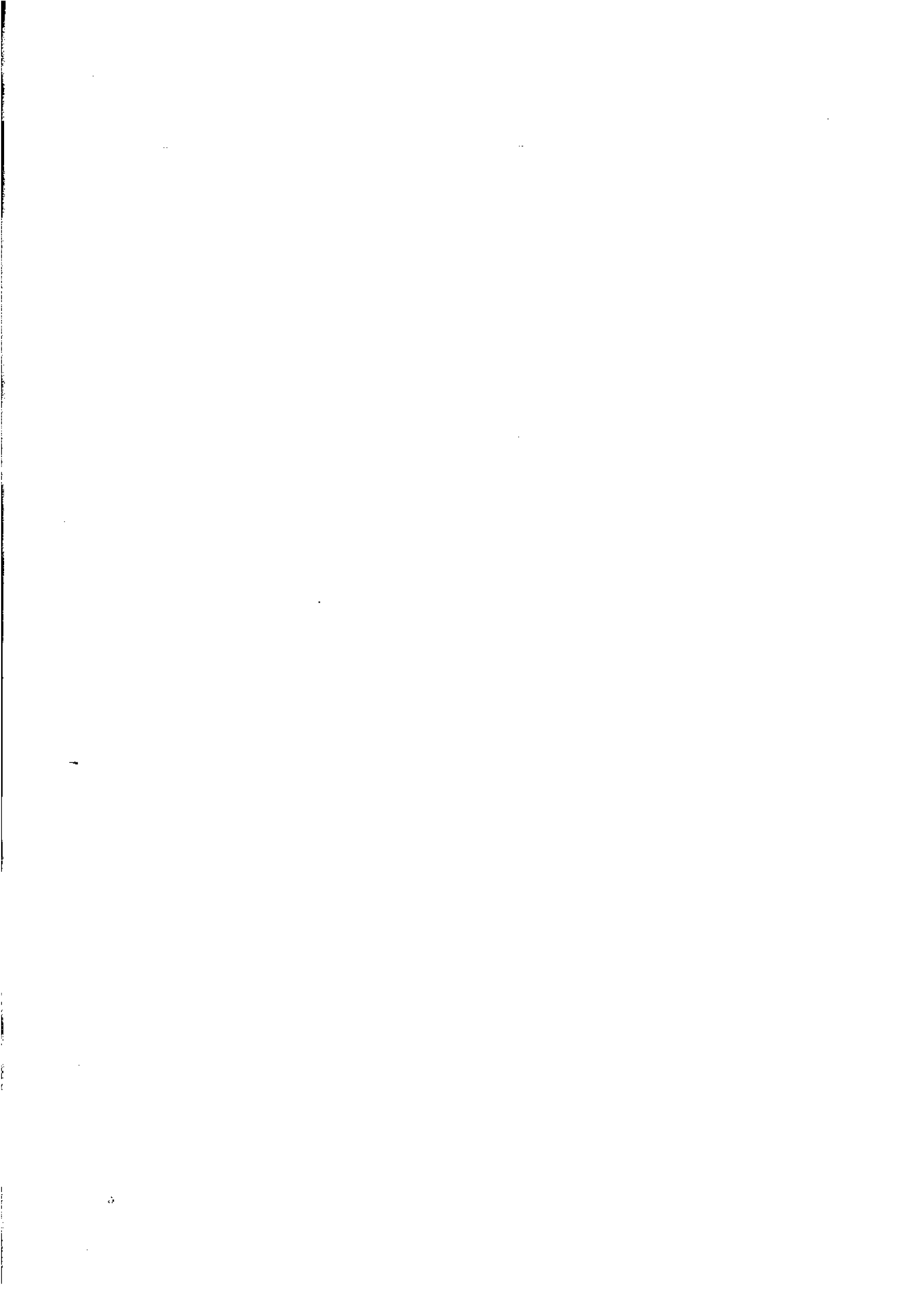


Queensland Families



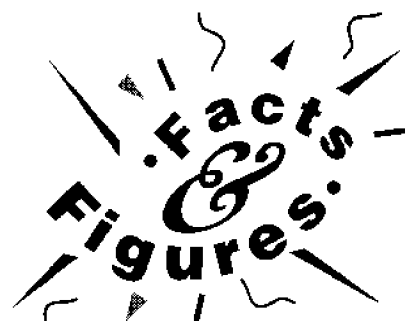
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Queensland Families



Department of Family
Services and Aboriginal
and Islander Affairs
Queensland



Queensland Families Facts and Figures

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Department of Family Services and
Aboriginal and Islander Affairs
GPO Box 806
Brisbane Qld 4001
Telephone (07) 224 8045 or 1800 811 810
Facsimile (07) 224 3570

Australian Bureau of Statistics
GPO Box 9817
Brisbane Qld 4001
Telephone (07) 222 6351
Facsimile (07) 229 6042

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FOREWORD

This publication is an initiative of the Queensland Government to mark the International Year of the Family (IYF). The objectives and philosophy of IYF aim to strengthen community understanding and support for the diverse range of families in our society and to provide a framework for promoting shared government, community and employer responsibility for supporting families.

The statistical data contained in this publication on families is the latest available at the time of compilation. The publication will provide a valuable reference source for government, community groups, the private sector, academics and students. It highlights some of the key changes in Queensland families and will assist decision making for policy development and service delivery for Queensland families.

The publication was produced by the Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs and the Queensland Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The project involved Richard Lennon and June Martin from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Barbara Wilkins and Carmel Finn from the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

A number of staff from both organisations assisted in the production of the publication and their assistance is acknowledged with thanks.

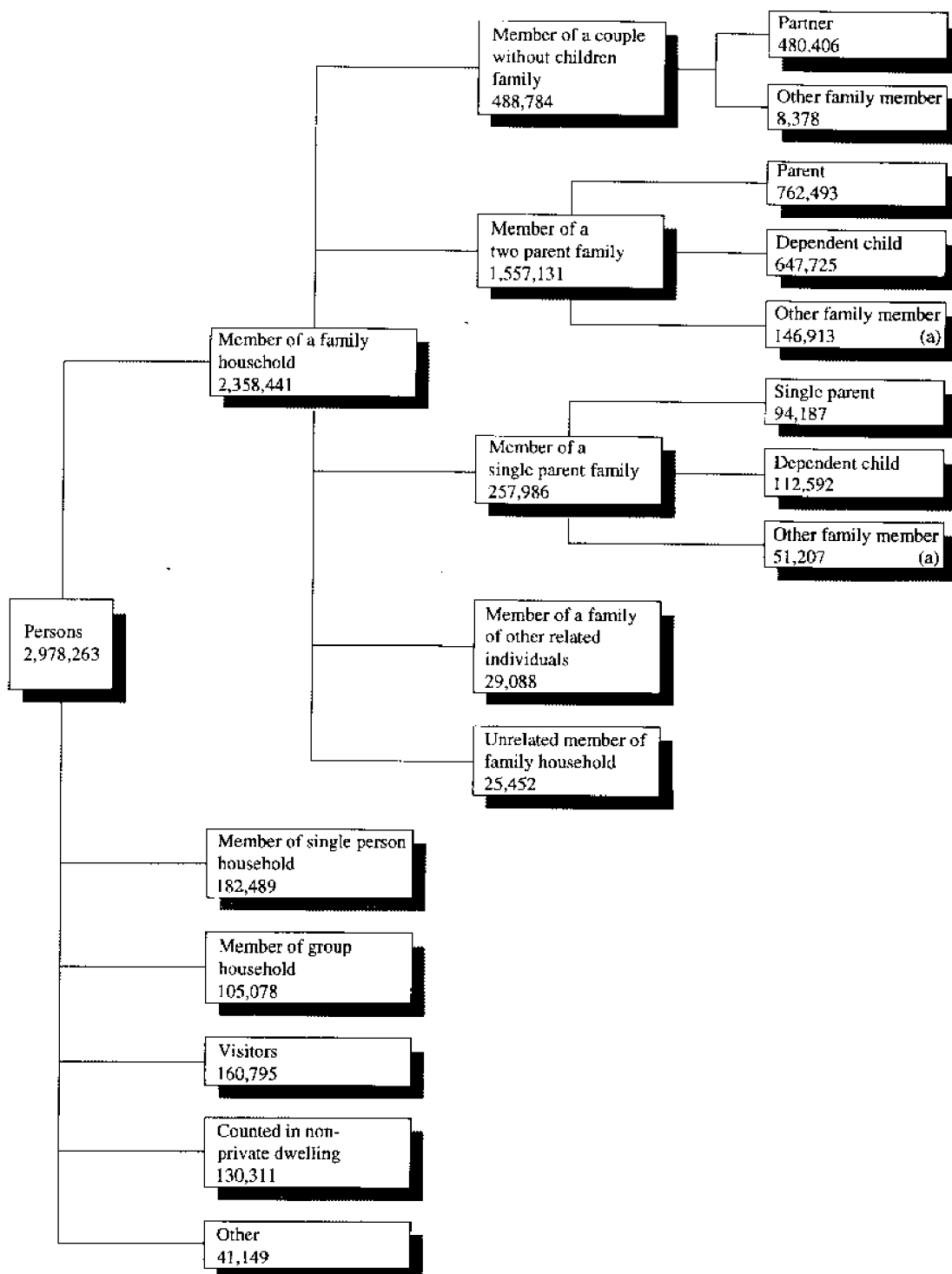
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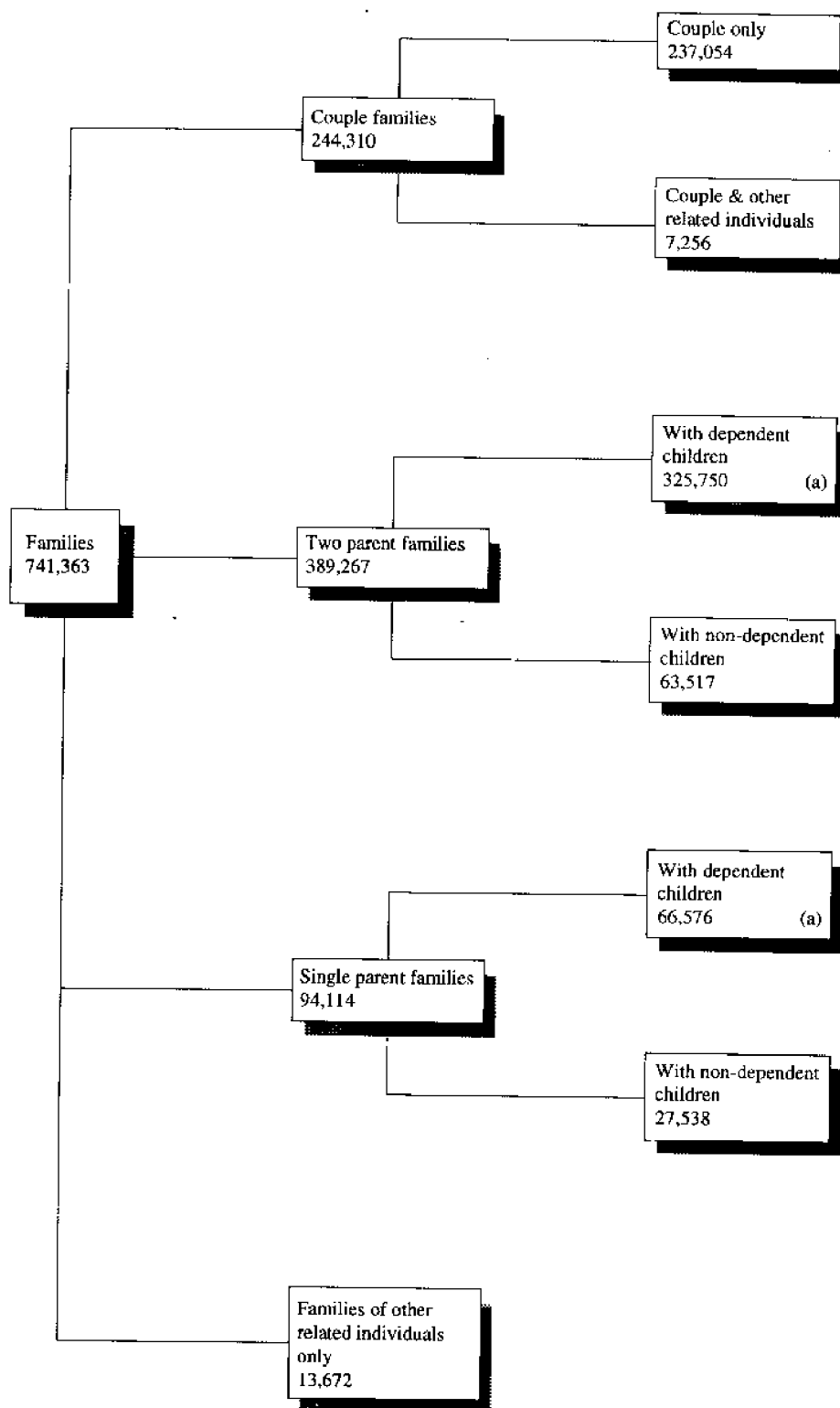
Living Arrangements, Queensland, 1991



(a) Including non-dependent children and other family members present.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B33.

Family Type, Queensland, 1991

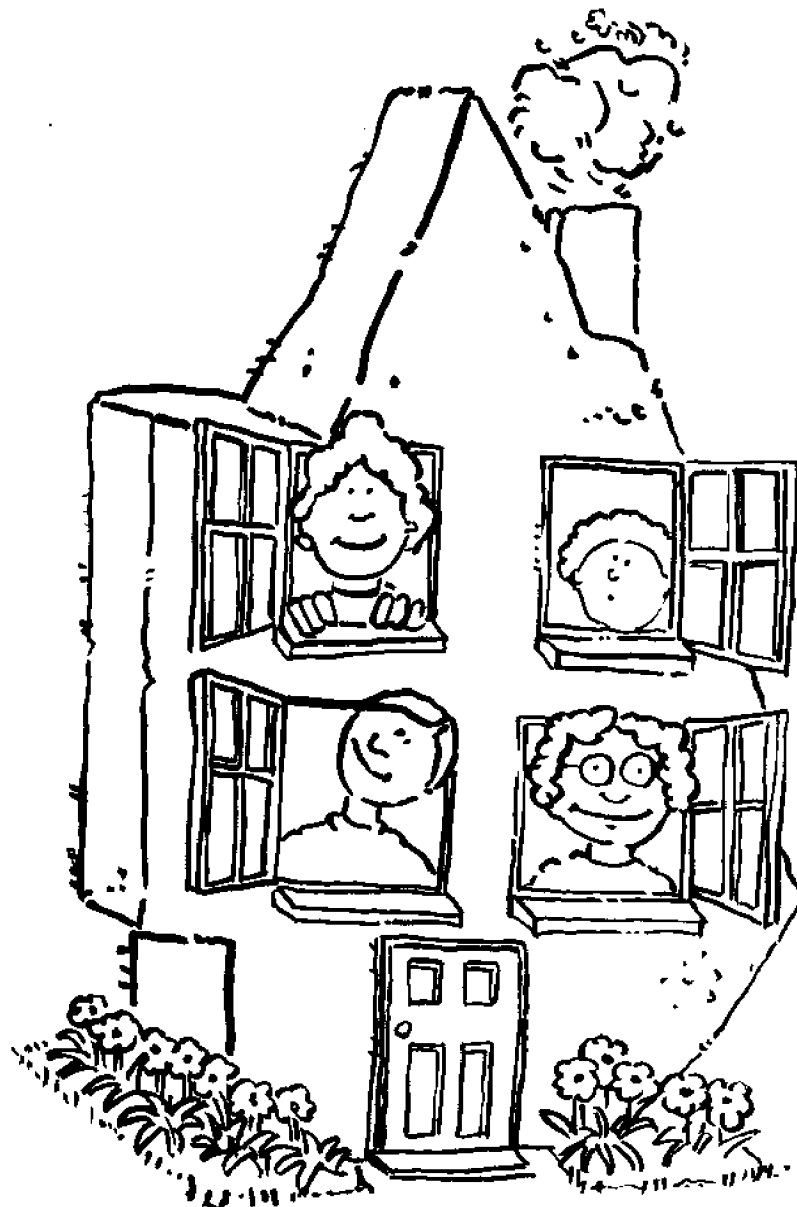


(a) These families may have non-dependent children and other family members present.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B34.

Section 1

QUEENSLAND FAMILIES



INTRODUCTION

- The vast majority of Queenslanders live in family households. At the time of the last Census of Population and Housing in 1991, two parent families comprised 53 per cent of all families. Couple only families made up another 32 per cent and a further 13 per cent were single parent families. In these single parent families, female parents outnumbered their male counterparts by almost five to one. Persons in non-family households represented less than 10 per cent of all Queenslanders, while the occupants of hospitals, hostels, nursing homes and other non-private dwellings represented less than 5 per cent of the State's population.

QUEENSLAND HOUSEHOLDS

- In 1991, there were 964,687 households in Queensland, excluding 36,219 households containing only visitors, such as families in short-term holiday accommodation. More than 67 per cent of households were one family households living in separate houses.
- Since 1981 the number of households has increased more rapidly than the number of people in households. This resulted in a decrease in average household size from 3.05 persons in 1981 to 2.89 persons in 1986. However, this decline in the average size of households slowed in the period 1986 to 1991 and by 1991 the average number of persons per household was 2.83.

TABLE 1.1:
HOUSEHOLDS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND NUMBER
OF PERSONS, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Household type	Number of households	Proportion of households	Number of persons
		%	
Family households	734,998	76.2	2,419,632
1 family	728,725	75.5	2,381,863
2 families	6,039	0.6	35,548
3 families	234	0.0	2,221
Group households	47,297	4.9	110,455
Single person households	182,392	18.9	198,904
Total (a)	964,687	100.0	2,728,991

(a) Includes visitors to each household type, but excludes households that contained only visitors on Census night.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Tables B43 and B44 and unpublished data.

Single person and group households

- Generally the characteristics of persons who lived in single person and group households were different from each other and the rest of the population. Almost 55 per cent of people who lived alone were women, and there were greater proportions of people aged 60 years and over, and persons who had been widowed, than in the total population. In group households, young single people and men were more highly represented than in the population as a whole. To some extent, living arrangements reflect transitional stages in family formation and family breakdown, with greater proportions of never married, divorced or separated persons in both single person and group households than in the general population.

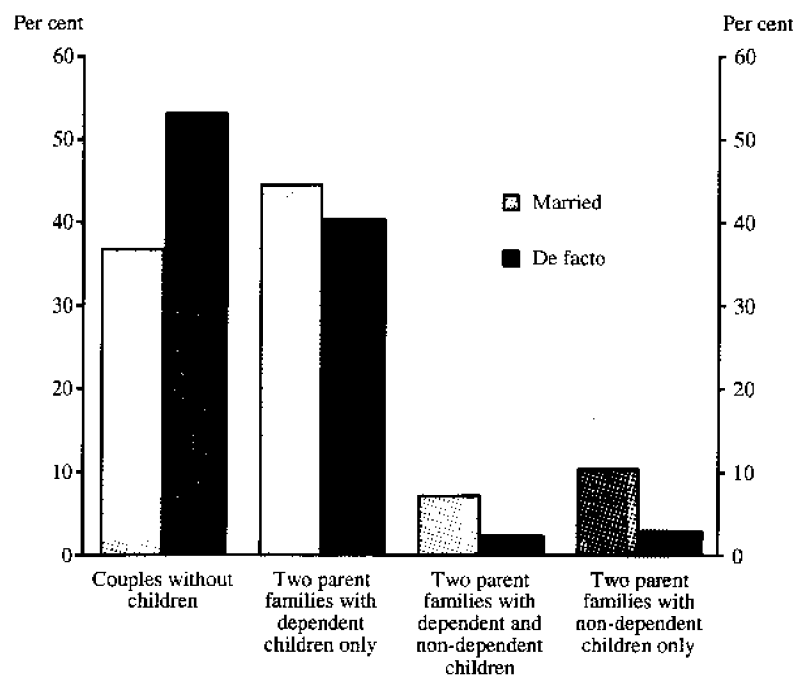
QUEENSLAND FAMILIES

- In 1991, over 2.3 million Queenslanders were living in families. A further 25,452 people, while not related to family members, were living in family households.

Couple families

- Couple families, which are two parent families and families of couples without children, formed the majority living arrangement with 633,577 families and 2,045,915 family members. More than half of couple families had dependent children usually living at home. Dependent children are children aged 0 to 14 years and children aged 15 to 24 years who are full-time students. Almost 17 per cent of couple families had other, non-dependent, children living at home.

FIGURE 1.1:
COUPLES: FAMILY TYPE BY TYPE OF PARTNERSHIP,
QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B36.

- The traditional nuclear family of two parents with dependent children only, represented 36.6 per cent of all Queensland families and those with dependent and non-dependent children represented 7.3 per cent of all families.
- De facto couples less likely to have dependent children
- Most couples were married, but 61,498 or 9.7 per cent of couple families were in de facto relationships. De facto couples were less likely to have dependent children than married couples. Only 43.3 per cent of de facto couples had dependent children compared with 52.2 per cent of married couples.
- Single parent families
- Single parent families accounted for 94,114 or 12.7 per cent of all Queensland families. Single parents with dependent children represented 9.0 per cent of all families. 55 per cent of single parent families had dependent children only, and 15 per cent had a single parent, dependent children and other family members.

TABLE 1.2:
FAMILY TYPE BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, 1991 AND QUEENSLAND, 1991 AND 1986

Statistical division	Population	Families	Family type					Families of other individuals
			Couples without children	Two parent families with dependent children (a)	Two parent families with non-dependent children	Single parent families with dependent children (a)	Single parent families with non-dependent children	
Brisbane	1,334,098	340,198	104,694	150,750	31,652	31,530	14,472	7,100
Moreton	513,885	127,900	51,105	49,547	10,084	11,075	4,058	2,031
Wide Bay-Burnett	195,280	51,233	19,301	21,473	4,062	4,001	1,607	789
Darling Downs	185,497	47,376	15,471	21,456	4,069	3,845	1,668	867
South West	27,934	6,845	2,061	3,297	600	508	268	111
Fitzroy	167,641	40,969	12,424	19,944	3,283	3,434	1,255	629
Central West	13,771	3,089	957	1,525	238	209	94	66
Mackay	113,782	27,298	8,263	13,534	2,236	2,108	750	407
Northern	183,353	44,213	13,693	20,487	3,504	4,231	1,584	714
Far North	201,922	43,675	14,124	19,277	3,191	4,777	1,498	808
North West	39,056	8,567	2,217	4,460	598	858	284	150
Queensland (b)								
1991 (c)	2,977,813	741,363	244,310	325,750	63,517	66,576	27,538	13,672
1986 (c)	2,587,315	689,077	229,160	304,319	58,185	55,740	27,665	14,008

(a) These families may have non-dependent children or other family members present.

(b) Includes off-shore and migratory.

(c) Comparisons may be affected by the inclusion of persons aged 21 to 24 years in full-time study in the definition of dependent children in 1991.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Tables B01 and B34.

- Nearly 83 per cent of single parents were females. A higher proportion of female parents, 32 per cent, were aged 15 to 24 years, compared with male parents, 19 per cent. Most single parents had been married, or were still married but separated from their spouse.

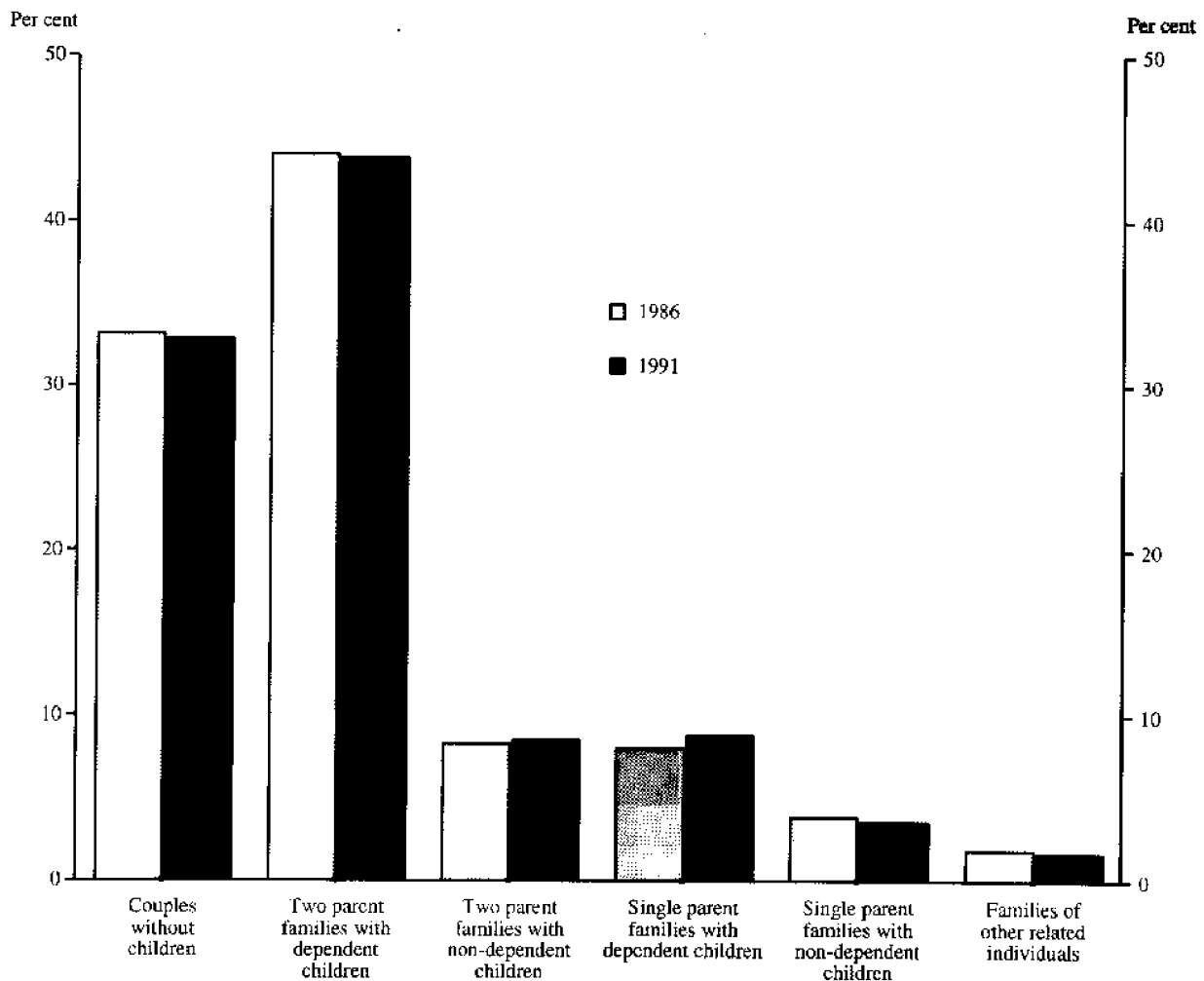
Non-family members

- Boarders made up 7 per cent of unrelated members of family households. Nearly 47 per cent of all unrelated members were aged 15 to 24 years.

Changes in family types

- The proportions of different family types have not altered significantly since 1986. The largest percentage increase was for single parent families with dependent children, which increased from 8.1 per cent of all families in 1986 to 9.0 per cent in 1991.

FIGURE 1.2:
CHANGES IN FAMILY TYPES, QUEENSLAND, 1986 TO 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B34; 1986 Census Table CX3018.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS

- Although the statistical divisions of Queensland vary greatly in population densities, approximately 85 per cent of families were either couples, two parent families with dependent children or two parent families with non-dependent children. Throughout the State, 9.0 per cent of families were comprised of single parents with dependent children.
- There is a higher proportion of single parent families in the northern and south-eastern statistical divisions of Queensland.
- De facto couples were also more highly represented in the Far North, North West and South West statistical divisions.

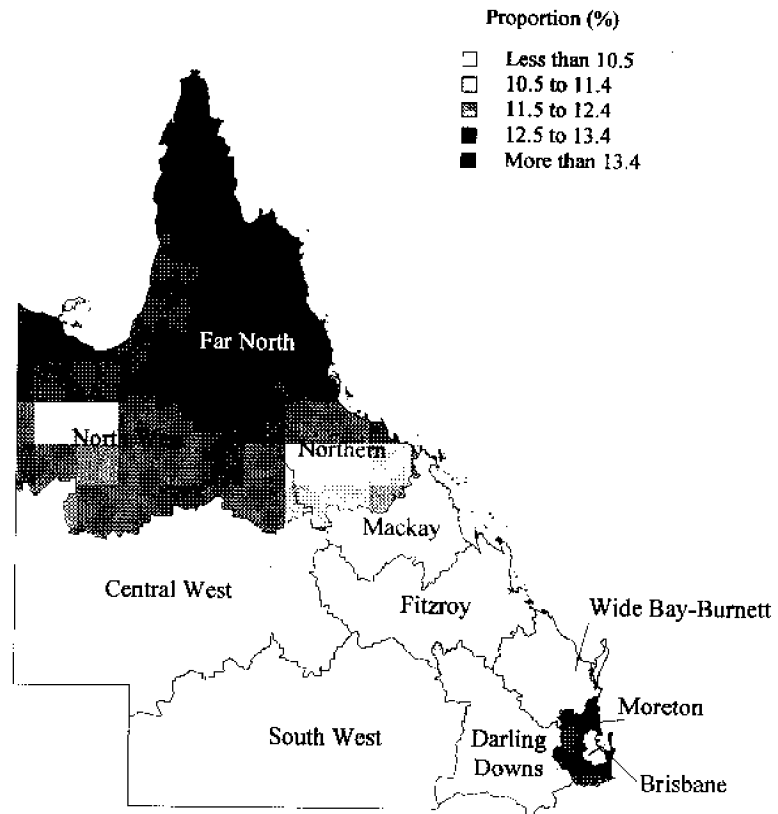
Brisbane

- Over 45 per cent of Queensland families were living in the Brisbane Statistical Division even though this area geographically covers less than 1 per cent of the State. Of the 1,334,098 persons, only 49 per cent were males; the lowest proportion in the State.
- This region had the highest proportion of persons born in a non-English speaking country at 9 per cent of the total population.

Moreton

- The Moreton Statistical Division has attracted a large number of retired persons to its coastal regions. In 1991, females outnumbered males by more than 7,000 in this area, principally due to the relatively large number of women who had been widowed.
- At just over 20 per cent of the population, there were relatively fewer children aged 0 to 14 years compared with the rest of the State.
- This statistical division had the highest proportion of families comprising couples without children and the lowest proportion of two parent families with dependent children at 38.7 per cent. This is reflected in having the lowest proportion of young persons aged 0 to 19 years, the second lowest behind Wide Bay-Burnett of persons aged 20 to 24 years and the highest proportion of persons aged 60 years and over.
- These factors contributed to the region having the second lowest proportion, behind Wide Bay-Burnett, of persons who had never married.
- The constant movement of retired people into the area is reflected in the low proportion of people who were at the same address five years ago, at less than 40 per cent in 1991.

FIGURE 1.3:
SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES AS A PROPORTION OF ALL
FAMILIES, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: CDATA91.

Wide Bay-Burnett and Darling Downs

- These two regions have relatively similar numbers of families at 51,233 in Wide Bay-Burnett and 47,376 in the Darling Downs. Although the Darling Downs had above the State average of two parent families with dependent children, Wide Bay-Burnett had a greater proportion of couple only families. Both regions had low proportions of those who have never married.
- These two statistical divisions had lower than State average proportions of single parent families and de facto couples, with the Darling Downs having the lowest proportion of the latter in the State at 6.5 per cent of all couples.
- The Darling Downs had a high proportion of 15 to 19 year olds but also, as with Wide Bay-Burnett, a high proportion of persons over 60 years of age. Females aged 15 to 49 years represented less than half of all women in Wide Bay-Burnett, the lowest proportion of any statistical division.

Mackay and Fitzroy

- These two statistical divisions on the central Queensland coast had relatively high proportions of two parent families with dependent children at just under 50 per cent of families. There was a slightly higher proportion of males than females with 4,500 more males in the Fitzroy region, perhaps due to mining and other related industries.
- Mackay and Fitzroy had the second and third highest proportions of children aged 0 to 14 years in the State at 25 and 24 per cent respectively, but low proportions of persons aged 60 years and over.

North West, Central West, South West

- Although the North West differs in some ways from the Central West and South West due to mining activities at Mt Isa, these three predominantly agricultural regions share many similar characteristics in family composition and other related attributes. The three have a relatively low population, totalling 80,761 in 1991, and the highest proportion of males at over 53 per cent.
- These statistical divisions had high proportions of two parent families with dependent children with the North West being highest in the State at 52.1 per cent. This statistical division also had the lowest proportion of couple only families in Queensland at 25.9 per cent. Although the North West also had the highest proportion of single parent families at 13.3 per cent, the Central West differed markedly here with the lowest at 9.8 per cent.
- The three areas all had high proportions of de facto couples with the North West the highest in Queensland at 20.1 per cent of all couples. This, as well as the younger age structure, contributed to these areas having relatively high proportions of persons who have never married, the highest being the North West Statistical Division at 36.4 per cent.
- The western areas of the State had relatively high proportions of young persons aged under 25 years and the North West was the highest in the State with 45 per cent of the population in this age group. The North West had the lowest proportion of persons aged 60 years and over with the other two regions also having relatively low proportions. More than 50 per cent of the female population in the North West was aged 15 to 49 years.
- The highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people was in the North West at 18.8 per cent. The other two statistical divisions also had relatively high proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people compared with the Queensland proportion of 2.4 per cent.
- The population of the North West Statistical Division showed a high degree of mobility with only 48.5 per cent living at the same address in 1991 as five years previously.

Far North and Northern

- These two statistical divisions contained 11.9 per cent of families in Queensland in 1991. The Far North had the highest proportion of single parent families with dependent children at 10.9 per cent compared with the State average of 9.0 per cent. The Northern Statistical Division was also above the State average. Couples are more likely to be in de facto relationships than in all other areas of the State except the North West. In the Far North, 15.0 per cent of couples were in de facto relationships and the proportion in the Northern Statistical Division was 11.5 per cent. The proportions of those who had never married were relatively high at over 30 per cent.
- The Far North, at 8.4 per cent, had the second highest proportion of persons born in a non-English speaking country, compared with 5.7 per cent of people in the Northern Statistical Division.
- Of the Far North's population, 10.7 per cent were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the second highest proportion in Queensland.



Section 2

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FAMILIES



THE ABORIGINAL AND
TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER POPULATION

- Queensland has the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of any State, with 70,070 persons counted in the 1991 Census. This represented 26.4 per cent of the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia and 2.4 per cent of the total population of the State. The Aboriginal population for Queensland was 55,511, while the Torres Strait Islander population numbered 14,559.
- The total Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population increased by 14.4 per cent between 1986 and 1991. The Aboriginal population grew by 15.4 per cent, and the Torres Strait Islander population increased by 10.5 per cent. These increases, which were higher than for the total population, may have been due to a number of factors including special census collection procedures in remote areas, and a continuing tendency towards self-identification in the Census for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

TABLE 2.1:
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE, QUEENSLAND, 1981, 1986 AND 1991

	1981	1986	1991
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	44,698	61,268	70,070
Males	22,248	30,459	34,804
Females	22,450	30,809	35,266
Proportion of Queensland population %	1.9	2.4	2.4
Aboriginal people	33,966	48,098	55,511
Males	17,033	24,043	27,573
Females	16,933	24,055	27,938
Torres Strait Islanders	10,732	13,170	14,559
Males	5,215	6,416	7,231
Females	5,517	6,754	7,328

Source: ABS: Censuses of Population and Housing: 1991 Basic Community Profile, Table B04 and Aboriginal Community Profile, Table A01; 1986 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in Queensland (2510.3) and unpublished data.

