2032.0

Australian Bureau of Statistics

census 2001

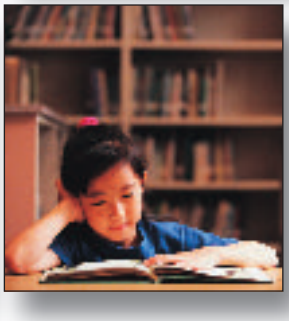
Census of Population and Housing

Australia in Profile

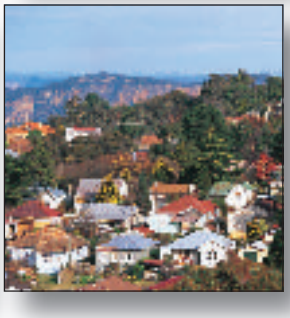
A Regional Analysis

2001







2001 Census of Population and Housing

Australia in Profile

A Regional Analysis

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 16 JAN 2004

ABS Catalogue No. 2032.0
ISBN 0 642 47887 2

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Chris Mason on Canberra (02) 6252 6214

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

This social report uses information collected in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing to describe some of the major differences in the characteristics of people living in various parts of Australia. By contrasting the circumstances of people living in urban and rural areas, and identifying regions with the highest or lowest proportions of people with particular characteristics, it provides insights into the diversity of the way in which people live in different parts of the country. In providing this information, the report capitalises on one of the main strengths of the census, that is, its ability to provide detailed geographic information. Such information cannot be readily obtained from any other source.

Where possible and unless otherwise stated, the data presented in this publication relate to the usual residents of each region. Exceptions include data presented on a Section of State basis and data used to calculate the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/ Disadvantage, both of which relate to where people were enumerated on census night (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 30 and 36–43).

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The report consists of seven chapters, each discussing a different topic of social interest and concern, and two case studies, each examining a particular region. The first chapter describes the geographic pattern of human settlement in Australia. Subsequent chapters go on to describe regional differences in patterns of cultural diversity, living arrangements, educational participation and attainment, employment and unemployment, income distribution, and housing. The topic by topic approach provides the opportunity to present and discuss a wide range of social indicators, many of which are interrelated. For example, areas with high proportions of older people also tend to be those with high levels of home ownership and low levels of employment, reflecting the fact that both home ownership and the likelihood of being employed are closely related to a person's age.

In contrast to this thematic approach, both case studies show how data can be drawn together to provide an in-depth analysis of a particular region. Each case study looks at a very different region of Australia, in the light of the characteristics of the area's residents, and so paints a contrasting picture of how Australians live.

As well as written analysis, each thematic chapter includes a table which presents key social indicators from the body of the chapter for a comprehensive list of regions (see Selection of Areas, below), as well as the states and territories and Australia as a whole. As not all geographic areas are discussed in the written sections of the chapters, these tables provide readers with further information on those regions in which they may have a particular interest.

Many more indicators could be constructed from the information collected in the census. Space precludes their presentation in this publication. However, such information is readily available in other products and services (for further information, see related publications in Explanatory Notes 46–47, or the contact numbers on the last page of this publication).

SELECTION OF AREAS

Australia is a large continent and can be geographically divided in numerous ways. This report adopts one main approach, drawing on the classification structures of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), to describe the characteristics of people living in different areas.

This approach uses 118 adjoining regions (with populations in a broadly similar size range) which cover all parts of Australia. These regions separately identify parts of cities as well as rural and remote parts of Australia. They are the spatial units used for the rankings discussed throughout the chapter. Further, they are identified as Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural regions, so that comparisons can be made between areas of a similar type. The regions used in the indicator tables also consist of these 118 regions, along with further dissaggregation of some rural regions. Details of the regions, their population sizes, classifications and maps are provided in Appendix 1.

It is important to recognise that looking at a particular region as a whole can disguise considerable locational diversity within that region. The extent of any such diversity can only be assessed by examining the characteristics of smaller component areas. Such information can be obtained from other sources. For example, the Social Atlas series of publications produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provides detailed views on levels of diversity within Australia's major cities by using census Collection Districts (CDs) (usually clusters of about 200 households) as the spatial unit of analysis. Reference details for other census-based publications, including the Social Atlas series, are given in Appendix 3.

USING SOCIAL INDICATORS

Social indicators in this publication relate to particular geographic areas, and either express the proportion of people in an area with a particular characteristic (e.g. persons aged 65 years and over as a percentage of the total population), or take the form of a summary measure for the population of the region (e.g. median gross weekly household income). When the 118 regions representing Australia are ranked in terms of the highest and lowest regions, the ranking is based on these types of measures. While the use of these measures enables comparisons of social conditions in different geographic areas, they do not show where the largest numbers of people with a particular characteristic live. For example, a region with a high proportion of unemployed people could have a smaller number of unemployed people than a region with a lower unemployment rate simply because the total population of the region is comparatively small. Due to space limitations, information about the numbers of people with certain characteristics by region have generally not been included in this publication. However, as a point of reference, the overall population size of each region is provided in the indicator table of Chapter 1.

SYMBOLS, ABBREVIATIONS AND OTHER USAGES

NSW	New South Wales
Vic.	Victoria
Qld	Queensland
SA	South Australia
WA	Western Australia
Tas.	Tasmania
NT	Northern Territory
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ERP	Estimated resident population
Bal	Balance
CBD	Central business district
GIS	Geographic Information System
IT	Information technology
PC	Personal computer
km	kilometres
km^2	square kilometre
na	not available
Pt	Part
TAFE	Tertiary and Further Education
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
WWI	World War I
WWII	World War II
SOS	Section of State
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero
CD	Collection District
SD	Statistical Division
S Dist	Statistical District
SLA	Statistical Local Area
SR	Statistical Region
SRS	Statistical Region Sector
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
(A)	Area
(C)	City
(S)	Shire

Unless otherwise stated, where source data used in the calculation of percentages included a non-response category (i.e. not stated), it has been excluded from the calculations. Total numbers shown with such percentages include the number of non-responses.

CHAPTER 1 POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND GROWTH

INTRODUCTION

In June 2001, Australia's estimated resident population (ERP) was 19.5 million people. The ERP is Australia's official population count. It is based on census counts of usual residents, adjusted for underenumeration (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 17–18). Most of the other population counts in this chapter also refer to the June 2001 ERP. However, other chapters use (unadjusted) census counts from August 2001, to provide more detailed information on population characteristics.

While changes in the size and distribution of the population tend to occur gradually, they nonetheless have implications for the provision of services in many areas, including health, education, housing and the labour market. Population trends underlie many social changes, forming the basis of much social and economic policy.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

Australia's population is concentrated along two reaches of the east and south west coastlines of the continent, the first stretching from Queensland in the north through to South Australia, including Tasmania, and the second around Perth in Western Australia. In June 2001, 85% of the population lived within 50 kilometres (km) of the coast, reflecting the arid, inhospitable conditions of much of the Australian interior, as well as employment and lifestyle opportunities found in coastal areas.

Section of State

Australia's population is highly urbanised, with almost two-thirds (65%) of the population living in Major urban centres with 100,000 or more residents. Other urban centres with populations of between 1,000 and 99,999 accounted for 22% of the population, while the remaining 13% lived in rural areas, in small communities or 'on the land' (see Explanatory Notes, paragraph 30).

In the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) almost the whole population lives in the environs of Canberra Statistical Division (SD). Of the rest of Australia, Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales were the most highly urbanised states with 71%, 68% and 67% of the population, respectively, living in Major urban centres (table 1.1). In contrast, the populations of the Northern Territory, Tasmania and Queensland were more dispersed, with a relatively large percentage of people living outside urban centres. For example, over 70% of Tasmania's population and 40% of Queensland's population lived outside Major urban centres in 2001.

1.1 DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION(a)

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
Section of state	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*
Major urban(b)	67.0	70.8	59.5	68.3	63.6	27.7	0.0	99.3	65.1
Other urban(c)	22.0	18.1	24.0	17.8	24.0	44.7	72.7	0.0	22.1
Bounded locality(d)	2.1	1.9	3.0	3.1	2.8	6.7	10.7	0.1	2.6
Rural balance(e)	8.9	9.1	13.5	10.8	9.6	20.9	16.6	0.6	10.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	'000	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*	*'000*
Australia(f)	**6 575.2**	**4 804.7**	**3 628.9**	**1 511.7**	**1 901.2**	**471.8**	**197.8**	**319.3**	**19 413.2**

(a) Census counts, by place of enumeration.

(b) All urban centres with a population count of 100,000 and over.

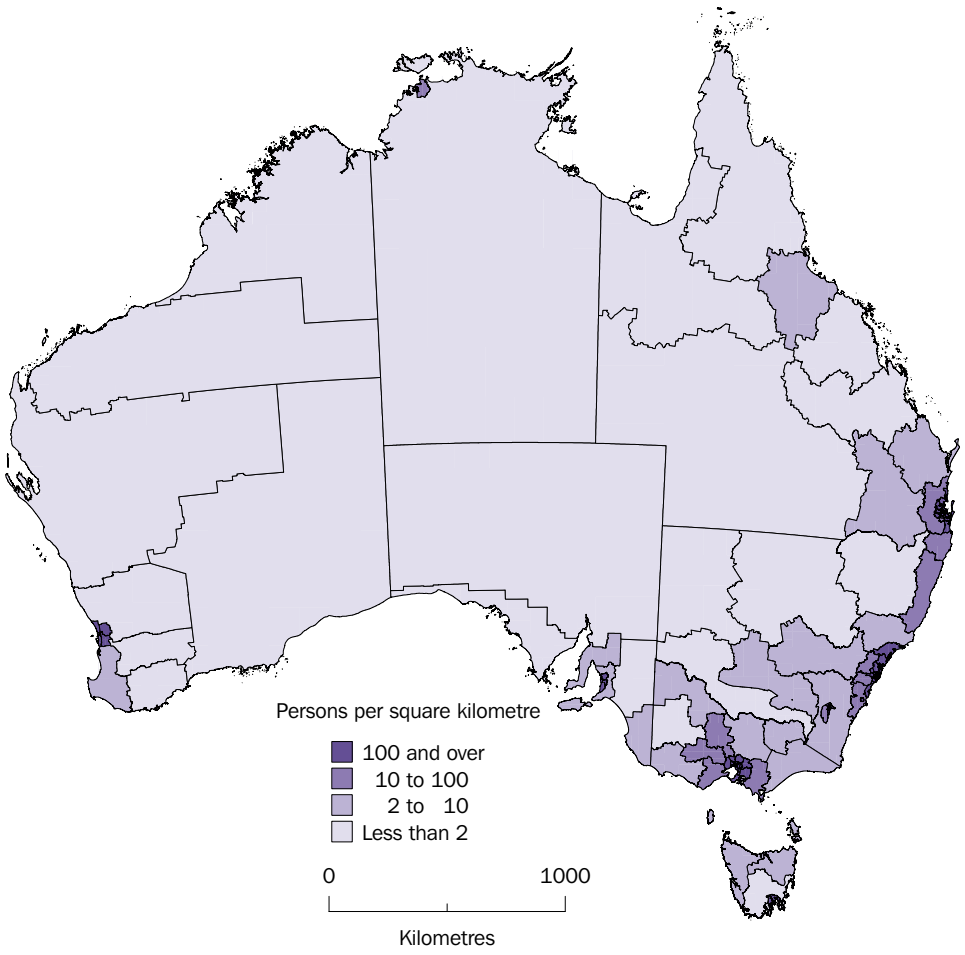
(c) All urban centres with a population count of 1,000 to 99,999.

(d) All population clusters of 200 to 999 people.

(e) The rural remainder of the state/territory.

(f) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

1.2 POPULATION DENSITY, Australia—30 June 2001(a)



(a) 2001 estimated resident population.

Major population centres

In 2001, Australia's largest population centres were Sydney and Melbourne, with populations of 4.1 and 3.5 million people respectively, followed by Brisbane (1.7 million), Perth (1.4 million) and Adelaide (1.1 million) (table 1.3). Of the twenty largest population centres, the fastest growth between 1996 and 2001 occurred in urban areas north and south of Brisbane (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 19 and 31–32). Gold Coast-Tweed Statistical District (S Dist) and the Sunshine Coast (S Dist) had average growth rates of 3.7% and 3.5% per year, respectively. Darwin (SD) also recorded an average growth rate of 2.2% per year over the period. The major population centres with the lowest growth rates were in Tasmania. Hobart (SD) grew on average by 0.16% per year between 1996 and 2001, while Launceston (S Dist) declined on average by 0.06% per year.

The age structure of the population also varied between major population centres. The youngest populations were in Townsville (S Dist) and Darwin, both of which had median ages of 31 years. The oldest populations were in the population centres with the highest growth rates, indicating the impact of retirees moving to these areas. The population of the Sunshine Coast (S Dist) had a median age of 40 years, while that of Gold Coast-Tweed (S Dist) had a median of 38 years.

1.3 MAJOR POPULATION CENTRES—30 June 2001

	Population(a)	*Population growth(b)*	*Median age*
	'000	*%*	*Years*
Sydney (SD)	4 128.2	1.24	35
Melbourne (SD)	3 471.6	1.12	35
Brisbane (SD)	1 650.4	1.66	34
Perth (SD)	1 393.0	1.47	35
Adelaide (SD)	1 108.0	0.54	37
Newcastle (S Dist)	492.5	1.23	37
Gold Coast-Tweed (S Dist)	424.8	3.71	38
Canberra-Queanbeyan (S Dist)	361.7	0.95	33
Wollongong (S Dist)	269.6	1.06	36
Hobart (SD)	197.3	0.16	37
Sunshine Coast (S Dist)	185.4	3.46	40
Geelong (S Dist)	159.5	0.94	36
Townsville (S Dist)	134.1	1.84	31
Cairns (S Dist)	112.9	1.14	33
Toowoomba (S Dist)	109.4	1.42	33
Darwin (SD)	106.8	2.20	31
Launceston (S Dist)	98.5	–0.06	36
Albury-Wodonga (S Dist)	97.8	1.09	35
Ballarat (S Dist)	83.6	1.11	35
Bendigo (S Dist)	79.7	1.44	35

(a) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

POPULATION DENSITY

Overall, Australia has very low population density (3 persons per square kilometre), due to the vast size of the continent and its relatively small population. However, as Australia's population is highly concentrated in urban areas, population density varies widely between regions.

Population density in Mainly urban regions

In 2001, the most densely populated regions of Australia were in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Many regions in the centres of these cities had over 2,000 people per square kilometre. The five regions with the highest population densities were the Eastern Suburbs (SSD) of Sydney, Inner Sydney (SSD), Inner Western Sydney (SSD) and Lower Northern Sydney (SSD), all on the shores of Sydney Harbour, followed by Inner Melbourne (SSD), in the centre of the city (table 1.4). These regions also had some of the highest proportions of medium and high density housing of all regions (between 47% and 82% of all occupied private dwellings, compared to 22% nationally) (see Chapter 7, Housing). Within these five regions there were smaller areas with even higher population densities. The Statistical Local Area (SLA) of Melbourne (C) - Remainder, which borders on the Melbourne central business district (CBD) and the harbour areas, had nearly 8,400 people per square kilometre. Sydney (C) - Remainder, located just to the south of the CBD, had over 7,650 people per square kilometre and the Eastern Sydney suburb of Waverley (A) had over 6,820 people per square kilometre.

A small number of Mainly urban regions had relatively low population densities of less than 100 persons per square kilometre. The region with the lowest density was Northern Queensland (SD), with less than three people per square kilometre. It is classified as Mainly urban because many people live in the large city of Townsville (S Dist), with a population density of nearly 300 people per square kilometre, while the remainder of the region is predominantly rural. Other Mainly urban regions with low population density were generally located in outer capital city areas, such as Weston Creek-Stromlo, in the outer suburbs of Canberra, Outer Western Sydney (SSD) and Outer South Western Sydney (SSD). Within these regions separate houses, as opposed to higher density housing such as apartments, accounted for between 80% and 88% of all occupied private dwellings, compared to 76% nationally.

Population density in Mixed urban/rural areas

Mixed urban/rural regions had an overall population density of less than one person per square kilometre, compared to nearly 110 per square kilometre (km^2) for Mainly urban regions. Only a few Mixed regions recorded population densities higher than 20 persons per square kilometre. These regions were all located on the coast rather than in sparsely populated inland areas. These regions also contained large population centres, including the capital city of Darwin (SD) and popular tourism and retirement areas such as Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD) and Tweed Heads (SSD). The lowest population densities occurred in remote inland areas of Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia, where there were as few as one person per ten square kilometres (table 1.4).

1.4 POPULATION DENSITY(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions—30 June 2001

Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	*Persons per km²*
	TOP FIVE REGIONS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	4 160
2	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	3 870
3	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	3 312
4	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	2 972
5	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	2 855
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	144
2	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	81
3	Darwin (SD)	NT	34
4	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	22
5	Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	15
	Australia		**2.5**
	BOTTOM FIVE REGIONS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Northern (SD)	Qld	2
2	Weston Creek-Stromlo(b)	ACT	15
3	Barwon (SD)	Vic.	29
4	Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	69
5	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	76
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	South West and Central West(c)	Qld	0.1
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	0.1
3	South Eastern (SD)	WA	0.1
4	Kimberley (SD)	WA	0.1
5	Pilbara (SD)	WA	0.1
	Australia		**2.5**

(a) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Balane (SSD).

(c) South West and Central West SDs combined.

POPULATION GROWTH AND DECLINE

In the five years to 2001, Australia's population grew by an average of 1.2% annually. Just over half of this growth (57%) was due to natural increase (the difference between births and deaths), and the remainder from net overseas migration (43%). This growth rate was the lowest recorded for any post-World War II inter-censal period, because of historically low levels of natural increase (0.8% per year). The average rate of growth due to net overseas migration was 0.7% per year, although the rate fluctuated from year to year.

POPULATION GROWTH AND DECLINE *continued*

The large variations in population growth rates across regions reflect both differences in births and deaths, and the movement of people into and out of regions. Natural increase tends to be greatest in the outer areas of major cities, which provide suitable housing for young families. Net overseas migration has the greatest effect on the population growth of large cities, particularly Sydney and Melbourne, which are gateways for new migrants. Internal migration (the movement of people between different areas within Australia) has resulted in growth in coastal and urban/rural fringe areas, both of which attract high numbers of retirees. In contrast, some rural and regional areas have experienced population decline through internal migration, as younger people seek education and employment opportunities in larger population centres, and as some rural industries downsize.

