

New  
Issue

# Directory of Child and Family Statistics

**2000**

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Australian Statistician

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#### **INQUIRIES**

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

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## PREFACE

This directory is a guide to data produced during the 1990s by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) about children and families. It also contains information on ABS social reports which analyse these data. The directory includes a subject index and appendices explaining ABS definitions, survey methodologies and collections, a listing of Census of Population and Housing variables, and references to related ABS publications.

Entries include details about scope, geographic coverage, method of data collection, and selected topics relevant to child and family statistics. The frequency of collection and availability of historical data are also described. The methods of dissemination are indicated for each collection. Contact telephone numbers are provided for further inquiries.

The directory is as up-to-date as possible, and includes details of some collections which will be released soon. It will be released on the ABS web site (at <http://www.abs.gov.au>) and periodically updated.

ABS statistics draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics described in this directory would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician



## INTRODUCTION

The family plays an important role in Australian society. Couples, parents, children, and other relatives provide nurturing relationships and economic support to one another as families. The significance of the family to the well-being of society as a whole, is recognised by Commonwealth and State government agencies and a wide range of policies and programs are directed towards supporting families. Within families children, because of their vulnerability and dependent status, are a group of particular concern.

Useful information on families or family relationships are available from most ABS household surveys, associated publications and social reports. Periodically, the ABS also conducts dedicated family surveys to meet user needs for more comprehensive data. In selecting entries for this directory priority was given to those ABS collections which provide information on the roles and functions of the family or on government policies and programs which support families.

### DEFINING FAMILIES

In ABS collections families comprise two or more related persons who live in the same household. No definition is perfect, and the description and classification of complex social phenomena necessarily involves compromises. This process is apparent in ABS definitions of the family, family relationships and children. The ABS acknowledges that, irrespective of our living arrangements, we are all members of families and important family relationships extend across households. However, because of the practical constraints inherent in conducting household-based surveys and consistent with international standards, the ABS definition of the family is restricted to the relationships among people who usually live in the same household and excludes people who live alone.

Definitions for key family related variables are included in Appendix 1 Data Definitions. Further information on concepts and classifications which relate to data on children and the family, and which are used throughout ABS social statistics, are published in *Standards for Statistics on the Family* (Cat. no. 1286.0).

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The *Directory of Child and Family Statistics* describes sources of data available from the Monthly Population Survey, Special Social Surveys, the Population Survey Monitor, the Census of Population and Housing and administrative by-product collections. For details see Appendix 2 Data Collection Methods.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS *continued*

Over the past eighteen months, the ABS has undertaken a comprehensive review of its household surveys program. From 2001 an expanded program of household surveys, which addresses the highest priority demands of key users, including those not met by the previous program, will be introduced. The expansion of the ABS household surveys program should provide greater opportunities for the collection of data about children and families. It may also result in changes to the content and frequency of collections shown in this directory. Electronic updates of the Directory of Child and Family Statistics will reflect these changes.



## HOW TO USE THIS DIRECTORY

An entry can be located by either the name of the statistical collection, the publication title, or the subject.

### DIRECTORY ENTRIES

These are arranged within the broad topics of Family and Community, Population, Labour Force, Income and Housing, Health, Indigenous Statistics, General Social, and Social Reports. Each entry is organised under headings which are described below. Some directory headings apply to all entries but others are specific, depending on whether it is a statistical collection or publication which is being described.

### SUBJECT INDEX

All directory entries on a similar topic are listed in alphabetical order.

### CONTENT OF EACH ENTRY

#### Contact

Who to contact for detailed information about a collection. General inquiries and Bookshop sales should be directed to the Information Services area within your State/Territory. These are listed on the last page of the publication. The postal address is also listed.

#### Description

Describes the data available, the main reasons the statistics are collected, and their relevance to the roles and functions of the family.

#### Scope

Outlines the target population of the collection. (For statistical collections).

#### Dissemination

##### *Publication(s)*

Lists the title and ABS catalogue number of publication(s) that contain child and family related data. (For statistical collections).

##### *Title(s)*

Lists the title and ABS catalogue number of publication(s) that contain child and family related data. (For publications).

### *Data service*

Whether customised unpublished data are available. The ABS can provide customised data in a variety of formats, such as floppy disk and CD-ROM. Whether State tables, Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) are available. (For statistical collections).

#### Data details

Describes the counting units for which data are available. Also lists, by topic, the relevant child and family information collected. For surveys, topics covered may differ from survey to survey. Information included under the data detail heading generally refers to the most recent survey. (For statistical collections).

#### Contents

Lists the child and family related data for publications and the chapter headings of social reports. (For publications).

#### Geographic coverage

The geographic area for which data are reliably available e.g. Australia, States, Territories, capital cities, statistical divisions, statistical local areas, local government areas. (For statistical collections).

#### Frequency of collection

Monthly, quarterly, annual, irregular. (For statistical collections).

#### Frequency of publication

Annual, irregular. (For publications).

#### Method of collection

Information about the method of data collection, population covered, sample size. (For statistical collections).

#### Historical data

The period(s) for which past data are available and whether data are broadly comparable. (For statistical collections).

#### History of publication

Release date for the first issue of the publication, lists changes to publication titles. (For publications).

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Child Care**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Family Statistics Unit  
 Family and Community Statistics Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 7030  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8007

## Description

This survey provides information on the supply of and demand for child care for children aged less than 12 years. Information is also available on the cost of care, the receipt of the Childcare Cash Rebate and working arrangements of parents with children under 12.

Data from this survey can be used to monitor changes in the way families balance work and family responsibilities and to establish and monitor child care use patterns.

## Scope

Children aged 0–11 years with parents in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Also excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Child Care Australia* (Cat. no. 4402.0).

*Data service*

- Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.
- A confidentialised unit record file is available for the 1993 and 1996 surveys.

## Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family level.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

Data details *continued*

Additional demographic and family information

Age (children aged 0–11)  
Sex (children aged 0–11)  
Main language spoken at home  
Family type

Child care arrangements

Type of care arrangement used  
Days of attendance  
Hours of care  
Cost of care  
Location of care  
Reasons for use of child care

Childcare cash rebate

Whether claimed childcare cash rebate  
Reasons for not claiming childcare cash rebate  
Type of child care

Unmet demand for formal care

Type of additional formal care required Number of days  
(additional) formal care required  
Reasons for requiring/not requiring (additional) formal care  
Reasons (additional) formal care not available  
Reasons for not using (additional) formal care if available

Employer assisted child care

Type of child care assistance provided by employer  
Whether employer assistance used by parent

Other selected topics

Labour force characteristics of parents  
Income of parents  
School attendance

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Three-yearly. Latest survey 1999.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

This survey has been conducted since 1969. Recent surveys were conducted in 1990, 1993 and 1996. Comparisons among the surveys are possible.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STATISTICS

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Disability, Ageing and Carer's**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Disability, Ageing and Carers Survey  
Family and Community Statistics Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 7430  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on people with disabilities, older people and people who provide assistance to others because of their disabilities. There is information on the difficulty people with disabilities have with everyday activities, the assistance they need, their sources of assistance and their unmet need. For people aged 60 and over (whether they have a disability or not) similar information is provided for some activities. The survey includes information on schooling and employment restriction for people with a disability, and on participation in social and community activities by people with a disability and older people.

Families with a member (such as parent or child) with a disability are identified, together with families in which a member is a primary carer. Extensive information is available for children aged under 15 with a disability such as whether they have a disability, type of disability and the underlying health condition, and whether they need assistance (or more assistance than usual for their age) with some activities.

Scope

All persons except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The sample includes private dwellings and selected non-private dwellings (such as hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes and other establishments providing cared accommodation but excluding corrective institutions). The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but since 1997 excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings 1998* (Cat. no. 4430.0)

*Publications continued*

- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, User Guide, Australia, 1998* (Cat. no. 4431.0)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Disability and Disabling Conditions, 1993* (Cat. no. 4433.0)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Visual Impairments, 1993* (Cat. no. 4434.0)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Hearing Impairment, 1993* (Cat. no. 4435.0)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Brain Injury and Stroke, 1993* (Cat. no. 4437.0).

The following supplementary publications are planned for release in 2000:

- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Disability and Disabling Conditions, Australia, 1998* (Cat. no. 4433.0)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Caring in the Community, Australia, 1998* (Cat. no. 4436.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Summary Tables, States and Territories* (Cat. no. 4430.1.40.001)
- *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia, Confidentialised Unit Record File on CD-ROM 1993 and 1998* (Cat. no. 4430.0.30.001).

## Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family and household levels.

## Demographic and family information

- Age (including children aged 0–14)
- Sex (including children aged 0–14)
- Relationship in household
- Social marital status
- Birthplace
- Year of arrival in Australia
- Family type
- Age of youngest dependent child in family
- Number of children in family
- Number of older people in family
- Relationship between families

Data details *continued*

Disability and ageing

Long term health conditions  
Disability status  
Number of people with disability in household  
Impairments and restrictions  
Aids and equipment

Assistance—need for assistance, in the following activities

- Self-care
- Mobility
- Communication
- Health care
- Housework
- Light property maintenance
- Meal preparation
- Paperwork
- Transport
- Guidance, which includes thinking things through and making decisions, coping with emotions, making and maintaining relationships, managing behaviour (children)

Assistance—receipt of assistance (in activities as above, except guidance)

Community participation  
Ability to use, use and availability of public transport  
Core activity restriction

- Self-care
- Mobility
- Communication

Schooling restriction (persons aged 5–20)  
Employment restriction (persons aged 15–64)

Primary carers

Carer status  
Relationship to recipient(s) of care  
Assistance provided by carer  
Effect of caring role-personal  
Effect of caring role-work  
Support access  
Whether usually speaks to main recipient in English  
Whether primary carer lives with main recipient



Data details *continued*

## Selected characteristics of main recipient of care and of primary carer

Health conditions, impairments and restrictions  
 Place of residence  
 Assistance needed  
 Assistance received

## Other selected topics

Employment  
 Occupation  
 Industry  
 Income  
 Education  
 Housing  
 Social participation

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories, capital city/balance of State

## Frequency of collection

Five-yearly. Latest survey 1998.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. This survey was conducted using two collection instruments:

- Interviewer-based computer-assisted collection for all usual members of selected households.
- Mailback forms completed by a staff member for residents of cared accommodation facilities.

## Historical data

The four disability surveys conducted in 1981, 1988, 1993 and 1998 have much of their collected material in common. There are differences, however, as later surveys have attempted a better coverage of disability and of specific tasks and activities previously considered too sensitive for a population survey.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STATISTICS

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Families in Australia**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Family and Community Statistics Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 7030  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on the characteristics of families and family members, and the nature of family support. The structure and needs of the family are identified to enable an understanding of specific types of support relating to employment, income, housing, child care, personal care/home help, education and transport.

Scope

All persons except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The sample includes private dwellings and selected non-private dwellings (such as hotels, motels, hospitals, residential colleges, nursing homes and prisons). The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Families in Australia: A Guide to Content and Procedures* (Cat. no 4415.0)
- *Information Paper: Families in Australia, Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 4416.0)
- *Australia's Families (Selected findings from the survey of families in Australia 1992)* (Cat. no. 4418.0)
- *Families in Australia—Data Reference Package* (Cat. no. 4419.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Families in Australia: Unit Record File on Magnetic Tape* (Cat. no. 4417.0).

Data details

Data are available at person and family levels. Some data are also available at income unit and household levels.

Data details *continued*

#### Demographic and family information

Age (including children aged 0–14)  
 Sex (including children aged 0–14)  
 Relationship in household  
 Social marital status  
 Registered marital status  
 Birthplace  
 Birthplace of parents  
 Period of residence in Australia  
 Proficiency in spoken English  
 Area of usual residence

#### Family/household structure

Family type  
 Family blending  
 Age of youngest child  
 Age of oldest child  
 Non-usually resident children (including stepchildren)
 

- Number
- Age
- Sex
- Relationship

 Non-usually resident parents (including step-parents)
 

- Number
- Sex

#### Family history

Marital history

Fertility

Mobility

#### Employment support

Provision of employment support  
 Receipt of employment support  
 Barriers to labour force participation

#### Payment of education expenses

Payment of own education expenses  
 Payment of education expenses for children  
 Barriers to education participation

Data details *continued*

Income support

Provision of income support  
Receipt of income support

Transport

Transport to work  
Transport for the sick, disabled and elderly  
Transport of children to school and/or child care

Accommodation

Provision of accommodation support  
Receipt of accommodation support

Personal care/home help

Provision of personal care/home help  
Receipt of personal care/home help  
Balance between work and caring for sick, disabled or elderly family members

Child care

Provision of informal child care  
Receipt of formal child care  
Receipt of informal child care  
Balance between work and child care

Other selected topics

Employment  
Income  
Education  
Housing  
Health

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1992.

Method of collection

Special Social Survey.

Historical data

Major family surveys were conducted in 1982 and 1992; a short family survey (see Family Characteristics Survey) was conducted in 1997. Although these surveys differed in important respects from each other, common data items are broadly comparable.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Family Characteristics**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Family and Community Statistics Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 7030  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8007

## Description

This survey provides information on the social and demographic characteristics of families and households, with particular emphasis on the characteristics of children, such as their age and family relationships. It provides detailed information on family composition.

A population group of special interest in the survey was children aged 0–17 in step, blended and one-parent families. For these children and their families, information is available on family structure, child support, parental care arrangements and visiting arrangements.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry).  
 Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Also excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Family Characteristics, Australia 1997* (Cat. no. 4442.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Family Characteristics, States and Territories, Summary Tables* (Cat. no. 4442.0.40.001).