- Twenty-one per cent of Aboriginal people lived in Communities administered by Aboriginal Councils, and 36.9 per cent of Torres Strait Islanders lived in Torres Strait Island Communities.

- In Queensland, 36 per cent of Aboriginal people and 61 per cent of Torres Strait Islander people lived in the Far North and North West statistical divisions in 1991. The Brisbane Statistical Division also had a large number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, although they accounted for a far smaller proportion of the total population than in the north of the State.
- Moreton Statistical Division had the lowest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, at 0.5 per cent of the total population.

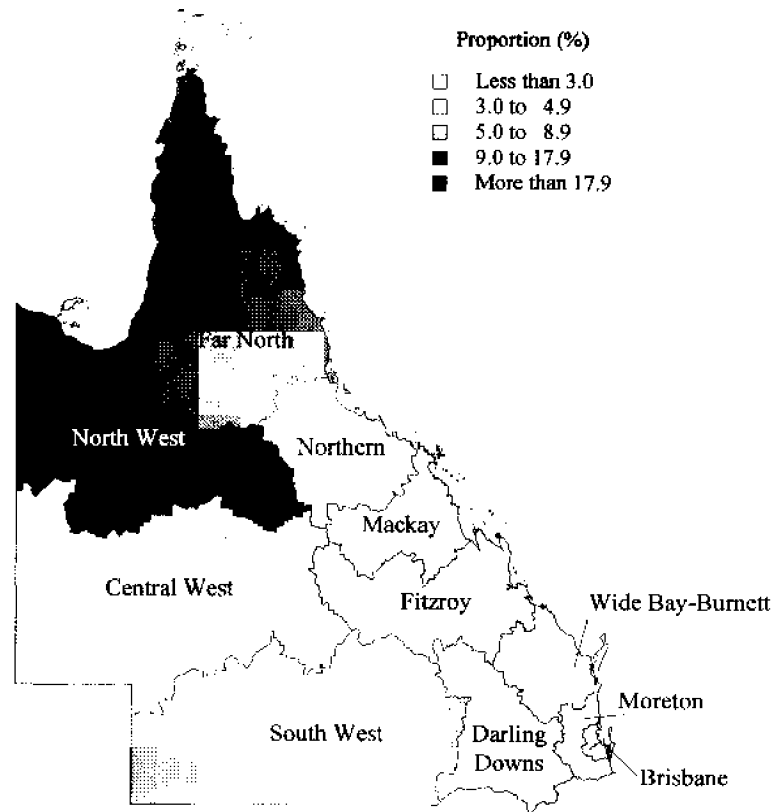
TABLE 2.2:
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE BY STATISTICAL DIVISION,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

Statistical division	Aboriginal people	Torres Strait Islanders	Total	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a proportion of total population
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
Brisbane	11,822	1,584	13,406	1.0
Moreton	2,482	299	2,781	0.5
Wide Bay-Burnett	3,519	281	3,800	1.9
Darling Downs	2,494	163	2,657	1.4
South West	1,895	29	1,924	6.9
Fitzroy	4,729	491	5,220	3.1
Central West	535	47	582	4.2
Mackay	1,457	1,090	2,547	2.2
Northern	6,507	1,670	8,177	4.5
Far North	12,884	8,745	21,629	10.7
North West	7,173	160	7,333	18.8
Queensland (a)	55,511	14,559	70,070	2.4

(a) Includes off-shore and migratory.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B04 and Aboriginal Community Profile, Table A01.

**FIGURE 2.1:
 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE
 AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL POPULATION,
 QUEENSLAND, 1991**

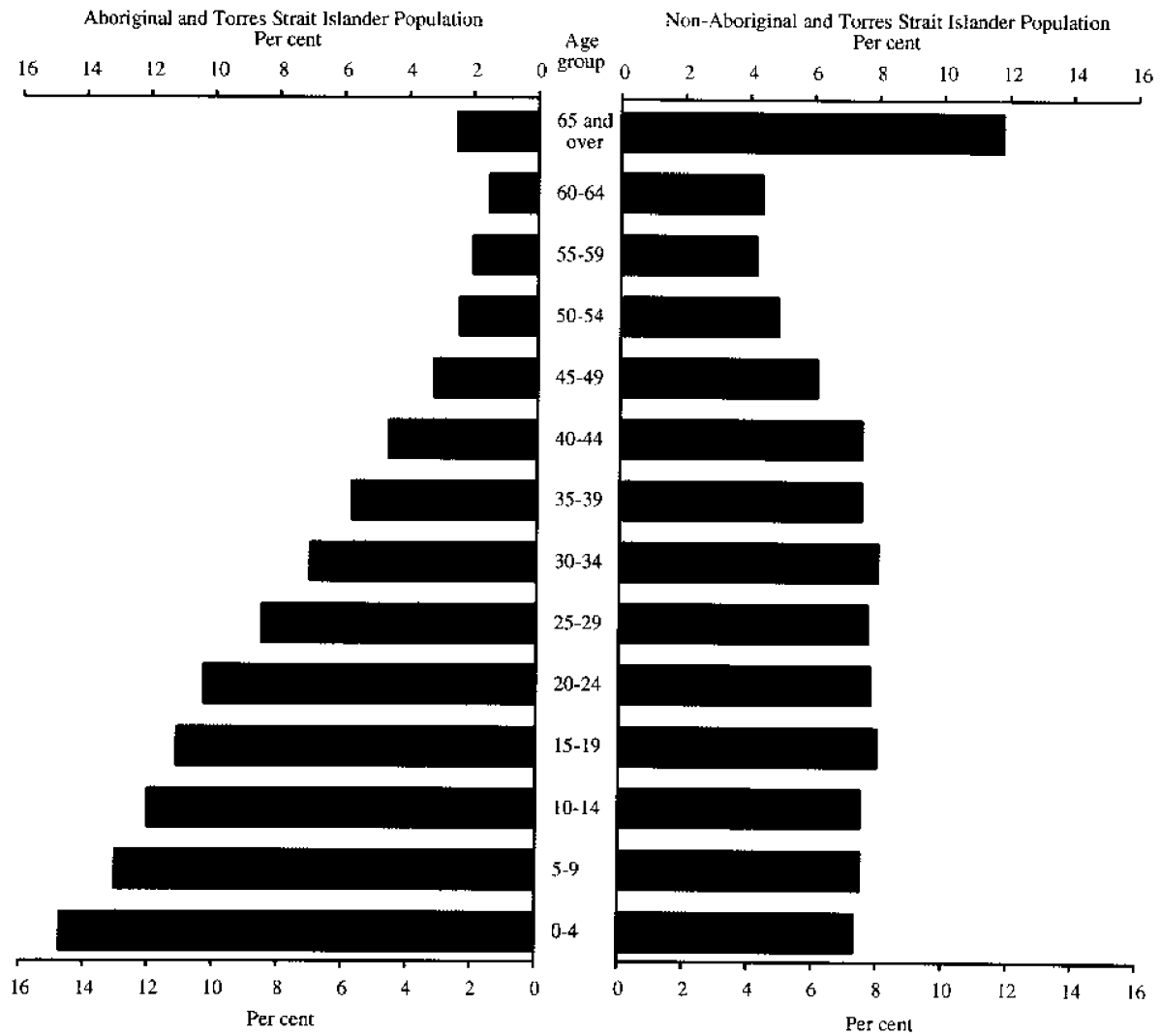


Source: ABS: CDATA91.

Forty per cent under 15 years of age

- While the Queensland population as a whole is ageing, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people had a younger age structure, largely due to higher birth rates and higher mortality rates than the total population. Less than a quarter of all Queenslanders were under 15 years of age, while 40 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were in this age group.

FIGURE 2.2:
 PROPORTION OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION AND
 NON-ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION BY AGE GROUP,
 QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Tables E01 and E03.

- Almost 12 per cent of the total Queensland population was aged 65 years and over compared with less than 3 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

FAMILY TYPES

- Seventy-five per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families had dependent children, compared with 53 per cent of all families in Queensland. Over 51 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families consisted of two parents with dependent children, and 24 per cent were single parent families.
- The majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households were family households and less than 1,800 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people lived alone. In 1991, there were 1,243 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander group households. In addition there was a higher proportion of multi-family households among the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population compared with the total Queensland population.

TABLE 2.3:
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FAMILIES, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Household type	Number	%
One family	14,226	75.1
Two families	1,394	7.4
Three families	352	1.9
Single person household	1,727	9.8
Group household	1,243	6.6
Total	18,942	100.0
Family type (a)		
Couples without children	2,390	15.0
Two parent families with dependent children (b)	8,212	51.4
Two parent families with non-dependent children	677	4.2
Single parent families with dependent children (b)	3,766	23.6
Single parent families with non-dependent children	584	3.7
Families of other related individuals	343	2.1
Total	15,972	100.0

(a) Family type of the first family identified in a household only.

(b) These families may have non-dependent children or other family members present.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

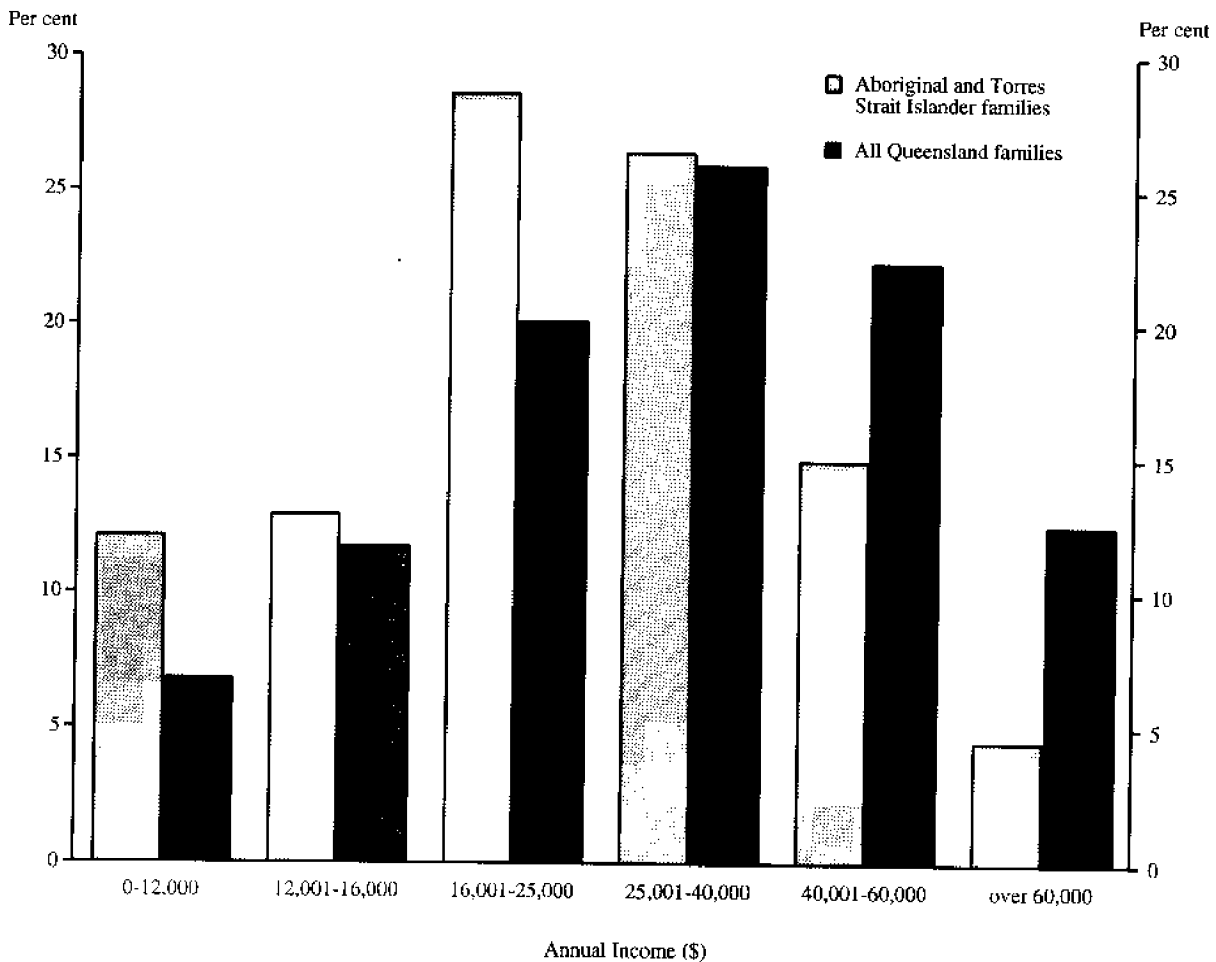
Families are larger

- Generally Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families were larger than Queensland families overall, with an average of 4.1 members. They had nearly one person per family more than the State average. This larger family size was due to the tendency to live with relatives, and to the differing fertility patterns of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

Incomes lower

- Lower average annual family incomes are also characteristic of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. Of the families who stated their income at the 1991 Census, over 12 per cent earned \$12,000 or less, compared with under 7 per cent of all Queensland families who stated their income. Only 4.6 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families earned more than \$60,000 each year, considerably less than the 12.6 per cent of all Queensland families.

FIGURE 2.3:
 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FAMILIES AND ALL FAMILIES,
 PROPORTION OF FAMILIES BY INCOME, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- Unemployment was also markedly higher among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with 28 per cent of persons in the labour force in 1991 not able to find employment. When Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were employed, they tended to be concentrated in the lower paying occupational groups such as labourers and related workers.

TABLE 2.4:

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FAMILIES (a), FAMILY TYPE BY FAMILY INCOME, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Family type	Annual Income						Total
	Under 12,000	12,001 to 16,000	16,001 to 25,000	25,001 to 40,000	40,001 to 60,000	More than 60,000	
Couples without children	189	455	559	558	439	90	2,290
Two parent families with dependent children (b)	468	646	2,452	2,539	1,394	431	7,930
Two parent families with non-dependent children	34	40	126	190	177	96	663
Single parent families with dependent children (b)	1,070	710	965	569	180	64	3,558
Single parent families with non-dependent children	78	78	201	126	72	21	576
Families of other related individuals	35	63	106	86	34	10	334
Total	1,874	1,992	4,409	4,068	2,296	712	15,351

(a) Excludes families who did not state their income.

(b) These families may have non-dependent children or other family members present.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

HOUSING

Most live in separate houses

- Eighty per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households occupied separate houses. This proportion was similar to that for all Queensland households. However, less than one quarter of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander householders owned or were purchasing their home, compared with two-thirds of all householders. Home ownership in Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households averaged 10 per cent with the highest percentages in the Central West, South West and Moreton statistical divisions. Almost one quarter of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander householders rented their dwelling from the Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning or another government agency.

Non-private dwellings

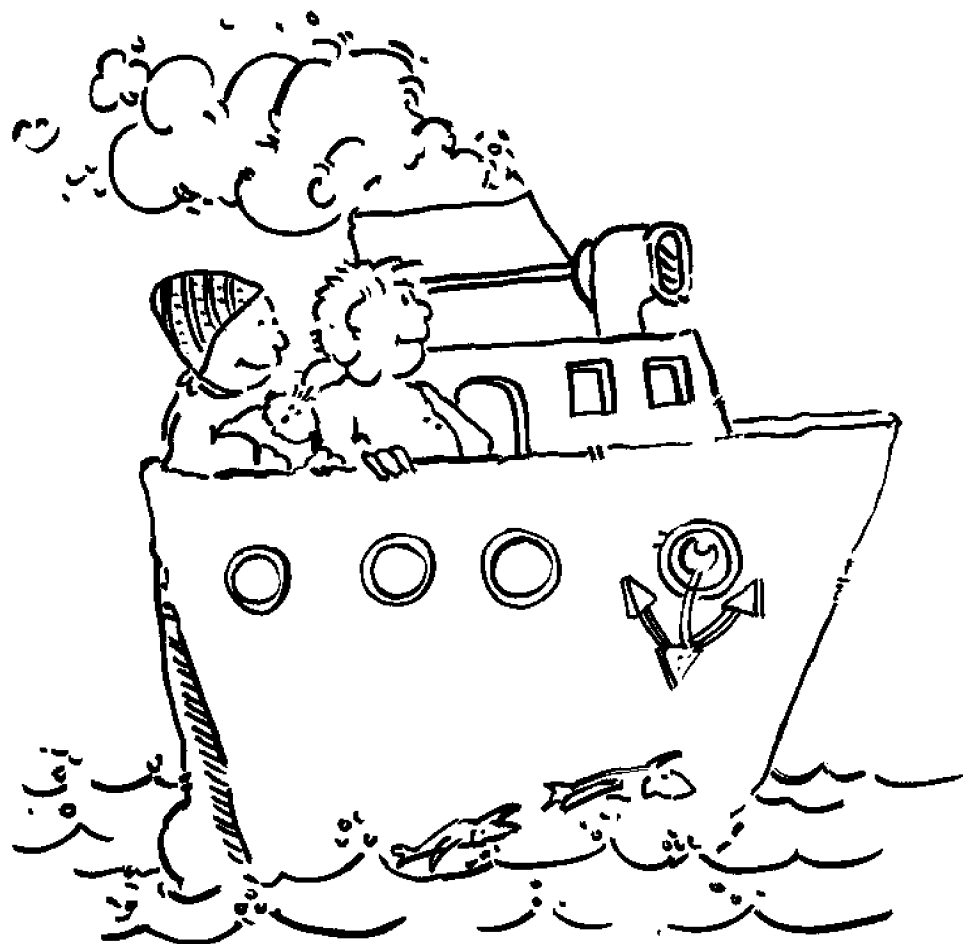
- While the vast majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people lived in family households, 3,071 resided in non-private dwellings. More than 38 per cent of children aged 0 to 14 years counted in these establishments were in boarding schools, residential colleges or halls of residence; while a further 15 per cent of these children were counted in hospitals.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF THE WORLD'S
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

- To mark the International Year of the World's Indigenous People in 1993, more than \$413,000 in grants was distributed to develop projects of lasting benefit to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Projects which received grants were concerned with:
 - . the promotion of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditional and contemporary art styles;
 - . the maintenance, revitalisation or preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage;
 - . the increased understanding of indigenous rights to assist cultural, social and economic viability;
 - . the recording of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family and community histories.
- This special year for indigenous Australians saw the "Black Diggers" formally recognised for their role in defending Australia. They were honoured by being invited to lead the Anzac Day Parade in Brisbane.

Section 3

MIGRANT FAMILIES



**OVERSEAS BORN
POPULATION**

- The ethnic composition of Queensland is becoming more diverse. In 1991, 17 per cent of people living in Queensland were born overseas, compared with only 10.3 per cent in 1947. Over 41 per cent of people born overseas were from non-English speaking countries.

Traditional source countries

- The traditional source countries of the United Kingdom and Ireland remained important in the State's ethnic make up, at 37 per cent of the overseas born population. However their proportion of the total population has declined to just over 6 per cent in 1991 compared with 7.5 per cent in the years immediately following World War II.
- A similar decline in migration from Italy is evident. Italy has now been overtaken by Germany as the third largest source country after people from the UK and New Zealand.

**TABLE 3.1:
PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION BY BIRTHPLACE , QUEENSLAND, 1947, 1966, 1986
AND PROPORTION AND NUMBER 1991**

Census of Population and Housing					
Birthplace	1947	1966	1986	1991	1991
	%	%	%	%	'000
Australia	89.7	88.0	83.6	80.7	2,402.7
Overseas	10.3	12.0	15.0	17.0	508.1
New Zealand	0.4	0.5	2.4	3.1	92.0
UK and Ireland	7.5	6.3	6.1	6.2	185.5
Other Europe	1.9	4.1	3.5	3.6	106.0
Asia	0.3	0.6	1.5	2.2	64.9
America	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.7	21.3
Other	0.1	0.3	1.0	1.3	38.0
English speaking countries	n.a.	n.a.	9.1	10.0	299.1
Non-English speaking countries	n.a.	n.a.	5.9	7.0	209.0
Not stated	1.4	2.3	67.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2,977.8

n.a. Not available.

Source: ABS: Censuses of Population and Housing: Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, 1981 (2437.0); 1986 (2481.0); 1991 Basic Community Profile, Tables B01, B08 and B09.

Pacific and Asian migration increasing

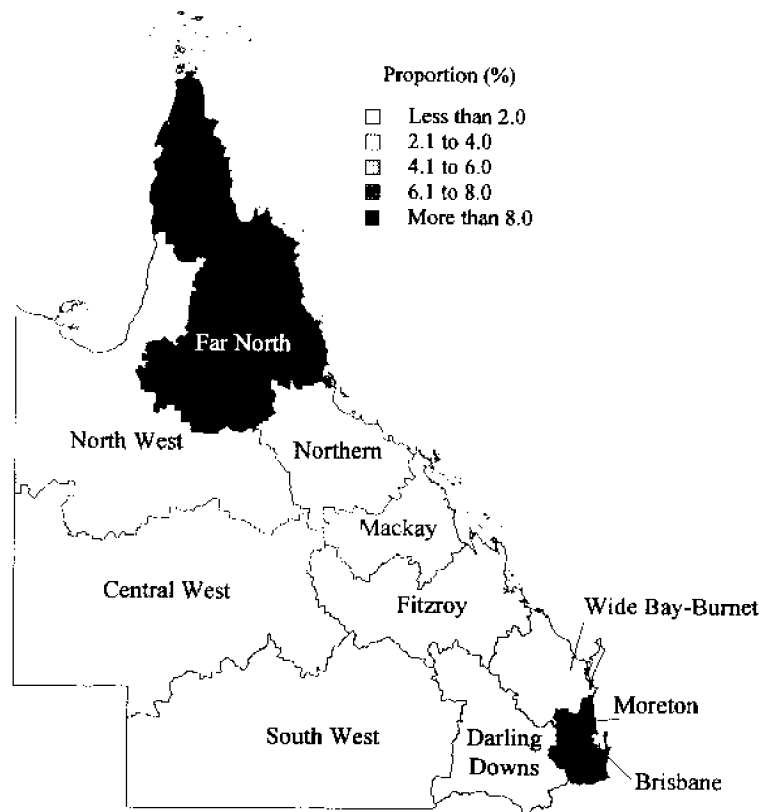
- Migration from the Pacific region has been particularly strong in the last decade. In 1981, 48,073 people living in Queensland were New Zealand born. By 1991, this component had grown to 92,044 or 18.1 per cent of all overseas born people.

- Since 1986, migrants from Fiji and Papua New Guinea also have arrived in increasing numbers. In the five years to 1991, the number of people living in Queensland, who were born in South East Asia, rose by 12,163 or 58 per cent. However, this increase is still smaller than the increase in the number of people born in the UK and Ireland, 26,553.

Non-English speaking migrants

- Despite the increased migration to Queensland, a smaller proportion of the State's population was overseas born, 17 per cent, compared with Australia as a whole at 22 per cent. Queensland also has relatively more migrants from English speaking countries.

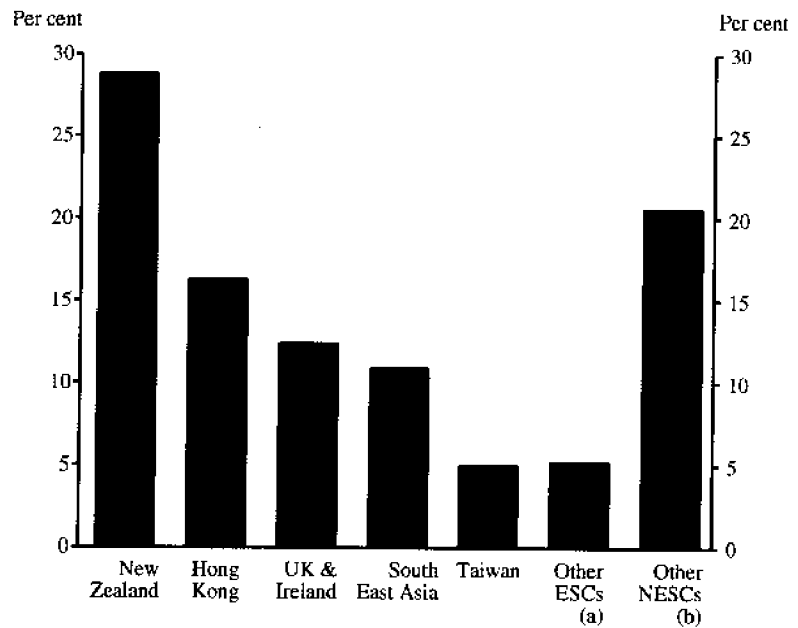
FIGURE 3.1:
PERSONS BORN IN NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING
COUNTRIES AS A PROPORTION OF ALL PERSONS,
QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: CDATA91.

- Brisbane, with substantial populations from both Europe and Asia, had the highest proportion of migrants from non-English speaking countries. The Far North Statistical Division, which has a large Italian community, has the second largest proportion.

FIGURE 3.2:
SETTLERS TO QUEENSLAND BY COUNTRY OF LAST RESIDENCE, 1992-93



- (a) English speaking countries.
(b) Non-English speaking countries.

Source: ABS: Overseas Arrivals and Departures, unpublished data.

Recent Migrants

- In 1992-93, 10,939 people settled in Queensland from overseas, 4,250 fewer than for the previous year. Twenty-six per cent were aged under 15 years. Countries of last residence included New Zealand, 29.0 per cent; UK and Ireland, 12.5 per cent; Hong Kong, 16.4 per cent and Taiwan, 5.1 per cent. Fifty-three per cent were from countries where the main language spoken is not English.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- The most common non-English languages spoken at home by Queenslanders were Italian, spoken by 28,088 persons; followed by German, spoken by 19,130 persons and Cantonese, spoken by 12,867 persons.

TABLE 3.2:
PERSONS WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
ENGLISH AT HOME, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Language	Number	Proportion
		%
Cantonese	12,867	6.6
Dutch	8,957	4.6
Filipino languages	6,649	3.4
French	6,531	3.4
German	19,130	9.9
Greek	11,691	6.0
Italian	28,088	14.5
Japanese	7,562	3.9
Mandarin	6,283	3.2
Polish	5,421	2.8
Spanish	7,417	3.8
Vietnamese	8,801	4.5
Other languages	64,130	33.1
Total (a)	193,527	100.0

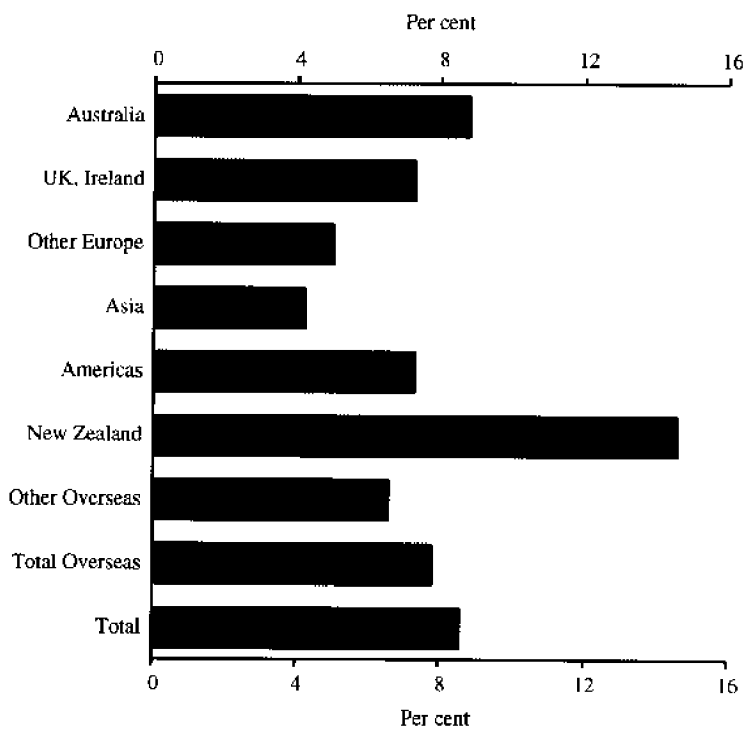
(a) Excludes language inadequately described and not stated.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, State comparison series (2731.0).

**BIRTHPLACE OF
COUPLES AND
SINGLE PARENTS**

- Migrants were less likely to be in de facto relationships than those born in Australia. Just under 8 per cent of the overseas born were in de facto relationships compared with just under 9 per cent of the Australian born.
- Among the migrant groups, Asian people were less likely to be in de facto relationships compared with people from other regions. In contrast, more than 14 per cent of the New Zealand born living with a partner were in a de facto relationship.

**FIGURE 3.3:
PERSONS LIVING IN A DE FACTO RELATIONSHIP AS
A PROPORTION OF ALL PERSONS LIVING WITH A
PARTNER BY BIRTHPLACE, QUEENSLAND, 1991**



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- Australian born people were marginally less likely to be single parents than persons born overseas.
- Of the 66,629 single parents with dependent children, 19.4 per cent were born overseas compared with 17 per cent of the total population. This over-representation was most notable for single fathers, with 23 per cent having been born overseas. Fathers from the UK and Europe contributed significantly to this situation.

TABLE 3.3
BIRTHPLACE OF SINGLE PARENTS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, QUEENSLAND, 1991

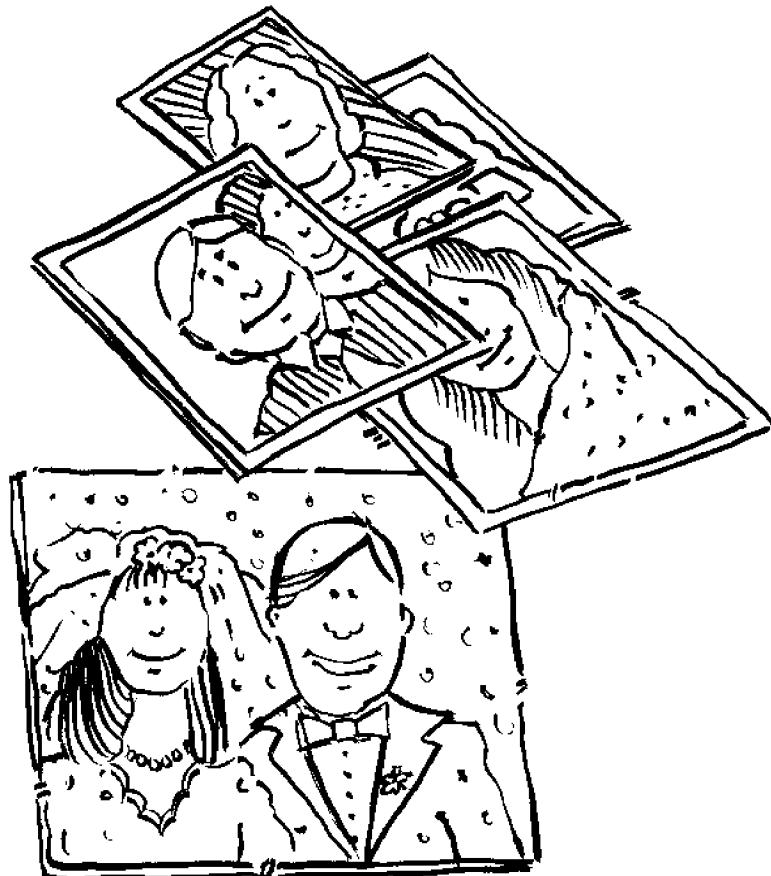
Birthplace	Fathers	Mothers	All single parents
Australia	7,783	45,729	53,512
UK and Ireland	760	3,607	4,367
Other Europe	547	1,794	2,341
Asia	333	1,409	1,742
Americas	84	461	545
New Zealand	399	2,308	2,707
Other	200	1,020	1,220
Total overseas	2,323	10,599	12,922
Not Stated	68	127	195
Total	10,174	56,455	66,629

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.



Section 4

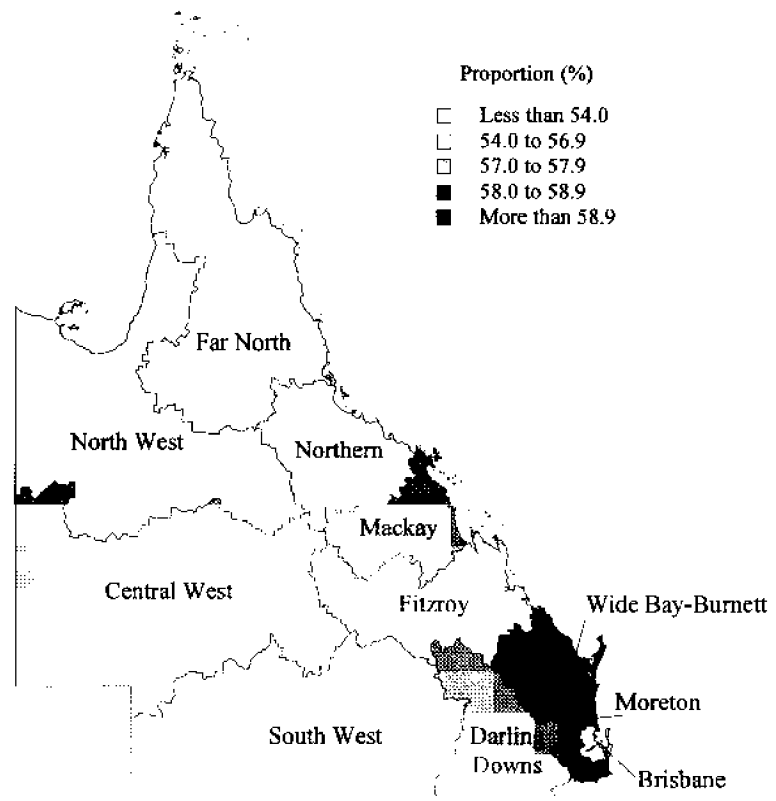
FAMILY FORMATION



TRENDS IN MARRIAGE

- In the 1980s, the average annual number of marriages registered in Queensland was just over 18,400, with the highest numbers occurring in 1984 and 1989. In the early 1990s, the average annual number of marriages registered has risen to more than 19,400. Although these figures are higher than those in the late 1960s and early 1970s, overall, the proportion of persons marrying has declined over the past 25 years.
- In 1991, Wide Bay Statistical Division had the highest proportion of married people, with 62 per cent of the population aged 15 years and over being married. The northern parts of Queensland had relatively fewer married persons, largely due to the young age structure and relatively high proportions of separated and divorced persons in the population.