Internal migration

Between 1996 and 2001, 6.8 million people (42%) aged five years and over changed their place of residence within Australia. The majority of moves (53%) were made within the same region (i.e. within the same SD, SSD or Statistical Region Sector (SRS), depending on the region, see Appendix 1), with 35% of moves being made between regions within the same state, and 12% being interstate. Net internal migration, which equals arrivals into an area minus departures from the area, is a measure of the impact which internal migration has on an area's population. Between 1996 and 2001, Queensland experienced the largest net gain as a result of internal migration (92,000 people), while New South Wales experienced the largest net loss (66,500 people). However, relative to the population base, the greatest loss was from Tasmania (3.2% of the population). Over the same period, internal migration resulted in a redistribution of 65,000 people from Mixed urban/rural to Mainly urban regions (table 1.5).

1.5 NET INTERNAL MIGRATION

Area	*Net internal migration(a)* *no.*	*Rate of internal migration(b)* *%*
Mainly urban regions(c)	65 211	0.5
Mixed urban/rural regions(c)	–65 052	–1.2
New South Wales(d)	–66 549	–1.0
Victoria(d)	6 444	0.1
Queensland(d)	92 188	2.6
South Australia(d)	–12 894	–0.9
Western Australia(d)	2 886	0.2
Tasmania(d)	–15 043	–3.2
Northern Territory(d)	–2 170	–1.1
Australian Capital Territory(d)	–4 642	–1.5

(a) Areas do not necessarily sum to zero, as not all moves have adequately classified departure points and destinations.

(b) Net internal migration as a proportion of average 1996 and 2001 estimated resident populations.

(c) Census counts, place of usual residence.

(d) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

Population growth and decline in Mainly urban regions

Most Mainly urban regions experienced population growth between 1996 and 2001. Although net overseas migration had a major impact on the growth of some capital cities, the Mainly urban regions with the highest growth gained population largely from internal migration. Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) in the ACT had the highest average growth rate per year (14.0%), as a result of extensive construction of new suburban housing in the region, which has attracted new residents and in particular young families. High growth was also experienced in Gold Coast City Part B (SSD), Melton-Wyndham (SSD), South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) and the Sunshine Coast (SD), which all recorded average growth rates of 3%–4% per year (table 1.6). All five were among the regions with the highest net internal migration between 1996 and 2001, with Gold Coast City Part B (SSD) recording the highest increase (32,000 people).

Of the relatively small number of Mainly urban regions that experienced population decline between 1996–2001, many contained more established suburbs which were experiencing a shift away from families with children, and towards couples without children, single person households and small group households (see Chapter 3, Living Arrangements). The five Mainly urban regions with the highest population decline between 1996 and 2001 were Weston Creek-Stromlo, Greater Dandenong City (SSD), Woden Valley (SSD), North Canberra (SSD) and Moreland City (SSD) (table 1.6). Among these regions, the number of couple families with children decreased by 4%–12%, while the number of couple only families increased by 2%–19%. At the same time, the number of households which did not contain a family (single person and group households) increased by 4%–15%.

Population growth and decline in Mixed urban/rural regions

Although population growth in Mixed urban/rural regions was not as high as in Mainly urban regions, most Mixed regions experienced some growth between 1996–2001. High population growth in Mixed regions is generally associated with growth occurring in regional centres. Of the five Mixed regions with the highest population growth (table 1.6), South West Western Australia (SD), the balance of Illawarra SD (SSD), Beaudesert Shire Part A (SD) and Darwin (SD) all contain or border on large population centres. These population centres tend to attract people from other regions, and, with the exception of Darwin (SD), net internal migration was an important factor in the growth of these regions. In contrast, in Darwin (SD) and the Kimberley (SD) growth was mainly driven by natural increase, as they experienced low and negative rates of net internal migration respectively. These regions are characterised by young age structures and high proportions of Indigenous people, contributing to relatively high rates of natural increase, due mainly to high numbers of births.

Population growth and decline in Mixed urban/rural regions *continued*

Population decline in rural regions is now a well established general trend. Between 1996 and 2001, 20% of Mixed urban/rural regions experienced population decline, compared to 10% of Mainly urban regions. This decline is associated with younger people moving for education or employment, which means that Mixed regions with low population growth tended to have high negative rates of net internal migration. As younger people move away, a region can develop an older age structure, which may, in turn, lead to a decline in natural increase and further population loss. Of the five Mixed regions with the highest population decline (table 1.6), four had median ages above that of Australia (36 years).

1.6 POPULATION GROWTH AND DECLINE(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)—30 June 2001

Rank	Region	State or territory	Population change %	Rate of internal migration(c) %
	TOP FIVE REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	14.0	31.4
2	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	Qld	3.7	9.2
3	Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	Vic.	3.7	6.8
4	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	3.6	6.5
5	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	3.5	10.0
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	4.9	–1.6
2	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	3.3	7.2
3	South West (SD)	WA	3.0	6.2
4	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	2.5	10.0
5	Darwin (SD)	NT	2.2	0.8
	Australia		**1.2**	**. .**
	BOTTOM FIVE REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Weston Creek-Stromlo(d)	ACT	–1.0	–4.6
2	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	–0.5	–10.6
3	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	–0.3	–2.0
4	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	–0.1	2.7
5	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	–0.1	–3.1
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	–1.0	–9.1
2	Northern (SD)	SA	–0.8	–8.2
3	Far West (SD)	NSW	–0.8	–8.6
4	Mersey-Lyell (SD)	Tas.	–0.6	–5.5
5	Pilbara (SD)	WA	–0.5	–12.8
	Australia		**1.2**	**. .**

(a) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001, based on 1996 and 2001 estimated resident populations, as at 30 June.

(b) Ranked according to population change.

(c) Net internal migration as a proportion of average 1996 and 2001 estimated resident populations, as at 30 June.

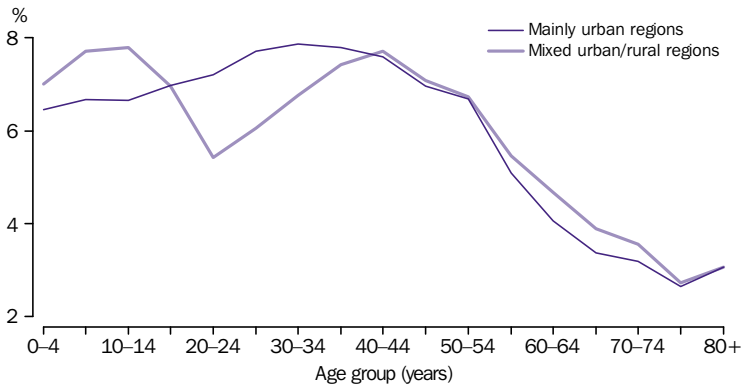
(d) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Balance (SSD).

AGE DISTRIBUTION

In June 2001 the median age of the Australian population was 36 years. More than one in five Australians were children aged under 15 years (21%), with 13% of the population aged 65 years and over.

The age structure of a region is not static. It evolves as patterns of births and deaths change, and as different groups of people move into or out of the region. The changing age profile of a region affects the demand for infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and transport systems, the need for jobs and the provision of services (graph 1.7).

1.7 AGE STRUCTURE(a)—30 June 2001



(a) 2001 estimated resident population figures.

Age distribution in Mainly urban regions

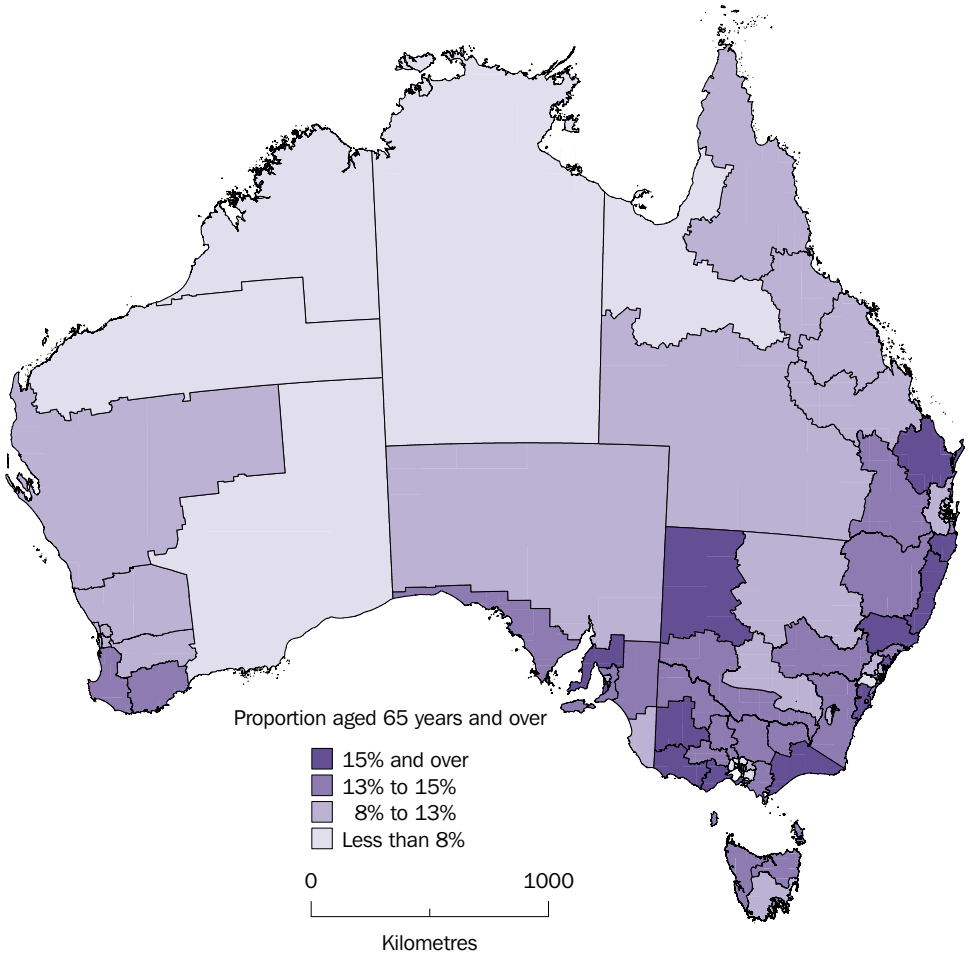
The age structure of the population living in Mainly urban regions was similar to that of Australia as a whole, since most of Australia's population live in these regions. However, there were substantial differences in the age structures of individual Mainly urban regions. The Mainly urban regions with the highest median ages (39–41 years) were Redcliffe City (SSD), Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD), the Sunshine Coast (SSD), Western Adelaide (SSD) and Eastern Adelaide (SSD)(table 1.8). All of these regions were characterised by a higher proportion of people aged 65 years and over than for Australia overall and a lower proportion of children aged less than 15 years.

The Mainly urban regions with the lowest median ages (30 or 31 years) were located in the outer areas of cities, where the predominance of separate dwellings may attract younger families. Of these regions, Gungahlin-Hall (SSD), Logan City (SSD), Outer South Western Sydney (SSD) and Melton-Wyndham (SSD) all had high proportions of children aged less than 15 years, and low proportions of people aged 65 years and over. The exception was Western Inner Brisbane (SRS), which had low proportions of both children and older people. This indicates a population mix of younger adults without children, who might be attracted to this inner city region for education, employment and lifestyle reasons.

Age distribution in Mixed urban/rural regions

The population living in Mixed urban/rural regions had a higher median age (37 years) than the total Australian population (36 years). While Mixed regions had a higher proportion of children aged less than 15 years, they also tended to have a lower proportion of younger people, particularly those aged 20–34 years, as a result of young adults moving to urban areas for education and employment.

1.8 PROPORTION AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, Australia—30 June 2001(a)



(a) 2001 estimated resident population.

As with Mainly urban areas, there were substantial differences in the age structures of individual Mixed urban/rural regions. The Mixed regions with the oldest age structures, all with median ages of 40 years or over, were Yorke and Lower North (SD) in South Australia, the balance of Illawarra SD (SSD), the New South Wales Mid-North Coast (SD), East Gippsland (SD) and Richmond-Tweed (SD) (table 1.8). Of these regions, three were located in areas on the New South Wales coast popular with retirees.

The five Mixed urban/rural regions with the youngest age profiles were all in remote areas of Australia, with median ages as low as 28 years. Younger populations in Mixed regions may be related to higher proportions of Indigenous people living in these regions, who have higher fertility rates and lower life expectancy than the non-Indigenous population. The proportion of the population in these five Mixed regions who were Indigenous was between 10% and 51%, compared with 2% for Australia overall.

1.9 AGE STRUCTURE(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)—30 June 2001

Rank	Region	State or territory	Median age years	0–14 years %	65 years and over %
	TOP FIVE REGIONS				
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	41	18.2	18.9
2	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	Vic.	40	20.0	18.4
3	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	40	19.4	17.3
4	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	39	16.2	18.3
5	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	39	15.6	16.5
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	43	19.9	19.4
2	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	42	21.1	19.1
3	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	41	21.4	18.0
4	East Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	40	20.9	16.3
5	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	40	20.8	17.1
	Australia		**36**	**20.5**	**12.5**
	BOTTOM FIVE REGIONS				
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	30	12.7	11.4
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	30	25.2	3.5
3	Logan City (SSD)	Qld	31	25.2	5.9
4	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	31	25.8	6.8
5	Melton Wyndham (SSD)	Vic.	31	25.2	5.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	28	28.9	3.3
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	28	27.8	4.0
3	North West (SD)	Qld	29	26.6	5.6
4	Pilbara (SD)	WA	30	27.2	2.0
5	South Eastern (SD)	WA	31	25.3	5.9
	Australia		**36**	**20.5**	**12.5**

(a) Estimated resident population as at 30 June.

(b) Ranked according to median age.

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

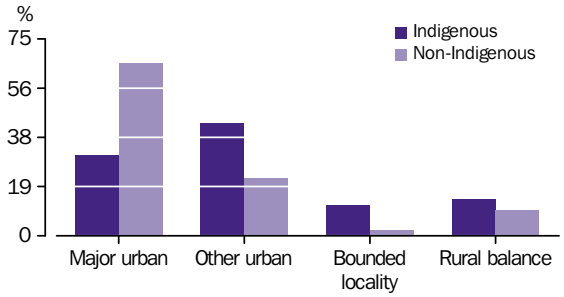
In June 2001, there were an estimated 459,000 people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin residing in Australia. Indigenous peoples represented 2.4% of Australia's estimated resident population. Of the Indigenous population, 6% were Torres Strait Islanders and 4% were of both Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal descent.

Geographic distribution

The distribution of the Indigenous population across the states and territories differs from that of the total population. In June 2001, over half (57%) of Indigenous people lived in New South Wales and Queensland. Only 6% lived in Victoria, the second most populous state. The highest proportion of Indigenous people was in the Northern Territory, where they made up 29% of the total population in 2001.

In general, the Indigenous population is more widely dispersed across Australia, and less urbanised, than the non-Indigenous population. The 2001 census recorded that 26% of the Indigenous population lived in rural areas, in small communities or 'on the land', compared with 12% of the non-Indigenous population. Nonetheless, the majority (74%) of Indigenous people lived in urban centres of more than 1,000 people, compared with 88% of the rest of the population (see Explanatory Notes, paragraph 30).

1.10 POPULATION(a), Indigenous status and Section of State



(a) Census counts, by place of enumeration.

Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions

In general, Indigenous persons formed a greater proportion of the population in Mixed urban/rural regions than in Mainly urban regions. In Mixed regions as a whole, 5.4% of the population was Indigenous, and most Mixed regions had proportions of Indigenous persons above the Australian average of 2.4%. Indigenous persons made up smaller proportions of the population in Mainly urban regions, with an average of 1.2% across those regions.

The regions with the highest proportions of Indigenous persons were located in remote areas of central and northern Australia. These included the balance of the Northern Territory (SD), where 51% of the population were Indigenous, the Kimberley (SD) (47%), and North West Queensland (SD) (27%) (table 1.13). In ten Mixed urban/rural regions, including Darwin (SD), Indigenous people made up 10% or more of the population.

Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions *continued*

The majority of Mainly urban areas had lower proportions of Indigenous persons, ranging from 0.5% to 2.0%. Notable exceptions were Northern Queensland (SD) (7%), which includes Townsville, as well as some outer regions of Brisbane and Sydney, such as Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD) and Blacktown (SSD).

1.11 INDIGENOUS POPULATION(a), Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)—30 June 2001

Rank	Region	State or territory	Indigenous population '000	Proportion of total population %
	MAINLY URBAN REGIONS			
1	Northern (SD)	Qld	12.8	6.7
2	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	3.9	3.4
3	Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	5.9	3.0
4	Blacktown (SSD)	NSW	6.9	2.6
5	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	1.2	2.6
	Australia		**458.5**	**2.4**
	MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	46.2	50.8
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	15.4	47.3
3	North West (SD)	Qld	9.7	27.0
4	Pilbara (SD)	WA	6.5	16.5
5	Far North (SD)	Qld	32.6	14.6
	Australia		**458.5**	**2.4**

(a) Experimental Indigenous estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

(b) Ranked by the proportion of total population who were of Indigenous origin.