## Data details

Data are available at person and family levels. Some data are also available at household level.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

Data details *continued*

Additional demographic and family information

Age (children aged 0–17)  
Sex (children aged 0–17)  
Social marital status  
Registered marital status  
Child type  
Whether child has a natural parent living elsewhere  
Sex of natural parent living elsewhere  
Family type  
Family life-stage type  
Family blending  
Age of youngest child in family  
Age of eldest child in family  
Household type  
Household life-stage type  
Area of usual residence

Visiting arrangements

Usual frequency of visits with natural parent living elsewhere  
Frequency of overnight stays with natural parent living elsewhere  
Procedures involved when deciding visiting arrangements  
Whether have contact with natural parent living elsewhere by telephone/letters

Child support

Frequency of child support payments received  
Method of receipt of child support payments  
Amount of child support received (including in-kind support)  
Steps taken in reaching child support arrangement

Labour force

Labour force status of couple/lone parent  
Hours worked last week  
Occupation  
Industry

Income

Amount  
Source

Education

School attendance  
Type of educational institution attended and type of attendance  
Educational attainment

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1997.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Major family surveys were conducted in 1982 and 1992 (see Families in Australia). Although these surveys differed in important respects from the Family Characteristics Survey, common data items are broadly comparable.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STATISTICS

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Time Use**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Time Use Survey  
Family and Community Statistics Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 7030  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on the daily activity patterns of people in Australia. It provides information about the differences between men and women in patterns of paid work and unpaid household and community work. The survey also provides information on care for children and frail, sick or disabled people. The nature of family interactions can be explored using Time Use data as activities can be classified by who was present while the activity was occurring.

The ABS uses data from the Time Use Survey to calculate the value of unpaid work. These estimates of the non-market sector of the economy, known as satellite accounts to the System of National Accounts, are based on domestic activities, child care, voluntary work and care activities, and purchasing goods and services.

Scope

All persons aged 15 years and over in private dwellings except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but since 1997 excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide 1997* (Cat. no. 4150.0)
- *Information Paper: Time Use Survey, Australia—Confidentialised Unit Record File 1997* (Cat. no. 4151.0)
- *How Australians Use Their Time 1997* (Cat. no. 4153.0)
- *Occasional Paper: Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy 1992* (Cat. no. 5240.0).

A report which estimates the value of unpaid work for Australia in 1997 will be released in 2000.



*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Time Use Survey, Australia 1992 and 1997—Confidentialised Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 4152.0).

## Data details

Data are available at person and household levels. Some family-related data items are stored at the household level (e.g. family type).

## Demographic and family information

Age  
 Sex  
 Social marital status  
 Birthplace  
 Birthplace of parents  
 Year of arrival  
 First language spoken  
 Main language spoken at home  
 Family type  
 Sex/age of children in household  
 Number of families in household

Activity classification (a three-level hierarchy, around 200 types of activity at the finest level)

## Major level

- Personal care activities
- Employment related activities
- Education activities
- Domestic activities
- Child care activities
- Purchasing goods and services
- Voluntary work and care activities
- Social and community interaction
- Recreation and leisure

## Supplementary data from diaries

Communication/technology use during activity  
 Physical location (e.g. home, work)  
 Spatial location (indoors, outdoors, in transit)  
 Mode of transport  
 Person(s) with whom the activity was undertaken  
 Person(s) for whom the activity was undertaken

Data details *continued*

Other persons present during activity episode

- age
- relationship
- health status

Disability and assistance

Disability status

Area of personal activity causing difficulty (moderate limitation)

Area of personal activity requiring help or supervision (severe/profound limitation)

Type of assistance received because of disability and/or age

Whether principal carer of person living in household

Whether help provided to person not living in household

Relationship of carer to main recipient (not living in household)

Whether main provider of help to person living outside of household

Whether person in household with disability

Whether persons in household with severe/profound or moderate limitation in personal activity

Whether persons in household who receive assistance because of disability and/or age

Whether child with disability in household

Whether child in household receives more than usual assistance

Use of child care

Whether formal child care usually used

Whether informal child care usually used

Type of formal child care

Type of informal child care

Whether child care can be arranged at short notice

Other time use variables

Time pressure

Spare time

Household appliances

Use of household services

Other selected topics

Employment

Occupation

Income

Education

## Geographic coverage

Australia, some State data available.

## Frequency of collection

Five-yearly. Latest survey 1997.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. The survey was conducted in four separate 13-day periods between January and November 1997. A sample of 4,600 households across Australia was used for the survey. Two types of survey instruments were used:

- Trained interviewers collected basic details about the household, general demographic and socioeconomic information as well as information on topics which help explain people's use of time.
- Household members aged 15 years and over (including visitors) used a diary to record all their activities over a 48-hour period.

## Historical data

A Time Use Pilot Survey was conducted in 1987 based on a sample of 1,000 dwellings in the Sydney Statistical Division. The first national Time Use Survey was conducted in 1992. Data from the 1992 and 1997 surveys are broadly comparable.

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Voluntary Work**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Family and Community Statistics Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 7030  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on the participation of persons involved in unpaid voluntary work through an organisation or group. Information collected on volunteering includes the type of organisation with which the voluntary work is associated, type of activities carried out, time spent volunteering, the characteristics of the volunteer, the perceived benefits of volunteering and the reason for volunteering.

The Voluntary Work Survey excludes care and support provided to family members, these dimensions of care are available from the Disability Survey and Time Use Survey (see entries).

Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who had undertaken voluntary work in the 12 months prior to the survey. Excludes persons in non-private dwellings.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Voluntary Work, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. No. 4440.0)
- *Voluntary Work, Australia* (Cat. No. 4441.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

Additional demographic and family information

Main language spoken at home

Data details *continued***Volunteers**

Number of volunteers  
 Type of voluntary work  
 Hours of activity  
 Reason for volunteering  
 Training  
 Expenses incurred  
 Length of service  
 Benefits

**For each organisation for which a volunteer worked**

Field of voluntary work  
 Length of time volunteering  
 Groups assisted (for welfare/community or health)  
 Hours of voluntary work  
 Activities

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Conducted in 1995. A second survey is scheduled for 2000.

## Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

## Historical data

None. It is expected that the survey planned for 2000 will be shorter than the survey conducted in 1995, however the output for key data items will be comparable.

POPULATION

NAME OF COLLECTION

**1996 Census of Population and Housing**

Contact

Consultant  
Client Services  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6627  
Facsimile 02 6207 0282

Description

The Census provides information on the number and key characteristics of people in Australia and the dwellings in which they live. The Census is an important source for family statistics as it provides information collected on a standard basis for the whole country and because census data provide the most detailed classification of living arrangements and family composition. Data are suitable for analysis at small geographic areas and available for small population groups (e.g. country of birth groups).

Scope

Persons: every person who spent census night in Australia, except foreign diplomats and their families. Dwellings: all private dwellings, except diplomatic dwellings, whether occupied or unoccupied; occupied non-private dwellings, such as hotels, hospitals and prisons are also included. For further details on scope see Census Dictionary (Cat. no. 2901.0).

Dissemination

*Publications*

These include population and dwelling counts, summaries of key census characteristics, social atlases and thematic publications (which analyse topics like Australia's Indigenous population, and social and demographic change). Selected publications include:

- *Census of Population and Housing: Selected Social and Housing Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas* (Cat. nos. 2015.0—2015.8)
- *Census of Population and Housing: Selected Characteristics for Urban Centres and Localities* (Cat. no. 2016.0—2016.7)
- *Census of Population and Housing: Selected Family and Labour Force Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas* (Cat. nos. 2017.0—2017.8)
- *Social Atlas series* (Cat. nos. 2030.0—2030.8)—colour maps of the key characteristics of each capital city.

Publications *continued*

- *Census of Population and Housing: Australia in Profile—a Regional Analysis* (Cat. no. 2032.0).
- *Census Dictionary* (Cat. no. 2901.0)—designed to assist users to determine and specify their output requirements.
- *Directory of Census Statistics* (Cat. no. 2910.0)—a guide to census products and services.

*Data service*

The Census Consultancy Service provides customised data reports, tables, profile data and mapping services. Data are available as hardcopy, cartridge, floppy disk and CD-ROM. Where appropriate, information can be supplied by email.

The Community Profile Series (Cat. no. 2020.0) contains sets of tables based on key characteristics of persons, families and dwellings. Profiles include the Basic Community Profile (BCP), Time Series, Usual Residents and Working Population Profiles. The BCP is available for any census geography.

The BCP and Time Series Profile are available through CDATA96. This CDROM product includes MapInfo mapping software, topographic mapping data and statistical boundaries to enable users to prepare customised thematic maps.

Other profiles in the series are available for Statistical Local Areas and aggregates of Statistical Local Areas. Indigenous Profiles are available for Indigenous Locations, Indigenous Areas, ATSI Regions, States/Territories and Australia.

The Thematic Profile Service, (Cat. no. 2021.0) contains sets of tables covering the themes of family, youth, older persons and ethnicity. For each of these population groups, the profiles comprise a set of tables which cross tabulate census variables relevant to policy making, planning and research. Clients can select an individual table or a selection of tables from any of the thematic profiles for any census geography.

Census KeyData contains the full set of community profiles, basic digital boundary data as well as software demonstrations and census classifications.

## Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family and household levels.

## POPULATION

Data details *continued*

### Main topics

- Sex and age
- Family relationship
- Marital status (social and registered)
- Usual residence at census time
- Internal migration
- Religion
- Australian citizenship
- Birthplace (including birthplace of parents)
- Year of arrival
- Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander origin
- Main language spoken at home/Proficiency in spoken English
- Attendance at an educational institution
- Education qualifications
- Age left school
- Number of children ever born
- Income (including family and household income)
- Labour force status
- Occupation
- Industry
- Hours worked
- Journey to work (destination zone coding)
- Mode of travel to work
- Number of motor vehicle garaged
- Number of bedrooms
- Type of tenure (nature of occupancy)
- Housing loan repayments
- Rent
- Structure of private dwelling (classification)
- Location of private dwelling (classification)
- Non-private dwelling (classification)

Note: See Appendix 3 for a complete list of variables available from the 1996 Census.

### Geographic coverage

Geographic data are classified according to the Australian Standard Geographic Classification and are available from the Collection District level (about 250 households) through to Statistical Local Areas, Statistical Divisions, States/Territories and Australia. Most data are also available for non-standard areas such as Census Postal Areas, Local Government Areas and, in some States, suburbs.



## Frequency of collection

Five-yearly. The next Census will be held in August, 2001.

## Method of collection

The Census is a self-enumerated collection distributed to all households in Australia. A collector leaves the questionnaire to be filled in by a respondent and returns to collect the questionnaire at a later date.

## Historical data

The first Census conducted by the Commonwealth of Australia was in 1911. Subsequent Censuses were conducted at irregular intervals up until 1961. Since 1961, the Census has been conducted every five years. The Directory of Census Statistics (Cat no. 2910.0) contains a table showing the topics included in every Census from 1911 to 1996.

Until the Census held in 1971, full blood Aboriginal people were excluded from the count of the population and were not included in census output.

POPULATION

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Births**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6252 7494

Description

Statistics on births registered in Australia are compiled from information provided by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each State and Territory. Data from this collection are used to inform the development of public health policies and programs and to project population and other demographic characteristics.

Statistics from these collections are published in *Births, Australia* (Cat. no. 3301.0) which presents information and analysis on the number of confinements and live births registered in Australia. It includes information on the characteristics of the mother, the father and if there were any previous children from the current relationship. Estimates of age-specific fertility rates, total fertility rates and net reproduction rates are also provided.

Scope

All registered births.

Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Births, Australia* (Cat. no. 3301.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available for each confinement and registered birth.

Babies/Births

Sex

Date of birth

Birth weight (for States and Territories where coverage is deemed to be adequate)

Indigenous status (for States and Territories where coverage is deemed to be adequate)

Data details *continued*

## Confinement

Plurality  
 Nuptiality  
 Date of marriage  
 Duration of marriage  
 Previous issue of relationship

## Mother/father

Age  
 Birthplace  
 Indigenous status (for States and Territories where coverage  
 is deemed to be adequate)

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Annual.

## Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

## Historical data

ABS has processed statistics on registered births since 1901.  
 Selected time series from 1901–95 are available in the 1995 issue.

POPULATION

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Causes of Death**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health and Vitals Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Brisbane  
Telephone 07 3222 6047  
Facsimile 07 3222 8007

Description

Statistics on causes of death registered in Australia are compiled from information provided by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each State and Territory. Causes of death statistics are used to inform the development and evaluation of public health policies and programs.

Statistics from these collections are published in *Causes of Death, Australia* (Cat. no. 3303.0) which presents statistics on the number of deaths by State and Territory of Australia, sex, selected age groups, and cause of death classified to the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases. Major causes of death are also shown as a proportion of total deaths and age-specific death rates. Selected details of perinatal deaths are also included.

Scope

All registered deaths.

Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Causes of Death, Australia* (Cat. no. 3303.0).

*Related publications*

- *Causes of Infant and Child Deaths, Australia, 1982–96* (Cat. no. 4398.0)
- *Deaths, Australia* (Cat. no. 3302.0)
- *Deaths due to Diseases and Cancers of the Respiratory System, Australia, 1979–1994* (Cat. no. 3314.0)
- *Firearms Deaths, Australia, 1980–1995* (Cat. no. 4397.0)
- *Suicides, Australia, 1982–1992* (Cat. no. 3309.0)
- *Women's Health, 1994* (Cat. no. 4365.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available for each registered death.

## Demographic and family information of the deceased

Age (including infants under one week)

Sex (including infants under one week)

Marital status

Country of birth

Duration of residence (if not born in Australia)

Indigenous status (for States and Territories where coverage is deemed to be adequate)

## Causes of death

Date of death

Number of issue

Post-mortem indicator

Drowning indicator

Certifier of cause of death

## Other selected topics

Occupation for those aged 15 years and over

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Annual.

## Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

## Historical data

ABS has published causes of death data from 1907. Up to and including 1996, the ABS produced statistics where each death was assigned to a single underlying cause. From 1997 onwards, all causes and conditions reported on each death certificate have been coded (multi-cause coding) resulting in the production of enhanced mortality data. However, a consequence of the automated coding system used to facilitate multi-cause coding has been a break in the underlying cause of death time series for some causes of death.

POPULATION

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Deaths**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6252 7494

Description

Statistics on deaths registered in Australia are compiled from information provided by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each State and Territory. Death statistics are used to inform the development and evaluation of public health policies and programs and in the analysis of past population changes which are used to make projections of population and other demographic characteristics.

Statistics from these collections are published in *Deaths, Australia* (Cat. no. 3302.0) which presents detailed statistics on deaths and causes of deaths registered in Australia. It includes information on infant deaths, deaths of Indigenous people, death rates and expectation of life at birth. Australian Life Tables are included. Each edition usually contains a feature chapter focusing on an issue related to death.

Scope

All registered deaths.

Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Deaths, Australia* (Cat. no. 3302.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available for each registered death.

Demographic and family information of the deceased

Age at death  
Sex  
Marital status  
Age at marriage  
Number of children  
Country of birth  
Duration of residence in Australia  
Indigenous status

Data details *continued*

## Deaths

Causes of death

Infant deaths

Mortality rates

Deaths of Indigenous people (for States and Territories  
where coverage is deemed to be adequate)

Australian Life Tables

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Annual.

## Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

## Historical data

ABS has processed statistics on registered deaths since 1901.  
Selected time series from 1901–95 are available in the 1995 issue.

POPULATION

NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Household and Family Projections**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography Section,  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6286 1703

Description

This publication presents projections of the number and types of households, families and living arrangements for the Australian population from 1996 to 2021. The publication also describes the methods and assumptions used to produce these projections.

Information from this publication is used to support social policy and planning, and in particular to forecast future housing needs. Projections are available by State and Capital City/balance of State.

*Title*

- *Household and Family Projections, Australia* (Cat. no. 3236.0)

*Related publications*

- *Household Estimates* (Cat. no. 3229.0)
- *Population Projections* (Cat. no. 3222.0).

Contents

Main topics

Household growth  
The changing living arrangements of children  
The living arrangements of young adults  
The living arrangements of older people  
Changing importance of family types

Projections

Projection results

- Household projections
- Family projections
- Living arrangements of people

Assumptions  
Detailed tables and graphs  
Living arrangement propensities, 1986, 1991 and 1996.



Frequency of Publication

Irregular. First issue 1999.

History of Publication

None.

POPULATION

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Marriages and Divorces**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6252 7494

Description

Statistics on marriages registered in Australia are compiled from information provided by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each State and Territory and on divorces from the Family Court of Australia. Marriage and divorce statistics provide a valuable tool to examine family formation and dissolution, as well as helping to quantify the number of children involved in these events.

Statistics from these collections, together with the marital status of the estimated resident population, are published in *Marriages and Divorces, Australia* (Cat. no. 3310.0). While the main emphasis of the publication is registered marital status (i.e. never married, married including separated, widowed and divorced) the growing importance of de facto marriages is also recognised. The publication includes statistics on pre-marriage cohabitation and estimates of the de facto married population. Each edition usually contains a feature article focusing on an issue related to marriage and/or divorce.

Scope

All marriages registered in Australia and divorces granted in Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Marriages and Divorces, Australia* (Cat. no. 3310.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available for every registered marriage and divorce granted.

Marriages: Characteristics of the marriage

Date of marriage  
Category of celebrant

Data details *continued*

Marriages: Characteristics of the bridegroom and bride

- Date of birth
- Country of birth
- Period of residence in Australia if born overseas
- Parent's country of birth
- Age at marriage
- Previous registered marital status
- Premarriage cohabitation
- Number of previous marriages
- Number of children of previous marriages
- Year of birth of youngest child
- Number of children under 16 years at time of marriage
- Year of celebration of last marriage
- Year of termination of last marriage
- Year of first previous marriage

Divorces: Characteristics of the divorce

- Sex of applicant
- Date of marriage, separation and divorce
- Duration of marriage to separation and divorce

Divorces: Characteristics of the husband and wife

- Date of birth
- Country of birth
- Age at marriage, separation and divorce
- Number of children under 18 years
- Age of youngest child of the marriage under 18 years

Population estimates

- Age
- Sex
- Registered marital status

Special articles include:

- Families in Australia, 1994.
- How many marriages end in divorce? Recent trends, 1994.
- Trends in de facto partnering 1995.
- Age at first marriage, 1996.
- Registered marital status and living arrangements, 1997.
- Couple relationships at the 1996 Census of Population and Housing, 1997.
- Remarriage trends of divorced people, 1998.

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

POPULATION

Frequency of collection

Annual.

Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

Historical data

First issue 1994.

This information was previously released in *Marriages, Australia* (Cat. no. 3306.0)—issued annually to 1993 (First issue: 1964); *Divorces, Australia* (Cat. no. 3307.0)—issued annually to 1993 (First issue: 1961); and *Estimated Resident Population by Marital Status, Age and Sex, Australia* (Cat. no. 3220.0)—issued annually to 1994 (First issued: 1976 then 1981 to 1994).

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Migration**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6252 7494

## Description

Statistics on migration are compiled from records held by the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Statistics from this collection are published in *Migration Australia* (Cat. no. 3401.0). This publication presents information on international and internal migration by State and Territory. It includes permanent and long-term movements by State and Territory of usual residence, country of birth and occupation and provides details of the birthplace of the estimated resident population. Each edition usually contains a feature chapter focusing on a migration issue.

## Scope

All permanent movements and all movements with a duration of stay of one year or more.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Migration, Australia* (Cat. no. 3412.0).

*Related publication:*

- Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia (Cat. no. 3401.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available for each permanent and long term arrival to and departure from Australia.

## Demographic and family information

Age (date of birth)  
Sex  
Marital status  
Country of birth  
Citizenship (nationality)  
Occupation

POPULATION

Data details *continued*

Migration related topics

Permanent movement  
Long term movement  
Category jumping  
Internal migration

Other selected topics

Migration in context  
Contribution of migration to population growth

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Annual.

Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

Historical data

First issue 1993–94.

Information on the birthplace of the estimated resident population was previously released in *Estimated Resident Population by Country of Birth, Age and Sex, Australia* (Cat. no. 3221.0)—issued to 1993–94 (First issue: 1976).

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Career Experience**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6504  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information on the career experience of wage and salary earners. It provides details of current job, changes in job such as promotions and transfers, and training opportunities. Other information collected includes educational attainment, status of job, income, breaks away from work for six months or more, and reasons for the break, including family reasons. Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in household and birthplace. Family related data include: family type, number of dependent children, type of leave taken when the youngest child was born, and child care arrangements.

Career experience data can be used to gain insights into career opportunities, and issues such as employees with family responsibilities, workplace flexibility and barriers to career development.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who are employees in their main job. Excludes persons aged 15–20 still at school and persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Career Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6254.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

Additional demographic and family information  
 Child care arrangements

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Education and training

Educational attainment

All types of training received in the last 12 months

Whether received training or studied with current employer  
in the last 12 months

Whether received training or studied and had change with  
current employer in the last 12 months

Whether training was supported by employer

Other selected topics

Status of job (whether full-time/part-time, permanent/casual)

Industry

Occupation

Changes in work (including whether promoted or  
transferred)

Career breaks

Income

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions  
within each State.

Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1998.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Conducted in 1993, 1996 and 1998. Comparisons among the  
surveys are possible.



## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Employment and Unemployment Patterns**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Education and Training Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 7401  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8013

## Description

This longitudinal survey tracks the labour market activities (i.e. working, looking for work or absent from the labour market) of the same group of people over three years, from September 1994 to September 1997. The survey targeted three subgroups in the population: jobseekers—persons who are unemployed, underemployed or marginally attached to the labour force; a general population reference group; and labour market program participants—persons who had commenced a subsidised employment placement and/or commenced a labour market training program between July 1994 and February 1995.

By following the experiences of the same people over time, the survey brings out the dynamics of the labour market in such a way that it is easier to identify patterns and draw conclusions about how events are related. The survey of Employment and Unemployment Patterns also provides some information about changes over time in the composition of a respondent's family.

For each selected dwelling, detailed information is collected from only one respondent. As the survey's focus is on the respondent, only basic family information is collected for other people in the dwelling, such as household type, family type, the relationship between other persons in the household to the reference person and the age of other members in the household. A limited amount of labour force and income information is also collected from the respondent about their partner and other people in the household.

## Scope

All persons aged 15–59 in private dwellings except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but excluded persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## LABOUR FORCE

### Dissemination

#### *Publications*

- *Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns* (Cat. no. 6286.0)
- *Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, First Results, 1994 to 1996* (Cat. no. 6289.0).

#### *Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 6286.0.30.001).

### Data details

Data are available at person level only.

The following data items were collected each year of the survey and represent the current situation on the survey collection date:

#### Demographic and family information

Age  
Sex  
Relationship in household  
Social marital status  
Birthplace  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Language use  
Disability status  
Family type  
Household type  
Indigenous status

#### Other selected topics

Employment  
Housing  
Educational attainment  
Current study

The following labour market data items were also collected annually and represent what happened in the preceding 12 months.

#### Labour market activity

Number, start/finish date, duration of:

- episodes of working
- episodes of looking for work
- absences from the labour market

Data details *continued*

Job search experience  
Breaks from the labour market

## Other selected topics

Labour market program participation  
Income  
Training

## Geographic coverage

Australia. Some data available for each State and Territory, and for rural and urban areas in some States.

## Frequency of collection

Conducted from 1995–97.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. Recruitment of the initial sample for the survey and the collection of baseline socio-demographic characteristics commenced in April 1995. Following this, the respondents were visited in September each year from 1995 to 1997. During these visits, information was collected about labour market activities undertaken during the reference period, and about personal characteristics as at the time of interview.

## Historical data

None.

LABOUR FORCE

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Employment Arrangements and Superannuation**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Education and Training Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 5544  
Facsimile 02 6252 8013

Description

This survey provides information on the diversity of employment and superannuation arrangements of people in Australia. Data include working patterns and hours, casual work, shift work and home-based work. The survey examines a range of family related issues, such as the working arrangements of parents with young children and the relationship between breaks in employment and superannuation.

The need for detailed information on employment arrangements has arisen because of the decline in full-time, permanent jobs and the growth in different forms of employment, such as casual and contract work. Accurate information about people's superannuation contributions and superannuation 'account balance' is essential to developing effective retirement income policies.

Scope

All persons aged 15-69 in private dwellings except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

The findings of the survey will be released in mid 2001.

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data will be available in a variety of formats.

A confidentialised unit record file will be released from this survey.

## Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Some data are also available at income unit, family and household levels.

## Demographic and family information

- Age
- Sex
- Relationship in household
- Social marital status
- Birthplace
- Year of arrival in Australia
- Family type
- Household type
- Number of children

## Employment arrangements

- Length of time in job/business
- Expectation of current working arrangement continuing
- Contract work
- Supervision, subcontracting and tax arrangements
- Leave entitlements
- Hours/days worked
- Additional hours/overtime
- Shift work
- On call/standby
- Home based work
- Occupational health and safety
- Training

## Superannuation

- Payments
- Disbursements
- Fund details

## Other selected topics

- Industry
- Occupation
- Sector of employment
- Income
- Housing
- Educational attainment
- Current study

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

LABOUR FORCE

Frequency of collection

Irregular. First survey 2000.

Method of collection

Special Social Survey.

Historical data

None.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6504  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information on the job search experience of unemployed people. It covers information on two key aspects: steps taken to find work and barriers to obtaining work. The publication includes information on duration of unemployment by reason, educational attainment and main field of study. Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in family and birthplace.

Data from this survey are used to assess labour market trends and to develop policies and programs aimed at helping unemployed people, including those with family responsibilities, in their transition to work.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who are unemployed, except those who were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks. Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (Cat. no. 6222.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Job search experience

All difficulties and main difficulty in finding work

Reason for ceasing last full-time job (includes return to studies)

Whether would move intrastate/interstate if offered a suitable job

Number of offers of employment in the previous 12 months

Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months

Other selected topics

Occupation

Industry

Usual gross weekly pay of last full-time job

Education

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

Frequency of collection

This survey has been conducted annually since 1976, except in 1987 and 1989.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Comparisons among the surveys are possible.



## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Labour Force**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Estimates  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6525  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This household survey provides information about the labour force status and other characteristics of the usually resident civilian population aged 15 and over. It provides monthly estimates of employment, unemployment, labour force participation and unemployment rates.

Estimates from the Labour Force Survey are used to facilitate the analysis and monitoring of social and economic aspects of the labour market and the working age population. In particular, the Commonwealth and State Governments use labour force data to support the development, implementation and evaluation of labour market policies. The Labour Force Survey provides a valuable time series for family-related statistics, the labour force status of persons within families, and the number of dependants present.

## Scope

All persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The sample includes private dwellings and selected non-private dwellings (such as hotels, motels, hospitals, residential colleges, nursing homes and prisons). Visitors to private dwellings are also included. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Labour Statistics, Australia* (Cat. no. 6101.0) (Irregular)
- *Labour Force, Australia, preliminary* (Cat. no. 6202.0)
- *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)
- *The Labour Force, Australia: Historical Summary, 1978–1995* (Cat. no. 6204.0) (Irregular)
- *Labour Force Projections, Australia, 1995–2016* (Cat no. 6260.0) (Irregular).

## LABOUR FORCE

### *Publications continued*

- Data for year to June are available as a standard data service (Cat. no. 6224.0.40.001).

In addition, a number of State and Territory publications and information papers relating to various aspects of the Labour Force Survey are available.