FIGURE 4.1:
MARRIED PERSONS AS A PROPORTION OF THE
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

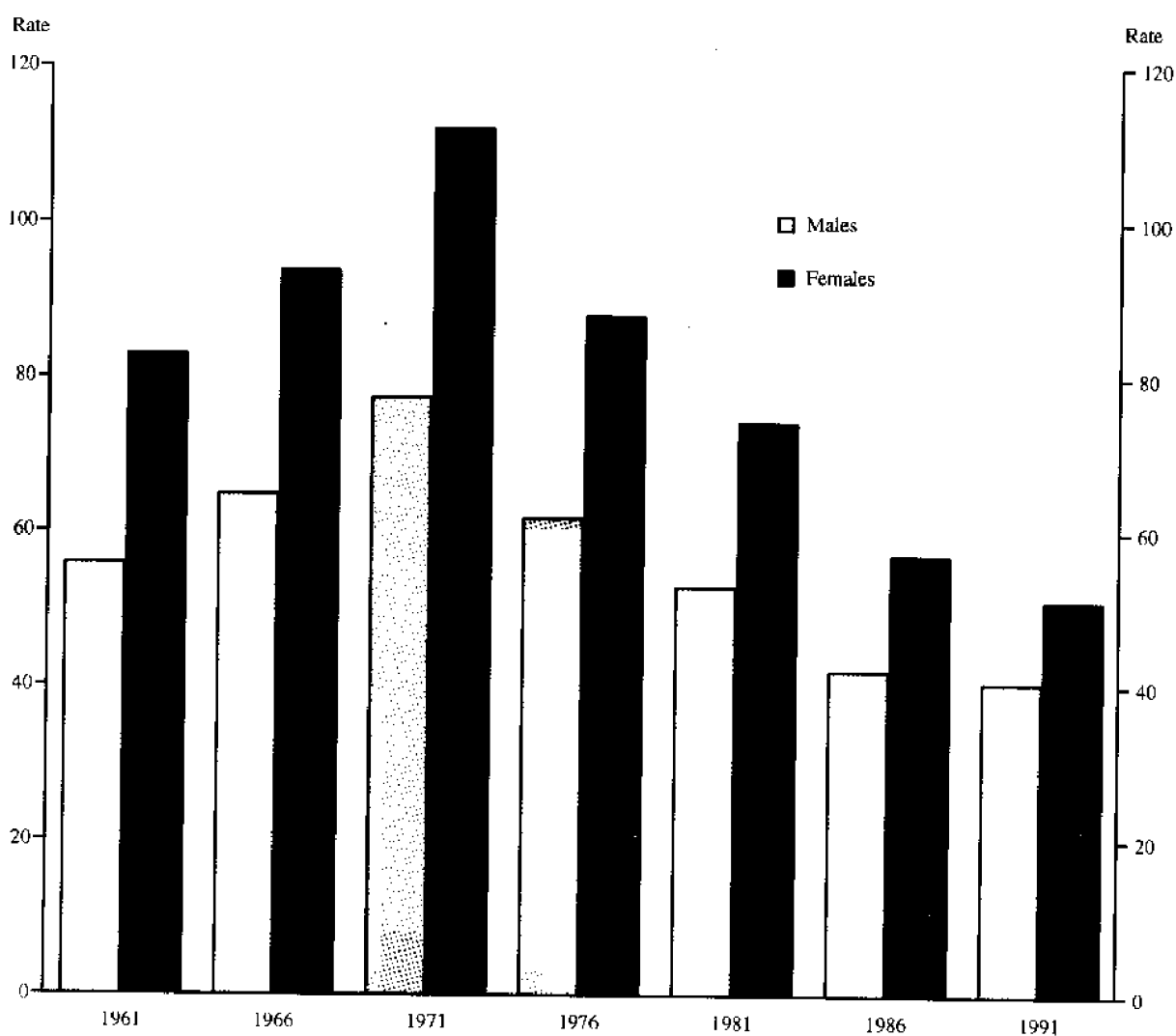


Source: ABS: CDATA91.

FIRST MARRIAGES

- The decline in the proportion of people marrying is particularly noticeable in those marrying for the first time. For every 1,000 never married men in 1971, 78 married in that year. By 1991, only 40 per 1,000 married. For women, the first marriage rate of 112 marrying per 1,000 never married women in 1971 had more than halved to 50 per 1,000 in 1991.

FIGURE 4.2:
FIRST MARRIAGE RATES (a), QUEENSLAND, 1961 TO 1991



(a) Rates per 1,000 of the never married population.

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3).

Later Marriages

- First marriages now occur at later ages. In 1971, the median age of first time bridegrooms was 23.1 years and for brides, 20.8 years. By 1992, these figures had increased to 26.4 years and 24.2 years respectively. Although the majority of first marriages took place when the partners were in their twenties, an increasing proportion do not marry until they are older, if at all. In 1991, 69 per cent of men in their twenties had never married, compared with 45 per cent twenty years previously. While women tend to marry at a younger age than men, 53 per cent of 20 to 29 year olds had not done so in 1991, more than double the 24 per cent in 1971.
- The increase in age at marriage and the consequent higher proportions of young unmarried men and women is, in part, due to the postponement of first marriages, with many persons preferring to further their education, establish careers and pursue a more independent lifestyle before marrying.

REMARRIAGES

- A major change in marriages has been evident since the mid-1970s, following the introduction of the *Family Law Act*. While the first marriage rate has declined, the number of divorced and widowed persons remarrying per thousand of the previously married population rose significantly from 1961 to a peak in 1976. In that year almost 10 per cent of divorced or widowed males remarried, although female rates were only about one-third of this figure. Since then, remarriage rates have declined at an increasing rate for males to near 1971 figures. For females, the decline has been less pronounced although the remarriage rate is less than half that of their male counterparts.

TABLE 4.1:
REMARRIAGE RATE (a), QUEENSLAND, 1961 TO 1991

Year	Males	Females
1961	40.3	15.8
1966	45.9	16.4
1971	52.3	18.2
1976	96.8	33.7
1981	85.0	32.5
1986	70.6	29.4
1991	56.9	26.9

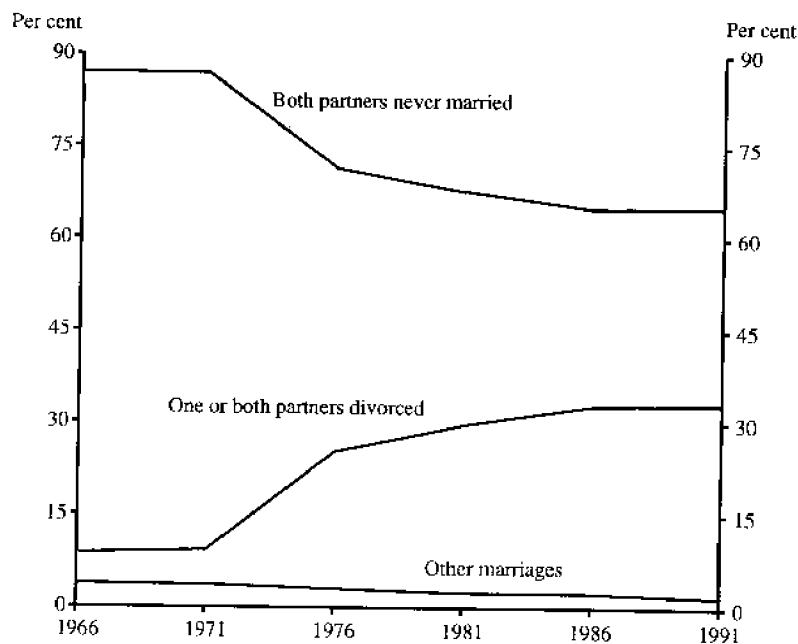
(a) Remarriages per 1,000 of the divorced and widowed population.

Source: ABS: Marriages (3304.3); Demography (3311.3).

Remarriages of divorced persons remain high

- Remarriages of divorced persons now account for a much larger proportion of all marriages than 20 years ago. In 1971, only 6 per cent of bridegrooms and 5 per cent of brides were divorced. These proportions increased sharply in 1976 and then gradually increased until the late 1980s, after which they remained relatively constant. In 1992, 23 per cent of bridegrooms and 22 per cent of brides had been divorced.
- In 12.5 per cent of marriages in 1992, both partners had been divorced, and in a further 20.5 per cent of marriages either the bride or the groom had been divorced. First marriages for both partners accounted for fewer than 66 per cent of marriages.

FIGURE 4.3:
MARRIAGES: PROPORTION BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS, QUEENSLAND, 1966 TO 1991



Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3), (3101.3), Marriages (3304.3), Statistics of Queensland Part A.

Men more likely to remarry

- Over the last fifteen years, males have shown a higher tendency to remarry than females. Between 1977 and 1992, more divorced males remarried than divorced females even though divorced females outnumber divorced males. Although 23 per cent more women who had been widowed than men who had been widowed married in 1991, there were nearly four times as many widows as widowers in the population in that year. Therefore on a proportional basis, men who had been widowed show a greater tendency to remarry than their female counterparts.

- In 1992, 18.9 per cent of males remarrying had one child aged 0 to 15 years and a further 19.6 per cent had two or more children. The proportion of males remarrying with children aged 0 to 15 years has decreased from 44 per cent in 1987 to 39 per cent in 1992. These figures varied only slightly for females who remarried.
- Just over 14 per cent of parents with children aged 0 to 15 years remarrying in 1992 had two or more previous marriages. These remarriages involved over 1,000 children.

TABLE 4.2:
MARRIAGES: MALES AND FEMALES REMARRYING BY NUMBER OF PREVIOUS MARRIAGES AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 15 YEARS, QUEENSLAND, 1992

Number of previous marriages	Number of children aged 0 to 15 years					All parties (a)	All children (b)
	0	1	2	3	4+		
Males							
1	2,742	854	652	176	32	4,474	2,820
2	394	123	100	39	11	671	484
3 or more	55	12	11	4	1	85	50
Total (a)	3,191	989	763	219	44	5,233	3,354
Females							
1	2,588	845	663	186	49	4,337	2,932
2	440	142	84	36	7	709	454
3 or more	53	10	7	-	-	70	24
Total (a)	3,082	997	754	222	56	5,121	3,410

(a) Includes "not stated".

(b) Excludes "not stated".

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3).

MARITAL STATUS

More may never marry

- With first marriages being delayed, there is now some evidence that a larger proportion of persons may never marry. First marriage rates for males and females in their thirties and forties peaked in the 1970s. In 1986, these rates had declined to levels similar to those of the early 1960s and by 1991 had declined even further. These declining first marriage rates are reflected in the fact that proportions of ever married males and females was lower in the under 40 age group in 1991 than 20 years previously.

TABLE 4.3:

PERSONS WHO HAVE EVER MARRIED, QUEENSLAND, 1971, 1981 AND 1991

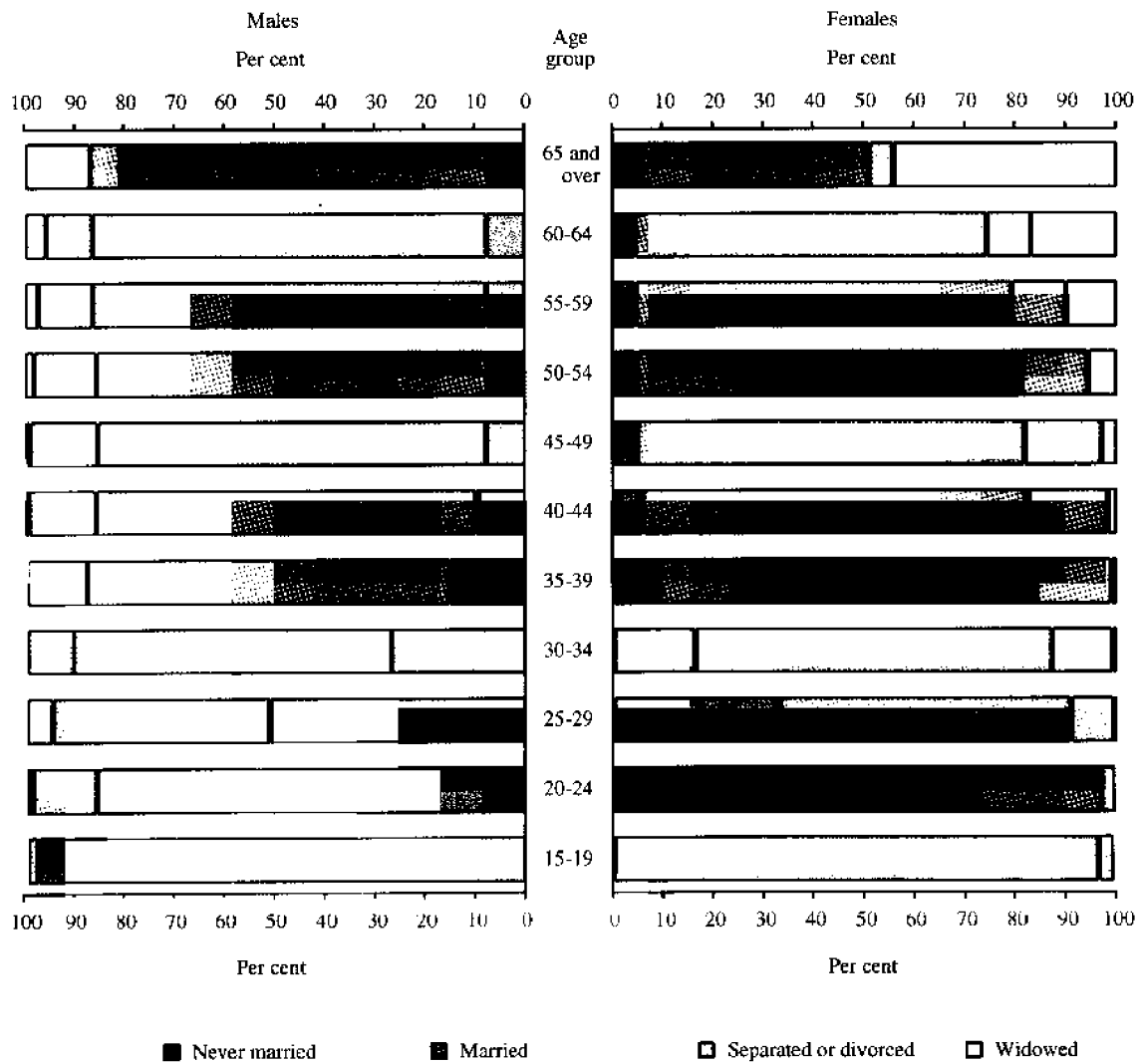
Age group	1971		1981		1991	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
	%	%	%	%	%	%
20-29	54.6	75.8	45.2	65.3	31.4	47.1
30-39	86.2	93.9	87.1	93.5	78.8	87.2
40-49	88.8	94.9	91.0	95.5	91.0	94.7
50-59	89.7	94.0	90.8	95.6	92.2	95.5
60 and over	89.4	90.6	91.4	93.2	92.5	94.6

Source: ABS: Censuses of Population and Housing, 1991 Expanded Community Profile Table E02; 1981 Cross Classified Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings (2446.0); 1971 Demographic Characteristics Bulletin 3, Part 3.

- The current marital status of the population reflects many of the trends in marriage in the 1980s and early 1990s, with substantial proportions of young persons having not married. Marriage rates gradually increased for persons aged in their late twenties and thirties and then stabilised, although separation and divorce became more prevalent.

- In the group aged 50 years and over, the proportion who are separated or divorced is lower than in the age groups between 35 and 49 years. Widowed status becomes increasingly predominant with age, particularly for women. There is a relatively larger proportion of never married women in their seventies and later years compared with women in their fifties and sixties. These women, many of whom would have been expected to marry in the Depression years or during World War II, did not do so, largely due to the early deaths of prospective husbands or the economic circumstances of the time.

FIGURE 4.4:
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, PROPORTION BY MARITAL STATUS,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

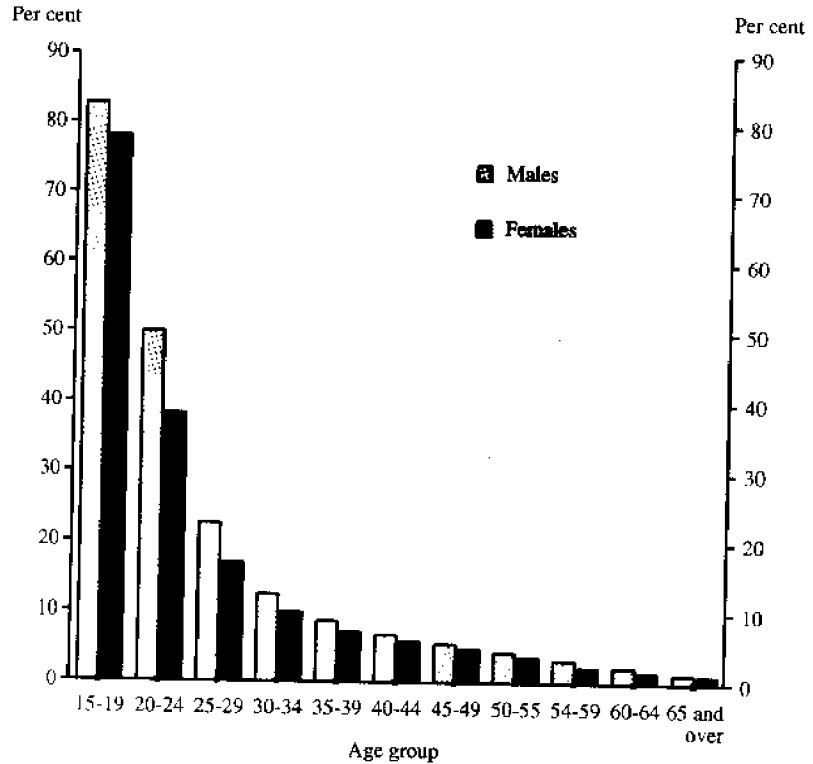


Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Table E02.

DE FACTO
RELATIONSHIPS

- In 1991, more than 119,000 people or 9.6 per cent of all Queenslanders living in a couple relationship were living in a de facto relationship compared with 8.1 per cent for Australia. In 1986, 6.5 per cent of all couples in Queensland and 5.7 per cent of all couples in Australia were living in a de facto relationship. In Queensland, 43 per cent of males and 53 per cent of females in a de facto relationship were aged 15 to 29 years.
- Younger persons in a couple relationship in 1991 were more likely to be living together without being married. Almost 80 per cent of persons aged 15 to 19 years and 43 per cent of persons aged 20 to 24 years living in a couple relationship were not married to each other. Just under 10 per cent of persons aged 30 to 39 years in a couple relationship were not married to their partner.

FIGURE 4.5:
PERSONS LIVING IN A DE FACTO RELATIONSHIP AS
A PROPORTION OF ALL PERSONS LIVING WITH A
PARTNER, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile Table E03.

- Women enter couple relationships at an earlier age than males. Of females aged 15 to 19 years in 1991, 4.8 per cent, or 5,618 women, were living as part of a couple, compared with 1,619 or 1.3 per cent of males of the same age. However, because they marry earlier, 78.5 per cent of females of this age in couple relationships were in de facto relationships, compared with 83.2 per cent of males.
- Despite the large number of young de facto couples, this type of relationship is not entirely restricted to the young. Males aged 60 years and over accounted for 4.4 per cent of all men in de facto couples, and females in the same age group for 2.8 per cent.

TABLE 4.4:
PERSONS IN COUPLE RELATIONSHIPS (a),
QUEENSLAND, 1991

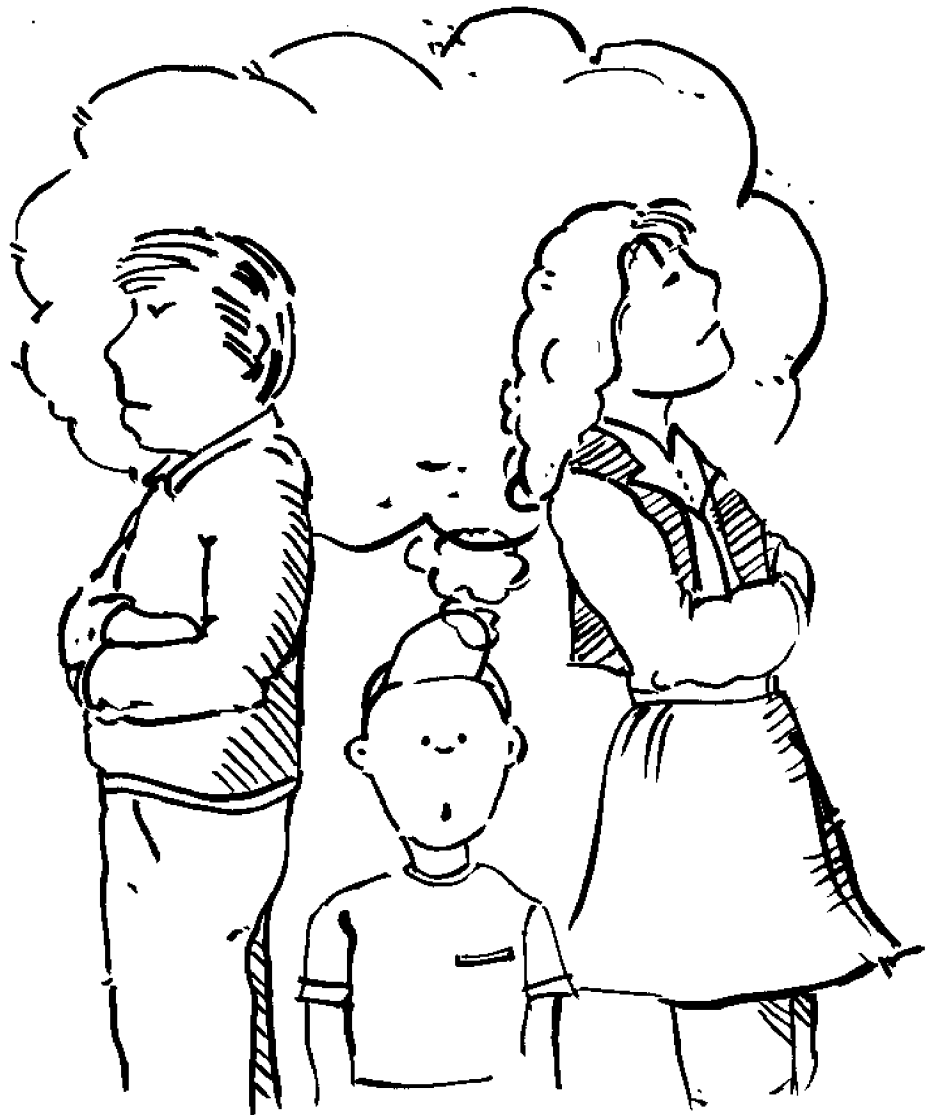
Age group	De facto	All	Proportion
	couples	couples	in de facto
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
Males			
15-19	1,347	1,619	83.2
20-24	11,137	22,141	50.3
25-29	12,887	56,070	23.0
30-39	17,112	156,850	10.9
40-49	9,870	151,509	6.5
50-59	4,119	97,487	4.2
60 and over	2,611	130,705	2.0
Total	59,083	616,381	9.6
Females			
15-19	4,408	5,618	78.5
20-24	14,933	38,736	38.6
25-29	12,518	72,489	17.3
30-39	15,281	171,725	8.9
40-49	8,518	147,813	5.8
50-59	3,000	88,707	3.4
60 and over	1,665	101,284	1.6
Total	60,323	626,372	9.6

(a) Excluding couples where one partner was absent on Census night.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile Table E03.

Section 5

**FAMILY
DISSOLUTION**



TRENDS IN DIVORCE

Divorce rates
Divorces higher since 1976

- Divorce was relatively uncommon in Queensland in the late nineteenth century, with only four divorces registered in 1877. This figure rose to 248 in 1942, before increasing significantly during the later years of World War II, to peak at 1,162 in 1946. By 1957 the annual total had declined to 689.
- From the late 1950s, divorces rose steadily to 2,689 in 1975, followed by a leap to 9,619 in 1976. Divorces registered in 1992 totalled 8,984.
- The *Family Law Act* commenced operation in 1976, with irrevocable breakdown of the marriage, as evidenced by the separation of the couple for at least one year, as the sole ground for a divorce. In that year, twenty couples in every 1,000 were divorced, compared with only three couples per 1,000 ten years previously. Although the number of divorces has steadied in the past decade, annual totals are still considerably higher than in the years prior to 1976.

TABLE 5.1:
DIVORCE RATE (a), QUEENSLAND, 1961 TO 1991

Year	Males	Females
1961	2.3	2.3
1966	2.8	2.8
1971	3.3	3.3
1976	20.0	19.9
1981	12.0	12.0
1986	11.8	11.7
1991	13.2	13.0

(a) Divorces per 1,000 of the married population.

Source: ABS: Divorces (3305.3); Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, 1986 (2481.0); 1981 (2437.0); Demography (3311.3).

- Trends in divorce in Queensland have been similar to those for all States. In 1991, there were approximately 16 divorces for every 1,000 married couples in Queensland. The Australian average was slightly lower at 14 divorces per 1,000 married couples.

Age at marriage

- In 1981, 62.7 per cent of divorces involved couples where both partners were aged under 25 years at the time of the marriage. By 1992, this figure had fallen to 48.4 per cent, showing the effect of delayed marriages.
- Just under 7 per cent of 1981 divorces involved couples who had both been in their mid-twenties to mid-thirties when they married. In 1992, the corresponding figure was 13 per cent.

Divorces involving children

- Over the past six years, the number of Queensland children whose parents divorced has increased, with 8,483 children involved in 1986 and 9,976 in 1992. However, although the number of divorces involving children aged 0 to 17 years has increased, the proportion of divorces involving children has declined steadily over the past ten years. In 1992, this proportion had fallen below 58 per cent of all divorces. The average of two children per divorcing couple with children has been steady over recent years.

TABLE 5.2:
DIVORCES INVOLVING CHILDREN, QUEENSLAND, 1982 TO 1992

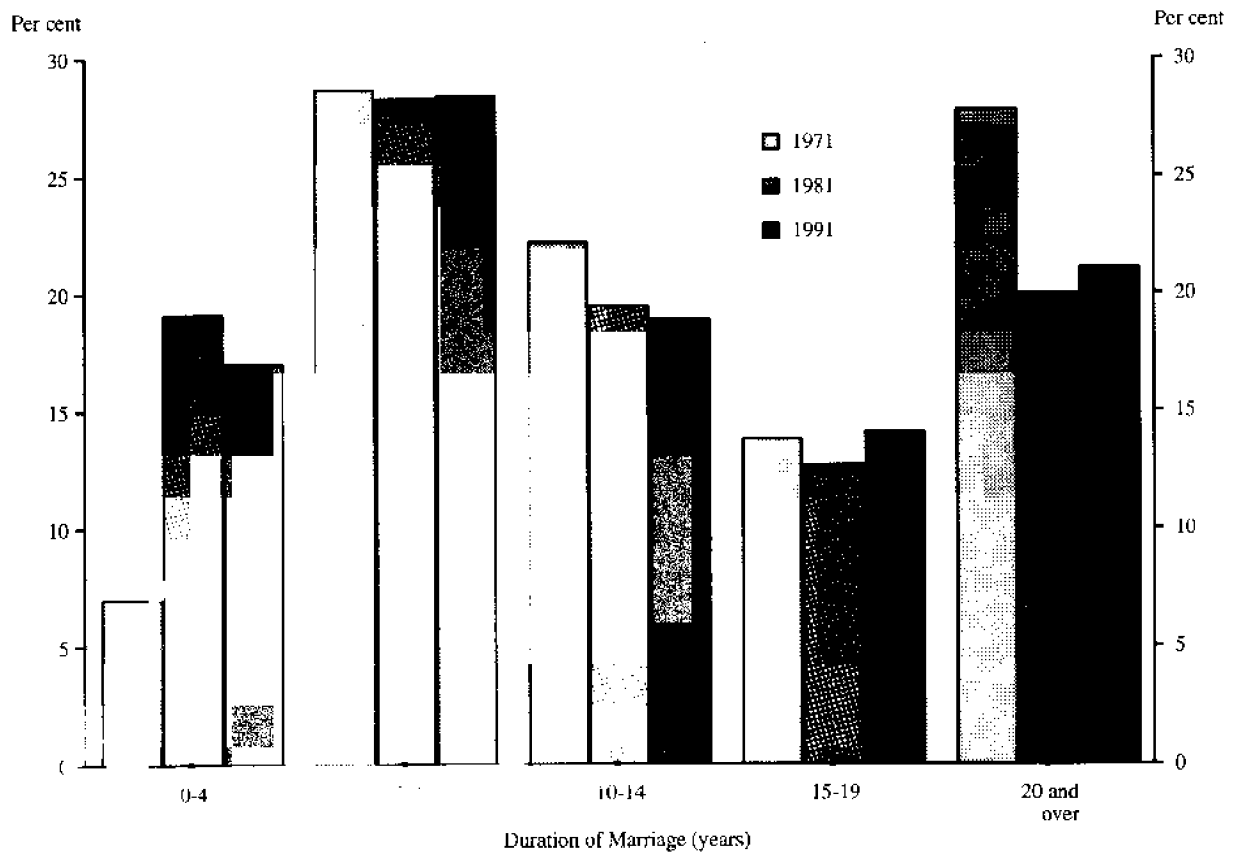
Year	Divorces involving children		Number of children	Average number of children
	No.	%	No.	No.
1982	4,267	63.0	8,556	2.0
1984	5,055	62.7	10,038	2.0
1986	4,385	62.3	8,483	1.9
1988	4,605	59.9	8,911	1.9
1990	5,058	59.4	9,722	1.9
1992	5,176	57.6	9,976	1.9

Source: ABS: Divorces (3305.3); Demography (3311.3), (3101.3).

Duration of marriage

- Divorces now occur in marriages much earlier than in the past. In 1961, 8 per cent of divorces related to marriages of less than five years duration; by 1988 this figure had more than doubled to 18 per cent, falling marginally in 1992 to 17 per cent.
- In 1992, in 45 per cent of divorces, the couple had not reached their tenth wedding anniversary.

FIGURE 5.1:
DIVORCES: PROPORTION BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE, QUEENSLAND, 1971, 1981,
AND 1991



Source: ABS: Statistics of Queensland Part A; Demography (3101.3); Demography (3311.3).

REMARRIAGES AND DIVORCE

Multiple divorces are increasing

- Remarriages of divorced persons account for an increasing proportion of all marriages. In 1992, 33 per cent of marriages involved couples where one or both partners had previously been divorced.
- Multiple divorces are now more common. In 1981, 9 per cent of husbands and 9 per cent of wives divorcing had been divorced previously. By 1992, these proportions had risen to 18 per cent and 17 per cent respectively.
- Second or subsequent divorces where both partners had been divorced before accounted for 9.1 per cent of all divorces.
- Remarriages ending in divorce are of shorter duration than first marriages which end in divorce. In 1992, over 60 per cent of divorces where a partner had previously been divorced, ended a marriage of less than 10 years, while only about 40 per cent of first marriages ending in divorce had lasted less than a decade. Over 26 per cent of first marriages for husbands and wives had lasted for 20 years or more, compared with 5 per cent of second or subsequent marriages which ended in divorce.

TABLE 5.3:
DIVORCES: DURATION OF MARRIAGE BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS,
QUEENSLAND, 1992

Duration of marriage	Husbands			Wives		
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Never married	Widowed	Divorced
<i>Years</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
0 - 4	15.4	28.0	24.6	15.5	29.7	24.3
5 - 9	25.6	34.1	38.2	26.0	27.3	37.8
10 - 14	18.6	14.6	22.8	18.3	21.9	23.7
15 - 19	14.2	13.4	9.0	14.1	10.9	9.4
20 - 29	19.8	7.3	4.6	19.9	7.0	3.6
30 and over	6.3	2.4	0.8	6.2	3.1	1.3

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3).

DEATH OF A SPOUSE

- The death of a spouse is still the most frequent reason for the end of a marriage, despite the increasing incidence of divorce. In 1992, 6,500 husbands and 2,750 wives died, compared with 8,984 divorces.
- Widowed persons outnumber divorced persons in the Queensland population, with approximately 11 widowed persons for every 10 divorcees in 1991. The vast majority of widowed persons were females, with about four to every widowed male aged 50 years and over and two to every widowed male for younger age groups. Eighty-two per cent of all widowed persons were aged 60 years or over.

TABLE 5.4:
WIDOWED PERSONS, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Age group	Widowed persons		Males per 100 females
	Males	Females	
Under 50	3,850	8,602	45
50 - 59	2,748	10,287	27
60 - 64	2,543	11,174	23
65 and over	19,972	84,966	24
Total	29,113	115,029	25

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Table E02.

- Although widowed persons are concentrated in the 60 years and over age group, many became widowed at an earlier age. In 1992, 17 per cent of husbands and 26 per cent of wives who died were under 60 years of age. In addition, younger widowed persons are more likely to remarry than those in the older age groups. In 1991, 30 widowed persons per 1,000 widowed persons aged under 50 years remarried. The equivalent figures for those aged 50 years and over were only 15 for males and 3 for females.
- Forty-four per cent of widowed persons lived alone, and almost 14 per cent were single parents in 1991. This proportion is almost treble the 5 per cent of widowed persons who were single parents in 1986.
- While the loss of a partner through divorce or death is the most significant element in family dissolution, there are other types of family breakup. The last child leaving home in a single parent family or the death of an aged parent are just two examples of the types of change which can mean the end of a family household. In many cases, these changes are permanent, although many individuals may subsequently enter new family relationships.

OTHER FAMILY DISSOLUTIONS

- One method of gauging the reasons for family dissolution is to look at the reasons why people move from where they usually live. In 1992, over one million Queenslanders aged 15 years and over had changed their usual residence during the previous five years. The most common reason for moving for men was for employment reasons and for women "to be with or near family". Age also influences the reasons people change their address. The most common reason among 15 to 24 year olds was "to be with or near family", for 25 to 34 year olds it was because they had become home buyers, while 35 to 44 year olds were most likely to move for employment reasons.

TABLE 5.5:
PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, MAIN REASON FOR CHANGING USUAL RESIDENCE IN FIVE YEARS TO 1992, QUEENSLAND

Reason	Age group						Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Family Reasons							
To get married	2.4	4.0	*1.9	*1.1	*0.9	*1.3	2.5
To begin living with de facto marriage partner	5.0	3.3	*1.2	*1.3	*0.4	*0.0	2.7
Separated from registered marriage partner	*0.5	*1.7	3.5	*4.2	*2.1	*0.5	2.0
Separated from de facto marriage partner	*0.9	*0.9	*0.9	*0.5	*0.0	*0.0	0.7
Other family conflict	2.8	*0.6	*0.3	*0.8	*1.5	*1.9	1.3
To be independent	6.8	2.7	*0.7	*0.7	*2.1	*1.3	3.0
To be with or near family	28.0	11.1	10.6	8.8	16.8	28.0	16.6
Housing reasons							
To lower housing costs	5.5	6.5	5.6	9.5	*6.7	*6.1	6.4
To move to better area	6.1	10.1	12.5	12.8	18.0	12.3	10.5
Dwelling structure unsatisfactory	5.1	8.6	8.4	10.9	12.3	14.8	8.5
Landlord request	4.6	2.7	3.9	*4.7	*3.1	*6.1	3.9
Became home buyer/home owner	4.1	22.1	16.9	16.9	*8.1	*6.0	13.8
Other reasons							
Employment reasons	12.7	14.1	17.2	12.2	*7.8	*1.4	12.9
Education reasons	7.6	*1.1	*1.2	*0.6	*0.0	*0.0	2.6
Other	7.9	10.6	15.1	15.2	20.2	20.2	12.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

*Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: 1992 Families Survey, unpublished data.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- On 28 May 1993, the *Domestic Violence (Family Protection) Act 1989* was amended to give persons affected by domestic violence greater protection from further violence or threats from their partner. Protection can be extended to the person's children, relatives, friends and associates. Orders made interstate can be registered in Queensland. The new provisions have greatly strengthened the protection available to families affected by violence.