1.12 POPULATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State *Region* *Sub-Region*	*Estimated resident population(a)* '000	*Growth rate(b)* %	*Persons per km²* no.	*Indigenous population* %	*Median age* years	*People aged 0–14 years* %	*People aged 65 years and over* %
AUSTRALIA	**19 413.2**	**1.2**	**2.5**	**2.4**	**36**	**20.5**	**12.5**
New South Wales	**6 575.2**	**1.2**	**8.2**	**2.1**	**36**	**20.4**	**13.1**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	294.1	1.7	3 869.8	1.6	34	12.2	10.2
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	241.5	–0.1	4 160.1	0.8	35	13.8	13.6
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	433.1	1.0	1 079.8	0.6	37	18.8	13.8
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	309.5	0.4	2 803.4	0.7	35	20.7	13.6
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	348.1	2.1	855.1	1.0	32	23.4	8.7
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	234.0	1.6	76.2	2.3	31	25.8	6.8
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	162.9	1.0	3 312.0	0.4	37	16.4	14.6
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	295.8	1.1	2 212.5	0.9	34	20.0	11.9
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	317.2	1.0	68.8	1.9	33	23.7	8.5
Blacktown (SSD)	264.8	2.0	1 103.4	2.6	31	25.0	7.5
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	293.0	0.9	2 972.1	0.2	36	15.4	13.6
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	406.9	1.7	429.0	0.3	37	20.5	11.7
Northern Beaches (SSD)	231.2	0.7	907.8	0.3	38	17.9	14.3
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	296.3	1.8	175.8	1.8	38	21.5	17.5
Newcastle (SSD)	492.5	1.2	121.9	2.2	37	20.5	14.8
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	96.4	1.0	3.6	2.8	39	21.4	16.1
Wollongong (SSD)	269.6	1.1	247.5	1.7	36	20.8	13.7
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	30.2	1.0	143.5	6.0	36	23.8	14.0
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	100.2	2.5	14.2	2.2	42	21.1	19.1
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	216.3	1.5	22.0	3.1	40	20.8	17.1
Lismore (S Dist)	30.9	3.7	282.4	3.1	45	20.9	14.1
Tweed Heads (SSD)	46.9	–0.3	243.4	4.2	35	17.5	25.6
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	138.5	1.3	14.5	2.9	39	21.9	14.9
Mid-North Coast (SD)	280.6	1.3	10.8	4.1	41	21.4	18.0
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	46.1	1.8	213.7	3.4	39	21.1	15.9
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	38.1	3.1	354.4	2.1	43	19.1	22.6
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	196.4	0.9	7.7	4.6	41	21.9	17.6
Northern (SD)	180.4	0.2	1.8	7.6	37	22.4	13.7
Tamworth (S Dist)	42.5	0.8	87.4	6.1	36	22.7	13.8
Balance of Northern (SD)	137.9	0.0	2.1	8.0	36	22.3	13.6
North Western (SD)	119.6	0.4	0.6	12.3	35	24.4	12.5
Dubbo (S Dist)	35.2	1.3	106.7	10.4	33	25.0	11.0
Balance of North Western (SD)	84.4	0.0	0.4	13.1	36	24.1	13.1
Central West (SD)	177.7	0.6	2.8	4.1	36	22.5	13.8
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	75.8	1.1	31.7	3.7	34	22.6	12.2
Balance of Central West (SD)	101.9	0.2	1.7	4.4	38	22.5	15.0
South Eastern (SD)	193.1	1.5	3.7	2.4	39	21.3	14.7
Murrumbidgee (SD)	152.5	0.4	2.4	3.7	35	23.2	12.9
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	52.1	0.3	237.7	3.8	32	22.5	11.4
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	100.3	0.5	1.6	3.6	36	23.6	13.7
Murray (SD)	113.4	0.4	1.3	2.5	38	21.9	14.7
Albury (SSD)	51.8	1.0	25.5	1.9	35	22.1	12.8
Balance of Murray (SD)	61.6	0.0	0.7	3.0	39	21.8	16.3
Far West (SD)	24.4	–0.8	0.2	8.8	39	20.7	16.4

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

1.12 POPULATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Estimated resident population(a)* '000	*Growth rate(b)* %	*Persons per km²* no.	*Indigenous population* %	*Median age* years	*People aged 0–14 years* %	*People aged 65 years and over* %
Victoria	**4 804.7**	**1.1**	**21.1**	**0.6**	**36**	**20.0**	**13.0**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	245.3	1.6	2 854.6	0.4	33	10.1	10.7
Western Melbourne (SSD)	423.4	0.9	1 609.7	0.3	35	19.4	12.0
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	140.0	3.7	131.0	0.7	31	25.2	5.9
Moreland City (SSD)	136.4	–0.1	2 677.0	0.4	36	16.5	16.6
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	246.6	0.1	2 126.7	0.7	37	17.3	15.1
Hume City (SSD)	136.0	2.4	270.0	0.6	31	25.7	7.0
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	178.9	1.8	193.9	0.5	33	23.2	7.3
Boroondara City (SSD)	157.2	0.4	2 621.9	0.1	38	17.6	15.0
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	424.1	0.5	1 636.3	0.2	38	16.6	15.1
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	247.7	1.3	1 414.2	0.3	35	21.5	10.4
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	142.0	0.8	106.5	0.6	35	22.9	9.2
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	390.7	0.5	2 134.5	0.2	38	17.8	16.0
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	128.5	–0.5	992.6	0.4	36	19.0	12.5
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	228.6	3.6	135.2	0.5	32	25.9	7.5
Frankston City (SSD)	114.0	0.9	880.3	0.6	35	21.5	12.4
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	132.4	2.4	183.1	0.5	40	20.0	18.4
Barwon (SD)	254.7	1.2	28.5	0.7	37	20.5	15.1
Geelong (S Dist)	159.5	0.9	411.4	0.8	36	20.0	15.0
Balance of Barwon (SD)	95.2	1.8	11.1	0.5	39	21.4	15.2
Western District (SD)	100.5	0.1	4.4	0.9	38	22.4	15.4
Warrnambool (S Dist)	29.6	1.6	245.5	1.1	35	22.5	14.4
Balance of Western District (SD)	70.8	–0.5	3.1	0.8	38	22.3	15.8
Central Highlands (SD)	141.5	1.0	11.8	0.8	36	21.6	13.9
Ballarat (S Dist)	83.6	1.1	113.0	1.0	35	21.3	14.0
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	57.9	0.7	5.2	0.6	38	22.1	13.7
Wimmera (SD)	51.4	–0.3	1.5	0.8	40	21.3	18.1
Mallee (SD)	90.4	0.7	2.3	2.5	37	22.9	14.9
Mildura (S Dist)	45.3	2.0	93.7	2.6	35	23.7	13.4
Balance of Mallee (SD)	45.1	–0.4	1.1	2.5	38	22.1	16.5
Loddon (SD)	167.0	1.2	11.5	0.8	38	21.6	14.2
Bendigo (S Dist)	79.7	1.4	161.4	1.0	35	21.2	14.3
Balance of Loddon (SD)	87.3	1.0	6.2	0.6	39	22.0	14.1
Goulburn (SD)	194.0	1.2	7.1	1.6	37	22.5	14.3
Shepparton (S Dist)	44.9	1.8	115.1	3.3	34	23.1	12.7
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	149.1	1.1	5.5	1.1	38	22.4	14.8
Ovens-Murray (SD)	93.2	0.9	5.3	0.7	37	22.1	13.5
Wodonga (SSD)	46.0	1.2	18.2	0.9	34	23.4	10.8
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	47.2	0.6	3.1	0.5	39	20.8	16.2
East Gippsland (SD)	80.9	0.1	2.5	1.9	40	20.9	16.3
Gippsland (SD)	159.5	0.8	14.6	0.9	38	21.9	14.9
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	75.0	–0.1	43.4	1.1	36	22.6	12.7
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	84.5	1.6	9.2	0.7	39	21.2	16.8

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

1.12 POPULATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Estimated resident population(a)* '000	*Growth rate(b)* %	*Persons per km²* no.	*Indigenous population* %	*Median age* years	*People aged 0–14 years* %	*People aged 65 years and over* %
Queensland	**3 628.9**	**1.7**	**2.1**	**3.5**	**35**	**21.3**	**11.6**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	68.3	2.5	2 418.2	1.5	33	9.3	11.2
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	113.5	0.3	1 886.2	1.3	35	16.7	13.3
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	86.8	1.5	1 832.0	1.2	34	17.3	12.3
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	57.2	0.3	2 102.5	1.3	35	16.5	14.6
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	56.3	0.6	2 120.4	0.5	30	12.7	11.4
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	175.5	1.4	716.3	1.7	37	19.5	13.8
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	61.4	2.3	199.7	1.9	36	20.4	12.6
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	151.8	3.0	889.8	1.3	34	19.3	10.4
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	125.8	2.5	303.9	2.0	34	22.2	9.3
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	45.8	2.0	154.9	2.6	33	24.4	9.3
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	27.8	3.3	80.7	1.7	33	26.1	4.7
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	108.7	2.5	149.1	2.1	35	24.2	12.5
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	114.5	0.4	285.9	3.4	32	24.5	9.5
Logan City (SSD)	167.5	0.6	666.4	2.5	31	25.2	5.9
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	122.3	2.9	163.0	1.3	32	24.6	6.3
Redcliffe City (SSD)	49.9	0.1	1 308.0	2.0	41	18.2	18.9
Redland Shire (SSD)	117.3	2.6	218.3	1.6	36	22.2	11.3
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	377.9	3.7	340.2	1.1	37	18.7	14.2
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	185.4	3.5	405.4	1.2	40	19.4	17.3
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	161.0	1.9	10.0	1.9	37	23.2	11.2
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	236.5	1.1	4.5	3.4	39	21.7	15.5
Bundaberg (S Dist)	56.8	1.0	223.1	3.1	43	21.8	16.6
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	39.6	2.0	106.1	2.7	39	19.9	19.7
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	140.1	0.8	2.7	3.7	39	22.1	13.9
Darling Downs (SD)	210.3	1.0	2.3	2.9	35	22.6	13.0
Toowoomba (S Dist)	109.4	1.4	197.4	2.9	33	22.0	12.8
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	100.9	0.6	1.1	3.0	37	23.4	13.2
South West and Central West	39.5	0.2	0.1	9.6	34	24.0	10.3
Fitzroy (SD)	181.7	0.4	1.5	4.8	34	23.7	10.2
Rockhampton (S Dist)	63.6	–0.3	310.2	5.6	33	22.0	13.1
Gladstone (S Dist)	39.1	0.9	65.2	3.4	32	25.4	7.4
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	79.0	0.7	0.6	4.8	34	24.2	9.2
Mackay (SD)	137.5	0.6	1.5	3.8	34	23.1	9.4
Northern (SD)	190.3	1.2	2.4	6.7	32	22.5	9.6
Townsville (S Dist)	134.1	1.8	295.0	5.8	31	22.2	8.4
Balance of Northern (SD)	56.2	-0.2	0.7	8.9	36	23.2	12.4
Far North (SD)	222.5	1.1	0.8	14.6	34	23.3	9.4
Cairns (S Dist)	112.9	1.1	231.4	8.5	33	22.4	8.1
Balance of Far North (SD)	109.6	1.0	0.4	21.0	35	24.3	10.8
North West (SD)	35.9	0.0	0.1	27.0	29	26.6	5.6

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

1.12 POPULATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Estimated resident population(a)* '000	*Growth rate(b)* %	*Persons per km²* no.	*Indigenous population* %	*Median age* years	*People aged 0–14 years* %	*People aged 65 years and over* %
South Australia	**1 511.7**	**0.5**	**1.5**	**1.7**	**38**	**19.3**	**14.6**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	349.0	0.8	519.2	1.6	35	21.3	11.4
Western Adelaide (SSD)	210.1	0.1	1 317.0	1.4	39	16.2	18.3
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	222.8	0.4	671.1	0.5	39	15.6	16.5
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	326.1	0.6	491.8	0.7	38	18.8	15.0
Outer Adelaide (SD)	114.0	1.8	9.8	0.7	39	21.2	14.3
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	44.4	0.1	2.2	1.6	43	19.9	19.4
Murray Lands (SD)	68.6	0.1	1.4	3.0	38	21.4	14.5
South East (SD)	62.6	0.0	2.9	1.1	36	22.0	12.8
Eyre (SD)	34.0	0.6	0.5	6.2	37	22.9	13.5
Northern (SD)	80.2	–0.8	0.1	9.0	36	22.6	12.3
Western Australia	**1 901.2**	**1.5**	**0.8**	**3.5**	**35**	**21.1**	**11.0**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	121.9	0.7	1 414.6	0.6	37	15.7	14.2
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	239.9	1.5	116.7	2.2	35	21.5	10.3
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	416.9	1.5	468.5	1.2	35	20.4	10.4
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	294.7	2.0	475.8	1.5	36	20.8	12.1
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	319.6	1.2	184.2	2.2	34	19.7	11.1
South West (SD)	194.1	3.0	6.8	2.1	37	22.4	13.3
Mandurah (S Dist)	59.8	3.6	31.7	1.8	40	20.6	17.6
Bunbury (S Dist)	50.0	3.4	360.6	2.7	34	22.8	10.6
Balance of South West (SD)	84.4	2.4	3.2	1.9	36	23.4	11.8
Lower Great Southern (SD)	53.6	1.4	1.4	3.6	37	23.1	13.1
Upper Great Southern (SD)	18.9	–1.0	0.4	5.2	37	23.3	11.7
South Eastern (SD)	55.1	–0.5	0.1	10.4	31	25.3	5.9
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	29.4	0.3	285.3	7.0	30	25.4	4.7
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	25.7	–1.3	0.0	14.2	32	25.2	7.2
Midlands (SD)	53.6	0.8	0.5	4.3	37	23.5	11.5
Central (SD)	60.8	0.6	0.1	11.4	34	24.4	9.8
Geraldton (S Dist)	31.4	1.1	166.3	8.4	33	25.0	10.5
Balance of Central (SD)	29.4	0.0	0.0	14.7	35	23.8	9.0
Pilbara (SD)	39.5	–0.5	0.1	16.5	30	27.2	2.0
Kimberley (SD)	32.6	4.9	0.1	47.3	28	27.8	4.0
Tasmania	**471.8**	**–0.1**	**6.9**	**3.7**	**37**	**21.0**	**13.8**
Greater Hobart (SD)	197.3	0.2	145.4	3.0	37	20.2	13.8
Southern (SD)	34.6	0.1	1.4	6.9	39	22.6	12.2
Northern (SD)	133.1	–0.1	6.7	2.6	37	21.0	14.1
Launceston (S Dist)	98.5	–0.1	122.7	2.5	36	20.8	14.2
Balance of Northern (SD)	34.6	–0.4	1.8	2.8	39	21.7	13.6
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	106.8	–0.6	4.7	5.3	37	21.9	13.8
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	77.5	–0.4	124.9	5.2	38	21.0	15.4
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	29.3	–1.1	1.3	5.6	35	24.3	9.6

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

1.12 POPULATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Estimated resident population(a)* '000	*Growth rate(b)* %	*Persons per km²* no.	*Indigenous population* %	*Median age* years	*People aged 0–14 years* %	*People aged 65 years and over* %
Northern Territory	**197.8**	**1.7**	**0.1**	**28.8**	**30**	**25.9**	**3.7**
Darwin (SD)	106.8	2.2	34.2	10.0	31	23.3	4.1
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	90.9	1.1	0.1	50.8	28	28.9	3.3
Australian Capital Territory	**319.3**	**0.7**	**135.9**	**1.2**	**33**	**20.5**	**8.6**
North Canberra (SSD)	38.6	–0.1	186.7	1.2	33	13.8	13.5
Belconnen (SSD)	85.6	0.0	660.3	1.1	33	19.3	7.5
Woden Valley (SSD)	32.5	–0.3	1 136.2	1.0	39	19.3	7.5
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	24.0	–1.0	14.6	1.2	38	17.5	11.0
Tuggeranong (SSD)	90.9	0.2	568.2	1.5	31	26.2	4.5
South Canberra (SSD)	23.3	0.5	270.0	1.5	38	15.7	15.6
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	24.4	14.0	270.9	1.0	30	25.2	3.5
Other Territories	**2.6**	**–3.5**	**11.4**	**9.0**	**32**	**29.9**	**3.7**

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

CHAPTER 2 CULTURAL DIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

With almost one-quarter of the population born overseas, Australia is one of the most culturally diverse nations in the world. This reflects migration patterns over the past 200 years. In the nineteenth century, immigration was free and uncontrolled, driven first by colonisation and then the 1850s gold rushes. In contrast, throughout the twentieth century government policy has largely determined the level and composition of migration.

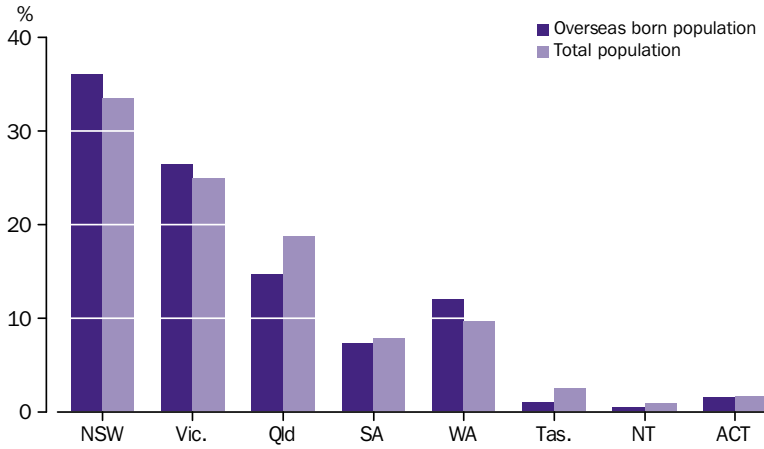
During the first half of the twentieth century, most migrants came from the United Kingdom and Europe. Migration levels were generally low, partly because of World War I (WWI) and the depression during the 1930s. After WWII, large scale immigration began. The earliest post-war migrants were displaced persons, originally from Eastern Europe, as well as people from the United Kingdom, Germany and Holland. In subsequent years, larger groups from Mediterranean countries such as Italy, Greece and Malta arrived in Australia. The dismantling of the 'White Australia' policy during the 1970s led to a gradual increase in the number of migrants arriving from Asian countries such as Viet Nam, the Philippines and China. Migrants from New Zealand have also increased in numbers since the 1970s. The 2001 census revealed that 4.1 million people born in over 200 countries now live in Australia, mainly in the capital cities.

This chapter examines the ethnic and cultural composition of the Australian population and the location and characteristics of particular migrant community groups. Ancestry data shed light on the extent to which people born overseas have maintained their culture, language or religion and passed it on to their children and grandchildren.

OVERSEAS BORN PEOPLE

In 2001, the regional distribution of the overseas born population was similar to the total population, with most living in New South Wales (36%), Victoria (27%), Queensland (15%) and Western Australia (12%). Compared to the total population, the overseas born population were more concentrated in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia, but less so in other states and territories, especially Queensland and Tasmania.

