# OLDER PEOPLE IN VICTORIA 

R.A. CROCKETT

Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

## FOREWORD

It is my pleasure, as Minister for the Aged in Victoria, to introduce this special ABS publication.
The ageing of the Australian population is now a widely recognized social phenomenon. A number of changes in the demographic patterns have caused it - particularly the passage of the post war "baby boom" generation through the population, and the increase in longevity brought about by health and medical technology. More Victorians are living longer, and there are higher numbers of people entering middle and older age.

Even more striking is the rise in the number of people who can expect to reach their eighties and nineties. The number of those aged 80 -plus is expected to double in the next 25 years.

I believe that Australian society can only benefit from this maturing of the population. But we need to be able to plan ahead - and we need the factual data to make this possible.

As with any other group in our society, older people have come from many different countries, carry vastly different life and cultural experiences, have very different views about retirement and ageing, and vary widely in their income, housing and health.

This publication, prepared by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in conjunction with Victoria's Older Persons Planning Office, is a useful consolidation of data from the 1986 Census. It is the most comprehensive profile of older Victorians available and as such it should prove invaluable to individuals and organisations interested in the future of our State.

## Manceen Larder.

## MAUREEN LISTER MINISTER FOR THE AGED

## MAIL INQUIRIES

## ELECTRONIC SERVICES

The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures or elsewhere in tables mean

| .. | not applicable |
| :--- | :--- |
| - | nil or rounded to zero |
| n.a. | not available |
| p | preliminary |

. about these statistics and other ABS services - contact Information Services (Social Statistics) on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; for advice on the interpretation of these statistics ask for Boris Ignatievsky.

- write to Information Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne 3001
. on VIATEL - key *656\#.
. on AUSSTATS - phone (03) 6157839.
. on TELESTATS - phone (03) 6157842.


## CONTENTS

Table Page
Foreword ..... iii
Preface ..... ix
Older People in Victoria, 30 June 1986: Summary Indicators ..... x
Chapter 1 - Demographic features of the older population
1.1 Census counts by sex, Victoria, 1901-1986 ..... 1
1.2 Population projections by sex, Victoria, 1991-2031 ..... 1
1.3 People aged 55 years or over: life expectancy by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1976 and 30 June 1986 ..... 2
1.4 Population by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1976 and 30 June 1986 ..... 4
1.5 Age distribution of people aged 55 years or over, Victoria, 1901-2021 ..... 6
1.6 People aged 55 years or over: age by marital status by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 7
1.7 Women: marital status and age by number of living offspring, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 8
1.8 Older people: birthplace by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 10
1.9 People born overseas: birthplace by period of residence, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 11
1.10 All people: whether Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 12
1.11 All people: religious affiliation by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 13
Chart
1.1 Older people as a proportion of all people, Victoria, Censuses 1901 to 1986, and projections 1991 to 2031 ..... 2
1.2 People aged 55 years or over: life expectancy by age by sex, Victoria, 1976 and 1986 ..... 2
1.3 Older people: number of men per 100 women, Victoria, Censuses 1901 to 1986, and projections 1991 to 2031 ..... 3
1.4 All people: age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1976 and 30 June 1986 ..... 5
1.5 Proportion of older people by age, Victoria, 30 June 1976 and 30 June 1986 ..... 5
1.6 People aged 55 years or over: percentage widowed by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 6
1.7 Older people: selected birthplaces by number of men per 100 women, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 9
1.8 Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders: proportion that are older people, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 12
1.9 Percentage distribution of religious affiliation, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 14
Chapter 2 - Income, labour force and education
Table
2.1 People aged 15 years or over: annual income by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 15
2.2 Older people in receipt of Commonwealth Social Security pension: type of pension received by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 16
2.3 People aged 55 years or over: annual income by labour force status by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 18
2.4 People aged 55 years or over: age by participation in the labour force by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1976 and 30 June 1986 ..... 19
2.5 Employed people aged 15 years or over: occupation by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 20
2.6 Employed people aged 15 years or over: number of hours worked by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 22
2.7 Employed people aged 55 years or over: occupation by highest post-school qualification by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 23
2.8 People aged 15 years or over: highest post-school qualification by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 24
Chart
2.1 People aged 55 years or over: median income by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 16
2.2 Older people: percentage receiving Commonwealth Social Security pension by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 17
2.3 People aged 55 years or over: labour force participation rates by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 19
2.4 Employed people aged 15 years or over: occupation by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 21
Chart Page
2.5 Employed older people: number of hours worked by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 22
2.6 Proportion of people who were employed, by highest post-school qualification, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 24
Chapter 3-Housing and household composition, incidence of disability, and location
Table
3.1 Older people: type of dwelling by age of person, Victoria, 30 June 198625
3.2 Households with older people in private dwellings: number of people in household by number of bedrooms by number of older people, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 26
3.3 Older people in private dwellings: relationship in family by nature of occupancy by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 27
3.4 Older people in non-private dwellings: type of non-private dwelling by age by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 28
3.5 Older people in private dwellings who spoke a language other than English at home: relationship in family by proficiency in English by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 30
3.6 Older people who spoke a language other than English at home: proficiency in English by language spoken at home by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 32
3.7 All people: age by whether disabled or also handicapped, by severity of total handicap, Victoria, 1981 and 1988p ..... 33
3.8 Disabled people: age by type of residence by living arrangement by sex, Victoria, 1988p ..... 34
3.9 People aged 55 years or over: age by State or Territory of enumeration, and Australia, by sex, 30 June 1986 ..... 35
3.10 All people: section of state, by sex, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 36
3.11 Statistical Local Areas with the highest concentrations of older people, Melbourne Statistical Division, 30 June 1986 ..... 36
3.12 Statistical Local Areas with the highest concentrations of older people, Rest of Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 37
3.13 People aged 5 years or over: age by internal migration 1981-1986, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 38
3.14 Older people: marital status by internal migration 1981-1986, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 38
Chart3.1 Older people: proportion living in non-private dwellings by age, Victoria, 30 June 198625
3.2 Older people in private dwellings: relationship in family by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 28
3.3 Older people in non-private dwellings: selected type of non-private dwelling by age by sex, Victoria, 1986 ..... 29
3.4 Older people in private dwellings: proficiency in English by age, Victoria, 30 June 1986 ..... 31
3.5 Proportion of people who were aged 60 years or over by State or Territory of enumeration, 30 June 1986 ..... 35
Glossary ..... 39
Technical notes ..... 42
Maps

## PREFACE

This publication presents an overview of the social, demographic and economic characteristics of older people in Victoria, as revealed by Australia's eleventh national Census of Population and Housing taken on 30 June 1986. Data collected in the Census and from other statistical sources have been used to establish a profile of older people in Victoria in order to assist in understanding the nature of the older population and to facilitate planning for their good health, welfare and security.

For the purpose of this report, older people are defined as being 60 or more years of age on Census night. To assist in gauging the circumstances of older people, information has been provided for the 55 to 59 age group (the 'future older people') together with comparisons with the general population. Information from previous Censuses and population projections have been included to provide time comparisons.

Contributions from the Victorian Government's Older Persons Planning Office with advice concerning the content of the report and sharing the publishing costs are gratefully acknowledged.

This report was produced in the Social Development Section of the Victorian Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, with the main contributors being Beth Crisp, Neil McLean, Wendy Stackpole and Robert Destradi.

The assistance of other organisations who provided data and advice on early drafts of the publication are also gratefully acknowledged.

R. A. Crockett<br>Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

November 1989

OLDER PEOPLE IN VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986 : SUMMARY INDICATORS ( $a$ )

| Summary characteristics | Age group |  |  |  |  | Total aged 60 or over | Men aged 60 years or over | Total population |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 60-64 | 65.74 | 75-79 |  | 80 or over |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | ('000) |  |  |  | per cent | ('000) |
| Number of older people, 1986 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Victoria | 178.0 | 254.0 | 83.2 |  | 84.1 | 599.3 | 43.4 | 4,019.5 |
| Australia | 699.4 | 1,021.0 | 317.7 |  | 308.0 | 2,346.1 | 44.1 | 15,602.2 |
| Projected number of older people, 2021 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Victoria | 351.4 | 556.3 | 173.1 |  | 213.6 | 1,294.4 | 45.5 | 5,323.5 |
| Australia | 1,419.3 | 2,273.4 | 714.8 |  | 862.5 | 5,269.8 | 45.5 | 21,846.6 |
| Birthplace of older people - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Australia | 115.0 | 178.4 | 58.3 |  | 60.0 | 411.7 | 41.5 | 3,032.5 |
| Europe | 51.6 | 59.0 | 19.2 |  | 17.6 | 147.4 | 48.8 | 659.5 |
| Asia | 4.8 | 5.9 | 1.6 |  | 1.2 | 13.5 | 44.4 | 155.7 |
| Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders | 0.2 |  | - 0.3 | - |  | 0.5 | 43.5 | 12.6 |
| Marital status - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 10.9 | 16.8 | 6.7 |  | 8.1 | 42.5 | 44.2 | 899.5(b) |
| Married | 131.5 | 161.3 | 40.0 |  | 23.6 | 356.5 | 55.4 | 1,799.3 |
| Separated/divorced | 12.8 | 13.5 | 2.8 |  | 1.7 | 30.8 | 46.3 | 197.3 |
| Widowed | 22.8 | 62.3 | 33.7 |  | 50.7 | 169.5 | 17.6 | 202.8 |
| Number with post-school qualifications | 42.6 |  | 75.8 | - |  | 118.4 | 62.3 | 902.6 (b) |
| Labour force status : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Men - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employed | 38.7 | 14.3 | 2.0 |  | 1.0 | 56.0 | .. | 1,043.3 |
| Unemployed | 3.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 |  | 0.1 | 3.6 | . | 71.7 |
| Women - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employed | 13.2 | 6.5 | 0.8 |  | 0.5 | 21.0 | . | 691.9 |
| Unemployed | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 |  | 0.1 | 0.8 | .. | 58.4 |
| Median income (full \$ values) | 6,211 | 4,843 | 4,708 |  | 4,984 | 5,154 | . | 16,275 |
| Religious affiliation - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Christian | 137.5 | 198.3 | 65.9 |  | 67.3 | 469.0 | 42.0 | 2,766.2 |
| Other religions | 3.4 | 5.1 | 1.8 |  | 1.5 | 11.7 | 45.3 | 105.2 |
| No religion or non theistic | 12.2 | 14.6 | 4.1 |  | 3.2 | 34.1 | 56.4 | 559.0 |
| Type of accommodation : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Privaté dwellings - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Occupant owned/being purchased | 148.0 | 203.3 | 61.2 |  | 49.4 | 461.9 | 45.0 | 2,979.2 |
| Rented from government | 5.5 | 9.8 | 3.5 |  | 2.8 | 21.6 | 35.7 | 176.1 |
| Rented from private landlord | 11.2 | 16.1 | 5.5 |  | 4.8 | 37.6 | 41.1 | 545.9 |
| Non-private dwellings (c) - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hotel/motel or boarding house | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.5 |  | 0.8 | 4.3 | 57.7 | 26.8 |
| Hospital | 1.3 | 3.0 | 1.8 |  | 3.6 | 9.7 | 42.0 | 21.5 |
| Nursing home | 0.6 | 2.7 | 2.9 |  | 11.3 | 17.5 | 24.0 | 18.6 |
| Home for aged | 0.5 | 2.1 | 2.0 |  | 5.9 | 10.6 | 25.7 | 11.5 |
| Other | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.3 |  | 0.4 | 2.2 | 42.5 | 31.1 |
| Caravans | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.2 |  | 0.1 | 2.7 | n.a. | 17.7 |
| Number receiving Commonwealth - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Social Security pensions - | 61.3 | 168.4 | 70.7 |  | 73.2 | 373.6 | 33.4 | 535.1 |
| Veterans Affairs pensions | 32.6 | 46.1 | - | 9.0 | - | 87.7 | n.a. | 97.5 |

(a) All figures are for 1986 Census unless otherwise indicated. Some of the components will not add to the total populations as not all categories have been shown. (b) Excludes people who were under 15 years of age. (c) Excludes people in non-private dwellings who were owner/manager and family or employee and family.

## CHAPTER 1

## DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF THE OLDER POPULATION

## Population trends

Between Federation in 1901 and 1986, the population of Victoria increased three and one-third times, from 1.2 million to 4.0 million. The composition of the population also changed significantly during that time.

In 1986, there were 600,000 older people (i.e. those aged 60 years or over) and they accounted for 15 per cent of the population, almost double the 8 per cent who were aged 60 or over in 1901. Most of this increase occurred between 1921 and 1947. From 1947 to 1976 the proportion of the population who were older people remained around the 12 to 13 per cent mark. With increasing life expectancy during this period, it might have been expected that the proportion of the population who were older people would have increased rather than remain constant.

One reason for this figure remaining constant between 1947 and 1976 was the large influx of migrants (mostly of early adult age) who arrived in the country between the Second World War and the late nineteen sixties. Another reason was the 'baby boom' which occurred after the Second World War. However, by 1986 these post-war migrants were now growing older, and the arrival of new migrants had generally slowed. (Historical statistics for natural increase and net migration are published in the Victorian Year Book 1989 (1301.2) on pages 205 to 208.)

TABLE 1.1 CENSUS COUNTS(a) BY SEX, VICTORIA, 1901-1986

|  | Older people |  |  |  |  | Older people |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Year | Men <br> (number) | Women <br> (number) | Total <br> (number) | Number of men <br> per 100 women | All people <br> (number) | as a proportion <br> of all people $(\%)$ |
| 1901 | 51,801 | 43,541 | 95,342 | 119 | $1,201,341$ | 7.9 |
| 1911 | 47,301 | 48,672 | 95,973 | 97 | $1,315,551$ | 7.3 |
| 1921 | 60,904 | 65,841 | 126,745 | 93 | $1,531,280$ | 8.3 |
| 1933 | 97,316 | 110,065 | 207,381 | 88 | $1,820,261$ | 11.4 |
| 1947 | 121,010 | 148,153 | 269,163 | 82 | $2,054,701$ | 13.1 |
| 1954 | 140,058 | 178,564 | 318,622 | 78 | $2,452,341$ | 13.0 |
| 1961 | 158,645 | 208,723 | 367,368 | 76 | $2,930,113$ | 12.5 |
| 1966 | 172,809 | 227,162 | 399,971 | 76 | $3,219,526$ | 12.4 |
| 1971 | 186,390 | 244,745 | 431,135 | 76 | $3,502,351$ | 12.3 |
| 1976 | 205,225 | 270,547 | 475,772 | 76 | $3,646,973$ | 13.0 |
| 1981 | 226,482 | 299,548 | 526,030 | 76 | $3,832,443$ | 13.7 |
| 1986 | 260,258 | 339,073 | 599,332 | 77 | $4,019,478$ | 14.9 |

(a) Excludes the full-blood Aboriginal population before 1971.

Sources : 1901 to 1976 : ABS, Census publications published after these Censuses; 1981 : ABS, Census of Population and Housing (Condensed Format); 1986 : ABS, Census of Population and Housing (CSC 03)

The ABS produces a number of population projection series based on combinations of various assumptions about mortality, fertility, overseas migration and interstate migration (for details see Projections of the Population of Australia States and Territories, 1987 to 2031 (3222.0)). This chapter presents Series D which assumes low levels of fertility and migration.

Using the assumptions based on Series D , it is projected that the proportion of the population which is aged 60 or over could increase from 15 per cent in 1986 to up to 29 per cent in 2031. These projections have major implications for government spending on pensions, and health and welfare services. The projected increase of older people will also affect consumption patterns of various types of commercial goods and services, and would have many other implications for society.

TABLE 1.2 POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY SEX, VICTORIA, 1991-2031

| Year | Older people |  |  |  | All people (number) | Older people as a proportion of all people(\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men (number) | Women (number) | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Total } \\ \text { (number) } \end{array}$ | Number of men per 100 women |  |  |
| 1991 | 312,300 | 390,900 | 703,100 | 80 | 4,435,900 | 15.9 |
| 1996 | 338,400 | 415,000 | 753,300 | 82 | 4,691,700 | 16.1 |
| 2001 | 365,600 | 441,900 | 807,400 | 83 | 4,867,500 | 16.6 |
| 2011 | 465,700 | 553,800 | 1,019,300 | 84 | 5,136,300 | 19.8 |
| 2021 | 588,700 | 705,700 | 1,294,400 | 83 | 5,323,500 | 24.3 |
| 2031 | 702,700 | 861,800 | 1,564,200 | 82 | 5,410,300 | 28.9 |

[^0]

Advances in medical science and public health continue to increase the life expectancy of the Australian population. Whereas a man of 60 in 1976 could expect to live another 16 years, a man of the same age in 1986 could expect to live another 18 years. The life expectancy of a woman of 60 increased from 21 years in 1976 to 23 years in 1986. This greater life expectancy of the people, combined with birthrate reduction and decreased arrival of young migrants, gives rise to what has become known as the 'ageing of the population'.