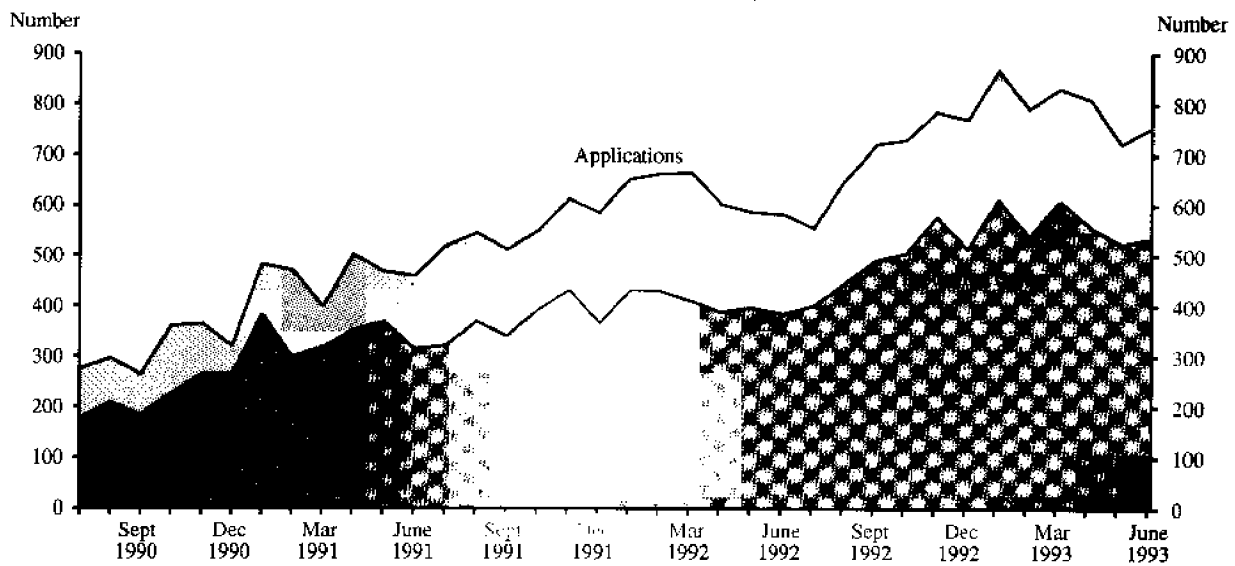
TABLE 5.6:
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91 TO 1992-1993

Particulars	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Total applications	4,667	7,072	8,994
Aggrieved person	2,637	4,040	5,498
Authorised person	114	95	104
Police	1,916	2,937	3,392
Temporary protection orders	2,486	3,066	4,735
Protection orders	3,356	4,670	6,306
Application refused	103	92	56
Application withdrawn	510	750	873
Dismissed/struck out	435	315	969
Adjourned sine die	173	144	161

Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

- From the introduction of the Act on 21 August 1989 to 30 June 1993, a total of 23,690 applications had been heard by Queensland courts.
- Over the same period, 11,394 Temporary Protection Orders and 16,349 Protection Orders had been granted and 963 orders had been revoked or varied.

FIGURE 5.2:
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE APPLICATIONS AND ORDERS, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91 TO 1992-93

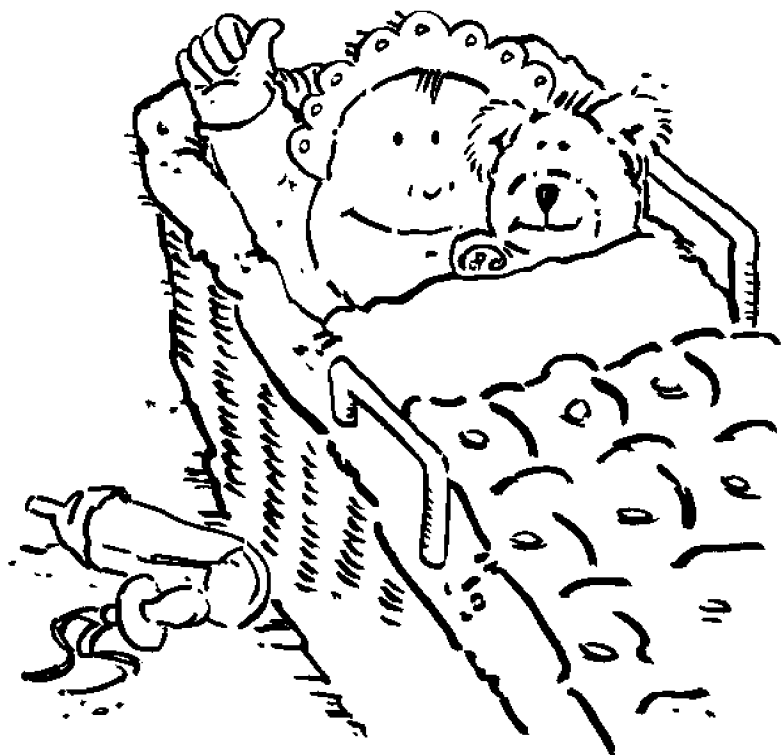


Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.



Section 6

BIRTHS



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BIRTHS

- The number of births to Queensland women has risen steadily from 28,358 in 1947 to 32,903 in 1966; 39,365 in 1987; and 46,240 in 1992.

TABLE 6.1:
BIRTHS, QUEENSLAND, 1987 AND 1992

	1987	1992
Births	39,365	46,240
Males	20,293	23,600
Females	19,072	22,640
Males per 100 females	106.4	104.2
Nuptial births	31,236	33,343
Ex-nuptial births	8,129	12,897
Proportion of total births %	20.7	27.9

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3).

Women of childbearing age

- An important factor affecting the number of births is the size and structure of the population, particularly the number of women of childbearing age.

TABLE 6.2:
WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE, QUEENSLAND, 1987
AND 1992

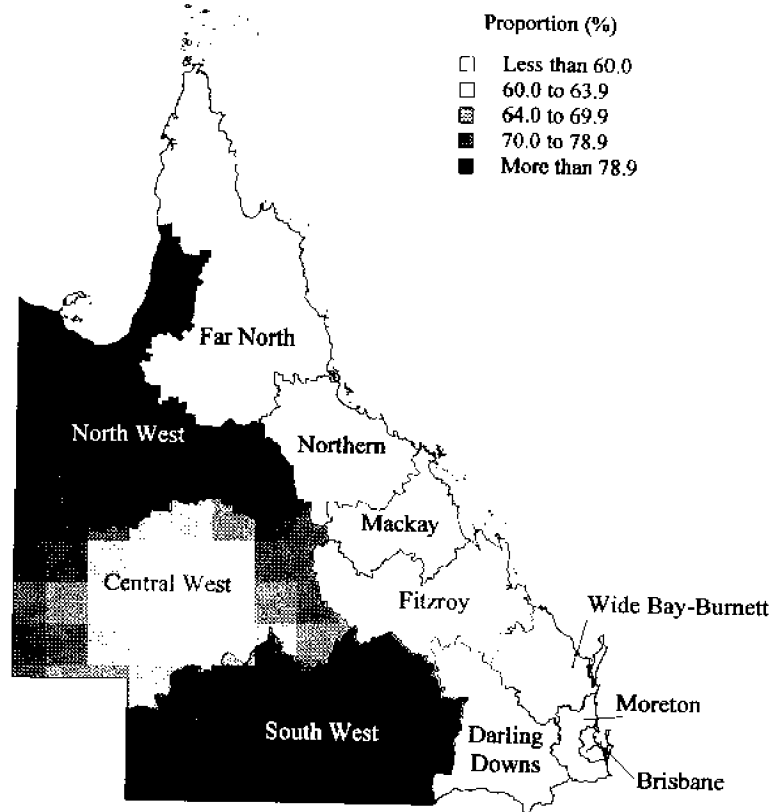
Age group	1987	1992
15 to 19	115,847	118,435
20 to 24	107,505	123,650
25 to 29	110,199	116,758
30 to 34	102,984	123,230
35 to 39	101,190	115,013
40 to 44	88,840	111,639
45 to 49	67,820	94,506
15 to 49	694,385	803,231

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3); Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0); Fertility Trends in Queensland (3310.3).

- Women aged 20 to 29 years accounted for 56.5 per cent of all Queensland births in 1992. The number of women in this age range represents 29.9 per cent of all females of reproductive age.

- In the 45 years to 1992, the number of women aged 15 to 49 years has almost trebled, while the number of births has increased by 63 per cent, from 28,358 in 1947 to 46,240 in 1992. This reflects the general decline in fertility.
- The highest birth rates; births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 49 years; in 1991 were in the western areas of Queensland, at over 75, compared with just over 50 in the Brisbane and Moreton statistical divisions.

FIGURE 6.1:
BIRTH RATE (a), QUEENSLAND, 1991



(a) Births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years.

Source: ABS: CDATA91, Demography (3311.3).

DECLINING FERTILITY

- The decline in fertility is clearly illustrated by changes in the total fertility rate. The total fertility rate represents the average number of children 1,000 women would bear in their entire lifetime if they reproduced in accordance with the age-specific birth rates of the year examined. In 1971, the total fertility rate was 3,025. It declined sharply until the late 1970s and then declined slowly after that. In 1987, the total fertility rate was at its lowest point, at 1,833, and since then has been slowly rising, reaching 1,930 in 1992.

FIGURE 6.2:
TOTAL FERTILITY RATE (a), QUEENSLAND, 1954 TO 1992



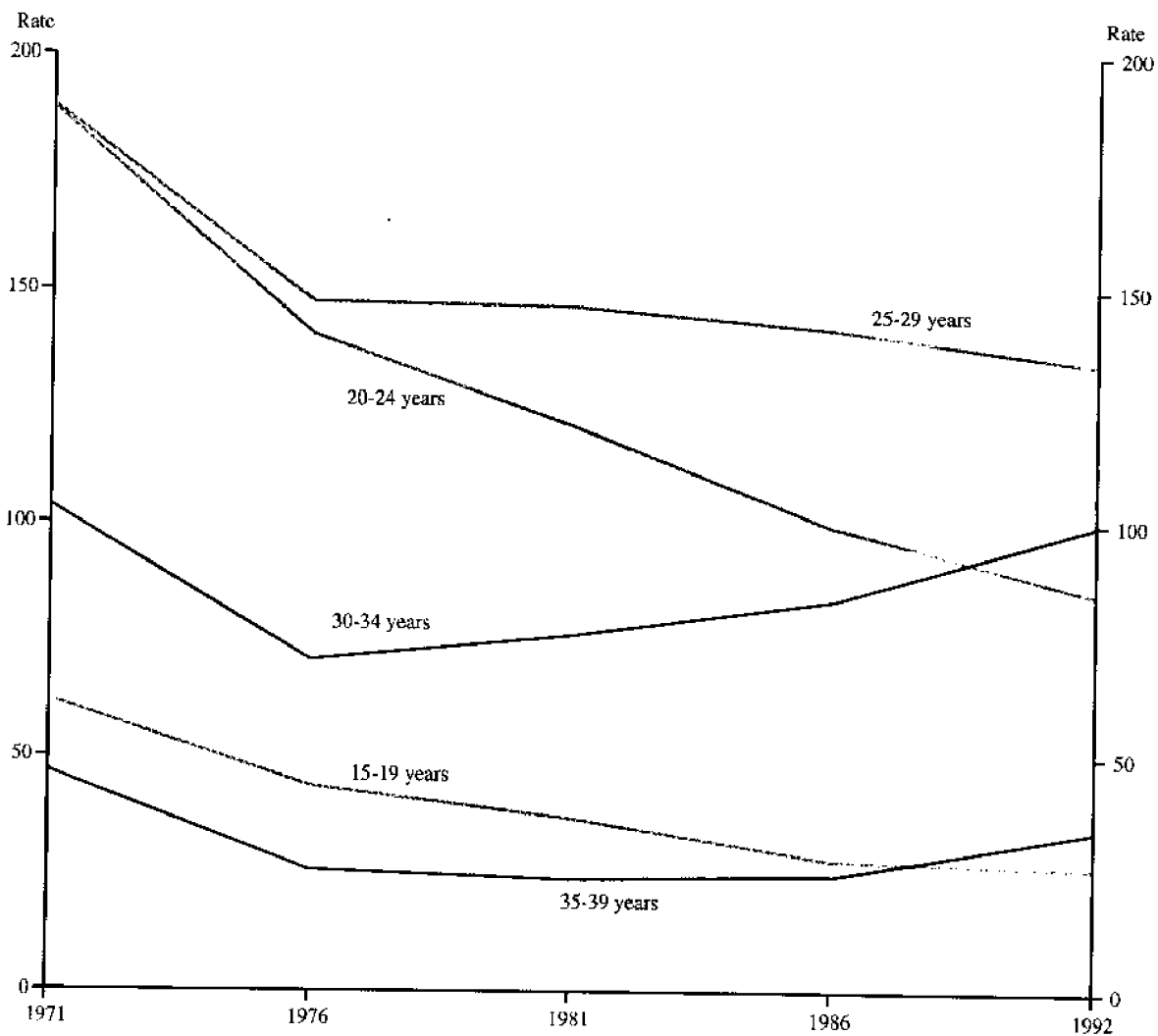
(a) The total fertility rate represents the average number of children that 1,000 women would bear in their entire lifetime if they reproduced in accordance with the age-specific birth rates of the year examined.

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3); Fertility Trends in Queensland (3310.3).

Birth rates declining after the baby boom

- After the high birth rates experienced in the baby boom era from the end of World War II to the mid 1970s, birth rates have been below long-term population replacement levels.
- Birth rates in the 15 to 29 years age groups have declined, with the 20 to 24 years group showing a significant decrease, from 207.2 births per 1,000 women in 1954 to 84.9 per 1,000 in 1992. However, while birth rates for women in their twenties continue to fall, those for women aged 30 to 39 years have increased from 57.2 in 1981 to 68.1 in 1992.

FIGURE 6.3:
AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES, QUEENSLAND, 1971 TO 1992



Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3); Fertility Trends in Queensland (3310.3).

BIRTHS WITHIN MARRIAGE

Births later in marriage

- In 1992, just over 72 per cent of births were to married women, reflecting the desire among the majority of parents to raise their children within the traditional nuclear family.
- Births now occur later in the marriage. The median duration between marriage and first birth was 1.1 years in 1966, while the median duration between marriage and first confinement was 2.3 years in 1992. This suggests that at least some of the trend towards fewer births is due to the delay in having the first child.

TABLE 6.3:
FIRST NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE, QUEENSLAND 1966 TO 1992

Duration of marriage	1966	1976	1986	1992
<i>Years</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Under 1	45.7	25.2	24.5	23.1
1 - 2	36.6	41.2	38.4	37.5
3 - 4	10.3	21.9	20.3	20.2
5 and over	7.5	11.7	16.9	19.2

Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3), (3101.3); Births (3306.3); Statistics of Queensland Part A.

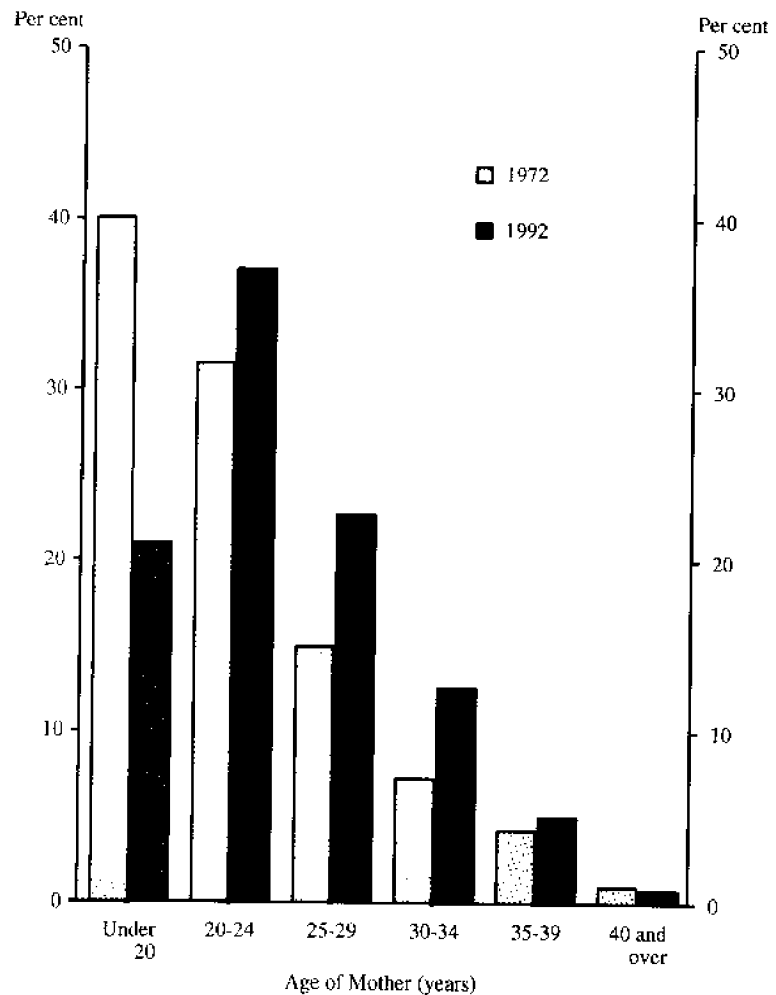
Mothers are now older at the time of their first birth

- In 1966, 45.7 per cent of first nuptial confinements occurred in the first year of marriage. By 1992, this figure had declined to 23.1 per cent. In contrast, the proportion of first confinements occurring after 5 years or more of marriage more than doubled, rising from 7.5 per cent in 1966 to 19.2 per cent in 1992.
- As a consequence of women having delayed both marriage and their first birth within marriage, first-time mothers are now older than in the past. In 1966, the median age of married mothers having their first baby was 22.6 years; by 1992 this had risen to 27.7 years.
- In 1966, teenage mothers accounted for 22.8 per cent of all first nuptial confinements, and mothers aged 30 years and over for 8.4 per cent. Twenty-six years later, these proportions were 2.5 per cent and 30.9 per cent respectively. Remarriages, which are far more common in the 1990s, have also contributed to the increasing age of mothers having their first child of their current marriage.

BIRTHS OUTSIDE MARRIAGE

- Births to unmarried mothers have been increasing for many years. In 1992, 27.9 per cent of all births were to women who were not married at the time of the birth.
- Both married and unmarried mothers are now older at the time of the birth than in the past. In 1966, the median age of mothers who were not married was 21.4 years; by 1992 this had risen to 23.7 years. In 1966, 38 per cent of ex-nuptial confinements were to teenage mothers; by 1992, this figure had declined to 21 per cent.

**FIGURE 6.4:
PROPORTION OF EX-NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS BY AGE OF MOTHER, QUEENSLAND, 1972 AND 1992**



Source: ABS: Demography (3311.3), (3101.3).

Births to de facto couples

- The majority of ex-nuptial births are to de facto couples. In 1992, paternity was acknowledged on the birth registration in over 80 per cent of all births outside marriage. This gives a general indication of a de facto relationship.

BIRTH TRENDS AND THE FAMILY

Fewer women have children

- Some major issues arising from the trends in births since the mid 1970s include the effect on family formation and size, and the extent of childlessness that can be expected. The impact of falling birth rates on the size and structure of the population is also of considerable importance.
- Falling birth rates since the mid 1970s are reflected in the proportion of women who have ever had children. In 1986, 63.8 per cent of women aged 15 to 44 years, excluding 15 to 17 year olds not married or in de facto relationships, had a child. By 1992, the comparable figure had fallen to 61.1 per cent.

TABLE 6.4:
WOMEN AGED 15 to 44 (a) WHO HAVE EVER HAD CHILDREN, QUEENSLAND, 1986 AND 1992

Age group	1986	1992
	%	%
15 to 24	21.1	19.3
25 to 34	70.9	66.1
35 to 44	90.5	88.6
15 to 44	63.8	61.1

(a) excluding 15 to 17 year olds not married or in a de facto relationship.

Source: ABS: Family Formation Survey, 1986, unpublished data; 1992 Families Survey, unpublished data.

Smaller families

- The decline in childbearing has been constant across all age groups.
- An important consideration in the future composition of families is completed family size. There are proportionally fewer women having children, and those who do are having smaller families.
- The number of children born to women aged 35 to 44, who generally are close to completing childbearing, indicates the trend towards smaller families. In 1986, 47.7 per cent of mothers in this age group had had three or more children. In 1992, the figure was 46.4 per cent.

Birth expectations

- The birth expectations of married women declined over the decade to 1986. In 1976, married women aged 15 to 44 years expected to have an average of 2.64 children throughout their lifetime. This figure increased to 2.72 children in 1979, possibly as a reflection of the more favourable economic circumstances at the time. By 1986, an average of 2.52 children were expected by married women.
- All women aged 15 to 44 years in Queensland in 1986 expected 2.40 children, slightly more than the 2.37 children expected by all Australian women.

TABLE 6.5:
BIRTHS AND BIRTH EXPECTATIONS, QUEENSLAND
AND AUSTRALIA, 1976 TO 1986

	Average number of children		Total
	Already born	Expected	
All women, 1986			
Queensland	1.57	0.83	2.40
Australia	1.53	0.84	2.37
Married women			
Queensland			
1976	2.01	0.63	2.64
1979	2.20	0.52	2.72
1986	2.00	0.52	2.52

Source: ABS: Family Formation Survey, 1986, (3223.0).

More women are childless

- The proportion of Queensland women who were or had been married and who had no children increased steadily in the decade to 1986.
- In 1986, only 2.9 per cent of married women aged 30 to 34 years had no children and expected to remain childless, compared with 3.6 per cent in 1976 and 4.0 per cent in 1979. However, while the expectation of ever having children has been increasing, the decline in the proportion of women who actually have children suggests that at least some childlessness is unplanned.

- The reasons for childlessness are varied. Almost half the women who indicated in the survey that they did not expect to have children, gave as the reason that they did not wish to have any children. Medical conditions or sterilisation accounted for 18 per cent of reasons, while being too old was the main consideration for 11 per cent of women. Only 3 per cent gave financial reasons for not having children at all, although this reason became more important for women who already had children when considering any additional children.

TABLE 6.6:
MARRIED WOMEN WHO DO NOT HAVE ANY
CHILDREN AND DO NOT EXPECT TO HAVE CHILDREN,
AUSTRALIA, 1976, 1979 AND 1986

	1976	1979	1986
	%	%	%
Women with no children			
20-24 years	47.7	51.2	55.3
25-29 years	19.2	22.1	28.1
30-34 years	6.4	7.5	9.7
35-39 years	5.3	4.9	5.3
40-44 years	n.a.	5.2	
Women with no children who expect to have no children			
20-24 years	3.6	3.6	2.6
25-29 years	4.1	3.5	2.6
30-34 years	3.6	4.0	2.9
35-39 years	4.0	3.5	4.5
40-44 years	n.a.	5.1	

Source: ABS: Family Formation Survey 1986 (3223.0); Birth Expectations of Married Women, 1976, 1979 (3215.0).

Women's education

- The extent of childlessness varies significantly with the level of education, with women having a degree or higher qualification being far more likely to have no children than those with any other type of qualification or those with no qualifications.

TABLE 6.7:
WOMEN BY QUALIFICATION, QUEENSLAND, 1992

Qualification	All women		
	25-34	35-44	45-54
	%	%	%
Degree or higher	11.7	8.4	6.6
Certificate or diploma	29.4	29.7	21.0
Trade	*3.0	4.3	*4.3
Other	*1.4	*0.8	*1.3
No qualification	54.4	56.8	66.4

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: 1992 Families Survey, unpublished data.

- Women with higher qualifications may be delaying having a child rather than planning to remain childless. However, among women aged 45 to 54 years, who have generally completed childbearing, 16.5 per cent of those with a degree had never had a child. In contrast, just over 9 per cent of women without qualifications in the same age group had never had children.

TABLE 6.8:
WOMEN WHO HAVE NO CHILDREN AS A PROPORTION
OF ALL WOMEN BY QUALIFICATION, QUEENSLAND,
1992

Qualification	Women who have no children		
	25-34	35-44	45-54
	%	%	%
Degree or higher	47.7	*19.0	*16.5
Certificate or diploma	35.9	15.0	*8.1
Trade	*40.3	*7.2	-
Other	*24.2	-	*18.2
No qualification	29.7	8.9	9.3

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: 1992 Families Survey, unpublished data.



Section 7

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- There were 392,326 families with dependent children in Queensland in 1991. Of these, 83 per cent were two parent families.
- Married couples were more likely than de facto couples to have dependent children. Over 52 per cent of married couples had dependent children, compared with 43 per cent of de facto couples.

TABLE 7.1:
FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN: NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN BY FAMILY TYPE, QUEENSLAND

Family type	Number of dependent children					Total
	1	2	3	4	5 or more	
			<i>Number</i>			
Married couple families	95,324	122,498	58,990	17,578	4,666	299,056
De facto couple families	12,432	8,661	3,618	1,387	569	26,687
All two parent families	107,756	131,179	62,608	18,965	5,235	325,743
Single parent families	33,707	21,545	8,008	2,439	910	66,609
All families	141,463	152,724	70,616	21,404	6,145	392,352
			<i>Proportion %</i>			
Married couple families	31.9	41.0	19.7	5.9	1.6	100.0
De facto couple families	46.6	32.5	13.6	5.2	2.1	100.0
All two parent families	33.1	40.3	19.2	5.8	1.6	100.0
Single parent families	50.6	32.3	12.0	3.7	1.4	100.0
All families	36.1	38.9	18.0	5.5	1.6	100.0

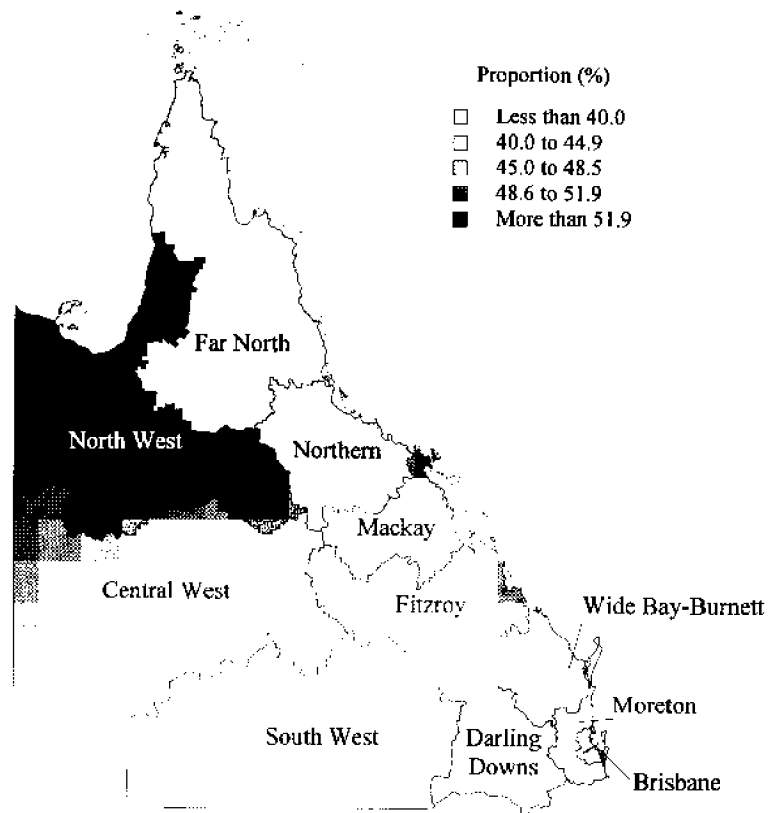
Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

Most families have one or two children

- Seventy-five per cent of families with dependent children had only one or two dependent children. Thirty-nine per cent had two children, 18 per cent had three children, over 5 per cent had four children and less than 2 per cent had five or more children. Half of single parent families and 47 per cent of de facto couples with dependent children had only one child.

- The vast majority of single and two parent families had natural or adopted children. In two parent families, 87.4 per cent contained only natural or adopted children of both partners.

FIGURE 7.1:
TWO PARENT FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN
AS A PROPORTION OF ALL FAMILIES, QUEENSLAND,
1991



Source: ABS: CDATA91.

TABLE 7.2:
TWO PARENT FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (a): TYPE OF CHILDREN BY
TYPE OF UNION, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Mix of children	Married couple families	De facto couple families	All two parent families	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	%
Natural/adopted children only	265,312	14,144	279,456	87.4
Step children only	9,787	7,614	17,401	5.4
Natural and step children only	10,040	2,971	13,011	4.1
Other dependent (b) children only	4,915	703	5,618	1.8
Natural and other dependent (b) children only	3,227	383	3,610	1.1
Step and other dependent (b) children only	170	145	315	0.1
All types of children	106	48	154	0.0
Total	293,557	26,008	319,565	100.0

(a) Excludes secondary families.

(b) Includes children being looked after by the family but who are not natural, adopted or step children of the parents.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- The proportion of blended families was much higher among de facto couple families than married couple families. While 46 per cent of all de facto couple families with dependent children were blended families, the figure for married couple families was 10 per cent.

CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

- There were 760,317 dependent children living in families in Queensland in 1991. Of these, 631,824 or 83 per cent were children aged 0-14 years. Almost 205,000 dependent children were aged 0-4 years. Full-time students aged 15 to 24 years accounted for 17 per cent of all dependent children.

Most children in married couple families

- In 1991, 79 per cent of children aged 0 to 14 years lived in married couple families, and 94 per cent of these children were the natural or adopted children of the couple. Over 14 per cent of children aged 0 to 14 years lived in single parent families and 7 per cent lived with de facto couples. Thirty-five per cent of children living with de facto couples were step children of one partner.

TABLE 7.3:
DEPENDENT CHILDREN IN FAMILIES: AGE BY FAMILY TYPE AND RELATIONSHIP,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

Family type relationship	Number of children by age group					Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	0-14	15-24	
Married couple families	160,529	171,536	165,831	497,896	101,346	599,242
Natural/adopted children	152,486	161,392	151,746	465,624	90,383	556,007
Step children	3,975	7,739	12,014	23,728	7,512	31,240
Other dependent children (a)	4,068	2,405	2,071	8,544	3,451	11,995
De facto couple families	20,270	13,434	10,532	44,236	4,266	48,502
Natural/adopted children	16,769	6804	3,602	27,175	1,087	28,262
Step children	2,629	6,259	6,540	15,428	2,582	18,010
Other dependent children (a)	872	371	390	1,633	597	2,230
Single parent families	24,274	31,289	34,194	89,757	22,920	112,677
Natural/adopted children	20,788	28,992	31,862	81,642	18,758	100,400
Step children	22	46	67	135	64	199
Other dependent children (a)	3,464	2,251	2,265	7,980	4,098	12,078
All families	205,073	216,259	210,557	631,889	128,532	760,421
Natural/adopted children	190,043	197,188	187,210	574,441	110,228	684,669
Step children	6,626	14,044	18,621	39,291	10,158	49,449
Other dependent children (a)	8,404	5,027	4,726	18,157	8,146	26,303

(a) Includes children in secondary families and children being looked after by the primary family but who are not natural, adopted or step children.

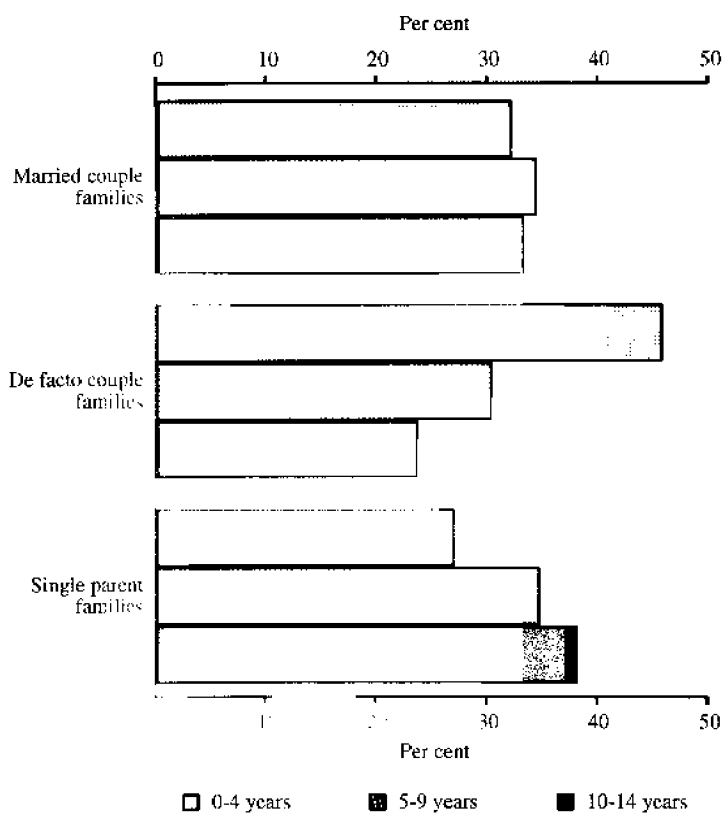
Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- The relatively large proportion of other dependent children, i.e. children who were not identified as the natural, adopted or step children of the parent, in single parent families is partly a reflection of the greater tendency for these families to share a dwelling, thus forming a "secondary family". The relationship between children in secondary families and their parent/s was not separately identified in the Census, so many children were counted solely as dependent children of the secondary family, rather than as natural adopted or step children.

Children in de facto couple families

- A larger proportion of children living in de facto couple families were younger than those living in married couple families. Over 45 per cent of children living in de facto couple families were aged 0 to 4 years compared with 32 per cent of children living in married couple families. The proportion of children aged 10 to 14 years living in single parent families was higher than in married couple or de facto couple families.

FIGURE 7.2:
PROPORTION OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN BY AGE GROUP AND FAMILY TYPE, QUEENSLAND, 1991

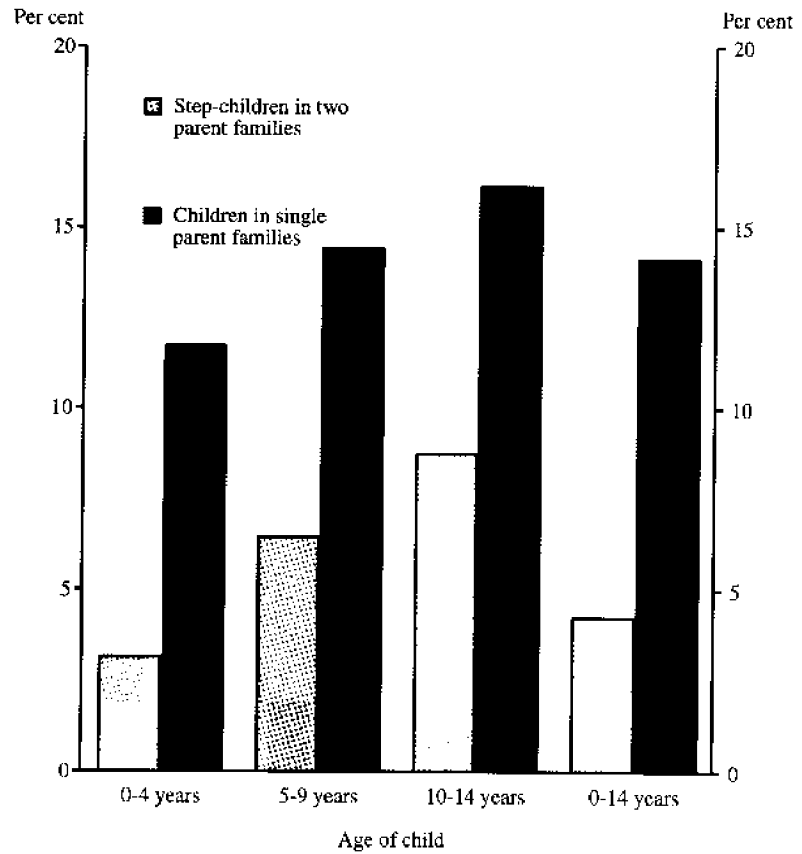


Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

Children living with one natural parent

- Although most children lived with both their natural or adoptive parents, 15 per cent of children aged 0 to 14 years lived in single parent families. An additional 6.8 per cent were step children in two parent families. Most step children in two parent families, as well as those children living in single parent families were living with one natural parent. One-third of the children who lived with one natural parent, lived in blended families and two-thirds in single parent families.

