes for all known variants for a particular response.

The Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0) contains a complete list of classifications used for the 1986 Census.



CLASSIFICATION AND CLASSIFIED LIST OF OCCUPATIONS

(CCL0)

For censuses between 1961 and 1981 inclusive, occupation was coded according to the Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCL0) and an index of government job classifications. In 1981, the CCL0 contained 11 major groups, 73 minor groups and 389 unit groups into which occupations were classed. During input processing, each person's occupation was coded from the Index of Occupations which was derived from the Classification and Classified List of Occupations.

In 1986, occupation was coded according to a new classification called the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS (ASCO). The government index was also used. See also the term ASCO - CCL0 LINK.

CODE, CODING

A code is a number assigned to a category used in the classification of a census variable. For example the variable BIRTHPLACE of individual (BPL) has 99 categories. The code 86 corresponds to the category (or birthplace) 'Canada'.

During input processing, coding is the process of assigning a code to a written answer on the census form; for example, codes are assigned to each person's industry, occupation, qualification, birthplace etc by referring to a coding index (i.e. a list of likely question responses and codes for the categories to which they belong). These codes are entered into the computer file and later converted back to descriptors in tabulation of results. Some variables are self coded, since the answers to some census questions require only a tick box response which is already pre-coded e.g., marital status (question 5) has 5 categories which are assigned codes 1-5. All census variables are held in the computer files in coded form. A complete list of census variables is available in Census 86 - Catalogue of Census Tables (2175.0). See MNEMONIC.

CODING INDEX

See CODE, CODING.

### COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD)

The Collection District (CD) is the smallest geographic area in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). It has been designed for use in the Census of Population and Housing as the basic collection, coding, processing, tabulation and publication unit.

The basic concept of a CD is that of a ten day field workload area of a census collector, which also serves as the smallest area building block in the ASGC for the aggregation of statistics for larger ASGC areas.

In urban areas CDs average about 350 dwellings, while in rural areas the number of dwellings per CD reduces as population densities decrease. For the 1986 Census of Population and Housing 29,632 CDs were delimited throughout Australia.

The criteria according to which CDs are delimited are as follows:

- (a) the area and population delimited by a CD boundary must not be so great that one collector cannot deliver and collect census forms within about 10 days;
- (b) the size and shape of the CD must be consistent with its role as a geographic area and building block capable of aggregation into larger ASGC areas;
- (c) the chosen CD boundaries must be readily identifiable on the ground and be defined in terms of permanent features, e.g. follow the centre of a road, river, fence or train line, and should conform to existing and proposed land uses;
- (d) CDs must not cross SLA boundaries and, as a consequence, any other ASGC area boundary; and
- (e) CDs in aggregate must cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

CDs are created in response to significant changes in population within a given area, or if boundaries of larger geographic areas change.

For example:

- (a) if the population within an existing CD increases to the point of being too large for one collector, the CD is split into two or more CDs;
- (b) if growth in the population of a locality (see URBAN CENTRE) results in expansion of its boundary, new CDs may be created by division of the CDs into which the growth intrudes, so that the new boundary may be adequately reflected in census results;
- (c) when the official boundary for an incorporated land division (such as a legal local government area) is changed in such a way as to cut across an existing CD, new CDs are created from the several parts of the original CD (including one for the residue of the original CD).

CDs created in the ways described above are not always large enough to constitute a complete collector's workload. Moreover, when populations within existing CDs decrease, their separate existence is maintained with whatever population remains. Some collectors are accordingly assigned more than one CD.

The aim of these procedures is to maintain as much comparability between censuses as possible.

See BOUNDARY DESIGN, DIGITISED BOUNDARIES, CENTROID and AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC).

#### COLLECTION DISTRICT MASTER DATA BASE

This was the term used in the 1981 Census for what is now called the GEOGRAPHIC DATA BASE (GDB).

#### COLLECTION DISTRICT MASTER FILE

The Collection District Master File (CDMF) is a magnetic tape file, available to users, which contains basic counts and associated geographic codes for every collection district (CD) in Australia. See GEOGRAPHIC DATA BASE for more information.

COLLECTOR

See CENSUS COLLECTOR.

COLLECTOR'S RECORD BOOK

The Collector's Record Book is used by CENSUS COLLECTORS to record delivery and collection details for every dwelling within their COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CD). Also recorded is the number of persons enumerated at each dwelling. A map of the particular CD is included in the Record Book.

The Collector's Record Book contains space for comments by collectors regarding the maps provided and their duties as a collector generally. These comments are used in the planning of the next census.

All record books are destroyed after processing has taken place.

COMMON LAW SPOUSE

See MARITAL STATUS (MST) or MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC)

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION

Data are produced for Commonwealth electoral divisions by aggregating COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) within each division. In some cases electoral division boundaries pass through CDs. In these instances data for each of these CDs are included in the electoral division which contains the majority of the population of that CD. Data for electoral divisions so affected therefore contain some approximation.

Generally, census divisions correspond closely to Commonwealth electoral divisions. For more information see CENSUS DIVISION.

Census counts for electoral divisions are only able to be provided on the basis of place of enumeration in most States. See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE for more information.

### COMPETENCY IN ENGLISH

See ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN (ENG)

### CONDENSED FORMAT SUMMARY DATA

This was a term used for the 1981 Census to describe a set of 34 summary tables available for all collection districts. For information on the 1986 Census equivalent see Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0). See also SMALL AREA DATA.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

The ABS has a long and continuing history of protecting the confidentiality of information which it receives from individuals and businesses. A policy of confidentiality is pursued not only for legal and ethical reasons, but also because successful data collection depends on the goodwill and cooperation developed with respondents. Any erosion of public confidence in the ABSs protection of confidentiality of information supplied could ultimately lead to a lowering of data quality and lesser service to statistical users.

All census forms are confidential. Strict measures are taken in the field collection system, and in processing and output to guard against the release of confidential information. The progress of forms throughout field operations and processing is constantly monitored and census collectors and processing staff are sworn to secrecy before undertaking their duties.

The data from each census form are transferred onto computer files without names and addresses. After the completion of processing, all census forms and record books are destroyed by pulping and no record of names and addresses is retained.

Respondents are assured that it would be an offence for the release of any information relating to an identifiable person or household. This requirement is embodied in the Census and Statistics Act 1905.

C

Widespread use of computers for storing and producing data has increased the need for measures to avoid the inadvertent release of identifiable information. At the same time, the number of census characteristics tabulated, and the requests for more detail in census releases, inevitably produce tables in which there are many cells with very small numbers. Were it not for special measures described below, these might have allowed the inadvertent release of identifiable information, even though identifiers (such as names and addresses) are not available.

It has been necessary, therefore, for the ABS to make slight random adjustments to the data produced in the more detailed tabulations on microfiche and magnetic tape to avoid any risk of releasing identifiable information. The adjustments allow for a greater output of detailed data than would be possible from the use of other means for protecting the confidentiality of census data.

The random adjustments are insignificant in relative terms except for numbers too small to be of statistical significance. It would be invalid to attach statistical significance to cells with values between zero and three, or differences between cells of similar magnitude. But in any case, smaller numbers in the original data may be affected by such things as respondents omitting to answer particular questions or giving incorrect answers, or by the occasional error in coding or transcribing data in the course of ABS data processing.

For more information see INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR and CROSS-CLASSIFIED TABLE.

#### CONJUGAL STATUS

For information on this topic see MARITAL STATUS (MST), and MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC).

#### COOKING - POWER/FUEL

In the 1976 Census, a question on the type of power or fuel used for cooking was asked. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on the type of power or fuel used for cooking is collected periodically in the monthly population surveys conducted by the ABS.

## COUNTRY

Information on country of birth of the individual and his/her parents is asked in the census. Countries are listed in the birthplace classification under their currently accepted names. See BIRTHPLACE (BPF, BPL, BPM). For related information, see CITIZENSHIP (CIT), ANCESTRY (ANA, ANB, ANC), and LANGUAGE (LAN).

## COUPLE

For census purposes, a couple can be either married or in a de facto relationship, but the members of a couple cannot be of the same sex. For further information, see MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC), and FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC). Persons identified in a married or de facto relationship must be 15 years of age or over.

## COVERAGE

See CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT, 1905 and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION.

## CROSS-CLASSIFIED TABLE

A cross-classified table is one which provides a matrix of cells (or counts) associated with two or more variables. For example, cross-classifying the variables AGE and SEX would provide a breakdown of the count of Australian persons by age and sex; cross-classifying BIRTHPLACE of individual, MARITAL STATUS and LABOUR FORCE STATUS would provide the answer to a question such as 'How many persons who were reported as born in New Zealand were not married and unemployed'.

The variables used in a cross-classified table are not necessarily the full classification. Frequently, RECODES are used; this may markedly reduce the size of a table but not necessarily restrict its usefulness.

For example, a table of AGE (110 categories) by SEX (2 categories) by INDUSTRY (597 categories) by MARITAL STATUS (5 categories) would require about 1,500 sheets of computer printout (or 6 microfiche). If age and industry are recoded, age in 10 year groups (11 categories) and industry to subdivision level (63 categories), this table would only require 13 sheets of computer printout. See RECODE.

A very detailed table is said to be highly disaggregated.

Cross-classified tables are available in publications and on microfiche and magnetic tape. They are, however, often too large to produce on printed output.

The number and detail of variables which can be cross-classified are limited by the geographic level chosen. Small, simple cross-classification is available for all areas while detailed cross-classification of variables with large numbers of categories, such as industry and occupation, is only available for more populous areas such as STATISTICAL REGIONS. Most cross-classified data from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing are released in the form of cross-classified tables on magnetic tape as well as microfiche. The magnetic tape output is aimed at meeting the special needs of user organisations which require large amounts of detailed statistical data, and have access to suitable computers for carrying out statistical analysis. The more general statistical needs will be catered for by output in the form of printed publications and microfiche.

Use of the magnetic tape medium makes it possible for users to obtain a large amount of data in a highly disaggregated form. By sorting, combining and cross-classifying the data in the table to produce smaller tables of manageable size, users are able to tailor outputs to meet current and future needs without further recourse to the ABS.

For more information see the Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0) and the information paper Census 86 - Standard Tables on Magnetic Tape (2186.0) which is available from any office of the ABS. (See Appendix C).

See also SPECIAL DATA SERVICES, CONFIDENTIALITY and INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR.



### DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE

After all census forms had been completed and collected, they were returned to the State distribution offices or sent direct to the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE (DTC). Here they were boxed into COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) packs. These CD packs were then sent to the DTC, which for the 1986 Census was located in Sydney.

The DTC was set up as the site for the INPUT PROCESSING of census forms (ie coding and data transcription), a process taking approximately 12 months to complete and concluding with the destruction, under strict supervision, of all census forms.

Data files from this processing are sent to the central computing installation of the ABS to create the final unit record file (FURF) for output processing.

### DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION

The census can provide counts of people who worked in a WORK DESTINATION zone (DZN) within JOURNEY TO WORK study areas. These counts are known as the DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION and contain employed persons:

- . whose place of usual residence was within the journey to work study area e.g. Melbourne, Adelaide;
- . who were enumerated at their place of usual residence; and
- . who reported a workplace address for 'the main job held last week' which was within the same study area as the place of usual residence.

Note that these populations do not therefore include:

- . persons whose place of usual residence or workplace address was outside the journey to work study area;
- . persons who were unemployed or not in the labour force in the week prior to census night; and
- . persons who were in a destination zone (DZN) to attend school, to shop or to visit etc.

The statistical accuracy of daytime working populations is affected by the inclusion of shift workers as no information is gathered in respect of the times of day at which persons start and finish work. Note should also be taken of the inherent overstatement resulting from absences from work because of leave taking, etc, in the reference week by those enumerated in these populations.

Tabulations on daytime working populations cross-classify DZNs (grouped, if necessary) with other attributes in order to present a profile of employed people in an area in the working week prior to Census night.

See also JOURNEY TO WORK.

#### DE FACTO, DE JURE POPULATION COUNTS

These are terms used in past censuses to denote population counts on a place of enumeration basis and place of usual residence basis, respectively. The terms are not official ABS usage. 'De facto population count' has been replaced by the term CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION, and 'de jure population count' by the term CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE. See these entries for more details.

#### DE FACTO RELATIONSHIP

See MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC) for information on how de facto relationships are treated in the 1986 Census.

DEPENDENT CHILDREN, NUMBER OFDPA, DPT, DPE

Three variables provide counts of dependent family children.

(a) Dependent children enumerated (DPE):

This is a count of DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN who were enumerated in the household on census night. This count ranges from 0 to 8 or more.

(b) Dependent children temporarily absent (DPA):

This is a count of dependent children (with provision for a maximum of 3 persons) who were listed as being usual household members temporarily absent on census night; i.e. who were listed in response to question H4 (see Appendix A).

(c) Total Dependent children (DPT):

This is the total number of dependent children (i.e. DPA + DPE). This count ranges from 0 to 8 or more.

These variables are not applicable to persons in non private dwellings.

DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD

It is suggested that entries for FAMILY, FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC) and CHILD should be read prior to this entry.

A dependent family child is:

- (i) under 15 years of age; or
- (ii) aged 15-20 years and a full-time student.

Dependent family children must have been present, or usually present but temporarily absent on census night. Those who were temporarily absent on census night should have been included in question H4 on the household form (see Appendix A).

In previous censuses, an ISSUE CHILD or dependant was a person under 16 years of age, or 16-20 years of age and a full-time student.

DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD TYPECHT

This FURF variable classifies DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN into one of the following categories:

- . natural/adopted child of a PRIMARY FAMILY;
- . stepchild in primary family;
- . other child of primary family (including foster children);
- . child of SECONDARY FAMILY.

CHT is relevant only for dependent family children present in the HOUSEHOLD on census night.

Visiting children present in the household on census night, who were not members of the family (or related to it) and did not usually reside with the family, were classified as 'other non-family member' by the variable RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

Data for children who usually resided in the household but were listed in response to question H4 (see Appendix A) as temporarily absent on census night, are not available for tabulation.

The following examples may help clarify the concept of dependent family child:

- . a natural/adopted child of only one partner in a marriage or de facto relationship, within the primary family, was classified as a stepchild of that family - stepchildren were not identified within a secondary family;
- . nieces, nephews and other children who were related to the family reference person (except for natural/adopted or stepchildren), and present in the household on census night, were classified as 'other child of primary family' (excludes such persons listed in question H4 (see Appendix A));
- . a babysitter and baby, unrelated, forming a household on census night, were regarded for census purposes as a GROUP HOUSEHOLD. Since the baby did not belong to a family unit within the household, CHT was 'not applicable';
- . a foster child within a primary family unit was classified as 'other child of primary family' or, in the case of a secondary family, a 'child of secondary family'. Any other non-related children usually resident with the family were treated in the same way.

The following definitions of dependent family children are used in the census:

- . a natural or adopted child in a lone parent family is a child of the reference person or, in a couple family, of the reference person and spouse;
- . a stepchild has a direct blood relationship to the reference person or spouse. The term does not apply in the case of a lone parent family.

See DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD.

#### DESCRIPTOR

See CODE, CODING.

#### DESCRIPTOR FILE

See ASGC and SAMPLE FILES.

#### DESTINATION ZONE

See DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION and JOURNEY TO WORK.

#### DETACHED HOUSE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

#### DIGITISED BOUNDARIES

The digitising of boundaries provides a means of storing boundary data on computer readable medium so that maps can be generated in different formats.

A 'hand digitiser', an object much like the 'mouse' currently in use with several micro computers, is used to transfer boundary data onto computer files. It has cross-sights which allow it to be accurately placed on a geographic boundary on a map. The hand digitiser is used to trace around the boundaries of geographic areas on a map, recording points of latitude and longitude as it moves. These are recorded and stored on computer files. This digitising process is repeated several times to ensure the accuracy of stored boundary data.

In 1986, the COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) field maps were used as base maps for the digitising process. Once the CD boundary data are stored, it is possible to manipulate them to produce computer outline maps of any geographical area that can be expressed as an aggregation of CDs. These maps can be produced at different scales, and the total area of geographical units can be calculated from the stored boundary data. The LATITUDE and LONGITUDE of the CENTROID of a CD are calculated to five decimal places.

For the 1986 Census, the digitising of boundaries was carried out by the Division of National Mapping of the Department of Resources and Energy.

See AREA OF COLLECTION DISTRICT.

#### DIVISION

See CENSUS DIVISION or STATISTICAL DIVISION.

#### DIVISIONAL FIELD SUPERVISOR

Each Divisional Field Supervisor (DFS) for the census is responsible for one CENSUS DIVISION, which approximates a COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION.

The duties of the DFS include management of the census division and the recruitment and training of field staff.

For the 1986 Census, 162 Divisional Field Supervisors were employed.

### DRIVING/RIDING - LICENCE FOR

The 1976 Census included a question on whether or not the respondent held a licence to drive a car or ride a motorcycle or both. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on licences to drive a car or ride a motorcycle is not collected by the ABS.

### DURATION OF MARRIAGE

Duration of marriage was asked in the 1981 Census. The main reason for the collection of this information was its use for infertility analysis and for estimating trends in the duration of marriage and remarriage. A meeting with major users prior to the 1986 Census established a preference for date of first marriage, as this would better represent the period for which the probability of childbearing was greatly increased. In 1986, YEAR FIRST MARRIED (YFM) was included in place of duration of marriage.

### DWELLING

For census purposes dwellings are classified into the following basic groups:

- (a) private dwellings:
  - (i) occupied, and
  - (ii) unoccupied;
- (b) occupied CARAVANS etc in caravan parks; and
- (c) NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

A private dwelling is normally a house, flat, part of a house, or even a room but can also be a house above shops or offices, a boat, or a tent if it is standing on its own block of land. A caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling.

An occupied private dwelling is defined as the premises occupied by a HOUSEHOLD on census night (except households occupying caravans etc in caravan parks). A household is either a person living alone or persons living and eating together as a domestic unit. This means that the total number of occupied private dwellings in an area, as measured by the census, may be greater than the known number of occupied dwelling structures because more than one household can occupy the one dwelling structure.