2.1 POPULATION DISTRIBUTION, Overseas born



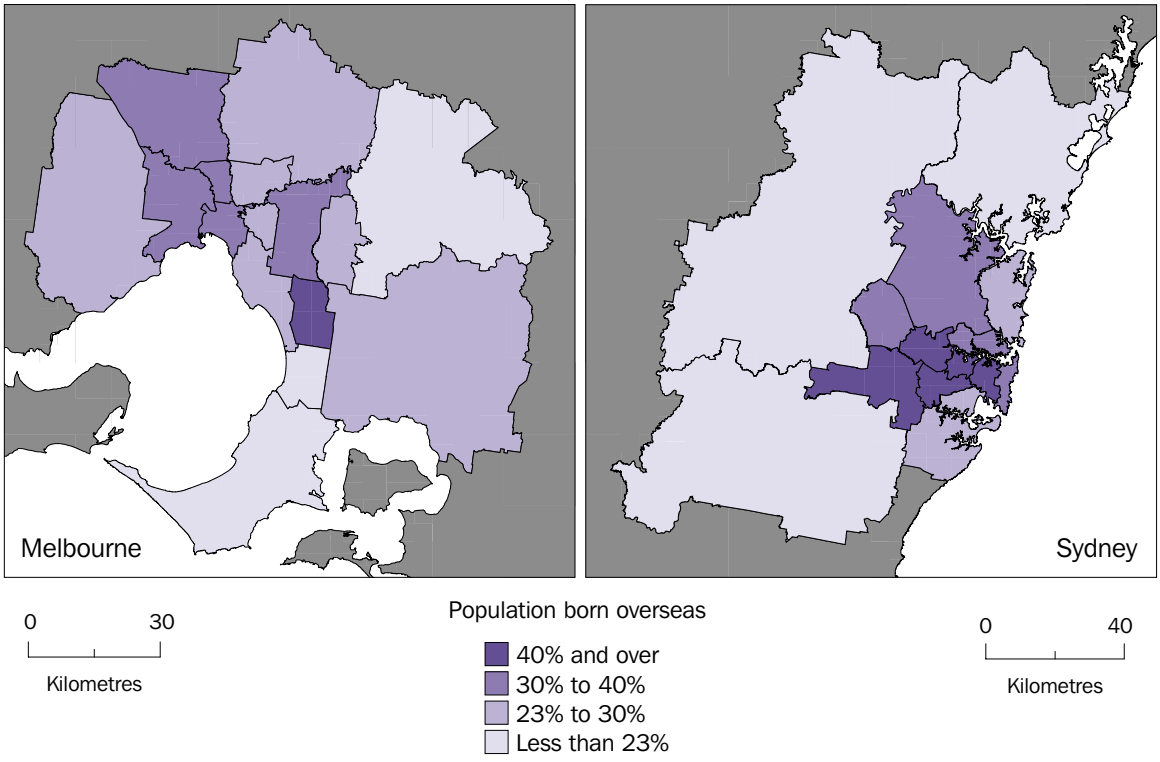
OVERSEAS BORN PEOPLE *continued*

The overseas born population is more highly urbanised than Australia's total population with 81% living in capital cities compared with 64% of the total population, in 2001. However, as with the total population, there were differences between capital cities. For example, 88% of Victoria's overseas born population lived in Melbourne, and 85% of Western Australia's in Perth, compared with 56% of Queensland's in Brisbane and 49% of Tasmania's in Hobart.

Location of the overseas-born population

Because such a high proportion of the overseas born population lived in urban areas in 2001, most of the data and discussion in this chapter relate to Mainly urban regions, unless stated otherwise. Within capital cities and other urban regions, the residential location of the overseas born population varied according to country of birth. There are a number of ways of looking at the regional distribution of the overseas born. The first is the proportion of a region's population that was born in a particular country, as shown in table 2.3 for the largest overseas born groups in Australia. For example, the largest group, those born in the United Kingdom, made up over 13% of the population in each of three Perth regions, compared with 6% of Australia's population as a whole. In contrast, the second largest group, those born in New Zealand (2% of Australia's population) made up 6% to 8% of the population in Gold Coast regions.

2.2 OVERSEAS BORN POPULATION, Melbourne and Sydney(a)



(a) See Appendix 1 for detailed maps identifying regions.

Some regions such as Greater Dandenong City in south-east Melbourne and Fairfield-Liverpool in western Sydney have a particularly high proportion of their population born overseas (54% and 49% respectively). Fairfield-Liverpool was also the region with the highest number of residents born overseas (153,100). In Fairfield-Liverpool there were 70 country groups with over 100 people in each, while in Greater Dandenong City there were 54 country groups with over 100 people (see table 2.4).

2.3 TOP TEN BIRTHPLACE GROUPS, Top four regions(a)

	Country of birth	Top four regions	State or territory	Proportion of region born in this country %
1	United Kingdom	North Metropolitan (Perth) (SSD)	WA	13.9
		South West Metropolitan (Perth) (SSD)	WA	13.8
		South East Metropolitan (Perth) (SSD)	WA	13.5
		Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	13.2
		Total Australia		*5.8*
2	New Zealand	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	Qld	7.9
		Logan City (SSD)	Qld	7.2
		Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	6.1
		South Eastern (SD)	WA	5.3
		Total Australia		*2.0*
3	Italy	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	9.3
		Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	5.9
		Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	5.3
		Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	4.7
		Total Australia		*1.2*
4	Viet Nam	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	9.2
		Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	9.0
		Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	6.3
		Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	5.3
		Total Australia		*0.9*
5	China (excl. SARs and Taiwan Province)	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	5.6
		Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	4.8
		Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	4.4
		St George-Sutherland (SSD)	NSW	3.4
		Total Australia		*0.8*
6	Greece	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	3.6
		Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	3.3
		Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	3.2
		Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	2.9
		Total Australia		*0.7*
7	Germany	Weston Creek-Stromlo and Australian Capital Territory - Bal	ACT	1.1
		Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	1.1
		Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	1.1
		North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	1.0
		Total Australia		*0.6*
8	Philippines	Blacktown (SSD)	NSW	5.7
		Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1.8
		Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	1.6
		Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	1.5
		Total Australia		*0.6*
9	India	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	2.2
		Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	2.2
		Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1.9
		Blacktown (SSD)	NSW	1.8
		Total Australia		*0.5*
10	Netherlands	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	1.6
		Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	1.3
		South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	1.0
		Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	0.9
		Total Australia		*0.5*

(a) Ranked according to proportion of each region's population born in each country. All regions are Mainly urban, except for South Eastern (SD) and Gippsland (SD) which are Mixed urban/rural regions.

2.4 REGIONS WITH HIGHEST PROPORTION OF THEIR POPULATION BORN OVERSEAS

Country of birth	Proportion %	Country of birth	Proportion %
GREATER DANDENONG CITY (SSD) (Vic.)		FAIRFIELD-LIVERPOOL (SSD) (NSW)	
Australia	**45.7**	**Australia**	**51.3**
Overseas born	*54.3*	*Overseas born*	*48.7*
Viet Nam	16.5	Viet Nam	19.0
Cambodia	6.8	Iraq	6.6
United Kingdom	6.7	Italy	5.6
Sri Lanka	6.3	Cambodia	4.9
Italy	4.3	United Kingdom	4.3
India	4.1	Fiji	3.9
China (excl. SARs and Taiwan Province)	3.8	China (excl. SARs and Taiwan Province)	3.8
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	3.4	Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	3.7
New Zealand	3.4	Lebanon	3.4
Greece	3.3	Philippines	3.4
Other	41.5	Other	41.5

A second way of describing the location of the overseas born is the distribution of specific country groups across all regions. Most birthplace groups are clustered in particular areas, at least to some extent. Two factors which are associated with this are the length of time a group has lived in Australia, and whether English is the main language spoken by the group. Those who arrived soon after World War II are likely to be more dispersed, while more recently arrived migrant groups, especially those for whom English is not their first language, are often more geographically concentrated. Thus, in 2001, those born in the United Kingdom were located throughout Australia, with the highest proportion (5%) living in the North Metropolitan region of Perth and a further 10% across the three Perth regions of South East Metropolitan, South West Metropolitan and East Metropolitan. Similarly, those born in New Zealand were spread across many regions, with the highest proportion in Gold Coast City Part B (8%). In contrast, the Vietnamese-born population was more clustered, with 19% living in Fairfield-Liverpool (Sydney) and 9% in the adjoining region of Canterbury Bankstown, while 16% lived in Western Melbourne. The Lebanese-born population was concentrated in the south-west Sydney regions of Canterbury-Bankstown (25%) and Central Western Sydney (17%).

Recent migrants

In August 2001, there were 531,000 migrants who had arrived in Australia between 1997 and 2001, making up 3% of the total population. New Zealand (16% of recent migrants), the United Kingdom (12%), China (7%), India (4%) and the Philippines (3%) featured in the top ten countries of both recent migrants and the total overseas born group. However, South Africa (5%), Indonesia (4%), South Korea (3%), Malaysia (3%) and the United States of America (3%) appeared only in the top ten countries of recent migrants, reflecting changing patterns of migration to Australia.

Recent migrants *continued*

The ten regions with the highest proportion of recent migrants were all located in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane (table 2.5). These are the main ports of arrival for settlers from overseas and 61% of the total overseas born population lived in these three cities in 2001. Many new migrants choose to live near longer-term residents from the same country of birth (often family and friends). Inner Melbourne (SSD) and Inner Sydney (SSD) had the highest proportion of their total populations who were recent migrants (9% each). These regions also had some of the highest numbers of recent migrants — 20,000 and 24,000 respectively. The largest groups of recent arrivals in both these regions were those born in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Indonesia. The Western Inner (SRS) region of Brisbane had the highest proportion of recent migrants among their overseas born population (36%) of any region in Australia. The largest groups of recent migrants in this region were born in Singapore (16% of recent migrants in the region).

2.5 RECENT MIGRANTS(a): Top ten regions(b)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of population who were recent migrants %	Proportion of all migrants who were recent arrivals %
1	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	8.7	29.2
2	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	8.6	24.4
3	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	8.4	24.5
4	Western Inner Brisbane(SRS)	Qld	8.3	35.7
5	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	8.0	20.9
6	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	7.5	19.5
7	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	7.5	15.0
8	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	7.5	22.8
9	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	7.4	28.7
10	Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	6.6	22.0
	Australia		**2.9**	**13.6**

(a) Migrants who arrived in Australia between 1997 and 2001.

(b) Ranked according to proportion of population who were recent migrants. All regions in this table are Mainly urban.

ANCESTRY

Ancestry gives a broader picture of cultural diversity than country of birth since it can include second and third generation Australians (who have one or more parents or grandparents born overseas). With Australia's long history of migration, there is much interest in ethnic and national identity, and in issues of cultural continuity and change.

For the first time since 1986, the 2001 census included a question about ancestry (see Glossary). In total, more than 160 ancestries were separately identified, many of which were relatively uncommon. The largest ancestry groups were Australian, with 6.7 million people reporting this ancestry, and English with 6.4 million people (table 2.6). Although people stating these ancestries were spread across all regions in Australia, there was still notable variation. For example, the highest proportion of people with English ancestry (48% each) were in Lower Great Southern (SD) and South West (SD) in Western Australia, while the lowest proportions were in Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) (14%) and Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD) (16%), both in Sydney.

ANCESTRY *continued*

The geographic distribution of ancestry groups varied according to the history of the migrant streams associated with them. The group of people who identified their ancestry as Vietnamese was composed mainly of migrants who have arrived relatively recently, and therefore had a very similar size and regional distribution to those born in Viet Nam (table 2.7 and 2.3). The highest proportions lived in Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) in western Sydney and Greater Dandenong City (SSD) in south-east Melbourne, making up 9% of the population in each region. This can be attributed to 74% of people with Vietnamese ancestry being first generation, that is, born in Viet Nam. In contrast, most people who reported German ancestry were Australian born of Australian parents (59%) or second generation (23%). In other words, they were the descendants of early waves of German migration and migrants who arrived soon after World War II. Consequently, those with German ancestry had a different distribution to the smaller sub-group who were born in Germany. Those with German ancestry were concentrated in the South Australian regions of Murray Lands (SD) (where they made up 15% of the population), Outer Adelaide (SD) (13%) and Yorke and Lower North (SD) (10%), while those born in Germany were concentrated in the Australian Capital Territory.

2.6 MOST COMMON ANCESTRIES, 2001

Number of people who stated this ancestry	*Ancestries in descending order, by size(a)(b)*
6.7 million	Australian
6.4 million	English
1.9 million	Irish
500,000–999,999	Italian, German, Chinese, Scottish
150,000–499,999	Greek, Dutch, Lebanese, Indian, Vietnamese, Polish
50,000–149,999	Maltese, Filipino, New Zealander, Croatian, Serbian, Australian Aboriginal, Welsh, Macedonian, French, Spanish, Maori, Hungarian, Russian, Sinhalese, Turkish, South African
20,000–49,999	American, Korean, Danish, Austrian, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Japanese, Indonesian, Samoan, Egyptian, Swedish, Jewish, Swiss, Chilean, Khmer, Thai, Canadian
10,000–19,999	Latvian, Iranian, Assyrian/Chaldean, Malay, Finnish, Bosnian, Mauritian, Norwegian, Czech, Fijian, Romanian, Tongan, Armenian, Slovene, Pakistani, Afghan, Anglo-Indian, Lithuanian, Iraqi, Burmese, Albanian, Syrian, Lao
5,000–9,999	Torres Strait Islander, Bengali, Papua New Guinean, Cook Islander, Tamil, Estonian, Slovak, Palestinian, Salvadoran, Argentinian, Timorese, Uruguayan, Somali
2,500–4,999	Peruvian, Kurdish, Taiwanese, Bulgarian, Sudanese, Brazilian, Colombian, Australian South Sea Islander, Coptic, Ethiopian, Nepalese, Zimbabwean, Jordanian, Hispanic (North American)
Less than 2,500	70 other ancestries

(a) As up to two ancestries were coded per person, these groups are not mutually exclusive.

(b) Includes specific ancestries only, excludes residual categories such as Other British.

Although many Chinese people migrated to Australia during the 1800s, almost three-quarters (74%) of people who reported Chinese ancestry in 2001 had been born overseas. Only a small proportion were Australian born of Australian parents (5%). The most common countries of birth of those reporting Chinese ancestry were Australia (26%), China (25%), Hong Kong (11%), Malaysia (10%), Viet Nam (8%) Indonesia (4%) and Singapore (4%). Despite the wide variety of birthplaces, there was some overlap of regions with a high proportion of people with Chinese ancestry and regions with a high proportion of people born in China. Inner Western Sydney (SSD) and Central Western Sydney (SSD) were among the top five regions in both instances. Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD) and Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS) also had a high proportion of people with Chinese ancestry (11% and 10% respectively).

2.7 SELECTED ANCESTRY GROUPS, Top five regions(a)

Ancestry	*Top five regions*	*State or territory*	*Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural*	*Proportion of region with ancestry* %
Irish	Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	20.6
	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	19.1
	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	18.5
	Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	18.0
	Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	17.8
	Australia			**11.0**
Italian	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	21.4
	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	15.3
	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	14.5
	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	13.8
	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	Mainly urban	13.3
	Australia			**4.6**
German	Murray Lands (SD)	SA	Mixed urban/rural	14.7
	Outer Adelaide (SD)	SA	Mixed urban/rural	12.6
	Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	Qld	Mixed urban/rural	10.4
	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	Mixed urban/rural	10.0
	Darling Downs (SD)	Qld	Mixed urban/rural	9.6
	Australia			**4.3**
Chinese	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	12.6
	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	11.1
	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	11.0
	Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	10.3
	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	10.0
	Australia			**3.2**
Greek	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	8.7
	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	8.7
	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	7.9
	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	7.8
	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	Mainly urban	7.0
	Australia			**2.2**
Vietnamese	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	9.3
	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	8.9
	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	Mainly urban	6.7
	Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	Mainly urban	5.7
	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	Mainly urban	5.6
	Australia			**0.9**
New Zealander	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	Qld	Mainly urban	2.0
	Logan City (SSD)	Qld	Mainly urban	1.7
	Pilbara (SD)	WA	Mixed urban/rural	1.7
	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	Mainly urban	1.6
	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	Mixed urban/rural	1.5
	Australia			**0.7**

(a) Ranked according to proportion of each region's population who reported this ancestry.

LANGUAGE

In 2001, 16% of the Australian population spoke a language other than English in their homes. Over 200 different languages were spoken throughout Australia, reflecting past and current migration patterns, and to a lesser extent, the variety of Indigenous languages spoken by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. While language spoken at home provides a broad dimension of cultural diversity, proficiency in English is perhaps a more useful indicator of a person's ability to interact and function successfully in Australian society, both initially and over the long term. It affects many areas of life including educational participation, success in the labour market and access to services such as health care.

Language spoken at home

Most regions where a substantial proportion of people spoke a language other than English at home were in urban areas where the overseas born population is located. The notable exceptions were a small number of Mixed urban/rural regions, with a high proportion of Indigenous persons, where traditional Indigenous languages were spoken at home. These tended to be in more remote areas such as the balance of the Northern Territory, where 42% of the population spoke a language other than English at home. In this region, 51% of the population were Indigenous, and 72% of these spoke an Indigenous language at home, the highest level of any region in Australia. Similarly, 19% of the population of the Kimberley (SD) region spoke a language other than English at home: 49% of the population were Indigenous, and 30% of these spoke an Indigenous language at home.

The geographical pattern of regions with a substantial proportion of the population speaking a non-English language at home, matched that of regions with a high proportion of the population born overseas. Many factors affected the strength of this association. These included a group's overall length of residence in Australia, and its relative size and dispersion; the level of language maintenance among the second generation; the proportion of the overseas born population who had come from English speaking countries or were fluent in English; and household composition. Households composed of both English and non-English speakers are more likely to speak English at home (Clyne & Kipp 2003).

Since most migrants have come from English-speaking countries, in most regions the proportion of the population who were born overseas exceeded the proportion who spoke a language other than English at home. For example, in all the regions of Perth SD about one-third of the population was born overseas, but 13%–15% spoke a language other than English at home. Perth regions stood out as having high proportions of people born in the United Kingdom (see table 2.3).