FIGURE 7.3:
CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 14 YEARS LIVING WITH ONE NATURAL PARENT AS A PROPORTION OF CHILDREN LIVING IN FAMILIES BY AGE GROUP AND TYPE OF FAMILY, QUEENSLAND, 1991

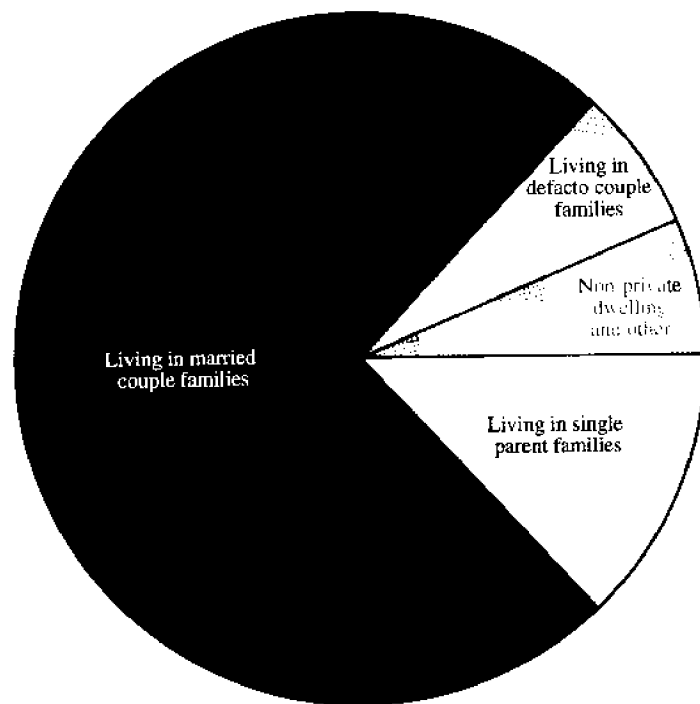


Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

CHILDREN NOT IN FAMILIES

- Almost 42,000 children aged 0 to 14 years were not counted as family members on Census night in 1991. Most of these children were either visitors or counted in non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, schools and residential colleges.

**FIGURE 7.4:
CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 14 YEARS, LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, QUEENSLAND, 1991**



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B33 and unpublished data.

- Of the 14,000 children counted in non-private dwellings, 34 per cent were counted in hotels or motels, most of whom would have been with relatives. A further 26 per cent were counted in boarding schools, residential colleges or halls of residence. More than 1,600 children aged 0 to 14 years were counted in hospital on Census night. Although it is not possible to accurately state the number of homeless children, over 200 were counted in hostels for the homeless, night shelters and refuges. Further details on youth homelessness are contained in Section 8.

TABLE 7.4:
CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 14 YEARS COUNTED IN
NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS, QUEENSLAND, 1991

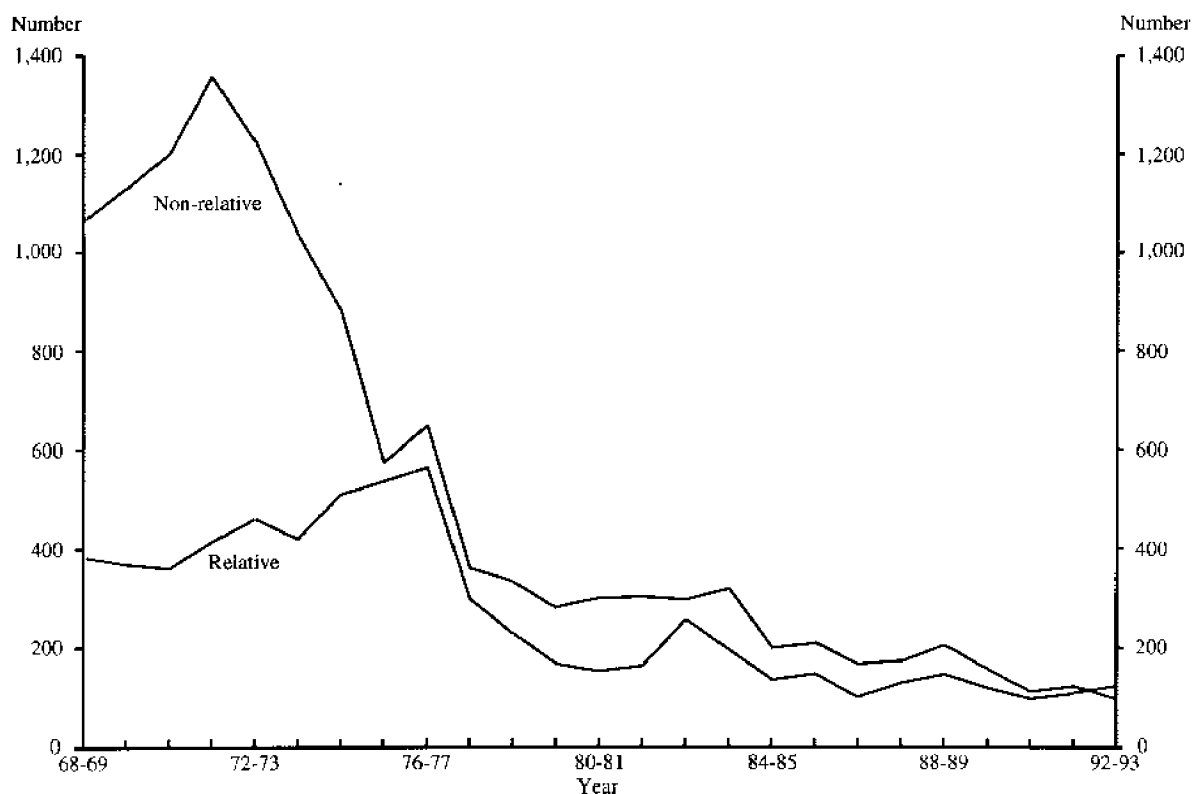
Type of non-private dwelling	Number	Proportion
		%
Hotels, motels	4,753	33.9
Staff quarters	297	2.1
Boarding houses, private hotels	417	3.0
Boarding schools, residential colleges, halls of residence	3,633	25.9
Hospitals	1,676	12.0
Hostels for the disabled	171	1.2
Nursing homes/homes for the aged	347	2.5
Hostels for the homeless, night shelters, refuges	209	1.5
Child care, corrective and other welfare institutions	160	1.1
Adult corrective/detention institutions	188	1.3
Other, not classifiable, not stated	2,160	15.4
Total	14,011	100.0

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

ADOPTIONS

- The number of registered adoption orders in Queensland grew rapidly from 1,951 in the 1930s, peaking during the 1960s with a total of 12,066 adoption orders in that decade. There were high numbers of adoptions in the 1970s, 11,665, but in the 1980s and 1990s there has been a considerable decline in these numbers. There were 3,940 adoption orders during the 1980s, as a result of a decline in the number of children available for adoption.
- This decline is attributable to a declining birthrate, reliable contraception, establishment of family planning centres and, since the early 1970s, income support for sole parents. The supporting mothers benefit was introduced in 1973 and the sole parents benefit in 1977.

FIGURE 7.5:
ADOPTIONS, QUEENSLAND, 1968-69 TO 1992-93



Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

- One of the predominant features over the past twenty years has been the increase in adoption of overseas-born children, especially from Asia. The process has been strictly controlled under the *Federal Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act* and the adoption legislation in each State and Territory. The Commonwealth and State Governments are jointly responsible for investigating and approving overseas adoption programs and require that there be a suitable central agency in the overseas country that will administer the program in accordance with Australian standards.

Release of Adoptions
Information

- Inter-country adoptions only occur where suitable care is not available in the child's country of origin. In 1992-93, 19 children from overseas countries were adopted in Queensland.
- The *Adoption of Children Act* provides for adult adopted persons and their birth parents to apply for and receive identifying information if the other party has not objected to its disclosure. Since the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs began receiving applications for information and objections to the disclosure of information or to contact in 1990, there have been 6,805 applications for identifying information and 3,350 objections to the release of information and/or contact.

CHILD PROTECTION

- In 1992-93, there were 5,669 notifications of child abuse which resulted in 8,496 cases being investigated.
- As some children are the subject of more than one notification during the year, the 8,496 cases in 1992-93 involved 7,070 distinct children. Abuse or neglect was substantiated for 2,232 of these children.

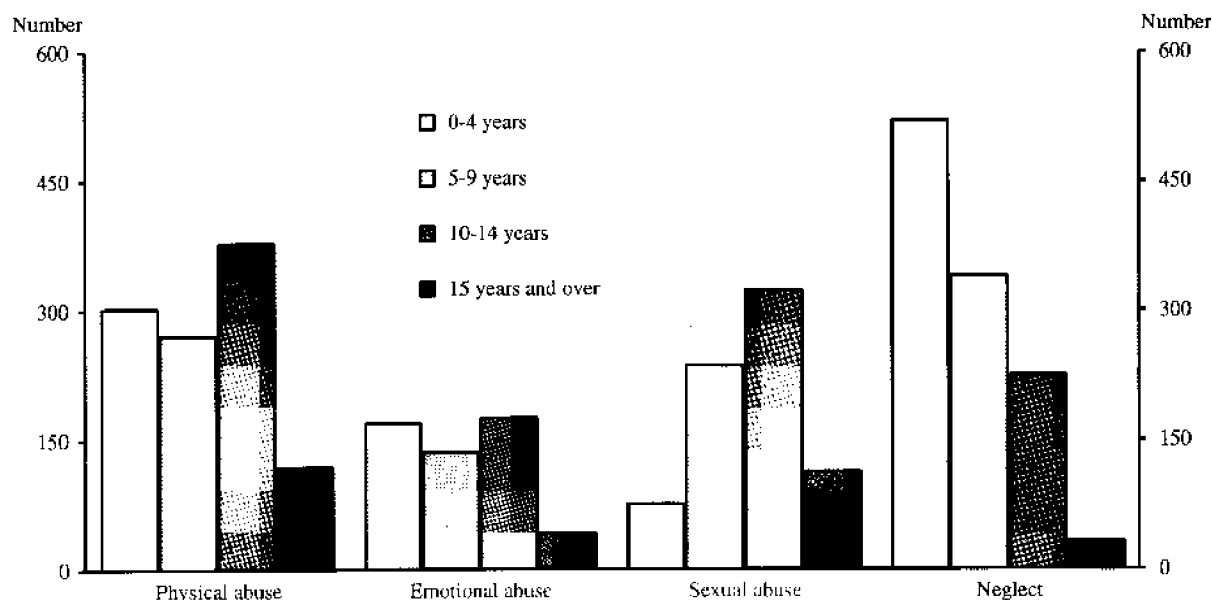
TABLE 7.5:
CHILD PROTECTION SUMMARY, QUEENSLAND, 1987-88 TO 1992-93

Particulars	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Notifications	5,954	6,437	6,926	7,181	5,906	5,669
Cases notified (a)	9,812	10,255	11,190	11,390	9,296	8,496
Males	4,187	4,302	5,153	5,350	4,285	4,038
Females	4,748	5,249	6,037	6,028	5,009	4,458
Distinct children notified	8,374	8,707	9,186	9,438	7,809	7,070
Rate per 1,000 children	10.7	10.9	11.4	11.6	9.6	8.7
Outcome of investigation	9,812	10,255	11,190	11,390	9,296	8,496
No abuse/neglect identified	3,820	3,700	4,131	4,342	3,462	2,964
Abuse/neglect suspected	1,845	1,984	2,110	2,226	1,796	1,538
Abuse/neglect substantiated	2,923	3,377	3,721	3,500	3,027	2,743
No investigation possible	347	490	549	462	461	333
Under investigation	877	704	679	860	550	918
Distinct children - substantiated cases	2,673	3,010	3,185	3,125	2,471	2,232
Rate per 1,000 children	3.4	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.0	2.7

(a) The number of children who are subject to notifications. Cases where the gender of the child is not known have been excluded from the components but included in the total.

Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

FIGURE 7.6:
SUBSTANTIATED CHILD PROTECTION CASES, MOST SERIOUS TYPE OF ABUSE,
QUEENSLAND, 1992-93



Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Children under protective orders

- Thirty-three per cent of child protection cases involved children aged 0 to 4 years and 26 per cent children aged 5 to 9 years. Children over 15 years of age were involved in 7 per cent of all cases.
- In 74 per cent of substantiated cases, the natural parent was the maltreater with a further 513 cases or 19 per cent, involving a step parent or de facto parent.
- In 1992-93, there were 551 applications before the Children's Courts for child protection matters. Sixty per cent of applications resulted in Care and Protection orders being made and in another 15 per cent, Protective Supervision orders were made.
- At 30 June 1993, there were 2,932 children under protective orders administered by the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs; a rate of 3.5 per 1,000 children.
- Twenty-seven per cent of these children were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children. Forty-nine per cent were females.
- The majority of children under protective orders were either in foster care, 55.5 per cent, or placed at home, 28.5 per cent. Just on 6 per cent were in residential care. Payments to foster parents totalled \$7.3 million in the year ending June 1993.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Children under offence related orders

- During 1992-93, there were 4,539 appearances for offences in Childrens Courts. These appearances involved a total of 13,545 offences. Just over 87 per cent of appearances involved males.
- At 30 June 1993, there were 1,229 children under an offence related order. The majority, 65 per cent, were under Supervision orders, and a further 35 per cent were under Care and Control orders as a result of offending.
- The majority of young offenders, 66 per cent, were placed at home. A further 8 per cent were in residential care, either in non-government residential establishments or in detention centres.

Juvenile Justice reforms

- On 4 August 1992, the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992* and the *Children's Court Act 1992* were passed by the Queensland Parliament, and proclaimed on 1 September 1993. The *Juvenile Justice Act* provides a range of sentencing options for young offenders, including non-custodial options such as community service and probation.
- The legislation forms part of the government's Juvenile Crime Strategy. The other element of the strategy involves local programs aimed at reducing the level of juvenile offending in high crime areas and encouraging community participation in crime prevention activities. The Youth and Community Combined Action Program (YACCA) addresses youth problems such as boredom, truancy unemployment, family difficulties, homelessness and drug and alcohol abuse.

CHILD CARE

State licensed/funded services

- The Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs through the Office of Child Care licenses all child care centres in Queensland and funds community organisations and local authorities to provide child care services for families with dependent children.

TABLE 7.6:

CHILD CARE PLACES, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91 TO 1992-93

Type of service	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Long Day Care	17,400	20,000	27,784
Funded Limited Hours Care	10	22	239
Funded Purpose-Built Occasional Care	600	635	665
Family Day Care	7,650	7,900	8,877
Vacation Care	5,196	6,852	7,824
Outside School Hours Care	5,840	7,482	8,773
Total	36,696	42,891	54,162

Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Usage of child care

- Of the estimated 546,500 Queensland children aged 0 to 11 years in 1993, more than 21 per cent received some type of formal care. This was above the Australian figure of 19 per cent. Pre-school or kindergarten and long day care centres were the most common types of formal care.
- Just over 36 per cent of Queensland children aged 0 to 11 years received informal care at some time during the survey week. This care was by older children in the household, or by relatives and friends.

TABLE 7.7:
TYPE OF CHILD CARE, QUEENSLAND AND
AUSTRALIA, 1993

Type of care	Queensland	Australia
Formal care	'000	'000
Before or after school care program	14.8	85.8
Pre-school/kindergarten	42.4	236.9
Long day care centre	40.8	146.7
Family day care centre	13.5	80.7
Occasional care	4.4	50.0
Other formal care	6.8	30.0
Total children who used formal care (a)	115.7	596.2
Informal care		
Brother/sister/step care	28.1	159.1
Other relative	116.6	707.1
Other person	65.5	389.1
Total children who used informal care (a)	197.1	1,166.2
Total children aged 0 to 11 years (b)	546.5	3,085.9

(a) As children may use more than one type of formal or informal care, the categories do not add to the total children who used formal or informal care.

(b) Includes children who did not use formal or informal care.

Source: ABS: Child Care (4402.0)

Reasons for use of child care

- Australian parents surveyed in 1993 who were sending their children to pre-school/kindergarten did so mainly because they considered it beneficial for the child. Work related reasons were the most significant factor for parents using long day care centres, family day care or informal child care arrangements. Informal care was also used by parents for personal and a range of other reasons.

Labour force status of families using child care

- In 1993, over 1.5 million children used formal or informal care. Usage of child care varied according to the labour force status of the parents.

TABLE 7.8:
CHILDREN USING FORMAL OR INFORMAL CHILD CARE, PROPORTION BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARENTS, AUSTRALIA, JUNE 1993

Labour force status of parents	Formal care	Informal care
	%	%
Both parents employed full-time (a)	20.5	22.6
Both employed, at least one part-time (a)	34.7	37.2
Both in labour force, at least one unemployed (a)	4.9	5.8
One parent employed, other not in labour force	27.0	22.4
One unemployed, other not in labour force	3.7	3.1
Both not in labour force (a)	9.1	8.9
Total	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes single parent families.

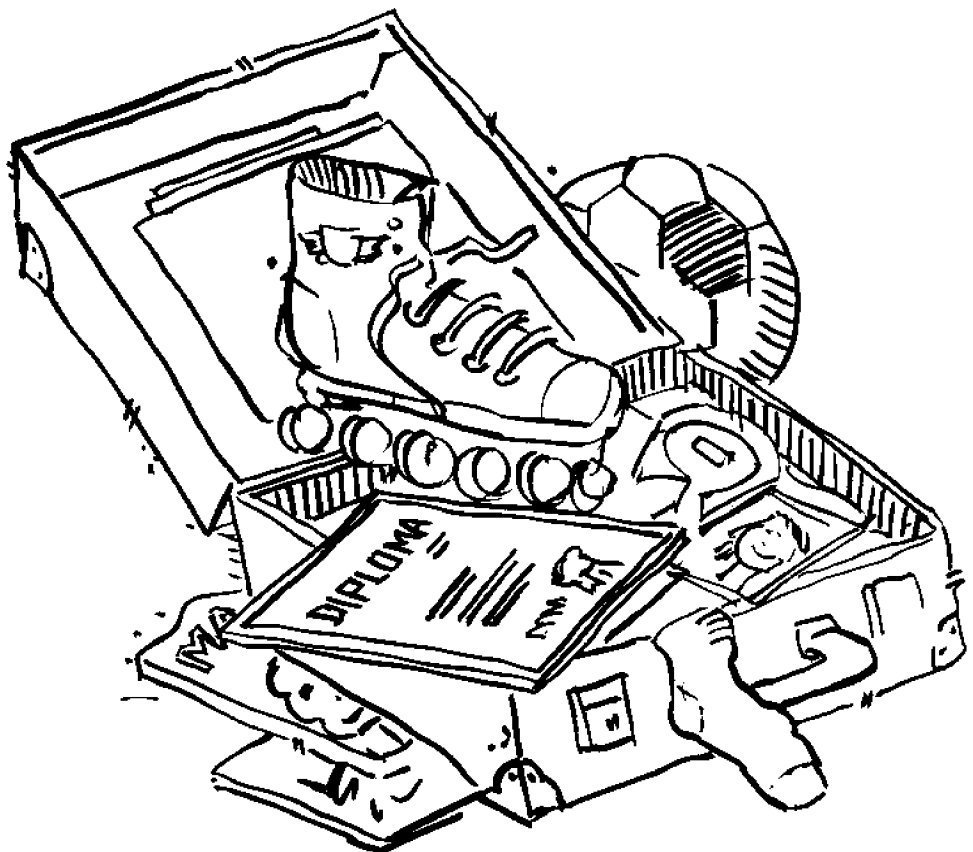
Source: ABS: Child Care (4402.0).

Unmet demand for child care

- The parents of 104,700 or 19 per cent of Queensland children aged 0 to 11 years identified a need for more formal child care. The main types of additional care needed were occasional care and before and after school care.

Section 8

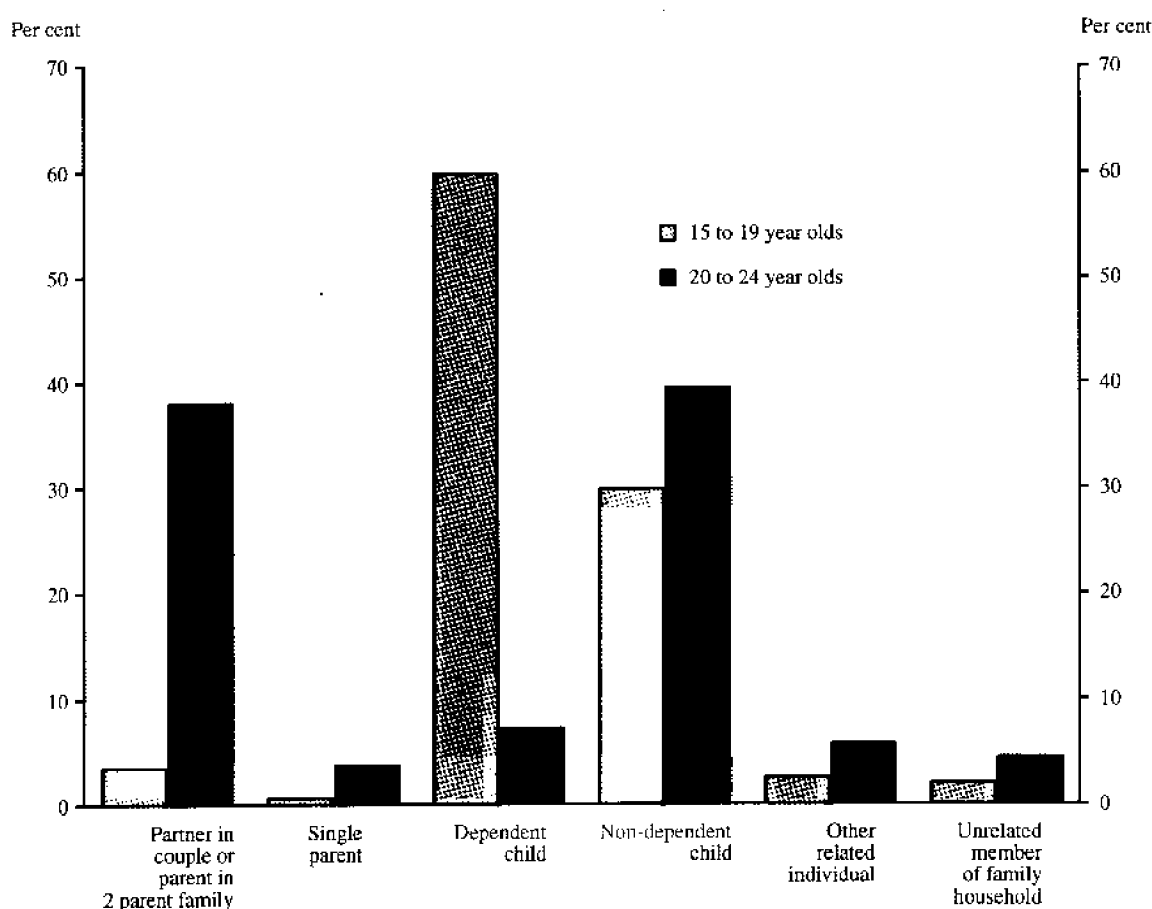
YOUNG PERSONS AND FAMILIES



YOUNG PERSONS IN FAMILIES

- In 1991, there were over 239,000 people in Queensland aged 15 to 19 years, 81 per cent of whom lived in families. For 20 to 24 year olds, the proportion was significantly lower at 68 per cent. The proportions of young people who lived in families has declined since 1986, when 90 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds and 76 per cent of 20 to 24 year olds lived in families.
- Almost 12,000 15 to 24 year olds were living as unrelated members of family households.

FIGURE 8.1:
PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS, FAMILY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: Queensland's Young People (4123.3).

- Most 15 to 19 year olds in families were either dependent or adult children, with less than 5 per cent living in a couple relationship or as a single parent. In contrast, 42 per cent of all 20 to 24 year olds in families were living with a partner or as a single parent caring for dependent children.
- In 1991, 6 per cent of young people aged 15 to 19 years, who had been married, were divorced. This proportion was twice as high as that for the group aged 20 to 24 years.

YOUNG PERSONS NOT IN FAMILIES

- Almost 15,000 persons aged 15 to 19 years were living in single person or group households in 1991.
- Nearly 34,000 people aged 20 to 24 years were living in group households in 1991. An additional 9,917 were living alone.
- Most persons aged 15 to 19 years who lived in non-private dwellings were in boarding schools and residential colleges. Ten per cent were counted in hotels and motels. One third of those aged 20 to 24 years were in hotels, motels and boarding houses and a further 17 per cent were counted in staff quarters.
- Nearly 300 persons aged 15 to 24 years were in shelters for the homeless or refugees.

TABLE 8.1:
YOUNG PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS COUNTED IN
NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Type of non-private dwelling	15-19 years	20-24 years
Hotels, motels	1,522	3,264
Staff quarters	829	2,232
Boarding houses, private hotels	541	1,098
Boarding schools, residential colleges, halls of residence	9,190	2,074
Hospitals	349	672
Hostels for the disabled	116	195
Nursing homes/homes for the aged	19	11
Hostels for the homeless, night shelters, refuges	143	154
Child care, corrective and other welfare institutions	128	49
Adult corrective/detention institutions	185	513
Other, not classifiable, not stated	1,716	2,591
Total	14,738	12,853

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

HOMELESS YOUTH
Burdekin Inquiry

- The 1989 Report of the National Inquiry into Homeless Children concluded that there were approximately 8,500 12 to 15 year olds and 3,500 16 to 17 year olds homeless in Australia. Up to 41,000 15 to 24 year old Australians were estimated to be homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. However, the report of the Inquiry indicated that it was almost impossible to state precisely the total number of homeless young persons.
- The Inquiry received evidence that the average age of young people dealt with by youth services and refuges had decreased dramatically in the two years leading up to the Inquiry. Evidence pointed to children as young as 10 years old living 'on the streets' with substantial numbers of homeless 13 and 14 year olds.
- A significant proportion of homeless youth are supporting parents. Many of these are young girls under 19 years who experience accommodation problems.
- It was estimated that between 12,000 and 15,000 children run away from home each year, although available evidence suggests that a high proportion return to their families after short periods of time.

Services for homeless youth

- In 1992-93, accommodation amounting to 129,628 bednights was provided in Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) funded housing for young people. This is an increase of 21 per cent over the figure of 107,508 bednights in the previous financial year, and represents accommodation for approximately 355 young persons each night.
- On 27 May 1993, a census was conducted of all SAAP funded accommodation services in Queensland. At that time, 372 young people under 20 years of age were accommodated overnight. These people were accompanied by 34 dependent children.
- Eighteen services were funded in Queensland under the Youth Initiatives Program (YIP) resulting from the 1989 National Inquiry into Homeless Children.

LEAVING HOME

- In 1992, 328,500 young Queenslanders aged 15 to 24 years had changed their usual residence within the previous five years. This number includes those leaving the parental home as well as people who have moved again after leaving the parents' home.

TABLE 8.2:
PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS, MAIN REASON FOR CHANGING USUAL RESIDENCE
IN THE 5 YEARS TO 1992, QUEENSLAND

Reason	Males		Females	
	'000	%	'000	%
Family reasons				
To get married	*1.6	*1.0	*6.2	*3.7
To begin living with de facto marriage partner	*6.9	*4.3	9.5	5.6
Separated from registered marriage partner	*0.4	*0.3	*1.2	*0.7
Separated from de facto marriage partner	*0.4	*0.3	*2.4	*1.4
Other family conflict	*3.6	*2.3	*5.6	*3.3
To be independent	10.4	6.5	12.1	7.1
To be with or near family	47.4	29.8	44.5	26.3
Housing reasons				
To lower housing costs	*7.3	*4.6	10.9	6.4
To move to better area	11.0	6.9	9.2	5.4
Dwelling structure unsatisfactory	*5.9	*3.7	10.7	6.3
Landlord request	8.8	5.5	*6.4	*3.8
Became home buyer/home owner	*5.5	*3.5	7.8	4.6
Other reasons				
Employment	25.2	15.8	16.5	9.7
Education	12.3	7.7	12.6	7.4
Other	12.3	7.7	13.7	8.1
Total	159.2	100.0	169.3	100.0

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: Families Survey, 1992, unpublished data.

- In this age group, more females than males had changed their usual address. The principal reason for this was the considerably higher proportion of females who married or moved to live with a partner at a younger age than their male counterparts.
- Thirty per cent of males and 26 per cent of females indicated that they had moved to be with or near family. Employment reasons were given more frequently by males than their female counterparts, and 6.5 per cent of males and 7.1 per cent of females gave independence as the main reason for moving.

PARTICIPATION IN
EDUCATION

- The steady increase during the 1980s of apparent retention rates, which measure the tendency of students to remain in secondary education from Year 8 to Years 11 and 12, continued into the early 1990s in Queensland. Overall, the retention rate doubled from 42.2 in 1982 to 85.0 in 1992.
- Females have maintained higher retention rates than their male counterparts since 1977 and their retention rates have been consistently higher than those of the males in both government and non-government schools.

TABLE 8.3:
SCHOOLS: APPARENT RETENTION RATES (a) FOR
YEAR 12 STUDENTS, QUEENSLAND, 1982 TO 1992

Year	Males	Females	Persons
	%	%	%
1982	38.8	45.8	42.2
1983	44.4	50.5	47.4
1984	50.8	55.7	53.2
1985	53.2	57.3	55.2
1986	54.4	61.0	57.6
1987	59.7	65.8	62.7
1988	63.7	69.8	66.7
1989	65.1	74.5	69.7
1990	69.2	78.9	74.0
1991	75.1	84.4	79.6
1992	81.2	89.0	85.0

(a) Proportion of Year 8 students remaining at school until Year 12.

Source: ABS: Schools, Queensland (4221.3); Schools, Australia (4221.0).

Post-secondary education

- In May 1993, 68 per cent of young people aged 15 to 19 years were attending an educational institution with similar proportions of male and female students, with 92 per cent of students attending full-time. Of 1992 full-time students, 18 per cent were not attending an educational institution in 1993, with 60 per cent of these finding employment primarily in full-time jobs.

TABLE 8.4:
PERSONS AGED 15 TO 19 YEARS BY ATTENDANCE AT
AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, QUEENSLAND, MAY
1993

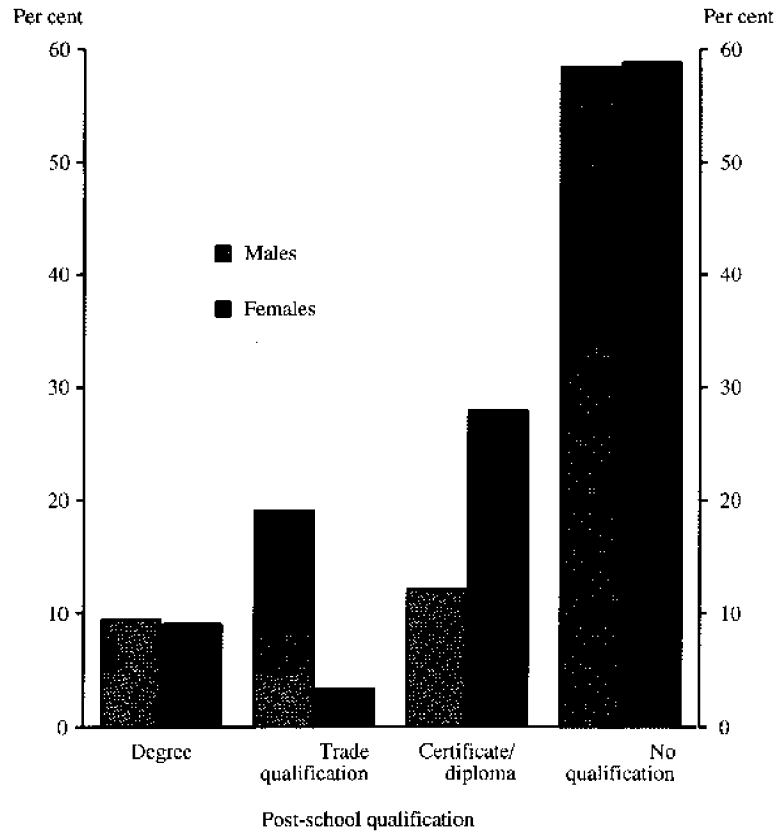
	Full-time Education	Part-time Education	Not at Educational Institution	Total
	<i>'000</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>'000</i>
Males	73.8	8.9	39.4	122.2
Females	76.5	4.2	36.5	117.3
Total	150.4	13.1	75.9	239.4

Source: ABS: Transition from Education to Work (6227.0).

Educational Attainment

- In February 1993, 41 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds were still attending school. Of the 139,800 who had left school, 12 per cent held post-school qualifications, mostly certificates or diplomas. The proportion of females holding a post-school qualification was marginally higher than that for males.
- For the 20 to 24 year age group, 104,400 people or over 40 per cent held a post-school qualification. The majority of these qualifications were certificates or diplomas, with secretarial and business courses the most frequently completed. Similar proportions of males and females in this age group held post-school qualifications. A much higher proportion of males held trade qualifications, while more females had acquired a certificate or diploma.

FIGURE 8.2:
PERSONS AGED 20 TO 24 YEARS, EDUCATIONAL
ATTAINMENT, QUEENSLAND, FEBRUARY 1993



Source: ABS: 1993 Educational Attainment Survey, unpublished data.

EMPLOYMENT AND YOUNG PERSONS

Many full-time students have
 a part-time job

- In August 1993, 26 per cent of continuing school students supplemented their income with part-time work. The rate of part-time employment for these young people was higher for females, 30.1 per cent, than for males, 22.1 per cent.
- Just over 40 per cent of full-time tertiary students were in the labour force, mainly in part-time employment.
- In May 1993, the labour force participation of students aged 15 to 19 years was higher for those attending Technical and Further Education (TAFE), 80 per cent, than for those attending a university, 45 per cent. Similarly for students aged 20 to 24 years, the participation rate was higher for TAFE students than for those attending a university. For this age group, however, the proportions were higher for both categories, 88 per cent for TAFE and 69 per cent for university.
- In August 1993, the unemployment rate for young people aged 15 to 19 years was 22.3 per cent and for people aged 20 to 24 years was 16.6 per cent, compared with a rate of 10.5 per cent for all persons.

TABLE 8.5:
LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 TO 19 YEARS:
FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, QUEENSLAND,
AUGUST 1993

	Employed	Unemployed	Total labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population 15-19 years	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Not attending school or a tertiary education institution full-time							
Males	35.9	10.0	45.8	*2.3	48.1	21.7	95.2
Females	22.9	9.1	32.0	5.4	37.4	28.3	85.6
Persons	58.8	19.0	77.9	7.7	85.6	24.4	91.0
Attending tertiary education institution full-time							
Males	8.0	*1.4	9.4	9.7	19.0	*15.0	49.2
Females	8.5	*1.9	10.4	10.1	20.4	*17.9	50.7
Persons	16.5	*3.3	19.7	19.7	39.4	*16.5	50.0
Attending school							
Males	12.1	4.9	17.0	37.8	54.8	28.8	31.0
Females	17.8	*3.0	20.7	38.4	59.2	*14.3	35.0
Persons	29.8	7.9	37.7	76.2	113.9	20.8	33.1
Total							
Males	55.9	16.3	72.2	49.7	121.9	22.5	59.2
Females	49.2	13.9	63.1	53.9	117.0	22.0	53.9
Persons	105.1	30.1	135.3	103.7	238.9	22.3	56.6

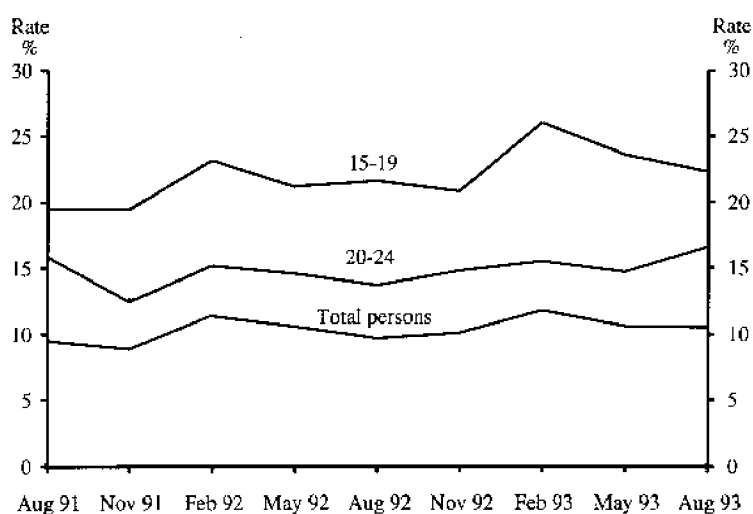
* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: The Labour Force (6201.3).