Consider the example of a single house divided into two units by permanently closing an internal door. If each unit is occupied by a separate household then, by definition, two private dwellings are counted. Therefore, even though only one structure exists, two households and two dwellings are enumerated.

Unoccupied private dwellings are structures built specifically for living purposes which are habitable, but unoccupied at the time of the census. Vacant houses, holiday homes, huts, cabins (other than seasonal workers' quarters) and houseboats are therefore counted as unoccupied dwellings, but vacant tents, garages and caravans (if not on a separate block and if not normally occupied) are not. Also included are newly completed dwellings not yet occupied, dwellings which are vacant because they are due for demolition or repair; dwellings to let; and dwellings where all members of the household were absent on census night.

An occupied caravan etc in a caravan park is a new category created for the 1986 Census. In previous censuses, caravans etc in caravan parks were considered to be contained within NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS (the caravan park), which meant that no FAMILY relationship data were collected from their occupants. For the 1986 Census, an occupied caravan, tent, cabin, etc in a caravan park contains a census household. Data on family structure and household etc are therefore collected and available. This change in classification will affect some comparisons made between censuses on a household or family basis. Occupied boats in marinas are also included in this category. See CARAVAN for details.

Non-private dwellings are residential with accommodation not included in the dwelling categories listed above and are classified according to their function. These dwellings include hotels, motels, guest houses, gaols, religious and charitable institutions, defence establishments, hospitals and other communal dwellings. Where this type of accommodation includes self-contained units (as provided by hotels, motels, homes for the elderly and guest houses) the units are enumerated as part of the non-private dwelling, not as separate households.



Unoccupied non-private dwellings are not included in any census count, nor are unoccupied caravans in caravan parks.

For an explanation of the relationships between the terms household, dwelling and family see HOUSEHOLD.

See also REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED (RUN) and STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

#### DWELLING STRUCTURE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

#### DWELLING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

See REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED (RUN).

## EDITING

Checking procedures are an important component of INPUT PROCESSING carried out at the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE (DTC). Edits are one of the more important checking procedures and were applied at various stages throughout processing to ensure accuracy of the census data.

Other checking of forms was performed during each stage of input processing. One such stage, the preliminary check operation, was designed to make sure all census forms were present, in order, and that sex had been reported.

### Balancing edits

Balancing edits were applied at the DTC to check that the person and DWELLING counts for each COLLECTION DISTRICT remained the same after each CODING process, and that they agreed with the totals recorded in the COLLECTORS' RECORD BOOKS.

### Consistency edits

Following the transcription of data to computer files at the DTC, consistency edits were applied. These edits were designed to detect responses which appeared to be inconsistent with other responses on the same form, or in conflict with census definitions of processing rules. When recorded data failed to pass edit checks, changes were made only after reference to the original census forms.

Apparent inconsistencies in the transcribed data could result from errors by the respondent in completing the form, or from errors in coding or transcribing the information onto computer files. Edits were applied to detect such cases. For example, if a person recorded their age as less than 15 years and reported a MARITAL STATUS other than never married, an edit failure would result. Care was taken, however, to ensure that combinations of data which were merely unlikely, but nevertheless not impossible, were not changed during the edit process. The number of edit failures due to respondent error was small.

In transcribing the information from census forms, all data items except NAME and ADDRESS (which were not recorded at all) were entered into the computer in the form of codes. During processing, edits were also applied which checked that codes fell into the permitted range. For example, the broken sequence of codes allocated for INDUSTRY does not include numbers in the range 2001-2099; any code in this range would have failed the edit and re-coding been necessary.

## EDUCATION

For information on education data collected by the census, see the following entries: STUDENT (STU); EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP); QUALIFICATIONS (QAL); YEAR HIGHEST QUALIFICATION OBTAINED (YOQ); and AGE LEFT SCHOOL (ALS).

### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP)

This FURF variable classifies the type of school or other educational institution being attended by each person at census time.

For Censuses between 1911 and 1933, respondents were required to indicate if they were attending a State school, a private school, a technical school, or a university, or if they were receiving tuition at home. In 1947 the question was changed to a more general usual major activity question, with a category for full-time STUDENTS. This concept was used until 1976, except for the 1966 Census when no question was asked in relation to attendance at an educational institution. In 1976 more detailed information was obtained, with respondents being required to provide the name and address of the institution attended. Using this information the institution was coded in the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE to a classification of type of educational institution.

In 1981 the question was changed to reduce coding cost, with respondents being required only to indicate whether they were full-time or part-time students. The limited data obtained from the 1981 question were found to be inadequate for the purposes of many users.

Some users requested a return to a question like that used in 1976, but in that census the question incurred a high non-response rate (15%) and in addition, the coding of type of institution was expensive. Pilot testing for the 1986 Census showed that a question which separately listed the various types of educational institutions (into pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary and other) reduced the non-response rate to satisfactory levels and incurred only minimal coding costs. See STUDENT (STU).

ELECTORAL DISTRICT

In Queensland, each member of the State Parliament represents an electoral district rather than an ELECTORAL DIVISION.

See ELECTORAL DIVISION.

ELECTORAL DIVISION

An electoral division is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one member (seven in the case of the Tasmanian State Parliament) to the Federal or State Lower Houses of Parliament. Queensland has only one House of Parliament at the State level, with each member representing an ELECTORAL DISTRICT. Commonwealth electoral divisions have different boundaries to State electoral divisions.

Census data for Commonwealth (Australia) or State electoral divisions are produced on the basis of place of enumeration. This is because electoral divisions are not standard census geographic areas. They are approximated by aggregating data for COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) that lie wholly or partly within the electoral division. See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION.

In cases where an electoral division boundary crosses a CD boundary, the whole CD is included in the electoral division if the greatest proportion of people within the CD are in that division. Data for electoral divisions are available on microfiche and magnetic tape.

EMPLOYED

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

EMPLOYED LABOUR FORCE

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

EMPLOYER

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

### EMPLOYMENT

The 1986 Census included nine questions relating to employment, which were asked of all persons aged 15 years and over.

See INDUSTRY SECTOR (GNG), LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS), NAME OF EMPLOYER, JOURNEY TO WORK, INDUSTRY (IND), OCCUPATION (OCC) and HOURS WORKED (HRS).

### EMPLOYMENT SECTOR

See INDUSTRY SECTOR (GNG).

### EMPLOYMENT STATUS

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

### ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN

ENG

In the 1981 and 1986 Censuses, persons who indicated that they spoke a language at home other than English, were asked to state how well they spoke English. Such persons had a choice of four response categories: very well; well; not well; and not at all.

Testing prior to the 1981 Census compared responses to the question with assessments of language proficiency for a sample of respondents interviewed for the purpose. These results showed that those who responded 'not well' or 'not at all' were correctly identified as prospective 'clients' for English language tuition. However, some who responded 'well' or 'very well' did not rate highly in the interview assessment. Responses to the 1986 Census question therefore may underestimate the number of people who were not proficient in English.

The main problem associated with the data on proficiency in English is the subjective nature of responses to the question, as is inevitable in a situation where each household fills in its own census form, without the help of an interviewer. Part of the problem of subjectivity is different interpretations by respondents. For example, a respondent who can communicate well enough to do the shopping and hence answered 'well' to the second part of the question, in fact may not be able to hold a social conversation.

As well, errors may have occurred if a friend or a relative answered the question on behalf of a respondent. The respondent's actual proficiency in English may have been inadvertently downgraded or upgraded.

For these reasons, census results should be interpreted as only a broad indication of the levels of proficiency in English of persons who speak a language other than English at home.

See LANGUAGE (LAN).

### ENUMERATION

Enumeration is the act of counting or summing. Census counts are provided on two bases of enumeration; see

- (1) CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION
- (2) CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE.

See also SELF ENUMERATION and POST ENUMERATION SURVEY.

### ENUMERATION DISTRICT

See COLLECTION DISTRICT.

### ERROR

In an operation of the type and size of the census, there are many possible sources of error. As in other areas of statistics, considerable effort is directed to devising procedures to ensure the highest level of accuracy, but some errors survive in the final results. Potential sources of error in the census are identified in the separate entries.

See UNDERCOUNTING, UNDERENUMERATION, RESPONDENT ERROR, PROCESSING ERROR, INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR and SAMPLE FILES.

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) is the official ABS estimate of the Australian population. The ERP is based on results of the population census and is compiled for census dates and updated for post-census dates. These intercensal estimates of the resident population are revised each time a population census is taken.

In the compilation of the ERP, two important adjustments are made to CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE. The first is an adjustment for underenumeration at the census. Data for the assessment of the level of underenumeration are derived from a census POST ENUMERATION SURVEY conducted soon after the census, and from estimates based on demographic analysis. The second adjustment is the inclusion of an estimated number of Australian residents who were temporarily away overseas on census night and were therefore not covered by the Australian census. The number of such persons is estimated from statistics on overseas arrivals and departures.

The ERP at census date at the national and State levels is updated quarterly by the use of demographic statistics (births, deaths, overseas and interstate migration). At the STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA) level, reliable statistics on migration are not available and the ERP at this level is updated annually by taking into consideration indicators of population change. A statistical regression model is used to assist in the compilation of the ERP at the SLA level.

Estimates at the national and State levels, by sex, are published quarterly, and, by age and sex, annually. Estimates by birthplace at the national level and estimates at the SLA level (with no age and sex disaggregation) are also published annually.

More information on the ERP may be found in the following ABS publications:

- Population Estimates: An Outline of the New Conceptual Basis of ABS Population Estimates (3216.0);
- Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0), produced quarterly; and
- Estimated Resident Population by Sex and Age: States and Territories of Australia (3201.0), produced annually.

ERPs for STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS are published by State offices in various publications (3206.1, 3203.2, 3201.3, 3201.4, 3203.5, 3204.6, 3201.7, 3205.8).

For more information see CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE.

#### ETHNIC ENUMERATION

The 1986 Census contained several questions which sought information on the ethnic composition of Australia's population.

These included questions on ANCESTRY (ANA, ANB, ANC), BIRTHPLACE (BPF, BPL, BPM) CITIZENSHIP (CIT), RELIGION (REL), LANGUAGE (LAN), year of first arrival in Australia (see PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA (PER)) and ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN (ENG). The information derived from these questions is used for planning the provision of services to migrants and contributes to studies of Australia's multicultural society.

#### ETHNICITY COMMITTEE

In December 1982, the 1986 Population Census Ethnicity Committee was established to advise the Australian Statistician on possible census questions relating to the ethnic origin of the population.

The committee recognised that there was a demand for data on ethnicity which was not adequately met by the surrogate measures BIRTHPLACE of individual and birthplace of parents. The need for a direct indicator of ethnicity was established and tests were conducted by the ABS to find a suitable question.

The Committee indicated that the requirements of users can be classified into two broad categories; data based on a self-perceived identification concept; or an historical/ancestry origin concept. However, the distinction is not always clear in the minds of users and some users asked for data on both concepts.



The pilot tests of six possible questions based on the self-identification concept consistently demonstrated that self-identification questions do not satisfy the criteria for inclusion of a question in the census. The tests and follow-up interviews have shown that self-identification questions on ethnicity have many problems when asked in a census. The ancestry question was the one finally adopted for inclusion in the 1986 Census.

For a copy of the Committees's report The Measurement of Ethnicity in the Australian Census of Population and Housing (2172.0) please contact the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

See ETHNIC ENUMERATION for a list of related topics.

#### EYEBALL TITLING

This refers to the way in which microfiche are labelled. The top row of 18 frames is reserved for titling information which is recorded in characters of sufficient size to be read by the naked eye. See MICROFICHE.

#### EXTERNAL TERRITORIES

The 1986 Census included for the first time two of Australia's external Territories - Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island. Previous censuses of these Territories were conducted under the authority of the relevant Statistics Ordinances.

While separate outputs will be produced for these external Territories, the standard definition of Australia for statistical purposes will exclude them.

This is in accordance with international statistical standards which are followed by the ABS and the statistical agencies of other United Nations member countries.

FAMILIES IN HOUSEHOLD - NUMBER OF

(FNO, HST)

A family household (as opposed to a group household or lone person household) must contain a primary family, and can also contain up to three secondary families. The number of families in a household is indicated by the variable HOUSEHOLD TYPE (HST), which replaces the 1981 Census mnemonic NOF. The actual family to which a person was coded is indicated by FNO. For an explanation of the relationship between dwelling, household, family and structure of dwelling, see HOUSEHOLD and FAMILY.

FAMILY

For census purposes a family is defined on the basis of blood, marriage or de facto relationships. Family relationships were derived from two questions on the household form. Question 4 asked each person his/her relationship to person 1/person 2. Question H4 asked for usual household members who were temporarily absent on census night, their relationship to person 1. An important note here is that persons listed in question H4 were considered in family coding only. These persons were not included in the census count at their place of usual residence as such, since they should have been enumerated elsewhere in Australia on census night (e.g. in a motel).

For the first time in an Australian census, persons enumerated in CARAVANS etc in caravan parks were included in family coding.

On the basis of responses given to these two questions, coders at the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE (DTC) determined the usual family structure(s) existing within a household, and allocated the appropriate codes.

In previous censuses, a question on usual household members temporarily absent was not asked, and family classifications were derived solely from persons enumerated in a household.

For the 1986 Census, a household may consist of;

- . one person living alone;
- . a PRIMARY FAMILY unit, with or without non family members;
- . a PRIMARY FAMILY unit, with or without non family members, and up to three SECONDARY FAMILY units;
- . two or more unrelated persons (ie a GROUP HOUSEHOLD).

Most families consist of either a couple, with or without a dependent child or children, or a lone parent with a dependent child or children. A PRIMARY FAMILY may contain related family members as well (see RELATIONS) or just consist of two or more related adults.

The variable FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC) contains the classification for each family. FAMILY NUMBER (FNO) is also needed in tabulation of multi-family households. These variables relate to the usual family situation (i.e. absent usual residents reported in response to question H4 were considered).

The variable RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) contains the classification for each person's relationship, or status, within a family, where applicable and of non family members, lone persons and group household members. Non family members were classified as 'boarders' or 'other non family members'. This variable relates only to persons enumerated in each household.

In the process of defining a family, coders selected a reference person around whom a family could be formed. A FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON had to be 15 years of age or over and had to be present in the household on census night. (In previous censuses this person was called the FAMILY HEAD, a term no longer used.) The reference person for the primary family was usually person 1 on the household form.

Once a suitable reference person was established for a family, all persons identified within the family unit were allocated family relationship codes.

With respect to persons listed in answer to question H4, only SPOUSE(s) and DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN were used in coding family type. It was thus possible, for example, to form a family unit from a reference person who was the only person present in the household on census night, and a spouse and/or dependent family children listed in response to question H4.

In previous censuses, a person living alone on census night was categorised as a head only family. Such persons were classified as lone person households in the 1986 Census only if no spouse or dependent child was listed in response to question H4.

If relationships were not adequately stated by respondents, where possible the family structure was imputed during processing from other responses such as name, usual residence and marital status.

A problem associated with attempting to code usual family structure was that families consisting of a couple with one or more dependent family children may have been split on census night. For example, father may have been at home, and mother and child may have been visiting the mother's parents. In this case the father should have listed the mother and child in response to question H4 on the household form. This action would have ensured that the family was correctly classified at their home address. The mother and child, however, would have been enumerated in the main body of the census form with the mother's parents, and would have been classified as a secondary family consisting of mother and child only. There was no way of knowing whether the mother and child were a lone parent family, or part of a family enumerated elsewhere. For the count of families, therefore, the mother and child would be represented in the family identified at the usual home address and as a lone parent and child family in the household in which they were enumerated. The number of such cases is, however, expected to be quite small.

Note that in cases where all members of a household present on census night were related, and under 15 years of age, the household was classified as a GROUP HOUSEHOLD. If temporarily absent family members were enumerated in a NON-PRIVATE DWELLING, they were not included in family coding.

For more information on family refer to the following entries:

- . CHILD
- . DEPENDENT CHILDREN, NUMBER OF (DPA, DPE, DPT)
- . DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD TYPE (CHT)
- . FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC)
- . FAMILY HEAD
- . FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON (FRP)
- . FAMILY NUMBER (FNO)
- . MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC)
- . LOCATION OF SPOUSE/PARTNER (SPL)
- . HOUSEHOLD TYPE (HST)
- . RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF)
- . SECONDARY FAMILY

#### FAMILY CHILD

A family child was either a dependent family child or an adult family child but must not have had a spouse or dependent children present, or usually present but temporarily absent. See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF), CHILD, and DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD TYPE (CHT).

FAMILY COMPOSITIONFMC

This FURF variable classifies each family as follows:

- . parent and dependent child(ren);
- . couple;
- . couple and dependent child(ren);
- . related adults;
- . parent, dependent child(ren) and adult family members; or
- . couple, dependent child(ren) and adult family members.

FMC is derived from persons enumerated in the household (excluding boarders and other non family members) on census night, as well as spouses and dependent children usually present but temporarily absent.

See FAMILY for more details.

FMC is the principal family variable used in family tabulations. When cross-classified with other variables, such as LOCATION OF SPOUSE/PARTNER (SPL), NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC), STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR), DEPENDENT CHILDREN, NUMBER OF, FAMILY NUMBER (FNO) and FAMILY INCOME (FIN), demographic characteristics of the different family compositions can be established.

In the 1981 Census, FMC was called 'Family Type'. The classification was a combination of the 1986 variables DPE and FMC, and included a breakdown of the age of family head.

The 1981 FMC classification also provided for 'head only' households to be categorised as a family type. For the 1986 Census these are called lone person households and are no longer regarded as a type of family.

For the 1986 Census, FMC relates only to the basic composition of the family. Other characteristics are derived by cross-classification.

FAMILY HEAD

Prior to the 1981 Census, the instruction on the census form was to 'Enter the household head as person 1', and in the relationship question, 'Relationship to household head' was asked. Where the household head was not an appropriate person to build a family around, another person was selected by coders, giving preference to employed, middle-aged males.

In the 1981 Census the instruction was modified to 'Enter the household head or any adult household member as Person 1', and the relationship question asked 'What is each person's relationship to person 1?'. Where person 1 was not an appropriate person to build a family around then same selection procedure for previous census (see above) was used.