In a small number of regions, more people spoke a language other than English at home than were from overseas. This was a result of migrants coming from countries where English is not the main language and Australian born children speaking the language of their overseas born parents. This was the case for the western Sydney region of Fairfield-Liverpool, where 59% of the population spoke a language other than English at home and 49% of the population had been born overseas, many from countries whose main language is not English (see table 2.4). Similarly in Moreland City, just north of Inner Melbourne, 44% spoke a language other than English at home, while 36% had been born overseas.

2.8 TOP SIX NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME, Top five regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	ITALIAN		
1	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	15.2
2	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	9.6
3	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	8.5
4	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	8.2
5	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	7.3
	Australia		**2.0**
	GREEK		
1	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	7.7
2	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	7.2
3	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	6.5
4	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	6.1
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	5.5
	Australia		**1.5**
	CANTONESE		
1	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	5.7
2	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	5.6
3	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	5.0
4	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	4.9
5	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	4.7
	Australia		**1.3**
	ARABIC		
1	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	16.4
2	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	11.8
3	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	6.5
4	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	5.8
5	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	4.9
	Australia		**1.2**
	VIETNAMESE		
1	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	10.6
2	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	10.0
3	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	7.4
4	Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	6.1
5	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	6.1
	Australia		**1.0**
	MANDARIN		
1	Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	4.7
2	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	4.3
3	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	3.3
4	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	3.2
5	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	3.1
	Australia		**0.8**

(a) All regions are Mainly urban, ranked according to the proportion of the population speaking each language.

Similar patterns were evident for specific languages (table 2.8). Overall Italian and Greek were the languages most widely spoken at home (by 2.0% and 1.5% of the Australian population). Three regions in Melbourne were among the regions with the highest proportion of their populations speaking Italian at home — Moreland City (15%), Northern Middle Melbourne (8%) and Northern Outer Melbourne (8%). The other two were Inner Western Sydney (10%) and Eastern Adelaide (7%). These regions also had the highest proportions of Italian born people in their populations. The fact that more people speak Italian at home than were born in Italy in these regions can be attributed to second generation Italians speaking the language at home: overall, 43% of Italian speakers were born in Australia.

Regions with the highest proportions of their population who spoke Greek at home were located in Canterbury-Bankstown (8%) in Sydney, a band of regions north and east of central Melbourne — Moreland City (7%), Eastern Middle Melbourne (7%) and Northern Middle Melbourne (6%), and Western Adelaide (6%). Again these regions had clusters of Greek born people among their populations, and there was evidence of successful maintenance of the Greek language among the second generation: overall, 51% of Greek speakers were born in Australia.

Language spoken at home *continued*

The proportion of people speaking Arabic at home has increased in Australia during the last ten years (Clyne & Kipp 2002), partly because of an increase in arrivals from Iraq over this period, but also because of the particularly high fertility of women born in Lebanon and Egypt (the total fertility rate was over 3.5 for women born in Lebanon and over 2.5 for women born in Egypt, throughout the 1990s). In 2001, 1.2% of Australia's population spoke Arabic at home and 39% of these were born in Australia and aged under 20 years old. Canterbury-Bankstown and Central Western Sydney had the highest proportions of their population who spoke Arabic at home (16% and 12% respectively).

Spoken English proficiency

In the 2001 census, people who indicated that they spoke a language other than English at home were asked to state how well they spoke English. Responses to this question are subjective — each person may interpret the meaning of 'well' or 'not well' in a different way. Responses should therefore be regarded as an indicator of a person's confidence with English rather than a definitive measure of their proficiency in spoken English.

While 16% of Australia's population spoke a language other than English at home, 18% of these (532,000 or 3% of the total population) did not speak English well or at all (that is, were not fluent in English). In general, poor fluency in English varied with age, length of time in Australia and country of birth. Regions with concentrations of older people born overseas, recent arrivals and people from non-English speaking backgrounds were thus likely to have relatively high proportions of people who were not fluent in English.

The regions with the highest proportions of their population who were not fluent in English were located mainly in areas of Sydney and Melbourne with concentrations of people born overseas. The notable exception was the balance of the Northern Territory, where 12% of the population were not fluent in English. As discussed earlier, this can be attributed to the high proportion of Indigenous people in the region who spoke Australian Indigenous languages.

2.9 SPOKEN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY, top ten regions(a)

Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	*Proportion who spoke a non-English language at home* %	*Proportion of non-English speakers who were not fluent in English* %	*Proportion of population who was not fluent in English* %	*Proportion of population born overseas* %
1	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	58.6	26.8	15.7	48.7
2	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	55.1	28.5	15.7	54.3
3	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	56.6	23.5	13.3	43.7
4	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	42.0	29.3	12.3	9.3
5	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	47.5	21.6	10.3	42.7
6	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	43.8	23.2	10.2	38.3
7	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	43.9	22.4	9.8	35.6
8	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	44.5	20.2	9.0	42.7
9	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	36.0	20.1	7.3	30.5
10	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	32.6	22.1	7.2	41.2
	Australia		**16.1**	**18.5**	**3.0**	**23.1**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of the population who were not fluent in English, that is, who spoke English poorly or not at all.

Spoken English proficiency *continued*

Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) in Sydney and Greater Dandenong City (SSD) in Melbourne had the highest proportions of people who were not fluent in English (16% each). In both these regions, around half the population were born overseas (49% and 54% respectively). Furthermore, both populations were characterised by people from non-English speaking countries such as Viet Nam and Cambodia (table 2.3). In Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD), 11% of the population spoke Vietnamese at home and 6% spoke Arabic (table 2.8).

Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD) in Sydney also had a relatively high proportion of its population who were not fluent in English (13%), coupled with 44% of the population who were born overseas in countries such as Lebanon, Viet Nam, and Greece. The most common languages spoken at home, other than English were Arabic (16%), Greek (8%) and Vietnamese (6%) (tables 2.3 and 2.8).

RELIGION

The 2001 census revealed a picture of Australia as a society with a rich diversity of religious and spiritual practice, which is less wedded to traditional religious affiliations than in the past. Even so, in 2001 Christianity was still the most common religion of both those born in Australia and those born overseas (72% and 58% respectively).

Religious affiliation is related to a number of factors including age and country of birth or ancestry. Younger people are less likely to state a religious affiliation — in 2001, 30% of the population aged under 35 years either reported no religious affiliation or did not state their religion, compared with 16% of those aged 60 years and over. Different waves of migration have influenced the flow of spiritual ideas into Australia, and the profile of

2.10 RELIGION, Selected birthplaces

Religious affiliation	*Australia* %	*United Kingdom* %	*New Zealand* %	*Italy* %	*Viet Nam* %	*China(a)* %	*Greece* %	*Germany* %	*Philippines* %	*India* %	*Netherlands* %	*Total* %
Christian	71.9	71.1	59.3	95.5	25.8	16.9	96.3	71.6	95.1	44.9	62.7	68.0
Catholic	27.2	12.4	15.4	93.0	22.2	4.6	0.6	29.4	81.1	31.0	34.4	26.6
Anglican	23.3	42.6	19.1	0.2	0.3	1.8	0.2	4.7	0.7	7.9	4.0	20.7
Uniting Church	8.1	4.2	3.4	0.1	0.4	1.3	0.1	1.2	1.1	0.9	5.0	6.7
Presbyterian(b)	3.5	5.6	8.8	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.5	10.1	3.4
Orthodox	1.9	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	2.9	93.6	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.8
Baptist	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.1	1.6	2.7	0.2	0.8	2.3	0.9	1.7	1.6
Lutheran	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	28.5	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.3
Pentecostal	1.0	0.9	2.1	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.7	2.2	1.1	1.4	1.0
Other Christian	3.7	3.4	8.3	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.3	3.9	7.3	2.5	5.0	3.8
Buddhism	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.1	58.4	19.5	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.9
Islam	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.2	3.0	0.1	1.5
Hinduism	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	33.5	0.1	0.5
Judaism	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4
Other Religions	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.1	11.8	0.3	0.5
Total religions	74.1	72.8	61.7	95.8	85.0	37.1	96.8	74.9	95.9	93.9	63.8	72.9
No Religion	16.4	18.0	25.7	1.8	10.1	49.1	1.1	15.8	1.3	2.7	25.2	15.5
Not known(c)	9.5	9.2	12.6	2.5	4.9	13.8	2.1	9.3	2.8	3.4	11.0	11.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Excludes SARs and Taiwan Province.

(b) Includes Reformed.

(c) Includes religion not stated, not further defined and inadequately described.

RELIGION *continued*

religious affiliation. Post-World War II migration from Europe built on the predominantly Christian religious base in Australia with growth of the Orthodox churches (from Greek and other eastern European migration), the Reformed Churches in Australia (Dutch migration) and the Catholic church (largely from Italian migration). With the recent influx of migrants from Asian regions and the Middle East, Buddhist and Muslim numbers have increased. In 2001, Buddhists accounted for 2% of the population — 5% of those born overseas and 1% of the Australian born. Muslims also accounted for 2% of the population — 3% of those born overseas and 1% of the Australian born.

Regional differences in religious affiliation

The close relationship between religious affiliation and country of birth means that regional patterns of religious affiliation are similar to the distribution of overseas born groups, as described earlier in this chapter. Regional patterns are affected by the degree to which a religious group is supported by migrants from more than one country, as well as people born in Australia. At least some of the latter group are second generation Australians, who have adopted the beliefs of their parents.

2.11 SELECTED CHRISTIAN AFFILIATIONS, Top five mainly urban and mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	CATHOLIC		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	40.2
2	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	39.2
3	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	38.9
4	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	38.2
5	Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	Vic.	36.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Murrumbidgee (SD)	NSW	35.4
2	Central West (SD)	NSW	32.5
3	South West and Central West	Qld	30.8
4	North Western (SD)	NSW	30.6
5	South Eastern (SD)	NSW	29.1
	Australia		**26.6**
	ANGLICAN		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	33.6
2	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	32.9
3	Newcastle (SSD)	NSW	29.8
4	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	28.2
5	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	27.3
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	39.3
2	Northern (SD)	NSW	38.2
3	Southern (SD)	Tas.	37.3
4	Northern (SD)	Tas.	33.9
5	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	33.2
	Australia		**20.7**
	ORTHODOX		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	14.0
2	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	11.4
3	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	9.4
4	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	9.4
5	St George-Sutherland (SSD)	NSW	9.1
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	3.4
2	Murray Lands (SD)	SA	2.3
3	South Eastern (SD)	NSW	1.4
4	Northern (SD)	SA	1.2
5	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1.0
	Australia		**2.8**
	LUTHERAN		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	4.3
2	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	3.6
3	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	3.2
4	Southern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	3.2
5	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	3.0
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Murray Lands (SD)	SA	15.8
2	Outer Adelaide (SD)	SA	12.1
3	Eyre (SD)	SA	10.1
4	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	8.7
5	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	8.3
	Australia		**1.3**

(a) Ranked according to proportion of the population reporting each religion.

Regional differences in religious affiliation *continued*

As noted earlier, most people born in Australia stated that they were Christians (72%) in the 2001 census — 27% Catholic and 23% Anglican. A similar proportion of people born in the United Kingdom stated they were Christian, but in this case 43% were Anglican and 12% Catholic. Similarly, 19% of those born in New Zealand stated that they were Anglicans, and 15% Catholics. Mixed urban/rural regions in New South Wales and Tasmania had the highest proportion of Anglicans in their populations. Mainly urban regions such as Greater Hobart (SD), Gosford-Wyong (SSD) and Newcastle (SSD), which had the highest concentrations of Anglican affiliates, also had high proportions of their populations born in Australia (88%, 86% and 90% respectively), with persons from the United Kingdom and New Zealand the largest overseas born groups in each region (table 2.11).

Mainly urban regions in Melbourne and Sydney had the highest concentrations of Catholics in their populations. Moreland City (SSD) was the region with the highest proportion of Catholics (40%) as well as the highest proportion of Italian born people in its population (9%). Inner Western Sydney (SSD) followed the same pattern with 39% Catholics and 6% Italian born. A high proportion of people born in Italy stated that they were Catholics (93%), but Catholic affiliation was also strong among those born in the Philippines (81%), the Netherlands (34%), India (31%) and Germany (29%).

The largest concentrations of Orthodox Christians were found in the Mainly urban regions of Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD), Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD) and Moreland City (SSD), and the Sydney regions of Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD) and St George-Sutherland (SSD). In each of these regions over 9% of the population stated they were Orthodox Christians, well above the Australian average of 3%. Reflecting the fact that almost the entire Greek population were Orthodox (94%), these regions were all characterised by sizeable groups of people born in Greece.

2.12 TOP TWO NON-CHRISTIAN AFFILIATIONS, Top five mainly urban and mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	BUDDHISM		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	13.8
2	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	13.4
3	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	6.5
4	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	6.0
5	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	4.7
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	2.2
2	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	1.0
3	Pilbara (SD)	WA	0.9
4	Far North Queensland (SD)	Qld	0.8
5	Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	Qld	0.7
	Australia		**1.9**

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	ISLAM		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	12.0
2	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	11.7
3	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	10.0
4	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	7.2
5	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	6.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1.5
2	Goulburn (SD)	Vic.	1.2
3	Mallee (SD)	Vic.	1.1
4	Lower Great Southern (SD)	WA	0.9
5	Darwin (SD)	NT	0.8
	Australia		**1.5**

(a) Ranked according to proportion of the population reporting each religion.

2.13 NO RELIGION, Top five mainly urban and mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion reporting no religion(b) %	Proportion of population aged under 35 years %
	Mainly urban regions			
1	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	27.0	52.6
2	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	26.4	50.6
3	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	23.5	54.8
4	Southern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	22.5	45.5
5	Frankston City (SSD)	Vic.	22.0	49.6
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	24.6	60.7
2	Lower Great Southern (SD)	WA	23.5	47.2
3	South Eastern (SD)	WA	22.5	57.6
4	Darwin (SD)	NT	22.2	57.5
5	Outer Adelaide (SD)	SA	22.6	43.9
	Australia		**15.5**	**49.0**

(a) Ranked according to proportion of population who reported that they had no religion.

(b) As a proportion of the population including those whose religion was not stated or inadequately described.

Buddhist affiliates, although a relatively small group within Australian society (2%), were highly represented in the Mainly urban regions of Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) in Sydney and Greater Dandenong City (SSD) in Melbourne (table 2.12). Over 13% of the populations in these regions stated that they were Buddhists. The four regions with the highest levels of affiliation to Buddhism also had the highest proportions of Vietnamese born in their populations, reflecting that 58% of Vietnamese stated that they were Buddhist.

In 2001, 15% of Australians stated that they had no religion. As well as variations based on age, this proportion varied with a person's country of birth. Of the largest birthplace groups, people born in China (49%), New Zealand (26%), the Netherlands (25%) and the United Kingdom (18%) were most likely to report no religious affiliation (table 2.10).

North Canberra (SSD) was the region with the highest proportion of people who reported no religion (27%), and all the regions in the Australian Capital Territory were above the Australian average. Three regions in Melbourne ranked in the top five Mainly urban regions — Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD) (26%), Inner Melbourne (SSD) (24%) and Frankston City (SSD) (22%). The three Mixed urban/rural regions with the highest proportions of their population reporting no religion were all in remote areas of Western Australia — 25% of the population of the Pilbara (SD), 23% of Lower Great Southern (SD) and 22% of South Eastern (SD).

2.14 CULTURAL DIVERSITY INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State *Region* *Sub-region*	*Overseas born population(a)*	*Main overseas country of birth*	*Overseas born population recently arrived(b)*	*People who spoke non-English language at home(a)*	*People not fluent in English(a)*	*Main religious affiliation*
	%		%	%	%	
AUSTRALIA	**23.1**	**United Kingdom**	**13.6**	**16.1**	**3.0**	**Catholic**
New South Wales	**24.8**	**United Kingdom**	**15.4**	**19.8**	**3.8**	**Catholic**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	41.2	United Kingdom	24.4	32.5	7.2	Catholic
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	39.0	United Kingdom	24.5	24.9	3.2	Catholic
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	28.5	United Kingdom	14.6	27.4	4.9	Catholic
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	43.7	Lebanon	14.4	56.5	13.3	Catholic
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	48.7	Viet Nam	12.8	58.6	15.7	Catholic
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	22.7	United Kingdom	9.8	15.5	2.2	Catholic
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	42.7	Italy	19.5	44.4	9.0	Catholic
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	42.7	China(c)	20.9	47.4	10.3	Catholic
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	19.7	United Kingdom	7.8	9.7	1.1	Catholic
Blacktown (SSD)	34.3	Philippines	14.7	30.3	4.3	Catholic
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	35.8	United Kingdom	22.8	24.7	4.0	Catholic
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	30.6	United Kingdom	15.3	19.7	2.5	Catholic
Northern Beaches (SSD)	26.8	United Kingdom	17.8	12.1	1.7	Anglican
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	13.9	United Kingdom	7.2	3.6	0.4	Anglican
Newcastle (SSD)	10.0	United Kingdom	8.7	4.1	0.7	Anglican
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	7.6	United Kingdom	6.5	1.5	0.2	Anglican
Wollongong (SSD)	22.7	United Kingdom	8.0	15.4	2.8	Catholic
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	12.1	United Kingdom	10.1	2.9	0.4	Anglican
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	14.4	United Kingdom	5.3	3.6	0.5	Anglican
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	11.5	United Kingdom	8.0	2.9	0.3	Anglican
Lismore (S Dist)	7.5	United Kingdom	10.7	3.4	0.5	Catholic
Tweed Heads (SSD)	16.9	United Kingdom	8.1	2.7	0.3	Anglican
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	10.6	United Kingdom	7.4	2.8	0.3	Anglican
Mid-North Coast (SD)	9.2	United Kingdom	6.1	2.2	0.3	Anglican
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	11.2	United Kingdom	9.5	3.3	0.4	Anglican
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	12.0	United Kingdom	7.9	2.1	0.2	Anglican
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	4.5	2.0	0.3	Anglican
Northern (SD)	5.7	United Kingdom	12.6	1.8	0.2	Anglican
Tamworth (S Dist)	5.0	United Kingdom	10.5	1.6	0.2	Anglican
Balance of Northern (SD)	5.9	United Kingdom	13.2	1.9	0.3	Anglican
North Western (SD)	5.7	United Kingdom	9.4	2.1	0.4	Anglican
Dubbo (S Dist)	4.9	United Kingdom	10.2	2.1	0.3	Catholic
Balance of North Western (SD)	6.1	United Kingdom	9.2	2.1	0.4	Anglican
Central West (SD)	6.8	United Kingdom	9.1	2.3	0.4	Catholic
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	7.8	United Kingdom	9.9	3.1	0.5	Catholic
Balance of Central West (SD)	6.1	United Kingdom	8.3	1.7	0.2	Anglican
South Eastern (SD)	12.5	United Kingdom	5.5	5.1	0.7	Anglican
Murrumbidgee (SD)	7.9	United Kingdom	15.7	5.5	1.0	Catholic
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	6.5	United Kingdom	16.1	2.6	0.3	Catholic
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	8.6	Italy	15.5	7.0	1.4	Catholic
Murray (SD)	7.5	United Kingdom	8.4	2.9	0.4	Catholic
Albury (SSD)	9.1	United Kingdom	8.1	3.9	0.5	Catholic
Balance of Murray (SD)	6.5	United Kingdom	8.6	2.2	0.3	Catholic
Far West (SD)	4.4	United Kingdom	7.7	2.0	0.3	Catholic

(a) As a proportion of all people in the region.