TABLE 1.3 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: LIFE EXPECTANCY (a) BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986

| ${ }^{\text {Age }}$ (years) | Life expectancy (years) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men |  | Women |  |
|  | 1976 | 1986 | 1976 | 1986 |
| 55 | 19.75 | 22.19 | 24.98 | 27.01 |
| 60 | 16.08 | 18.24 | 20.80 | 22.66 |
| 65 | 12.81 | 14.69 | 16.88 | 18.52 |
| 70 | 9.94 | 11.57 | 13.28 | 14.76 |
| 75 | 7.54 | 8.89 | 10.04 | 11.35 |
| 80 | 5.73 | 6.63 | 7.29 | 8.38 |
| 85 | 4.39 | 4.86 | 5.33 | 5.94 |
| 90 | 3.47 | 3.49 | 4.03 | 4.12 |

(a) Average number of years of life remaining to people who had reached a specific age.

Source: ABS Life Tables
CHART 1.2 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: LIFE EXPECTANCY BY AGE BY SEX,



The imbalance between the sexes will also remain an important issue in the coming decades. In every Census taken in Victoria this century, with the exception of 1901, there have been more older women than older men. For each Census from 1961 to 1986, there have been only 76 or 77 older men for every 100 older women. Although this gap is expected to decrease slightly in the years 1991 to 2031, the number of men per 100 women is still not expected to exceed 84 during that period.

## CHART 1.3 OLDER PEOPLE: NUMBER OF MEN PER 100 WOMEN, VICTORIA, CENSUSES 1901-1986, ÁND PROJECTIONS 1991-2031



Age distribution of older people

Between 1976 and 1986, the population of Victoria increased by 373,000 . Increases in the number of people occurred in all age groups over this period except for the 0 to 4 and 5 to 14 age groups which each fell by between 7 and 8 per cent, and the 45 to 54 years age group which decreased by just over 3 per cent. Among older people, the largest increase between 1976 and 1986 occurred in the 85 or over age group which grew by 57 per cent.

Older people also increased as a proportion of the population. In 1976 they accounted for 13 per cent of the population. Ten years later, the number of older people had increased by 124,000 to 15 per cent of the population. The total increase in older people between the two censuses was 26 per cent, compared with 10 per cent increase in the total population.

In both 1976 and 1986, the number of men exceeded the number of women in all but one of the age groups under 60 years. However, women outnumbered men in each age group over 60 years. The imbalance between the sexes became greater with increasing age. The sex gap was biggest in the 85 or over age group where there were 261 women to every 100 men in 1976 and 281 women per 100 men in 1986.

TABLE 1.4 POPULATION BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986

| Age group (years) | Population (number) |  | Percentage of population |  | Percentage change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1976 | 1986 | 1976 | 1986 | 1976-1986 |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0-4 | 162,808 | 150,830 | 9.0 | 7.6 | -7.4 |
| 5-14 | 347,624 | 320,714 | 19.2 | 16.1 | -7.7 |
| 15-24 | 316,702 | 348,467 | 17.5 | 17.5 | -10.0 |
| 25-34 | 277,217 | 323,765 | 15.3 | 16.3 | +16.8 |
| 35-44 | 213,070 | 285,984 | 11.7 | 14.4 | +34.2 |
| 45-54 | 210,238 | 203,942 | 11.6 | 10.2 | -3.0 |
| 55-59 | 81,899 | 97,508 | 4.5 | 4.9 | +19.1 |
| 60-64 | 70,992 | 86,328 | 3.9 | 4.3 | +21.6 |
| 65-69 | 55,162 | 63,319 | 3.0 | 3.2 | +14.8 |
| 70-74 | 38,238 | 50,645 | 2.1 | 2.5 | +32.4 |
| 75-79 | 23,133 | 33,540 | 1.3 | 1.7 | +45.0 |
| 80-84 | 11,543 | 17,275 | 0.6 | 0.9 | +49.7 |
| 85 or over | 6,156 | 9,152 | 0.3 | 0.5 | +48.7 |
| Total | 1,814,783 | 1,991,469 | 100.0 | 100.0 | +9.7 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0-4 | 155,203 | 144,321 | 8.5 | 7.1 | -7.0 |
| 5-14 | 332,033 | 304,721 | 18.1 | 15.0 | -8.2 |
| 15-24 | 308,137 | 338,739 | 16.8 | 16.7 | +9.9 |
| 25-34 | 275,489 | 327,735 | 15.0 | 16.2 | +19.0 |
| 35-44 | 204,355 | 283,571 | 11.2 | 14.0 | +38.8 |
| 45-54 | 202,420 | 195,611 | 11.0 | 9.6 | -3.4 |
| 55-59 | 83,009 | 94,238 | 4.5 | 4.6 | +13.5 |
| 60-64 | 77,292 | 91,653 | 4.2 | 4.5 | +18.6 |
| 65-69 | 63,741 | 73,826 | 3.5 | 3.6 | +15.8 |
| 70-74 | 50,308 | 66,251 | 2.7 | 3.3 | +31.7 |
| 75-79 | 38,616 | 49,649 | 2.1 | 2.4 | +28.6 |
| 80-84 | 24,508 | 31,939 | 1.3 | 1.6 | +30.3 |
| 85 or over | 16,081 | 25,755 | 0.9 | 1.3 | +60.2 |
| Total | 1,832,191 | 2,028,009 | 100.0 | 100.0 | +10.7 |
| PEOPLE |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0-4 | 318,011 | 295,151 | 8.7 | 7.3 | -7.2 |
| 5-14 | 679,657 | 625,435 | 18.6 | 15.6 | -8.0 |
| 15-24 | 625,839 | 687,206 | 17.2 | 17.1 | +9.8 |
| 25-34 | 552,706 | 651,500 | 15.2 | 16.2 | +17.9 |
| 35-44 | 417,424 | 569,555 | 11.4 | 14.2 | +36.4 |
| 45-54 | 412,658 | 399,553 | 11.3 | 9.9 | -3.2 |
| 55-59 | 164,909 | 191,746 | 4.5 | 4.8 | +16.3 |
| 60-64 | 148,284 | 177,981 | 4.1 | 4.4 | +20.0 |
| 65-69 | 118,902 | 137,145 | 3.3 | 3.4 | +15.3 |
| 70-74 | 88,546 | 116,896 | 2.4 | 2.9 | +32.0 |
| 75-79 | 61,749 | 83,189 | 1.7 | 2.1 | +34.7 |
| 80-84 | 36,051 | 49,214 | 1.0 | 1.2 | +36.5 |
| 85 or over | 22,238 | 34,907 | 0.6 | 0.9 | +57.0 |
| Total | 3,646,973 | 4,019,478 | 100.0 | 100.0 | +10.2 |

Sources: 1976: ABS, Catalogue No. 2410.0
1986: ABS, Census of Population and Housing (CSD 07)

## CHART 1.4 ALL PEOPLE: AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA,

 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986

1986


CHART 1.5 PROPORTION OF OLDER PEOPLE BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986


Older people have not only increased in absolute numbers and as a proportion of the total population (trends that are expected to continue), but their age distribution is also shifting to the older end of the scale.

In 1901, 62 per cent of Victoria's older population were aged 60 to 69 years, but by 1986 the proportion of older people in this age group had decreased to 53 per cent. In both years, approximately 30 per cent of older people were 60 to 64 years old; however, the proportion of older people in each age group over 65 years has changed over this period. The most dramatic change has occurred in the 65 to 69 age group, which decreased its share of the older population from 31 per cent of older people in 1901 to 23 per cent in 1986. In contrast, age groups over 70 years increased their share of the older population. For example, whereas less than 2 per cent of older people in 1901 were aged 85 or over, by 1986 almost 6 per cent $(34,900)$ were in this age group. Furthermore, it is projected that almost 8 per cent of older people, or 101,700 , will be aged 85 or over in 2021.

TABLE 1.5 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER, VICTORIA, 1901-2021

| Age group (years) | 1901 | 1947 | 1986 | 2021 | 1901 | 1947 | 1986 | 2021 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |  |  |
| 55-59 | 30,508 | 111,149 | 191,746 | 377,700 | - | - | - | - |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 29,271 | 88,668 | 177,981 | 351,400 | 30.7 | 32.9 | 29.7 | 27.1 |
| 65-69 | 29,923 | 68,062 | 137,145 | 298,500 | 31.4 | 25.3 | 22.9 | 23.1 |
| 70-74 | 20,141 | 49,130 | 116,896 | 257,800 | 21.1 | 18.3 | 19.5 | 19.9 |
| 75-79 | 9,964 | 34,850 | 83,189 | 173,100 | 10.5 | 12.9 | 13.9 | 13.4 |
| 80-84 | 4,518 | 19,414 | 49,214 | 111,900 | 4.7 | 7.2 | 8.2 | 8.6 |
| 85 or over | 1,525 | 9,039 | 34,907 | 101,700 | 1.6 | 3.4 | 5.8 | 7.9 |
| Total 60 or over | 95,342 | 269,163 | 599,332 | 1,294,400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Sources: 1901 and 1947 : ABS, Census publications published after these Censuses
1986 : ABS, Census of Population and Housing (CSC03)
2021 : ABS, Projections of the Populations of Australia, States and Territories, 1987 to 2031, Series D (3222.0)

## Marital status

In 1986, over three-quarters of older men were married, compared with less than half of older women. However, older women were far more likely to be widowed than older men ( 41 per cent compared with 12 per cent). These observations reflect the greater longevity of women and their tendency to marry men older than themselves.

Among the very old (those aged 85 or over), men were as likely to be married as widowed ( 45 per cent), whereas women were almost eight times as likely to be widowed as married ( 77 per cent compared with 10 per cent).

CHART 1.6 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: PERCENTAGE WIDOWED BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


TABLE 1.6 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: AGE BY MARITAL STATUS BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Age group (years) | Marital status |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Never married | Married | Separated | Divorced | Widowed |  |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - per cent - |  |  |  |  | number |
| 55-59 | 7.9 | 81.8 | 2.4 | 5.3 | 2.5 | 97,507 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 7.4 | 81.1 | 2.2 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 86,329 |
| 65-69 | 7.2 | 79.5 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 7.4 | 63,318 |
| 70-74 | 7.1 | 76.3 | 1.9 | 3.0 | 11.7 | 50,644 |
| 75-79 | 7.0 | 71.0 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 18.2 | 33,541 |
| 80-84 | 7.3 | 60.8 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 28.9 | 17,275 |
| 85 or over | 7.5 | 44.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 45.4 | 9,151 |
| Total 60 or over | 7.2 | 75.8 | 2.0 | 3.5 | 11.5 | 260,258 |
|  | WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | - per cent |  |  | number |
| 55-59 | 4.3 | 74.7 | 2.7 | 6.1 | 12.2 | 94,238 |
| 60 or over - 6.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 4.9 | 67.2 | 2.3 | 5.1 | 20.5 | 91,653 |
| 65-69 | 5.7 | 57.4 | 2.0 | 4.0 | 30.9 | 73,827 |
| 70-74 | 6.8 | 45.3 | 1.4 | 2.9 | 43.6 | 66,251 |
| 75-79 | 8.7 | 32.7 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 55.6 | 49,649 |
| 80-84 | 10.2 | 20.0 | 0.6 | 1.5 | 67.7 | 31,939 |
| 85 or over | 11.4 | 10.1 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 77.2 | 25,754 |
| Total 60 or over | 7.0 | 46.9 | 1.5 | 3.3 | 41.2 | 339,073 |

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0001)

## Living offspring

As people age they tend to require increasing assistance with their day-to-day activities. There are many ways in which older people can receive such help. Formal assistance can be provided by government and non-government bodies, or can be paid for by older people themselves. Some receive help with household tasks from visiting family members, while others may live with their children. Older people can also provide considerable assistance to their own offspring, especially in the area of child care.

Although many older women have living children, it should not be assumed that those children will be able to assist their parents with household or daily living tasks. For a number of reasons these children may not be in a position to provide their parents with the regular assistance they may require, for example, because of geographical distance or economic circumstances.

In the 1986 Census women were asked how many living offspring they had. Almost three-quarters of women aged 60 or over reported having at least one living offspring. Although as people grow older they generally need more support from their children, the data showed that women in older age groups were less likely to report having one or more living children. In 1986, 80 per cent of women aged 60 to 64 stated they had one or more living children, compared with only 66 per cent of women aged 75 or over. This may be attributable in part to the increase, with age, in the proportion of women who did not answer this question (from 9 per cent of 60 to 64 year olds to 16 per cent of women aged 75 or over). Another factor that may have contributed is that the child-bearing years for women aged 75 or over would have been during the years of the Depression and World War II when there was serious disruption to family life.

TABLE 1.7 WOMEN: MARITAL STATUS AND AGE BY NUMBER OF LIVING OFFSPRING, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0029)

## Birthplace

In 1986, of all people in Victoria aged 60 years or over, 29 per cent were born overseas, compared with 22 per cent of people aged less than 60 years. This reflects, in part, the considerable migration intakes of the period after the Second World War.

Another factor which also reflects the migration patterns of that period is the level of imbalance of the sexes. Of the 170,000 older people born overseas, there were 93 men for every 100 women. This contrasts sharply with the equivalent rate for the Australian-born population where there were only 71 men for every 100 women. In fact, men from a number of European countries far outnumbered women (see Chart 1.7).

Nearly a quarter of European-born people in Victoria were 60 or over. The lowest proportion of older people of European birth was found amongst those from Yugoslavia ( 10 per cent), Greece ( 11 per cent) and Malta ( 12 per cent). There was a very high proportion of older people amongst those from some European countries. In 1986, 57 per cent of all people from the USSR, and almost half of all people born in Poland, were 60 years or over.

## CHART 1.7 OLDER PEOPLE: SELECTED BIRTHPLACES BY NUMBER OF MEN PER 100 WOMEN, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986



If the migration patterns are allowed to continue then the pattern for people from the USSR and Poland will change over the next 20 years. The present high proportion of older people from these two countries will not continue as they are not being replaced by recent immigrants from the two European countries.

In 1986, almost nine in every ten overseas-born older people in Victoria had been resident in Australia for 10 or more years. Almost all European-born older people had been resident in Australia 10 or more years, a reflection of the intensive European migration program of the fifties and sixties. As can be expected the 64,000 older people from the United Kingdom and Ireland make up the largest group of older people born overseas ( 37 per cent) followed by people from Italy $(25,000)$ and Poland $(12,000)$.

Recent migration trends have seen Asia emerge as an important intake area for Australia's immigrants.
Asian-born people resident in Australia are generally more recent arrivals and much younger in age. The majority of Vietnamese-born people arrived in Australia during the mid-seventies, and only 3 per cent of older Vietnamese in 1986 had been resident in Australia for 10 or more years. Of all people born in Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines or Vietnam, about half had been resident in Australia less than 5 years. Proportionally there were very few older people now resident in Australia who were born in these countries.

People born in China were an exception to the trend for Asian countries with 27 per cent of people born in that country, and now resident in Australia, being 60 years or over.