### *Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 6271.0).

National Dial-A-Statistic Line: 0055 86 400

## Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family level.

### Demographic and family information

Age  
Sex  
Relationship in household  
Social marital status  
Birthplace  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Family type

### Labour force characteristics

Labour force status  
Unemployment rate  
Participation rate

### Employed persons

Status in employment (employee, employer, own account worker, contributing family worker)  
Full-time/part-time status  
Hours worked last week  
Prefer to work more hours (for part-time workers)  
Reason for working less than 35 hours last week (for full-time workers)  
Occupation (data available at Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) Second Edition four-digit level from August 1996)  
Industry (data available at Australia and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 3-digit level)

Data details *continued*

## Unemployed persons

Whether looking for full-time or part-time work  
 Reason for ceasing last full-time job  
 Industry and occupation of last full-time job  
 Reason not available to start work in reference week  
 Duration of unemployment  
 Whether looking for first job

## Persons not in the labour force

Whether looking for work

## Education

School attendance  
 Year and month left school  
 Full-time tertiary educational institution attendance

Note: Data from the Labour Force Survey are available on the following bases:

- original (unadjusted).
- seasonally adjusted—available for major series for Australia and some series for States/Territories.
- trend (smoothed seasonally adjusted)—availability as for seasonally adjusted series.

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State. Labour Force Statistical Regions are used as the basis for the dissemination of regional labour force statistics. State publications may include regional data, and customised regional data are available on request.

## Frequency of collection

Monthly.

## Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

## Historical data

The quarterly population survey commenced in November 1960 and was confined to State capital cities. In February 1964 the survey was first conducted as an Australia-wide collection. Due to changes in the frequency of the survey, changes to questions and definitions and revisions to the population benchmarks, current estimates may not be strictly comparable with the early estimates.

LABOUR FORCE

Historical data *continued*

Estimates from August 1966 are published in *The Labour Force, Australia: Historical Summary, 1966–1984* (Cat. no.6204.0). Since February 1978, the data have been collected every month, and only minor changes to the survey have been made, allowing a time series of monthly estimates from February 1978 onwards. For detailed information on the minor changes to the survey refer to the Explanatory Notes in *Labour Force Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0).

Note: Due to a number of changes in the classification systems used for occupation and industry coding since 1978, a time series from 1978 for these estimates is not available.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Labour Force Experience**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6503  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information over a 12-month period about the employment patterns of the civilian population including duration of employment and time spent looking for work. It includes information about changes to a person's labour force status (employed, unemployed, not in the labour force) during the survey period. Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in family and birthplace.

The survey is a major source of data for analysing the dynamic nature of the labour force. Data are used to develop and assess job training and retraining programs for people, including those with family responsibilities, whose labour force status has changed. Data from this survey are also used to assess immigration needs.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons aged 70 years and over and persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6206.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Labour force experience

Time worked during the year (full-time and part-time)  
Time spent looking for work during the year  
Number of spells of looking for work during the year  
Time in/not in the labour force during the year  
Time worked with current employer/business  
Number of employers/businesses during the year  
Whether ceased a job during the year  
Whether had an unpaid absence from work during the year  
Main activity when not in the labour force

Other selected topics

Occupation  
Industry  
Educational attainment

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Two-yearly. Latest survey 1999.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

First conducted in 1979. It is currently collected every two years. Prior to 1995, the survey was collected annually.

## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families**

## Contact

Contact Officer  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6525  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This annual publication presents detailed family information derived from additional coding of the June Labour Force Survey. In addition to standard Labour Force Survey output, this publication presents information on the age and number of children in different family types. It is an important source of time-series statistics on families with children.

## Titles

*Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia* (Cat. no. 6224.0)

Data for year to June (every year) are available as a standard data service (Cat. no. 6224.0.40.001).

## Contents

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family level.

Standard family, demographic and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

## Additional family variables

- Number of children aged under 15
- Number of dependants
- Age of youngest dependent child
  - 0-4
  - 5-9
  - 10-14
  - 15-24

## Frequency of publication

Annual.

LABOUR FORCE

History of publication

First issue: 1974. Estimates can be compared over time because only minor changes to the survey have been made. For detailed information on the minor changes to family estimates refer to the Explanatory Notes in *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families* (Cat. no. 6224.0).



## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6504  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information on the participation in the labour force and characteristics of people who migrated to Australia as adults. Information covering a number of issues is presented including country of last residence, details of family member(s) arriving with migrant(s) and/or family member(s) already living in Australia, and State in which first settled.

Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in household and birthplace. Information on whether migrants had family or friends in Australia before migration is also available as well as their migration category and proficiency in spoken English.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who were not born in Australia and who arrived in Australia after 1970 aged 18 years and over, and obtained permanent resident status. Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia* (Cat no. 6250.0).
- *Information Paper: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia—Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 6251.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Additional demographic and family information

County of last residence  
Proficiency in spoken English  
Whether had family or friends in Australia just before migration  
Migrant summary (year of arrival and residency status)

Other selected topics

Main source of income  
Government pensions/benefits received  
Educational attainment on arrival  
International geographic region where qualification was obtained  
Whether qualification obtained before migration recognised in Australia  
Highest qualification gained since arrival

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

Frequency of collection

Three-yearly. Latest survey 1999.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Conducted since 1984. Comparisons among the surveys are possible.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Persons Employed at Home**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6085  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information on the number and characteristics of employees engaged in home-based work and their conditions of employment. Data are cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in household and birthplace.

Data from this survey are used for labour market policy and planning, and to compare the respective income and working hours of home-based employees with other workers. Home-based work is an area of employment of particular relevance to women trying to balance work and family responsibilities.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who are employees and usually work more hours at home than elsewhere in their main or second job. Excludes farmers, farm managers, farm hands and assistants and persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Persons Employed at Home, Australia* (Cat. no. 6275.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

## Additional demographic and family information

Age of children

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Home based employment

Reason for working at home  
Usual gross weekly pay in home based job  
Basis of payment  
Time in current job  
Trade union membership  
Superannuation coverage  
Workers compensation coverage

Other selected topics

Employment  
Occupation  
Industry

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1995. A survey is scheduled for 2000.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Conducted in 1989, 1992 and 1995. Comparisons among the surveys are possible.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6504  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information about the characteristics and experiences of jobseekers. Information is presented for people who had started a job for wages or salary (successful jobseekers), and those who had looked for, but failed to gain, a job (unsuccessful jobseekers). Issues covered include method of job attainment, duration of looking for work, whether job starters were out of work prior to starting a new job, and whether they had obtained a job in their preferred occupation. Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in family and birthplace.

Data from this survey are used to assess labour market trends and to develop policies and programs aimed at helping unemployed people, including people with family responsibilities, find jobs.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who had started or looked for a job for wages or salary during the previous 12 months. Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6245.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Job search experience

Active steps taken to find work

Method of job attainment (includes through school programs)

Duration of looking for work before being offered a job

Whether out of work prior to starting job

Whether job started was in preferred occupation

Other selected topics

Educational attainment

Main field of study

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

Frequency of collection

Two-yearly. Latest survey 1998.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Conducted in 1982, 1986, 1990 and every two years since 1990. Comparisons among the surveys are possible.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Underemployed Workers**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Labour Force Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6504  
 Facsimile 02 6252 7784

## Description

This survey provides information on people who involuntarily worked less than full-time hours. These people are known as 'involuntary part-time workers' and comprise part-time workers who would prefer to work more hours and full-time workers who did not work full-time hours for economic reasons, such as insufficient work. Information presented about involuntary part-time workers includes current job, employment preferences, the extent and duration of underemployment, and whether looking for work and/or available to start work with more hours. Estimates can be cross-classified by standard demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, relationship in family and birthplace.

Data from this survey are used to monitor labour force capacity and to develop labour market policies and programs which aim to assist underemployed people, including those with family responsibilities, gain sufficient work.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry) who worked less than 35 hours in the reference week and would have preferred more hours. Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (Cat. no. 6265.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

LABOUR FORCE

Data details *continued*

Steps taken to find extra work

Whether would move interstate or intrastate if offered a suitable job

Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours

Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours

Whether registered with Centrelink

Main difficulty in finding work (includes lacked necessary skills/education)

Usual number of hours worked

Number of extra hours preferred

Preferred total number of hours

Other selected topics

Educational attainment

Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

Frequency of collection

Annual. Latest survey 1999.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

Conducted in May 1985, 1988 and 1991, then annually in September since 1994. Comparisons among the surveys are possible.



## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Australian Housing**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Housing Statistics Unit  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 5508  
 Facsimile 02 6252 6870

## Description

This survey provides information on a number of housing related topics including the condition and age of Australian housing stock, changes in ownership levels and household income levels compared to housing costs. The most recent survey also provides information on people's recent housing history, changes in household composition over time, and the number and characteristics of visitors who regularly stay overnight or on a more extended basis.

Data from this survey are used to set benchmarks for affordability, suitability and adequacy of housing and to assist in the administration, evaluation and planning of housing services and programs. The survey provides information on household characteristics including the relationship between number of children and number of bedrooms in a dwelling.

## Scope

All persons aged 15 years and over in private dwellings (including caravan parks) except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but since 1997 excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Australian Housing Survey: Housing Characteristics, Costs and Conditions, Australia 1994* (Cat. no. 4182.0).

*Related publications*

- *Directory of Housing Related Statistics* (Cat. no. 1118.0)
- *Housing, Australia: A Statistical Overview, 1996* (Cat. no. 1320.0)
- *Australian Housing Survey: User Guide, 1994* (Cat. no. 4180.0)
- *Australian Housing Survey: Selected Findings, 1994* (Cat. no. 4181.0)
- *Australian Housing Survey: Housing Characteristics, Costs and Conditions, Australia 1994* (Cat. no. 4182.0).

Results from the 1999 survey are expected to be published in late 2000.

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Australian Housing Survey: Confidentialised Unit Record File on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 4186.0.15.001)
- *Australian Housing Survey: Confidentialised Unit Record File on Magnetic Tape* (Cat. no. 4186.0.25.001).

Data details

Data are primarily available at household level. Some data are also available at person level.

Demographic and family information

Age (including children aged 0–14)  
Sex (including children aged 0–14)  
Social marital status  
Birthplace  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Number of children

Housing

Physical characteristics of dwelling  
Age and condition of dwelling  
Location and type of dwelling  
Housing costs  
Housing history  
Length of time in dwelling  
Tenure type  
Landlord type  
Household size

Data details *continued*

Household transitions (changes in persons usually resident)

Regular visitors

Satisfaction with dwelling and location

Method of travel to shops

Method and length of travel to work

Other selected topics

Employment

Income

Education

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Five-yearly. Latest survey 1999.

Method of collection

Special Social Survey.

Historical data

Conducted in 1988 and 1994. Some comparisons among the surveys are possible.

INCOME AND HOUSING

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Household Expenditure (HES)**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Household Expenditure Surveys  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 5119  
Facsimile 02 6252 6870

Description

This survey provides information on the goods and services purchased by Australian households. It also details how the spending patterns of private households vary according to factors such as household and family composition, labour force characteristics, income levels, details of loans, educational attainment, dwelling characteristics, geographic regions, and Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) deciles for Australia, State and Territories. The 1998–99 survey also provides some information on disability and financial stress.

Data from this survey are used to review the cost of maintaining children, to assess levels of economic inequality and to review the effectiveness of government taxes and benefits in redistributing income between different types of households.

Scope

All persons aged 15 years and over in private dwellings except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but since 1997 excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Summary of Results* (Cat. no. 6530.0)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Household Characteristics* (Cat. no. 6531.0)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: States and Territories* (Cat. no. 6533.0)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items* (Cat. no. 6535.0)

*Publications continued*

- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Effects of Government Benefits and Taxes* (Cat. no. 6537.0).

Results from the 1998–99 survey are expected to be published in mid 2000.

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Household Characteristics, on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 6531.0.15.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: States and Territories, on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 6533.0.15.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items, on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 6535.0.15.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey Small Area Data on Hardcopy* (Cat. no. 6535.0.40.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Confidentialised Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 6544.0.001).

## Data details

Data are primarily available at household level. Some data are also available at person level.

## Demographic and family information

Age  
Sex  
Relationship in household  
Relationship in income unit  
Social marital status  
Birthplace  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Family type  
Family composition of the household  
Household size

## Income

Amount  
Sources  
Per capita income

## Household expenditure

Average weekly expenditure  
Type of expenditure (a three-level hierarchy, 426 classes of expenditure at the finest level)

## INCOME AND HOUSING

Data details *continued*

### Housing

Dwelling structure  
Tenure type  
Number of bedrooms  
Rent  
General and water/sewerage rates  
Capital housing costs  
Mortgage/loan details (covering interest rate, repayment, term and amount of loan, purpose of mortgage)  
Estimated value of dwelling

### Other selected topics

Employment  
Hours worked in all jobs  
Duration of unemployment  
Occupation  
Number of children attending government or independent pre-schools, primary or secondary schools, and full or part time tertiary studies  
Number of motor vehicles (including registered cars and motor cycles)  
Health conditions  
Health care cards

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

4–6 yearly. Latest survey 1998–99.

Method of collection

Special Social Survey. Three main types of survey instruments were used:

- A personal diary in which people recorded their expenditure over two weeks.
- A group questionnaire collected information on household characteristics, large, irregular or infrequent expenditure, and/or expenditure on items which would have been otherwise under-reported (e.g. holidays overseas).
- An individual questionnaire collected information on income and characteristics such as labour force status.

Historical data

Four earlier surveys were conducted in 1974–75, 1975–76, 1984 and 1988–89. The 1998–99 survey is broadly comparable to the 1993–94 survey.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Income and Housing Costs**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
Household Income & Expenditure Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 5838  
Facsimile 02 6252 6870

## Description

The survey is a continuous monthly survey which provides information on sources of income, amounts received, selected housing costs and characteristics of people. Income is collected on both a current and financial year basis. Data are available for standard demographic characteristics.