(b) As a proportion of overseas born population.

(c) Excluding SARs and Taiwan Province.

2.14 CULTURAL DIVERSITY INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Overseas born population(a)* %	*Main overseas country of birth*	*Overseas born population recently arrived(b)* %	*People who spoke non-English language at home(a)* %	*People not fluent in English(a)* %	*Main religious affiliation*
Victoria	**24.6**	**United Kingdom**	**12.1**	**20.6**	**4.0**	**Catholic**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	34.4	United Kingdom	29.2	26.2	5.9	No Religion
Western Melbourne (SSD)	38.3	Viet Nam	10.0	43.7	10.2	Catholic
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	23.2	United Kingdom	7.6	18.4	2.3	Catholic
Moreland City (SSD)	35.6	Italy	13.2	43.9	9.8	Catholic
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	27.9	Italy	12.1	30.3	6.3	Catholic
Hume City (SSD)	30.5	Turkey	9.8	35.9	7.3	Catholic
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	28.2	Italy	7.2	33.7	6.4	Catholic
Boroondara City (SSD)	25.5	United Kingdom	19.2	18.8	2.7	Catholic
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	33.6	United Kingdom	13.7	31.0	5.1	Catholic
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	23.3	United Kingdom	7.1	13.4	1.8	Catholic
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	17.7	United Kingdom	5.1	5.7	0.6	No Religion
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	28.7	United Kingdom	14.1	21.1	3.4	Catholic
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	54.3	Viet Nam	15.0	54.8	15.7	Catholic
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	27.0	United Kingdom	9.1	18.3	2.7	Catholic
Frankston City (SSD)	22.5	United Kingdom	8.1	7.7	1.0	Catholic
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	18.4	United Kingdom	5.2	4.5	0.5	Anglican
Barwon (SD)	15.3	United Kingdom	6.4	8.3	1.4	Catholic
Geelong (S Dist)	17.6	United Kingdom	7.1	11.3	2.0	Catholic
Balance of Barwon (SD)	11.5	United Kingdom	4.7	3.2	0.4	Catholic
Western District (SD)	6.0	United Kingdom	11.4	1.3	0.2	Catholic
Warrnambool (S Dist)	6.0	United Kingdom	12.9	1.5	0.2	Catholic
Balance of Western District (SD)	6.1	United Kingdom	10.8	1.2	0.2	Catholic
Central Highlands (SD)	8.9	United Kingdom	6.9	3.0	0.4	Catholic
Ballarat (S Dist)	7.6	United Kingdom	9.5	2.8	0.4	Catholic
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	10.9	United Kingdom	4.2	3.3	0.4	Catholic
Wimmera (SD)	4.8	United Kingdom	8.5	1.5	0.2	Uniting Church
Mallee (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	11.7	6.9	1.4	Catholic
Mildura (S Dist)	10.1	Italy	10.7	9.2	1.8	Catholic
Balance of Mallee (SD)	6.4	United Kingdom	13.3	4.7	0.9	Catholic
Loddon (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	7.2	2.4	0.3	Catholic
Bendigo (S Dist)	5.8	United Kingdom	12.0	2.0	0.3	Catholic
Balance of Loddon (SD)	10.4	United Kingdom	4.7	2.9	0.3	Catholic
Goulburn (SD)	9.3	United Kingdom	10.9	5.3	1.0	Catholic
Shepparton (S Dist)	11.2	Italy	16.7	10.5	2.3	Catholic
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	8.8	United Kingdom	8.7	3.7	0.6	Catholic
Ovens-Murray (SD)	10.1	United Kingdom	6.2	4.8	0.7	Catholic
Wodonga (SSD)	10.1	United Kingdom	9.1	4.6	0.6	Catholic
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	10.1	United Kingdom	4.6	4.9	0.7	Catholic
East Gippsland (SD)	10.3	United Kingdom	4.4	2.9	0.3	Anglican
Gippsland (SD)	13.3	United Kingdom	4.8	5.0	0.6	Catholic
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	14.7	United Kingdom	5.8	6.8	0.9	Catholic
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	12.2	United Kingdom	3.7	3.4	0.4	Anglican

(a) As a proportion of all people in the region.

(b) As a proportion of overseas born population.

2.14 CULTURAL DIVERSITY INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Overseas born population(a)* %	*Main overseas country of birth*	*Overseas born population recently arrived(b)* %	*People who spoke non-English language at home(a)* %	*People not fluent in English(a)* %	*Main religious affiliation*
Queensland	**18.0**	**United Kingdom**	**16.1**	**7.3**	**1.2**	**Catholic**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	29.5	United Kingdom	28.7	18.1	3.8	Catholic
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	17.5	United Kingdom	17.0	7.3	1.1	Catholic
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	20.5	United Kingdom	17.2	11.2	1.7	Catholic
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	21.4	United Kingdom	20.5	12.5	2.6	Catholic
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	25.1	United Kingdom	35.7	13.0	1.7	Catholic
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	17.6	United Kingdom	14.7	7.4	1.0	Catholic
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	18.5	United Kingdom	14.7	6.0	0.7	Catholic
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	32.2	United Kingdom	22.0	23.3	4.5	Catholic
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	29.9	United Kingdom	15.7	17.5	4.0	Catholic
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	22.1	United Kingdom	11.6	5.4	0.7	Anglican
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	19.4	United Kingdom	7.1	4.2	0.5	Anglican
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	16.1	United Kingdom	10.3	3.5	0.4	Anglican
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	16.3	United Kingdom	10.6	6.5	1.1	Catholic
Logan City (SSD)	26.1	New Zealand	15.9	10.9	1.8	Catholic
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	15.7	United Kingdom	13.6	3.6	0.4	Catholic
Redcliffe City (SSD)	20.8	United Kingdom	10.7	4.3	0.5	Catholic
Redland Shire (SSD)	20.7	United Kingdom	14.7	4.7	0.6	Anglican
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	26.7	New Zealand	20.4	6.0	1.3	Anglican
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	18.6	United Kingdom	14.3	3.4	0.3	Anglican
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	13.9	United Kingdom	8.1	2.7	0.3	Anglican
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	10.7	United Kingdom	7.2	2.3	0.3	Anglican
Bundaberg (S Dist)	9.9	United Kingdom	9.2	2.5	0.4	Anglican
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	16.1	United Kingdom	7.2	3.0	0.3	Anglican
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	9.5	United Kingdom	6.5	2.0	0.2	Anglican
Darling Downs (SD)	7.8	United Kingdom	14.6	2.4	0.4	Catholic
Toowoomba (S Dist)	8.9	United Kingdom	19.1	2.6	0.3	Catholic
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	6.5	United Kingdom	8.0	2.2	0.4	Anglican
South West and Central West	4.4	New Zealand	17.0	1.0	0.2	Anglican
Fitzroy (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	13.1	2.0	0.3	Catholic
Rockhampton (S Dist)	6.4	United Kingdom	16.9	2.1	0.2	Catholic
Gladstone (S Dist)	11.2	United Kingdom	12.3	2.4	0.3	Anglican
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	8.3	United Kingdom	11.4	1.8	0.3	Catholic
Mackay (SD)	9.8	United Kingdom	11.2	2.7	0.3	Catholic
Northern (SD)	11.2	United Kingdom	12.4	5.1	0.7	Catholic
Townsville (S Dist)	12.1	United Kingdom	14.5	4.7	0.6	Catholic
Balance of Northern (SD)	9.0	Italy	5.6	6.2	1.0	Catholic
Far North (SD)	16.3	United Kingdom	12.7	11.9	2.2	Catholic
Cairns (S Dist)	19.9	United Kingdom	15.4	9.1	1.3	Catholic
Balance of Far North (SD)	12.7	United Kingdom	8.3	14.8	3.2	Catholic
North West (SD)	9.6	New Zealand	12.7	4.4	0.5	Catholic

(a) As a proportion of all people in the region.

(b) As a proportion of overseas born population.

2.14 CULTURAL DIVERSITY INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Overseas born population(a)* %	*Main overseas country of birth*	*Overseas born population recently arrived(b)* %	*People who spoke non-English language at home(a)* %	*People not fluent in English(a)* %	*Main religious affiliation*
South Australia	**21.2**	**United Kingdom**	**7.6**	**12.1**	**2.2**	**Catholic**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	26.1	United Kingdom	5.2	12.9	2.5	No Religion
Western Adelaide (SSD)	26.6	United Kingdom	9.9	25.1	5.6	Catholic
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	24.8	United Kingdom	10.9	18.7	2.9	Catholic
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	21.8	United Kingdom	7.9	8.1	1.0	No Religion
Outer Adelaide (SD)	15.0	United Kingdom	3.8	2.8	0.2	No Religion
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	9.2	United Kingdom	2.2	1.3	0.1	Uniting Church
Murray Lands (SD)	10.2	United Kingdom	7.9	6.3	1.2	No Religion
South East (SD)	8.6	United Kingdom	9.8	2.7	0.4	No Religion
Eyre (SD)	6.9	United Kingdom	5.4	3.0	0.5	No Religion
Northern (SD)	14.1	United Kingdom	3.5	7.8	1.6	No Religion
Western Australia	**28.5**	**United Kingdom**	**12.7**	**11.7**	**1.9**	**Catholic**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	32.4	United Kingdom	20.8	14.8	2.4	Catholic
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	30.8	United Kingdom	8.7	13.3	2.3	Catholic
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	35.0	United Kingdom	14.0	15.3	2.6	Catholic
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	31.8	United Kingdom	11.6	12.7	1.8	Catholic
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	34.0	United Kingdom	13.9	13.7	2.1	Catholic
South West (SD)	17.4	United Kingdom	6.9	3.5	0.4	Anglican
Mandurah (S Dist.	20.5	United Kingdom	6.1	2.5	0.2	Anglican
Bunbury (S Dist)	16.6	United Kingdom	10.0	4.4	0.5	Anglican
Balance of South West (SD)	15.7	United Kingdom	5.6	3.6	0.5	Anglican
Lower Great Southern (SD)	16.8	United Kingdom	7.0	3.8	0.6	Anglican
Upper Great Southern (SD)	10.6	United Kingdom	8.3	2.0	0.2	Anglican
South Eastern (SD)	15.2	New Zealand	16.5	6.8	1.3	No Religion
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	16.2	New Zealand	18.7	4.5	0.5	Catholic
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	13.9	United Kingdom	13.6	9.4	2.3	No Religion
Midlands (SD)	14.1	United Kingdom	8.6	2.8	0.3	Anglican
Central (SD)	13.0	United Kingdom	9.5	4.4	0.9	Catholic
Geraldton (S Dist)	12.6	United Kingdom	7.7	4.3	0.7	Catholic
Balance of Central (SD)	13.4	United Kingdom	11.4	4.6	1.0	Catholic
Pilbara (SD)	19.1	United Kingdom	12.8	10.8	1.8	No Religion
Kimberley (SD)	11.3	United Kingdom	12.7	18.0	4.0	Catholic
Tasmania	**10.5**	**United Kingdom**	**8.3**	**3.1**	**0.4**	**Anglican**
Greater Hobart (SD)	12.2	United Kingdom	9.3	4.7	0.7	Anglican
Southern (SD)	9.9	United Kingdom	4.7	1.6	0.1	Anglican
Northern (SD)	10.0	United Kingdom	8.3	2.4	0.3	Anglican
Launceston (S Dist)	10.4	United Kingdom	9.1	2.8	0.4	Anglican
Balance of Northern (SD)	9.0	United Kingdom	5.7	1.3	0.1	Anglican
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	6.8	1.5	0.2	Anglican
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	8.1	United Kingdom	5.8	1.7	0.2	Anglican
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	8.2	United Kingdom	9.5	1.3	0.1	Anglican

(a) As a proportion of all people in the region.

(b) As a proportion of overseas born population.

2.14 CULTURAL DIVERSITY INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State *Region* *Sub-region*	*Overseas born population(a)* %	*Main overseas country of birth*	*Overseas born population recently arrived(b)* %	*People who spoke non-English language at home(a)* %	*People not fluent in English(a)* %	*Main religious affiliation*
Northern Territory	**15.5**	**United Kingdom**	**14.7**	**26.4**	**6.9**	**Catholic**
Darwin (SD)	20.8	United Kingdom	12.1	13.8	2.3	Catholic
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	9.3	United Kingdom	21.1	41.7	12.3	Catholic
Australian Capital Territory	**22.6**	**United Kingdom**	**12.1**	**14.0**	**1.8**	**Catholic**
North Canberra (SSD)	26.1	United Kingdom	21.5	15.3	2.3	No Religion
Belconnen (SSD)	22.7	United Kingdom	12.5	14.7	2.1	Catholic
Woden Valley (SSD)	26.7	United Kingdom	12.2	15.1	1.7	Catholic
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	22.2	United Kingdom	7.0	10.6	1.2	Catholic
Tuggeranong (SSD)	19.0	United Kingdom	7.3	11.6	1.3	Catholic
South Canberra (SSD)	24.4	United Kingdom	14.1	13.0	1.5	Catholic
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	23.5	United Kingdom	12.0	20.9	2.8	Catholic
Other Territories	**31.4**	**Malaysia**	**5.0**	**55.4**	**21.8**	**Islam**

(a) As a proportion of all people in the region.

(b) As a proportion of overseas born population.

CHAPTER 3 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Australian families and households have undergone significant shifts in composition over the last 100 years. At the start of the 20th century, living in a family with children was the most common living arrangement, with family households often including extended relatives and unrelated people such as boarders. In the decades following World War II, nuclear families (i.e. those based around parent-child relationships with no others present in the household) became the dominant family type. Since the 1970s, trends in marriage, family and work, as well as the ageing of the population, have led to greater diversification in household and family types, with lone person households, group households and couple only households now much more common than in the past.

Living arrangements data from the 2001 census identify the range of families and households that exist in Australia, and also show that people tend to live in different arrangements for different periods of their lives. Traditionally, three main stages were experienced across the life cycle: living with parents, living with a partner (for some of this time with children), and living alone in old age if that partner died. Over the last 20–30 years, other living arrangements across a lifetime have become more common than previously, such as living in a group household or alone before forming a long-term partnership, or living without a partner after separation.

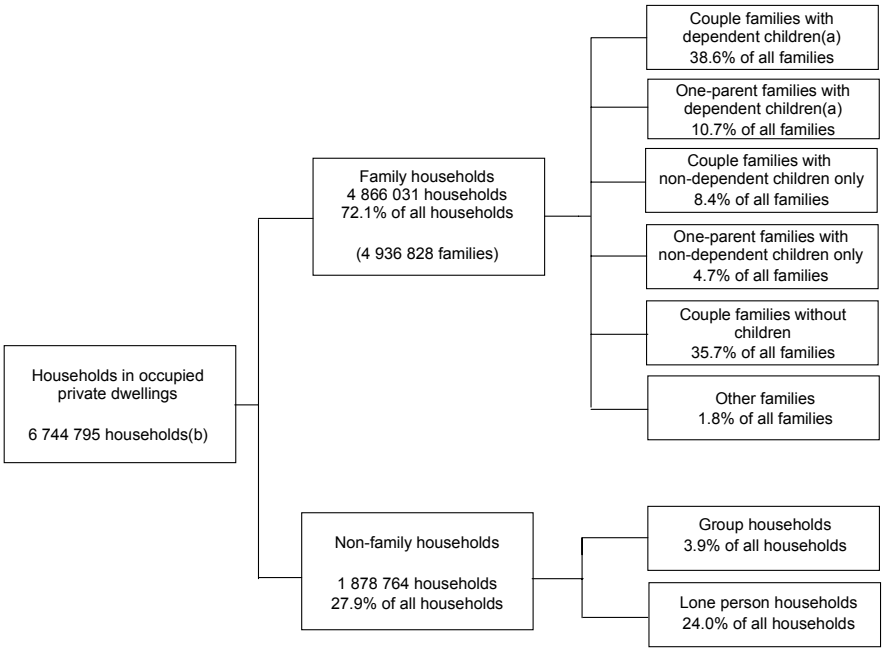
The arrangements in which people live are important to their health and wellbeing as family and household members often provide much financial and social support to one another. Lone parents and people living alone lack the support of a resident partner, but may receive similar support from extended family members and friends. This chapter looks at the living arrangements of people in different parts of Australia, and discusses how household and family settings change over the life cycle.

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

Living arrangements data can be examined at different levels: by looking at individuals within households and families, or by looking at the characteristics of households and families themselves. The data presented in this chapter describe families and households rather than individuals, and examine the regions in Australia with the highest and lowest proportions of some of the main family and household types. Figure 3.1 illustrates how households and families are classified in the census.

Despite growing diversity in household types, family households remained the most common, comprising almost three-quarters (72%) of all households in 2001. Lone person households were the next most common (24%), with the majority of these being people aged 50 years and over. Group households made up a comparatively small proportion of all households (4%).