For the 1986 Census the instruction was again changed; this time to 'Enter the householder or any adult household member as 'person 1' and, if present, the spouse/partner as 'Person 2'. The relationship question asked 'What is each person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2?'. Where person 1 was not an appropriate person to build a family around, in the case of a couple (with or without children), either person had the same probability of being chosen to be the FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON (a new term for 1986).

For 1986 Census outputs, couples are identified as 'male' and 'female', not 'reference person' and 'spouse'.

#### FAMILY INCOME

#### FIN

This FURF variable is derived by summing the midpoints of the ranges of INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC) of the FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON, his/her spouse and DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN aged 15-20 years.

The income received by dependent family children aged 15-20 years was included in FIN so that the same conceptual base is used for deriving family income in the census and in the ABS household surveys. In the 1981 and earlier censuses, family income was derived by adding the incomes of family reference person and spouse only (i.e. the income of dependent children aged 15-20 years was excluded).

If one or more contributors did not state their individual incomes, then family income was coded to 'not stated', unless the sum of the midpoints of the income ranges of those persons whose income was stated was greater than \$50,000. In this case, FIN was coded to 'over \$50,000'.

Usual family members temporarily absent on census night, who were recorded in response to question H4 could not be included in FIN as their income was not asked.

A family which had the spouse of reference person temporarily absent on census night was coded to the FIN category 'spouse temporarily absent' unless the combined income of the family members present on census night was greater than \$50,000.

Family income is not applicable to GROUP HOUSES, lone person households, or persons in NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

When comparing family income data with previous censuses, note that persons in CARAVANS etc in caravan parks were classified as households for the first time in the 1986 Census. They were not therefore included in family income in previous censuses.

#### FAMILY MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT

See HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT.

#### FAMILY NUMBER

FNO

This variable indicates to which family, if any, identified within a household, each household member belonged. Single family households, group households and lone person households were also covered by the classification. FNO applies only to persons in private dwellings and caravans etc in caravan parks.

#### FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON

A family reference person is a person on the household form, chosen by coders during the family relationships coding process, around whom a family can be constructed. The family reference person must have been 15 years of age or over and present in the household on census night. In cases where children were present (or temporarily absent) this would be a parent. See FAMILY COMPOSITION.

Instructions on the household form required that person 1 should be the householder; or any other adult household member, and if present, the spouse/partner of person 1 should be person 2. These instructions generally resulted in an appropriate primary family reference person being entered as person 1 on the household form. Identification of any secondary families and their members, or of other categories of household member, was not always straightforward and inferential information, such as family name, may be made use of in the process.

Sometimes a child, or some other inappropriate reference person was listed as person 1. In such cases the family coders allocated a parent, or another more appropriate reference person.

Households may have contained more than one family (a primary family and up to 3 secondary family units). A suitable family reference person was required for each family unit. Since a secondary family may only have consisted of a couple, a couple with dependent family children, or a lone parent family, either partner of the couple, or the parent in the case of the lone parent family, would have been chosen as the family reference person.

In the case where two or more children were present in a household on census night, and only one was aged 15 years or over, this person became the family reference person: even though it may have been possible to identify absent parents from question H4 on the household form, the information was not used. If all children in such households were under 15 years of age the household was classified as a group household.

The concept of reference person is not applicable to lone person or GROUP HOUSEHOLDS. Characteristics of the family reference person in a multiple adult family household are statistically meaningless and not comparable with the term 'household head' used in earlier censuses. Data distinguishing family reference person and/or spouse are not therefore to be made generally available from the 1986 Census. In output, couples are identified as 'male' and 'female', not 'reference person' and 'spouse'. The reference person may be person 1 on the form, but equally any other adult person could be selected by the coders. The family reference person is not necessarily the most demographically or economically important person in a family or household, and no inferences can be drawn from the reference person's sex, income or labour force status, etc. See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) and FAMILY HEAD.

#### FAMILY TYPE

See FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC).



### FINAL UNIT RECORD FILE

The final unit record file (FURF) is a sequence of records held on computer files. It is the end product of INPUT PROCESSING, and holds coded data for all the person, family and dwelling characteristics (with the exception of names and addresses, which are not transferred) collected by the census. Output processing involves producing statistics by sorting, summing, averaging and cross-classifying data items from the FURF. For a list of the data items held on the 1986 Census FURF, see the entry for MNEMONICS.

The FURF is held under strict security and is only accessible by officers of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

### FLATS

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR) for information on how these are classified. Also, see HOUSEHOLD for an explanation of the relationships between the terms household, dwelling, family and structure of dwelling.

### FLOPPY DISKS

Provision of area specific census data on floppy disk (suitable for use on microcomputers) is under investigation by the ABS. Users interested in obtaining output on this medium should keep in contact with the ABS, so that they can be advised of any developments.

Some commercial disseminators of census data do provide census data on floppy disk. More information can be obtained from the information paper Census 86 - Special Data Services (2181.0) or by contacting the nearest ABS office (see appendix C).

### FULL FORMAT SUMMARY DATA

This was a term used for the 1981 Census to describe a set of 43 summary tables available for areas which had in excess of 5000 persons. For the 1986 Census the equivalent contains 70 tables of summary data on 21 pages for areas having more than 1000 persons. For more information on the 1986 Census equivalent see Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0). See also the term SMALL AREA DATA.

FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STUDENT

See STUDENT (STU).

FURF

See FINAL UNIT RECORD FILE.

FURNISHED/UNFURNISHEDFUF

This is a FURF variable which indicates whether rented occupied private dwellings were furnished or unfurnished.

The classification was a part of the variable 'nature of occupancy' in 1981 but in 1986 is a separate field. The data assist in interpreting rent levels.

GDB

See GEOGRAPHIC DATA BASE.

GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATIONS

See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION.

GEOGRAPHIC DATA BASE

The Geographic Data Base (GDB) is an internal ABS computer file which contains information about each COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD). It encompasses all geographic information used for census output purposes, together with selected person and dwelling characteristics.

The GDB is a single data source which can be readily updated and may be used in conjunction with other data files to produce consistent geographic definition and description in census output.

The GDB is available to users in the form of the COLLECTION DISTRICT MASTER FILE. It also has an inquiry facility which enables simple ad hoc tables to be produced for any standard geographic area.

Data stored on the data base for each CD are:

- . the number of persons and dwellings;
- . its area in hectares;
- . its SECTION OF STATE code;
- . the latitude and longitude of its centroid;
- . an indicator of comparability with the previous two censuses;
- . its serial number; and

the appropriate code of the following geographic areas that contain the CD -

STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION and STATISTICAL DIVISION  
 STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA  
 LEGAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA  
 STATISTICAL REGION  
 URBAN CENTRE/LOCALITY  
 POSTCODE  
 JOURNEY TO WORK study area  
 COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION and  
 STATE ELECTORAL DIVISION/DISTRICT.

The CD is the geographic unit on which the field collection system of the census of population and housing is based. For more information see COLLECTION DISTRICT.

The CD is also the smallest geographic unit for which census data are released (see CONFIDENTIALITY). Person and dwelling data for CDs are used for small area analyses, and as 'building blocks' to produce larger geographic areas. These areas may be standard ASGC spatial units, such as SLAs, or other areas, such as postcode areas, Commonwealth and State electoral divisions/districts, or areas designed by the user. These non standard areas often contain some degree of approximation.

Basic data are available on microfiche batches 86.001 through 86.005. Users wishing to obtain these data on magnetic tape can purchase the COLLECTION DISTRICT MASTER FILE. Information on how to order, cost etc is contained in Census 86 - Collection District Master File (2179.0) and Census 86 - Microfiche (2185.0), which are available from the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

#### GOVERNMENT/NON-GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

For information on this topic, see INDUSTRY SECTOR (GNG).

#### GROUP HOUSEHOLD

A group household is defined as a non-family household consisting of two or more unrelated persons. Children under 15 years of age could be present but not be related to any adult (aged 15 years or over) in the household. See RELATION. Group households are classified in the variable HOUSEHOLD TYPE (HST), and individual members are classified in RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

There is an exceptional circumstance where related persons are classified as a group household: that is where two or more children under the age of 15 in a household are related to each other but not to any adult present in the dwelling. The reason is that a census family requires a family reference person aged 15 years or more who was present on census night. In the above situation this condition is not satisfied and the only appropriate category left is group household. Relationships between the children are not recorded; the number of such cases, however, is expected to be statistically insignificant.

GROUP LEADER

Group Leaders comprised the second level of field staff employed for the collection of census data. Each Group Leader was assigned one or more CENSUS SUBDIVISIONS.

Group Leaders were employed on a temporary basis. They were responsible for the enumeration of every dwelling within their census subdivision. This involved checking for non-private dwellings, training collectors, distributing census material to collectors, checking collectors' work, following up refusals and returning census materials to the Divisional Field Supervisor and the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE.

Approximately 2,700 Group Leaders were employed for the 1986 Census.

HANDICAPS

The 1976 Census collected information on the nature and extent of handicaps suffered by respondents. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on handicaps is collected from time to time in the population surveys conducted by the ABS.

HEAD OF FAMILY

See FAMILY HEAD.

HELPER NOT RECEIVING WAGES OR SALARY

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

HOLIDAY RESORTS

See URBAN CENTRE

HOME OWNER/RENTER/PURCHASER

See NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC).

HOURS WORKEDHRS

This is a field on the final unit record file in which the number of hours worked in the main job (by employed persons aged 15 years and over) during the week before census night, was recorded.

The 1986 question was the same as in 1981 but provided a larger number of response categories (8) compared with 1981 (5).

A question on the number of hours worked by employed persons has been asked in each census since 1966. The 1966, 1971 and 1976 Censuses required the number of hours usually worked in the job(s) held in the week prior to census night. In 1966 only total hours were sought, while in 1971 and 1976 the answer was broken down into main job and other job(s).

Information on hours worked, classified by industry and occupation, is of increasing importance to labour market economists as it allows changes in the labour force to be analysed in more detail. Moreover, it enhances the use of journey to work items for transport studies and is used to develop policies on the supply and distribution of the labour force. Data on the extent of part-time employment are used in the study of changing work patterns. Information on hours worked is needed to analyse the economic circumstances of families and to estimate childcare needs.

#### HOUSEBOAT

Persons on houseboats and boats at marinas were given household forms to complete. Occupied boats, including houseboats, at marinas were included in the category 'Caravan etc in caravan park', and other houseboats were included in the category 'Other caravan, boat, etc' in the STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR) variable. Unoccupied houseboats were counted as UNOCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

#### HOUSE/FLAT ATTACHED TO SHOP, OFFICE, etc

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

#### HOUSEHOLD

The following brief categorisation is followed by more detailed definitions and examples.

A household is a person living alone, or two or more persons who live and eat together, in private residential accommodation.

A FAMILY is two or more related persons (see RELATIONS) within a household; there may be more than one family in a household.

A structure (for census purposes) is a residence, such as a house, flat, caravan or improvised home; more than one household may exist within a structure. The structure may be located within a larger building, e.g. a flat within a block of flats, or a town house within a group of town houses.

A private dwelling, or CARAVAN etc in caravan park is the premises occupied by a household; thus, since there may be more than one household within a structure, there may also be more than one dwelling in a structure. The number of households is equal to the number of occupied private dwellings and caravans etc in caravan parks.

Private residential accommodation for these purposes includes houses, flats, townhouses etc and caravans etc in caravan parks, and excludes hotels, motels, boarding houses, nursing homes, hospitals, boarding schools, reformatories, prisons, staff quarters and similar group living quarters (which are classified as NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS), and tents, improvised homes etc.

### Household

For census purposes, a household comprises persons in a house, medium density housing, flat/unit, or caravan in a caravan park, living and eating together as a domestic unit; typical household categories are family households (with or without non-family members present), lone person households and group households (of two or more unrelated persons).

It is not necessary for any permanent partition, such as a wall, or a locked door, to separate two households; indeed, they might share common facilities, such as a toilet or laundry. For example, a lodger who lives with a family and provides all his own food, is not a member of the family's household, but constitutes a separate household and completed a separate household form. It is therefore possible, and in fact quite common, for more than one household to inhabit a simple structure.

### Family

To be designated a family, two or more persons must be:

- (a) members (or usual members) of the same household;
- (b) resident (or usually resident) in a private dwelling or caravan etc in park; and
- (c) related.

As noted earlier, there may be more than one family in a household. Family structures are deduced from responses to the census question which seeks relationship to a reference person (and/or spouse, if any and present) in each household (see FAMILY).



## Structure

A question on structure of dwelling was completed by the census collector to identify the structure type (separate house, terrace house, flat/unit in a building of over three storeys, etc.) which best described the structure in which the dwelling was located. Remembering that more than one household may dwell in a single house, it will be evident that the number of dwellings for which 'separate house' was reported as type of structure will have exceeded the number of structures identified as separate houses.

No count was made of private dwelling structures as such (except for 'unoccupied private dwellings'), nor of the larger building structures, such as blocks of flats or town house groups, within which the dwelling structure was located.

### Private dwellings and caravans etc in caravan parks

As indicated earlier in this entry, a household may live in the standard types of residential accommodation, such as a house, flat, unit or townhouse, which collectively are designated PRIVATE DWELLINGS, or in a caravan etc in a caravan park.

Structures identified by census collectors as possible private dwellings but found to be empty on census night, were classified as UNOCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, and reasons for their being unoccupied were sought and recorded. All other types of accommodation, i.e. non private dwellings and caravans etc in caravan parks were not recorded if found to be unoccupied.

With the exceptions of the questions on number of vehicles and structure, dwelling questions were only applicable to occupied private dwellings. Number of vehicles and structures were the only dwelling questions applicable to caravans etc in caravan parks. Structure and reason unoccupied were the only questions applicable to UNOCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS. No dwelling questions were applicable to NON PRIVATE DWELLINGS (NPD).

### HOUSEHOLD FORM

The household form was the primary means of data collection for the census. A copy of the form used for the 1986 Census is included as Appendix A. The cases where a household form was not used to record person characteristics are listed under the entry for PERSONAL FORM.

A change of terminology should be noted. The household schedule used in previous censuses is referred to as a household form in the 1986 Census.

#### HOUSEHOLD HEAD

The concepts of household and family heads are no longer recognised in the census. Householders were instructed to complete the household form with the householder or any adult household member as 'Person 1' and the spouse/partner (if any, and if present) as 'Person 2'. Family structures were identified with reference to Person 1 and/or person 2, and outputs no longer contain tables with the variables household head and family head.

See FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON.

#### HOUSEHOLD INCOME

HIN

Household income relates to households in occupied private dwellings and caravans etc in caravan parks (including GROUP HOUSEHOLDS), and was calculated from the sum of the midpoints of the ranges of INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC) of all persons aged 15 years and over in the household on census night. The income question was not asked of persons under 15 years of age, or of usual HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT on census night.

If one or more income recipients did not state their individual incomes, then household income was coded to 'not stated', unless the sum of the incomes which were stated was greater than the largest income category (over \$50,000). In this case, the household income would have been recorded in that category.

Households which had one or more spouses (remembering that a household may contain more than one family) temporarily absent on census night were separately identified in the classification (category 16), unless the combined income of the household members present on census night was greater than the largest income category (over \$50,000). In this case, the household income would have been recorded in that category.

When comparing household income with previous censuses, note that persons in caravans etc in caravan parks were classed as households for the first time in the 1986 Census. They had not been included in household income data in previous censuses.

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT

SPL, DPA

Some household members may not have been at the place where they usually live on census night. A new section on the household form allowed for three such persons to be reported at their place of usual residence. This information was used only to identify usual family relationships for family coding, but only when the reported temporary absentees were spouses or dependent children.

Householders who sought advice about whether to include in Question 4 persons who would not have listed the address of the household as their place of usual residence, were advised not to include them. This would have been most relevant to full time students in boarding schools. Users should note that the above instructions were not given to most respondents and, as a result, there may be many cases where dependent children at boarding schools were included in responses to question H4.

See FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC).

HOUSEHOLD SCHEDULE

See HOUSEHOLD FORM.

HOUSEHOLD TYPEHST

This is a FURF variable which identifies whether an occupied private dwelling or CARAVAN etc in caravan park contained one or more families, was a group household or a lone person household.

This is a new classification which incorporates the 1981 classification of FAMILIES IN HOUSEHOLD. It differs in that the 1981 categories 'group house' and 'lone person household' were not identified as such, and both would have been included as primary families. Changes to family coding, because of the addition of usual residents temporarily absent, will also affect comparability of this item between censuses.

See FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC) and RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

HOUSING

The census collected a considerable amount of data on housing. For a guide to housing data, refer to the entry MNEMONICS for the list of dwelling items available from the 1986 Census.

IMPROVISED HOME

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

INCOME

See INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC), HOUSEHOLD INCOME (HIN), FAMILY INCOME (FIN), or MEDIAN INCOME.

INDEXES

An index is used to code the wide range of written responses on census forms, (e.g. birthplace, religion, occupation) into categories in a classification group.

Many responses may be given to questions such as birthplace, religion, occupation, ancestry etc. Comprehensive indexes list as many as possible of the responses which investigation and experience indicate were likely to be made. Each entry in the list contains the code number for the classification category to which the response should be allocated; this code is written onto the form by the coder and in due course entered onto the computer record for the individual.

For example, the index used for coding responses to the religion question has many entries with code 4; Armenian Catholic, Australian Catholic, Bush Catholic, Franciscan, Hera Vatsha, Holy Roman, Latin, Mick and Tyke, etc.; each of which is listed in its proper alphabetic location. The category corresponding to the number 4 in the classification used for coding religion responses is labelled Catholic.

See CODE, CODING for a description of this process.

INDIVIDUAL INCOMEINC

This is a FURF variable in which the income level of individuals aged 15 years and over is stored.

Persons were asked to state their usual gross weekly income, which is the income before tax and other deductions are made.

Gross income includes family allowance, pensions, benefits, wages, salary, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest, business or farm income (less operation expenses) superannuation and workers compensation received.

Persons were not asked to state their exact income. Instead, they were asked to indicate with a tick the range into which their income fell.

The classification allowed for coding of a 'no income' response and 13 income ranges, with the highest income range 'over \$50,000'.