Income and housing costs data are used to evaluate whether government payments and allowances have been received by the appropriate target groups.

## Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Income Distribution, Australia* (Cat. no. 6523.0)
- *Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide* (Cat. no. 6553.0)
- *Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia* (Cat. no. 4130.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Income and Housing Costs Survey, Australia: Confidentialised Unit Record File on CD-ROM* (Cat. no. 6541.0.30.00)
- *Income and Housing Costs Survey, Australia: Confidentialised Unit Record File on Floppy Disk* (Cat. no. 6541.0.15.001).

## Data details

Data are primarily available at income unit level. Extensive data are also available at person level and some data at household level.

Standard family, demographic and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

## INCOME AND HOUSING

Data details *continued*

### Additional demographic and family information

- Position in family/income unit
- Income unit type
- Month of arrival in Australia (if in last two years)

### Housing

- Dwelling structure
- Number of bedrooms
- Tenure type
- Landlord type
- Current housing costs
- Main purpose of mortgages and loans
- Mortgage outstanding amount
- Value of dwelling
- Age of dwelling
- Whether new or established home for recent buyers
- Whether first home for recent buyers
- Rates (combined water/sewerage and general)

### Income

- Amount from each source for current and for previous financial year
- Sources

### Other selected topics

- Hours worked in first and second jobs
- Occupation
- Industry
- Age left school (persons aged 15–20)
- Highest post-school qualification
- Current study status
- Amount of child maintenance paid

Geographical coverage

Australia, States and Territories, capital city/balance of State.

Frequency of collection

From July 1994, the survey has been conducted on a continuous basis, collecting detailed information about income and housing costs each month. It was not conducted in 1998–99 but recommenced in July 1999. The Survey of Income and Housing Costs has been reviewed and it is intended that from July 2002–03 it will be conducted 3 yearly.



## Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey. One sixth of the last rotation group in the Monthly Population Survey are asked income questions.

## Historical data

The continuous Survey of Income and Housing Costs was first conducted in 1994–95 and replaced periodic income surveys which were conducted at four-year intervals between 1979 and 1990. These surveys were generally conducted over a two-month period. Other differences between the current survey and earlier income surveys include improvements to the survey weighting and estimation procedures, changes to the population in scope and to interviewing methods.

HEALTH

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Children's Immunisation and Health Screening**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health Surveys  
Health Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6403  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on the immunisation of Australian children against selected preventable diseases. It also presents information about health screening practices such as testing of sight and hearing, visits to dental professionals and visits to baby health clinics.

Data from this survey are used to develop and assess health prevention programs and policies.

Scope

Children aged 0–14 with parents in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Children's Immunisation, Australia* (Cat. no. 4352.0)
- *Children's Health Screening, Australia* (Cat. no. 4337.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Demographic and family information

Age (children aged 0–14 years)  
Sex (children aged 0–14 years)  
Main language spoken at home  
Birthplace of parents  
Family type

Immunisation (focusing on children aged 0–6 years)

Immunisation status  
Records/cards  
Where immunised  
Baby health clinics  
Reasons not immunised  
Type of vaccinations

Data details *continued*

Type of immunisation schedule  
 Health screening tests  
 School dental services  
 Age at first test or visit

## Other selected topics

Labour force status of parents  
 Income of parents

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Conducted in 1995. The future conduct of this survey is undetermined.

## Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

## Historical data

National information on children's immunisation and health screening was previously collected in the 1989–90 National Health Survey, 1983 Children's Immunisation Survey, and the 1979 Sight, Hearing and Dental Health Survey.

HEALTH

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Health Insurance**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health Surveys  
Health Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6403  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information about the health insurance arrangements of the Australian population, including details of the type and rate of private health insurance.

Health insurance data contributes to an understanding of family reliance on publicly funded health services and the provision families make for private health cover.

Scope

Persons in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Since 1997, excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Health Insurance Survey, Australia* (Cat. no. 4335.0)
- *National Health Survey: Private Health Insurance, Australia* (Cat. no. 4334.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Some data are also available at contributor unit level. (Contributor units are private health insurance arrangements made by either individuals or families.)

Standard demographic, family and labour force information as for the Labour Force Survey (see entry).

Additional demographic and family information

Age of head of contributor unit  
Composition of contributor unit  
Number of children in unit

Data details *continued*

## Health insurance

Health insurance status  
 Type of health insurance  
 Level of hospital and/or ancillary cover  
 Contribution rate  
 Type of contributor unit  
 Reasons for insuring/not insuring  
 Patient type at recent hospitalisation

## Other selected topics

Health concession cards

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories. Summary data can also be compiled for Labour Force Statistical Regions within each State.

## Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1998.

## Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

## Historical data

Conducted annually from 1979 to 1984, then two-yearly through to 1992. Health insurance information has also been collected in the National Health Surveys. Because of differences in sampling, scope and coverage and survey methods, comparisons over time should be made with care.

HEALTH

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Infant Sleeping Positions**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health Surveys  
Health Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6403  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on the sleeping positions of Australian children under two years of age. In particular, data from this survey was used to support educational programs aimed at reducing the incidence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Scope

Children aged 0–2 years with parents in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings.

Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Survey of Infant Sleeping Positions, 1992* (Cat. no. 4386.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Demographic and family information

Age of infant in months (0–18)  
Sex of infant  
Age of mother  
Birthplace of mother  
Family type

Sleeping positions

Position infant placed in to sleep  
Position infant usually changes to sleep  
When changes position

Other selected topics

Labour force status of mother

Note: Selected characteristics of the father or guardian are given if the mother is not present.

Geographic coverage	Australia, States and Territories.
Frequency of collection	Irregular. Conducted in 1992.
Method of collection	Monthly Population Survey.
Historical data	None.

HEALTH

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Mental Health and Well-being**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health Surveys  
Health Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6403  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information about the number of Australians with selected major mental disorders, disability associated with these disorders, and the use made of health and human services. The survey was conducted by the ABS and funded by the then Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services (now the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care).

Mental health and well-being data are particularly relevant to families, as often the burden of care falls to family members.

Scope

All persons aged 18 years and over in private dwellings except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Mental Health and Wellbeing: Profile of Adults, Australia* (Cat. no. 4326.0)
- *Mental Health and Wellbeing: Profile of Adults, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Data Report* (Cat. no. 4326.1-4.40.001)
- *Mental Health and Wellbeing: Profile of Adults, Western Australia* (Cat. no. 4326.5)
- *National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults: Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4327.0)
- *Information Paper: Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults, Australia, Confidentialised Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 4329.0).



*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults, Australia: Confidentialised Unit Record File on CD-ROM*  
(Cat. no. 4329.0.30.001)
- *Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults, Western Australia: Confidentialised Unit Record File on CD-ROM*  
(Cat. no. 4329.5.30.001).

## Data details

Data are available at person level only.

## Demographic and family information

Age  
Sex  
Relationship in household  
Social marital status  
Number of times married/defacto  
Birthplace  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Main language spoken at home  
Indigenous status

## Health

Specific disorders

- Anxiety disorders
- Affective disorders
- Substance use disorders

Disability  
Health services utilisation  
Perceived health needs  
General health status

## Other selected topics

Employment  
Income  
Education

## Geographic coverage

Australia only.

## Frequency of collection

Irregular. Conducted in 1997.

HEALTH

Method of collection

Special Social Survey. The survey was conducted between May and August 1997. ABS interviewers conducted personal interviews with approximately 10,600 persons. Due to the possibility of lengthy interview times and the sensitive nature of the questions, only one person per household was selected to take part in the survey. Disorders were assessed using the Composite International Diagnostic Instrument (CIDI) developed by the World Health Organisation Training and Reference Centre for CIDI.

Historical data

None.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**National Health**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Health Surveys  
 Health Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6403  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8007

## Description

This survey provides information on the health status of the Australian population. Topics covered include use of health services and facilities, smoking, alcohol consumption and exercise. The 1995 survey was also designed to provide information on the health of Indigenous Australians.

Surveys in this series are designed to provide national benchmark information on a range of health and related issues, and to enable the monitoring of trends in health over time. The 1989–90 and 1995 National Health Surveys provided detailed information on children which can be used to analyse child health in terms of the socio-demographic characteristics of the family.

## Scope

All persons except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The sample includes private dwellings and a small selection of non-private dwellings (such as hotels, motels and boarding houses). The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *National Health Survey: Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4363.0)
- *National Health Survey: Data Reference Package, Australia* (Cat. no. 4363.0.00.001)
- *National Health Survey: Summary of Results, Australia* (Cat. no. 4364.0)
- *National Health Survey: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Results, Australia* (Cat. no. 4806.0).

## HEALTH

### *Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *National Health Survey: Sample File, Australia*  
(Cat no 4324.0.55.001).

### Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Some data are also available at income unit, family and household levels.

#### Demographic and family information

- Age (including children aged 0–14)
- Sex (including children aged 0–14)
- Relationship in household
- Social marital status
- Birthplace
- Year of arrival in Australia
- Main language spoken at home
- Indigenous status
- Family type
- Household type

#### Health status

- Recent illness
- Long-term conditions
- Self-assessed health status
- General health and well-being

#### Health-related actions

- Hospital episodes
- Visits to day clinics
- Doctor consultations
- Dental consultations
- Consultations with other health professionals
- Others (persons/organisations) consulted
- Reduced activity
- Use of medications
- Use of vitamins, mineral supplements, herbal or natural medications

#### Health risk factors

- Smoking
- Alcohol consumption
- Exercise
- Injury/accidents
- Height and weight
- Sun protection

Data details *continued*

## Women's health supplementary items

- Screening practices for breast and cervical cancer

- Contraceptive practices

- Breastfeeding

## Health insurance and health cards

- Type of private insurance

- Contribution rate

- Health cards

## Other selected topics

- Employment

- Income

- Education

- Housing

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories. Data can be compiled for regions below State level.

## Frequency of collection

Five-yearly. Latest survey 1995.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. The most recent survey was conducted from January 1995 to January 1996. Trained interviewers conducted personal interviews with residents of approximately 24,000 private and non-private dwellings.

## Historical data

The first of the National Health Survey series was conducted in 1989–90. However, similar national surveys covering health status and the use of health services were conducted by the ABS in 1977–78 and 1983.

HEALTH

NAME OF COLLECTION

**National Nutrition**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Health Surveys  
Health Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6403  
Facsimile 02 6252 8007

Description

This survey provides information on food and nutritional intake, eating patterns and selected physical measures of the Australian population. The National Nutrition Survey was conducted in association with the 1995 Health Survey as a joint project between the ABS and the then Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services (now the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care).

Data items from the 1995 National Health survey are also available from the 1995 Nutrition Survey. Therefore, nutrition data can be linked to the family and demographic information collected in that survey, together with data on health status, health-related actions, health risk factors and women's health supplementary items.

Scope

Persons in scope of the National Health Survey (see entry) except children aged less than 2 years.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *National Nutrition Survey: Users' Guide, 1995* (Cat. no. 4801.0)
- *National Nutrition Survey: Selected Highlights, Australia* (Cat. no. 4802.0) (Discontinued)
- *National Nutrition Survey: Foods Eaten, Australia* (Cat. no. 4804.0)
- *National Nutrition Survey: Nutrient Intakes and Physical Measurements, Australia* (Cat. no. 4805.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *National Nutrition Survey: Confidentialised Unit Record File, Australia* (Cat. no. 4807.0.001).

Data details

Data are available primarily at person level. Some data are also available at income unit, family and household levels.

Data details *continued*

Includes all data items from the National Health Survey (see entry).

## Nutrition and physical measurements information

Food and nutrient intake the previous day

## Physical measurements

Blood pressure

Height and weight

Height for weight indicators (Body mass index)

Waist and hip

## Eating habits and attitudes

Change in weight

Changes desired in selected foods

Factors restricting foods eaten

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories. Data can be compiled for regions below State level.

## Frequency of collection

Conducted in 1995. The future conduct of this survey is undetermined.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. At the conclusion of the 1995 National Health Survey interview, a sub-sample (of some 14,000 respondents) was invited to participate in the National Nutrition Survey. Information for the National Nutrition Survey was obtained by trained nutritionists. Participation in this survey was voluntary.

## Historical data

None.

INDIGENOUS STATISTICS

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Survey**

Contact

National Director  
National Centre for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Statistics  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Northern Territory  
Telephone 08 8943 2190  
Facsimile 08 8941 0715

Description

This survey provides information about the economic, social and cultural status of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The survey provides a strong information base for planning the provision of services, for meeting the needs, objectives and aspirations of Indigenous people, and for measuring progress in these areas.

Information for Indigenous households and families are available on a range of topics including living conditions, income and employment, childcare arrangements, education, and the health status of family/household members. There may be differences between the ABS classification of families and the traditional cultural groupings of Indigenous people. Extensive data are provided on Indigenous children aged 0–14.

Because of the relatively small proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the total population (about 2%), most ABS surveys are unable to provide information about Indigenous people without sample supplementation. Consequently, this survey is an important source of information on many dimensions of the lives of Indigenous people, including family functioning.

Scope

All persons identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander living in Australia. Excludes non-Indigenous persons, except those living in households with Indigenous persons. The sample includes private dwellings (including garages, tents and improvised houses) and selected non-private dwellings (such as hotels, motels, hospitals, residential colleges, nursing homes and prisons) and, where possible, people not living in dwellings (such as campers—out). The survey was conducted in urban, rural and remote areas in all States and Territories.



## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994: Social Atlas* (Cat. no. 4155.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Housing Characteristics and Conditions* (Cat. no. 4187.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Law and Justice Issues* (Cat. no. 4189.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey, 1994, Detailed Findings* (Cat. no. 4190.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: States and Northern Territory* (Cat. no. 4190.1–7). (Excludes the Australian Capital Territory)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994, Regional Overview* (Cat. no. 4192.0.001–36)—an A2 size wall chart for each Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Region (36 versions)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994: Regional Statistics* (Cat. no. 4196.1–36)—one for each ATSIC Region
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994: Australia's Indigenous Youth* (Cat. no. 4197.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994: Employment Outcomes for Indigenous Australians* (Cat. no. 4199.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Health of Indigenous Australians* (Cat. no. 4395.0)
- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Torres Strait Islanders, Queensland* (Cat. no. 4179.3).

*Occasional papers*

- *Cunningham, J. 1997, Cigarette Smoking among Indigenous Australians, 1994* (Cat. no. 4701.0)
- *Cunningham, J. & Macherra, D. 1998. Overweight and Obesity, Indigenous Australians, 1994* (Cat. no. 4702.0)
- *Cunningham, J., Sibthorpe, B & Anderson, I. 1997, Self-assessed health status, Indigenous Australians, 1994* (Cat. no. 4707.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Unit Record File* (Cat. no. 4188.0.15.001).

Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at family and household levels.

Demographic and family information

- Age (including children 0–14)
- Sex (including children 0–14)
- Relationship in household
- Social marital status
- Family type

Cultural activities

- Participation in cultural activities
- Identification with a clan/tribal/language group
- Importance of role of elders

Homelands

- Recognition and importance

Childhood

- Whether taken away from natural family
- Upbringing

Health

- Recent illness
- Special illness/conditions
- Disability
- Access to health services
- Mobility
- Attitudes to health and health services
- Food security
- Height and weight
- Fat and sugar consumption
- Breastfeeding
- Smoking
- Alcohol, substance abuse

Data details *continued*

## Law and justice

- Access to and use of legal services
- Victims of crime
- Attitudes to family violence
- Attitudes to policing
- Experience with the law
- Indigenous police aides/liaison officers
- Voting patterns

## Other selected topics

- Employment (including Community Development Employment Program)
- Income
- Education
- Housing

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories, and ATSI Regions.

## Frequency of collection

Irregular. Conducted in 1994.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. A sample of approximately 5,000 dwellings throughout Australia, comprising about 6.6 per cent of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, was selected at random using a multistage sample design stratified by the 35 ATSI Regions and Torres Strait area. This design ensured the sample was nationally representative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in different circumstances across the country.

The survey data were collected from the selected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in personal interviews by trained Indigenous interviewers. The survey was extensively tested and used culturally appropriate methodology.

Note: Some attitudinal information may have been influenced by the circumstances of the interview itself and may reflect short term views rather than usual feelings or circumstances. As a result, some caution should be used in interpreting these data as necessarily indicative of general or usual perceptions.

## Historical data

Apart from the ABS Census of Population and Housing, there are very few national, historical data available on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**

## Contact

National Director  
 National Centre for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Statistics  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Northern Territory  
 Telephone 08 8943 2190  
 Facsimile 08 8941 6276

## Description

This publication presents a comprehensive statistical overview, largely at the national level, of the health and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is prepared as a joint project of the ABS and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, supported by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

The publication covers a range of topics, including aspects of the demographic, social and economic context of health and well-being, the use of welfare and community services, risk factors for poor health, health issues, and morbidity and mortality. National and State summary tables and graphics present key social indicators in major areas of social concern. Data relating to children include use of welfare and correctional services, perinatal mortality and breastfeeding.

Most of the information in this publication refers to the Indigenous population as a whole, with some information specific to the health and well-being of Torres Strait Islanders also presented. The publication highlights recent developments with respect to information, data quality issues and future directions relating to health and welfare statistics about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

## Title

*The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* (Cat. no. 4704.0).

## Contents

## Main topics, 1999

- Demographic, social and economic context
- Welfare services and correctional services
  - child care
  - child abuse and neglect
  - children under care and protection orders and out of home placements

Contents *continued*

- adoption
- child protection
- the juvenile justice system

Health risk factors

Health services: provision, access and use

Mothers and babies

- perinatal mortality
- breastfeeding

Ill health

Kidney disease

Mortality

Health and welfare of Torres Strait Islanders

Recent developments in the collection of Indigenous statistics

Other topics, 1997

Housing and environmental health infrastructure

Income, employment and education

Smoking

Perceptions about health

Frequency of publication

Two-yearly. Latest issue 1999.

History of publication

First issue 1997.

GENERAL SOCIAL

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Children's Participation in Culture/Leisure Activities**

Contact

Assistant Director  
National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics  
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Adelaide  
Telephone 08 8237 7449  
Facsimile 08 8237 7366

Description

This survey provides information on a range of cultural and recreational activities, including organised sports, by children aged from 5–14 years inclusive. Both State and National data are collected.

Data from this survey are used to develop health intervention programs, to plan sporting facilities and to monitor access to information technology.

Scope

Children aged 5–14 with parents in scope of the Labour Force Survey (see entry). Excludes persons in non-private dwellings. Also excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publication*

- *Children's Participation in Cultural/Leisure Activities, Australia* (Cat no. 4901.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Some data are also available at household level.

**Demographic and family information**

Age (children aged 5–14)  
Sex (children aged 5–14)  
Birthplace  
Area of usual residence

**Participation in culture/leisure activities**

Organised sport undertaken outside school hours (including frequency and duration of participation)  
Recreational activities undertaken outside school hours (including duration of participation)

Data details *continued*

Selected arts/cultural activities undertaken outside school hours (including formal training and frequency and duration of participation)

Information technology

Other selected topics

Labour force status of parents

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Irregular. Conducted in 2000.

Method of collection

Monthly Population Survey.

Historical data

None.

GENERAL SOCIAL

SOCIAL TOPIC

**Crime and Justice**

Contact

Director  
National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics  
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Melbourne  
Telephone 03 9615 7374  
Facsimile 03 9615 7372  
Email: [crime.justice@abs.gov.au](mailto:crime.justice@abs.gov.au)

Description

The ABS compiles a range of statistics on crime and justice. These include selected categories of crime recorded by police, proceedings of higher criminal courts, statistics on corrective institutions as well as crime and safety in the home and community.

Data are collected from different sources, including administrative by-products and household surveys. In general, crime and justice statistics which are derived from administrative by-products refer to adults and do not contain information about their family circumstances. However, statistics are available on crimes recorded against children aged 0–14 and youth aged 14–19. The corrections and higher courts collections contain statistics on the small number of persons under 18 years who are processed through the adult justice system. Surveys on crime and safety are conducted in conjunction with the Monthly Population Survey and these provide demographic and family information on people aged 15 and above (see Labour Force Survey).

Titles

*Recorded Crime, Australia* (Cat. no. 4510.0)—issued annually

*Higher Criminal Courts, Australia* (Cat. no. 4513.0)—issued annually

*Prisoners in Australia* (ABS Cat. no. pending)—issued annually

*Crime and Safety, Australia* (Cat. no. 4509.0)—irregular

*Crime and Safety, South Australia* (Cat. no. 4509.4)

*Crime and Safety Survey, New South Wales*  
(Cat. no. 4509.1)—(victims aged 15–24)

*Crime and Safety, Victoria* (Cat. no. 4509.2)

*Crime Victims, Western Australia* (Cat. no. 4506.5)

*Corrective Services, Australia* (Cat. no. 4512.0)—issued quarterly



Titles *continued*

*Courts of Petty Sessions, Western Australia*  
(Cat. no. 4502.5)—issued annually

*Occasional Paper: Review of Social and Labour  
Statistics—Criminal Justice* (Cat. no. 4170.0).

Contents

The following section presents a brief summary of the contents of selected publications of crime and justice statistics.

*Recorded Crime, Australia*

Contains uniform national crime statistics relating to a selected range of offences recorded by police. The statistics provide indicators on the level and nature of recorded crime in Australia and can be used as a basis for measuring change over time. This publication covers children aged 0–9, 10–14 and 15–19 as victims of kidnapping/abduction, robbery, driving causing death, assault, blackmail/extortion, murder and attempted murder, manslaughter and sexual assault.

Statistics are compiled on a victim basis and measure the number of victims for each offence category rather than breaches of criminal law. This publication provides a breakdown of the offences by victim details (age of victim, sex of victim, and relationship of offender to victim). Data on type of location, use of weapon and outcome of investigation are also provided. (Source: Administrative by-product—police records).

*Higher Criminal Courts, Australia*

The Higher Criminal Courts deal with criminal cases involving serious charges, that is, those relating to indictable offences. This publication presents statistics on the sex, and age profiles of defendants, including data on the small proportion of juvenile offenders aged under 17 years who are processed in the adult court system. (Source Administrative by-product—Supreme and intermediate courts).

*Prisoners in Australia*

Provides information on the demographic and legal characteristics of prisoners such as age, sex, legal status and the nature of the offence(s) or charge(s) for which the person is in prison. In general, people remanded or sentenced to adult custody are aged 17 years and over in Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory or 18 years and over in New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. People under 17 or 18 years (depending on the State or Territory) are treated as juveniles in Australian courts and are not remanded or sentenced to custody in adult prisons, other

## GENERAL SOCIAL

### Contents *continued*

than in exceptional circumstances. The publication contains data on this small group including information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, who are sentenced to adult custody. (Source: administrative by-product—prison census).

#### *Crime and Safety, Australia*

Presents the results of household surveys about the level of victimisation in the community for selected offences. Information is available for individuals and households about their experience of selected crimes, whether these crimes were reported to police, and crime-related risk factors. The survey includes some information on demographic and family characteristics.

For crimes against people, in the 12 months prior to the survey, statistics are available on robbery and assault. For women aged 18 years and over, information is also available on sexual assault. For household crimes, statistics are available on break-ins to dwellings, attempted break-ins and motor vehicle thefts. Additional data from the national Crime and Safety Survey will be made available through standard tabulations, special tabulations and the statistical consultancy service. For users requiring more detailed information on family data, including family violence, special tabulations can be produced on request. (Source: ABS Monthly Population Survey).

### Historical data

Some collections which contain statistics on crime and justice have been collected and disseminated by ABS since 1907. National collections have commenced as follows : Recorded Crime—1993, Corrective Services—1998, Higher Criminal Courts—1995, and Prisoners—1994. The last table of the Prisoners publication provides a historical summary which contains an 11 year series. The Causes of Death collection has included statistics on murder (homicide) since 1907. Prior to the commencement of uniform national collections each State and Territory published various collections on crime and justice statistics.

## SOCIAL TOPIC

**Culture and Leisure**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Adelaide  
 Telephone 08 8237 7449  
 Facsimile 08 8237 7421

## Description

The ABS collects and disseminates a range of statistics on culture and leisure activities. These include attendance at cultural venues, sports attendance, participation in sporting activities and work in culture and leisure activities.

Data are collected through the Monthly Population Survey and the Population Survey Monitor, a quarterly household survey, conducted throughout Australia by the ABS. The Monthly Population Survey provides a range of demographic and family information on people aged 15 and over (see Labour Force Survey). The Population Survey Monitor provides family information, such as relationship in household and marital status, for persons aged 18 and over (see Household Use of Information Technology). Statistics on children's participation in sport were collected during 1995–96 and 1996–97.

## Titles

*Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues* (Cat. no. 4114.0)

*Cultural Trends in Australia: A Statistical Overview*  
 (Cat. no. 4172.0)

*Public Attitudes to the Arts, Australia* (Cat. no. 4157.0)

Work in Selected Culture/Leisure Activities, Australia  
 (Cat. no. 6281.0)

*Involvement in Sport, Australia* (Cat. no. 6285.0)

*Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia*  
 (Cat. no. 4177.0)

*Sports Attendance* (Cat. no. 4174.0).

## Contents

The following section presents a brief summary of the contents of selected publications of culture and leisure statistics.

*Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues*

Presents characteristics of people who attend a range of cultural venues including libraries, museums, music and performing arts performances, cinemas, botanic gardens and animal parks. (Source: ABS Monthly Population Survey).

*Cultural Trends in Australia: A Statistical Overview*

Presents information on a range of topics including attendance at cultural venues, time spent on cultural activities, employment in culture and leisure activities, expenditure on cultural activities, and imports and exports of cultural goods and services. Produced jointly by the ABS and the then Commonwealth Department of Communication and the Arts (now Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts). (Source: ABS surveys and other data).

*Cultural Trends in Australia No. 6: Attendance at Festivals*  
(Paper for the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts)

Presents data on attendance at art and cultural festivals. Information was collected on people who attended festivals, the types of festivals attended, whether they travelled interstate to attend, and the amount of money they spent. (Source: ABS Population Survey Monitor).

*Cultural Trends in Australia No. 7: Art and Craft Purchases*  
(Paper for the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts)

Presents data on purchases of hand-made art and craft items in Australia. Information collected included the type of item, where it was made, where it was purchased and how much it cost. (Source: ABS Population Survey Monitor).

*Work in Selected Culture/Leisure Activities, Australia*

Provides demographic and family characteristics of people working in selected culture and leisure activities. This publication presents data on the types of activities undertaken, the time spent on activities, the amount of payment received and whether involvement in cultural activities was part of the main job. (Source: ABS Monthly Population Survey)

*Involvement in Sport, Australia*

Provides estimates of the number and characteristics of people aged 15 years and over involved in sport. (Source: ABS Monthly Population Survey).

Contents *continued*

*Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia*

Provides information on participation in selected sport and physical activities by people aged 18 and over. Some information is presented on the participation of children aged 5–14 in school and club organised activities. (Source: ABS Population Survey Monitor).

*Public Attitudes to the Arts, Australia*

Presents a statistical overview of the Australian public's attitudes to the arts. Contains details about attitudes on a range of topics including what is meant by the term 'the arts', the value of cultural institutions in our communities and government funding of the arts. (Source: ABS Population Survey Monitor).