TABLE 1.8 OLDER PEOPLE: BIRTHPLACE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

|  | older people |  | older people as a proportion of all people of the same birthplace |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men | Women | Men | Women |
|  | - number - |  | - per cent - |  |
| Oceania Australia | 170,962 | 240,781 | 11.5 | 15.6 |
| New Zealand | 1,305 | 1,765 | 7.7 | 10.4 |
| Other Oceania | 141 | 225 | 4.2 | 6.3 |
| Total Oceania | 172,413 | 242,771 | 11.4 | 15.5 |
| Europe - |  |  |  |  |
| Austria | 799 | 960 | 21.6 | 30.4 |
| Germany(a) | 2,402 | 3.923 | 14.5 | 22.9 |
| Greece | 3,743 | 3,735 | 10.9 | 11.2 |
| Hungary | 1,466 | 1,405 | 31.7 | 35.9 |
| Italy | 13,087 | 11,650 | 22.6 | 22.7 |
| Malta | 1,702 | 1,596 | 11.8 | 12.6 |
| Netherlands | 3,141 | 3,055 | 20.0 | 22.4 |
| Poland | 6,349 | 5,201 | 50.2 | 43.4 |
| Yugoslavia | 3,056 | 3,022 | 9.7 | 10.9 |
| UK and Ireland | 29,379 | 34,162 | 23.4 | 27.4 |
| USSR | 4,193 | 4,395 | 56.3 | 57.1 |
| Other Europe | 2,637 | 2,306 | 17.9 | 18.1 |
| Total Europe | 71,956 | 75,424 | 21.2 | 23.5 |
| Asia - |  |  |  |  |
| China | 989 | 1,346 | 23.2 | 31.0 |
| Cyprus | 765 | 586 | 14.4 | 11.2 |
| Hong Kong and Macau | 87 | 106 | 2.7 | 3.3 |
| India | 953 | 1,256 | 13.1 | 17.2 |
| Lebanon | 383 | 379 | 6.4 | 7.1 |
| Malaysia and Brunei | 148 | 221 | 2.0 | 3.0 |
| Philippines | 143 | 309 | 5.9 | 6.3 |
| Sri Lanka | 765 | 1,066 | 12.9 | 17.5 |
| Turkey | 381 | 494 | 5.9 | 8.2 |
| Vietnam | 381 | 453 | 2.5 | 3.7 |
| Other Asia | 976 | 1,281 | 6.5 | 8.5 |
| Total Asia | 5,977 | 7,488 | 7.6 | 9.7 |
| Africa - |  |  |  |  |
| South Africa | 385 | 617 | 9.2 | 13.8 |
| Egypt | 1,108 | 1,308 | 19.1 | 23.4 |
| Mauritius | 271 | 397 | 9.0 | 12.8 |
| Other Africa | 317 | 332 | 8.8 | 10.6 |
| Total Africa | 2,074 | 2,663 | 125 | 16.3 |
| America - |  |  |  |  |
| USA | 484 | 364 | 10.9 | 8.7 |
| Canada | 207 | 255 | 11.1 | 12.7 |
| South America | 209 | 351 | 3.7 | 5.9 |
| Other America | 32 | 56 | 3.3 | 5.9 |
| Total America | 938 | 1,016 | 7.2 | 7.7 |
| Total overseas-born | 82,384 | 88,577 | 17.6 | 19.8 |
| Not stated | 6,903 | 9,718 | 19.0 | 27.5 |
| Total | 260,258 | 339,073 | 13.1 | 16.7 |

(a) Germany includes the German Democratic Republic and German Federal Republic.

Sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0001 and CX0040)

TABLE 1.9 PEOPLE BORN OVERSEAS( $a$ ): BIRTHPLACE BY PERIOD OF RESIDENCE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Birthplace | Period of residence |  |  |  |  |  | Total (b) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than 5 years |  | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \text { to } 9 \\ \text { years } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  | 10 years or over |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Older } \\ & \text { people } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { people } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { older } \\ \text { people } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { All } \\ \text { people } \end{array}$ | Older people | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { people } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { older } \\ \text { people } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{All} \\ \text { people } \end{array}$ |


| Oceania - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Zealand | 263 | 10,233 | 127 | 9,503 | 2,461 | 13,295 | 3,070 | 34,002 |
| Other Oceania | 69 | 2,008 | 14 | 1,268 | 233 | 3,279 | 366 | 6,935 |
| Total Oceania | 332 | 12,241 | 141 | 10,771 | 2,694 | 16,574 | 3,436 | 40,937 |
| Europe - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Austria | 17 | 234 | 13 | 181 | 1,679 | 6,258 | 1,759 | 6,860 |
| Germany | 112 | 2,019 | 79 | 1,268 | 5,979 | 29,511 | 6,325 | 33,668 |
| Greece | 304 | 1,543 | 199 | 1,604 | 6,651 | 62,062 | 7,478 | 67,795 |
| Hungary | 34 | 425 | 22 | 382 | 2,736 | 7,516 | 2,871 | 8,528 |
| Italy | 251 | 1,182 | 287 | 1,861 | 23,466 | 102,458 | 24,737 | 109,198 |
| Malta | 37 | 833 | 35 | 1,265 | 3,140 | 24,049 | 3,298 | 26,994 |
| Netherlands | 52 | 1,034 | 21 | 1,275 | 5,996 | 26,347 | 6,196 | 29,347 |
| Poland | 244 | 3,882 | 145 | 2,456 | 10,842 | 17,707 | 11,550 | 24,637 |
| Yugoslavia | 260 | 2,846 | 249 | 3,131 | 5,374 | 51,613 | 6,078 | 59,301 |
| UK and Ireland | 2,012 | 17,483 | 1,674 | 19,456 | 57,408 | 207,167 | 63,541 | 250,555 |
| USSR | 114 | 452 | 400 | 2,324 | 7,868 | 12,028 | 8,588 | 15,166 |
| Other Europe | 159 | 4,625 | 100 | 2,836 | 4,536 | 19,312 | 4,943 | 27,502 |
| Total Europe | 3,596 | 36,558 | 3,224 | 38,039 | 135,675 | 566,028 | 147,364 | 659,551 |
| Asia - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| China | 761 | 3,049 | 513 | 1,556 | 982 | 3,756 | 2,335 | 8,610 |
| Cyprus | 57 | 646 | 122 | 1,179 | 1,138 | 8,489 | 1,351 | 10,534 |
| Hong Kong and Macau | 62 | 2,949 | 28 | 1,258 | 99 | 2,067 | 193 | 6,367 |
| India | 301 | 2,943 | 166 | 1,472 | 1,684 | 9,855 | 2,209 | 14,524 |
| Lebanon | 108 | 1,548 | 146 | 2,459 | 467 | 6,831 | 762 | 11,308 |
| Malaysia and Brunei | 122 | 6,619 | 93 | 3,525 | 144 | 4,304 | 369 | 14,660 |
| Philippines | 263 | 3,495 | 106 | 2,373 | 66 | 1,274 | 452 | 7.295 |
| Sri Lanka | 279 | 3,153 | 112 | 917 | 1,388 | 7,726 | 1,831 | 12,023 |
| Turkey | 100 | 1,499 | 126 | 2,066 | 615 | 8,536 | 875 | 12,456 |
| Vietnam | 434 | 12,391 | 358 | 14,325 | 23 | 603 | 834 | 27,896 |
| Other Asia | 437 | 12,190 | 348 | 7,273 | 1,415 | 10,055 | 2,257 | 30,086 |
| Total Asia | 2,924 | 50,482 | 2,118 | 38,403 | 8,021 | 63,496 | 13,468 | 155,759 |
| Africa - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| South Africa | 141 | 2,432 | 112 | 2,913 | 706 | 3,198 | 1,002 | 8,691 |
| Egypt | 49 | 635 | 46 | 407 | 2,264 | 10,107 | 2,416 | 11,404 |
| Mauritius | 63 | 1,045 | 40 | 529 | 551 | 4,396 | 668 | 6,124 |
| Other Africa | 59 | 1,333 | 22 | 898 | 503 | 4,302 | 649 | 6,707 |
| Total Africa | 312 | 5,445 | 220 | 4,747 | 4,024 | 22,003 | 4,735 | 32,926 |
| America - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA | 136 | 3,064 | 29 | 1,138 | 651 | 4,250 | 848 | 8,629 |
| Canada | 29 | 920 | 12 | 617 | 403 | 2,256 | 465 | 3,865 |
| South America | 158 | 2,362 | 164 | 3,086 | 222 | 6,056 | 560 | 11,722 |
| Other America | 16 | 1,307 | 6 | 111 | 51 | 461 | 85 | 1,913 |
| Total America | 339 | 7,653 | 211 | 4,952 | 1,327 | 13,023 | 1,958 | 26,129 |
| Total overseas-born | 7,503 | 112,379 | 5,914 | 96,912 | 151,741 | 681,124 | 170,961 | 915,302 |

[^1]
## Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders

Of the 4 million people counted in Victoria on Census night 1986, 0.3 per cent, or approximately 12,600 , identified themselves as Aboriginals or Torres Strait Islanders. Of these, 85 per cent or 10,700 identified themselves as Aboriginal.

For all people in Victoria in 1986, 30 per cent were aged 45 or over, and 15 per cent were aged 60 or over. However, for Aboriginals, only 10 per cent were aged 45 or over, and 3 per cent were aged 60 or over. Although greater than for Aboriginals, the proportions of Torres Strait Islanders aged 45 or over ( 15 per cent) and 60 or over ( 7 per cent) were still only half the proportions for all people in Victoria in these age groups. These differences reflect the stark discrepancy between the life span of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the rest of the population.

TABLE 1.10 ALL PEOPLE: WHETHER ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

|  | Number of people aged - |  |  | People aged $45-59$ years | People aged 60 years or over |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 45-59 \\ & \text { years } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 60 years or over | All people | as a proportion of all people(\%) | as a proportion <br> of all people(\%) |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aboriginals | 299 | 152 | 5,252 | 5.7 | 2.9 |
| Torres Strait Islanders | 73 | 57 | 940 | 7.8 | 6.1 |
| Total | 373 | 210 | 6,193 | 6.0 | 3.4 |
| All other people | 295,766 | 250,798 | 1,944,974 | 15.2 | 12.9 |
| Total (a) | 301,451 | 260,258 | 1,991,469 | 15.1 | 13.1 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aboriginals | 401 | 210 | 5,488 | 7.3 | 3.8 |
| Torres Strait Islanders | 88 | 65 | 931 | 9.5 | 7.0 |
| Total | 486 | 273 | 6,420 | 7.6 | 4.3 |
| All other people | 284,333 | 324,110 | 1,979,092 | 14.4 | 16.4 |
| Total (a) | 289,848 | 339,073 | 2,028,009 | 14.3 | 16.7 |

(a) Includes not stated.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0009)

CHART 1.8 ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS: PROPORTION THAT ARE OLDER PEOPLE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


## Religion

The Census question on religion is optional. The proportion of older people who chose not to answer this question was similar to that of the total population (14 per cent). However, fewer older people reported having 'no religion' than the total population ( 6 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively).

Christian religious affiliation accounted for about two-thirds of all people in Victoria in 1986 and threequarters of older people in Victoria. More than a quarter of all people in Victoria stated they were Catholic, a greater number than stated any other religious affiliation. However, for older people there were slightly more Anglicans ( 26 per cent) than Catholics ( 23 per cent).

TABLE 1.11 ALL PEOPLE: RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Religious affiliation | Older people |  | All people |  | Older people as a proportion of all people |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men | Women | Men | Women | Men | Women |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |
| Christian - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Anglican | 63,888 | 89,572 | 337,742 | 377,671 | 18.9 | 23.7 |
| Baptist | 2,986 | 4,734 | 18,398 | 21,387 | 16.2 | 22.1 |
| Catholic | 61,249 | 78,305 | 540,861 | 563,183 | 11.3 | 13.9 |
| Lutheran | 2,919 | 3,965 | 17,648 | 19,261 | 16.5 | 20.6 |
| Orthodox | 7,289 | 7,052 | 90,202 | 87,364 | 8.1 | 8.1 |
| Presbyterian and Reformed |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Churches | 16,056 | 22,156 | 64,640 | 73,359 | 24.8 | 30.2 |
| Uniting Church | 23,425 | 36,256 | 128,402 | 151,859 | 18.2 | 23.9 |
| Other Christian | 19,220 | 29,917 | 128,150 | 146,076 | 15.0 | 20.5 |
| Total Christian | 197,033 | 271,958 | 1,326,038 | 1,440,155 | 14.9 | 18.9 |
| Other religions - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Buddhist | 495 | 821 | 12,201 | 11,065 | 4.1 | 7.4 |
| Hindu | 89 | 98 | 2,777 | 2,337 | 3.2 | 4.2 |
| Jewish | 3,856 | 4,666 | 15,713 | 16,673 | 24.5 | 28.0 |
| Muslim | 654 | 544 | 20,144 | 17,821 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| Other | 215 | 277 | 3,360 | 3,106 | 6.4 | 8.9 |
| Non-theistic | 115 | 83 | 633 | 382 | 18.2 | 21.7 |
| Inadequately described or not stated | 38,717 | 45,832 | 301,918 | 287,214 | 12.8 | 16.0 |
| No religion | 19,086 | 14,791 | 308,684 | 249,255 | 6.2 | 5.9 |
| Total | 260,258 | 339,073 | 1,991,469 | 2,028,009 | 13.1 | 16.7 |

Source : ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0003)

Older people accounted for 15 per cent of Victoria's population, however, they accounted for slightly more claiming Christian affiliation. There were two main exceptions to this trend. Firstly, of the $1,104,000$ people reporting Catholic affiliation, about 13 per cent were older people. Secondly, about 8 per cent of the 178,000 people identifying with Orthodox religions were aged 60 or over.

About one-quarter of people whose religious affiliation was Judaism were older people. However, all other non-Christian groups included proportionally less older people than the Christian groups. For example, of Victoria's 38,000 Muslims, just over 3 per cent were older people.

These differences can be connected, in part, with the patterns of migration described earlier and, in part, with differences between older people and the rest of the population.

CHART 1.9 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


## CHAPTER 2

## INCOME, LABOUR FORCE AND EDUCATION

Transition from work to retirement, and the subsequent reduction in income which many experience, tends to occur between the ages of 55 and 65 years.

## Income and income support

For men, the sixty-fifth birthday is both the traditional age of retirement, and also the age at which they become eligible for the age pension. However, many men take up options of early retirement, leading to a decrease in income between the ages of 55 and 64 years. According to a Labour Force Special Supplementary Survey conducted in November 1986, of the 208,000 men who had retired and were aged 55 years or over, over 60 per cent did so before reaching the age of 65 years.

At June 1986, the median annual income for men aged 55 to 59 years in Victoria was approximately $\$ 15,600$. This decreased to $\$ 10,900$ for men aged 60 to 64 , and to $\$ 5,400$ for men aged 65 or over.

For women, the median annual income hardly varied between the 55 to 59,60 to 64 and 65 or over age groups (from $\$ 4,300$ to $\$ 4,500$ ). This is partly due to the fact that only one third of women aged 55 to 59 were in the labour force and that they become eligible for the age pension at age 60 . This also means that while almost 20 per cent of women aged 55 to 59 years had no income, only 4 per cent of women aged 65 or over were not in receipt of an income.

TABLE 2.1 PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OVER: ANNUAL INCOME BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


[^2]CHART 2.1 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: MEDIAN INCOME BY AGE AND SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


Over sixty per cent of older people were in receipt of income support from a Commonwealth Social Security pension. Two-thirds of these payments were made to women, a reflection of their greater longevity and probably of their more restricted earnings from paid work, investments or superannuation.

As a respective proportion of all Social Security pension types, more women were on an age pension than men ( 97 per cent compared with 87 per cent). This reflects the fact that men are not eligible to receive the age pension until 65 years, whereas women are eligible at 60 years. In the 60 to 64 age group, almost all men receiving a Social Security pension were on an invalid pension. Of all older men on an invalid pension, 93 per cent were aged 60 to 64 years.

In addition to the 374,000 Department of Social Security pension recipients who were aged 60 years or over, a further 87,700 people received a service pension from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Of these, 37 per cent were aged 60 to 64 years, reflecting the early age of eligibility for service pensions ( 60 for men, 55 for women).

TABLE 2.2 OLDER PEOPLE IN RECEIPT OF COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION: TYPE OF PENSION RECEIVED BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, JUNE 1986

| Type of pension | Age group (years) |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 60.64 | 65.74 | 75-79 | 80 or over |  |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age | - | 61,849 | 25,591 | 20,499 | 107,939 |
| Invalid | 15,402 | 1,032 | 84 | 32 | 16,550 |
| Other | 194 | 26 | 1 | - | 221 |
| Total | 15,596 | 62,907 | 25,676 | 20,531 | 124,710 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age | 43,319 | 102,427 | 44,106 | 51,876 | 241,728 |
| Invalid | 169 | 127 | 12 | 15 | 323 |
| Wives | 807 | 397 | 54 | 8 | 1,266 |
| Widows | 1,384 | 2,555 | 817 | 773 | 5,529 |
| Other | 49 | 24 | - | 6 | 79 |
| Total | 45,728 | 105,530 | 44,989 | 52,678 | 248,925 |

[^3]
## CHART 2.2 OLDER PEOPLE:PERCENTAGE RECEIVING COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL

 SECURITY PENSION BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

## Labour force status

A person's income is usually related to their labour force status. For people 55 years or over, those who employed others had the highest median income, followed by those who were wage and salary earners.