This classification differed from 1981 when the highest income range was 'over \$26,000 per year', and the income ranges below \$12,000 were more finely classified.

It should be noted that although the census question was asked in terms of weekly income, results were often tabulated in annual equivalents.

Information on income distribution is critically important in planning public and private sector services such as social welfare and (particularly at the regional level) retail distribution and other commercial services.

A question on income was first asked in the 1933 Census in an attempt to assess the effects of the depression. It was subsequently included in the 1976, 1981 and 1986 Censuses.

See HOUSEHOLD INCOME (HIN) and FAMILY INCOME (FIN).

#### INDUSTRY

#### IND

This FURF variable contains the type of industry in which employed persons aged 15 years and over work. Two census questions were used to obtain information for industry coding; one asked the employer's name and address, while the other asked the nature of the industry, business or service carried out by the employer.

The industry classification is based on the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (ASIC).

Information on kind of industry carried out by the employer at the workplace has been gathered in each Australian census since 1911. However, the name of employer and address of workplace have only been asked since the 1954 Census; these questions were introduced to facilitate the coding (as explained later in this entry) of industry where the information on kind of industry was inadequate.

The allocation of an industry class to an establishment (work location) is a statement about the main kind of economic activity understood to be carried out there. An establishment can be a farm, a factory, a shop, a mine or any other place where some kind of economic activity is performed (i.e. a product produced or a service rendered). Each establishment is classified to a particular industry class according to the main activity of the establishment.

There is not necessarily any relationship between the occupation of an individual and the industry in which he or she worked; for example, a van driver for an establishment designated as in the insurance industry was employed in that industry, not in the transport industry. One establishment may have employed many people in different occupations but they were all coded to the industry of the establishment.

The main index used in determining industry of employment in census processing is the Industry and Destination Zone (IDZ) Index. The IDZ Index is a listing of all known establishments in Australia, at the time of its compilation, which were involved in various economic activities carried out by companies, partnerships, sole proprietors, government departments, etc. It contains, for each establishment, the relevant ASIC code, public/private sector code and DESTINATION ZONE code.

The listing was obtained from the ABS Integrated Register. This register is compiled and updated by the ABS from various statistical collections and other sources.

The inclusion of the industry topic in the census provides a source of useful information on the regional distribution and structure of Australian industry, and allows investigation of structural change in industry over time. It also provides information on the characteristics of workers by industry (such as age, qualification and occupation), which is important for workforce studies, and the identification of migrant and other groups by industry.

I

The address of the workplace is important in JOURNEY TO WORK and traffic flow studies (when linked with place of residence and method of travel to work) and in calculating the DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION of areas where large numbers of people are employed, so enabling the planning of public transport and other amenities and services for such areas.

#### INDUSTRY SECTOR

GNG

This FURF variable contains codes for employed persons aged 15 years and over according to whether employed by the government or non-government (private) sector.

In the 1976 and 1981 Censuses, the categories 'Australian government' and 'State government' were further divided into 'Departments' and 'Other'. The 'Other' category included legislature, courts, marketing boards, statutory authorities and government owned companies. This division into 'department' and 'other' has been found to be inaccurate, and the categories were combined in the 1986 Census.

The 1986 GNG classification has separate categories for Australian, State and local governments, and private sector only.

The codes for this classification were obtained from the INDUSTRY and DESTINATION ZONE (IDZ) Index.

#### INFORMATION PAPER

A series of information papers are released from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. Each paper addresses a specific subject area. Information papers do not include statistical data (except in one or two cases, and then only at a basic level).

Topics covered range from background information on the various census processes through to papers detailing census output releases. These papers provide additional information essential for full understanding of the nature of the statistics produced from the census.

A complete list of information papers published for the 1986 Census can be found in the ABS information paper Census 86 - Data Release Plans (2173.0).



## INPUT PROCESSING

Processing of census forms takes approximately twelve months to complete. About five million completed census forms, boxed in some 60,000 COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) packs were delivered for processing to the census DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE (DTC). On average, around 300 census forms were returned for each urban CD, and 200 for each rural CD.

Input processing commenced when completed census forms were registered on the Flow Control System as being received at the DTC. Information on census forms was then coded, transcribed onto computer files and edited. When all errors detected by the editing system were corrected, the census data were reformatted to create the FINAL UNIT RECORD FILE (FURF), and the census forms were destroyed.

For the 1986 Census, the main stages of input processing were;

- . receipt of the census forms at the DTC,
- . preliminary check,
- . post-Enumeration Survey processing,
- . family, internal migration and qualification coding,
- . origins and language coding,
- . occupation coding,
- . industry and place of work coding,
- . coding of a sample of records to the occupation classification used in 1981 (and earlier) (to establish a link between the 1981 and 1986 classifications).
- . data entry,
- . editing and balancing,
- . creation of the FURF,
- . destruction of the census forms.

For those census questions which required a written response (e.g. birthplace and occupation), coding INDEXES were developed incorporating all known responses and their appropriate codes. These indexes were the primary reference source for allocating such codes.

Each coding process involved the coding of written responses to a number of census questions (e.g. the origins coding process covered ancestry, birthplace of individual, birthplace of mother, birthplace of father, religion and language spoken at home). See INDEXES and CODING.

The progress of each CD pack through the DTC was monitored to enable the processing status of each CD at any particular point in time to be determined and to ensure a high level of security.

During input processing, coding was monitored by a system of quality control checks. Output of the system provided information for assessing how the stages of input processing were progressing, whether staff resources needed to be allocated to problem areas and if retraining of coders on some aspects of their work was required.

At the peak of processing approximately 1,200 temporary staff were employed at the DTC.

See EDITING, DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE, CODING and INDEXES.

#### INSTITUTION

See NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (NPD) and EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP).

#### INSURANCE - LIFE

The 1976 Census included a question on whether persons were covered by life insurance. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on life insurance is collected in special supplementary surveys and State-specific surveys conducted by the ABS.

#### INTERNAL MIGRATION INDICATOR

IMI

This FURF variable embodies all the tick box answers to the questions on place of usual residence on the census form, and contains 'not stated' and 'not applicable' indicators.

The data for 1985 and 1981 place of usual residence are used mainly in conjunction with the INTERNAL MIGRATION INDICATOR (IMI) for detailed internal migration studies. Such studies must be undertaken carefully; the points illustrated in the following cases should be noted:

- (i) Since the indicators are derived from usual residence at certain dates, only the net effects of any multiple movements between these dates can be derived. For example, in the case of a person who at 30 June 1981 had a usual place of residence in a South Australian rural area, and moved to Melbourne in 1983, but by 30 June 1985 was a usual resident of Adelaide, only the net South Australian country to city movement would be revealed.
- (ii) In the case of 'out and back' movements, in which persons moved away from a place of usual residence to live elsewhere, but then returned before the end of the reference period to the earlier address as a usual resident, no movement would be shown in the internal migration data.

In 1976 and 1981 the internal migration indicators were held only in derived form as the variables with mnemonics RMC, RMO and RMV. Some tick box answers were not carried over to the unit record file, so that some combinations of movement were not available, and various categories of 'not stated' were not separately identifiable.

For 1986, this field identifies any 'not stated' responses to the usual residence questions for census night (question 6), one year ago (question 7) and 5 years ago (question 8). When coding question 6 responses to SLA of USUAL RESIDENCE, however, 'not stated' responses were regarded as invalid and the persons were assumed to have been usual residents at their place of enumeration. See USUAL RESIDENCE for details of the different variables involved.

More detailed information relating to internal migration can be obtained by combining IMI with the place of usual residence variables (i.e. State and SLA of usual residence at each of the three dates). See USUAL RESIDENCE for details of these.

#### INTERSTATE MIGRATION

See INTERNAL MIGRATION INDICATOR and USUAL RESIDENCE.

## INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR

Many classifications used in ABS statistics have an uneven distribution of cases throughout the categories of which the classification is composed. For example, the numbers of persons who would report themselves as Church of England (religion classification) or Italian born would each be quite large, while the numbers reporting Buddhist or Chile, respectively, would be relatively smaller. When religious denomination is cross-classified with country of birth, the number in the table 'cell' who reported religion as Church of England and country of birth as Italy would be small, and the number of Buddhist Chileans even smaller, or possibly nil. These small numbers entail a risk of individuals being identifiable in the statistics.

Even when variables are more evenly distributed in the classifications, the problem still occurs. The more detailed the classifications, and the more of them that are applied in constructing a table, the greater the incidence of very small cells, and the greater the chance of individuals being identified in census output.

It is not a function of the census to identify individual persons, and indeed the ABS is specifically prohibited by its legislation from releasing information likely to enable identification to occur. Nor should users place reliance on information in very small cells, which by their nature can be grossly affected by processing and reporting errors.

Considerable care is taken in the specification of tables to minimise the risk of the identification of individuals. In addition, a technique of unbiased random adjustment of cell values has been developed which allows tables for which there is a strong demand to be produced, even though they contain numbers of very small cells. The adjustments known as introduced random error, are themselves only small. They result in cells with very small values being insufficiently exact for any identifiable data to be exposed, while the information value of the tables as a whole are not, for most purposes, impaired. These procedures follow practices of a similar kind used in censuses of some other countries.

Because of these adjustments totals in some cross-classified tables may be slightly greater or less than the sum of their components.

In other tables, the column, row and person totals, sub-totals and overall totals in summary tables were derived after the random adjustment process was applied. In these cases, a total will only contain random error if any of its cell components in a table were originally three or less. Although each of the tables of this kind is internally consistent, comparisons between tables which contain similar entities may show some minor discrepancies.

It will not generally be possible to determine which individual figures have been affected by random error adjustments, but the small variance which may be associated with derived totals can for the most part, be ignored. Caution should be used however, when the components aggregated or the totals themselves are very small.

Alternative procedures studied by the ABS were considered to be inferior in one way or another. For example, suppression of confidential cells must be done in conjunction with the suppression of complementary cells to prevent derivation by deduction, and is a tedious task with detailed census data. Furthermore, suppression can make some analyses impossible, particularly where the user wants to combine a number of cells to obtain totals not provided directly in the table.

Ad hoc collapsing of rows or columns in individual tables to remove confidential cells creates considerable difficulties for users wishing to compare or aggregate the same tables across areas or sub-populations. A standardised table created to avoid such difficulties could unduly limit data availability.

Random adjustment of the data in the more detailed tables is considered to be the most satisfactory technique for avoiding the release of identifiable census data: the vast majority of useful data are maintained and the data can be added together to produce unbiased totals.

#### Notes on usage:

- (a) No reliance should be placed on cells of three or less. Even without random error, firm reliance should not be placed on small cells since possible respondent and processing errors have greatest relative impact on small cells.
- (b) Some small cells have been randomly altered to zero. Hence caution should be exercised in deducing that there are no persons or households in an area having certain characteristics.

- (c) Many different classifications are used in census tables and the tables are produced for a variety of geographical areas. The effect of the introduced random error will be minimised if the statistic required is found direct from a tabulation rather than from aggregating more finely classified data. Similarly, rather than aggregating data from small areas to obtain statistics about a larger standard geographic area, published data for the larger area should be used wherever possible.
- (d) When calculating proportions, percentages or ratios from cross-classified or small area tables, the random error introduced can be ignored, except when very small cells are involved.

See CONFIDENTIALITY and CROSS-CLASSIFIED TABLE.

#### ISSUE

#### TIS, TIL

There are two FURF variables associated with Issue, total issue (TIS) and total living issue (TIL).

A question on number of children or babies has been asked in all Australian censuses since Federation, except in 1933 when number of dependent children was asked. Prior to 1981, number of births was only applicable to marriage relationships, i.e. past and present marriages. In 1981, total number of babies was asked of all women aged 15 years and over.

The 1986 Census question asks each female aged 15 years or more how many babies she has ever had. Two responses are required:

- (1) total births excluding still births (TIS); and
- (2) total now living (TIL).

Data on issue are essential for fertility analysis, such as investigation of fertility differentials between various socio-economic groups, and in prediction of future fertility rates for population projections.

ISSUE CHILD

In past censuses, this term has included adopted and step children as well as 'natural' children.

This term is not used in the 1986 Census. The term FAMILY CHILD replaces it, and includes stepchildren as well.

See DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN.

## JOB

The AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS defines a job as a set of tasks performed by one individual. An occupation is a set of jobs which requires the performance of a common set of tasks.

The census collects a wide range of information on peoples jobs. See HOURS WORKED (HRS), INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC), INDUSTRY (IND), INDUSTRY SECTOR (GNG), JOURNEY TO WORK, LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS), METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT) and OCCUPATION (OCC).

## JOBS - NUMBER OF

The 1976 Census included a question on whether or not the respondent had more than one job. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on the number of jobs held by a person is collected annually in the population surveys conducted by the ABS.

## JOURNEY TO WORK

Information on journey to work was obtained from responses to three census questions relating to:

- . address of usual residence
- . address of workplace in main job 'last week'
- . method of travel to work on Monday 30 June (census day).

The answers to the question on method of travel to work are particularly useful for some journey to work studies, but because of the differences in coverage and time reference of the questions, such linking must be used with caution. See METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK for details of these differences.



A journey to work was imputed for each employed person who lived and worked within a JTW study area and who was enumerated at his/her usual place of residence. Codes were allocated for both the COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) in which the residence was located, known as the origin zone (OZ), and the zone in which the place of work was located, which is the destination zone (DZN). Destination zones are generally designed by the local transport authorities. A journey to work was assumed to have been made from place of residence (OZ) to workplace (DZN). It should be noted that although a journey to work was imputed, a person may not have gone to work, but may have been home sick or on leave etc, during the reference week.

The coding of OZ and DZN allows two different kinds of tables to be produced - tables on journey to work, and tables on the DAYTIME WORKING POPULATIONS of DZNs.

Tables on journey to work relate OZs and DZNs so that flows of people to work in the reference week (the week before census night) can be studied. These tables usually include method of travel but, as noted above, this linking must be used with caution.

Journey to work tabulations refer to employed persons 15 years of age and over who were enumerated at their dwelling of usual residence (in one of the study areas).

Journey to work data have been produced from Australian censuses since 1971. For the 1986 Census there are eleven study areas. These are:

- Sydney/Wollongong/Newcastle
- Melbourne/Geelong
- Brisbane/Gold/Sunshine Coast
- Adelaide
- Perth/Mandurah
- Southern Tasmania
- Northern Tasmania
- Canberra/Queanbeyan
- Darwin
- Latrobe Valley
- Bendigo/Ballarat

See WORK DESTINATION and DAYTIME WORKING POPULATIONS

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KINSHIP

See FAMILY.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

LFS

This is a FURF variable which contains the labour force status of all persons aged 15 years and over. Note that in census output tabulations, the classification entitled LABOUR FORCE STATUS generally includes a sub-classification of employed persons into status of worker categories. In the outputs of some other ABS collections, status of worker is shown as a separate classification.

For 1986 Census purposes, the labour force includes persons aged 15 years and over who;

- (a) worked for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business, during the week prior to Census night;
- (b) had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent;
- (c) were on strike or stood down temporarily; and
- (d) did not have a job but were actively looking for work.

A labour force status was given to all persons who fell within the scope of the labour force classification, i.e. to all persons aged 15 or more. The three labour force status categories are:

- (i) employed persons (i.e. persons in }  
groups (a), (b) and (c) above) }      These categories
- (ii) unemployed persons (persons in }      together make up the
- group (d) above) }      labour force
- (iii) persons not in the labour force (i.e. persons aged 15 or more) NOT in any of the groups (a) to (d) above). This category includes persons who are retired, pensioners, and persons solely engaged in home duties. It also includes bonded trainees (including trainee teachers), and cadets engaged in full-time study at educational institutions even if the institutions at which they studied were run by their employers.

Data on labour force status have been obtained from every Australian census since 1911. The 1986 Census form contained two questions (providing for tick box answers) which determined labour force status for persons in the labour force:

- . Question 26 - 'LAST WEEK did the person have a full-time or part-time job of any kind?'
- . Question 27 - 'Did the person actively look for work at any time during the LAST FOUR WEEKS?' This question was to be answered by persons who ticked the answer 'other unpaid work' or 'did not have a job', to question 26.

In addition the following question was asked to determine status of worker which, as noted above, is included under the heading of Labour Force Status, for census purposes.

- . Question 28 - 'In the main job held LAST WEEK, was the person: a wage/salary earner; conducting own business but not employing others; conducting own business and employing others; a helper not receiving wages or salary.'

In previous censuses, if labour force questions were unanswered an attempt was made to derive labour force status from other questions on the census form; where this was not possible, a response was randomly allocated. In 1986 no random allocation was made and such cases were coded to a new category called 'not stated'.

Two further differences between 1986 and earlier censuses should be noted:

- (i) unpaid helpers in a family business who worked less than 15 hours in the reference week (see HOURS WORKED (HRS)) were previously classed as not in the labour force whereas in 1986 they were included in the labour force;
- (ii) persons who actively looked for work during the reference period were classified as either looking for part-time work or looking for full-time work;
- (iii) in previous censuses, persons who reported an occupation of 'housewife', 'full time student', or 'pensioner', were included in the employed labour force in the category 'inadequately described'.

See UNEMPLOYED, WORK DESTINATION, INDUSTRY (IND), OCCUPATION (OCC) and METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT).

LANDLORDLLD

This field records responses to question H3 as to whether the landlord of a rented PRIVATE DWELLING is a State Housing Commission, other government agency or private (derived from response 'Other') landlord. It applies to all households who were renting the dwelling in which they were enumerated. See also NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC) and FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED (FUF).

This variable allows data to be produced for studies of the socio-economic characteristics of tenants of public authority housing, and for comparisons with tenants in privately owned accommodation to be made.

LANGUAGELAN

This is a FURF variable which contains language other than English spoken at home. The classification contains the languages most likely to be used in Australia. Note that in all standard outputs, persons aged 0-4 years are excluded from language tabulations.

A question on language has been included in five censuses. The 1921 Census question sought ability to read and write and listed a choice of responses, two of which related specifically to foreign languages. The language itself was not required to be stated. In 1933 the question asked persons who could not read and write in English, but were able to read and write in a foreign language, to state the language.