- Female students aged 15 to 19 years had comparable unemployment rates to those of their male counterparts. The rate for females who were not attending an educational institution full-time was, however, substantially higher than the corresponding rate for males. The unemployment rate for males was highest for those attending school, 28.8 per cent, and lowest for those attending a tertiary institution full-time.
- In August 1993, 73.5 per cent of all people aged 15 to 19 years not in the labour force were attending school. A further 19 per cent were attending a tertiary institution full time. This contributed to the overall proportion of 43.4 per cent who were not in the labour force. Only 9.0 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds not attending an educational institution full-time were not in the labour force, with the proportion for males being much lower at 4.8 per cent than that for females at 14.4 per cent.

- The older age group of 20 to 24 years had a much lower proportion of persons not in the labour force at 16.9 per cent. Thirty-four per cent of these were attending a tertiary institution full-time. The overall unemployment rate at 16.6 per cent was lower than that of 15 to 19 year olds, with males at 16.3 per cent and females at 17.0 per cent.

FIGURE 8.3:
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, QUEENSLAND, AUGUST 1991
TO AUGUST 1993



Source: ABS: The Labour Force (6201.3).

Retail trade the largest employer of young persons

- In August 1993, 47 per cent of employed 15 to 19 year olds worked in the retail trade, with a further 13 per cent employed in the recreation, personal and other services industries. Among 20 to 24 year olds, the proportion of the employed working in the retail trade had declined to 18 per cent. However, retail trade still had the largest proportion of employed people in this age group.
- Salespersons and personal service workers were the most common occupations for young people in August 1993. More than 42 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds were employed as salespersons and personal service workers, while the proportion for 20 to 24 year olds was only half that for 15 to 19 year olds.
- These changes are an indication of the trend for a large number of school-aged people to get part-time sales related jobs in the retail sector before moving into other areas of employment as they gain post-school qualifications.

Section 9

OLDER PEOPLE



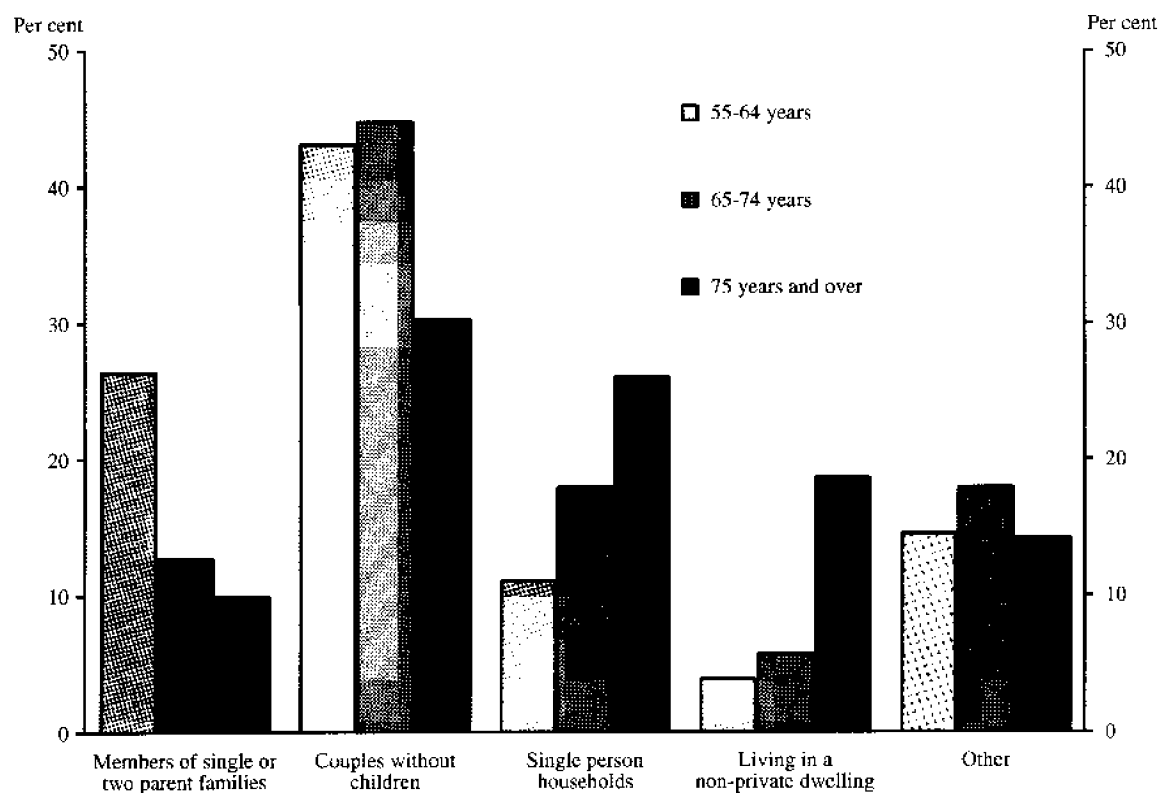
OLDER PEOPLE

- In 1991, more than 474,000 people aged 60 years and over lived in Queensland. This represented 16 per cent of the State's population. The proportion of older people has increased from 15 per cent of the population in 1986. Population projections to 2001 anticipate an increase in the number of people in this age group to more than 575,000, and a marginal increase in the proportion of the population who will be aged 60 years and over.

Family status and living arrangements

- In 1991, 61 per cent of people aged 55 years or over lived in a family household. This figure was considerably lower than the 78 per cent for the total Queensland population. As people grow older an increasing number require the type of care that cannot be provided within the family. Hence, the proportion of older people living in families decreases with age. While 72 per cent of 55 to 64 year olds lived in family households, the figure for those people aged over 75 years was 44 per cent.

FIGURE 9.1:
PERSONS AGED 55 YEARS AND OVER, PROPORTION BY LIVING ARRANGEMENT,
QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Table E31.

TABLE 9.1:
PERSONS LIVING IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Type of non-private dwelling	Age group				75 and over
	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	
Hotels, motels	2,500	2,928	2,704	1,835	1,585
Staff quarters	251	154	57	40	62
Boarding houses, private hotels	294	316	293	172	232
Hospitals	495	697	1,013	1,026	3,051
Hostels for the disabled	104	109	89	80	130
Nursing homes/homes for the aged	269	593	1,264	2,446	17,878
Other, not classifiable, not stated	867	854	834	735	1,736
Total	4,780	5,651	6,254	6,334	24,674

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

More older women live alone or in non-private dwellings

- In the older age groups, the proportion of females living alone was much higher than for males. In 1991, there were almost 53,000 females aged 65 and over living alone, more than double the number for their male counterparts.
- The proportion of females aged 75 years and over in non-private dwellings was substantially higher at 22 per cent than for males at 14 per cent.
- Less than 5,000 people aged 65 or over lived in group households.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

- In August 1993, there were 53,100 employed people aged 60 years and over in Queensland, 70 per cent were employed full time, with males outnumbering females by almost three to one. An additional 4,800 people aged 60 years and over were seeking employment, leading to a participation rate for this age group of 12.2 per cent.
- More than 20 per cent of employed people aged 60 years and over work in the agriculture or services to agriculture industry, considerably higher than the 6 per cent of the total population who work in this industry.

Activities of those not in the labour force

- In September 1992, 47 per cent of people aged 60 to 69 who were not in the labour force described their situation as "retired or voluntarily inactive". A further 41 per cent were engaged in home duties or child care.

HOW OLDER PEOPLE USE THEIR TIME

- Australian information from the 1992 Time Use Survey shows that people aged 55 years and over spend a greater proportion of their time on domestic activities and passive leisure than the total population aged 15 years and over. As the participation in the labour force of this older age group declines, so does the average time spent on labour force activities.
- People aged 55 to 74 years spend more time on voluntary work and community participation on average than the population aged 15 years and over as a whole. This reflects the contribution older people make to community life. Older people also spend less time on social life and entertainment but more on active and passive leisure.

**TABLE 9.2:
AVERAGE TIME SPENT ON ACTIVITY GROUP, AUSTRALIA, 1992**

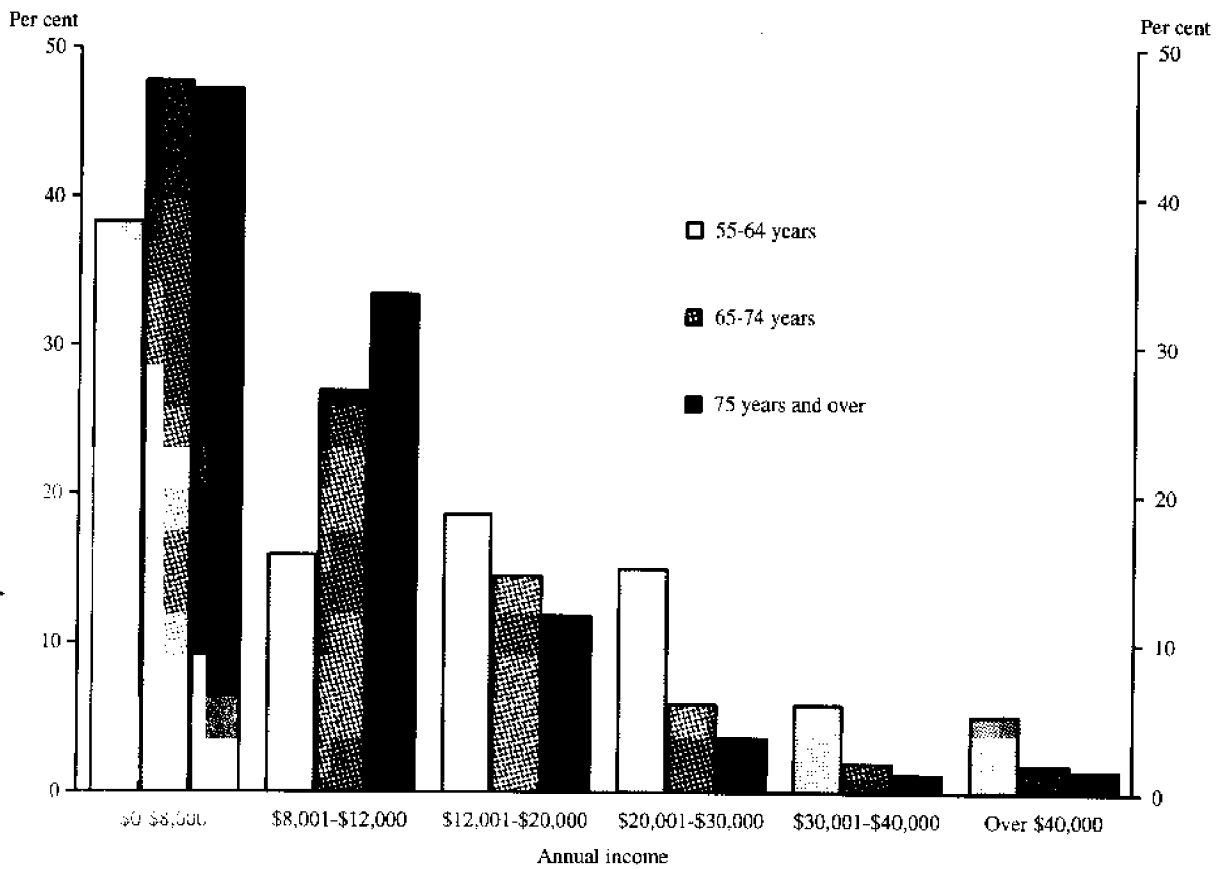
Activity	Time spent on activity			All persons 15 years and over
	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 years and over	
	<i>Minutes per day</i>			
Labour force	144	18	5	197
Domestic activities	189	214	197	144
Child care/minding	9	6	5	32
Purchasing goods and services	51	53	46	45
Sleeping, eating and personal care	646	660	690	623
Education	3	1	-	31
Voluntary work and community participation	32	35	25	26
Social life and entertainment	86	91	84	100
Active leisure	55	68	56	51
Passive leisure	223	293	328	190
Undescribed	2	2	4	2
Total	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440

Source: ABS: How Australians Use Their Time (4153.0).

INCOME

- Incomes for older people are generally less than those of the total population. In 1991, the annual individual median income for people aged 55 years and over was \$9,000, while the comparable income for the total population was \$13,100. While 47 per cent of the total population aged 15 years and over earned \$12,000 or less per year, the proportion for people aged 55 years and over was much higher at 68 per cent.

FIGURE 9.2:
PERSONS AGED 55 YEARS AND OVER (a), PROPORTION OF PERSONS BY ANNUAL PERSONAL INCOME, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Table E28.

RETIREMENT

- In October 1992, there were 473,000 people aged 45 years and over who had retired from full-time work. These retirees comprised 53 per cent of the population aged 45 years and over. The proportion of males aged 45 years and over who had retired from full-time work was 43 per cent. In addition to those people who had retired from full-time work a further 89,000 intended to retire from full-time work early.

- Over 64,000 of these retirees from full-time work were working part-time.

More women retire early

- While less than 6 per cent of males aged 45 years and over who had retired from full-time work, retired before the age of 45, the corresponding figure for females was 60 per cent.

Reasons for retirement

- Of the 473,000 people aged 45 years and over who had retired from full-time work, 12 per cent reported that they had reached the compulsory retirement age for their job. Among the 231,000 who retired between the ages of 45 and 64, 36 per cent reported that their own ill health or injury was the main reason for retiring early.

TABLE 9.3:
PERSONS AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAD RETIRED FROM FULL-TIME WORK:
MAIN REASON RETIRED EARLY BY AGE AT RETIREMENT, QUEENSLAND, 1992

Reason	Age at retirement (years)			
	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64
	%	%	%	%
Personal reasons	73.8	78.5	77.4	55.5
Own ill health or injury	30.8	44.9	40.3	29.0
No financial need to work	12.6	8.7	7.2	*4.0
Decided not to work any more/more leisure time	18.3	19.6	25.1	18.1
Other	12.1	*5.2	*4.8	*4.4
Family reasons	16.1	15.5	8.0	*2.6
Employment reasons	*6.5	*3.7	11.5	9.2
Other reasons	*3.6	*2.3	*3.1	*3.0
Not asked	-	-	-	29.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

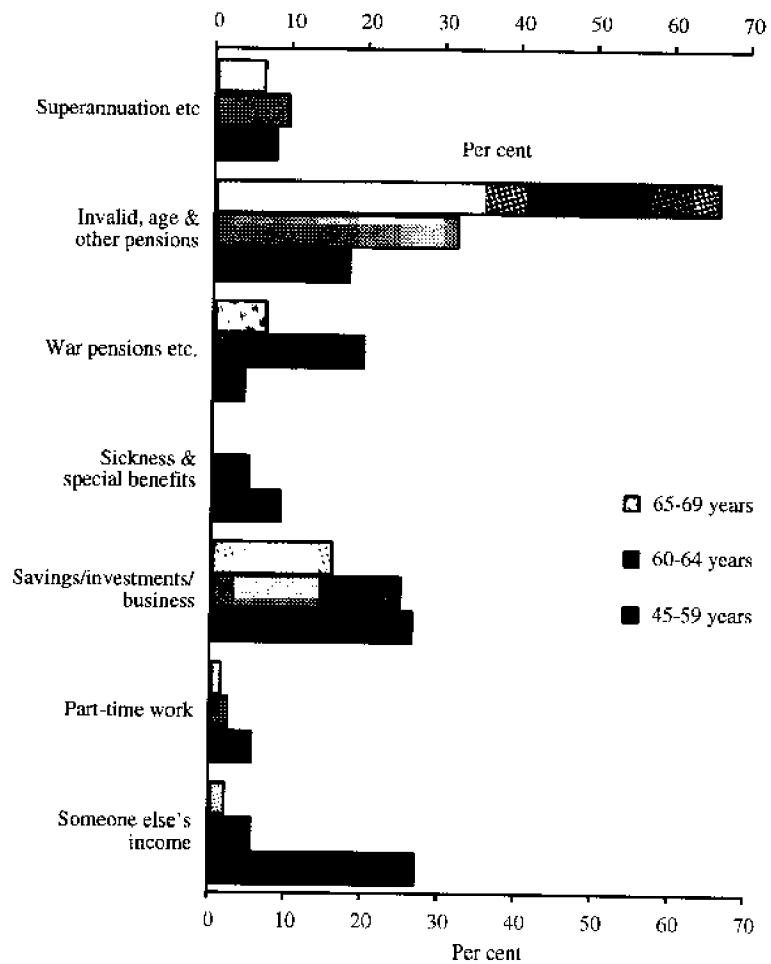
* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey, unpublished data.

Income sources for retirees

- The most common main source of income for earlier female retirees was someone else's income, indicating women had left the work force while their partner was still employed. However, the main income source for 32 per cent of people who retired between 60 and 64 years and 66 per cent of those who retired between 65 and 69 years was an invalid, age, sole parent or widow's pension.

FIGURE 9.3:
PERSONS AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAD
RETIRED FROM FULL-TIME WORK, PROPORTION BY
MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME BY AGE AT RETIREMENT,
QUEENSLAND, OCTOBER 1992



Source: ABS: Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey, unpublished data.

OLDER PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

- The number of people with a disability or handicap per 1,000 persons generally increases with age. In 1993, the number of people with a *handicap*, i.e. persons who were limited in their ability to perform certain daily living tasks, was 147 per 1,000 persons, while the number of people with a *disability*, including those with a handicap, was 188 per 1,000 persons. For people aged 60 to 64 years, these numbers were 274 and 343 per 1,000 persons respectively and increased for the older age groups.

TABLE 9.4:
PERSONS AGED 60 YEARS AND OVER WITH A HANDICAP OR A DISABILITY, NUMBER PER 1,000 PERSONS, QUEENSLAND, 1993

Age group (years)	People with a handicap per 1,000 persons			People with a disability per 1,000 persons		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
60-64	323	224	274	400	286	343
65-69	292	324	308	461	388	424
70-74	476	410	441	603	480	537
75 and over	607	581	591	655	631	641

Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing, and Carers, unpublished data.

Care for older people

- The main disabling conditions were arthritis, disorders of the ear and mastoid process and circulatory diseases.
- In 1993, almost 250,000 people aged 55 years and over with a disability were living in Queensland households. Almost 30 per cent lived alone. More than 150,000 reported that they required assistance with everyday tasks.

TABLE 9.5:
PERSONS AGED 55 YEARS AND OVER WITH A DISABILITY WHO WERE LIVING IN
HOUSEHOLDS AND NEEDED HELP WITH ACTIVITIES, QUEENSLAND, 1993

Activities for which help was needed	Age group (years)		
	55-64	65-74	75 & over
	'000	'000	'000
Self-care	*4.1	8.8	11.9
Mobility	8.7	12.3	23.0
Verbal communication	*1.7	*2.5	*0.4
Health care	8.4	16.6	27.4
Home help	13.3	22.6	35.2
Home maintenance	23.5	38.0	49.7
Meal preparation	*3.3	*4.8	10.2
Personal affairs	*5.4	8.7	15.0
Transport	13.8	30.4	41.9
Total (a)	36.6	55.5	59.7

(a) Needed help with at least one activity. Total may be less than sum of components since persons may need help with more than one activity.

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, unpublished data.

- In 1993, 44 per cent of all Queenslanders aged 60 years and over living in households needed some assistance in everyday activities. The types of activities for which assistance was needed included home help and maintenance, meal preparation, personal affairs and transport. Assistance with home maintenance was the most frequent type of assistance required. The proportion of people requiring assistance increases steadily with age.
- While 28 per cent of males aged over 60 required help, the comparable proportion of females was more than double this figure, due in part to the high need for home maintenance.

FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
Older people as carers

- In 1993, over 35,000 people aged 55 years and over were principal carers in a household. They provided a greater amount of informal care to someone who required assistance in self-care, mobility or verbal communication. Sixty-two per cent of these carers were females.
- Over 6 per cent of people aged 55 years and over in households were principal carers. This compared with 4 per cent of the Queensland population aged 15 years and over.
- Information for Australia from the 1992 Time Use Survey shows that people aged 65 years and over spent on average six minutes per day helping adults who are sick or disabled. This time is double the amount the total population spends on this activity.

Older people provide a
variety of assistance

- Older people are very active as volunteers within community organisations. In addition, older people are significant providers of support and assistance to other family members. Over 156,000 Australians aged 65 years and over provided income support to family members and a similar number provided assistance to buy land or a home, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Family Survey in 1992. Child care is another common type of family support and 61,300 Australians aged 65 and over provided weekly care for children of the family in 1992. A further 187,100 provided child care less frequently.

Older people as crime victims

- Older people are less likely to be the victims of crime than other age groups. The 1991 Crime Victims Survey, conducted by the Government Statistician's Office as an initiative of the Criminal Justice Commission found that only 7.3 per cent of persons aged 55 and over were victims of an offence. This compares with 22 per cent of persons aged 30 to 39 years, the highest overall victim category. In terms of individual offences, older people were most subject to deliberate damage/vandalising of property.

SENIORS CARDS

- Since 1 December 1990, almost 290,000 Seniors Cards have been issued in Queensland. Over 1,000 businesses throughout the State now provide discounts for Seniors Card holders, an increase of over 600 businesses since 1991-92.

TABLE 9.6:
SENIORS CARDS ISSUED, QUEENSLAND,
AT 30 JUNE 1993

Particulars	Number
Estimated people eligible (a)	351,021
Current Senior cards	263,925
Estimated take-up rate %	75.2

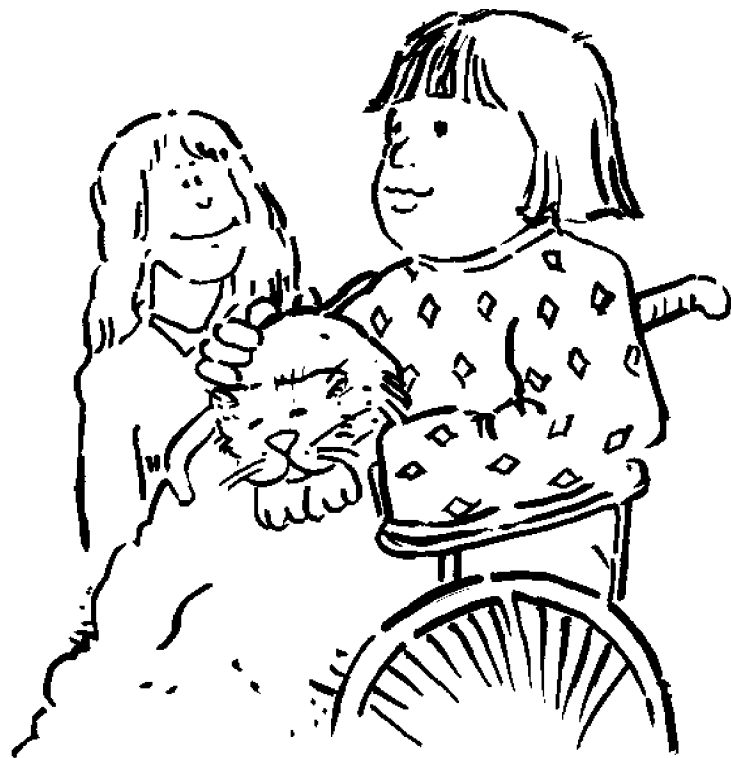
(a) Estimated Resident Population aged 70 years and over, and pensioners aged 60-69 years.

- Source: Department of Veterans' Affairs; Department of Social Security; Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
- Across Queensland, approximately 75 per cent of the eligible population hold a Seniors Card. The eligible population includes all persons aged 60 to 69 years in receipt of a Department of Social Security or Department of Veterans' Affairs pension and all people over the age of 70 years.
- From 1 July the Seniors Card will be extended to permanent Queensland residents aged 60 years and over who receive an Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs War Widow or Disability pension, short term Newstart, Special or Sickness Benefit or a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.



Section 10

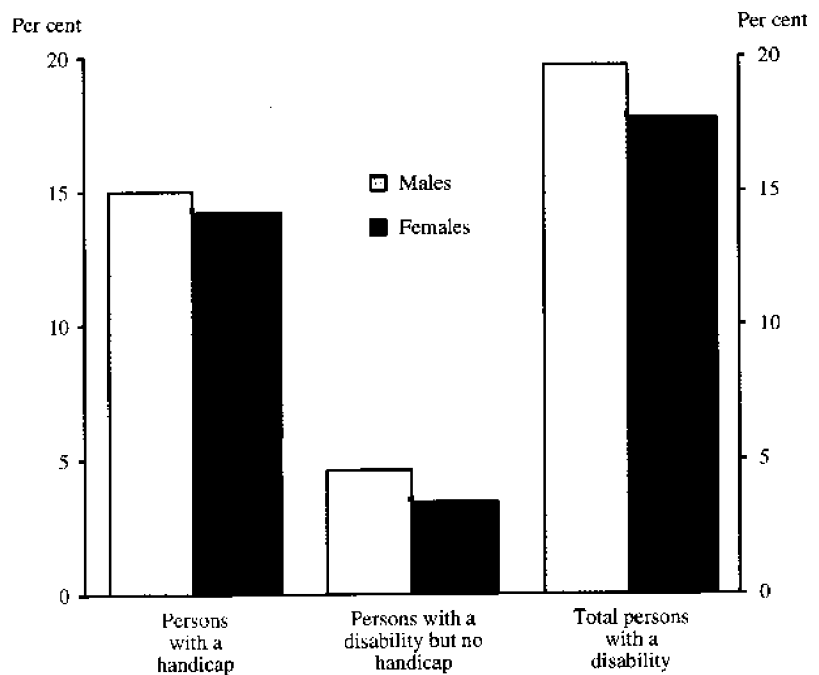
PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY



PEOPLE WITH A
DISABILITY

- An estimated 582,000 Queenslanders had a *disability* in 1993, 78 per cent of whom were *handicapped* in their ability to perform certain daily living tasks. People with a disability accounted for 19 per cent of the total population. Thirty-nine per cent of people with a disability were aged 60 years or over.

FIGURE 10.1:
PERSONS WITH A HANDICAP OR DISABILITY AS A
PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION, QUEENSLAND,
1993



Source: ABS: Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia, 1993 (4430.0).

Disability and handicap

- In Queensland in 1993, there were 188 persons with a disability per 1,000 persons. The number of people with a handicap was 147 per 1,000 persons. The numbers with a disability or a handicap increase with age.

TABLE 10.1:
PERSONS WITH A HANDICAP OR A DISABILITY, RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION,
QUEENSLAND, 1993

Age group (years)	People with a handicap per 1,000 persons			People with a disability per 1,000 persons		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0-4	61	*32	46	61	*32	46
5-14	83	53	69	103	67	86
15-24	53	70	61	83	101	92
25-34	96	100	98	139	123	131
35-44	114	104	109	159	142	150
45-54	181	162	171	246	206	226
55-59	340	176	260	429	270	352
60-64	323	224	274	400	286	343
65-69	292	324	308	461	388	424
70-74	476	410	441	603	480	537
75 and over	607	581	591	655	631	641
Total	151	143	147	198	178	188

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

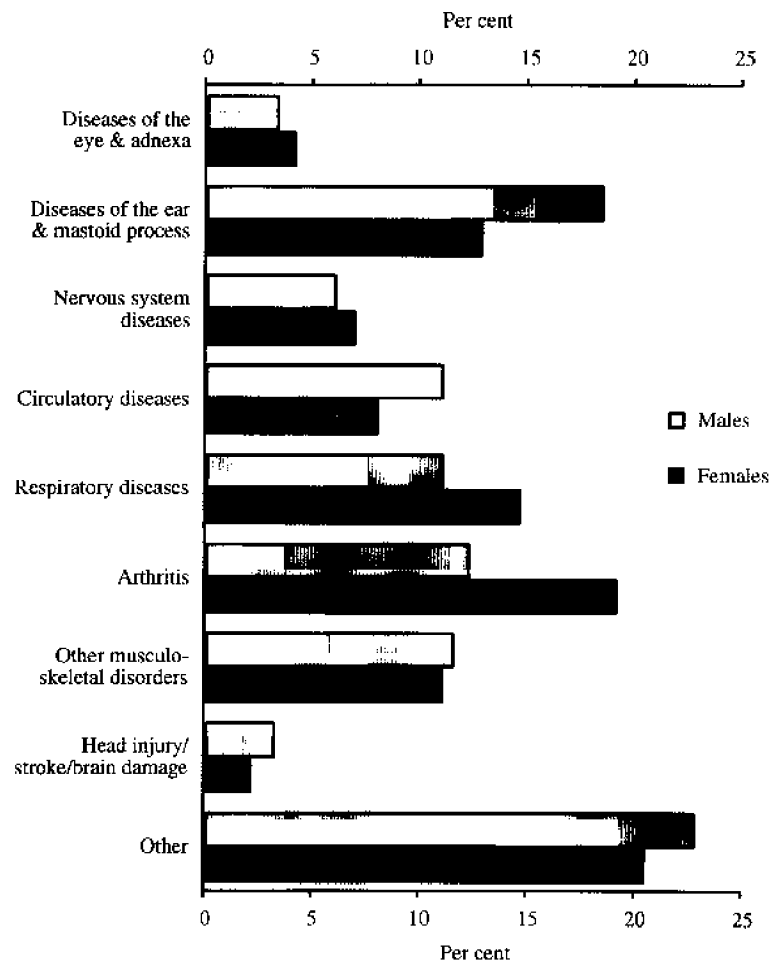
Living arrangements

- The vast majority of people with a disability, 96 per cent, lived in households, with the remainder residing in non-private dwellings such as hospitals and retirement villages. Sixty-seven per cent of this latter group were aged 75 years and over. Almost 25 per cent of all those residing in non-private dwellings were in a hospital and a further 13 per cent were living in a retirement village.
- Eighteen per cent of people with a disability living in a household lived alone. This compared with only 8 per cent for the total population living in households. There were more than 56,000 people aged 65 years and over with a disability living alone in Queensland in 1993. This represents more than 50 per cent of people aged 65 years and over who lived alone.
- In 1993, 433,000 or 95 per cent of people with a handicap lived in households. Almost all persons with a mild handicap lived in a household, as did 72 per cent of persons with a severe handicap.

Disabling conditions

- In 1993, the main type of disability for almost half a million Queenslanders was a physical condition, while for another 83,000, the main disabling condition was a mental or intellectual disability such as psychosis, mental retardation, slow at learning and specific delays in development or neurotic, personality or other non-psychotic disorder.
- Nearly 16 per cent of people with a physical disability suffered disorders of the ear and mastoid process, while for a further 15.5 per cent, arthritis was the main disabling condition.

FIGURE 10.2:
PERSONS WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY, TYPE OF
MAIN DISABLING CONDITION, QUEENSLAND, 1993



Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

ASSISTANCE FOR
PEOPLE WITH A
DISABILITY

- Mental and intellectual disabilities including mental retardation, slow learning and developmental delays were relatively more likely to be the main disabling condition for younger people, while arthritis and circulatory diseases were the main disabling conditions among the older age groups.
- Of those people aged five years and over with a disability living in households, more than 271,000 or 50 per cent, needed some kind of assistance with a range of activities such as self-care, mobility, transport and home help and maintenance. Over 251,000 or 92.6 per cent were receiving some kind of assistance.

TABLE 10.2:
PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY AGED 5 YEARS AND
OVER LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS BY ACTIVITIES FOR
WHICH HELP WAS NEEDED AND RECEIVED,
QUEENSLAND, 1993

Activities	Help Needed	Help Received
	'000	'000
Self-care	59.1	56.9
Mobility	90.8	84.0
Verbal communication	18.6	13.9
Health care	79.1	72.8
Home help	114.0	99.6
Home maintenance	166.5	157.0
Meal preparation	33.2	28.7
Personal affairs	58.5	56.7
Transport	130.6	119.1
Total (a)	271.5	251.3

(a) Needs or receives help with at least one activity. Total may be less than sum of components since persons may need or receive help with more than one activity.

Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

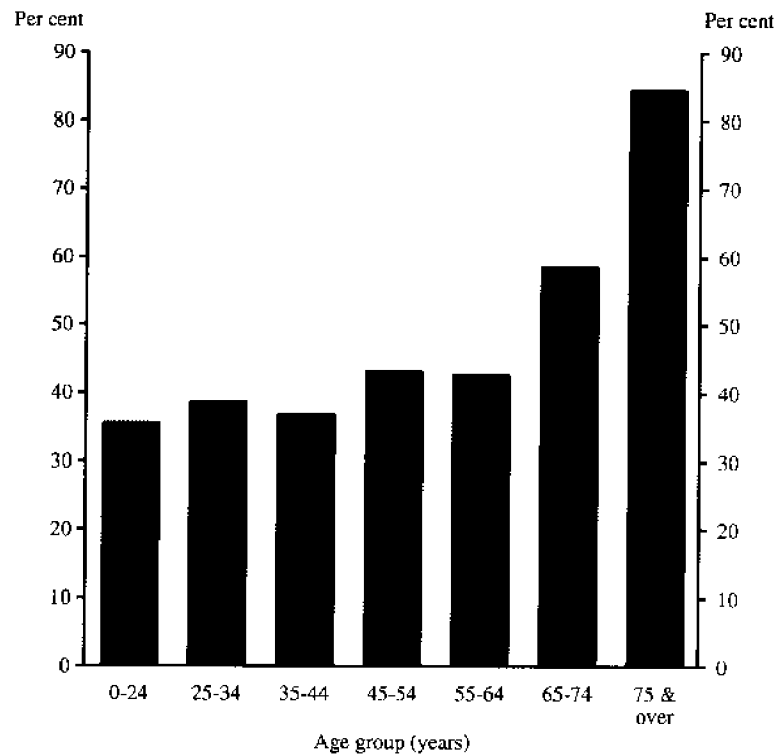
Most help from within the household

- People with a disability living in Queensland households need help with a variety of tasks. Most help was provided by family or friends who lived with the person with the disability, but for 20 per cent of people with a disability needing help, there was no provider of assistance.

- Home maintenance was the most common activity for which assistance was required. More than 62 per cent of people with a disability required assistance in this area, and over 40 per cent required home help. The spouse/partner was the main provider of assistance for all types of activities, with friends and neighbours also playing an important role. Over 37,000 Queenslanders with a disability received formal help from privately arranged help or community provided services, primarily for home maintenance.
- Nearly half of people with a disability required help with transport and this was provided mainly by the spouse/partner or a daughter. Assistance in health care was provided by a chiropodist/podiatrist for 21 per cent of people with a disability who required such help.
- Almost 50 per cent of persons with a disability living in households needed some form of help, with the proportion needing help generally increasing with age. While 36 per cent of persons aged under 25 years required help, 85 per cent of those aged 75 years or over were in need of help.