In 1986, over 187,000 people aged 55 years or over in Victoria were in the labour force (including those who were unemployed). Median income decreased with age from just over $\$ 10,000$ for people aged 55 to 59 years, to under $\$ 5,000$ for those aged 65 or over. However, the median income for people not in the labour force increased with age. The median income for those aged 55 to 59 and not in the labour force was approximately $\$ 3,100$, but increased to $\$ 4,600$ for people aged 65 or over. This is likely to be due to the greater proportion of people aged 65 or over who were eligible for the age pension.

The trend of recent years towards early retirement is evident when comparing rates of participation in the labour force between 1976 and 1986, particularly for men. One should also take into account the fact that superannuation benefits at age 55 became available in 1982.

Although not eligible for the age pension until aged 65, only about three-quarters of men aged 55 to 59 were participants in the labour force in 1986, compared with nearly 90 per cent in 1976. The proportion of men aged 60 to 64 years who were in the labour force decreased even more dramatically from almost threequarters to just under half, during the decade to 1986.

The composition of those who remained employed altered with increasing age. Employers and selfemployed accounted for increasing proportions of employed people in each age group over 55 years. In 1986, less than one-quarter of employed people aged 55 to 59 years were self-employed or employers of others compared with more than half of employed people aged 65 or over.

Fewer men remain in the labour force after reaching pensionable age. In 1986, some 10 per cent of men aged 65 or over were in the labour force; however, this has decreased from almost 20 per cent since 1976.

There were also decreases in the participation rates for women, although these decreases were not as dramatic due to the already low participation rates of women in the labour force. In 1986 ,the number of older women in the labour force $(22,000)$ was about one-third the number of older men in the labour force, in spite of the fact that the number of older men in the population was about three-quarters the number of older women in the population $(339,000)$.

TABLE 2.3 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: ANNUAL INCOME BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Annual income (\$) | People in the labour force |  |  |  |  |  |  | People not in the labour force | Total people <br> (a) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Employed people |  |  |  |  |  | Total |  |  |
|  | Wage or salary earner | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Self } \\ \text { employed } \end{array}$ | Employer | Unpaid helper | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Total } \\ \text { employed } \end{array}$ | employed people | in the labour force |  |  |
| AGED 55-59 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No income | 345 | 527 | 124 | 286 | 1,282 | 742 | 2,024 | 18,717 | 21,087 |
| 1-6,000 | 3,311 | 2,583 | 418 | 284 | 6,596 | 2,463 | 9,059 | 36,222 | 46,171 |
| 6,001-9,000 | 3,382 | 2,158 | 485 | 84 | 6,109 | 1,110 | 7,219 | 9,455 | 16,935 |
| 9,001-12,000 | 5,867 | 2,359 | 836 | 57 | 9,119 | 663 | 9,782 | 4,372 | 14,330 |
| 12,001-18,000 | 25,771 | 3,706 | 1,687 | 60 | 31,224 | 203 | 31,427 | 3,821 | 35,538 |
| 18,001-26,000 | 20,177 | 2,187 | 1,575 | 32 | 23,971 | 71 | 24,042 | 1,789 | 25,967 |
| 26,001-40,000 | 11,074 | 960 | 1,056 | 25 | 13,115 | 20 | 13,135 | 694 | 13,879 |
| 40,001 or over | 3,664 | 331 | 855 | 4 | 4,854 | 3 | 4,857 | 277 | 5,154 |
| Total (a) | 75,995 | 15,713 | 7,541 | 934 | 100,183 | 5,538 | 105,721 | 81,206 | 191,745 |
| Per cent men | 71.0 | 71.9 | 74.6 | 15.8 | 70.9 | 75.4 | 71.2 | 24.9 | 50.9 |
| Per cent women | 29.0 | 28.1 | 25.4 | 84.2 | 29.1 | 24.6 | 28.8 | 75.1 | 49.1 |
| Median income (b) (\$) | 17,563 | 11,720 | 17,887 | 2,747 | 16,811 | 4,729 | 16,333 | 3,141 | 10,059 |
| AGED 60-64 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No income | 165 | 287 | 56 | 178 | 686 | 267 | 953 | 11,032 | 12,039 |
| 1-6,000 | 1,697 | 1,926 | 321 | 285 | 4,229 | 1,758 | 5,987 | 63,291 | 69,732 |
| 6,001-9,000 | 1,738 | 1,600 | 325 | 85 | 3,748 | 737 | 4,485 | 18,049 | 22,698 |
| 9,001-12,000 | 2,878 | 1,603 | 416 | 68 | 4,965 | 323 | 5,288 | 7,930 | 13,336 |
| 12,001-18,000 | 13,094 | 2,174 | 933 | 63 | 16,264 | 103 | 16,367 | 7,324 | 23,868 |
| 18,001-26,000 | 9,642 | 1,326 | 856 | 37 | 11,861 | 33 | 11,894 | 3,357 | 15,344 |
| 26,001-40,000 | 4,268 | 640 | 694 | 21 | 5,623 | 10 | 5,633 | 1,260 | 6,913 |
| 40,001 or over | 1,573 | 241 | 585 | 8 | 2,407 | 2 | 2,409 | 381 | 2,806 |
| Total (a) | 36,280 | 10,340 | 4,439 | 808 | 51,867 | 3,372 | 55,239 | 119,724 | 177,981 |
| Per'cent men | 76.3 | 72.8 | 74.4 | 24.3 | 74.6 | 89.3 | 75.5 | 35.5 | 48.5 |
| Per cent women | 23.7 | 27.2 | 25.6 | 75.7 | 25.4 | 10.7 | 24.5 | 64.5 | 515 |
| Median income (b) (\$) | 17,064 | 11,033 | 18,394 | 4,106 | 16,156 | 4,609 | 15,592 | 4,294 | 6,212 |
| AGED 65 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No income | 123 | 229 | 57 | 128 | 537 | 131 | 668 | 14,055 | 14,775 |
| 1-6,000 | 1,280 | 2,175 | 287 | 499 | 4,241 | 546 | 4,787 | 214,136 | 219,115 |
| 6,001-9,000 | 1,290 | 1,610 | 274 | 154 | 3,328 | 172 | 3,500 | 68,816 | 72,382 |
| 9,001-12,000 | 1,219 | 1,448 | 357 | 103 | 3,127 | 72 | 3,199 | 26,835 | 30,073 |
| 12,001-18,000 | 2,863 | 1,740 | 705 | 67 | 5,375 | 51 | 5,426 | 19,891 | 25,359 |
| 18,001-26,000 | 1,917 | 1078 | 643 | 49 | 3,687 | 16 | 3,703 | 8,970 | 12,704 |
| 26,001-40,000 | 1,057 | 570 | 551 | 25 | 2,203 | 4 | 2,207 | 3,876 | 6,093 |
| 40,001 or over | 476 | 301 | 493 | 13 | 1,283 | 4 | 1,287 | 1,377 | 2,676 |
| Total (a) | 10,702 | 9,717 | 3,616 | 1,128 | 25,163 | 1,101 | 26,264 | 389,440 | 421,386 |
| Per cent men | 65.4 | 73.0 | 75.7 | 40.5 | 68.7 | 57.6 | 68.2 | 39.4 | 41.3 |
| Per cent women | 34.6 | 27.0 | 24.3 | 59.5 | 31.3 | 42.4 | 31.8 | 60.6 | 58.7 |
| Median income (b) (\$) | 14,518 | 10,165 | 18,051 | 4,702 | 12,736 | 4,034 | 12,239 | 4,622 | 4.843 |

[^4]TABLE 2.4 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: AGE BY PARTICIPATION IN THE LABOUR FORCE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986

| Age group (years) | In the labour force |  | Total |  | Paricipation rate (a). |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1976 | 1986 | 1976 | 1986 | 1976 | 1986 |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |
| 55-59 | 72,433 | 75,244 | 81,899 | 97,510 | 88.4 | 77.2 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 51,092 | 41,705 | 70,992 | 86,328 | 72.0 | 48.3 |
| 65-69 | 15,664 | 10,184 | 55,162 | 63,336 | 28.4 | 16.1 |
| 70 or over | 9,933 | 7,739 | 79,070 | 110,602 | 12.6 | 7.0 |
| Total 60 or over | 76,689 | 59,628 | 205,224 | 260,266 | 37.4 | 22.9 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |
| 55-59 | 30,925 | 30,497 | 83,009 | 94,235 | 37.3 | 32.4 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 15,460 | 13,534 | 77,292 | 91,653 | 20.0 | 14.8 |
| 65-69 | 6,369 | 4,687 | 63,741 | 73,829. | 10.0 | 6.3 |
| 70 or over | 4,515 | 3,654 | $\sim 129,513$ | 173,619 | 3.5 | 2.1 |
| Total 60 or over | 26,344 | 21,875 | 270,546 | 339,101 | 9.7 | 6.5 |

(a) Participation rate is the number in the labour force as a percentage of the civilian population.

Sources: 1976 : ABS, Census of Population and Housing (Table 14)
1986 : ABS, Census of Population and Housing (CX0028)

CHART 2.3 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1976 AND 30 JUNE 1986


## Employed people

Although older people can be found in all the major occupations, there are some differences in concentration between the age groups. For older women, the main occupations were slightly different from those for all women 15 or over. Among older women, managers/administrators, clerks, labourers/related workers, and salespersons/personal services workers were the main occupations whereas for all women 15 or over managerial/administrative occupations were less common with professional occupations featuring more prominently.

Older men were employed over the full range of occupation groups, but they were far more likely to be employed as managers or administrators, and less likely to be employed as tradespersons, than were employed men aged 15 years or over.

Employed women aged 60 or over were also far more likely to be employed as managers or administrators than employed women aged 15 or over. Older employed women were less likely to be employed as clerks than all employed women. Older women were also less likely to be employed as salespersons or personal services workers than all employed women aged 15 or over.

With increasing age, some shifts occurred in the distribution of occupation. Among older men, the percentage employed as managers/administrators increased from 20 per cent for those aged 60 to 64 years to 41 per cent for those aged 65 years or over. The proportion employed in professional occupations also increased, although to a lesser extent than for managerial/administrative occupations. In contrast, there was a decrease in the proportion employed in physically demanding occupations such as tradespersons, plant/machine operators/drivers, and labourers/related workers.

Among older women, the proportion employed as managers/administrators increased from 20 per cent for those aged 60 to 64 years to 30 per cent for those aged 65 years or over. In contrast, the proportion employed as clerks declined from 27 per cent to 20 per cent. The proportion employed as labourers/related workers also declined, although to a lesser extent.

TABLE 2.5 EMPLOYED PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OVER: OCCUPATION BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Occupation | Age group (years) |  |  | people aged 15 years or over | Age group (years) |  |  | Alleople aged 15 years or over |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 55.59 | 60-64 | or over |  | 55.59 | 60-64 65 or over |  |  |
|  | MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  |  |  | per cent |  |
| Managers and administrators | 13,145 | 7,888 | 7,094 | 151,647 | 18.5 | 20.4 | 40.9 | 14.5 |
| Professionals | 7,005 | 3,890 | 2,498 | 129,983 | 9.9 | 10.0 | 14.4 | 12.5 |
| Para professionals | 3,515 | 1,601 | 255 | 60,409 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 5.8 |
| Tradespersons | 14,033 | 7,529 | 1.839 | 242,008 | 19.8 | 19.4 | 10.6 | 23.2 |
| Clerks | 4,853 | 2,820 | 943 | 77,838 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 5.4 | 7.5 |
| Salespersons and personal services workers | 4,687 | 2,513 | 1,440 | 82,302 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 8.3 | 7.9 |
| Plant and machine operators and drivers | 8,867 | 3,982 | 718 | 117,308 | 12.5 | 10.3 | 4.1 | 11.2 |
| Labourers and related workers | 12,413 | 7,012 | 1,646 | 150,700 | 17.5 | 18.1 | 9.5 | 14.4 |
| Total (a) | 71,030 | 38,721 | 17,349 | 1,043,343 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
|  | WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |  |
| Managers and administrators | 4,042 | 2,591 | 2,343 | 48,888 | 13.9 | 19.7 | 29.9 | 7.1 |
| Professionals | 2.843 | 1,253 | 724 | 86,517 | 9.8 | 9.5 | 9.2 | 12.5 |
| Para professionals | 1,763 | 673 | 230 | 48,939 | 6.1 | 5.1 | 2.9 | 7.1 |
| Tradespersons | 1,127 | 423 | 252 | 26,048 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.8 |
| Clerks | 7,762 | 3,499 | 1,590 | 210,831 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 20.3 | 30.5 |
| Salespersons and personal services workers | 3,619 | 1,518 | 844 | 127,075 | 12.4 | 11.5 | 10.8 | 18.4 |
| Plant and machine operators and drivers | 1,438 | 477 | 204 | 36,906 | 4.9 | 3.6 | 2.6 | 5.3 |
| Labourers and related workers | 5,325 | 1,979 | 830 | 88,340 | 18.3 | 15.0 | 10.6 | 12.8 |
| Total (a) | 29,140 | 13,178 | 7,841 | 692,002 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes people who did not state their occupation and also people whose occupation was inadequately described or not classifiable.
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0048)

CHART 2.4 EMPLOYED PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OVER: OCCUPATION BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


Instead of retiring, or as part of the retirement process, some people remain employed but reduce the number of hours they work. In 1986, 86 per cent of all employed men aged 15 or over, and 84 per cent of employed men aged 55 to 59 worked full-time ( 35 hours or more). However, only 57 per cent of employed men aged 65 or over worked full-time.

Women were not only less likely to be employed than men, but also those who were employed tended to work fewer hours per week than men. Sixty per cent of all employed women aged 15 or over worked fulltime, compared with 54 per cent of employed women aged 55 to 59 , and 43 per cent of those aged 65 or over.

TABLE 2.6 EMPLOYED PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OVER: NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Number of hours worked in reference week |  | e group () | ears) | All people aged 15 years |  | e group (\%) | ears) | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { ple aged } \\ 15 \text { years } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 55.59 | 60.64 | 65 or over | or over | 55.59 | 60.64 | 65 or over | or over |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |  |  |
| None | 3,037 | 1,879 | 623 | 29,395 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 3.6 | 2.8 |
| 1-15 | 1,834 | 1,898 | 2,568 | 35,843 | 2.6 | 4.9 | 14.8 | 3.4 |
| 16-24 | 1,573 | 1,383 | 1,540 | 19,162 | 2.2 | 3.6 | 8.9 | 1.8 |
| 25-34 | 2,592 | 1,833 | 1,492 | 33,193 | 3.6 | 4.7 | 8.6 | 3.2 |
| 35-39 | 21,966 | 11,240 | 2,104 | 293,526 | 30.9 | 29.0 | 12.2 | 28.1 |
| 40 or over | 38,052 | 19,110 | 7,809 | 604,462 | 53.6 | 49.4 | 45.1 | 57.9 |
| Total (a) | 71,054 | 38,693 | 17,310 | 1,043,330 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |  |  |
| None | 1,293 | 575 | 370 | 22,613 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 3.3 |
| 1-15 | 4,116 | 2,328 | 1,729 | 98,132 | 14.1 | 17.7 | 22.0 | 14.2 |
| 16-24 | 3,710 | 1,583 | 851 | 73,210 | 12.7 | 12.0 | 10.8 | 10.6 |
| 25-34 | 3,116 | 1,364 | 769 | 61,349 | 10.7 | 10.4 | 9.8 | 8.9 |
| 35-39 | 7,081 | 2,548 | 915 | 189,728 | 24.3 | 19.4 | 11.6 | 27.4 |
| 40 or over | 8,629 | 4,070 | 2,459 | 225,308 | 29.6 | 30.9 | 31.3 | 32.6 |
| Total (a) | 29,133 | 13,165 | 7,860 | 691,937 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes people who did not state the number of hours they worked.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0046)

CHART 2.5 EMPLOYED OLDER PEOPLE: NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