*Sports Attendance*

Provides data on the characteristics of people who attended sporting events. Family and demographic characteristics of spectators, information about the most popular sports, and frequency of attendance are presented. (Source: ABS Monthly Population Survey).

Historical data

Statistics on culture and leisure have been collected and disseminated by ABS since 1991.

GENERAL SOCIAL

NAME OF COLLECTION

**Household Use of Information Technology**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Small Business & Science and Technology  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 5189  
Facsimile 02 6252 7009

Description

This survey provides information on the ownership and use of selected information technology by people and households. Topics covered include use of computers, expenditure on computer technology, use of the Internet and use of other communication technologies, such as pay TV. The most recent survey also presents data on the electronic commerce activities of adults.

Some information on the family composition of households and the use of computers by children aged 5–17 are available. This data can be used to gain insights about the ways families are using information technology and to monitor changes over time.

Scope

All persons in private dwellings except certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but since 1997 excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 1999* (Cat. no. 8146.0)
- *Use of Internet by Householders, Australia, (Quarterly)* (Cat. no. 8147.0).

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

Data details

Data are primarily available at person level. Extensive data are also available at household level.

Data details *continued*

## Demographic and family information

Age (including children aged 5–17)  
 Sex (including children aged 5–17)  
 Social marital status  
 Birthplace  
 Family type  
 Area of usual residence

## Use of information technology

Use and ownership of computers and use of peripheral  
 information technologies  
 Frequency of computer use  
 Main use of home computer equipment

## Ownership of selected communication technologies

- facsimile machines
- mobile phones
- pagers
- voice mail
- pay TV

## Access to Internet

Expenditure on selected information technologies including  
 Internet costs  
 Time spent using computer equipment  
 Source of computer training  
 Computer competency  
 Intentions to acquire computers or Internet access  
 Barriers to the use of computers and the Internet  
 Electronic transactions undertaken  
 Willingness to access on-line services

## Other selected topics

Employment  
 Occupation  
 Major activity of those people not in the labour force  
 Income  
 Highest educational qualification  
 Dwelling structure  
 Tenure type

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

## Frequency of collection

Quarterly.

GENERAL SOCIAL

Method of collection

Population Survey Monitor.

Historical data

Conducted since 1996. Some comparisons among the surveys are possible, especially for the latest surveys.



## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Schools**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Education and Training Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6418  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8013

## Description

School statistics are compiled from collections conducted in co-operation with the Ministerial Council on Education, Training and Youth Affairs Task Force on School Statistics by the State and Territory Departments of Education (government series) and the Commonwealth Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (non-government series). The purpose of the collection is to provide nationally comparable data for government and non-government schools in all States and Territories.

Statistics from these collections are published in *Schools, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 4220.0) and *Schools, Australia* (Cat. no. 4221.0). These publications present information on the number of students attending schools throughout Australia. They also show students' ages, grades and the type of school they attend.

## Scope

Establishments which have as their major activity the administration and/or provision of full-time day primary, secondary or special education or primary or secondary distance education.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Schools, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 4220.0)
- *Schools, Australia* (Cat. no. 4221.0).

## Data details

Data are available for school students, schools, teaching and non-teaching staff.

The following information is available for students:

Age  
 Sex  
 Indigenous status  
 Level/year of education  
 Category of school attended  
 State

GENERAL SOCIAL

Data details *continued*

Derived statistics

Apparent retention rates to Years 10, 11, 12

Staff/student ratios

Student participation rates

Geographic coverage

Australia, States and Territories.

Frequency of collection

Annual.

Method of collection

Administrative by-product.

Historical data

ABS has published education statistics for many years. However, prior to the implementation of the National Schools Statistics Collection, the data were not necessarily comparable between States. With the implementation of the National Schools Statistics Collection, the concepts, definitions, classifications and coverage were revised. The new collection arrangements were implemented in 1981 for the government series and in 1984 for the non-government series.

## NAME OF COLLECTION

**Women's Safety**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Social Analysis and Reporting  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6214  
 Facsimile 02 6252 6870

## Description

This survey provides information on women's safety at home and in the community and, in particular, on the nature and extent of violence against women in Australia. It provides information about experiences of physical and sexual violence (by a man or woman) which could have led to prosecution as a crime under State and Territory laws. This survey was funded by the Office of the Status of Women and the then Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services (now the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care).

Data from this survey can be used to set benchmarks for the incidence of violence against women in Australia and to develop and evaluate policies and programs to prevent violence. Information on violence against women perpetrated by current partners is available from this survey, which provides an insight into this form of family breakdown.

## Scope

All women aged 18 years and over in private dwellings except members of the permanent Australian defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia and overseas residents visiting Australia. The survey is conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but excludes persons living in some remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia.

## Dissemination

*Publications*

- *Women's Safety, Australia 1996* (Cat. no. 4128.0)
- *Women's Safety, User Guide, Australia 1996* (Cat. no. 4129.0).

*Related publications*

- *Crime and Safety, Australia 1998* (Cat. no. 4509.0)
- *Recorded Crime 1998* (Cat. no. 4510.0)
- *Crime and Safety, New South Wales 1995* (Cat. no. 4509.1)
- *Crime and Safety, South Australia 1995* (Cat. no. 4509.4)

*Related publications continued*

- *Crime and Safety, Victoria 1995* (Cat. no. 4509.2)
- *Crime and Safety, Western Australia 1995* (Cat. no. 4509.5)
- *Information Paper: National Crime Statistics 1993* (Cat. no. 4511.0), discontinued.

*Data service*

Customised unpublished data are available in a variety of formats.

- *Women's Safety Survey, Unit Record File, Australia* (Cat. no. 4128.0.15.001).

Data details

Data are available at person level only.

Demographic and family information

Age  
Social marital status  
Family type  
Household type

Cultural and language indicators

Birthplace  
Birthplace of mother  
Birthplace of father  
Whether woman or her parent(s) were born in a  
non-English speaking country  
Year of arrival in Australia  
Indigenous status

Violence or threat of violence

Sexual threat and assault  
Physical assault  
Type and frequency of physical violence  
Relationship to male or female perpetrator  
Location  
Involvement of alcohol  
Whether abused as a child

Actions taken

Police and court involvement  
Advice or support sought  
Professional help sought

Data details *continued*

## Consequences of violence

- Fear
- Time off work
- Physical injury and type
- Changes to daily life

## Partner violence

- Type and frequency
- Emotional abuse
- Violence during pregnancy
- Whether violence witnessed by children

## General safety

## Stalking by men

## Harassment

## Other selected topics

- Employment
- Income
- Education
- Socioeconomic index of relative disadvantage

Note: Due to sample size, this survey cannot provide reliable information about the levels of violence experienced by Indigenous women.

## Geographic coverage

Australia, States, Territories and capital city/balance of State.

## Frequency of collection

Irregular. Latest survey 1996.

## Method of collection

Special Social Survey. Households were selected at random, Australia wide. Approximately 6,300 women were interviewed. Responses were mostly obtained by personal interview and participation was voluntary.

## Historical data

While this was the first survey of women's safety, regular surveys of crime and safety are conducted in various States. This survey might be changed to a twelve-yearly Survey of Violence Against Persons.

SOCIAL REPORTS

NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Australian Demographic Trends**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Demography Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra  
Telephone 02 6252 6557  
Facsimile 02 6286 1703

Description

This publication presents information on the demographic characteristics of the Australian population. It describes Australia's population growth and distribution, its changing age structure, patterns of fertility and mortality, and overseas and interstate migration. It also explores the interactions that occur between these elements. The publication focuses on changes in the size and composition of the population that have occurred throughout the century, particularly the last 20 years. It examines the changes that are likely to occur in the first half of the twenty-first century. It also features the demographic changes that have occurred in Australia's Indigenous population and explores the demographic differences between the States and Territories, and between regions.

In addition to the analysis of demographic changes, this publication provides a comprehensive set of demographic data for every year since 1901 for each State and Territory.

Title

*Australian Demographic Trends 1997* (Cat. no. 3102.0).

Contents

Main topics

Population growth and distribution  
Population structure  
Fertility  
Mortality  
International migration  
Internal migration

Time series for States and Territories

Population  
Population growth  
▪ Births  
▪ Deaths

Frequency of publication

**Irregular. Latest issue 1997**

History of publication

**First issue 1986.**

SOCIAL REPORTS

NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Australian Social Trends**

Contact

Assistant Director  
Social Analysis and Reporting  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Telephone 02 6252 6214  
Facsimile 02 6252 6870

Description

This publication presents information on contemporary social issues and areas of public policy concern. By drawing on a wide range of ABS statistics, as well as those from other official sources, it describes many of the circumstances that set the course for on-going social change such as the decline of the standard working week, employee training, the implications of an ageing population, the links between health and factors such as socioeconomic disadvantage, and trends in marriage and divorce.

The articles in each edition are organised into chapters, which represent an area of social concern. These include population, family, health, education, work, income and expenditure, and housing. Through extensive referencing to other articles, including those presented in previous editions, connections between issues are highlighted. Each edition usually contains a feature chapter focusing on a current or emerging aspect of well-being.

As well as analytical reviews, the report includes a set of national and State summary tables, which present key social indicators in major areas of concern. These show at a glance how aspects of social well-being are changing over time and how circumstances differ between the States and Territories. Also provided is a set of tables of international comparisons for 18 countries, including OECD countries, Australia's nearest neighbours and major trading partners.

Articles in the Family chapter look at how families form and break up, and what resources are available to enable families to function in a changing society. The articles are organised into four areas:

- Family formation—trends in partnering and separating, fertility, family planning and adoption.
- Family functioning—how we divide our time between family other commitments.
- Family services—child care.
- Living arrangements—focuses on families where the parents have been separated.



## Title

*Australian Social Trends 1994—present* (Cat. no. 4102.0).

## Contents

## Main topics

Population  
 Family  
 Health  
 Education  
 Work  
 Income and expenditure  
 Housing  
 Crime and justice

## Feature topics

Culture and leisure  
 Environment  
 Religion  
 Transport

## Reviews in the Family chapter

Family formation

- Adoptions, 1998
- Age at first marriage, 1997
- Family planning, 1998
- Remarriage trends of divorced people, 1999
- Trends in de facto partnering, 1995
- Trends in fertility, 1996
- Trends in marriage and divorce, 1995.

## Family functioning

- Families and work, 1997
- Family support, 1995
- Looking after children, 1999
- Spending time alone, 1999
- War veterans and their carers, 1996.

## Family services

- Child care, 1994, 1996
- Principal carers and their caring roles, 1996.

SOCIAL REPORTS

Contents *continued*

Living arrangements

- Caring for children after parents separate, 1999
- Changes in living arrangements, 1994
- Children in families, 1995
- Living with parents, 1994
- Lone fathers with dependent children, 1994
- One-parent families, 1997
- People who live alone, 1996
- Rural families, 1998.

Note: Each new edition includes a cumulative index of all articles in previous editions.

Frequency of publication

Annual.

History of publication

First issue 1994. Before then, *Social Indicators* (Cat. no. 4101.0) 1–5 were released between 1976 and 1992.

## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Australian Women's Year Book**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Social Analysis and Reporting  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics  
 Telephone 02 6252 6214  
 Facsimile 02 6252 6870

## Description

This publication presents information on the status of Australian women. A range of indicators chart women's progress in the following areas population, housing, birth and fertility, health, education and training, employment and unemployment, working life, business, decision making and management, income, earnings and income support, crime and justice, leisure and sport, and voluntary work. Time series data are included wherever possible and comparative data in accordance with international guidelines for women and men are presented. Summary tables of key statistics are included for many of the chapters.

*Australian Women's Year Book* was published annually by the ABS and the Office of the Status of Women from 1994–1997. It was then discontinued. However, the ABS has provided similar statistics to the Office of the Status of Women for a statistical appendix to a new publication, *Women in Australia: 1999*. This publication provides key statistical indicators for women and summary tables for three key population groups: people from non-main English speaking countries; Indigenous people' and rural people. As 1999 was the International Year of Older Persons, a feature article on older women was also included.

## Title

*Australian Women's Year Book* (Cat. no. 4124.0).

## Contents

## Main topics

Milestones for Australian women, 1986–96  
 Population, birth and fertility  
 Living arrangements and housing  
 Health  
 Education and training  
 Employment and unemployment  
 Working life

SOCIAL REPORTS

Contents *continued*

Voluntary work  
Business  
Decision making, management and recognition  
Income, earnings and income support  
Crime and justice

Frequency of publication

Discontinued.

History of publication

*Women in Australia* (Cat. no. 4113.0) was first released by the ABS in 1993. A new publication, *Women in Australia: 1999* was released by the Office for the Status of Women in December 1999. This publication is expected to be annual.

## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Australia's Young People**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 National Youth Statistics Unit  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Perth  
 Telephone 08 9360 5374  
 Facsimile 08 9360 5955

## Description

This publication presents information on young people aged 12–25 years living in Australia. This age group encompasses differing stages, not only of physical development but also of educational and employment status, living arrangements and dependency. The national publication, together with individual reports for each State and Territory, are based on data from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. These publications are published jointly by the ABS and the National Youth Affairs Research Scheme.

The national publication features summary tables of selected characteristics of young people. More detailed information is presented in four chapters, organised by major areas of social concern population, cultural diversity, living arrangements, and education and working life. Comparative data from the 1986 and 1991 Census are also included in some tables to provide a time dimension.

## Titles

- Australia's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.0)  
*New South Wales's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.1)  
*Victoria's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.2)  
*Queensland's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.3)  
*South Australia's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.4)  
*Western Australia's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.5)  
*Tasmania's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.6)  
*Northern Territory's Young People* (Cat. no. 4123.7)  
*Australian Capital Territory's Young people* (Cat. no. 4123.8).