3.1 HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES



(a) These families may also contain non-dependent children.

(b) Excluding visitor only and other non-classifiable households.

In 2001, 62% of all families in Australia had children of any age living in the same household as their parent(s). These families may include young children, teenage students or adult children (e.g. in some families an adult child may be providing care for aged parents). Around 56% of families had a child aged under 25 years, and 42% had a child aged under 15 years. Young people in Australia are increasingly postponing major life events, such as gaining economic independence and forming long-term partnerships, and associated with this, many are remaining in the parental home longer than in the past. However, whether they choose to remain in the parental home depends in part on the education and employment opportunities available in the areas in which their parents live.

FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

In the 2001 census, dependent children were categorised into two groups: children aged under 15 years, and full-time students aged 15–24 years who are usually resident in the same household as their parent(s) and who have no partners or children of their own. Regions with high proportions of families with children aged under 15 years are found equally in both Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions. Those areas with the highest proportions of families with children under 15 years included remote regions such as the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD), Pilbara (SD), Kimberley (SD) and North West Queensland (SD), as well as Tuggeranong (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory (table 3.2).

3.2 FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN(a), Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

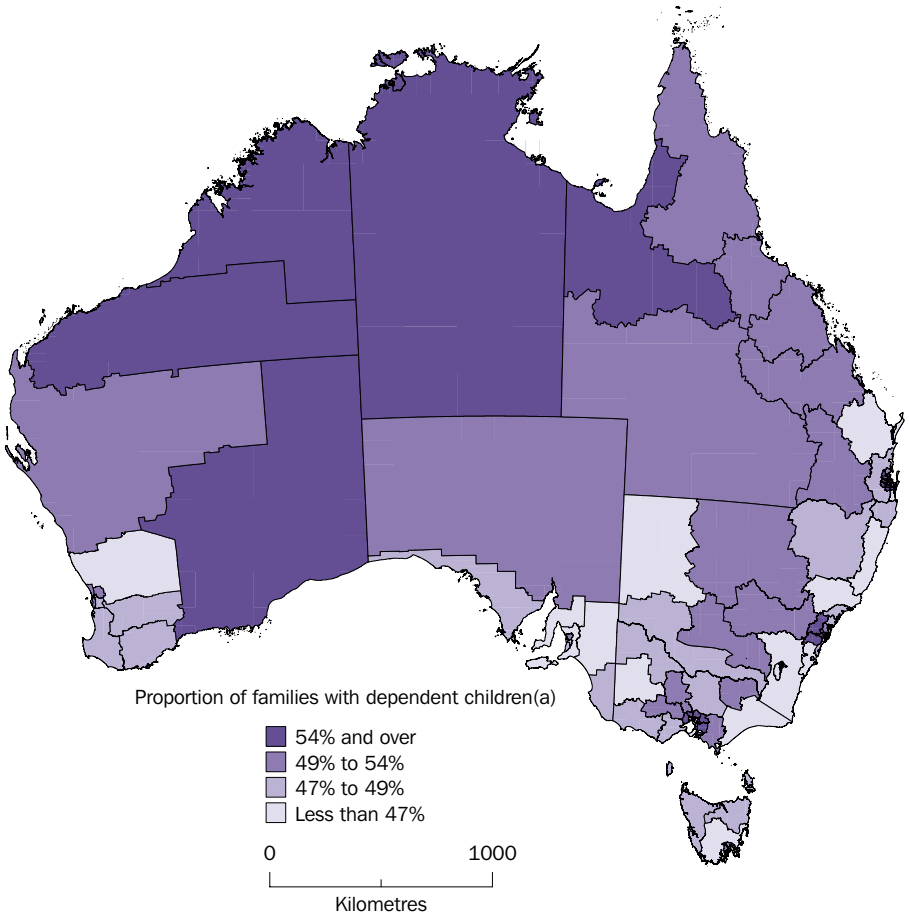
Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all families %	Families with dependent children no.
	FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 15 YEARS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	52.3	12 349
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	51.8	3 380
3	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	51.1	17 746
4	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	50.8	30 598
5	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	50.8	30 431
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	58.6	10 775
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	56.6	5 000
3	Kimberley (SD)	WA	56.4	3 588
4	North West (SD)	Qld	53.7	4 260
5	South Eastern (SD)	WA	51.0	6 466
	Australia		**41.6**	**2 054 243**
	FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT STUDENTS 15–24 YEARS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	21.4	22 555
2	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	21.0	7 876
3	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	20.6	4 856
4	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	19.7	9 236
5	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	19.2	4 199
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Loddon (SD)	Vic.	15.6	6 651
2	Central Highlands (SD)	Vic.	15.3	5 430
3	Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	15.3	6 242
4	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	15.2	1 157
5	Ovens-Murray (SD)	Vic.	15.2	3 624
	Australia		**14.7**	**724 276**

(a) Families with children under 15 years may also contain dependent students aged 15–24 years, and families with dependent students aged 15–24 years may also contain children aged under 15 years.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of total families that are families with children aged under 15 years, and that are families with dependent students aged 15–24 years.

In contrast, families with dependent students aged 15–24 years were more concentrated in Mainly urban regions, with the highest proportions found in Central Northern Sydney (SSD) and Boroondara City (SSD) in Melbourne, and again in Tuggeranong (SSD) in Canberra. The Mixed urban/rural regions with the highest proportions of these families included larger regional centres, such as Loddon (SD) and the Central Highlands (SD) in Victoria.

3.3 FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, Australia



(a) As a proportion of all families.

Relatively few full-time students aged 15–24 years were living with their parent(s) in more remote areas of Australia. This is associated with the movement of many young people living in regional and remote areas to larger towns and cities to pursue education beyond school, as there are fewer options for study available to them where their families live. As they are no longer living with their parents, these students who move for education are not classified as dependent children in families, but rather as residents of a boarding school or college, group household members, and so on. Students living in towns and cities are more likely to have the option of remaining in the parental home and attending a local educational institution than their rural and remote counterparts. In the following analysis of families with dependent children, this difference in the types of dependent children found in different parts of Australia should thus be kept in mind.

In 2001, there were 2.4 million families with dependent children in Australia. Over three-quarters (78%) of these were couple families with dependent children, with the remaining 22% being one-parent families. In Mainly urban regions, the highest proportions of families with dependent children were found on the fringe of large cities, in areas such as Tuggeranong (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory and Hume City (SSD), Melton-Wyndham (SSD) and South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) on the outskirts of Melbourne. Among Mixed urban/rural regions, the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD), and the Pilbara (SD) and Kimberley (SD) regions in Western Australia had the highest proportions.

Average number of dependent children

In 2001, Australian families with dependent children contained an average of 1.92 dependent children living in the same household (see table 3.4). Family size has gradually declined since the 1970s in line with falls in the fertility rate. On average, families in Mixed urban/rural regions had more dependent children than those in Mainly urban regions (2.00 children per family compared with 1.89). The Mixed region with the highest average number of dependent children in families was the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD). Here, families with dependent children had 2.19 dependent children on average. About half of this region's population (51%) are Indigenous people, who have a higher fertility rate than non-Indigenous people (ABS 2003a). Kimberley (SD) in Western Australia and the North West (SD) region of Queensland also had families larger than the Australian average for the same reason (2.16 and 2.09, respectively).

Among Mainly urban regions, families in areas on the fringes of cities, particularly those of Brisbane and Melbourne, had the highest average numbers of dependent children. For example, families with dependent children in Hume City (SSD), in the north of Melbourne, had 2.02 dependent children on average, and those in Ipswich City (SSD), on the western outskirts of Brisbane, had 1.98 on average.

3.4 FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	*Average number of dependent children in families* no.	*Youngest child aged 0–5 years(b)* %	*All families with dependent children* no.
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	2.02	39.7	20 829
2	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	2.00	39.1	15 160
3	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	1.98	40.2	35 313
4	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	1.98	40.9	16 230
5	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1.98	38.9	35 314
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	2.19	49.9	11 346
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	2.16	55.6	3 732
3	North West (SD)	Qld	2.09	51.7	4 503
4	North Western (SD)	NSW	2.09	42.5	15 071
5	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	2.08	38.9	6 006
	Australia		**1.92**	**37.8**	**2 434 091**

(a) Ranked according to the average number of dependent children present in families with dependent children in that region.

(b) As a proportion of all families with dependent children, excluding families with one or more temporarily absent children.

Couple families with dependent children

As previously mentioned, in 2001, couple families with dependent children comprised the majority (78%) of all families with dependent children. The regional distribution of couples with dependent children was therefore similar to that of all families with dependent children, with many of them again concentrated on the fringe of large cities, particularly those of Canberra and Melbourne (see table 3.5).

Of Mainly urban regions, Tuggeranong (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory had the greatest proportion of couples with dependent children (50% of all families in this region). Consistent with this, the population of Tuggeranong has grown by 22% over the ten year period to June 2001, when 65% of Tuggeranong residents were aged under 40 years, compared with 57% for Australia in general (based on estimated resident population data, see Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 17–18). Other Mainly urban regions with high proportions of couples with dependent children included Gungahlin-Hall (SSD), also on the fringe of Canberra (49%), Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD) (49%) and the adjacent Hume City (SSD) (48%), and South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) (48%). These areas often exhibit high population growth because young families are attracted to the affordable housing they offer. For example, the weekly median mortgage repayment for dwellings in Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD) was $238 per week and in Hume City (SSD) it was $212 per week, compared with a median for Inner Melbourne (SSD) of $329 (see Chapter 7, Housing). These areas are also within commuting distance of jobs in middle- and inner-suburban areas, making them additionally attractive to working parents.

Among Mixed urban/rural regions, Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia had the highest proportion of couple families with dependent children (51%). The large mining industry in this region, and the employment it offers, may attract many young people. Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD), south of Brisbane, also had a high proportion of couple families with dependent children (48%), which could be associated with the presence of housing suitable for large households in this region and its proximity to Brisbane. Other Mixed urban/rural regions with high proportions of couples with dependent children included areas with large Indigenous populations, such as the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) (46%) and the North West (SD) (44%) region of Queensland.

One-parent families with dependent children

In 2001, one-parent families with dependent children made up 11% of all families and 22% of families with dependent children. The regions with the highest proportions of one-parent families with dependent children included Kimberley (SD) in Western Australia (18% of all families in this region were one-parent families with dependent children), Logan City (SSD) (16%) and Gold Coast City Part A (SSD) (16%) both south of Brisbane, and the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) (16%). A contributing factor to this distribution could be the tendency for one-parent families to have lower incomes than other families, due in part to the difficulty of undertaking paid employment while bringing up children alone. Lone parents in Mainly urban regions may therefore be drawn to areas with low housing costs, and more generally, some of the regions with the highest proportions of one-parent families with dependent children had lower median weekly rents than Australia in general. Some also had higher proportions of public housing than nationally, such as Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD) and Logan City (SSD).

3.5 FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all families %	Families with dependent children no.
	COUPLE FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	49.9	11 783
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	49.4	3 221
3	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	48.9	22 976
4	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	48.3	16 788
5	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	48.3	28 908
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	50.5	4 461
2	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	48.2	3 663
3	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	46.2	8 492
4	South Eastern (SD)	WA	43.9	5 572
5	North West (SD)	Qld	43.8	3 470
	Australia		**38.6**	**1 904 122**
	ONE-PARENT FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Logan City (SSD)	Qld	16.3	7 222
2	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	15.7	1 918
3	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	14.5	4 318
4	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	13.8	1 852
5	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	13.5	6 661
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	18.4	1 170
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	15.5	2 854
3	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	14.7	1 138
4	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	14.7	8 210
5	Far North (SD)	Qld	13.8	7 472
	Australia		**10.7**	**529 969**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of total families that are couple families with dependent children and that are one-parent families with dependent children.

COUPLE FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN

Couple families without children are becoming a relatively large group in Australia, increasing by 33% between 1986 and 2001. This is associated with the trend towards people delaying having children, and more people deciding not to have children at all. It is also associated with the ageing of the Australian population, resulting in the large cohort of 'baby-boomers' (i.e. people born between 1946 and 1965) reaching the stage where their children are leaving the parental home, and living until older ages because of greater life expectancy. Reflecting these trends, the majority of partners in couple families without children are aged 20–34 years or 50 years and over (85%). Two groups of couple families without children are discussed here to describe some of the characteristics of younger and older couples — those where both partners are aged under 35 years and those where both partners are aged 65 years or over. Different patterns of regional distribution emerge for these groups.

Younger couple families without children

Overall, in 2001, younger couple families without children (i.e. where both partners were aged under 35 years) made up 7% of all families. Unlike families with dependent children, which were more evenly spread across Australia, younger couple families without children were clustered in inner-city areas. This pattern reflects the greater availability of employment in inner-city areas, the lifestyle choices of younger couples, and the availability of housing appropriate to small households in city areas (such as apartments and townhouses), albeit at higher costs than in many other areas. Some of the regions with the highest proportions of young couple families without children also had housing costs above the Australian average (see Chapter 7, Housing).

3.6 SELECTED COUPLE FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all families %	Couple families without children no.
	BOTH PARTNERS AGED UNDER 35 YEARS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	20.1	2 611
2	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	19.5	9 753
3	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	16.6	10 316
4	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	13.5	1 620
5	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	13.3	870
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	10.4	916
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	9.5	2 368
3	South Eastern (SD)	WA	9.5	1 203
4	Kimberley (SD)	WA	8.8	559
5	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	8.3	1 526
	Australia		**6.6**	**324 732**
	BOTH PARTNERS AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	Vic.	14.1	4 885
2	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	13.8	6 813
3	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	13.2	10 288
4	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	12.8	1 716
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	12.7	6 889
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	15.2	4 049
2	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	14.4	1 740
3	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	13.7	10 238
4	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	13.3	7 463
5	Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	12.3	3 115
	Australia		**8.6**	**425 345**

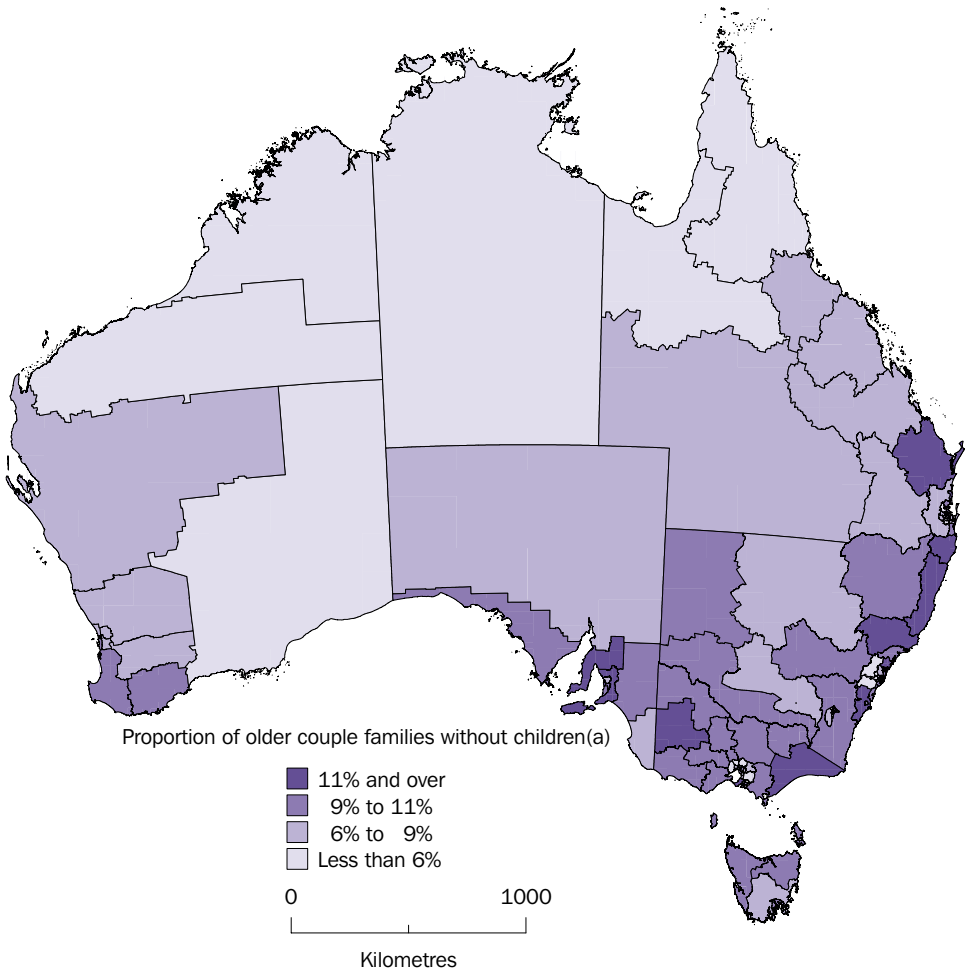
(a) Ranked according to the proportion of total families that are couple families without children with both partners aged under 35 years, or with both partners aged 65 years and over.

Younger couple families without children *continued*

The City Core of Brisbane (SRS) had the highest proportion of younger couple families without children (20% of all families in this region). The median weekly rent for dwellings in this region was $189, while median weekly mortgage repayments were $296 (compared with medians for Australia of $154 and $218, respectively). Other regions with high proportions of younger couple families without children included inner-city regions of Melbourne and Sydney. In addition to having a high proportion of couple families with dependent children, Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory also had a high proportion of younger couple families without children (see table 3.6).

Among Mixed urban/rural regions, the highest proportions of younger couple families without children lived in regions with job opportunities for young people, such as Pilbara (SD) and Darwin (SD) (both with 10% of all families being younger couple families without children). The presence of younger couples in these areas may also be associated with their high proportions of Indigenous people, who, as previously mentioned, have a younger age structure than non-Indigenous people.

3.7 OLDER COUPLE FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN, Australia



(a) As a proportion of all families.