TABLE 2.7 EMPLOYED PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: OCCUPATION BY HIGHEST POSTSCHOOL QUALIFICATION BY AGE , VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Occupation | Level of post-school qualification |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { No } \\ \text { post- } \\ \text { school } \\ \text { qualifi- } \\ \text { cations } \end{array}$ | Total (a) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Higher degree | Graduate diploma | Bachelor degree | Diploma | Trade and other cerififcate | adequately described and not classifiable | Total with postschool qualifications |  |  |
| AGED 55-59 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Managers and administrators | 144 | 120 | 670 | 1,209 | 2,814 | 701 | 5,658 | 10,412 | 17,176 |
| Professionals | 647 | 500 | 2,140 | 2,896 | 1,362 | 349 | 7,894 | 1,518 | 9,883 |
| Para professionals | 13 | 21 | 74 | 245 | 2,767 | 283 | 3,403 | 1,538 | 5,273 |
| Tradespersons | 10 | 12 | 28 | 110 | 7,370 | 885 | 8,415 | 5,496 | 15,168 |
| Clerks | 22 | 20 | 188 | 406 | 1,670 | 756 | 3,062 | 8,618 | 12,633 |
| Salespersons and personal services workers | 9 | 14 | 89 | 252 | 1,341 | 362 | 2,067 | 5,645 | 8,312 |
| Plant and machine operators and drivers | 2 | - | 4 | 51 | 1,035 | 423 | 1,515 | 7,874 | 10,292 |
| Labourers and related workers | 4 | 4 | 22 | 84 | 1,679 | 552 | 2,345 | 13,856 | 17,754 |
| Total employed (b) | 861 | 701 | 3,265 | 5,339 | 20,587 | 4,535 | 35,288 | 57,222 | 100,206 |

Employed people as a

| proportion of all people of same age (per cent) | 87.7 | 85.3 | 82.0 | 74.6 | 69.1 | 56.5 | 69.5 | 46.9 | 52.3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AGED 60-64 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Managers and administrators | 63 | 41 | 349 | 582 | 1,513 | 449 | 2,997 | 6,712 | 10,498 |
| Professionals | 379 | 246 | 1,305 | 1,290 | 700 | 184 | 4,104 | 802 | 5,162 |
| Para professionals | 2 | 10 | 51 | 107 | 1,186 | 126 | 1,482 | 610 | 2,273 |
| Tradespersons |  | 8 | 19 | 48 | 3,789 | 504 | 4,368 | 2,830 | 7,956 |
| Clerks | 8 | 14 | 126 | 224 | 888 | 385 | 1,645 | 4,090 | 6,306 |
| Salespersons and personal services workers | 8 | 12 | 45 | 140 | 625 | 203 | 1,033 | 2,607 | 4,002 |
| Plant and machine operators and drivers | 2 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 522 | 178 | 728 | 3,341 | 4,460 |
| Labourers and related workers | - | 2 | 13 | 50 | 871 | 301 | 1,237 | 6,895 | 8,983 |
| Total employed (b) | 472 | 346 | 1,955 | 2,518 | 10,424 | 2,470 | 18,185 | 29,210 | 51,907 |

Employed people as a

| proportion of all people of same age (per cent) | 66.5 | 59.9 | 59.2 | 45.1 | 41.9 | 32.8 | 42.7 | 25.6 | 29.2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AGED 65 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Managers and administrators | 63 | 33 | 181 | 324 | 854 | 378 | 1,833 | 6,770 | 9,445 |
| Professionals | 230 | 169 | 880 | 817 | 300 | 124 | 2,520 | 468 | 3,198 |
| Para professionals | 2 | 6 | 6 | 36 | 235 | 23 | 308 | 122 | 477 |
| Tradespersons | - |  | 6 | 15 | 837 | 157 | 1,015 | 827 | 2,075 |
| Clerks | 19 | 8 | 75 | 156 | 335 | 169 | 762 | 1,541 | 2,567 |
| Salespersons and personal services workers | 4 | 8 | 40 | 102 | 329 | 131 | 614 | 1,442 | 2,283 |
| Plant and machine operators and drivers | - | - | 4 | 8 | 102 | 31 | 145 | 636 | 906 |
| Labourers and related workers | 2 | - | 16 | 24 | 247 | 129 | 418 | 1,779 | 2,465 |
| Total employed (b) | 326 | 230 | 1,239 | 1,554 | 3,398 | 1,237 | 7,984 | 14,649 | 25,137 |
| Employed people as a proportion of all people of same age (per cent) | 27.4 | 22.0 | 24.8 | 13.8 | 8.3 | 7.5 | 10.5 | 5.5 | 6.0 |

(a) Includes people who did not state their educational qualification. (b) Includes people who described their occupation inadequately or who did not state their occupation.
Sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0015 and CX0022)

## Education

Those people with a graduate diploma or a bachelor or higher degree were the most likely to remain employed as they grew older. This is closely related to occupation, as 71 per cent of people aged 65 or over who had a higher degree were employed as professionals, with a further 19 per cent employed as managers or administrators.
In contrast, people who stated they had gained no qualification since leaving school were least likely to be employed and least likely to remain employed as they reached pensionable age. One half of the 55 to 59 year olds who reported having no post-school qualifications were employed. This contrasts with only 6 per cent of those aged 65 years or over who reported having no post-school qualifications. However, among employed people with no post-school qualifications the proportion who were managers or administrators increased from 18 per cent of those aged 55 to 59 years to 46 per cent of those aged 65 or over, mainly due to the greater propensity of managers and administrators to remain in the workforce, compared to other occupations.

## CHART 2.6 PROPORTION OF PEOPLE WHO WERE EMPLOYED BY HIGHEST POSTSCHOOL QUALIFICATION, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986



In 1986, 118,000 older people in Victoria reported having a post-school qualification. The proportion of older people with a post-school qualification ( 20 per cent) was much lower than for the total population aged 15 or over ( 29 per cent) as fewer opportunities existed for tertiary education 40 or more years ago. The proportion of older men with a post-school qualification was more than double that for older women ( $28^{\circ}$ per cent of older men, 13 per cent of older women), in spite of older women outnumbering older men 13 to 10.

TABLE 2.8 PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS OR OVER: HIGHEST POST-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Level of qualification | Older people |  | All people aged 15 years or over |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men | Women | Men | Women |
|  | - per cent - |  |  |  |
| Post-school qualifications - |  |  |  |  |
| Higher degree | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| Graduate diploma | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Bachelor degree | 2.3 | 0.7 | 4.9 | 3.2 |
| Diploma | 3.6 | 2.2 | 3.7 | 3.9 |
| Trade and other certificate | 17.0 | 6.3 | 21.3 | 10.2 |
| Inadequately described and not classifiable | 4.5 | 3.6 | 4.6 | 4.0 |
| Total with post-school qualifications | 28.4 | 13.2 | 36.0 | 22.5 |
| No post-school qualifications | 56.6 | 68.4 | 54.0 | 65.9 |
| Not stated | 15.0 | 18.5 | 10.0 | 11.6 |
| Total (per cent) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| (number) | 260,258 | 339,073 | 1,519,924 | 1,578,966 |

[^5]
## CHAPTER 3

## HOUSING AND HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION, INCIDENCE OF DISABILITY, AND LOCATION

## Housing and household composition

## - Living arrangements

Approximately nine in every ten older people were living in private dwellings. However, with increasing age, dependency on non-private accommodation also increased. Of the 44,000 older people living in nonprivate dwellings as at 30 June 1986, 50 per cent were aged 80 years or more.

TABLE 3.1 OLDER PEOPLE: TYPE OF DWELLING BY AGE OF PERSON, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Type of dwelling | Age group (years) |  |  |  |  | Per cent in dwellings of same type |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 60.64 | 65.74 | 75.79 | 80 or over | Total |  |
| Private dwelling | 172,672 | 242,274 | 75,365 | 61,866 | 552,177 | 92.1 |
| Caravans, etc. in caravan parks | 1,067 | 1,252 | 209 | 127 | 2,655 | 0.4 |
| Non-private dwelling (a) - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hotel/motel | 698 | 824 | 200 | 278 | 2,000 | 0.3 |
| Boarding house | 604 | 864 | 329 | 529 | 2,326 | 0.4 |
| Hospital (not psychiatric) | 930 | 2,454 | 1,521 | 3,284 | 8,189 | 1.4 |
| Psychiatric hospital or institution | 321 | 577 | 296 | 319 | 1,513 | 0.3 |
| Nursing home | 550 | 2,706 | 2,871 | 11,325 | 17,452 | 2.9 |
| Home for aged people | 468 | 2,132 | 2,034 | 5,929 | 10,563 | 1.8 |
| Hostel for homeless people | 50 | 44 | 17 | 50 | 161 | - |
| Other | 525 | 818 | 316 | 383 | 2,042 | 0.3 |
| Total non-private dwellings | 4,143 | 10,423 | 7,583 | 22,097 | 44,246 | 7.4 |
| Total (b) | 177,981 | 254,041 | 83,189 | 84,121 | 599,332 | 100.0 |

[^6]CHART 3.1 OLDER PEOPLE: PROPORTION LIVING IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986.


Many older people remain resident in houses that were purchased when they were much younger, either before they had children, or when their children were still living at home. As a consequence of their children growing up and leaving home, many older people find themselves living only with their spouse or alone in quite large dwellings. One measure of dwelling size is the number of bedrooms. Of the 400,000 Victorian households in private dwellings that contained older people in 1986, 55 per cent of these households were living in three or more bedroom dwellings. Of these 218,000 households, almost half comprised one older person living alone or two older people with no other residents.

TABLE 3.2 HOUSEHOLDS WITH OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS: NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD BY NUMBER OF BEDROOMS BY NUMBER OF OLDER PEOPLE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Number of people in household | Number of bedrooms |  |  |  |  |  |  | Not applicable (a) | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 or 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6or } \\ & \text { more } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Not} \\ \text { stated } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| ALL PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 21,540 | 59,840 | 39,461 | 3,566 | 345 | 104 | 7,357 | 996 | .133,209 |
| 2 | 4,789 | 46,397 | 56,604 | 5,754 | 507 | 112 | 2,210 | 588 | 116,961 |
| 3 | 22 | 784 | 1,691 | 354 | 36 | 10 | 39 | 3 | 2,939 |
| 4 | - | 61 | 137 | 51 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 266 |
| 5 or more | - | 2 | 9 | 6 | - | - |  |  | 17 |
| Total | 26,351 | 107,084 | 97,902 | 9,731 | 895 | 228 | 9,611 | 1,590 | 253,392 |
| ONE PERSON AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER IN HOUSEHOLD WITH OTHER(S) AGED LESS THAN 60 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | 1,509 | 18,741 | 29,854 | 3,976 | 392 | 105 | 894 | 303 | 55,774 |
| 3 | 135 | 4,384 | 14,895 | 3,182 | 362 | 76 | 272 | 42 | 23,348 |
| 4 | 62 | 1,361 | 8,816 | 2,969 | 408 | 63 | 126 | 19 | 13,824 |
| 5 | 22 | 603 | 5,789 | 3,486 | 473 | 70 | 83 | 7 | 10,533 |
| 6 | 15 | 215 | 2,532 | 2,002 | 556 | 84 | 49 | 6 | 5,459 |
| 7 or more | 5 | 95 | 1,319 | 1,170 | 427 | 162 | 34 | 2 | 3,214 |
| Total | 1,748 | 25,399 | 63,205 | 16,785 | 2,618 | 560 | 1,458 | 379 | 112,152 |

TWO OR MORE PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER IN HOUSEHOLD WITH OTHER(S) AGED LESS THAN 60 YEARS

| $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{9 6}$ | 4,545 | 11,984 | 2,210 | 247 | 50 | 164 | 26 | 19,322 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 4 | 29 | 807 | 3,960 | 1,225 | 167 | 48 | 103 | 6 | 6,345 |
| 5 | 15 | 250 | 1,547 | 709 | 112 | 40 | 51 | 5 | 2,729 |
| 6 | 7 | 102 | 1,085 | 731 | 124 | 27 | 28 | - | 2,104 |
| 7 or more | $\mathbf{7}$ | 53 | 626 | 652 | 212 | 52 | 21 | $\mathbf{3}$ | 1,626 |
|  | Total | $\mathbf{1 5 4}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 7 5 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 9 , 2 0 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 5 2 7}$ | $\mathbf{8 6 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{3 6 7}$ | $\mathbf{4 0}$ |

(a) Includes households in boats, tents standing on their own block of land, caravans situated on a residential allotment, etc.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)
Among those in private dwellings, home ownership was the most common form of tenure: over 70 per cent lived in a dwelling which they or their relatives owned outright, and a further 12 per cent lived in a dwelling that was still being paid off.

A further 11 per cent of older people lived in rented dwellings. Of these, about 20,000 were tenants of the Ministry of Housing, and nearly 38,000 were tenants of private landlords.

Among private households containing older people, three out of every four were living in a family household. Only 5 per cent of older people lived as an 'ancestor' in a family household (for example, with their adult children and grandchildren). Older people living alone accounted for 23 per cent.

The proportion of older people living in lone person households or as an ancestor in a family household increased with increasing age. The majority of these people were women (three-quarters of older people living alone and four-fifths of older people living as an ancestor in a family household).

TABLE 3.3 OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS: RELATIONSHIP IN FAMILY BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Relationship in family | Nature of occupancy (number) |  |  |  |  |  |  | Per cent of total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | - Rented |  |  |  |  |
|  | Owned | Being purchased | Ministry of Housing | Other <br> Government agency | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Private } \\ \text { landlord or } \\ \text { not stated } \end{array}$ | Other | Total(a) |  |
| AGED 60-64 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 96,765 | 25,265 | 2,931 | 414 | 6,203 | 3,744 | 137,071 | 79.4 |
| Ancestor | 1,189 | 1,622 | 164 | 29 | 481 | 101 | 3,621 | 2.1 |
| Other family member | 2,381 | 455 | 115 | 6 | 228 | 157 | 3,399 | 2.0 |
| Non-family member | 451 | 227 | 40 | 4 | 148 | 36 | 925 | 0.5 |
| Group household member | 2,026 | 433 | 93 | 22 | 775 | 180 | 3,704 | 2.1 |
| Lone person household | 14,575 | 2,650 | 1,593 | 73 | 3,381 | 856 | 23,952 | 13.9 |
| Total | 117,388 | 30,656 | 4,937 | 544 | 11,216 | 5,080 | 172,670 | 100.0 |
| Per cent of total | 68.0 | 17.8 | 2.9 | 0.3 | 6.5 | 2.9 | 100.0 | - |
| AGED 65-74 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 126,935 | 19,193 | 4,483 | 279 | 7,845 | 5,095 | 166,438 | 68.7 |
| Ancestor | 3,844 | 4,082 | 323 | 62 | 814 | 304 | 9,493 | 3.9 |
| Other family member | 3,556 | 591 | 153 | 15 | 321 | 224 | 4,948 | 2.0 |
| Non-family member | 645 | 266 | 49 | 6 | 148 | 70 | 1,211 | 0.5 |
| Group household member | 3,438 | 414 | 131 | 21 | 881 | 328 | 5,451 | 2.2 |
| Lone person household | 36,861 | 3,483 | 4,165 | 145 | 6,121 | 2,214 | 54,732 | 22.6 |
| Total | 175,273 | 28,033 | 9,310 | 532 | 16,126 | 8,231 | 242,273 | 100.0 |
| Per cent of total | 72.3 | 11.6 | 3.8 | 0.2 | 6.7 | 3.4 | 100.0 | - |
| AGED 75-79 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 32,383 | 2,606 | 1,187 | 67 | 2,140 | 1,679 | 40,881 | 54.2 |
| Ancestor | 2,775 | 1,768 | 111 | 21 | 278 | 163 | 5,154 | 6.8 |
| Other family member | 1,410 | 222 | 33 | 5 | 120 | 102 | 1,938 | 2.6 |
| Non-family member | 255 | 90 | 21 | 3 | 48 | 18 | 449 | 0.6 |
| Group household member | 1,064 | 96 | 37 | 4 | 236 | 111 | 1,627 | 2.2 |
| Lone person household | 17,666 | 822 | 1,959 | 63 | 2,686 | 1,259 | 25,318 | 33.6 |
| Total | 55,551 | 5,603 | 3,344 | 168 | 5,507 | 3,334 | 75,365 | 100.0 |
| Per cent of total | 73.7 | 7.4 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 7.3 | 4.4 | 100.0 | - |


| AGED 80 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 19,763 | 1,255 | 681 | 50 | 1,432 | 1,133 | 24,915 | 40.3 |
| Ancestor | 5,234 | 1,946 | 143 | 16 | 334 | 256 | 8,002 | 12.9 |
| Other family member | 1,440 | 218 | 30 | 6 | 87 | 108 | 1,938 | 3.1 |
| Non-family member | 226 | 76 | 10 | 6 | 36 | 18 | 412 | 0.7 |
| Group household member | 995 | 49 | 39 | 3 | 198 | 106 | 1,507 | 2.4 |
| Lone person household | 17,781 | 461 | 1,708 | 90 | 2,698 | 1,405 | 25,089 | 40.6 |
| Total | 45,436 | 4,009 | 2,607 | 172 | 4,787 | 3,025 | 61,867 | 100.0 |
| Per cent of total | 73.4 | 6.5 | 4.2 | 0.3 | 7.7 | 4.9 | 100.0 |  |
| ALL PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 275,846 | 48,319 | 9,282 | 810 | 17,620 | 11,651 | 369,305 | 66.9 |
| Ancestor | 13,042 | 9,418 | 741 | 128 | 1,907 | 824 | 26,270 | 4.8 |
| Other family member | 8,787 | 1,486 | 331 | 32 | 756 | 591 | 12,223 | 2.2 |
| Non-family member | 1,577 | 659 | 120 | 19 | 380 | 142 | 2,997 | 0.5 |
| Group household member | 7,523 | 992 | 300 | 50 | 2,090 | 725 | 12,289 | 2.2 |
| Lone person household | 86,883 | 7,4 | 9,425 | 371 | 14,886 | 5,734 | 129,091 | 23.4 |
| Total | 393,648 | 68,301 | 20,198 | 1,416 | 37,636 | 19,670 | 552,175 | 100.0 |
| Per cent of total | 71.3 | 12.4 | 3.7 | 0.3 | 6.8 | 3.6 | 100.0 |  |

(a) Includes people who did not state the nature of their occupancy.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)

CHART 3.2 OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS: RELATIONSHIP IN FAMILY BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


Approximately 7 per cent of older people lived in non-private dwellings. Of these 44,000 people, 39 per cent were in nursing homes and 24 per cent in homes for the aged (which includes hostels and special accommodation houses in Victoria).