The need for help increases with age

FIGURE 10.3:
PROPORTION OF PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY
LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WHO NEEDED HELP,
QUEENSLAND, 1993

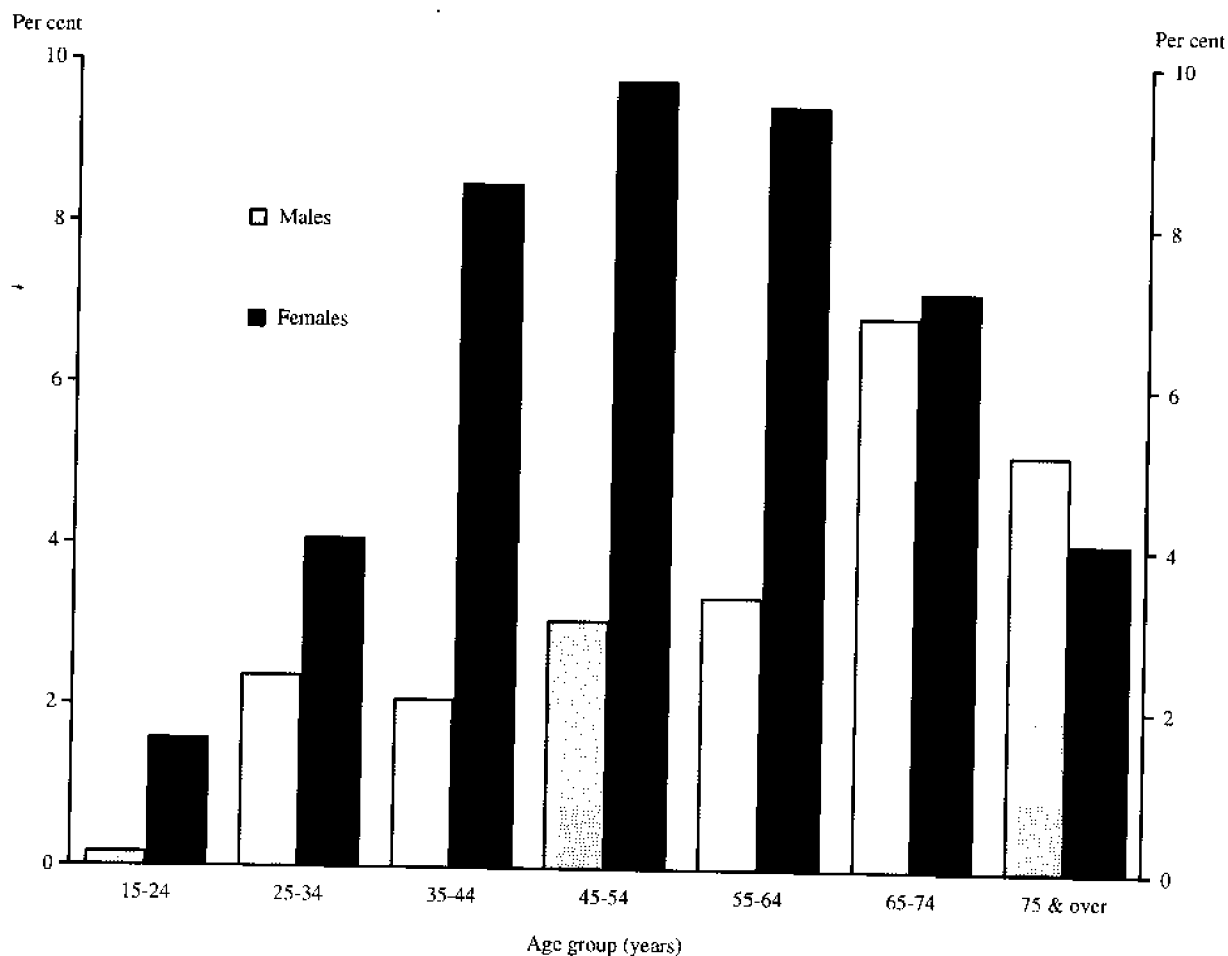


Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

Principal carers are women

- There were more than 103,000 people, or four per cent of the population aged 15 years and over who were principal carers in households in Queensland in 1993. Although most principal carers resided in the same household as the person they cared for, nearly 23 per cent were the principal carers for persons who did not live in the same household.
- The proportion of females who were the principal carers far exceeded that of males, except for those in the oldest age group of 75 years and over. Although the number of female carers aged 75 years and over slightly exceeded the number of male carers, because of the larger number of females of this age, the proportion who were carers was lower.

FIGURE 10.4:
ALL PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS, PRINCIPAL
CARERS, QUEENSLAND, 1993



Source: ABS: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

EMPLOYMENT
Participation rates

- In 1993, 184,200 people aged 15 to 64 years with a disability were participating in the labour force in Queensland. At 53.4 per cent, their participation rate was well below that of people with no disability, 76.9 per cent.

TABLE 10.3:
ALL PERSONS AGED 15 TO 64 YEARS IN HOUSEHOLDS, EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY
HANDICAP AND DISABILITY STATUS, QUEENSLAND, 1993

Handicap and disability status	Participation rate			Unemployment rate		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Persons with no disability	89.3	64.7	76.9	11.3	12.2	11.7
Persons with a disability but no handicap	91.4	64.2	79.6	11.5	15.1	12.8
Persons with a handicap	49.8	38.4	44.5	28.0	24.9	26.8
All persons	84.2	61.7	73.1	12.6	13.2	12.9

Source: ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 1993, unpublished data.

Unemployment rates

- Highest participation rates for people with a disability were among the 25 to 34 year age group. For people with a disability, irrespective of age, the participation rate was far higher for males than for females.
- For those people with a handicap, the participation rate was 44.5 per cent. This rate decreased as the severity of the condition increased, with 47.8 per cent of those with a mild handicap working or seeking work, compared to 9.1 per cent for people with a profound handicap.
- Almost 40,000 people with a disability were unemployed, leading to an unemployment rate of 21.3 per cent. The unemployment rate for people with a handicap was 26.8 per cent, considerably higher than the 11.7 per cent for people without a disability.

PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

- The Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs provides direct services for people with an intellectual disability in residential, community based and respite care facilities.

TABLE 10.4:
SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY, DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES AND ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER AFFAIRS, QUEENSLAND, 1990-91 TO 1992-93

Particulars	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Total Clients	2,515	2,504	2,327
Resource and Assessment Centre clients	1,655	1,648	1,487
Clients in departmental residential establishments	411	382	371
Clients in departmental houses	449	474	469
Respite Care			
Number of families using respite care	487	488	396
Number of admissions to respite care	2,926	3,126	3,123
Number of nights of respite care provided	18,785	19,936	17,947

Source: Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Intellectually Disabled Citizens Council of Queensland

- The Council was established to support and assist citizens with an intellectual disability to participate in society in a positive way. Support services include legal assistance and advice from the Legal Friend; referral to the Volunteers Friends Programme; and referral to the Public Trustee. During 1992-93, 1,785 applications were registered with the Council, and 3,396 citizens required assistance.

Legal Friend

- The Legal Friend or delegate is a legal practitioner providing direct legal assistance to people with an intellectual disability. Services include the provision of information, advice and advocacy in addition to consenting to medical treatment on behalf of the citizens. Consent for medical treatment is provided only after reasonable steps have been taken to consult with the family, where possible, and anyone else who can provide vital information needed for consideration.
- There were 1,633 consents issued during 1992-93, mainly for surgical procedures. Eighty-two per cent of all consents were issued in emergency circumstances.

Volunteer Friends

- The Volunteer Friends Programme provides friendly personal support to adults with an intellectual disability by linking them to people in the community and by supporting them in their relationships with family, friends and community members. Since the commencement of the program, 1,271 referrals have been made.

DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION

- The Disability Support pension is for people with limited means who are unable to work due to a physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment. It is paid to men aged 16 to 64 years and women aged 16 to 59 years.
- At June 1993, there were 68,338 people receiving the disability support pension in Queensland and 1,516 people receiving a carer pension. Seventy-two per cent of disability support pensioners were male and 80 per cent were under 59 years of age.
- There were 11,092 people receiving the child disability allowance in Queensland at June 1993.

Section 11

FAMILIES AND THE LABOUR FORCE

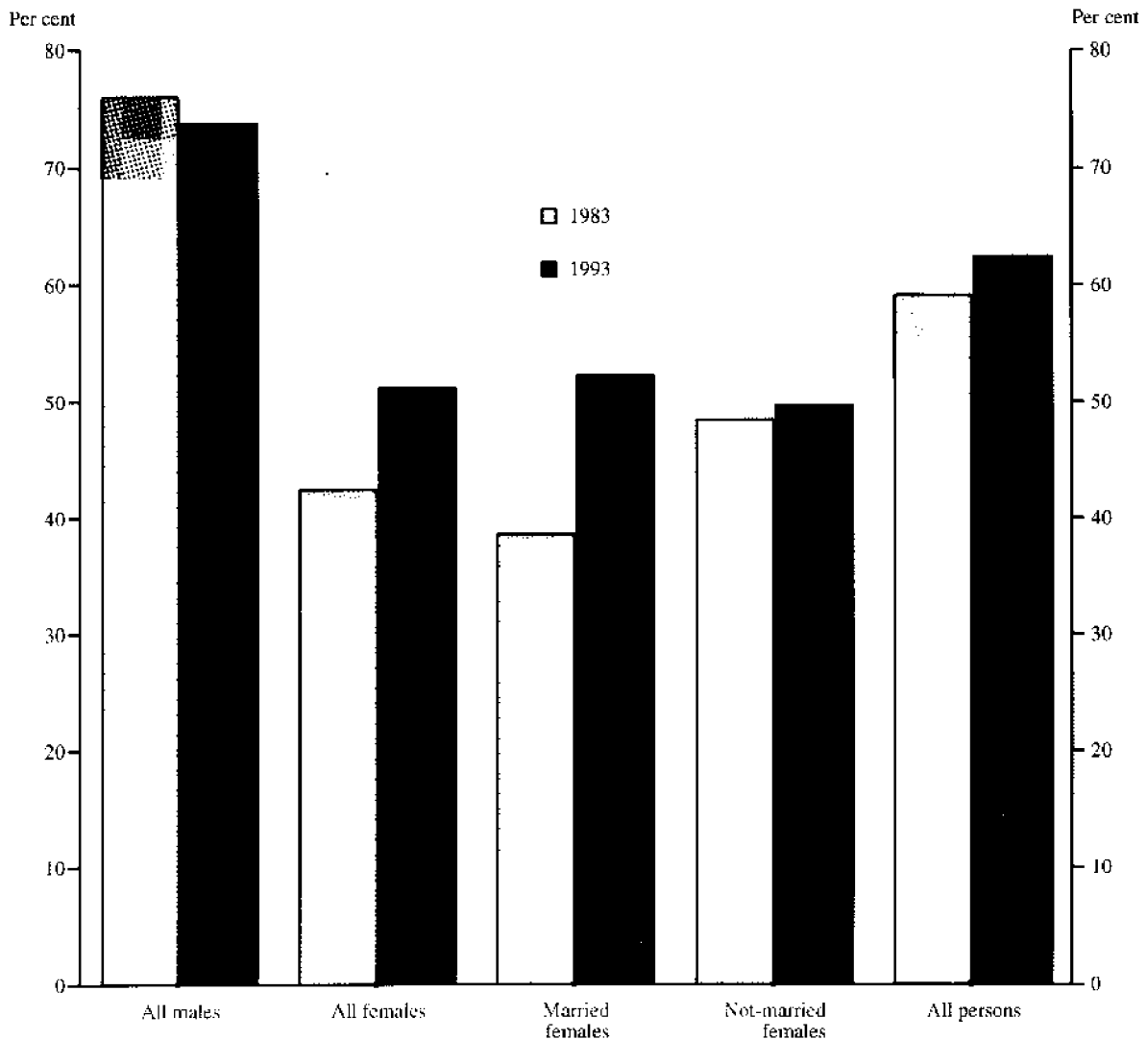


TRENDS IN LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

More women in the work force

- In common with the long-term trend occurring in western countries, an increasing proportion of Queensland women are entering paid employment.
- In August 1983, 42.6 per cent of Queensland women aged 15 years and over were in the labour force; ten years later, this figure had risen to 51.4 per cent.
- The most significant increase in participation in the labour force has occurred among married women, with 52.4 per cent either employed or looking for work in August 1993, compared with 38.8 per cent a decade earlier.

FIGURE 11.1:
LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), QUEENSLAND, AUGUST 1983 AND 1993



(a) The number employed and unemployed as a proportion of the total population in the relevant group.

Source: ABS: The Labour Force, (6201.3).

More women returning to work

- In August 1993 in Queensland, the labour force participation rate for the female partner in couple families with dependent children present was 58.3 per cent, which is lower than the Australian figure of 60.4 per cent.
- Single mothers were less likely to be in the labour force; only 52.4 per cent of Queensland women and 49.6 per cent of Australian women who had the sole responsibility for children aged 0 to 14 years were employed or seeking work.
- In the past, many women who left the labour force did so permanently, either to marry or raise a family. However, a trend to return to work has been evident for many years. Of the women who left the labour force in Queensland in the twelve months to April 1991, over two-thirds intended to return to work at some time. Over half of these women intended to resume working in less than a year.
- Younger women and women with post-school qualifications were more likely to plan on returning to work. Women who were attending an educational institution were also more likely to return to work than those who had left work to care for children or a home.

TABLE 11.1
WOMEN WHO LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE IN THE YEAR
TO APRIL 1991 AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO WORK,
QUEENSLAND

	Number	Proportion
Age group	'000	%
15-24 years	17.9	81.1
25-44 years	23.6	70.5
45 years and over	4.2	35.7
Qualifications		
With post-school qualifications	12.4	71.6
Without post-school qualifications	27.7	64.7
Main activity		
Home duties/child care	27.3	62.6
Attending educational institution	14.2	84.5
Total	45.6	67.9

Source: ABS: Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, unpublished data.

- A greater proportion of women who leave the labour force to attend an educational institution intend to return to work than the proportion who leave to care for a home or children. However, over 87 per cent of women who returned to work in the year to May 1993 had been engaged in home duties or child care during their period out of the labour force. This suggests that although many women who leave work for family reasons do not intend to return to work, economic considerations or changes in circumstances can eventually lead many back into paid employment.

Part-time work preferred

- Women return mainly to part-time positions. In May 1993, over 71 per cent of women returning to a job were working part-time.

COUPLE FAMILIES AND WORK

- There were 316,900 couple families in Queensland in August 1993 in which both partners were employed. This represents 46 per cent of all couple families.

TABLE 11.2:
COUPLE FAMILIES BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS,
QUEENSLAND, AUGUST 1993

Labour force status of partners	Families with children aged 0-14 years	Families without children aged 0-14 years
	%	%
Both employed	48.3	43.5
One employed, other not in labour force	36.7	19.0
Male partner employed	34.5	16.0
Female partner employed	2.2	3.0
One employed, other unemployed	4.0	3.0
Male partner unemployed	*1.2	1.3
Female partner unemployed	2.8	1.6
Both unemployed	1.2	*0.8
One unemployed, other not in labour force	5.3	2.4
Male partner unemployed	5.2	2.2
Female partner unemployed	*0.1	*0.2
Both not in the labour force	4.6	31.4
Total	100.0	100.0

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: The Labour Force, unpublished data.

Couples with children

- Forty-eight per cent of couple families with children aged 0 to 14 years had both parents employed. About 59 per cent of these families had two or more children aged 0 to 14 years.
- One or both partners were employed in 88.9 per cent of couple families with children aged 0 to 14 years, and 65.4 per cent of couple families without children aged 0 to 14 years.

Hours Worked

- In over 32 per cent of employed couples with a youngest child aged 0 to 4 years, both partners worked full-time. In a further 58 per cent, the father worked full-time and the mother worked part-time.
- For employed couples with the youngest child aged 5 to 14, the mothers' participation in full-time work increased, with 43 per cent of couples both working full-time.

TABLE 11.3:
EMPLOYED COUPLES (a): HOURS WORKED BY AGE OF
YOUNGEST DEPENDENT CHILD, QUEENSLAND, 1991

Female Partner	Male Partner	
	Up to 34 hours worked	35 hours and over
Up to 34 hours worked		
Youngest child		
0 to 4 years	3,398	26,392
5 to 14 years	4,684	37,572
35 hours and over		
Youngest child		
0 to 4 years	946	14,663
5 to 14 years	2,080	32,942
Total	11,108	111,569

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

Unemployed couples

- In August 1993, 10.5 per cent of couples with children aged 0 to 14 years had one or both partners unemployed. In 50 per cent of these families, the male was unemployed, and the female was not in the labour force. Where the male partner was unemployed, it was relatively uncommon for the female partner to be working. Only 1.2 per cent of couple families with children aged 0 to 14 years had a mother employed if the father was unemployed.

Length of unemployment

- In June 1993, the median duration for which unemployed males in a couple family with dependent children were out of work was 27 weeks. Families where the female partner was employed experienced a shorter span of unemployment for the male partner, with an median duration of only 17 weeks.

Couples not in the labour force

- Couple families where both partners were not in the labour force accounted for 4.6 per cent of families with children aged 0 to 14 years, but 31.4 per cent of couples without children aged 0 to 14 years. These latter families consist mainly of older couples who have retired from the labour force.

SINGLE PARENTS AND WORK

- Single fathers with children aged 0 to 14 years were more likely to be employed or seeking work than their female counterparts. In August 1993, single fathers had a participation rate of 69 per cent, compared with 52.4 per cent for single mothers.

TABLE 11.4:
LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF SINGLE PARENTS WITH
CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 14 YEARS, QUEENSLAND,
AUGUST 1993

Labour force status	Single parent families
Fathers	
Employed	4,660
In the labour force	5,470
Participation rate (a) %	69.0
Unemployment rate %	*14.8
Mothers	
Employed	20,250
In the labour force	26,910
Participation rate (a) %	52.4
Unemployment rate %	24.7

(a) The number employed and unemployed as a proportion of the total population in the relevant group.

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: The Labour Force, unpublished data.

Unemployment higher for single parents

- Employed single mothers were more likely to be working part-time; in August 1993, 54 per cent of working mothers in single parent families had a part-time job, compared with fewer than 14 per cent of single working fathers.
- In August 1993, the unemployment rate for single mothers, at 24.7 per cent, was higher than for single fathers at 14.8 per cent. Single parents appear to be disadvantaged in the job market, as their unemployment rates are far higher than for all females, 10.3 per cent, and marginally higher than for all males, 10.7 per cent.

Duration of unemployment

- Information for Australia shows that the median duration for which single fathers had been out of work was 58 weeks in June 1993. This was considerably more than the duration for single mothers, who spent an average of 22 weeks seeking work.

Government benefits

- Many single mothers rely on government cash benefits for their income. In June 1993, females accounted for 53,121 of the 56,883 people receiving a sole parent pension.

LONG TERM
UNEMPLOYMENT

- The proportion of people who are long term unemployed has increased significantly over the last decade. In August 1983, 21.0 per cent of unemployed males and 17.5 of unemployed females had been out of work for more than one year. By August 1993, these proportions had increased to 35.5 per cent for males and 24.4 per cent for females.
- Long term unemployment is more common in the older age groups. While 20 per cent of the unemployed aged 15 to 24 years have been unemployed for one year or more, 76 per cent of the unemployed aged over 60 have been seeking work for a year or more.

TABLE 11.5:
PROPORTION OF UNEMPLOYED WHO HAVE BEEN
UNEMPLOYED FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE,
QUEENSLAND, AUGUST 1993

Age group	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Years</i>	%	%	%
15-24	19.4	20.0	19.6
25-44	37.2	26.3	32.7
45-59	53.4	32.9	47.3
60 and over	74.8	*	75.9
Total	35.5	24.3	31.0

* Subject to high sampling variability.

Source: ABS: The Labour Force, unpublished data.

- The proportion of male partners in couple families that have been out of work for 12 months or more is similar to that of all males. In June 1993 the figure was 35.8 per cent for unemployed males in all couple families, but only 29.3 per cent for unemployed males in couple families with dependent children present.



Section 12

FAMILY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



INCOME OF PARENTS

- In 1991, the median annual income of parents in two parent families with dependent children was \$35,310. Single parent families with dependent children had a median income of \$14,833.
- Overall, more than 92,000 families with dependent children had an income of \$20,000 or less and more than half of these were single parent families.

Families without dependent children

- One third of couple families without dependent children had an income of \$20,000 or less each year. While these families include young couples who both work, they also include large numbers of older couples where one or both partners are not in the labour force.

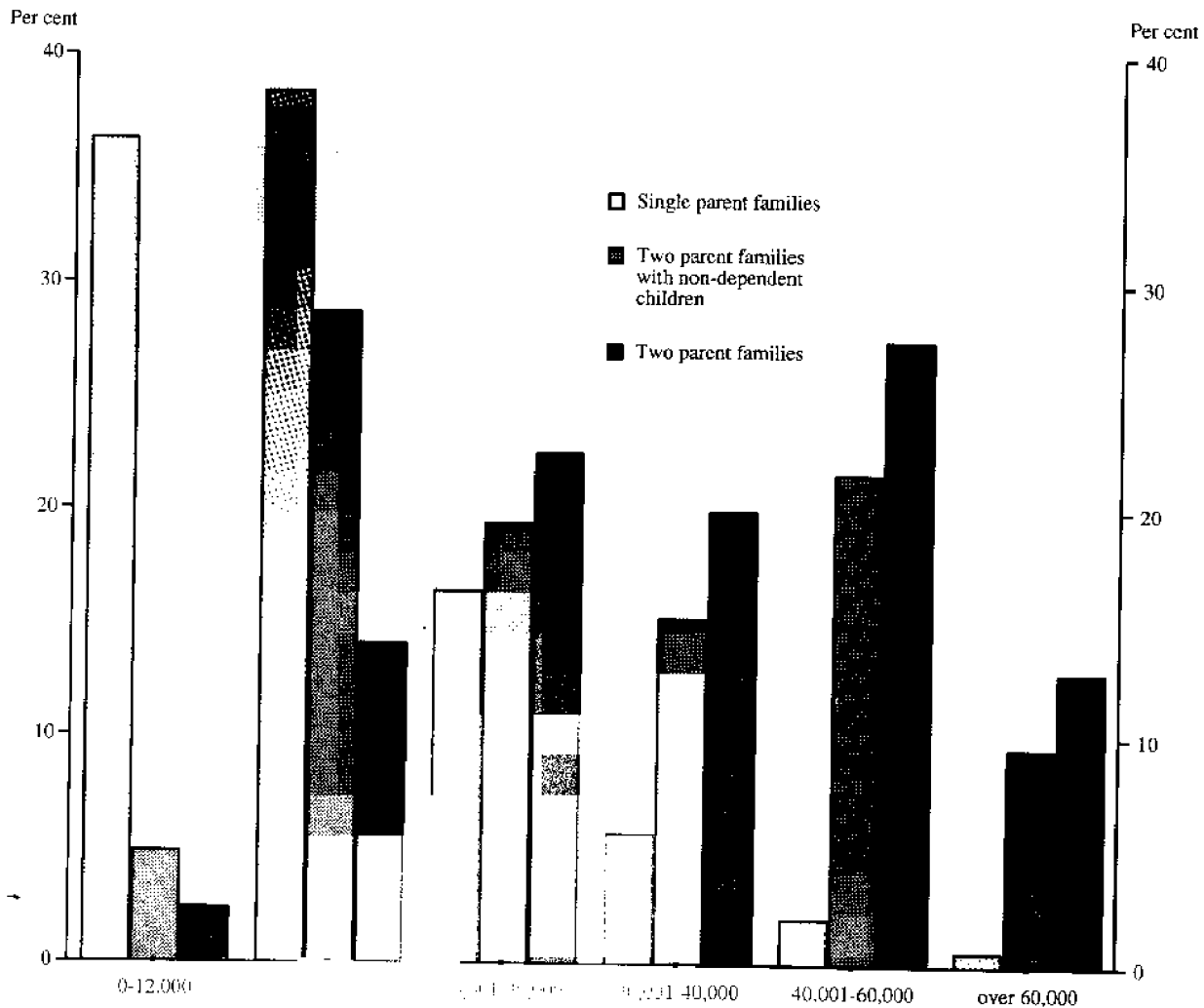
TABLE 12.1
INCOME OF PARENTS BY FAMILY TYPE (a), QUEENSLAND, 1991

Family Type	Annual income of parents					
	Under 12,000	12,001 to 16,000	16,001 to 25,000	25,001 to 40,000	40,001 to 60,000	More than 60,000
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Single parent family	44.1	32.5	15.4	5.4	2.0	0.7
No dependent children	62.7	17.9	12.5	4.2	1.9	0.8
1 dependent child	46.8	27.6	16.4	6.2	2.2	0.7
2 or more dependent children	25.6	49.7	16.6	5.5	2.0	0.6
Two parent family	2.9	16.6	22.1	19.3	26.6	12.5
No dependent children	5.0	28.8	19.5	15.3	21.7	9.6
1 dependent child	3.1	17.0	21.5	18.7	27.6	12.2
2 or more dependent children	2.2	12.9	23.2	20.8	27.6	13.4

(a) Excludes families who did not state their income or where a parent was temporarily absent on Census night.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B32.

FIGURE 12.1:
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (a) BY ANNUAL INCOME OF PARENTS, QUEENSLAND, 1991



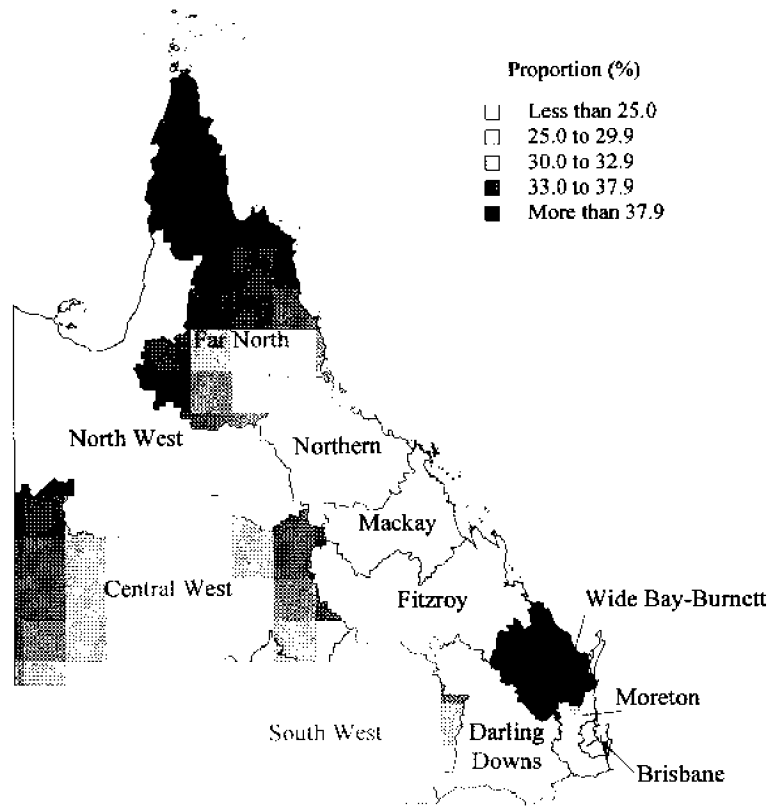
(a) Excluding families who did not state their income or where both parents in a two parent family or the parent in a single parent family was temporarily absent on Census night.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B32.

Income in the regions

- The highest proportion of low income families with dependent children was in the Wide Bay-Burnett area, where 39 per cent of parents had an annual income of \$20,000 or less each year. The largely agricultural and pastoral areas of the South West also had a higher proportion of low income families.
- In contrast, Brisbane and North West statistical divisions had fewer than 25 per cent of families with dependent children with an annual income of the parents of \$20,000 or less. North West Statistical Division also had the highest proportion of families with parents' incomes of \$60,000 or more, despite also having a high proportion of single parent families.

FIGURE 12.2:
FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN WITH
INCOME OF PARENTS LESS THAN \$20,000,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

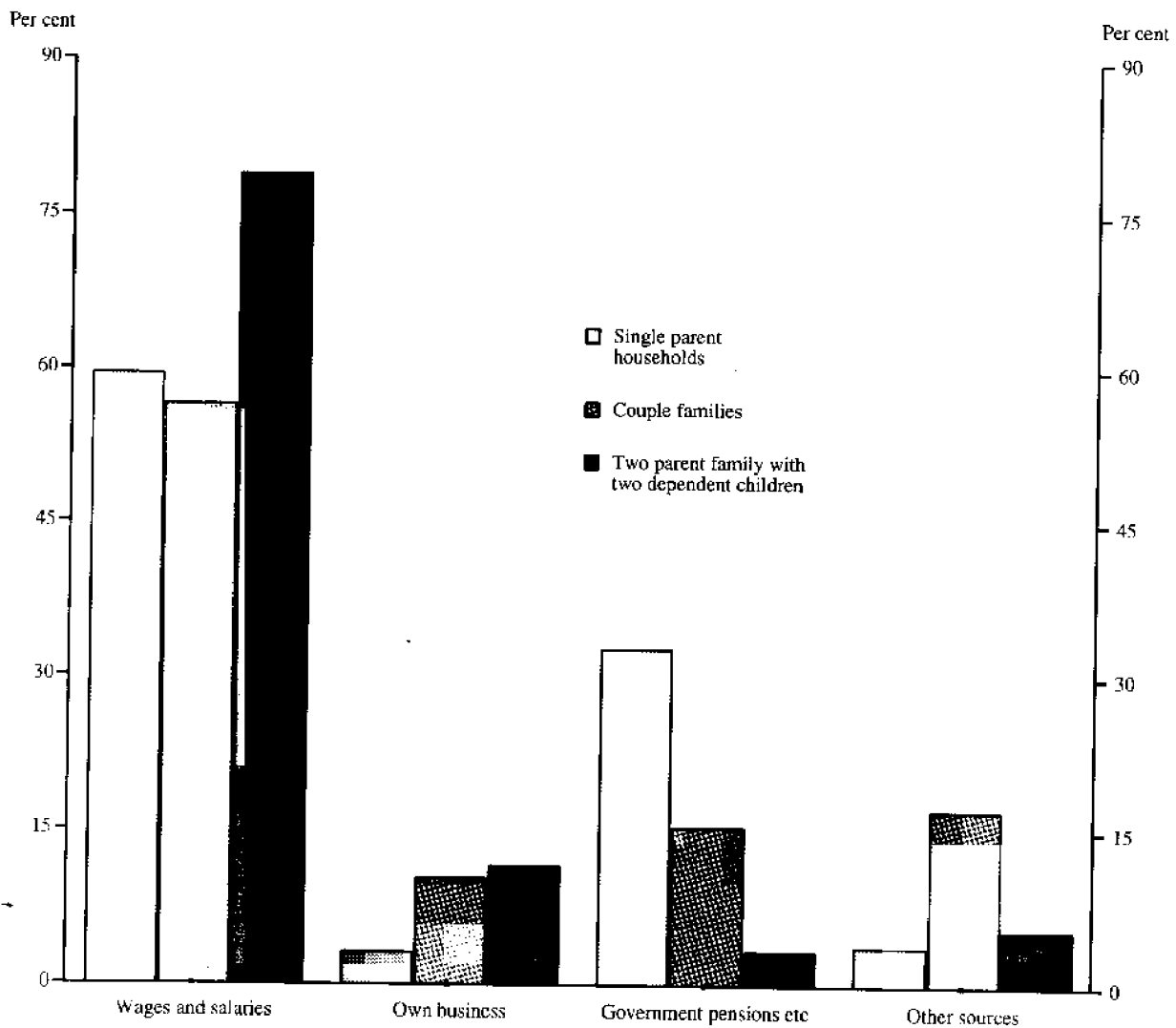


Source: ABS: CDATA91.

SOURCES OF INCOME

- In 1988-89, 70 per cent of the income of married couple family households was derived from wages and salaries, with a further 10 per cent coming from their own businesses. Couple families with dependent children derived a much greater proportion of their total income from wages and salaries than couple only families. These husband and wife only families derived 57 per cent of their income from wages and salaries and a further 16 per cent from Government pensions and benefits.

FIGURE 12.3:
FAMILY TYPE BY SOURCE OF INCOME, QUEENSLAND, 1988-89



Source: ABS: Household Expenditure Survey, 1988-89, unpublished data.

Single parent households

- Almost 60 per cent of the total household income received by single parent households was derived from wages and salaries with an additional 33 per cent coming from government pensions and benefits.
- In 1988-89, over 70 per cent of total household income received by families in Brisbane came from wages and salaries, contrasting with less than 50 per cent of income received by families in the Wide Bay-Burnett region, and 80 per cent for Fitzroy/Mackay/Central West.

TABLE 12.2:
SOURCES OF TOTAL INCOME RECEIVED BY HOUSEHOLDS BY REGION, QUEENSLAND,
1988-89

Region	Wages and salaries	Own business	Government pensions	Other sources
	%	%	%	%
Brisbane	72.4	7.6	11.2	8.8
Moreton	62.3	9.4	14.9	13.4
Wide Bay-Burnett	47.9	17.5	22.2	12.4
Fitzroy, Mackay and Central West	80.7	3.4	7.6	8.4
Darling Downs and South West	69.4	7.6	15.1	7.9
North and North West	79.1	7.6	9.8	3.4
Far North	65.0	19.2	6.3	9.5
Queensland	70.1	8.6	12.0	9.3

Source: ABS: 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey, unpublished data.

FAMILY EXPENDITURE

- Queensland households spent an average of \$444 each week on goods and services in 1988-89. An additional \$131 per week was spent on income tax, capital housing costs and superannuation.
- Just under 20 per cent of household expenditure in 1988-89 was on food and non-alcoholic beverages, and a further 26 per cent was spent on current housing costs such as rent, mortgage interest, rates etc. and household furnishings, equipment, services and operations.

Single parent households

- Single parent households spent a higher proportion of their income on housing costs and food and non-alcoholic beverages than all households, and a smaller proportion of their expenditure was spent on recreation, alcoholic beverages and medical care and health expenses.

Low income households

- Low income households earning \$214 or less per week had similar spending patterns to single parent households, with a relatively higher proportion of their income spent on housing costs and food and non-alcoholic beverages and less on recreation and transport than all Queensland households.

TABLE 12.3:
HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE, QUEENSLAND, 1988-89

Broad expenditure group	Proportion of expenditure		
	All households	Single parent households	Low income (a) households
	%	%	%
Current housing costs	14.6	18.5	16.8
Fuel and power	2.5	2.9	3.3
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	19.5	21.0	21.6
Alcoholic beverages	4.1	1.2	3.3
Tobacco	1.4	1.7	1.9
Clothing and footwear	6.0	7.2	5.2
Household furnishings and equipment	6.7	4.9	7.8
Household services and operation	5.0	5.1	6.9
Medical care and health expenses	4.4	3.1	4.0
Transport	15.8	17.7	10.6
Recreation	10.5	8.9	9.8
Personal care	1.9	1.8	2.0
Other	7.6	6.0	6.7
Total expenditure	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Households earning less than \$214 per week.

Source: ABS: 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey, States and Territories (6533.0).

Large households

- Large households, i.e. those with six or more people, spend almost 50 per cent more each week than the average household. These households spend proportionally more on food and transport, but less on housing costs and medical care and health expenses.

Low income households spent less

- Low income households spent almost \$40 less per week on food than average, while single parent households spent over \$10 less. Weekly housing, furnishings and household service costs were lower by \$48 for low income households, and almost \$15 lower for single parent households than the Queensland average.

Expenditure exceeds income for low income earners

- Low income households had weekly expenditure which considerably exceeded their weekly income. Low income households had an average weekly expenditure on commodities and services of \$217.95, with an average income of only \$136.13. It is likely that many of these families incurred debt, while others eroded savings in order to meet commitments.