A question on language was not included again until 1976 when persons were asked to state the languages regularly used. In the 1981 language question, all persons were asked if they used a language other than English at home and, if so, how well they spoke English; they were not asked to name the non-English language. In 1986 the same information was sought as for 1981, except that in addition, users of a language other than English were asked to name the language. See ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN (ENG).

Information derived from the question enables migrant welfare services to plan and co-ordinate programs.

LATITUDE

The latitude of the visual centroid of each COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) is calculated to five decimal points, e.g. 21.51763 degrees South. This is accurate to 1.1 metres. For more information see CENTROID.

LEGAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION and LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, LEGAL.

LICENCE

See DRIVING/RIDING LICENCE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, LEGALLGA

The Legal Local Government Area is a geographic area under the responsibility of an incorporated local government council. There are over 830 Legal LGAs in Australia which collectively cover only a part of Australia. (The major areas not covered by Legal LGAs are the large northern parts of South Australia, almost all of the Northern Territory and all of the Australian Capital Territory).

The number of Legal LGAs and their boundaries may change over time. Their creation and delimitation is the responsibility of the respective State Governments and is governed by the provisions of State Local Government Acts.

A legal local government area (LGA) consists of one or more STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS (SLA).

The various types of Legal LGAs in each State are:

- . New South Wales: Cities\*, Municipalities and Shires
- . Victoria: Cities, Towns, Boroughs and Shires
- . Queensland: Cities, Towns and Shires
- . South Australia: Cities\*, Municipalities and District Councils
- . Western Australia: Cities, Towns and Shires
- . Tasmania: Cities\* and Municipalities
- . Northern Territory: Cities and Towns.

(Note: \* Municipalities proclaimed as Cities).

The legal LGA is a major census output unit. A large amount of census data are available at this level in statistical publications, on microfiche and magnetic tape. Many State and Local Government funding and planning activities are based, in part, on LGA data from the Census.

In previous censuses, the census LGA was the basic geographic unit at which census data were disseminated. Census LGAs included the following legal LGAs and areas, none of which had any legal incorporating body: Brisbane suburbs; unincorporated parts of the Northern Territory; and Canberra and non-urban ACT suburbs. Census LGAs, with the introduction of the ASGC, have now become STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS (SLA).

See AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC).

#### LOCALITY (RURAL)

Localities (rural) are devised as follows:

- (a) All population clusters outside urban areas comprising one or more COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs), whose population is expected to be at least 200 by the next census are examined with a view to the drawing of a boundary around the area encompassing each cluster;
- (b) The following criteria must be satisfied before a boundary is drawn around a cluster. It must:
  - . be expected to contain at least 200 people (but not more than 999 - see URBAN CENTRE) by the next census;
  - . have at least 40 occupied non-farm dwellings with a discernible urban street pattern;
  - . have a discernible nucleus of population.
- (c) If these conditions are met, a boundary is drawn and the contained area designated a locality (rural);

- (d) If there is some doubt that a population cluster will reach the minimum population of 200 people, a boundary should still be drawn around the cluster which can then be checked when census results are obtained;
- (e) Where, in the case of defence camps, construction camps, etc it is anticipated that the cluster will not exist at two consecutive censuses, these camps should not be bounded;
- (f) The rural localities shall be delimited subjectively, by the use of the latest available aerial photographs, by field inspection and/or by consideration of any other information that is available.

Some population clusters which are not expected to reach 200 by the following census, do reach 200. In each case the cluster involved is classified as a locality (rural), although the boundary may not necessarily be the most appropriate.

For more information, see the information paper Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Geographic Code List (2188.0).

#### LOCATION OF SPOUSE/PARTNER

SPL

This is a FURF variable which is associated with family data. It indicates whether the spouse/partner of the family reference person was present in the household on Census night or was listed in question H4 as usually present but temporarily absent. The major reason for including this variable was to facilitate the production of tables which are comparable to the 1981 Census. See FAMILY COMPOSITION.

#### LONGITUDE

The longitude of the visual centroid of each COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) is calculated to five decimal points, e.g. 121.51763 degrees East. This is accurate to 1.15 metres. For more information see CENTROID.



### MAGNETIC TAPE

The ABS is disseminating an increasing amount of census data on magnetic tape as the use of computers increases. For users who have access to computer facilities, magnetic tape allows flexibility in manipulation of large quantities of data. Census data on magnetic tape are provided either on ABS supplied tapes, which are available for purchase, or user supplied tapes.

For information see SMALL AREA DATA, SAMPLE FILES and CROSS-CLASSIFIED TABLES, and the information paper Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0).

### MAJOR URBAN

See SECTION OF STATE.

### MAPS

The ABS has made available maps of statistical areas to aid in the interpretation of statistics produced from the census. These have been produced in conjunction with the Division of National Mapping of the Department of Resources and Energy.

For the 1986 Census the following maps, which relate to AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION (ASGC) areas, are available:

- (a) 19 statistical division maps, which show STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS, STATISTICAL DISTRICTS and STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS. They are available in the statistical publication series Census 86 - Persons and Dwellings in Legal Local Government Areas, Statistical Local Areas and Urban Centres/(Rural) Localities (2462.0-2468.0), or may be purchased separately.
- (b) STATISTICAL REGION maps are available on hardcopy. There are no statistical regions in Tasmania, the Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory.
- (c) Two 1:5,000,000 scale maps of Australia; one showing statistical divisions and statistical local areas, and the other showing population densities as at 30 June 1986. They are available only on hard copy.

- (d) 1986 Census collection district outline maps which show the boundaries and codes of CENSUS DIVISIONS and CENSUS SUBDIVISIONS, statistical local areas and COLLECTION DISTRICTS within capital city statistical divisions, statistical districts and selected statistical local areas. They are available on hard copy and on microfiche.
- (e) Census field maps which are designed primarily to define collection areas. They show census division/subdivision, legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA and collection district boundaries, and are available on hard copy and on microfiche.
- (f) CHOROPLETH MAPS are available on an ad hoc basis from the nearest ABS Office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers). They are computer generated from the census small area data base, and can show the distribution of person or dwelling characteristics within any census geographic area.

For more information on maps produced by the ABS, refer to Census 86 - Maps (2183.0).

#### MARINA

See CARAVANS, HOUSEBOAT, STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

#### MARITAL STATUS

#### MST

A question on marital status has been asked in every Australian census. The 1986 question provides for tick box answers for the following categories:

- . never married
- . married
- . separated
- . divorced
- . widowed

The responses are recorded in this FURF variable only for persons aged 15 years and over. Note that the 1986 category of 'married' was called 'now married' in earlier censuses.

MARRIAGE

In the 1981 and earlier censuses a question on duration of present marriage was included. This information was not sought in the 1986 Census, in which a new question, requesting YEAR FIRST MARRIED (YFM), was asked instead.

See the following entries:

- . COUPLE
- . DURATION OF MARRIAGE
- . MARITAL STATUS (MST)
- . MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC)
- . MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE (MMO)

MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLEMDC

This FURF variable records the relationship of each couple as married or de facto.

The topic submission scheme for the 1986 Census produced some requests for the separate identification of de facto relationships. The problem with adding a separate identification of de facto relationships to the marital status question is that such a question would then contain a mixture of legal and social concepts which may not be mutually exclusive. For example, a person may be both divorced and living in a de facto relationship. Or the marital status of the members of a couple may be reported as 'married' and 'separated' while one or other is living in a de facto relationship.

In the 1986 Census the relationship question (question 4) provided person 2 with the tick box option 'de facto partner of person 1'. This is the primary source of data for MDC, and usually refers to the spouse/partner in a primary family. However, where possible from reported information, MDC is also coded for secondary families and for families where the spouse/partner is temporarily absent.

If the family does not contain a couple - as indicated by the field FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC) - or lives in a NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (NPD), then MDC is not applicable. MDC is only applicable to family situations, not to group houses or lone person households (as indicated by FAMILY NUMBER (FNO)). Note that the household type category 'group house' is a residual category. If a couple (de facto or married) is identified then the household is classified as a family household, not a group house. Homosexual couples are not included in the census family analysis. Such couples are classified as non family members or members of a group house.

MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE

MMO

This is a FURF variable which records whether a person has been married more than once. It applies to all persons aged 15 years and over who had ever been married at the time of the census.

A question asking whether a respondent has been married more than once was asked for the first time in 1981. In that census, it was asked of all persons who were married at the time of the census, but responses were only recorded for married females aged 15 years and over. The question enables the data on fertility to be analysed more effectively. In 1986, it was asked of all persons aged 15 years and over who had ever been married, and recorded for both males and females.

MATRIX TAPE

See CROSS-CLASSIFIED TABLES.

MEDIA (OUTPUT)

See OUTPUT MEDIA.

MEDIAN INCOME

Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two equal groups, one half of the population having incomes above the median and the other half having incomes below it. The median income measure can be calculated for individual, family and household incomes, as well as particular income unit types. It is a useful derived measure for examining income statistics. It should be noted that as the top range in the income question is open-ended (see INDIVIDUAL INCOME (INC)), it is not possible to calculate an accurate mean (or average) income.

See HOUSEHOLD INCOME (HIN) and FAMILY INCOME (FIN).

MEDIUM DENSITY HOUSING

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORKTPT

This is a FURF variable which contains up to three methods of travel to work for each person aged 15 years and over who was employed during the week before the census.

The question on method of travel allows for multiple answers in all categories except 'walked only' and 'did not go to work'; for example a journey to work by car (as driver), ferry and bus would be recorded as such. Respondents were not asked to state which was the main method.

While statistics gathered with this question give a reasonable indication of the way people travelled to work on Monday 30 June 1986, some problems in practical application of the statistics should be noted when used in conjunction with DESTINATION ZONE (DZN) data. The following points should be particularly noted.

- (a) Method of travel to work (TPT) and origin zone to DZN travel involve different time periods. Statistics on method of travel relate to 30 June 1986, while DZN statistics relate to 'the main job held last week', meaning the week before the census. For example, a person who was in Sydney on 30 June 1986 and who travelled to work by train or ferry may have their usual residence and place of work in Canberra, and may have worked at that usual place of work in the week prior to the census.
- (b) DZN statistics relate only to employed persons usually resident in the study zones, while method of travel was sought for all employed persons 15 years of age and over.
- (c) A person who had a job 'last week' may have been unemployed, retired, or on leave on 30 June 1986 and so be included in the method of travel category 'did not go to work'. Alternatively, a person may have been unemployed 'last week' but have a designated method of travel to work on 30 June 1986 because he or she had since become employed; such persons are excluded from both the journey to work and method of travel tables.

For related information, see JOURNEY TO WORK and DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION.

METROPOLITAN

This term was used in some earlier censuses to refer to capital city statistical divisions.

See STATISTICAL DIVISION.

MICROFICHE

A microfiche is a piece of photographic film 147mm by 105mm which contains a photographic image in much reduced form. Statistical tables, maps and narrative information may be placed on microfiche. The most common reduction ratio used is 48 to 1 (maps are generally produced on a smaller ratio) and the image may be positive or negative, but is normally negative.

Most data from the census are released on microfiche, which are compact and inexpensive to purchase. Access to microfiche content is through use of a reader which converts any selected frame to an illuminated image of legible size on a screen. Microfiche readers are available for use at most public libraries and all ABS offices. Readers are relatively inexpensive to purchase; rather more expensive are reader-printers, which can produce hard copy (printed page) records from microfiche. The use of microfiche allows a large volume of data to be stored and accessed economically.

Each microfiche is divided into 270 frames (18 columns by 15 rows), each frame representing the equivalent of one page of computer printout. The top row of 18 frames is reserved for titling information which is recorded in characters of sufficient size to be read by the naked eye. The remaining frames are used for the actual data.

Each data frame has an associated frame number which is alphanumeric. The alphabetic letter indicating the row (from A to O) and the number indicating the column (from 1 to 18). The bottom right hand frame of the microfiche is reserved for the index.

Microfiche is an excellent medium for storing data and for fast data reference. If prolonged extraction and accumulation of data are necessary, however, alternative forms of output should be sought, or a request made for a SPECIAL DATA SERVICE, either from the ABS or a commercial organisation.

Details on what census information is available on microfiche, and how to order, are contained in Census 86 - Microfiche (2185.0). Statistical tables available on microfiche are listed in Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0).

#### MIGRANT

For information on data relating to the migrant population of Australia, see ANCESTRY (ANC), BIRTHPLACE (BPF, BPL, BPM), PERIOD OF RESIDENCE (PER), LANGUAGE (LAN) and ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN (ENG).

#### MIGRATION

See INTERNAL MIGRATION INDICATOR (IMI), CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE and ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION.

#### MIGRATORY

Persons enumerated on census night on board vessels in and between Australian ports, or on board long-distance trains, buses or aircraft are classified as migratory. Such persons are not included in the population of specific STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, but are shown as a balancing item in the population of the State or Territory.

These persons were enumerated thus:

##### **Vessels**

Persons on vessels leaving an Australian port before 30 June 1986 bound for other Australian ports were enumerated on census forms placed on board at the port of departure and collected at the port of destination.

##### **Other forms of transport**

It was the responsibility of each State Field Supervisor to ascertain the dates and times of arrival of all trains, aircraft and motor coaches departing on long journeys just prior to, or on census day, and to arrange SPECIAL COLLECTORS to enumerate all passengers arriving after midnight. Passengers departing after census day, or arriving at their destination before midnight on census day, would complete a form at their residential address or motel, etc.

See SECTION OF STATE.

MNEMONICS

Each data item (variable) held on the final unit record file (FURF) is represented by a three letter mnemonic which is used when specifying or describing cross-tabulations of the various data items. More information on these variables is provided in Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0).

## ALPHABETIC LISTING OF MNEMONICS

MNEMONICS	DWELLING ITEMS
ABD	Aboriginal dwelling indicator
ALM	Mortgage payments, total monthly
BED	Number of bedrooms in occupied private dwelling
ELP	Elderly persons in household, number of
FPD	Females in household, number of
FUF	Furnished/unfurnished
HIN	Household income
HST	Household type
LLD	Landlord
MPD	Males in household, number of
NOC	Nature of occupancy
NPD	Non-private dwelling, type of
PPD	Persons in household, number of
RNT	Rent paid, weekly amount
RUN	Reason dwelling unoccupied
STR	Structure of dwelling
VEH	Motor vehicles, number of

MNEMONICS	PERSON ITEMS
ABL	Aboriginal origin
AGE	Age
ALS	Age left school
ANC	Ancestry
BPF	Birthplace of father
BPL	Birthplace of individual
BPM	Birthplace of mother
CHT	Dependent family child type
CIT	Australian citizenship
DZN	Work destination zone
ENG	English, Proficiency in
GNG	Industry sector
HRS	Hours worked
IMI	Internal migration indicator
INC	Individual income
IND	Industry
LAN	Language
LFS	Labour force status
MMO	Married more than once
MST	Marital status
OCC	Occupation



PER	Period of residence in Australia
QAL	Highest qualification
REL	Religion
RLC	SLA of usual residence in 1986 (see USUAL RESIDENCE)
RLF	Relationship in household
RLN	Relationship in non-private dwelling
RLO	SLA of usual residence on 30 June 1985
RLV	SLA of usual residence on 30 June 1981
RSC	State of usual residence, or overseas in 1986 (see USUAL RESIDENCE)
RSO	State of usual residence, or overseas on 30 June 1985
RSV	State of usual residence, or overseas on 30 June 1981
SEX	Sex
STU	Student
TIL	Total living issue
TIS	Total issue
TPT	Method of travel to work
TYP	Educational institution attending, type of
YFM	Year first married
YOQ	Year highest qualification obtained

## MNEMONICS

## FAMILY ITEMS

AGA	Number of dependents present aged 0-4 years
AGB	Number of dependents present aged 5-14 years
AGC	Number of dependents present aged 15-20 years
AGO	Age of oldest dependent present
AGY	Age of youngest dependent present
DPA	Number of dependent family children temporarily absent
DPE	Number of dependent family children enumerated
DPT	Total dependent family children
FIN	Family income
FMC	Family composition
FNO	Family number
MDC	Married/de facto couple
SPL	Location of spouse/partner

MORTGAGE PAYMENTS, TOTAL MONTHLYALM

This is a FURF variable which records the monthly loan repayments (in dollars) by households for the purpose of purchasing the dwelling in which they were enumerated.

The 1976 Census included a question on source of mortgages. This information was not sought in the 1981 or 1986 Census.

See also NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC).

For the 1986 Census, monthly loan repayments are classified in single dollars from \$0 up to \$799, and one category for \$800 or more. The highest monthly mortgage category used in the 1981 Census was '\$398 and over'.

The data are important in analysis of home ownership and for providing benchmark data for evaluating housing needs, housing finance and housing demand.

MOTOR VEHICLES, NUMBER OF

VEH

This is a FURF variable which records the number of registered motor vehicles which are owned or used by members of a HOUSEHOLD and were garaged or parked near the occupied private dwelling, or CARAVAN etc in caravan park on census night.

This classification includes company owned vehicles kept at home, but excludes motor bikes, scooters and tractors.

The data are used to help determine transport policies and priorities, e.g. car parking requirements, traffic planning, traffic management and public transport provision. VEH is also in demand for analysing and predicting car ownership patterns; indicating the availability of sources of transport other than public transport; providing a socio-economic profile of the population as well as the mobility of segments of the population; and studying JOURNEY TO WORK data.

NAME

The surname and christian or given name of each person in the household on the night of 30 June 1986 was required to be entered on the census form.

The ABS has a long and continuing history of protecting the CONFIDENTIALITY of the information it receives from individuals and organisations. The data from each census form were transferred onto computer files, without names and addresses (only the code for the COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) in which the address lies is retained). After processing was completed, all census forms and record books were destroyed by pulping and no record of names and addresses was retained.

The names of all persons are requested for the following reasons:

- (a) they are an aid to the person(s) completing the form in that relevant information can be matched to the names on the form;
- (b) they help a COLLECTOR or GROUP LEADER to identify persons about whom information might be missing from the census form in cases when a household has to be contacted a second time;
- (c) it is essential for the POST ENUMERATION SURVEY that individuals be precisely identifiable: the name is a convenient way of ensuring this;
- (d) they are often an aid in family and usual residence coding; and
- (e) an anonymous census would obtain a lower response rate and less accurate data.