The number of older people recorded as being in hospital on Census night should be interpreted in the context of average 'lengths-of-stay' in hospital, which are fairly short.

The older age groups tend to dominate in nursing homes and homes for the aged: of all people in nursing homes, 65 per cent were aged 80 years or more. In addition, three-quarters of the nursing home population was female.

However, a higher proportion of older men in non-private dwellings were in hospital than older women (23 per cent compared with 16 per cent).

TABLE 3.4 OLDER PEOPLE IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS: TYPE OF NON-PRIVATE DWELLING BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986 (a)

| Type of non-private dwelling | Age group (years) |  |  |  |  | Per cent in non-private dwellings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 60-64 | 65.74 | 75.79 | 80 or over | Total |  |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hotel/motel | 456 | 497 | 94 | 90 | 1,137 | 7.9 |
| Boarding house | 450 | 571 | 174 | 160 | 1,355 | 9.4 |
| Hospital (not psychiatric) | 504 | 1,228 | 622 | 974 | 3,328 | 23.1 |
| Psychatric hospital or institution | 168 | 326 | 136 | 119 | 749 | 5.2 |
| Nursing home | 265 | 1,054 | 839 | 2,030 | 4,188 | 29.1 |
| Home for aged people | 213 | 726 | 531 | 1,242 | 2,712 | 18.8 |
| Hostel for homeless people | 44 | 44 | 16 | 47 | 151 | 1.0 |
| Other | 262 | 320 | 114 | 95 | 791 | 5.5 |
| Total | 2,361 | 4,768 | 2,526 | 4,761 | 14,416 | 100.0 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hotel/motel | 242 | 326 | 107 | 186 | 861 | 2.9 |
| Boarding house | 154 | 290 | 155 | 368 | 967 | 3.2 |
| Hospital (not psychiatric) | 425 | 1,227 | 898 | 2,311 | 4,861 | 16.3 |
| Psychiatric hospital or institution | 153 | 249 | 158 | 200 | 760 | 2.5 |
| Nursing home | 284 | 1,651 | 2,033 | 9,297 | 13,265 | 44.5 |
| Home for aged people | 254 | 1,404 | 1,501 | 4,686 | 7,845 | 26.3 |
| Hostel for homeless people | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 0.0 |
| Other | 266 | 503 | 204 | 288 | 1,261 | 4.2 |
| Total | 1,784 | 5,655 | 5,058 | 17,339 | 29,836 | 100.0 |

(a) Does not include owner/manager and family or employee and family.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)

CHART 3.3 OLDER PEOPLE IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS: SELECTED TYPE OF NONPRIVATE DWELLING BY AGE BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


Homes for aged people


Hospitals (a)

(a) Does not include people in psychiatric hospitals.

## - Ability to speak English

Language can be a barrier impeding access to community services. Of the 90,000 older people from non-English speaking backgrounds and living in private dwellings, many may experience great difficulties in utilising facilities, particularly if these are staffed mainly by people who speak English only (e.g. public hospitals, nursing homes, senior citizens centres, Meals on Wheels, home help, etc.). Proficiency in English was more prevalent among those living alone or in group households than among those living in family households. About two-thirds of older people living alone or in group households and using a non-English language at home reported that they could speak English well or very well and only 5 per cent reported they could not speak English at all. In contrast, older people in private dwellings who spoke a non-English language at home and who were parents or grandparents of the reference person in a household were least likely to speak English well or very well ( 23 per cent did so) and most likely not to speak English at all (47 per cent). This may indicate a dependence on other family members who are able to interpret for them.

TABLE 3.5 OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME: RELATIONSHIP IN FAMILY BY PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Relationship in family | Speaks English (number) - |  |  | Total | Speaks English (per cent) - |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Well or very well | Not well | Not at all Not stated |  | Well or very well | Not well | Not at all N | tated |  |
| AGED 60-64 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 19,113 | 8,374 | 1,640 214 | 29,341 | 65.1 | 28.5 | 5.6 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| Ancestor | 449 | 447 | 4659 | 1,370 | 32.8 | 32.6 | 33.9 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| Other family member | 282 | 144 | 996 | 531 | 53.1 | 27.1 | 18.6 | 1.1 | 100.0 |
| Non-family member | 100 | 42 | 41.6 | 189 | 52.9 | 22.2 | 21.7 | 3.2 | 100.0 |
| Group household member | 391 | 114 | $12 \quad 17$ | 534 | 73.2 | 21.3 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 100.0 |
| Lone person household | 2,521 | 727 | $74 \quad 70$ | 3,392 | 74.3 | 21.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 22,856 | 9,848 | 2,330 323 | 35,357 | 64.6 | 27.9 | 6.6 | 0.9 | 100.0 |
| AGED 65-74 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reference person or spouse | 15,551 | 8,321 | 2,445 | 355 | 26,672 | 58.3 | 31.2 | 9.2 | 1.3 | 100.0 |
| Ancestor | 845 | 1,020 | 1,469 | 18 | 3,352 | 25.2 | 30.4 | 43.8 | 0.5 | 100.0 |
| Other family member | 312 | 173 | 125 | 20 | 630 | 49.5 | 27.5 | 19.8 | 3.2 | 100.0 |
| Non-family member | 103 | 41 | 54 | 5 | 203 | 50.7 | 20.2 | 26.6 | 2.5 | 100.0 |
| Group household member | 443 | 158 | 24 | 20 | 645 | 68.7 | 24.5 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 100.0 |
| Lone person household | 3,579 | 1,392 | 243 | 228 | 5,442 | 65.8 | 25.6 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 100.0 |
| Total | 20,833 | 11,101 | 4,362 | 640 | 36,944 | 56.4 | 30.0 | 11.8 | 1.7 | 100.0 |
| AGED 75-79 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 2,634 | 1,988 | 1,023 | 113 | 5,758 | 45.7 | 34.5 | 17.8 | 2.0 | 100.0 |
| Ancestor | 347 | 527 | 960 | 17 | 1,851 | 18.7 | 28.5 | 51.9 | 0.9 | 100.0 |
| Other family member | 91 | 72 | 62 | 7 | 232 | 39.2 | 31.0 | 26.7 | 3.0 | 100.0 |
| Non-family member | 37 | 13 | 33 | - | 83 | 44.6 | 15.7 | 39.8 | - | 100.0 |
| Group household member | 83 | 46 | 13 | 8 | 150 | 55.3 | 30.7 | 8.7 | 5.3 | 100.0 |
| Lone person household | 1,185 | 633 | 164 | 107 | 2,089 | 56.7 | 30.3 | 7.9 | 5.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 4,377 | 3,279 | 2,254 | 253 | 10,163 | 43.1 | 32.3 | 22.2 | 2.5 | 100.0 |
| AGED 80 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 1,194 | 869 | 604 | 80 | 2,747 | 43.5 | 31.6 | 22.0 | 2.9 | 100.0 |
| Ancestor | 368 | 562 | 1,242 | 14 | 2,186 | 16.8 | 25.7 | 56.8 | 0.6 | 100.0 |
| Other family member | 58 | 63 | 69 | 6 | 196 | 29.6 | 32.1 | 35.2 | 3.1 | 100.0 |
| Non-family member | 21 | 19 | 29 | 5 | 69 | 30.4 | 27.5 | 42.0 | - | 100.0 |
| Group household member | 60 | 45 | 15 | 5 | 125 | 48.0 | 36.0 | 12.0 | 4.0 | 100.0 |
| Lone person household | 837 | 374 | 134 | 116 | 1,461 | 57.3 | 25.6 | 9.2 | 7.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 2,538 | 1,927 | 2,093 | 222 | 6,784 | 37.4 | 28.4 | 30.9 | 33 | 100.0 |

TABLE 3.5 OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME: RELATIONSHIP IN FAMILY BY PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986 - continued

| Relationship in family | Speaks English (number) - |  |  |  | Speaks English (per cent) - |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Well or very well | Not well Not at all Not stated |  |  | Total | Well or very well | Not well | Not at all Not stated |  | Total |
| ALL PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family household - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reference person or spouse | 38,492 | 19,552 | 5,712 | 762 | 64,518 | 59.7 | 30.3 | 8.9 | 1.2 | 100.0 |
| Ancestor | 2,009 | 2,556 | 4,136 | 58 | 8,759 | 22.9 | 29.2 | 47.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 |
| Other family member | 743 | 452 | 355 | 39 | 1,589 | 46.8 | 28.4 | 22.3 | 2.5 | 100.0 |
| Non-family member | 261 | 115 | 157 | 11 | 544 | 48.0 | 21.1 | 28.9 | 2.0 | 100.0 |
| Group household member | 977 | 363 | 64 | 50 | 1,454 | 67.2 | 25.0 | 4.4 | 3.4 | 100.0 |
| Lone person household | 8,122 | 3,126 | 615 | 521 | 12,384 | 65.6 | 25.2 | 5.0 | 4.2 | 100.0 |
| Total | 50,604 | 26,155 | 11,039 | 1,438 | 89,248 | 56.7 | 29.3 | 12.4 | 1.6 | 100.0 |

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)

For people from non-English speaking backgrounds, a higher proficiency in English was more common among those aged 60 to 64 years than among those in older age groups. Almost two-thirds of people aged 60 to 64 from non-English speaking backgrounds could speak English well or very well, but this declined to just over one-third of people aged 80 or over.

## CHART 3.4 OLDER PEOPLE IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS(a): PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986


(a) Who speak a language other than English at home.

English proficiency varied considerably according to which other language was spoken at home. Amongst the ten main other languages used, older people speaking German or Polish at home stated the highest proficiency in English ( 90 per cent and 72 per cent, respectively, reported they could speak English well or very well), while those speaking Chinese or Vietnamese stated the lowest English proficiency ( 20 per cent and 16 per cent, respectively, spoke English well or very well). The low English proficiency figure can in part be explained by the fact that many Chinese and Vietnamese language users arrived in Australia more recently.

TABLE 3.6 OLDER PEOPLE WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME: PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY AGE, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Proficiency in English | Languagespokenas home |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total(a) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Arabic | Chinese | Groation | German | Greek | Italian | Mace: donian | Mallese | Polish | Viters namese |  |
| AGED 60-64 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Speaks English - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Well or very well | 44.8 | 24.2 | 47.4 | 95.4 | 45.5 | 52.4 | 31.3 | 71.6 | 79.1 | 17.4 | 58.3 |
| Not well | 32.1 | 31.6 | 40.3 | 3.6 | 45.7 | 41.4 | 53.7 | 24.3 | 17.7 | 43.4 | 25.1 |
| Not at all | 22.5 | 44.3 | 10.7 | 0.4 | 8.6 | 5.9 | 15.3 | 3.7 | 2.7 | 37.4 | 5.9 |
| Not stated | 0.4 | - | 1.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| Total (\%) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| (number) | 529 | 1,022 | 382 | 3,116 | 3,820 | 10,163 | 706 | 1,275 | 3,184 | 235 | 39,696 |
| AGED 65-69 YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaks English - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Well or very well | 34.0 | 22.6 | 38.3 | 92.8 | 36.8 | 43.8 | 22.4 | 70.5 | 75.2 | 16.8 | 50.3 |
| Not well | 37.0 | 27.2 | 42.1 | 5.6 | 46.6 | 46.9 | 52.5 | 25.0 | 22.0 | 36.2 | 23.7 |
| Not at all | 28.3 | 49.6 | 19.7 | 0.6 | 16.4 | 8.9 | 25.1 | 4.5 | 2.4 | 47.7 | 7.9 |
| Not stated | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 1.4 |
| Total (\%) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| (number) | 300 | 805 | 183 | 1,829 | 1,921 | 5,375 | 303 | 865 | 1,888 | 149 | 25,473 |
| AGED 70 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaks English - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Well or very well | 30.6 | 15.7 | 20.4 | 81.3 | 25.9 | 26.0 | 18.2 | 51.4 | 60.0 | 13.9 | 31.8 |
| Not well | 27.5 | 21.3 | 35.5 | 15.2 | 35.2 | 45.4 | 41.1 | 36.2 | 33.3 | 24.7 | 21.5 |
| Not at all | 41.5 | 62.6 | 41.3 | 2.7 | 38.4 | 28.2 | 40.1 | 12.2 | 5.8 | 60.2 | 13.9 |
| Not stated | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 2.1 |
| Total (\%) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| (number) | 448 | 1,213 | 363 | 3,067 | 3,141 | 9,642 | 669 | 1,050 | 2,403 | 166 | 50,668 |
| ALL PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaks English - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Well or very well | 37.3 | 20.4 | 35.0 | 89.5 | 36.7 | 40.5 | 24.5 | 64.7 | 72.0 | 16.2 | 45.0 |
| Not well | 31.6 | 26.3 | 38.8 | 8.5 | 42.2 | 44.1 | 48.5 | 28.4 | 23.8 | 35.8 | 23.2 |
| Not at all | 30.5 | 53.0 | 24.5 | 1.4 | 20.8 | 15.1 | 26.9 | 6.7 | 3.7 | 47.1 | 9.9 |
| Not stated | 0.7 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| Total (\%) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| (number) | 1,277 | 3,040 | 928 | 8,012 | 8,882 | 25,180 | 1,678 | 3,190 | 7,475 | 550 | 115,837 |

[^7]ABS surveys conducted in 1981 and 1988 provide data on the extent of disability and handicap amongst older people. For both points in time, the incidence of disability or handicap among older people was about three times greater than among the whole population. (It should be noted that disability can refer to relatively minor difficulties such as needing to wear glasses, which is generally an age-related phenomenon. Full definitions of disability and handicap are included in the Glossary at the back of this publication.) Preliminary data from the 1988 survey suggest that about 52 per cent of older men and 46 per cent of older women reported some degree of disability. This compared with about 16 per cent of all men and women.

The incidence of severe handicaps among the population appears to have increased between 1981 and 1988, both for older people and for the population as a whole. Some 19 per cent of older women and 13 per cent of older men reported a severe handicap in 1988, compared with about 16 per cent of older women and 9 per cent of older men in 1981. The increase was smaller for the population as a whole: about 5 per cent of all women and 4 per cent of all men reported having a severe handicap in 1988, compared with about 4 per cent of all women and 3 per cent of all men in 1981. However, caution is needed in interpreting the variations between these two surveys.

TABLE 3.7 ALL PEOPLE: AGE BY WHETHER DISABLED OR ALSO HANDICAPPED, BY SEVERITY OF TOTAL HANDICAP, VICTORIA, 1981 AND $1988 p$


[^8]The incidence of disability among older people increased considerably with age. In 1988, the incidence of disability rose from less than half of 60 to 64 year old men to three-quarters of men aged 80 or over. The increase was more dramatic for women, with the incidence rising from over one-quarter of 60 to 64 year old women to three-quarters of women aged 80 or over.