SOCIAL REPORTS

Contents

Family and demographic information

Age  
Sex  
Social marital status  
Living arrangements  
Population projections

Cultural diversity

Working life  
Education

Other selected topics

Occupation  
Industry  
Income  
Housing

Frequency of publication

Irregular. Latest issue 1998.

History of publication

A similar series, using 1991 Census data was published during 1992 and 1993.

## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Children, Australia: A Social Report**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Family and Community Statistics Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra  
 Telephone 02 6252 7030  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8007

## Description

This publication presents information about children aged 0–17 living in Australia. Because children are vulnerable and depend on adults for care and support, issues affecting children are of concern to government agencies responsible for developing effective social policies and programs.

This report focuses on the majority of children who live with at least one of their parents, but some information is also presented on young people aged 15–17 who have made or commenced the transition from their parental home to independent living.

Major topics of social concern presented in this report include population, social environment, economic environment, physical environment, health and education. The report also includes summary tables of key statistics which illustrate the changes that have taken place over the last decade, and highlight State and Territory differences.

This report is one of a series of three social reports focussing on population groups. The others are: *Youth, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4111.0) and *Older People, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4109.0).

## Title

*Children, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4119.0).

## Contents

## Main topics

- Population
- Social environment
- Economic environment
- Physical environment
- Health
- Education

SOCIAL REPORTS

Frequency of publication

**Irregular. Latest issue 1999.**

History of publication

**First issue 1989.**



## NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Older People, Australia: A Social Report**

## Contact

Assistant Director  
 Family and Community Statistics Section  
 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra  
 Telephone 02 6252 7030  
 Facsimile 02 6252 8007

## Description

This publication presents information about people aged 65 and over living in Australia. Because older people often need health and other support services, issues affecting older people are of concern to government agencies responsible for developing effective social policies and programs.

Major areas of social concern covered in this report include population growth and distribution, living arrangements and care, health and disability, housing, transport, use of technology, crime and safety, employment, income and financial security, and social participation. The report also includes summary tables of key statistics which illustrate the changes that have taken place over the last decade, and highlight State and Territory differences.

This report is one of a series of three social reports focussing on population groups. The others are: *Youth, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4111.0) and *Children, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4119.0).

## Title

*Older People, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4109).

## Contents

## Main topics

Population and cultural diversity  
 Living arrangements and care  
 Health and disability  
 Economic environment  
 Physical environment  
 Activities and lifestyle

## Frequency of publication

Irregular. First issue 1999.

## History of publication

None.

SOCIAL REPORTS

NAME OF PUBLICATION

**Youth, Australia: A Social Report**

Contact

Assistant Director  
National Youth Statistics Unit  
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Perth  
Telephone 08 9360 5374  
Facsimile 08 9360 5955

Description

This publication presents information on young people aged 15–24 living in Australia. This age group encompasses differing stages, not only of physical development, but also educational and employment status, living arrangements, dependency and citizenship. Because youth is a transitional and sometimes turbulent period before adulthood, issues affecting young people are of concern to government agencies responsible for developing effective social policies and programs.

Major areas of social concern covered in this report include population, living arrangements and housing, health, education, working life, income, social participation, crime and safety. The report also includes summary tables of key statistics which illustrate the changes that have taken place over the last decade and highlight State and Territory differences.

This report is one of a series of three social report focussing on population groups. The others are: *Children, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4119.0) and *Older People, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4109.0).

Title

*Youth, Australia: A Social Report* (Cat. no. 4111.0).

Contents

Main topics

Young people in the population  
Living arrangements and housing  
Health  
Education  
Working Life  
Income  
Social participation  
Crime and Safety

Frequency of publication

**Irregular. Latest issue 1997.**

History of publication

**First issue 1984.**

## APPENDIX 1 DATA DEFINITIONS

### ABS STATISTICAL CONCEPTS

Below are definitions and the major output categories for key family and related variables currently in use in ABS household collections. Further information on concepts and classifications which relate to data on children and the family, and which are used throughout ABS social statistics, are published in *Standards for Statistics on the Family* (Cat. no. 1286.0).

#### Household

A group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person. A household may comprise more than one family.

#### Family

Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship.

#### Income unit

One person, or a group of related persons within a household whose command over income is assumed to be shared. Income sharing is considered to take place between partners in a couple relationship, and between parents and their dependents. A family may comprise more than one income unit.

#### Marital Status

The living arrangements of couples which may take the form of a registered marriage or a de facto marriage. Because users are interested in both living arrangements and registered marital status, the ABS has two separate variables for marital status: Social Marital Status and Registered Marital Status.

The two marital status variables measure different personal characteristics and serve different purposes. It is possible to use the two variables independently, or to cross-classify them, depending on the purpose of the analysis. For example, an individual who is currently living in a de facto marriage and is separated from a previous registered marriage, would be coded as Married in a de facto marriage in the Social Marital Status classification and Separated in the Registered Marital Status classification.

## Marital Status *continued*

Although there is some demand for Registered Marital Status data, the Social Marital Status variable better reflects the living arrangements of couples, and provides more relevant information on a wider range of issues. Information on current partnering arrangements is an essential input variable in family coding. For these reasons, and in accordance with recommendations of international bodies, including the United Nations and the Economic Commission for Europe, the ABS collects social marital status in its household surveys. Information on registered marital status is available from some household surveys and from administrative by-product collections.

## ABS FAMILY CLASSIFICATIONS

### Family Type

The differentiation of families based on the presence or absence of couple relationships, parent-child relationships, child dependency relationships or other blood relationships, in that order of preference. Families are classified into the following major types:

#### Couple family with children

- Couple family with children under 15
- Couple family with dependent students
- Couple family with children under 15 and dependent students
- Couple family with non-dependent children

#### Couple family without children

- Couple family without children

#### One-parent family

- One-parent family with children under 15
- One-parent family with dependent students
- One-parent family with children under 15 and dependent students
- One-parent family with non-dependent children

#### Other family

- Other family

## Family Type *continued*

Family Type is assigned in accordance with the following principles:

- A family must consist of at least two persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age.
- A family is identified only from persons who are usually resident within a specific household, family members living in another household are excluded from being part of the same family.
- Registered and de facto marriages are accorded equal status.
- Non-related individuals living in the same household (e.g. friend, boarder, housekeeper) are not counted as family members provided they are 15 years of age or over.
- Separate families are identified within a single household if more than one group of people satisfy the criteria for forming a family. (All related individuals not forming a separate family within a household, however, are assigned as members of one and only one family).

### Relationship in Household

The reported familial or non-familial relationship of each person in a household to a *household or family reference person*.

Relationship in household is classified into the following major types:

Husband, wife or partner

Lone parent

Child under 15

Dependent student

Non-dependent child

Other related individual

Non-family member

Unrelated individual living in a family household

Group household member

Lone person

### Visitor

Relationship in Household is assigned in accordance with the following principles:

- People who are usual residents of another household are included in the Relationship in Household classification but information collected from them are not used in family coding. They are assigned to the separate category of 'visitor'.

Family Type *continued*

- When a family is identified in a household, the 'family basis' of the concept 'relationship in household' takes precedence over the 'household basis'.
- In couple families, the family reference person can be either partner in the couple; in one-parent families it will be the lone parent; and in other families it can be any member of the family. In many cases the household reference person and a family reference person are the same person.

Social Marital Status

The relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married. Major output categories for Social Marital Status are as follows:

Married

- Married (not further defined)
- Married in a registered marriage
- Married in a de facto marriage

Not married

- Not married

Note: Most ABS household surveys only classify people as either Married or Not married.

Registered Marital Status

An individual's current status in regard to a registered marriage. The partners in a registered marriage must be of the opposite sex as same-sex relationships cannot be registered as marriages in Australia. Output categories for Registered Marital Status are as follows:

- Married
- Separated
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Never married

## APPENDIX 2

## DATA COLLECTION METHODS

### CENSUS

The Census of Population and Housing is the official count of the total Australian population. In Australia, there have been thirteen national censuses and a census is usually conducted every 5 years. The Census of Population and Housing is a self-enumerated collection. A questionnaire is left to be completed by householders at each dwelling in Australia. The census is a valuable source of information used by planners and decision-makers in all sectors of the community who need to know the geographic distribution of the population and its key social, demographic and economic characteristics.

### MONTHLY POPULATION SURVEY

The primary purpose of this survey is the provision of regular statistics on employment and unemployment. The main component of the survey is therefore the monthly labour force survey. In addition most monthly surveys include a short interview (about 3 minutes per household) on supplementary topics with data collected in conjunction with the labour force survey. The sample size is 30,000 dwellings per month with dwellings included in the survey for eight consecutive months. The first interview at the dwelling is in person and then subsequent interviews are by telephone. A responsible adult in the household provides information about all usual residents aged 15 years and over.

### SPECIAL SOCIAL SURVEYS

These surveys aim to provide detailed in-depth information about a specific subject area or group within the population. They may vary in sample size (usually about 15,000 dwellings for the surveys described in this directory). They may be of varying length although a standard survey usually involves a 45 minute interview per household. These surveys may employ a range of methodologies (eg personal interview, diaries, mail back questionnaires) or include special features depending on survey objectives and the nature of the data to be collected.

### POPULATION SURVEY MONITOR

This is a small quarterly omnibus survey (3,000 households) with personal interview of one person aged 18 years and over per household in February, May, August and November. Sample can be aggregated across quarters to an annual sample of 12,000 persons. Each quarterly survey includes a range of topics. The emphasis is on short development and processing time frames thus topics need to be straightforward. This survey commenced in August 1993 and will cease in November 2000.



## ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

ABS compiles statistics which have been generated as by-products of the administrative processes of government. Areas in which these statistics provide information about families and children include birth and death registrations (including infant mortality and causes of death), marriage and divorce registrations (including data on children affected by the divorce of their parents) and participation in education. ABS publishes information supplied by police forces in each jurisdiction on children who were victims of crime.

## **APPENDIX 3      CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING VARIABLES**

LIST OF ALL VARIABLES AVAILABLE FROM THE CENSUS:

### Person Characteristics

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin (ABLP)  
Age (AGEP)  
Age left school (ALSP)  
Birthplace of mother (female parent) (BFPF)  
Birthplace of individual (BPLP)  
Birthplace of father (male parent) (BPMP)  
Child Type (CTPP)  
Work destination zone (DZNP)  
Work destination study area (DZSP)  
Proficiency in English/language (ENGP01)  
Industry sector (GNGP)  
Hours worked (HRSP)  
Imputation flag (IMPP)  
Income (INCP)  
Industry of employment (INDP)  
Language spoken at home (LANP)  
Labour force status/Status in employment (LFSP)  
Social marital status (MDCP)  
Registered marital status (MSTP)  
Australian citizenship (NATP)  
Occupation (OCCP)  
Postcode of usual address census night (POCUCP)  
Post-school educational qualifications: field of study (QALFP)  
Post-school educational qualifications: highest level (QALLP)  
Post-school educational qualifications: year completed  
(QALYP)  
Religion (RELP)  
Relationship in household (RLHP)  
Relationship in non-private dwelling (RLNP)  
Family/Household reference person indicator (RPIP)  
Sex (SEXP)  
SLA of usual residence census night (SLAUCP)  
SLA of usual residence one year ago (SLAU1P)  
SLA of usual residence five years ago (SLAU5P)  
State of usual residence census night (STEUCP)  
State of usual residence one year ago (STEU1P)  
State of usual residence 5 years ago (STEU5P)  
Full/part-time student (STUP)  
Number of children ever born (TISP)  
Method of travel to work (TPTP)  
Type of educational institution attending (TYPP)  
Usual address indicator census night (UAICP)

LIST OF ALL VARIABLES AVAILABLE FROM THE CENSUS: *continued*

Usual address indicator one year ago (UAI1P)  
Usual address indicator five year ago (UAI5P)  
Year of arrival (YARP)

Family Characteristics

Count of dependent children under 15 temporarily absent (CDCAF)  
Count of dependent students (15–24) temporarily absent (CDSAF)  
Count of non-dependent children temporarily absent (CNDAF)  
Number of persons temporarily absent from family (CPAF)  
Family income derivation indicator (FIDF)  
Family income (weekly) (FINF)  
Family type (FMTF)  
Family number (FNOF)  
Relationship between families (FRLF)  
Location of spouse (SPLF)

Household/Dwelling Characteristics

Number of bedrooms in private dwellings (BEDD)  
Number of persons temporarily absent from household (CPAD)  
Dwelling location (DLOD)  
Dwelling type (DWTD)  
Furnished/unfurnished (FUFD)  
Household type (HHTD)  
Household income derivation indicator (HIDD)  
Household income (weekly) (HIND)  
Housing loan repayment (monthly) (HLRD)  
Housing loan repayment (monthly) (HLRD01)  
Landlord type (LLDD)  
Household one year mobility indicator (MV1D)  
Household five year mobility indicator (MV5D)  
Type of non-private dwelling (NPDD)  
Rent (weekly) (RNTD)  
Rent (weekly) (RNTD01)  
Dwelling structure (STRD)  
Tenure type (TEND)  
Number of motor vehicles (VEHD)

## **APPENDIX 4      OTHER STATISTICAL PRODUCTS**

### OTHER CHILD AND FAMILY RELATED STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

The ABS has also produced a range of other reports and information papers.

*Cultural Trends in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 1997*  
(Cat. no. 4172.0).

*Directory of Labour Markets and Social Survey Data, 1994*  
(Cat. no. 1135.0).

*Focus on Families: Caring in Families: Support for Persons who are Older or have Disabilities, 1995* (Cat. no. 4423.0).

*Focus on Families: Demographics and Family Formation, 1994*  
(Cat. no. 4420.0).

*Focus on Families: Education and Employment, 1994*  
(Cat. no. 4421.0).

*Focus on Families: Family Life, 1995* (Cat no. 4425.0).

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