See ADDRESS.

NAME OF EMPLOYER

For each employed person, the trading name and address of workplace of employer were requested. These were used to refer to the ABS register of employers. This meant that if the industry of the employer at that location had already been determined by the ABS, and was listed, the industry code allocated at the census could be made consistent with the coding in other ABS collections. This method of coding is more accurate than relying on respondent reporting of industry. The responses were also used for DESTINATION ZONE (DZN) coding. It should be noted that as part of the ABSs concern with CONFIDENTIALITY, the name and address of the employer is not retained. See INDUSTRY (IND), JOURNEY TO WORK and WORK DESTINATION.

NATIONALITY

See CITIZENSHIP (CIT).

NATURE OF OCCUPANCYNOC

This is a FURF variable which indicates whether households were renting, purchasing or owned the dwelling in which they were enumerated. This only applies to PRIVATE DWELLINGS and excludes CARAVANS etc in caravan parks and NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS.

NOC is not coded for caravans etc in caravan parks on census night, as the nature of the question is not suitable. For example, a household may own a caravan while also paying for a permit to occupy a caravan site. Nature of occupancy in this situation would be ambiguous.

Furthermore, a significant number of persons enumerated in caravans etc in caravan parks would be people on holiday who would probably be buying or renting their usual dwelling (such as a house or flat) and may have mistakenly answered question H3 in respect of that dwelling.

Copies of the decision table used to determine the NOC codes are available to interested users from the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

In 1981, the NOC category 'rented' was further subdivided according to type of landlord and whether the dwelling was furnished or unfurnished. In 1986, this information is held as two separate variables, LANDLORD (LLD) and FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED (FUF). NOC, LLD and FUF can be cross-classified to obtain data comparable to 1981 data. NOC can also be cross-classified with rent payments (RNT) or MORTGAGE PAYMENTS (ALM) in tabulations.

Census to census comparison of the data recorded by NOC provides an indicator of change in owner-occupancy rates (both owner and purchaser). The information can be useful for determining housing priorities and policies at national, State and regional level.

N.E.C. (not elsewhere classified)

The basic principle underlying a CLASSIFICATION is that it is exhaustive, i.e. it should be able to accommodate the full range of responses. In a classification which does not contain a category to which each possible response can be allocated, there must be at least one category for the residue. This category is generally labelled N.E.C., or 'other'.

For example, codes 100 to 196 of INDUSTRY relate to agricultural, fishing and hunting industries. Code 196 is the category 'Agriculture N.E.C.' and relates to agricultural, fishing and hunting industries not classifiable into codes 100 to 195.

'N.E.C.', 'N.E.I.' (not elsewhere included) and 'other' have similar meanings and are often used interchangeably.

N.E.I. (not elsewhere included)

When designing statistical tabulations RECODES of CLASSIFICATIONS are often needed. In some cases statistically significant individual categories are separately tabulated and the remainder grouped together and called N.E.I.

For example, a tabulation showing birthplace of Asian born persons could appear like this:

Asia

India  
Iran  
Korea  
Pakistan  
Asia NEI.

'N.E.C.' (not elsewhere classified), 'N.E.I.' and 'other' have similar meanings and are often used interchangeably.

NON-FAMILY MEMBER

Non-family members who were occupants of private DWELLINGS, or CARAVANS etc in caravan parks were coded to either 'adult boarder' or 'other non-family member' in the RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) classification.

'Other non-family members' are visitors, neighbours, or any other persons present in the household on census night who were not related to the PRIMARY FAMILY. Note that if another family was visiting a household which already had a family present, then two families were enumerated in the household on census night. In this case one family becomes the primary family and the other becomes a SECONDARY FAMILY unit.

#### NON-PRIVATE DWELLING

NPD

This FURF item is the variable for the classification of non-private dwellings.

A non-private dwelling is a hospital, home for the aged, motel, etc which had communal eating facilities. These were mostly listed prior to the census from the following sources:

- . information from the 1981 census;
- . lists supplied by the Departments of Social Security and Health; and
- . other ABS collections.

A list was provided to census collectors to ensure where possible that previously identified and classified NPDs were correctly enumerated. Other NPDs were found during the collection phase of the census and each was classified in accordance with responses provided by the owner/staff of the NPD.

Occupants of NPDs received PERSONAL FORMS rather than HOUSEHOLD FORMS. This means that family relationships of persons within an NPD were not sought and no family data can therefore be obtained.

CARAVAN parks and hotels/motels usually contain a large number of families and, in recognition of this, the ABS has changed census collection procedures for caravan parks. For the 1986 Census, caravan parks were not classified as non-private dwellings. Caravans etc in caravan parks were given individual household forms. Relationship data was therefore collected, and family data obtained. There are still problems in achieving this objective for hotels and motels, which continued to be classified as NPDs for the 1986 Census.

SPECIAL COLLECTORS were recruited to enumerate NPDs which were expected to contain more than 30 people on census night.

OCCUPATIONOCC

Occupation was classified in terms of the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS (ASCO) for the 1986 Census. In previous censuses, the CLASSIFICATION AND CLASSIFIED LIST OF OCCUPATIONS (CCLO) was used for occupation coding.

Responses to the 1986 Census questions on occupation have been coded to the unit group level of ASCO; at this level there are 337 categories. In ASCO, a job is a set of tasks performed by one individual, and an occupation is defined as a set of jobs which require the performance of some or all of a common set of tasks.

To enable users of census data to make comparisons of occupation data between 1986 and previous censuses, a 5 per cent sample of responses to the occupation questions by persons classified as in the labour force in the 1986 Census has been coded to both ASCO and CCLO. This has allowed for a quantitative link between the two classifications to be established. It is hoped that the ASCO/CCLO link will help to minimize any problems caused by the change in classification.

Occupation was required to be reported for all employed persons aged 15 years and over.

The definition of occupation means that an occupation classification relates basically to the kind of tasks performed. The classification of occupations from responses given on the census form is often difficult, because one kind of work can be described in different ways and, conversely, many different kinds of work can be described by a single name. For this reason, two questions were used in the 1986 Census, one asking for occupation title (in main job) to be stated, the other asking for the main tasks and duties performed in that occupation. This gave coders a better chance of correctly coding an occupation than by coding responses from one question only.

Occupation data are essential for labour market analysis and policy formation. Changes in the occupational composition of the labour force are important for planning at the industry and area levels. They provide valuable inputs to analyses of education and training needs, and as indicators for industry assistance programs. Small area data on occupation are important in regional planning, in examining the occupational mobility of ethnic and other minority groups and in measuring socio-economic status variability between regions.

The 1986 classification differed slightly from that used in 1981 because:

- . caravan parks were excluded;
- . 'psychiatric hospitals or institutions' replaced the 1981 categories 'mental hospital' and 'other mental institution';
- . 'hostels for the disabled' replaced the 1981 category 'institution for physically handicapped';
- . 'hostels for the homeless, night shelters, refuges' replaced the 1981 categories 'night shelter' and 'hostel, half-way house for homeless people, refuge';
- . 'childcare institutions' replaced the eight 1981 categories for childcare institutions, which proved in practice to be impossible to code accurately;
- . 'prisons, corrective and detention institutions mainly for adults' replaced the 1981 category 'prison - adults' and 'other detention institutions'; and
- . 'other and not classifiable' replaced the 1981 category 'other welfare institutions'.

For more information on this topic see DWELLING and RELATIONSHIP IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (RLN).

NON-THEISTIC

See RELIGION.

NOT IN LABOUR FORCE

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).



See also AUSTRALIAN STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS, ASCO-CCLO LINK and CLASSIFICATION AND CLASSIFIED LIST OF OCCUPATIONS.

#### OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

This term was used in the 1981 Census. In 1986 it was replaced by the term status of worker. See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

#### OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLING

See DWELLING. Note that this definition excludes CARAVANS etc in caravan parks.

#### OFFSPRING

See CHILD and DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD.

#### ONE PERSON HOUSEHOLD

See RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) or HOUSEHOLD TYPE (HST).

#### OTHER URBAN

See SECTION OF STATE.

#### OUTPUT MEDIA

Census data are released in four media: in STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS, on MICROFICHE, on MAGNETIC TAPE and in MAPS. A range of INFORMATION PAPERS is also available. These papers provide general background and definitional information about the 1986 Census.

More information on output to be released for the 1986 Census of Population and Housing is contained in the following information papers;

- . Census 86 - Data Release Plans (2173.0)
- . Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0)
- . Census 86 - Special Data Services (2181.0)

O See the entries for Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0) and SPECIAL DATA SERVICES.

#### OUTPUT PROCESSING

Output processing begins as soon as the FINAL UNIT RECORD FILE (FURF) for a State or Territory is complete. It consists of sorting, summing, validating and cross-tabulating data items from the unit record file to produce statistics for output.

Output processing of the 1986 Census was expected to begin in late 1986 and continue, for planned outputs, until mid 1988. Processing of ad hoc requests for tables and other outputs is likely to continue well beyond that time.

#### OVERSEAS BORN

See ANCESTRY (ANA, ANB, ANC), BIRTHPLACE (BPF, BPL, BPM), CITIZENSHIP (CIT), PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA (PER) and VISITOR TO AUSTRALIA.

PART-TIME STUDENT

See STUDENT (STU).

PENSIONS (BENEFITS)

The 1976 Census included information on type of pensions or benefits received. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on pensions and benefits is collected in surveys conducted by the ABS.

PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIAPER

This variable gives, for overseas born persons, the length of the period, to the nearest whole year, since the person first arrived in Australia.

PER is derived from the question on year of first arrival. Therefore if for example a person answered 1983 as year of first arrival, the period of residence for that person would be recorded as 3 years. In reality, it could be up to six months either side of exactly 3 years, depending on when in 1983 that person arrived. Information on absences from Australia since first arrival was not obtained.

When cross-classified with other census data, PER is useful for analysing how the characteristics of migrants change with length of time in Australia. A question on year of first arrival of overseas born persons has been included in every Australian census.

A check was made to ensure that age (as stated) was compatible with period of residence. Also, PER was coded to 'not applicable' if the person's birthplace was reported as Australia.

PERSONAL FORM

The personal form contained all the questions on the HOUSEHOLD FORM except for the dwelling questions and the question on usual residents temporarily absent.

The relationship question (question 4) on the personal form differed from that on the household form: persons enumerated in private dwellings were asked to show their relationship to person 1 on the main household form; persons in NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS (NPD) were asked to indicate their status in relation to the dwelling (e.g. guest, patient, prisoner, employee etc).

The personal form was used in place of the household form in three situations:

- (a) households in excess of eight persons: the household form has space for eight persons, and one personal form was required to be completed for each of the ninth, tenth, etc. persons in the household. In some cases however, a second household form was given;
- (b) privacy: if any person in a household preferred, for privacy reasons, not to be recorded on the household form, then a personal form and a privacy envelope were issued for this person;
- (c) non-private dwellings: one personal form was required to be completed for each person in a non-private dwelling on Census night.

CARAVANS etc in caravan parks were enumerated in the 1986 Census as separate dwellings and were therefore given a household form to complete. In previous censuses, persons in caravan parks were given personal forms.

A copy of the personal form is included in Appendix B, and can be compared with the copy of the household form in Appendix A.

#### PILOT TEST

See TESTING OF QUESTIONS.

#### PLACE OF BIRTH

See ANCESTRY (ANC) and BIRTHPLACE (BPF, BPL, BPM).

#### PLACE OF ENUMERATION

See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION.

PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE

See USUAL RESIDENCE and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE.

PLACE OF WORK

See WORK DESTINATION (DZN).

POST ENUMERATION SURVEY

From the 1966 Census onwards, each census has been followed by a POST ENUMERATION SURVEY (PES), conducted by specially trained interviewers. The PES was designed to measure the extent of underenumeration in the census field collection. Results obtained from the PES have been made public since the 1971 Census. Persons who had worked as field staff for the census collection were specifically excluded from being recruited as special interviewers for the PES.

The 1986 Census PES consisted of two parts; a dwelling coverage check and a persons coverage check. A sample of two thirds of one per cent of private dwellings was used. Non-private dwellings were excluded.

Respondents in the PES were asked their name, age, sex, marital status and birthplace. Persons born in Australia were asked if they were of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island origin. Persons were also asked where (if anywhere) they were included on a census form, and where they spent census night. Persons who indicated that they may not have been included on a census form were asked where they spent the night before, and the night after, census night. At each of the addresses given, the personal information was matched to census forms to establish whether a person was counted, was counted more than once, or not counted at all.

Visitors to the household were asked to state their place of usual residence.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION figures for statistical local areas (SLAs), States and Territories, which are available in separate ABS publications, and are based on population census counts, include an adjustment for underenumeration. Statistics available from the census are not, however, adjusted for underenumeration. The 1976 Census PES was the first to be used to adjust the census counts used in the estimated resident population calculations.

POSTCODEPOC

A postcode is assigned to each collection district (CD), following the postcode guidelines provided by the Australian Postal Commission; e.g. a CD lying wholly within the Sydney suburb of Bankstown would receive the postcode 2200. This allows for the aggregation of individual CDs into areas approximating postcode areas.

Many CDs cross postcode boundaries. In such circumstances, the entire CD was allocated to the postcode area in which the greater part of the CD population was estimated to lie. This procedure results in a degree of approximation in census counts relating to these postcode areas.

Census counts for postcode areas are available on the basis of place of enumeration only. See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION.

Maps of 'census' postcode areas are available from the Department of Resources and Energy (Division of National Mapping), and commercial organisations. See SPECIAL DATA SERVICES.

PRIMARY FAMILY

A HOUSEHOLD can contain one or more families. In a multiple family household, one family is called the primary family, the others are secondary families. A primary family can be formed on the basis of marriage, de facto or blood relationships. It consists of a person aged 15 years or over and at least one other person from any of the categories from (a) to (f) below:

- (a) a SPOUSE (either through marriage or de facto relationship);
- (b) DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILDREN;
- (c) adult family children, provided they have no spouse or dependent family children of their own present in the household;
- (d) brothers/sisters who have no spouses or dependent family children present or usually resident;
- (e) sister-in-law, brother-in-law, (not having spouse or dependent family children present or usually resident) or parents and relations present;
- (f) relations (see RELATIONS).

Where there was more than one family in a household on census night, the family with dependent children was designated as the primary family. If there was more than one such family, or no children were present in the household, then the primary family was arbitrarily chosen.

See FAMILY, RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF) and HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT.

#### PRIVACY ENVELOPE

There were two types of privacy envelope: gold and white. The gold envelopes were for use by householders who did not want the collector to see their completed form. The white envelopes were issued with PERSONAL FORMS and with HOUSEHOLD FORMS issued for use by occupants of caravans etc in caravan parks, in the following situations:

- . In households (private dwellings, and caravans etc in caravan parks): boarders and other household members could elect to use a personal form and privacy envelope when they did not want the householder (or others) to see their form;
- . In non private dwellings: occupants could use the envelopes in cases where they did not want management or other occupants to see their forms.

Collectors were permitted to open the white, but not the gold, envelopes.

#### PRIVATE DWELLING

See DWELLING.

#### PROCESSING

See INPUT PROCESSING and OUTPUT PROCESSING.

#### PROCESSING ERROR

Errors can occur in the coding of census responses and in the transcription of codes into the computer (i.e. in data entry). As well as the measures described below, taken to reduce such errors to a minimum, great care was taken to ensure that all records were processed, and processed once only.

CODING errors can result from misreading or misinterpretation of responses, failure to observe coding instructions, or from faulty transcription from coding reference material (indexes, maps, etc). Sample checking of allocated codes was carried out throughout the life of each of the coding processes, the relative size of the sample checked being determined by feedback from an independent data quality monitoring system. Results of the quality control monitoring were used to identify need for supplementary training of coders or for changes to coding instructions.

Data entry was carried out through keyboard stations linked to a computer. Errors in data entry were detected by a checking or 'verification' procedure in which a sample of the data was re-entered by another operator and compared with the original entry. The proportion of data entry verified was related to the extent of error found in the verification itself. In addition the data entry keyboards have an editing capacity by which the operator was informed when errors of a certain kind were made; for example, when a data field on the form was inadvertently passed over, or a code was entered which was outside a range of legitimate codes for a given variable.

Further major processes of error detection and correction took place after the data were entered into the computer. The numbers of males and females recorded on the cover of each census household or non-private dwelling form were checked against the numbers entered on the computer record; the total number of persons for a CD was checked against the number recorded at the very beginning of processing, many weeks beforehand. These checks were aimed at ensuring that no records were missed and none entered twice.

The final process was the editing of the data, using the computer to compare for each person one response with another response to detect apparent inconsistencies, such as when a person recorded as having an occupation was also recorded as not in the labour force, or a person recorded as aged 10 years was also shown as having a formal qualification. Some of these apparent errors arose from miscoding or misrecording, but others were inherent in the question responses themselves. All relevant information on the census form was used in the resolution of the errors, which in some cases had to be based on a subjective assessment of probabilities.

See EDITING and INPUT PROCESSING.



PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH

See ENGLISH, PROFICIENCY IN.

PUBLICATIONS

The ABS has planned a range of printed publications for the 1986 Census. The classes of printed publications are:

- (a) INFORMATION PAPERS;
- (b) STATISTICAL PUBLICATION; and
- (c) Technical papers (accompany each magnetic tape file).

See also OUTPUT MEDIA.

QUALIFICATIONSQAL

See also YEAR HIGHEST QUALIFICATION OBTAINED (YOQ).

This FURF variable refers to the highest educational qualification obtained since leaving school. It applies to all persons aged 15 years or over.

An education question in which respondents reported their highest level of achievement (e.g. B.Sc.) was included in the 1911 Census. However, a question directly asking about qualifications was not included until 1966, when respondents were asked to provide details of the qualification name and institution at which it was obtained. In all censuses since, persons aged 15 or over were asked whether they had obtained a qualification and, if so, the qualification name, field of study and name of awarding institution. The 1971 Census also asked whether the person was studying for a qualification and, if so, its name.

As in previous censuses, 1986 Census output for this data item is classified by both level and field of study. The responses on name of awarding institution are used only to assist coding.