Only a minority of older people with a disability were resident in health establishments ( 7 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women). Of older men who had reported a disability, 16 per cent were living alone. The equivalent figure for women was 37 per cent. In the 80 or over age group, 18 per cent of men and 44 per cent of women who reported a disability were living alone. Most disabled older people lived in households where other people were present.

TABLE 3.8 DISABLED PEOPLE: AGE BY TYPE OF RESIDENCE BY LIVING ARRANGEMENT BY SEX, VICTORIA, 1988p

|  | Hlouseholdas |  |  |  | $A D$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Lives | Lives with |  | Health | disabled |
| Agegroup (years) | alone | atherpeople | Trotal | establishments | people |


|  | - per cent - |  |  |  | ('000) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 55-59 | 13.0 | 84.1 | 97.1 | *2.9 | 29.5 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 18.6 | 78.7 | 97.3 | 2.7 | 40.7 |
| 65-74 | 13.6 | 82.1 | 95.8 | 4.2 | 66.1 |
| 75-79 | 15.4 | 72.3 | 87.7 | 12.3 | 20.7 |
| 80 or over | 17.9 | 64.6 | 82.6 | 17.4 | 23.1 |
| Total 60 or over | 15.9 | 77.2 | 93.1 | 6.9 | 150.6 |
| All people | 11.6 | 84.2 | 95.8 | 4.2 | 342.2 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | - per cent - |  |  |  | ('000) |
| 55-59 | 11.5 | 87.1 | 98.6 | * | 26.7 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 25.4 | 72.5 | 97.9 | *2.1 | 27.2 |
| 65-74 | 33.0 | 61.9 | 95.0 | 5.0 | 64.8 |
| 75-79 | 41.3 | 47.0 | 88.3 | 11.7 | 32.0 |
| 80 or over | 44.4 | 18.4 | 62.8 | 37.2 | 48.1 |
| Total 60 or over | 36.5 | 48.7 | 85.2 | 14.8 | 172.0 |
| All people | 21.3 | 70.3 | 91.6 | 8.4 | 342.4 |

* Estimates preceded by an * indicate a relative standard error for that estimate of between $30 \%$ and $50 \%$. Estimates replaced by an * indicate a relative standard error for that estimate of more than $50 \%$. See Technical note for further explanation.
Source: ABS, 1988 Survey of Disabled and Aged Persons, preliminary (unpublished data)


## Geographical distribution of older people

In 1986, 13 per cent of men in Victoria were 60 years or over, which was similar to the national figure. For older women the Victorian and Australian figures were identical. The Northern Territory had the lowest proportion of older people ( 6 per cent of men and 7 per cent of women), and South Australia had the highest ( 15 per cent of men and 18 per cent of women).

TABLE 3.9 PEOPLE AGED 55 YEARS OR OVER: AGE BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF ENUMERATION, AND AUSTRALIA, BY SEX, 30 JUNE 1986

| Age group (years) | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | SA. | WA. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Aust |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 55-59 | 134,035 | 97,508 | 59,228 | 33,854 | 31,368 | 10,243 | 2,703 | 4,426 | 373,365 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 123,221 | 86,328 | 57,590 | 31,476 | 27,395 | 9,384 | 2,161 | 3,587 | 341,142 |
| 65-69 | 94,798 | 63,319 | 46,537 | 24,097 | 19,964 | 7,228 | 1,410 | 2,241 | 259,594 |
| 70-74 | 73,630 | 50,645 | 35,743 | 19,429 | 16,534 | 5,890 | 811 | 1,526 | 204,208 |
| 75-79 | 45,889 | 33,540 | 22,572 | 12,129 | 10,979 | 3,750 | 388 | 871 | 130,118 |
| 80-84 | 22,362 | 17,275 | 11,301 | 6,063 | 5,780 | 1,878 | 139 | 416 | 65,214 |
| 85 or over | 11,405 | 9,152 | 6,104 | 3,403 | 2,866 | 975 | 82 | 206 | 34,193 |
| Total 60 or over | 371,305 | 260,258 | 179,847 | 96,597 | 83,518 | 29,105 | 4,991 | 8,847 | 1,034,469 |
| Per cent of population who were aged 60 years or over | 13.8 | 13.1 | 13.9 | 14.5 | 11.8 | 13.4 | 6.1 | 7.1 | 13.3 |
| WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 55-59 | 131,084 | 94,238 | 58,637 | 33,000 | 29,600 | 9,798 | 2,189 | 4,060 | 362,606 |
| 60 or over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 130,636 | 91,653 | 59,323 | 33,324 | 27,731 | 9,764 | 2,017 | 3,788 | 358,236 |
| 65-69 | 109,919 | 73,826 | 51,417 | 28,026 | 22,659 | 8,350 | 1,345 | 2,643 | 298,185 |
| 70-74 | 94,103 | 66,251 | 43,064 | 24,609 | 20,735 | 7,314 | 827 | 2,085 | 258,988 |
| 75-79 | 68,042 | 49,649 | 29,812 | 17,895 | 15,095 | 5,319 | 440 | 1,350 | 187,602 |
| 80-84 | 41,579 | 31,939 | 18,028 | 10,981 | 9,380 | 3,193 | 206 | 763 | 116,069 |
| 85 or over | 33,144 | 25,755 | 14,445 | 9,118 | 6,802 | 2,555 | 132 | 598 | 92,549 |
| Total 60 or over | 477,423 | 339,073 | 216,089 | 123,953 | 102,402 | 36,495 | 4,967 | 11,227 | 1,311,629 |
| Per cent of population who were aged 60 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| who were aged 60 years or over | 17.6 | 16.7 | 16.7 | 18.2 | 14.6 | 16.6 | 6.8 | 9.0 | 16.7 |

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CSC07)

CHART 3.5 PROPORTION OF PEOPLE WHO WERE AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF ENUMERATION, 30 JUNE 1986


Older people, like people in younger age groups, tended to live in the urban areas of Victoria. Although older people were distributed across the various urban and rural sections of Victoria in much the same proportions as the total population, they were not distributed evenly within either the Melbourne Statistical Division or the Rest of Victoria. Also, Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) with the greatest proportions of people aged 60 or over, were not necessarily the same SLAs with the highest proportions of people aged 80 or over.

TABLE 3.10 ALL PEOPLE: SECTION OF STATE, BY SEX, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Section of state | Older people |  | All people |  | Older people |  | All people |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Men | Women | Men | Women | Men | Women | Men | Women |
|  | - number - |  |  |  | - per cent - |  |  |  |
| Major urban | 177,990 | 239,322 | 1,363,405 | 1,407,912 | 68.4 | 70.6 | 68.5 | 69.4 |
| Other urban | 51,509 | 69,866 | 365,397 | 377,963 | 19.8 | 20.6 | 18.3 | 18.6 |
| Locality | 6,131 | 7,362 | 35,074 | 35,087 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 1.7 |
| Rural balance | 24,443 | 22,355 | 224,691 | 206,170 | 9.4 | 6.6 | 11.3 | 10.2 |
| Total (a) | 260,259 | 339,073 | 1,991,469 | 2,028,009 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes migratory and off shore.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CSC03)

Certain towns and localities, especially coastal resorts, have long been popular places for older people to move to at or near retirement age. In 1986, about one-third of residents in the Borough of Queenscliffe and the Shires of Phillip Island and Flinders were aged 60 or over. The presence of retirement villages or nursing homes may also attract a higher than average proportion of older people in some SLAs.

Not surprisingly, people aged 80 or over were not found in great numbers in the newer estates on the outskirts of the metropolitan area. Apart from the bayside municipalities of Flinders, Brighton and Sandringham, the SLAs in the Melbourne Statistical Division with the highest proportions of people aged 80 or over were all in areas of older residential development in the inner eastern and inner south-eastern suburbs.

TABLE 3.11 STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATIONS OF OLDER PEOPLE, MELBOURNE STATISTICAL DIVISION, 30 JUNE 1986

| Largest number of older people |  |  | Highest percentage of older people |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Statistical Local Area | Number | Per cent | Statistical Local Area | Number | Per cent |
| AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |
| Camberwell (C) | 19,810 | 23.6 | Flinders (S) | 10,691 | 32.3 |
| Moorabbin (C) | 19,624 | 20.6 | Caulfield (C) | 16,872 | 24.9 |
| Caulfield (C) | 16,872 | 24.9 | Brighton (C) | 8,238 | 24.8 |
| Preston (C) | 14,726 | 18.3 | Camberwell (C) | 19,810 | 23.6 |
| Nunawading (C) | 13,677 | 14.6 | Sandringham (C) | 7,091 | 23.3 |
| Waverley (C) | 13,569 | 11.0 | Kew (C) | 6,329 | 22.5 |
| Frankston (C) | 12,210 | 14.6 | Mordialloc (C) | 5,955 | 22.2 |
| Heidelberg (C) | 11,867 | 19.2 | Box Hill (C) | 9,932 | 21.7 |
| Essendon (C) | 11,317 | 21.0 | Williamstown (C) | 4,979 | 21.4 |
| Coburg (C) | 11,084 | 21.0 | Essendon (C) | 11,317 | 21.0 |
| AGED 80 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |
| Camberwell (C) | 3,761 | 4.5 | Kew (C) | 1,491 | 5.3 |
| Caulfield (C) | 3,143 | 4.6 | Brighton (C) | 1,648 | 5.0 |
| Moorabbin (C) | 2,346 | 2.5 | Caulfield (C) | 3,143 | 4.6 |
| Nunawading (C) | 1,981 | 2.1 | Camberwell (C) | 3,761 | 4.5 |
| Preston (C) | 1,867 | 2.3 | Hawthom (C) | 1,295 | 4.4 |
| Melbourne (C) -remainder(a) | 1,787 | 3.1 | Malvern (C) | 1,686 | 4.0 |
| Frankston (C) | 1,750 | 2.1 | Flinders (S) | 1,191 | 3.6 |
| Essendon (C) | 1,742 | 3.2 | Sandringham (C) | 1,093 | 3.6 |
| Malvern (C) | 1,686 | 4.0 | Prahran (C) | 1,547 | 3.6 |
| Brighton (C) | 1,648 | 5.0 | St. Kilda (C) | 1,520 | 3.3 |

[^9]Source : ABS, CDATA86

This same trend was also evident in urban areas outside the Melbourne Statistical Division. The Cities of Ballaarat, Bendigo, Geelong and Geelong West are all areas of long established residential development within larger areas of urban growth.

However, high proportions of older people in certain areas cannot always be attributed to people growing old in homes they have long occupied, or even to the special appeal of some areas for retired people. For example, younger people may have moved away to large urban areas for reasons of employment or education.

Some municipalities including the Cities of Camberwell, Caulfield, Geelong and Geelong West had populations with both high proportions and high numbers of older people. However, SLAs with high proportions of older people were not necessarily the same SLAs that had the largest numbers of older people. Although Waverley included 13,600 people aged 60 or over at 30 June 1986, they accounted for only 11 per cent of Waverley's population. Waverley's high number of older people is more a reflection of its large population (123,000 people) - the largest of any SLA in Victoria.

TABLE 3.12 STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATIONS OF OLDER PEOPLE, REST OF VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| K-4. Latgesthumberofolder people |  |  | Highest percentage of older people |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Statatsical Local Area | Number | Percent |
| AGED 60 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ballaarat (C) | 7,829 | 22.5 | Queenscliffe (B) | 1,092 | 33.8 |
| Corio (S) | 6,626 | 12.5 | Phillip Island ( S ) | 1,248 | 30.4 |
| Bendigo ( C ) | 6,298 | 20.5 | Castlemaine (C) | 1,770 | 26.8 |
| South Barwon (C) | 5,959 | 15.7 | Port Fairy (B) | 652 | 26.0 |
| Bellarine ( S ) | 5,546 | 15.7 | Geelong West (C) | 3,416 | 24.8 |
| Warmambool (C) | 3,860 | 17.0 | St. Arnaud (T) | 650 | 24.1 |
| Shepparton (C) | 3,693 | 14.9 | Euroa (S) | 1,016 | 23.8 |
| Mildura (C) | 3,502 | 19.1 | Dunmunkle ( $\mathbf{S}$ ) | 674 | 23.4 |
| Geelong West (C) | 3,416 | 24.8 | Geelong (C) | 3,141 | 23.4 |
| Geelong (C) | 3,141 | 23.4 | Warracknabeal (S) | 869 | 23.1 |
| AGED 80 YEARS OR OVER |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ballaarat (C) | 1,544 | 4.4 | Queenscliffe (B) | 218 | 6.8 |
| Bendigo (C) | 1,311 | 4.3 | Castlemaine (C) | 347 | 5.3 |
| Corio (S) | 749 | 1.4 | Dunmunkle (S) | 138 | 4.8 |
| South Barwon (C) | 749 | 2.0 | St. Amaud (T) | 128 | 4.8 |
| Warmambool (C) | 625 | 2.8 | Ballaarat (C) | 1,544 | 4.4 |
| Shepparton (C) | 609 | 2.5 | Bendigo (C) | 1,311 | 4.3 |
| Geelong West (C) | 573 | 4.2 | Kerang (B) | 169 | 4.2 |
| Mildura (C) | 547 | 3.0 | Warracknabeal (S) | 156 | 4.2 |
| Wangaratta (C) | 534 | 3.2 | Geelong West (C) | 573 | 4.2 |
| Geelong (C) | 511 | 3.8 | Camperdown (T) | 141 | 4.1 |

Source : ABS, CDATA86
Internal migration data from the Census reflect only the net effect of multiple movements within a given period (see Glossary). Almost two out of every five people in Victoria reported living in a different dwelling on 30 June 1986 from the one they had occupied 5 years previously. This contrasts with one in five older people during the same period. There was little difference in internal migration patterns among the age groups from 60 to 64 years to 75 to 79 years. People aged 80 or over were more likely to have moved in the five years prior to Census night than people aged 60 to 79 years possibly out of necessity as they became less able to look after themselves or their home and garden; however, they were still far less likely to have moved than was the total population.

TABLE 3.13 PEOPLE AGED 5 YEARS OR OVER (a): AGE BY INTERNAL MIGRATION 1981 1986, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Age group (years) | Usual residence 1986 - |  |  |  | Not stated | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Same as in 1981 | Living elsewhere in 1981. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Within same SLA | Within same State | In another State |  |  |
|  |  |  | - numbe |  |  |  |
| Older people - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 136,317 | 10,054 | 23,575 | 4,832 | 3,205 | 177,982 |
| 65-69 | 106,149 | 7,502 | 16,820 | 3,833 | 2,842 | 137,144 |
| 70-74 | 92,117 | 6,273 | 12,874 | 2,721 | 2,913 | 116,897 |
| 75-79 | 64,815 | 4,840 | 8,952 | 1,814 | 2,768 | 83,189 |
| 80 or over | 58,616 | 6,813 | 11,764 | 1,530 | 5,397 | 84,122 |
| Total | 458,014 | 35,482 | 73,985 | 14,730 | 17,125 | 599,334 |
| All people | 2,150,420 | 375,150 | 848,879 | 256,220 | 93,657 | 3,724,325 |
|  |  |  | - per cent |  |  |  |
| Older people - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 | 76.6 | 5.6 | 13.2 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 100.0 |
| 65-69 | 77.4 | 5.5 | 12.3 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 100.0 |
| 70-74 | 78.8 | 5.4 | 11.0 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 100.0 |
| 75-79 | 77.9 | 5.8 | 10.8 | 2.2 | 3.3 | 100.0 |
| 80 or over | 69.7 | 8.1 | 14.0 | 1.8 | 6.4 | 100.0 |
| Total | 76.4 | 5.9 | 12.3 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 100.0 |
| All people | 57.7 | 10.1 | 22.8 | 6.9 | 2.5 | 100.0 |

(a) Excludes people whose usual residence was overseas in 1981.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)
While there was little difference in internal migration among the age groups of older people, differing marital status caused significant variation. Married older people were least likely to have moved house, with 18 per cent living in a different dwelling in 1986 from the one they had occupied in 1981. In contrast, 35 per cent of older people who were separated but not divorced, and 33 per cent of older people who were divorced, had moved during this period.
Almost 30 per cent of older people who reported they had moved between 1981 and 1986 moved within the same Statistical Local Area, and 60 per cent moved to a different SLA within the same State. Only 12 per cent of all older people who had moved between 1981 and 1986 had lived in a different State in 1981.