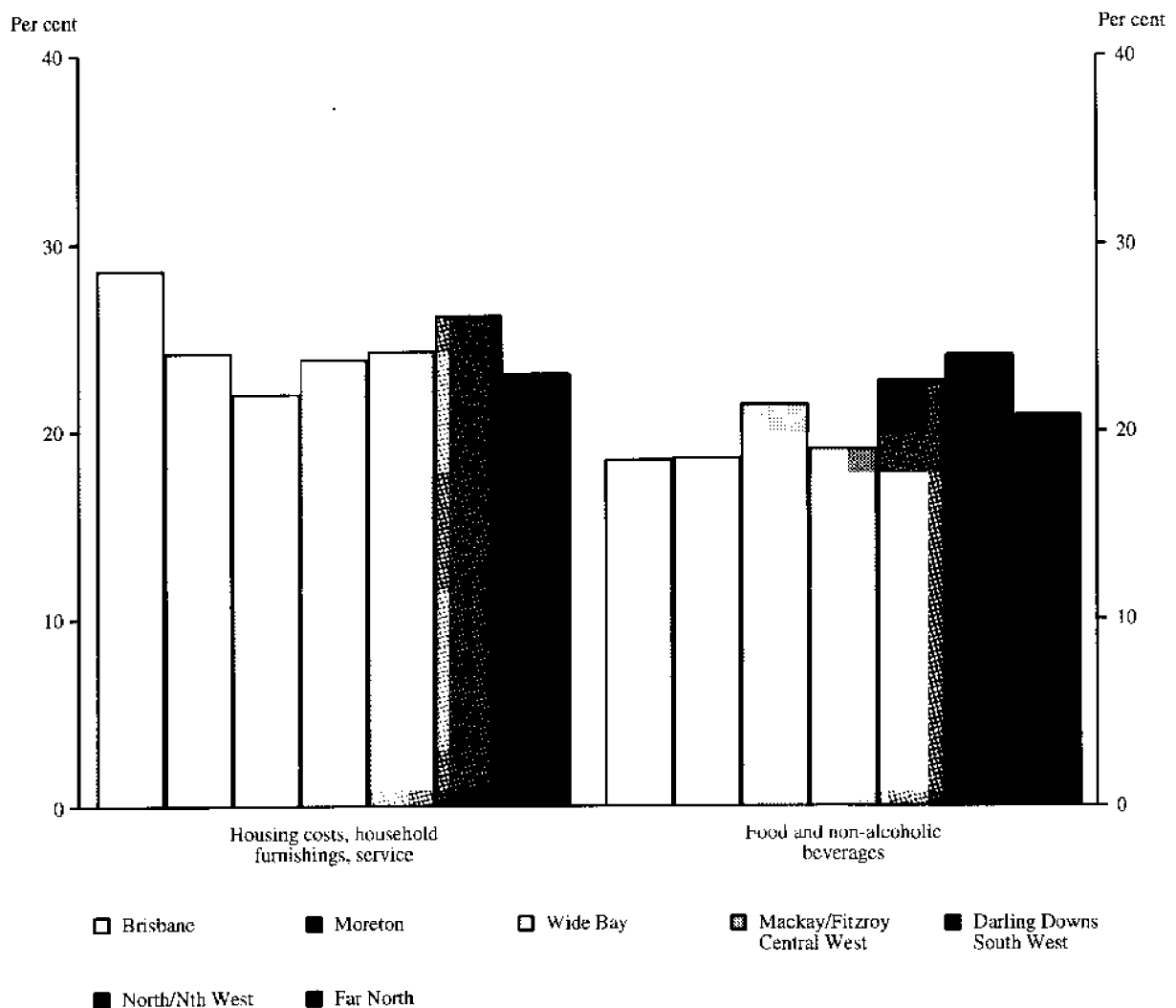
Single parent households just making ends meet

- Single parent households spent an average of \$358.38 each week on commodities and services, and a further \$54.20 on income tax, capital housing costs and superannuation. This compared with an average income of \$378.17.

Regional expenditure

- Weekly expenditure on commodities and services varied throughout the State, with households in the Far North region spending the most, \$505, and those in Wide Bay-Burnett spending least, \$341.

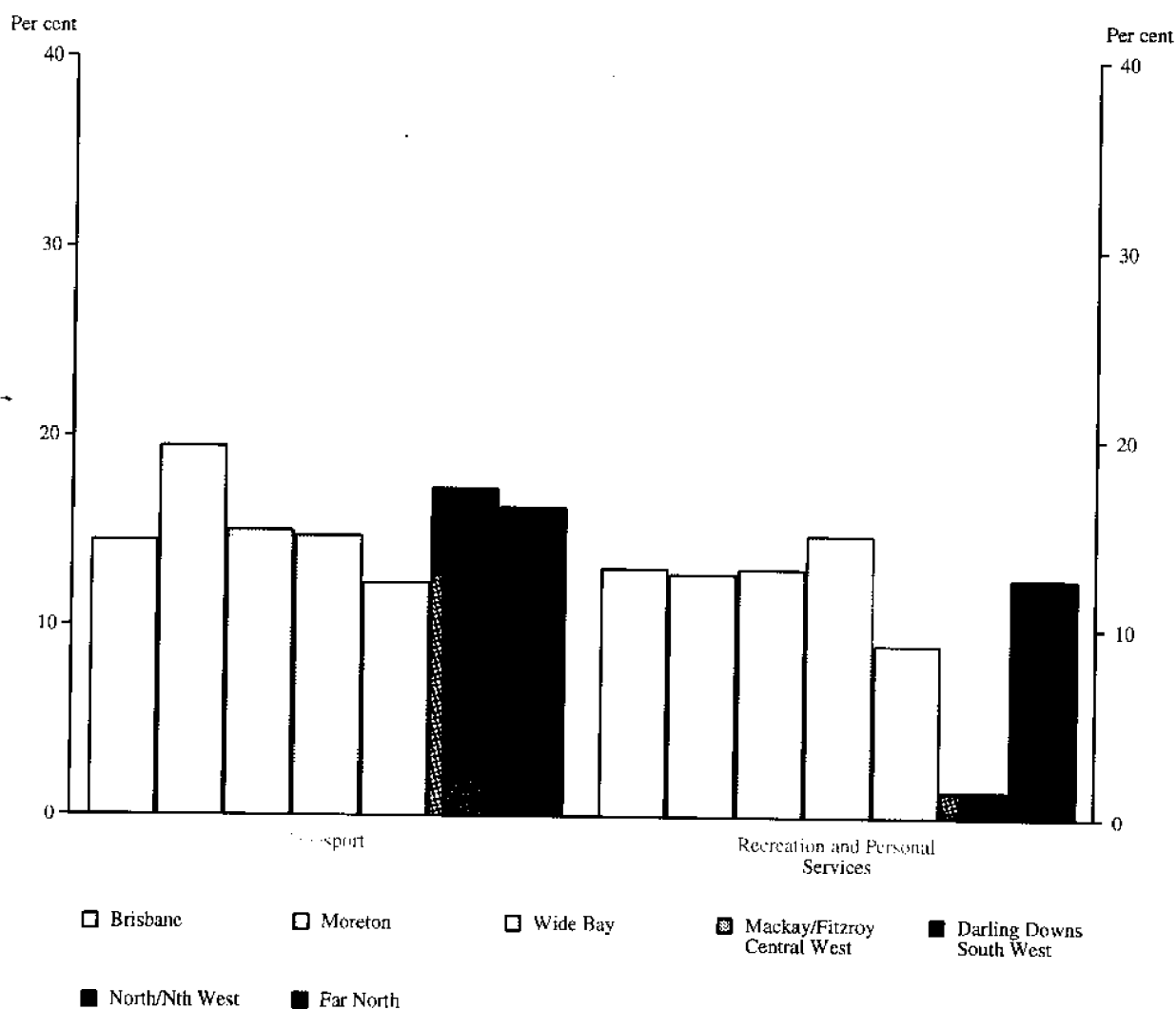
FIGURE 12.4:
PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON HOUSING COSTS, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS AND SERVICES, AND FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY REGION, QUEENSLAND, 1988-89



Source: ABS: 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey, unpublished data.

- Housing, furnishings and household services accounted for a greater share of the weekly budget for Brisbane residents, while households in the North and North West region spent relatively more on food and non-alcoholic beverages than other Queensland households.
- Transport costs were the highest proportionally in Moreton households, with residents in this region also having the highest actual weekly expenditure on transport at \$89. Households in the Mackay/Fitzroy/Central West region of the State spent relatively more of their weekly expenditure on recreation and personal care.

FIGURE 12.5:
PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON TRANSPORT AND RECREATION AND PERSONAL SERVICES BY REGION, QUEENSLAND, 1988-89



Source: ABS: 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey, unpublished data.



Section 13

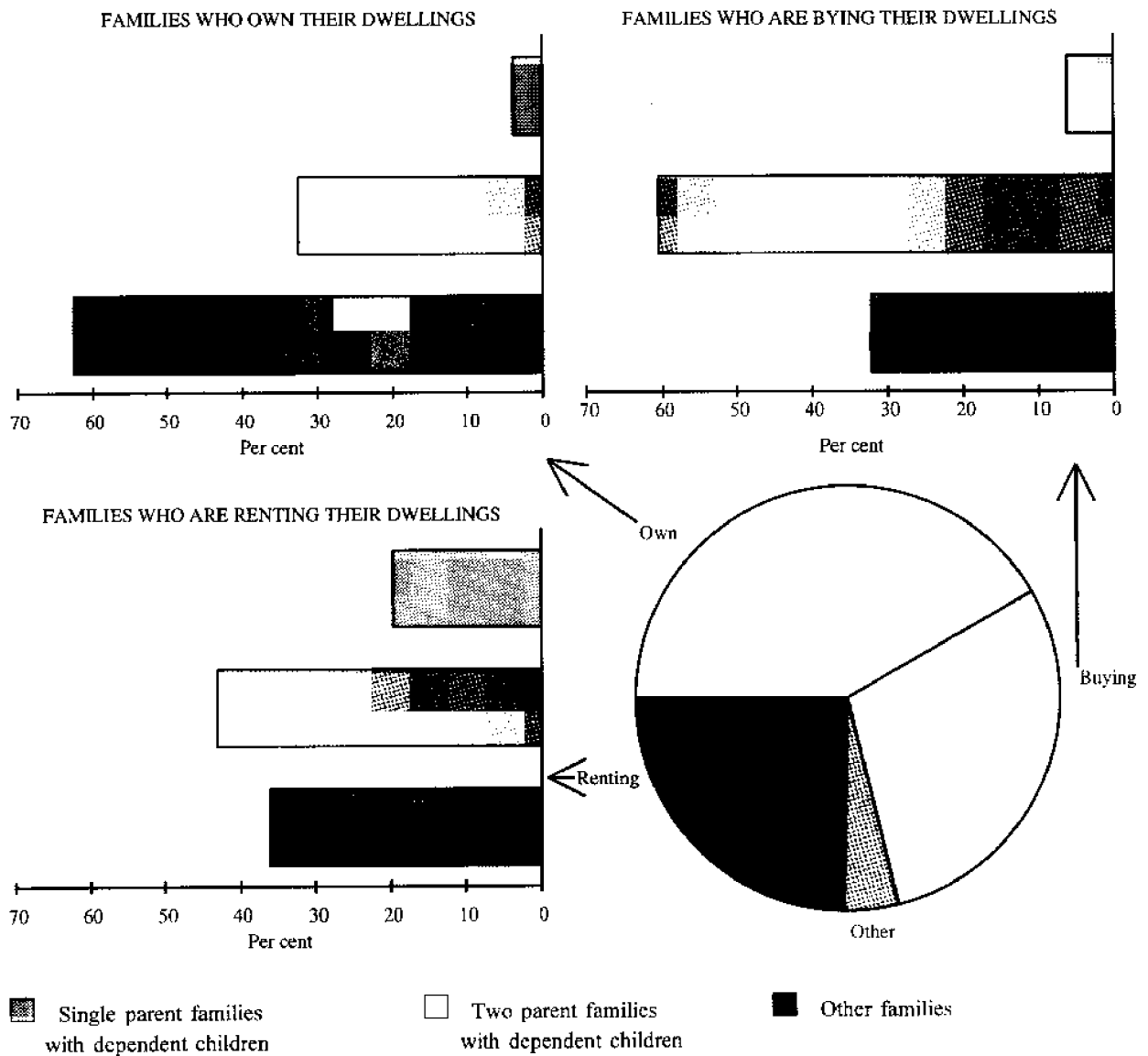
FAMILY HOUSING



FAMILY HOMES

- Home ownership is one of the traditional goals of many Australians. The majority of Queensland families and households in 1991 owned their homes or were paying off a mortgage. However, home ownership varies by family type, income level and life cycle stage.

FIGURE 13.1:
FAMILIES IN OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS (a), PROPORTION BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY, QUEENSLAND, 1991



(a) Excluding caravans in caravan parks.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B41.

TABLE 13.1:
FAMILY TYPE (a) BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY, QUEENSLAND, 1991

	Owned	Being purchased	Rented	Total (b)
Couples without children	131,287	49,878	47,200	239,191
Two parent families:	140,203	145,885	85,217	386,908
With dependent children	100,781	131,385	78,281	323,471
With no dependent children	39,422	14,500	6,936	63,437
Single parent families	27,947	18,320	42,990	93,144
With dependent children	12,848	14,043	36,170	65,689
With no dependent children	15,099	4,277	6,820	27,455
Families of other related individuals	6,141	1,699	4,606	13,361
Total	305,578	215,782	180,013	732,604

(a) Families living in occupied private dwellings, excluding caravans in caravan parks.

(b) Includes other/inadequately stated and not stated.

Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B41.

Home owners

- Overall, 42 per cent of family households in Queensland owned their home in 1991. Home ownership among single parent families at 30 per cent was lower than that among two parent families, 36 per cent. Couples without children, many of whom are older couples, had a higher proportion of home ownership at almost 55 per cent. Under 30 per cent of families with dependent children owned their home outright, while the proportion for single and two parent families without dependent children was twice this figure.
- In 1991, 51 per cent of families with an annual income of less than \$20,000 owned their own home. However, the proportion of families earning under \$20,000 who owned their own home varied markedly by family type. While 74 per cent of couples without children earning under \$20,000 owned their own home, the proportions for single parent families and two parent families were considerably lower at 22 per cent and 33 per cent respectively.

Home buyers

- Almost 30 per cent of family households were buying their dwellings in 1991. Over 60 per cent of all purchasers were two parent families with dependent children.
- Combining the proportions of families who own their home and those who are buying a home gives a indication of potential home owners. Seventy-two per cent of two parent families with dependent children and 41 per cent of single parent families with dependent children may eventually own their home.

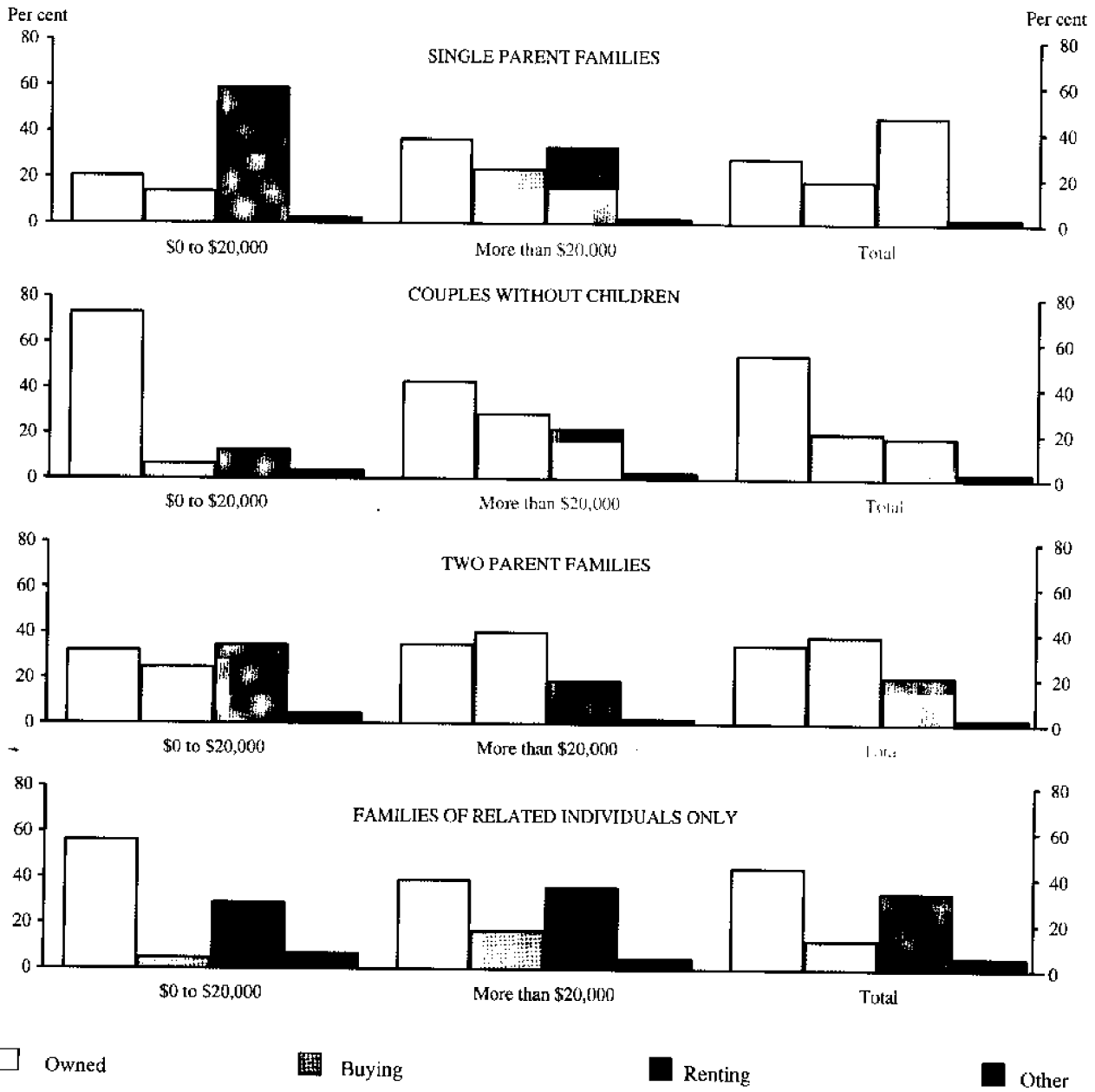
Families who rent

- Just under 25 per cent of Queensland families rented their dwellings in 1991. Most rented from private landlords and 22 per cent were renting from the Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning or other government agencies.
- Over 55 per cent of single parent families with dependent children were renting their home in 1991 and these families constituted the highest proportion of all families paying rent. By contrast only 20 per cent of couples without children rented their homes.
- Of those families renting from government departments or government agencies in 1991, 77 per cent were families with dependent children. Just under 15 per cent of all single parent families rented from the government.
- Seventy-six per cent of single parent families who rented their dwelling from government agencies in 1991 had an annual family income of \$20,000 or less. In contrast, only 23 per cent of two parent families and 42 per cent of couples without children renting from the government were in this income category.

Shared households

- In 1991, more than 37,000 people lived in households shared by more than one family. These shared households comprised less than one per cent of all family households.
- Single parent families were over-represented in shared households. While single parent families represent 13 per cent of all families, single parent families comprise 30 per cent of families in shared households.

FIGURE 13.2:
FAMILY TYPE, PROPORTION BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY AND INCOME,
QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Expanded Community Profile, Table E38.

STRUCTURE OF DWELLINGS

- In 1991, 89 per cent of Queensland families lived in a separate house. Less than 10 per cent lived in medium/high density dwellings with the remainder living in caravan parks and other dwellings. Medium/high density dwellings include townhouses, flats or apartments and semi-detached, row or terrace houses.
- Single parent families comprised 25.4 per cent of all families occupying medium/high density dwellings, reflecting their high representation in the rental market. However couples without children and families of other related individuals accounted for the majority, 51.9 per cent, of families occupying medium/high density dwellings.

TABLE 13.2:
SINGLE FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS: STRUCTURE OF DWELLING BY FAMILY TYPE,
QUEENSLAND, 1991

	Single parent families	Couples without children	Two parent families	Other related individuals	Total
Separate house	72,066	201,857	363,460	10,523	647,906
Townhouse, semi-detached, row or terrace house etc	5,847	9,563	5,420	661	21,491
Flat or apartment	9,689	19,534	8,535	2,016	39,774
Caravan etc in caravan park	1,382	5,134	2,584	140	9,240
Other	627	2,365	3,044	121	6,157
Not stated	583	1,413	2,042	90	4,128
Total	90,194	239,866	385,085	13,551	728,696

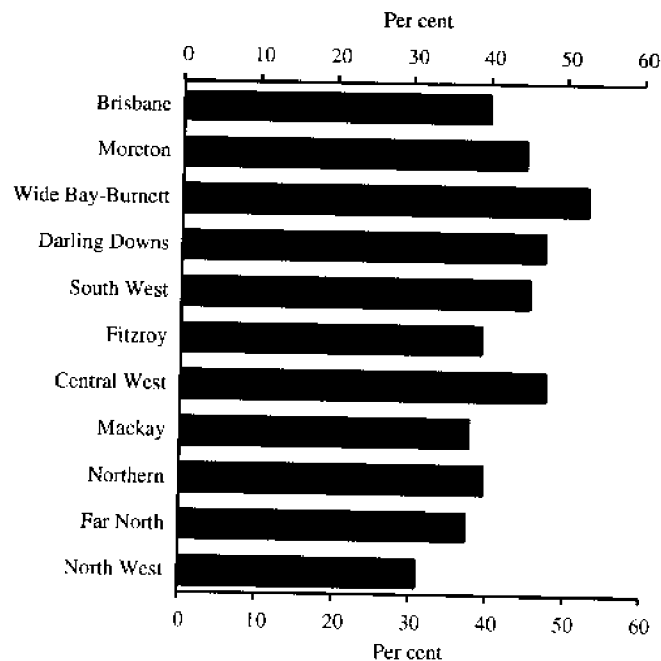
Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile, Table B41.

- The vast majority of two parent families lived in separate houses, 94.9 per cent, with the remainder in medium/high density dwellings, 3.6 per cent, and in caravan parks and other dwellings, 1.5 per cent.
- Eighty per cent of single parent families lived in separate houses, and 17.3 per cent, lived in medium/high density dwellings while a further 2.2 per cent occupied caravans and other dwellings.
- Single parent families accounted for 11 per cent of families living in separate houses. The remainder of families in this household structure comprised two parent families, 56 per cent, couples without children, 31 per cent, and families of other related individuals, less than 2 per cent.

FAMILY HOUSING IN THE REGIONS

- There was considerable variation among the Queensland regions in relation to the proportion of families who owned, were buying, or rented their homes.
- In 1991, the proportion of family households in Queensland who owned their home outright was 42 per cent. The regions varied from a high of 53 per cent in the Wide Bay-Burnett Statistical Division to a low of 31 per cent in the North West Statistical Division. Home ownership in the Central West, Darling Downs and South West statistical divisions was also high with 48 per cent, 47 per cent and 45 per cent respectively of family households owning their home.

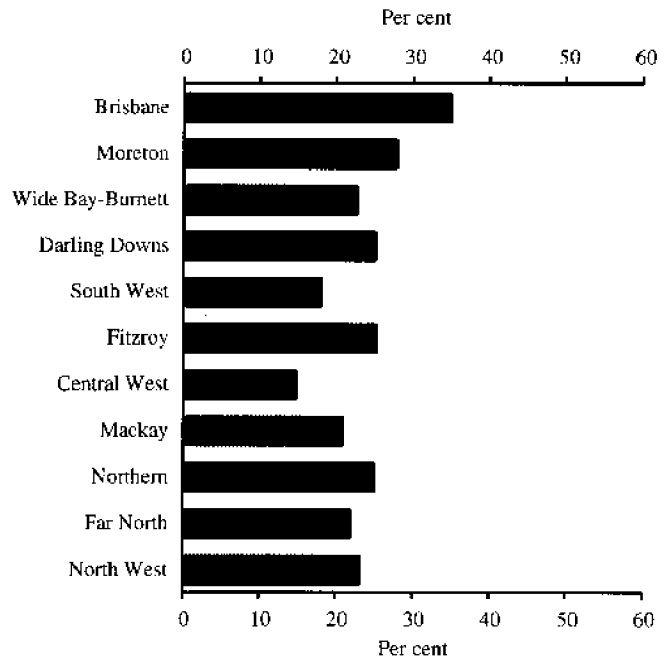
FIGURE 13.3:
PROPORTION OF FAMILIES WHO OWN THEIR
DWELLING OUTRIGHT BY STATISTICAL DIVISION,
QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- While almost 30 per cent of Queensland families were buying their homes in 1991, this figure was higher at 35 per cent in the Brisbane Statistical Division. In the agricultural regions of the Central West and the South West statistical divisions, the proportions buying their home were relatively low at 15 per cent and 18 per cent respectively.

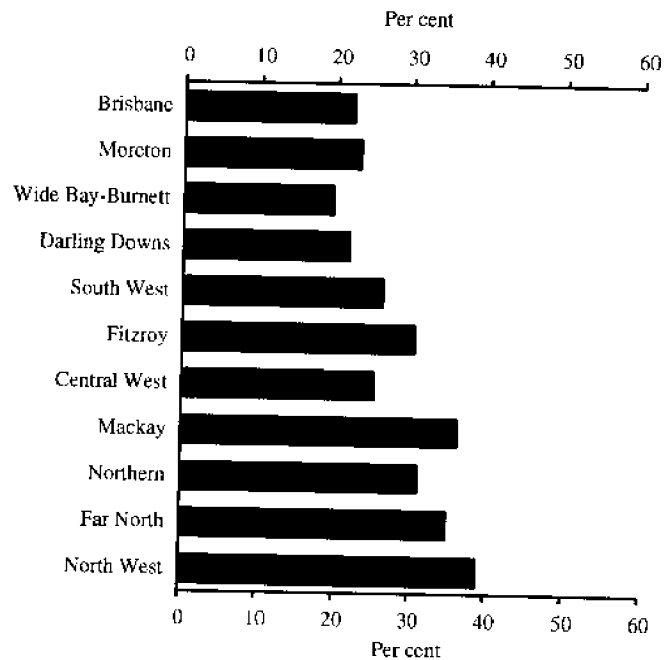
FIGURE 13.4:
PROPORTION OF FAMILIES WHO ARE BUYING THEIR DWELLING BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, QUEENSLAND, 1991



Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- Wide Bay-Burnett had the highest proportion of potential home owning families at over 75 per cent, marginally higher than the Brisbane Statistical Division. In contrast, the lowest proportion for families in this category was in the North West Statistical Division at 54 per cent.

FIGURE 13.5:
PROPORTION OF FAMILIES WHO ARE RENTING THEIR DWELLING BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, QUEENSLAND, 1991



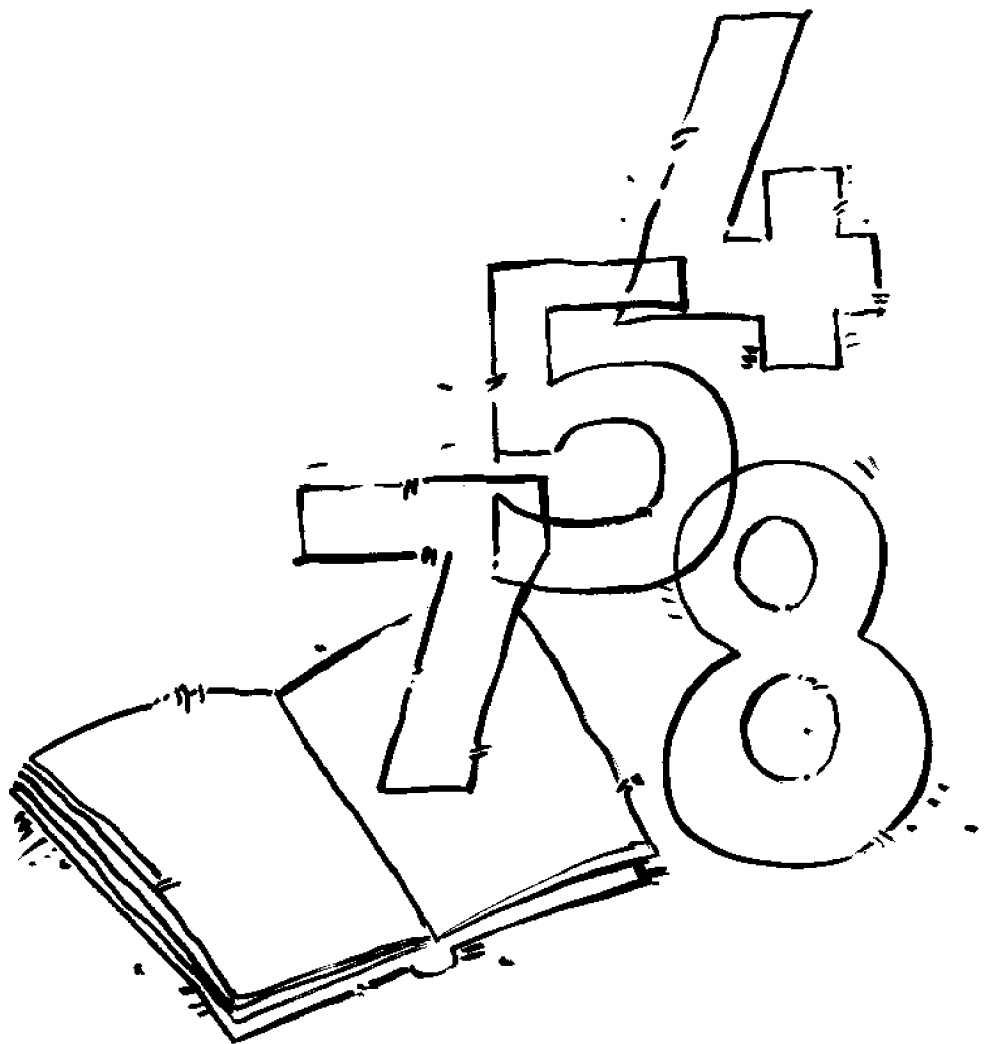
Source: ABS: 1991 Census of Population and Housing, unpublished data.

- Although just under 25 per cent of Queensland family households rented their dwelling in 1991, North West, Mackay and Far North statistical divisions had much higher rates with 35 per cent or more of family households renting their dwellings. The farming areas of Wide Bay-Burnett and Darling Downs had much lower proportions at 20 per cent and 22 per cent respectively.



Section 14

APPENDIX



DEFINITIONS

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (ABS)

Households For Census purposes a household consists of persons living and eating together as a domestic unit. Households are either family households, which may include non-family members; group households of two or more unrelated persons; visitor only households and single person households.

Families For Census purposes a family consists of the usual residents of a household who are related by blood, marriage, adoption or de facto relationships. A household may contain more than one family.

Children The definition of children, including dependent children, varies according to the source of the data.

<i>Source</i>	<i>Definitions</i>
1991 Census	all children aged 0-14 years plus children aged 15-24 years in full-time education and who have no partner or child of their own residing in the dwelling.
1986 Census	all children aged 0-14 years plus children aged 15-20 years in full-time education.
pre 1986 Census	all children aged 0-15 years plus children aged 16-20 years in full-time education.
Labour Force	all children aged 0-14 years plus children aged 15-24 years in full-time education except those classified as wives, husbands, single parents or other family heads.
Divorces	all unmarried children aged 0-17 years.
Family Survey	as for 1991 Census.

Dwellings For the 1991 Census, dwellings are defined as buildings or structures where people live. They are classified into: occupied private dwellings; unoccupied private dwellings; non-private dwellings; and unoccupied non-private dwellings.

An occupied private dwelling is defined as the premises occupied by a household on census night, including households occupying caravans etc. in caravan parks. A private dwelling is normally a house, flat, part of a house or even a room, but can also be a house above shops or offices, a boat, a tent, houseboat, etc.

Because a structure may contain more than one household, the number of dwellings counted in the census can be greater than the total number of known structures in an area.

An unoccupied private dwelling is a structure built specifically for private living purposes and capable of being lived in, but unoccupied at the time of the census.

Non-private dwellings (NPDs) are dwellings with accommodation not in the dwelling categories listed above, and are classified according to their function. These dwellings include schools, hotels, motels, guest houses, boarding houses, gaols, religious and charitable institutions, hospitals, nursing homes, defence establishments and other communal dwellings.

Unoccupied non-private dwellings are houses under construction, derelict houses, vacant tents, or converted garages are not included in any census count.

Disability

In the 1993 survey, a person with a disability was defined as having one or more of the following limitations, restrictions or impairments which had lasted, or were likely to last, for a period of 6 months or more.

- loss of sight (even when wearing glasses or contact lenses);
- loss of hearing;
- speech difficulties in native languages;
- blackouts, fits or loss of consciousness;
- slowness at learning or understanding;
- incomplete use of arms or fingers;
- difficulty gripping or holding small objects;
- incomplete use of feet or legs;
- treatment for nerves or an emotional condition;
- restriction in physical activities or in doing physical work;
- disfigurement or deformity;
- long term effects of head injury, stroke or any other brain damage;
- a mental illness requiring help or supervision;
- treatment or medication for a long-term condition or ailment and still restricted; and
- any other long-term condition resulting in a restriction.

Handicap

In the 1993 survey, a person with a handicap was defined as having a limitation to perform certain tasks associated with daily living. The limitation must be due to a disability and in relation to one or more of the areas listed below.

- Self-care
- Mobility
- Verbal communication
- Schooling
- Employment - limited in the ability to work, the type of work performed and other work problems such as the amount of time off required and special arrangements which need to be made.

Persons aged less than 5 years with one or more disabilities were all regarded as having a handicap, but were not classified by area of handicap. This was due to difficulties inherent in determining whether the needs of children aged less than 5 years were a function of their age or their disability.

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Child Protection

Notifications - The number of reports of abuse or neglect.

Cases notified - The number of children who are the subject of notifications. A child may be subject to more than one notification during the period and may thus have more than one case notified.

Cases substantiated - Cases where the abuse or neglect allegation has been substantiated.

Distinct children notified/substantiated - A child who is the subject of one or more notification is counted once only.

Courts

An appearance is counted each time a person appears in court and a matter is finalised.

DATA QUALITY

Statistical collections are subject to a number of sources of error. While some errors (such as deliberate misreporting) mostly defy detection and correction procedures, every effort is made to reduce error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training of staff and efficient operating procedures.

SOURCES OF ERROR

The main sources of error are:

- *Census underenumeration.* Despite efforts to obtain full coverage of persons and dwellings some undercounting still occurs. A measure of the extent of underenumeration is obtained from a survey of households undertaken very shortly after the census. Undercounting of persons in the 1991 Census was estimated at 1.8 per cent for Australia as a whole and 2.0 per cent for Queensland (on a place of enumeration basis).
- *Partial response.* In those instances where the respondent omits to provide a response to a question, a 'not stated' code is allocated. The level of non-response varies according to the nature of both the statistical collection and the particular question. In most cases, 'not stated' categories were excluded from the analysis, but details of non-response can be obtained from the various data sources shown in the References section below.
- *Respondent error.* Computer editing procedures are used to detect obvious errors made by individuals in completing forms. Such procedures cannot detect all respondent errors and some remain in final output.
- *Processing error.* Errors created during processing are kept at an acceptable level by means of a quality control system, which involves sample checking at different stages of the coding and data entry operations, and taking corrective action where necessary.
- *Sampling error.* Estimates based on information obtained from a sample of persons or dwellings may differ from the information which would have been produced if all persons or dwellings had been included in the survey. The measures of the likely differences, or the standard error, are detailed in the various data sources shown in the References section below. Where figures have a high sampling variability, they have been marked with an asterisk (*) and care should be taken in their use.
- *Introduced random adjustments.* In Census tabulations adjustments are made to cells of 3 or less to allow the maximum of detailed data to be released, while protecting the confidentiality of information about individual persons. The adjustments made are very small and the general value of the data is not impaired. However, due to the addition of randomised cells it is possible that the totals derived from different tables may differ slightly.

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