Qualifications data are used to assess the skill level of the labour force and potential labour force and are valuable for the planning and implementation of labour force training programs. The Department of Employment and Industrial Relations uses the data to prepare the 'Occupational Demand Schedule' for use by the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs in recruiting skilled migrants.

The main reference for the coding of qualifications was the INDEX of Qualifications. The Index contains: the names of all known qualifications currently obtainable in Australia at the time of the census; past qualifications no longer awarded but still reported; and a list of the more commonly encountered overseas qualifications. A number of commonly reported awards not suitable for inclusion in the CLASSIFICATION are listed in the index and were allocated, for census purposes, to the category 'no qualifications'.

See also AGE LEFT SCHOOL (ALS) and STUDENT (STU).

QUALITY CONTROL

See INPUT PROCESSING.

RACIAL ORIGIN

Racial origin is the 1981 FURF variable in which the tick box responses to the 1981 census questions on Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin are held.

See ABORIGINAL ORIGIN (ABL) and ANCESTRY (ANC).

RANDOM ADJUSTMENT

For information on this topic see INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR.

REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIEDRUN

This is a FURF variable in which unoccupied private dwellings are classified according to the reason unoccupied. The census collector determined the reason a dwelling was unoccupied by observation or contacting neighbours.

Dwellings may have been unoccupied for a variety of reasons e.g. they may have been for sale, to let, holiday homes, awaiting demolition or the usual resident(s) may have been temporarily absent.

Particulars of dwellings under construction were not required for census purposes. Collectors were required to check, however, if any of the rooms of these dwellings were occupied, or if garages, tents, sheds or CARAVANS were present and occupied. Collectors also had to determine whether a structure was still under construction, or was completed and awaiting occupancy. In the absence of direct information such as 'to let' signs or neighbours' reports, indirect evidence (electricity connections, builder having left site, the presence or absence of house numbers, etc) had to be used in making the decision.

If the dwelling was considered to be awaiting occupancy the back page (i.e. the questions on structure and reason unoccupied) of a household form was completed by the collector and the dwelling was classified, for census purposes, as unoccupied.

The classification is the same as 1981, except that, due to a computer programming error, in the 1981 Census the categories 'not stated' and 'usual resident temporarily absent' were combined.

The data are important for assessing occupancy rates and determining housing demand and supply in different geographic areas. They also provide benchmark data for checking the reliability of other statistical collections, and for determining trends and dwelling types in available housing accommodation.

If RUN indicates that a private dwelling was unoccupied, then all dwelling items except STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR) are given the code 'not applicable'.

Unoccupied NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS and unoccupied caravans etc in caravan parks are not counted in population censuses.

### RECODE

Each of the FURF variables available for dissemination of census output has a basic CLASSIFICATION. Outputs may be produced in this form, or as a recode of the variable.

Recoding is the process by which the classification is divided into groups; the groups may aggregate to the full basic classification, or may form only part of it. Tables may therefore be tailor made for particular user requirements. For example, if data are required for school children only, a suitable recode for the variable AGE may show the age groups 5-8; 9-12; 13-15; and 16-18, thereby reducing table size to a more manageable level.

The majority of census tabulations comprise recodes of the various census variables.

Recoding may also be necessary for CONFIDENTIALITY purposes, to prevent the identification of individual persons. For example, a table showing the full classification of OCCUPATION (OCC) cross classified with the full classification of BIRTHPLACE of individual (BPL) at legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA level, would contain many cells with counts of 1 or 2. In such cases some reduction in classification detail (or of geographic detail) would be necessary. For example, birthplace may be recoded into 12 groups and occupation into 50 groups.

Random adjustment is also applied to small cells to further avoid the inadvertent disclosure of information on individuals. (See INTRODUCED RANDOM ERROR).

Many recodes have already been designed, and incorporated as standards, in the light of feedback from previous censuses. Users are advised to select the most suitable of these for their purpose. The design and implementation of non-standard recodes is time consuming and costly, and often results in major delay in producing the output.

#### REFERENCE PERSON

See FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON.

#### RELATIONS

For 1986 Census output, the term 'relations' includes mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, cousins, nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles and grandparents of the family reference person or spouse (married or de facto). In previous censuses, cousins, nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles were not treated as being related to person 1.

#### RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD

RLF

This is a FURF variable which records the family or household situation of each person in a private dwelling, or caravan etc in a caravan park (see categories below).

Question 4 on the 1986 Census household form asked for each person's relationship to person 1/person 2. These relationships were used by coders at the DATA TRANSCRIPTION CENTRE to identify family groups, if any, within the household.

A question on relationship has been included in all Australian censuses. Prior to 1981, the question asked about 'relationship to HOUSEHOLD HEAD'. Public reaction against the concept of 'household head' caused the question to be altered in 1981 to 'relationship to person 1'. In the 1986 Census, relationship to person 1 and/or person 2 was asked in respect of each child. This was necessary to classify stepchildren.

See HOUSEHOLD HEAD and FAMILY HEAD.

Household and family data are important for demographic and urban planning, and for the analysis of changing family characteristics over time. The latter is especially important for the development of social security and welfare programs.

The categories used in the classification of RLF are listed and described below:

#### Family reference person/spouse (or partner)

The concept of 'family head' used in previous censuses is no longer valid. See FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON and FAMILY HEAD. Note that although reference person and spouse were separately identified in coding, the two categories are usually combined in outputs. A tabulation showing similar characteristics (such as labour force status or hours worked) of the male and female members of a couple can, however, be produced.

#### Dependent family child

There are different types of dependent family child (see DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD TYPE (CHT) for details). A dependent family child must have been under 15 years of age, or 16-20 years of age and a full-time student.

#### Adult family child

An adult family child must have been 15 years of age or older or, if a full-time student, 21 years of age or older. Outside these restrictions he/she could have been any age, but must not have had a spouse or child(ren) present, or usually present but temporarily absent.

#### Ancestor

This category is only applicable to a PRIMARY FAMILY and is the category into which a lone parent, grandparent, etc of the reference person or his/her spouse was placed. If there was a grandmother, with grandfather present or usually present but temporarily absent, for example, then a SECONDARY FAMILY was formed, and no indication of inter family relationship was recorded. The category 'ancestor' is not applicable in such cases.

### Other Adult Family Member

An other adult family member is a blood or marriage relative of the reference person and/or spouse of the primary family. Examples are brother, sister, cousin, brother in law etc.

### Adult Boarder

An adult boarder is an adult who stated his/her relationship to person 1 as 'boarder', except when families could be identified amongst boarders, in which case these persons were coded to one or more secondary families. A boarder who was less than 15 years of age, at his/her place of usual residence, and not a member of a secondary family, was coded to 'family child'. If not at his/her place of usual residence, and under 15 years of age, the person was coded to 'other non-family member'.

### Other Non-family Member

This is a person (adult or child) who was not identifiable as a family member and could not be allocated any other code. A person under 15 years of age who did not usually reside with the family was coded to this category. In previous censuses this category did not contain children.

### Group Household Member

This was a person living in a multiple person household where no families were identified; ie a household containing unrelated persons only. This category was not identified in previous censuses. See GROUP HOUSEHOLD.

### Lone Person Households

In the 1981 Census, persons living alone were classified as 'head only families'. In 1986, such persons were classified as 'lone person households' and were not regarded as families.

See FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC), DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD, RELATION and FAMILY REFERENCE PERSON.

RELATIONSHIP IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGRLN

Persons in NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS (NPDs) were enumerated using PERSONAL FORMS. The relationship question on the personal form took the following format:

'For a person living in a non-private dwelling on census night, write whether hotel guest, patient, prisoner, employee etc'.

From responses to this question each person was then classified into one of three groups:

- . owner/manager and family;
- . employee and family; or
- . inmate, patient, boarder etc.

RELIGIONREL

A question on religious denomination has been included in all Australian censuses but response has been optional.

The classification in this FURF variable contains 26 categories.

Several changes were made to the religion classification for the 1986 Census:

- (a) virtually all denominations coded to 'Armenian Apostolic' in the 1981 Census were coded to the new category 'Oriental Christian' in 1986;
- (b) the 1981 categories 'Catholic - Roman' and 'Catholic - Not Roman' were combined to form the 1986 category 'Catholic';
- (c) all denominations coded to 'Methodist' in the 1981 Census were coded to 'Uniting Church' in 1986;
- (d) the category 'Hindu' was introduced; and
- (e) a new category 'Non-theistic' was introduced. This category includes such responses as humanist, materialist, rationalist and secularist.



The option not to answer the question on religion is provided for in census legislation; this question is the only one which it was not compulsory for any person to answer. Data on religion are used for such purposes as planning educational facilities, aged persons' care and other social services provided by religion based organisations, the location of church buildings, the assigning of chaplains to hospitals, prisons, armed services and universities, the allocation of time on public radio and other media, and general sociological research.

RENT PAYMENTS WEEKLY

See NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC).

RESIDENCE

See HOUSEHOLD, DWELLING, PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA (PER) and USUAL RESIDENCE.

RESIDENT (AUSTRALIAN) OR VISITOR TO AUSTRALIA

See USUAL RESIDENCE.

RESPONDENT ERROR

See ERROR.

ROOMS IN OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, TOTAL

Details of the number of each type of room in a dwelling are requested on the census form.

In the 1981 and earlier censuses, number of bedrooms and total number of rooms were recorded. For the 1986 census only number of bedrooms has been recorded.

This change was made following an examination of ways in which census costs could be reduced without a major effect on the usefulness of output. Number of bedrooms was seen as a significantly more useful measure than total number of rooms; given the high cost of determining and recording total number of rooms, retention of both measures was not justifiable in the prevailing circumstances.

See BEDROOMS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS - NUMBER OF (BED).

ROW OR TERRACE HOUSE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

RURAL BALANCE

This is a category of the geographic classification called SECTION OF STATE.

The rural balance of an area is an aggregation of all the collection districts in that area that are not classified as major urban, other urban or (rural) locality.

See URBAN CENTRE and LOCALITY (RURAL).

RURAL LOCALITY

See LOCALITY (RURAL).

## SAMPLE FILES

Sample files are available on magnetic tape and contain census data for samples of unidentified households and persons.

The ABS is precluded by the legislation under which it operates from disclosing information in a manner that is likely to enable the identification of individual persons. The sample unit record files accordingly do not contain the full range of information from the unit record file, and in particular provide only minimal information on geographic location.

Sample files are released in accordance with a ministerial determination made under the Census and Statistics Act 1905. Users are required to give a signed undertaking to use the data for statistical purposes only. The files may not be copied or passed to other users.

Subject to the limitations of sample size and geographic identification it is possible for users to produce from these sample files their own cross-classified outputs of characteristics relating to persons, households and families collected in the census. Users have the freedom to manipulate the data, produce tabulations, and undertake other statistical analyses to their own specifications. Users must provide their own software to perform tabulations and analysis.

Sample files will be of most use to users who are doing research that does not require the identification of small geographic areas or detailed cross-tabulations for small populations. Any statistics produced from the sample files will be subject to sampling error. This means, for example, that any estimates of Australian totals produced from the sample files will be unlikely to correspond exactly with the published census figures for the same characteristic. Information on sampling error is contained in the information paper Census 86 - Samples Files on Magnetic Tape (2184.0).

Each dispatch of a sample file on magnetic tape will be accompanied by a technical information paper which explains the file and record structures, and lists descriptions for the codes which appear on the sample file. However, magnetic tape files containing descriptions of the codes are also available for each sample file.

For information on cost, how to order etc, see the information paper Census 86 - Sample Files on Magnetic Tape (2184.0).

SCHEDULE

See HOUSEHOLD FORM and PERSONAL FORM.

SCHOOL

See EDUCATION, AGE LEFT SCHOOL (ALS), and EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP).

SECONDARY FAMILY

More than one family may be present in a household on census night. The family from which the most detailed information is available is classified as the PRIMARY FAMILY. All other families are designated as secondary families. A maximum of three secondary families may be included in a household.

While extended family relationships, where they exist, are identified within a primary family unit (i.e. aunt, brother-in-law, cousin etc), a secondary family can only consist of a couple, a couple with dependent family children, or a lone parent with dependent family children. Relationships between families in a household are not coded.

See FAMILY.

SECTION OF STATESCS

Within a State or Territory, each section of State represents either an aggregation of non-contiguous geographic areas of a particular urban type, or the rural balance (constituting another section of State). The sections of State within each State and Territory are the following:

- . Major Urban - all urban centres with a population of 100,000 and over;
- . Other Urban - all urban centres with a population of 1,000 to 99,999, and known holiday resorts of less population if they contain 250 or more dwellings, of which at least 100 are occupied on census night;
- . Locality - all population clusters of 200 to 999 persons;

- . Rural Balance - the rural remainder of the State/Territory; and
- . Off-Shore and Migratory - persons who were enumerated on off-shore oil rigs, drilling platforms and the like, aboard ship in Australian waters, or on an overnight journey by train or bus. There is one such category for each State and the Northern Territory.

The above section of State categories can be used in conjunction with other COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) based ASGC geographic areas to show section of State components within, say, statistical subdivisions or statistical divisions.

#### SELF EMPLOYED PERSON

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

#### SELF ENUMERATION

Self enumeration is the term commonly used to describe the way in which the Australian population census data are collected. The census household and personal forms are generally completed by the householders (or individuals, in non-private dwellings) rather than by census collectors asking questions in an interview. Some householders have problems completing the forms; in these cases collectors, the telephone enquiry service and the telephone interpreter service are available to provide assistance.

Self enumeration has some deficiencies in terms of the reliability of the information collected. For example, there is little control over the types of answers given, and a higher probability that questions will be misunderstood than if an interview method was used. However, self enumeration does avoid interviewer bias and is considered to be the most cost efficient method (in terms of available resources) of collecting information from the very large number of respondents involved in the census.

#### SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

SEPARATE HOUSE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

SEWAGE, DISPOSAL - METHOD OF

The 1976 Census included a question on the method of sewage disposal of a dwelling. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on the method of sewage disposal is not collected in other ABS collections.

SEXSEX

This is a FURF variable in which the sex of each person is recorded. For most personal characteristics sex is virtually an automatic choice as a cross-classifier. For demographic studies sex differentiation is essential.

The variable SEX is used for cross editing or definitional purposes. For example, if the sex of a person is 'male', then the fields total ISSUE and total living issue are 'not applicable'. A married or de facto couple must be of opposite sexes.

SHIPS IN OR BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN PORTS

See MIGRATORY.

SLA

See STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA.

SMALL AREA DATA

In census applications, this term generally relates to data obtained from the census small area data bases. Since the data on these data bases may be aggregated up to an area of any size, references to larger areas may be found under the heading of 'small area data'.

Small area data from the 1986 Census are to be released on two different conceptual bases: CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION; and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE. Outputs on the basis of place of enumeration are available for COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) or aggregations of CDs. Outputs on the basis of place of usual residence are only available for individual or aggregated STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS (SLAs) and contain fewer tables since dwelling and family data cannot be provided on this basis.

Four standard output formats are available on each conceptual basis: 1, 2, 7 and 21 page formats for place of enumeration; and the equivalent 1, 2, 5 and 12 page formats for place of usual residence. For details on the data contained in each format, see Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables (2175.0) or Census 86 - Special Data Services (2181.0).

Most standard outputs are provided on both microfiche and magnetic tape for standard geographic areas. For reasons of confidentiality the size of the geographic level will influence the format available, e.g. the 21 page format will be restricted to areas containing 1,000 or more persons.

For more information on small area data available on magnetic tape see the information paper Census 86 - Standard Tables on Magnetic Tape (2186.0). For microfiche, see the information paper Census 86 - Microfiche (2185.0).

The ABS offers an ad hoc inquiry service on the small area data base and can provide output on a place of enumeration basis for any area defined in terms of CDs. Statistics on a usual residence basis can only be provided for areas defined by SLAs. Examples of areas which users may require are school catchment areas, or an area consisting of all CDs within a given radius of a geographic reference. Reference to census maps showing CD or SLA boundaries will generally be necessary for defining ad hoc areas. For more information on this service see the information paper Census 86 - Special Data Services (2181.0).

#### SOCIAL ATLAS

As for the 1981 Census, a series of social atlases will be published for the 1986 Census. These publications will be published separately for each capital city and will provide informative and interesting social profiles. A broad selection of graphically represented data will be supported by considerable written text.

### SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

See BENEFITS.

### SPECIAL COLLECTOR

Special collectors were recruited for the enumeration of residents of large NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS (NPDs). Large NPDs are those which were expected to contain 30 or more residents on census night. Usually the special collector was either the person in charge of the particular NPD or someone on the staff. The special collector may have been, however, recruited from outside the NPD.

Although CARAVAN parks are no longer classified as NPDs, special enumeration procedures were required for the distribution and collection of census forms in them. For small caravan parks (those containing fewer than 30 occupied caravans), this was generally the task of the manager or person in charge. For larger caravan parks, a special collector other than the manager may have been recruited.

The census collector for the collection district in which an NPD is located, delivered the materials required to the special collector and collected them again after census night.

Special collectors were trained by the GROUP LEADER.

### SPECIAL DATA SERVICES

The ABS offers a range of special data services, and maintains a list of commercial organisations who also offer census data services. The most used ABS service is the SMALL AREA inquiry service. Special data services are charged for although government bodies generally, and some other organisations, are entitled to free services.

For more information see the information paper Census 86 - Special Data Services (2181.0).



SPOUSE

For census purposes a spouse is a partner in a marriage or defacto relationship. A spouse must be 15 years of age or over. A married or de facto couple must be of opposite sexes. In output couples are identified as 'male' and 'female' and not 'reference person' and 'spouse'.

See MARRIED/DE FACTO COUPLE (MDC), LOCATION OF SPOUSE/PARTNER (SPL), RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF).

STANDARD ERROR

See ERROR.

STATE ELECTORAL DIVISION

Census data are available for State electoral divisions and the Queensland equivalent - State electoral districts. Data are produced for State electoral divisions by aggregating COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) within each division. In some cases electoral division boundaries pass through CDs. In these instances data for each of these CDs are included in the electoral division which contains the majority of the population of that CD. Data for electoral divisions/districts so affected therefore contain some approximation.