TABLE 3.14 OLDER PEOPLE (a): MARITAL STATUS BY INTERNAL MIGRATION 1981-1986, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1986

| Marital status | Usual residence 1986. |  |  |  | Not stated | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Living elsewhere in 1981- |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Same as in 1981 | Within same | Within same | In another |  |  |
|  |  | SLA | State | State |  |  |
|  |  |  | - number |  |  |  |
| Never married | 31,003 | 2,974 | 5,407 | 836 | 2,299 | 42,521 |
| Married | 285,780 | 16,605 | 39,007 | 8,284 | 6,808 | 356,488 |
| Separated | 6,284 | 1,052 | 2,251 | 345 | 476 | 10,410 |
| Divorced | 13,016 | 1,880 | 4,082 | 671 | 766 | 20,414 |
| Widowed | 121,926 | 12,970 | 23,233 | 4,590 | 6,778 | 169,502 |
| Total | 458,014 | 35,482 | 73,985 | 14,730 | 17,125 | 599,334 |
|  |  |  | - per cent |  |  |  |
| Never married | 72.9 | 7.0 | 12.7 | 2.0 | 5.4 | 100.0 |
| Married | 80.2 | 4.7 | 10.9 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 100.0 |
| Separated | 60.4 | 10.1 | 21.6 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 100.0 |
| Divorced | 63.8 | 9.2 | 20.0 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 100.0 |
| Widowed | 71.9 | 7.7 | 13.7 | 2.7 | 4.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 76.4 | 5.9 | 12.3 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 100.0 |

[^10]More detailed definitions than those contained in this glossary are published in The 1986 Census Dictionary (2174.0) and Disabled and Aged Persons, Australia, 1988 (4118.0).

Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander. People were asked to indicate whether they were of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or Other origin.

Age. The person's age at last birthday. Where a respondent failed to state an age, it was imputed using other information on the census form and specially constructed random age tables. Data on the incidence of age not stated is available from the ABS.

Bedrooms, number of. This refers to the number of bedrooms in an occupied private dwelling. It does not apply to caravans etc. in caravan parks, to unoccupied private dwellings or to non-private dwellings.

Country of birth. The place of birth of an individual. If birthplace was not stated, an attempt was made to impute it from other answers or from responses for other family members. If birthplace could not be imputed, a code for 'not stated' was given.

Disabled person. This is a person who had one or more of the following disabilities or impairments which had lasted or were likely to last for 6 months or more:
(a) loss of sight (even when wearing glasses or contact lenses),
(b) loss of hearing,
(c) speech difficulties in native language,
(d) blackouts, fits, or loss of consciousness,
(e) slowness of learning or understanding,
(f) incomplete use of arms or fingers,
(g) incomplete use of feet or legs,
(h) long term treatment for nerves or an emotional condition,
(i) restriction in physical activities or in doing physical work,
(j) disfigurement or deformity,
(k) need for help or supervision because of a mental disability, and
(1) long term treatment or medication (but was still restricted in some way by the condition being treated).

Dwelling, type of. This consists of three main categorics:
private dwellings - are normally houses, flats, parts of houses, or even rooms, but can also be houses above shops or offices, boats, or tents if they are standing on their own blocks of land. A caravan situated on a residential
allotment is also classed as a private dwelling.
non-private dwellings - are hospitals, homes for the aged, hotels, motels, guest houses, gaols, religious and charitable institutions, defence establishments, and other dwellings which have communal eating facilities.
caravans - This category of dwelling is separate from private dwellings and nonprivate dwellings. Caravans include occupied caravans, tents, cabins, campervans, etc. in caravan parks and occupied boats in marinas.

Family, relationship in. This describes the family or household situation of each person in a private dwelling, or caravan, etc, in a caravan park.

Handicapped person. This is a disabled person aged 5 years of over who was further identified as being limited to some degree in his/her ability to perform certain tasks in relation to one or more of the following five areas:
(a) self care - difficulties in showering, bathing, dressing, eating;
(b) mobility - difficulties in using public transport, moving around inside or outside the home/health establishment, walking 200 metres, walking up and down stairs;
(c) verbal communication - difficulties understanding or being understood by others in the person's native language;
(d) schooling - unable to attend school, attended a special school or special classes in an ordinary school or had difficulty at school because of disabling conditions. This information was collected only for people aged 5 to 14 years and those aged 15 to 20 years still attending school; and
(e) employment - permanently unable to work, restricted in type of work could do, often needed time off work, restricted in number of hours could work, would require an employer to make special arrangements, or limited prospects of obtaining / keeping / changing jobs. This information was collected for people in households aged 21 to 64 years and those aged 15 to 20 years not attending school. It was not collected for people in health establishments.

Disabled people aged under 5 years were all regarded as being handicapped, but were not classified by area of handicap.

Hours worked. Employed people were asked how many hours they worked in their main job during the week before Census night.

Income, annual. Individuals aged 15 years or over were asked to state their usual gross weekly income, which is the income before tax and other deductions are made. For tabulation purposes the results were converted to annual equivalents. 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. People were asked to indicate the range into which their income fell, rather than state their exact income.

Income, median. Median income is the amount which divides the income distribution into two groups, one half of the population having incomes above the median and the other half having incomes below it.

Internal migration. This gives some indication of the extent to which people have 'moved house' between one date (eg. 30 June 1981) and another (eg. 30 June 1986). However, it reflects only the net effects of any multiple moves within the period. For example, a person whose usual place of residence in 1981 was in a Victorian rural area, who moved to Adelaide in 1983, and then Melbourne in 1985, would be recorded simply as having moved from the Victorian country to Melboume between 1981 and 1986. Also, a person who moved away from a 1981 place of usual residence to live elsewhere, but then returned before 1986 to the earlier address as a usual resident, would be recorded as not having moved.

Labour force status People aged 15 years and over were classified as either being 'in the labour force' or 'not in the labour force'. Those who were 'in the labour force' were further classified as being employed or unemployed.

Employed people were those who:
(a) worked for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business, during the week prior to Census night; or
(b) had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; or
(c) were on strike or stood down temporarily.

Unemployed people were those who did not have a job but had actively looked for work at any time during the four weeks prior to Census night. People not in the labour force were those aged 15 years or over who were neither employed nor unemployed.

A number of differences between the 1976 and 1986 Censuses should be noted:
(a) if labour force questions were unanswered and labour force status was not able to be derived from other questions on the Census form:
. in 1976 a response was randomly allocated whereas
. in 1986 no random allocation was made, rather a new category was introduced called 'not stated';
(b) unpaid helpers in a family business who worked less than 15 hours in the week prior to Census night
. in 1976 were classed as not in the labour force, but
. in 1986 were included in the labour force; and
(c) people who reported an occupation of 'housewife', 'full-time student' or 'pensioner' . in 1976 were included in the employed labour force in the category 'inadequately described', but
. in 1986 were classed as 'not in the labour force'.

Language spoken at home. People aged 5 years or over were asked if they used a language other than English at home, and if so, how well they spoke English. They were also asked to name the language.

Life expectancy. The expected average number of years of life remaining to people who had reached a specific age.
Marital status. People aged 15 years and over were asked to indicate whether they were never married, married, separated, divorced or widowed.

Nature of occupancy. For households in private dwellings, nature of occupancy indicates whether households owned the dwelling in which they were enumerated, or whether they were purchasing or renting it. For those who were renting the dwelling, the type of landlord was also recorded. Nature of occupancy was not coded for caravans etc, in caravan parks or for nonprivate dwellings.

Occupation. Occupation was classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) for all employed people aged 15 years or over.

Offspring, living. Women were asked how many babies they had ever had excluding still births, and, of these, how many were still living.

Older people. These are people who were aged 60 years or over on Census night or at the time of the survey.

Participation rate. This is the number of people in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years or over.

Pension type. The following pension types were considered:
. the Department of Social Security - age pension, invalid pension, wife's and widow's pensions, carer's pension, supporting parents benefit, sheltered employment allowance and rehabilitation allowance; and . the Department of Veterans Affairs service pension.

Population projections. Population estimates are projected according to certain assumptions about future demographic trends (i.e. mortality, fertility, overseas migration and interstate migration). The projection results are not intended as predictions or forecasts; rather, they are illustrations of growth and change in the population which would occur if the demographic assumptions prevail over the projection period. The ABS publishes four series of population projections, based on different sets of assumptions about demographic trends. Details of these assumptions are published in Projections of the Populations of Australia, States and Territories, 1987 to 2031, (3222.0).

Qualifications. People aged 15 years or over were asked whether they had obtained a qualification since leaving school, and if so, the qualification name, field of study, and name of awarding institution. Qualifications were coded according to the Index of Qualifications.

Reference person. A family reference person is a person on the household form around whom a family can be constructed.

Religious affiliation. Response to the question on religious affiliation is optional. 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.

Section of State. Within a State of Territory, each section of State represents either an aggregation of geographic areas of a particular urban type, or the rural balance. The sections of State are as follows:
(a) major urban - all urban centres with a population of 100,000 and over;
(b) 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;
(c) locality - all population clusters of 200 to 999 people;
(d) rural balance - the rural remainder of the State or Territory; and
(e) off-shore and migratory - people 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. This category is included in Table 3.10 as part of the total as it is very small.

Severity of handicap. Three levels of severity (severe, moderate and mild) were determined for each of three areas of handicap: self-care, mobility and verbal communication. For each area of handicap, the levels of severity were as follows:
severe - personal help or supervision required or the person is unable to perform one or more of the tasks;
(b) moderate - no personal help or supervision required, but the person has difficulty in performing one or more of the tasks;
(c)
mild - no personal help or supervision required and no difficulty in performing any of the tasks, but the person uses an aid, or has difficulty walking 200 metres or up and down stairs.

The highest level of severity in any one of the areas of self-care, mobility and verbal communication determines the severity of total handicap for handicapped people.

Severity of handicap was not determined for people with only an employment or schooling limitation, nor was it determined for children aged less than 5 years.

State or Territory of enumeration. People were counted where they were on Census night, which may not have been where they usually lived. State or Territory of enumeration refers to the State or Territory in which people were counted on Census night.

Statistical Local Area (SLA). This is an area defined in the Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC) which consists of one or more Collection Districts and is based on legal Local Government Areas.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

## Introduced random error

1. Most of the data in this report are derived from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. One of the advantages of a census is that it allows data to be presented in detailed cross-classified tables. However, the more detailed a table is the greater is the risk that an individual in one of the table's cells will become identifiable. To prevent this from happening (in order to preserve confidentiality), a technique of unbiased random adjustment is applied to the Census data. The adjustments, known as introduced random error, are only small, so the information value of the tables as a whole is not, for most purposes, impaired. Because of these adjustments, totals in some cross-classified tables may be slightly different from the sum of their components.

## Survey of disabled and aged persons

## Estimation procedure

2. The estimates derived from the 1988 Survey of Disables and Aged Persons are based on the results of two independent surveys. The results of the surveys are calculated using a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by area of State, age and sex, rather than to area of State, age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

## Reliability of the estimates

3. The survey estimates are subject to two types of error: sampling error and non-sampling error.

## Sampling error

4. Since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings and a sample of health establishments they are subject to sampling variability: that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings and all health establishments had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings or of health establishments was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings and health establishments had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure is the relative standard error, which expresses the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.
5. Standard errors for estimates relating to people in households are given in Table A. For estimates
relating to people in health establishments the standard errors are given in Table B. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate, but they will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

From Table 3.15 it can be seen that there are about 327,800 disabled men in households ( $95.8 \%$ of 342,200 ). Table A shows that the standard error of this estimate is about 7,000 (using interpolation). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 320,800 to 334,800 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 313,800 to 341,800 .
6. The standard error of an estimate which is the sum of estimates from the household and health establishment surveys is approximately equal to the standard error of the household estimate. This is because health establishment standard errors are small compared with household standard errors.

An example using the sum of estimates from the two surveys is as follows:

From Table 3.14 it can be seen that in 1988 there were about 75,500 severely handicapped men in both households and health establishments $(3.6 \%$ of $2,096,000$ ). From Table A the standard error for an estimate of 75,500 is approximately 4,100 .

Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings and health establishments had been included in the survey will fall within the range 71,400 to 79,600 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 67,300 to 83,700 .
7. Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and denominator. The formula to be used to give an approximate relative standard error (RSE) of proportions and percentages in this publication is outlined in the publication titled Disabled and Aged Persons, Australia, 1988 (Preliminary) (4118.0). Calculation of the differences between the two surveys and the implication of the calculated difference according to sampling error are also discussed in this publication.

## Non-sampling error

8. The imprecision due to sampling variability,
which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with other errors which can occur in both samples and complete enumerations. These errors are usually referred to as non-sampling errors. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:
(a) inability to obtain comprehensive data from all people included in the sample. These errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics of respondents and non-respondents;
(b) errors in reporting on the part of both respondents and interviewers. These reporting errors may arise through inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of what
data are required, inability or unwillingness to provide accurate information and mistakes in answers to questions; and
(c) errors arising during processing of the survey data. These processing errors may arise through mistakes in coding and data recording.
9. Non-sampling errors are difficult to measure in any collection. However, every effort was made to minimise these errors. In particular, the effect of the reporting and processing errors described above was minimised by careful questionnaire design, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

TABLE A. STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATES, VICTORIA - HOUSEHOLDS

| Size ofesimate | Standarderror |
| :---: | :---: |
| 100 | 170 |
| 200 | 260 |
| 300 | 320 |
| 400 | 370 |
| 500 | 420 |
| 600 | 460 |
| 800 | 540 |
| 1,000 | 600 |
| 1,300 | 690 |
| 1,500 | 740 |
| 1,800 | 810 |
| 2,000 | 850 |
| 2,500 | 950 |
| 3,000 | 1,050 |
| 3,500 | 1,100 |
| 4,000 | 1,200 |
| 4,500 | 1,250 |
| 5,000 | 1,300 |
| 6,000 | 1,450 |
| 10,000 | 1,800 |
| 20,000 | 2,450 |
| 50,000 | 3,500 |
| 100,000 | 4,600 |
| 200,000 | 5,900 |
| 300,000 | 6,800 |
| 500,000 | 8,000 |
| $1,000,000$ | 10,000 |
| $2,00,000$ | 12,200 |
| $5,000,000$ |  |

TABLE B. STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATES, VICTORIA - HEALTH ESTABLISHMENTS

| Stre ofestimare | Standarderror |
| ---: | :---: |
| 100 | 53 |
| 200 | 80 |
| 300 | 100 |
| 400 | 110 |
| 500 | 130 |
| 600 | 140 |
| 800 | 160 |
| 1,000 | 180 |
| 1,500 | 210 |
| 2,000 | 240 |
| 2,500 | 260 |
| 3,000 | 280 |
| 3,500 | 290 |
| 4,000 | 310 |
| 5,000 | 350 |
| 6,000 | 380 |
| 8,000 | 400 |
| 10,000 | 440 |
| 15,000 | 470 |
| 20,000 | 490 |
| 25,000 | 550 |
| 50,00 | 570 |
| 75,000 | 590 |
| 100,000 | 600 |
| 150,000 | 610 |
| 200,000 |  |



Statistical Local Areas



[^0]:    Source : ABS, Projections for the Populations of Australia, States and Territories, 1987 to 2031, Series D (3222.0)

[^1]:    (a) Excludes people who did not state their birthplace. (b) Includes people who did not state their period of residence.

    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0040)

[^2]:    (a) Median income of people who stated their income.

    Sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0028 and CSC23)

[^3]:    Source: Department of Social Security

[^4]:    (a) Includes people who did not state their income and/or their labour force status. (b) Median income of people who stated their income.
    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0028)

[^5]:    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0015)

[^6]:    (a) Does not include owner/manager and family or employee and family. (b) Includes people in non-private dwellings who were owner/manager and family or employee and family.
    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)

[^7]:    (a) Includes all other languages and language not stated.

    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (CX0011)

[^8]:    (a) Includes handicapped people when the severity of the handicap could not be determined. (b) Includes people who are handicapped.

    Sources: ABS, 1988 Survey of Disabled and Aged Persons, preliminary (4118.0)
    ABS, 1981 Survey of Handicapped Persons, final (4343.0)
    See Technical Note for discussion on comparison of census and survey data.

[^9]:    (a) Includes the City of Melbourne other than the Central Business District

[^10]:    (a) Excludes people whose usual residence was overseas in 1981

    Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1986 (unpublished data)