Note that for most States the only census counts available for these areas are on the basis of place of enumeration. See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE.

For a list of State electoral divisions please contact the relevant ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE

See USUAL RESIDENCE.

### STATISTICAL DISTRICT

A statistical district is an area defined in the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION which consists of one or more STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS and represents a large urban area of Australia outside State capital city STATISTICAL DIVISIONS. Because of their nature, statistical districts can and, in some cases, do straddle statistical division and State/Territory boundaries. An example is the 'Gold Coast-Tweed' statistical district which encompasses an urban area which lies partly in the State of Queensland and partly in the State of New South Wales.

For a list of statistical districts, and the statistical subdivisions that comprise them, refer to the publication Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List. For maps showing these areas please contact the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

### STATISTICAL DIVISION

STD

Statistical divisions are areas defined in the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION which consist of one or more STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are used as large, general purpose regional type geographic areas.

For more information and a list of the statistical divisions in each State, refer to the publication Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0). For maps showing these areas please contact the ABS Office nearest to you (see Appendix C).

### STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA

SLA

These are areas defined in the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION which consist of one or more COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs) and are based on legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (i.e. legal LGA), or equivalent geographic areas. They cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

For a list of statistical local areas in alphabetical order within each State see Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0) (also available on magnetic tape). For maps of these areas please contact the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

### STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

A series of statistical publications containing a wide range of statistical data will be produced for the 1986 Census. The publications are designed to provide a handy reference source for the most commonly requested data for standard ABS and census geographic areas.

A list of the statistical publications proposed for release from the 1986 Census can be found in the Census 86 - Data Release Plans (2173.0).

### STATISTICAL REGION

Statistical regions are areas defined in the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION which consist of one or more STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They were designed primarily as geographic areas containing sufficient population to be suitable for the presentation of both population census and labour force statistics within the frameworks for standard statistical outputs from these collections. The smallest region, in terms of population, is the Northern Territory which is expected to have a population of around 147,000 at the time of the 1986 Census.

For a list of statistical regions see the publication Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0).

### STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION

SSD

Statistical subdivisions are areas defined in the AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION which consist of one or more STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are used as an intermediate level, general purpose regional type geographic area.

For a list of statistical subdivisions, see the publication Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0). For maps showing these areas, please contact the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

STATUS OF WORKER

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

STEPCHILD

See DEPENDENT FAMILY CHILD.

STRUCTURE OF DWELLINGSTR

This FURF variable records the type of DWELLING structure of all PRIVATE DWELLINGS, and caravans etc in caravan parks.

This variable is the same as that used in 1981 except that 'caravan etc in a caravan park' has been added. Previously, each caravan park was included as a NON-PRIVATE DWELLING, for which structure is not collected. This change will affect comparisons between censuses of some dwelling, family and person items. See the entry for CARAVAN for further details.

The data are used to monitor changes in housing characteristics, to help formulate housing policies and to review existing housing stock.

Refer to HOUSEHOLD for more information about the household, dwelling and structure concepts.

Definitions of categories

## (a) Separate house

A separate house is a single structure, usually separated by open space from others. However, included in this category are granny flats, either attached to the house or in a converted garage.

## (b) Semi-detached house

A semi-detached house is one of two houses joined together, single or multi-storey, usually separated by open space from other dwellings. This category is for the older style of semi-detached house.

(c) Row or terrace house

A row or terrace house is one of three or more houses joined together in a row (single or multi-storey). This category is for the older style of row or terrace house.

(d) Medium density housing

This category includes all medium density housing developments - villa homes, town houses, blocks of flats or home units up to and including three storeys high. Also includes any separate houses, semi-detached houses and row or terrace houses converted into two or more flats.

(e) Flats over three storeys

These are flats or home units in a block over three storeys high.

(f) Caravan, tent etc in a caravan park

This category comprises occupied caravans, tents etc in caravan parks and occupied small craft in marinas.

For details, see CARAVAN.

(g) Other caravan, houseboat, etc

This category comprises:

- . mobile units occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis and not in caravan parks; and
- . houseboats and other occupied small craft not in marinas.

(h) Improvised home

This category includes sheds, tents etc occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis and not in caravan parks.

(i) House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc

A house or flat attached to a shop, office, factory or any other non-residential structure is included in this category.

The following fields only apply to private dwellings (i.e. to all of the above structure categories except caravan etc in caravan park):

MORTGAGE PAYMENTS, TOTAL MONTHLY (ALM)  
BEDROOMS IN PRIVATE DWELLING, NUMBER OF (BED)  
FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED (FUF)  
LANDLORD (LLD)  
NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC)  
REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED (RUN).

#### STUDENT

#### STU

This is a FURF variable in which each person was classified according to whether they were a full-time or part-time student, attending an educational institution.

A question enabling the identification of the student population has been included in all Australian censuses. The 1981 Census was the first to separate the full-time and part-time student populations. The 1986 Census question also asked persons who were full-time or part-time students to state the type of institution they were attending. See EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING, TYPE OF (TYP).

STU and AGE are used to classify dependent family children and adult family children in the field RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (RLF). If a person was recorded as 'not attending', then she/he must have left school, or never attended, as indicated by the field AGE LEFT SCHOOL (ALS).

The information on students recorded by this field, and other education fields, is used for analysis of the participation of various population groups in different levels of education.

For a list of related topics see EDUCATION.

#### SUBDIVISION

For information on this topic see CENSUS SUBDIVISION or STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION.

SUBMISSION SCHEME

See TOPIC SUBMISSION SCHEME.

TEMPORARILY ABSENT

See HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT and FAMILY COMPOSITION (FMC).

TENURE

See NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC), LANDLORD (LLD) or FURNISHED/ UNFURNISHED (FUF).

TERRACE HOUSE

See STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

TESTING OF QUESTIONS

An important part of census topic selection involves pilot testing of proposed census questions. Questions are devised on topics which are considered suitable for inclusion in the census and extensively tested to determine whether useful data on the topic can be obtained.

Pilot testing is also used in determining the census form layout and design. This includes question wording and positioning of questions on the census form, as well as instructions to assist the householder in completing the form.

In addition, topic tests are used for procedural trials of the field and INPUT PROCESSING operations.

TOPIC SUBMISSION SCHEME

Approval was received from Parliament in November 1982 to proceed with the development of the 1986 Census of Population and Housing, on the understanding that the number of questions on the census form would be no greater than the 1981 Census.

After government approval was obtained, all known users of population census data were invited to make submissions on topics to be included in or excluded from the 1986 Census.

Advertisements were also placed in major newspapers inviting the public to make submissions.



Federal Ministers, State Premiers and the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory were also invited to make submissions.

It is of critical importance to have public cooperation when conducting a census, and an open assessment of topics submitted by users and the public, supported by objective field tests, is considered to be the best method of developing a census form which is widely accepted by the public.

An information paper was issued with the topic submission forms which explained the objectives of the 1986 Census, and gave an outline of the criteria used by the ABS to evaluate topics submitted. Some basic topics were considered to have a strong and continuing justification for inclusion, and users were asked to confirm their need for these copies by placing a tick against them on the submission form. For any required topic which was not listed, users were asked to justify its inclusion. About 3,000 topic requests were received, comprising more than 2,000 tick-box requests for the basic topics and about 900 individual requests for more than 100 additional topics. Most requirements were for a repeat of topics from the 1981 Census with some improvements or modifications to meet extra needs.

Information on the topics requested, the justifications provided, and ABS recommendations are given in the information paper Preliminary ABS Views on the Content of the 1986 Census (2171.0), which is available from the nearest ABS Office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers).

In response to the pressure of demand over a long period for a better measure of ethnicity from the census, the 1986 Population Census Ethnicity Committee was formed to establish requirements for data on ethnicity, and to make recommendations on how such data could be obtained from the census. Following widespread publicity of the Committee's role, a large number of submissions was received from community groups, government bodies and individuals.

The Population Census Ethnicity Committee considered all written submissions received and held discussions with potential users of ethnicity data.

A statement of the Committee's role, and its recommendations is given in the information paper The Measurement of Ethnicity in the Australian Census of Population and Housing (2172.0).

See ANCESTRY.

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

See ABORIGINAL ORIGIN (ABL).

TOURISTS

See USUAL RESIDENCE and VISITOR TO AUSTRALIA.

TOWNHOUSE

Townhouses are classified as medium density housing in the variable STRUCTURE OF DWELLING (STR).

TRANSPORT

See METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT) and MOTOR VEHICLES, NUMBER OF (VEH).

TRAVEL TO WORK

See METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT) and JOURNEY TO WORK.

UNDERCOUNTING/UNDERENUMERATION

During the course of the census enumeration some people and dwellings would not have been counted. The term attached to this is underenumeration, or undercount.

Although every effort was made by census collectors to make contact when delivering the census form to each dwelling, sometimes this was not possible. Some of the dwellings where no contact was made may have had 'granny flats' attached or have had people housed in converted garages or in caravans. These additional dwellings may have been excluded from the census. Also, flats above shops in metropolitan areas may have contained people, but the census collector may not have been able to identify these flats as such. In all cases where dwellings and the persons residing in them were not counted, a census undercount resulted.

Similarly, some people travelling on census night, camping out or staying away from their usual place of residence may not have completed, or been included on, a census form.

See ERROR and POST ENUMERATION SURVEY.

UNEMPLOYED

Persons who satisfy the following criteria are considered for census purposes as unemployed:

- . they are looking for full-time or part-time employment; and
- . they were not employed and did not work in the week prior to census night.

The FURF variable used to classify the unemployed is LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS). Employed persons and unemployed persons together constitute the labour force.

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

UNOCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLING

See DWELLING or REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED (RUN).

UNPAID HELPERS

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

URBAN CENTRE

An urban centre consists of one or more adjoining whole CDs with urban characteristics and representing a population cluster of 1,000 or more people (including some known holiday resorts of smaller size.) Because of their nature, urban centres sometimes straddle STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA, legal LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION and other AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION (ASGC) area boundaries.

For a list of urban centres, refer to the publication Census 86 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification: Geographic Code List (2188.0).

See SECTION OF STATE.

USUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT

See HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TEMPORARILY ABSENT.

USUAL RESIDENCE

Usual residence data provide reliable, up-to-date information on the usually resident population of an area, and on the internal migration patterns at the Australia, State, regional and local government levels. The data are also used by the ABS in calculations of the ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION.

The 1986 Census form contained three questions on usual residence.

Question 6 on the census form asked used where each person usually lived and questions 7 and 8 asked for each person's usual residence one and five years ago, respectively.

Usual residence was defined in the notes pertaining to question 6 as '...that address at which a person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more in 1986'. In the 1981 Census question the period was referred to as '...6 months or more in 1981'. The wording was changed so that, say, if a person spent several periods of time, totalling six months or more, at a particular address, rather than a single six month period, that address was given as the person's place of usual residence.

Boarders at school or college were specifically asked to record the school or college as their usual residence. This instruction was not given in earlier census forms, and often these persons incorrectly reported their family home as their place of usual residence.

The questions on usual residence have provision for tick-box answers, which simplify response when two or more of the usual residence addresses (currently, and 1 and 5 years ago) are the same. These tick-box responses, illustrated in the table below, are recorded in the FURF variable INTERNAL MIGRATION INDICATOR (IMI).

Tick box	Usual residence		
	Current (Q.6)	1 year ago (Q.7)	5 years ago (Q.8)
At address on front of form	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Same as in Q6		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Same as in Q7			<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere (give address)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use of IMI, in conjunction with the other FURF variables relating to usual residence listed below, makes it possible to identify the pattern of gross movement of persons between the three dates.

Addresses provided in answer to these three questions were coded to STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA).

The following FURF variables, concerning usual residence at particular times, are available.

- . State/Territory of usual residence, or overseas, in 1986 (see above) (RSC);
- . SLA of usual residence in 1986 (see above) (RLC);
- . State/Territory of usual residence, or overseas, on 30 June 1985 (RSO);
- . SLA of usual residence on 30 June 1985 (RLO);
- . State/Territory of usual residence, or overseas, on 30 June 1981 (RSV); and
- . SLA of usual residence on 30 June 1981 (RLV).

If usual residence was in Australia, respondents were asked to state their residential address, postcode, and the name of the local council. If usual residence was overseas, respondents were asked to indicate this by writing 'OS' in the relevant section of the census form. Names of countries of usual residence were not sought.

Persons who were usual residents of the dwelling in which they were enumerated at the 1986 Census were not required to repeat the address given on the cover of the census form. The State and SLA codes appropriate to the census COLLECTION DISTRICT (CD) in which persons were enumerated were automatically allocated.

Persons who on census night 1986 were on board vessels in or between Australian ports (or on long distance trains, buses or aircraft), and who gave an address in Australia as their usual residence, were coded to the SLA containing that address. A small number of persons who were on board vessels in or between Australian ports, or on long distance trains, buses or aircraft, who indicated that they were usually resident at the address at which they were enumerated, were allocated a separate usual residence code describing them as 'migratory'. Similar responses to questions 7 and 8 were interpreted, however, as 'not stated' responses.

Most respondents who were enumerated at a place other than their usual residence provided a codable local council name in their usual address. In cases where a local council name was not codable or not given, the suburb name, town, postcode or other locality information (if any) provided in answer to the question was used in referring to the Localities INDEX. This index includes all suburbs, towns and other locality names, for all States and Territories, and corresponding SLA codes. Some large non-private dwellings are also included in the index to assist in coding when the usual residence was given as a dwelling of this kind. For some localities which are located in two or more SLAs, the index includes an alphabetic directory of street names, indicating to which area they belong.

If the information for children was inadequate for allocating an SLA CODE of usual residence, they were given the same code as their mother or father. Similarly, spouses were given the code determined for their partner. If no adequate response was given for current usual residence the person was allocated the code appropriate to their SLA of enumeration. If no adequate response was given for usual residence one or five years ago, a 'not stated' code was allocated..

The code numbers given to SLAs are listed in the Australian Standard Geographic Classification - Geographic Code List (2188.0) (also available on magnetic tape). The data on the magnetic tape can be used in conjunction with SLA statistical data on magnetic tape to produce tabulations for SLAs.

Where the question on current usual residence was not answered, this fact is registered in IMI, but for general tabulation purposes it was assumed that the person was enumerated at his/her place of usual residence, so the SLA of usual residence would be the same as the SLA of enumeration. Not stated responses to questions 7 and 8 are reflected in IMI and SLA of usual residence, one and five years ago.

There are, however, some limitations with usual residence statistics. Note that while it is quite appropriate to tabulate persons (and their personal characteristics) at their SLAs of usual residence, it is not possible to tabulate dwelling, household and family characteristics.

See also CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE

VEHICLES

See MOTOR VEHICLES, NUMBER OF (VEH).

VISITOR TO AUSTRALIA

Information on this topic can be derived from the FURF variable State of usual residence, census night (RSC), which has a category 'overseas'. The country of usual residence is not asked.

The census was conducted on an actual location basis and included all visitors to Australia who were in Australia on census night. These visitors are excluded from census tabulations which are based on place of usual residence and the ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, but, unless explicitly excluded, are included in census tabulations based on place of enumeration.

See CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF ENUMERATION and CENSUS COUNT - PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE.



WAGE OR SALARY EARNER

See LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

WATER - SOURCE OF SUPPLY

The 1976 Census included a question on the source of water supply for a dwelling. This information was not sought in 1981 or 1986.

Information on the source of water supply for dwellings is collected periodically in other surveys conducted by the ABS.

WEEKLY RENT

See NATURE OF OCCUPANCY (NOC).

WORK DESTINATIONDZN

Destination zones are geographic areas designed to divide JOURNEY TO WORK study areas into zones appropriate for research into journey to work patterns. They refer to the 'destinations' of journeys to work, i.e. to people's locations of work. Destination zones are designed by local transport authorities, and can be small in area, such as in inner city areas, or relatively large in outer suburbs. They do not cross STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA) boundaries, but there may be several within one SLA. They do not necessarily correspond to COLLECTION DISTRICTS (CDs). See METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK.

Clerical processing of journey to work information involved allocating a destination zone (DZN) code to each employed person who was enumerated at his or her usual residence in each study area. The majority of DZN codes were obtained by matching business/employer names and locations reported on census forms with entries on an ABS register of such names. The register contains predetermined codes for industry and DZN. Where a work location reported on a census form could not be found in this index, locality and street indexes, and DZN maps were used to determine DZN.

The criteria used to determine destination zones differ between study areas and, in some cases, change between censuses. Comparisons between study areas and between censuses should be undertaken with caution.

Destination zone coding makes it possible to produce DAYTIME WORKING POPULATIONS and, in conjunction with address of usual residence, to provide information on JOURNEY TO WORK. See also METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT).

#### WORKFORCE

This term is not used in ABS statistics. For information on the field of interest implied by the term, see LABOUR FORCE STATUS (LFS).

#### WORKPLACE

See WORK DESTINATION, METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK (TPT), HOURS WORKED (HRS), JOURNEY TO WORK, INDUSTRY (IND) and DAYTIME WORKING POPULATION.

YEAR FIRST MARRIEDYFM

The 1986 Census question asked all persons who had ever been married to state the year in which they were first married.

~~Tabulations produced for both males and females provide~~ information for family and demographic studies.

In 1981 a related question was asked to obtain length of current marriage of all married persons, but was coded and processed only for females.

The main use of these data, which are sought from all persons aged 15 years and over who have ever been married, is for the analysis of family formation, including marriage and fertility. The question on year first married asked in 1986 reflects this use, as it was designed to be an indicator of the timing of family formation and the period of time for which a woman is of childbearing age.

YEAR HIGHEST QUALIFICATION OBTAINEDYOQ

This FURF variable records the year in which the highest qualification since leaving school was obtained.

YOQ is cross-edited with QUALIFICATION (QAL) and AGE to ensure that it is only applied to persons who report a qualification, and that persons are not shown as having obtained a qualification before they were 15 years of age.

YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA

See PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA (PER).

YEAR OF BIRTH

See AGE.

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ZONE - DESTINATION, ORIGIN

See JOURNEY TO WORK.