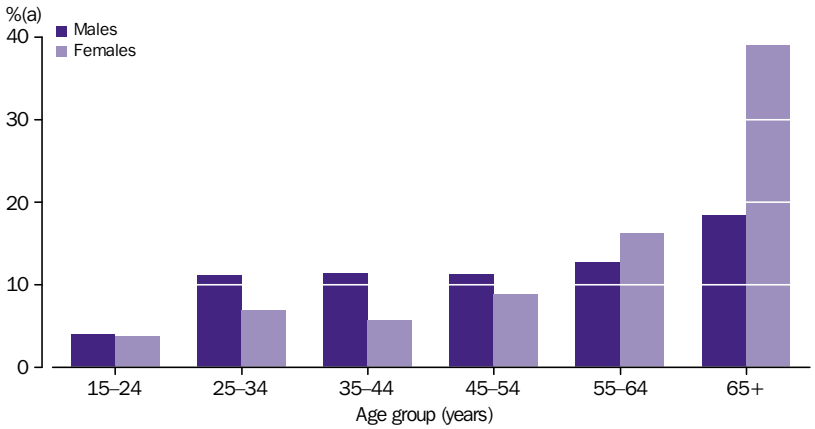
Older couple families without children

In 2001, older couple families without children (i.e. where both partners were aged 65 years or over) made up 9% of all families. As illustrated in map 3.7, regions with high proportions of older couples without children were found among both Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions. The regions with the highest proportions of older couple only families included established areas of major cities, such as Western Adelaide (13%) and Moreland City in Melbourne (11%). Other regions with high proportions were coastal areas just beyond the fringe of major cities, such as Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD) in Victoria (14%), and the Mid-North Coast (SD) and Richmond-Tweed (SD) in northern New South Wales (14% and 13%, respectively). In particular, Tweed Heads (SSD) and Port Macquarie (S Dist) in northern New South Wales had very high proportions of older couples (21% and 18% of all families, respectively). This aligns with the lifestyle choices of many retirees to settle in coastal towns and villages upon retirement (Murphy 2002).

LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS

As well as an increase in couple families without children, in recent years there has been a rise in the proportion of people living alone (ABS 2003b). As mentioned previously, in 2001, lone person households comprised almost a quarter (24%) of all households. The likelihood of living alone increased gradually with age (see graph 3.8), with 18% of men and 39% of women aged 65 years and over living alone.

3.8 LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS, Age and sex



(a) Proportion of each age and sex group that were lone persons.

A range of social changes over the last 10–20 years have led to the increase in the proportion of people living alone, and these changes apply to different stages of the life cycle. For example, people are forming long-term partnerships and having children at older ages than in the past. One reason for this is the increase in participation in higher education. Employment and education opportunities are more widely available in inner-city areas than other areas. Consistent with this, among Mainly urban regions, inner-city areas of Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra and Sydney had the highest proportions of people aged 15–34 years living alone. Among Mixed urban/rural regions, the highest proportions of people aged 15–34 years living alone were in areas where there are job opportunities for young people, such as the mining regions of Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia, and North West Queensland (SD).

LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS *continued*

People aged 35–64 years living alone are also clustered in inner-city areas of capital cities. While many of these people are never-married singles, others are separated or divorced. As with younger people living alone, they may find inner-city areas provide an attractive lifestyle. Among Mixed urban/rural regions, people living alone in this age group were likely to live in areas such as Northern (SD) in South Australia, Darwin (SD) and Far West (SD) in New South Wales.

Older lone person households

People approaching retirement and people who have already retired are the most likely group to be living alone. This is associated with the ageing of the population. In 2001, although people aged 65 years and over made up 13% of the population, they made up 37% of lone person households. Two-thirds of this age group who were living alone were widowed. Older women were particularly likely to be living alone because of their greater life expectancy, and the tendency for women to be slightly younger than their husbands.

In 2001, 'older' lone person households (i.e. those where the person was aged 65 years and over) were found in large numbers in both Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions. In total, they comprised 9% of all households in Australia. Some of the regions with the highest proportions of older lone person households were similar to those containing large proportions of older couples (e.g. Western Adelaide (SSD), 13%, and Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD), 12%). Again, established suburbs and coastal settlements had the highest proportions of older lone person households. However, traditional farming areas, such as Wimmera (SD) in western Victoria and the Far West (SD) region of New South Wales, also had high proportions (see table 3.9). These are areas that couples moved to in large numbers to begin careers in farming in the years following World War II, and that now have older populations.

3.9 LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS, Person aged 65 years or over, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

			As a proportion of all households	*Lone person households*
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	%	no.
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	15.0	3 012
2	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	13.0	13 981
3	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	12.8	10 848
4	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	12.1	10 551
5	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	Vic.	12.1	5 690
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	13.8	2 609
2	Far West (SD)	NSW	13.3	1 211
3	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	12.5	2 106
4	Western District (SD)	Vic.	11.9	4 285
5	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	11.9	4 295
	Australia		**9.0**	**604 941**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of all households where there was a lone person aged 65 years or over.

GROUP HOUSEHOLDS

Group households may provide an attractive living arrangement for young adults, allowing for housing costs to be shared between several people. They are often viewed as part of the transitional stage between leaving the parental home and forming a partnership and family of one's own. In 2001, living in a group household was the chosen living arrangement of 13% of people aged 20–29 years, making this age group the most likely to be living in a group household.

Group households made up 4% of all Australian households in 2001. They were particularly concentrated in inner-city areas, with the City Core (SRS) and Western Inner (SRS) regions of Brisbane having the highest proportions (15% each). Among Mixed urban/rural regions, Darwin (SD) in the Northern Territory (6%) and Kimberley (SD) in Western Australia (5%) had the highest proportions. However, these proportions were only slightly higher than the Australian average (see table 3.10).

The concentration of group households in metropolitan areas is partly associated with participation in education. Group households can often contain students living away from the parental home, and there are more universities and institutes of Technology and Further Education (TAFEs) in metropolitan areas than in non-metropolitan areas. In addition, the median age of group household members tended to be lower in inner-city regions than in other regions. For example, it was 23 years in Western Inner Brisbane (SRS) and 25 years in the City Core of Brisbane (SRS), compared with 28 years for Australia overall. Consistent with this, in 2001, the median age of students in non-school education was 25 years.

3.10 GROUP HOUSEHOLDS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all households	Group households	Median age of group household members
			%	no.	years
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	15.0	4 331	25
2	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	15.0	3 183	23
3	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	13.1	13 492	26
4	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	10.8	12 240	28
5	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	10.0	8 813	28
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	5.7	1 920	29
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	5.2	408	28
3	Far North (SD)	Qld	4.7	3 526	29
4	North West (SD)	Qld	4.1	429	27
5	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	4.0	858	29
	Australia		**3.9**	**262 551**	**28**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of all households that are group households.

3.11 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Couple families with dependent children(a)*	*One-parent families with dependent children(a)*	*Couple families without children(a)*	*Lone person households(b)*	*Group households(b)*	*Households containing more than one family(b)*	*Average household size(c)*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	persons
AUSTRALIA	**38.6**	**10.7**	**35.7**	**24.0**	**3.9**	**1.0**	**2.6**
New South Wales	**38.8**	**10.4**	**34.9**	**23.4**	**3.8**	**1.3**	**2.7**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	26.7	9.9	45.6	35.2	10.8	0.9	2.2
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	32.6	8.6	40.9	30.3	10.0	0.8	2.3
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	39.9	7.8	33.3	21.7	3.3	1.7	2.7
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	41.5	9.7	28.1	20.6	2.6	2.6	2.9
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	46.1	11.4	23.5	14.6	2.0	3.5	3.2
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	45.3	13.4	25.5	14.9	2.0	1.7	3.1
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	38.4	8.0	33.9	24.6	5.7	1.7	2.6
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	41.6	9.9	29.4	22.3	4.0	2.2	2.8
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	43.6	11.5	29.2	18.8	2.7	1.3	2.9
Blacktown (SSD)	44.4	13.1	24.8	15.2	2.3	2.3	3.1
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	36.5	7.1	40.6	29.8	6.4	0.8	2.4
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	47.6	6.0	30.1	14.6	1.9	1.5	3.0
Northern Beaches (SSD)	38.4	6.8	37.6	23.1	4.4	1.3	2.6
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	35.5	12.3	38.2	25.5	2.8	1.0	2.5
Newcastle (SSD)	36.1	12.0	36.7	24.7	3.4	0.8	2.5
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	35.4	10.0	42.7	24.3	2.4	0.6	2.5
Wollongong (SSD)	38.1	10.6	34.9	22.8	3.1	1.1	2.7
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	37.1	14.7	36.1	24.0	2.6	0.7	2.6
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	33.1	10.4	45.6	24.5	2.1	0.7	2.5
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	33.1	14.7	40.5	26.4	3.9	0.7	2.5
Lismore (S Dist)	34.7	16.8	34.6	26.5	6.6	0.6	2.5
Tweed Heads (SSD)	26.4	12.2	49.8	28.8	3.4	0.7	2.3
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	35.1	15.1	38.4	25.5	3.5	0.7	2.5
Mid-North Coast (SD)	32.8	13.1	43.2	25.6	2.7	0.8	2.5
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	34.1	14.6	40.1	25.8	3.8	0.8	2.5
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	29.5	12.1	48.1	27.8	2.6	0.7	2.3
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	33.1	12.9	43.0	25.1	2.4	0.8	2.5
Northern (SD)	37.2	11.7	38.4	25.2	2.9	0.6	2.6
Tamworth (S Dist)	36.9	13.7	36.2	25.2	3.1	0.7	2.6
Balance of Northern (SD)	37.3	11.0	39.1	25.2	2.9	0.6	2.6
North Western (SD)	38.3	12.3	36.8	25.1	2.8	0.8	2.6
Dubbo (S Dist)	39.0	15.2	33.5	23.0	3.7	1.0	2.7
Balance of North Western (SD)	38.1	11.0	38.2	26.0	2.4	0.8	2.6
Central West (SD)	38.8	10.9	37.2	25.3	2.7	0.6	2.6
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	40.0	12.3	34.5	25.0	3.7	0.6	2.6
Balance of Central West (SD)	37.9	9.8	39.1	25.6	1.9	0.6	2.6
South Eastern (SD)	36.2	10.4	41.5	25.8	2.4	0.6	2.5
Murrumbidgee (SD)	39.9	10.3	36.3	24.1	3.1	0.6	2.6
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	39.7	13.4	34.6	24.2	4.8	0.5	2.6
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	40.0	8.8	37.2	24.1	2.3	0.6	2.7
Murray (SD)	37.6	10.2	40.2	26.4	3.2	0.4	2.5
Albury (SSD)	38.6	12.9	35.9	27.5	4.4	0.5	2.5
Balance of Murray (SD)	36.9	8.1	43.7	25.5	2.1	0.4	2.5
Far West (SD)	31.8	13.7	39.9	30.9	2.1	0.6	2.3

(a) As a proportion of all families.

(b) As a proportion of all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

(c) For all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

3.11 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Couple families with dependent children(a)* %	*One-parent families with dependent children(a)* %	*Couple families without children(a)* %	*Lone person households(b)* %	*Group households(b)* %	*Households containing more than one family(b)* %	*Average household size(c)* persons
Victoria	**39.6**	**9.9**	**34.4**	**23.8**	**3.8**	**1.0**	**2.6**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	23.1	9.5	50.1	39.0	13.1	0.4	2.0
Western Melbourne (SSD)	39.6	10.3	30.1	22.6	3.5	1.8	2.7
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	47.7	11.7	25.6	14.7	2.0	1.4	3.0
Moreland City (SSD)	32.8	9.1	36.1	27.5	6.2	1.2	2.5
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	35.6	9.9	34.1	25.8	4.5	1.1	2.5
Hume City (SSD)	48.3	11.6	23.3	13.4	1.6	2.1	3.2
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	48.9	8.5	24.6	11.8	1.7	1.9	3.2
Boroondara City (SSD)	44.0	7.4	33.6	26.5	5.9	0.5	2.6
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	38.7	7.1	35.1	20.4	3.4	1.2	2.7
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	44.0	9.7	30.4	19.7	2.6	1.0	2.8
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	43.8	10.3	31.1	18.3	2.2	0.8	2.9
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	39.5	8.2	36.2	27.8	4.2	0.7	2.5
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	39.2	11.8	27.8	21.9	3.0	2.5	2.8
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	48.3	10.7	27.4	15.1	2.1	1.3	3.0
Frankston City (SSD)	38.0	13.5	32.8	24.3	3.2	0.8	2.6
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	35.4	10.2	42.1	24.9	2.2	0.6	2.5
Barwon (SD)	37.5	10.5	37.8	25.2	3.0	0.6	2.5
Geelong (S Dist)	36.4	11.8	36.0	26.4	3.4	0.6	2.5
Balance of Barwon (SD)	39.3	8.4	40.8	22.9	2.4	0.5	2.6
Western District (SD)	39.0	9.4	38.9	26.2	2.6	0.4	2.5
Warrnambool (S Dist)	38.8	11.8	36.2	26.2	4.2	0.4	2.5
Balance of Western District (SD)	39.1	8.5	40.0	26.2	2.0	0.3	2.5
Central Highlands (SD)	38.4	11.8	36.2	25.8	3.6	0.5	2.6
Ballarat (S Dist)	38.0	13.1	34.7	27.3	4.6	0.5	2.5
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	39.1	10.1	38.3	23.6	2.1	0.5	2.6
Wimmera (SD)	37.1	8.1	43.3	27.6	2.3	0.2	2.5
Mallee (SD)	38.8	9.8	39.3	25.3	2.6	0.5	2.6
Mildura (S Dist)	39.1	11.8	37.1	24.0	2.8	0.7	2.6
Balance of Mallee (SD)	38.5	7.7	41.6	26.6	2.3	0.4	2.5
Loddon (SD)	38.3	11.7	37.0	25.0	3.3	0.5	2.6
Bendigo (S Dist)	37.0	14.1	35.2	26.1	4.4	0.5	2.5
Balance of Loddon (SD)	39.4	9.6	38.5	24.0	2.3	0.6	2.6
Goulburn (SD)	38.6	10.0	39.0	23.8	2.6	0.6	2.6
Shepparton (S Dist)	39.5	12.6	34.5	24.0	3.3	0.7	2.6
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	38.4	9.2	40.3	23.8	2.4	0.5	2.6
Ovens-Murray (SD)	39.0	11.0	38.3	24.1	3.1	0.4	2.6
Wodonga (SSD)	41.3	12.6	35.4	21.8	3.6	0.5	2.7
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	36.7	9.5	41.2	26.2	2.5	0.3	2.5
East Gippsland (SD)	35.9	10.6	43.3	26.5	2.2	0.3	2.5
Gippsland (SD)	37.4	11.7	39.0	26.4	2.5	0.4	2.5
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	38.5	13.7	35.0	26.6	2.7	0.4	2.5
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	36.4	9.9	42.5	26.1	2.2	0.5	2.5

(a) As a proportion of all families.

(b) As a proportion of all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

(c) For all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

3.11 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Couple families with dependent children(a)* %	*One-parent families with dependent children(a)* %	*Couple families without children(a)* %	*Lone person households(b)* %	*Group households(b)* %	*Households containing more than one family(b)* %	*Average household size(c)* persons
Queensland	**37.4**	**11.7**	**37.4**	**23.2**	**4.5**	**0.9**	**2.6**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	23.1	8.7	52.0	40.4	15.0	0.4	2.0
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	33.9	10.5	39.7	34.0	7.1	0.4	2.2
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	35.5	10.0	39.3	28.5	7.2	0.6	2.4
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	33.1	10.2	40.5	32.3	7.5	0.6	2.3
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	33.6	8.4	40.9	28.9	15.0	0.3	2.3
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	36.7	11.0	36.3	22.8	3.6	0.9	2.6
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	37.8	10.6	35.9	22.3	3.4	1.0	2.6
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	39.6	10.5	33.4	18.1	4.7	1.4	2.8
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	44.5	11.0	31.0	16.2	3.2	1.3	2.9
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	38.4	15.7	32.3	20.2	3.4	1.0	2.7
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	48.2	7.3	32.2	9.4	1.9	1.9	3.2
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	37.8	13.1	37.1	18.8	2.5	1.1	2.8
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	39.9	14.5	31.1	20.6	3.2	1.1	2.8
Logan City (SSD)	41.2	16.3	27.4	17.7	3.4	1.4	2.9
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	46.1	9.6	30.8	14.3	2.3	1.0	3.0
Redcliffe City (SSD)	29.8	13.8	39.9	31.1	3.1	0.9	2.3
Redland Shire (SSD)	40.8	10.4	35.7	18.3	2.7	1.1	2.8
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	32.4	12.6	41.6	24.5	6.2	0.9	2.4
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	31.2	13.5	44.5	25.1	4.1	0.7	2.4
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	37.9	10.8	39.7	18.8	2.7	0.9	2.7
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	33.3	11.7	43.7	24.0	2.7	0.7	2.5
Bundaberg (S Dist)	33.2	13.4	41.5	25.5	2.8	0.6	2.5
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	28.2	12.8	49.2	23.4	3.0	0.9	2.4
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	34.8	10.7	43.0	23.5	2.5	0.7	2.5
Darling Downs (SD)	39.2	10.0	38.2	23.9	3.4	0.6	2.6
Toowoomba (S Dist)	39.3	11.6	36.3	24.5	4.3	0.6	2.6
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	39.2	8.3	40.1	23.2	2.4	0.5	2.6
South West and Central West	42.6	8.0	37.2	25.8	3.1	0.5	2.6
Fitzroy (SD)	40.5	11.3	36.2	22.7	3.4	0.7	2.7
Rockhampton (S Dist)	36.6	14.2	34.5	25.9	4.4	0.8	2.6
Gladstone (S Dist)	43.7	11.3	34.5	19.9	3.0	0.6	2.7
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	41.8	9.1	38.4	21.3	2.7	0.8	2.7
Mackay (SD)	41.2	10.2	36.8	22.2	3.3	0.6	2.6
Northern (SD)	39.7	11.7	36.0	21.9	4.7	0.8	2.7
Townsville (S Dist)	40.0	13.1	34.7	21.8	5.7	0.8	2.7
Balance of Northern (SD)	38.9	8.6	39.1	21.9	2.2	0.9	2.7
Far North (SD)	37.1	13.8	37.1	24.6	4.7	1.3	2.6
Cairns (S Dist)	36.9	15.1	35.9	25.2	6.1	0.8	2.5
Balance of Far North (SD)	37.2	12.5	38.4	24.0	3.1	1.9	2.7
North West (SD)	43.8	13.0	31.9	22.6	4.1	2.5	2.9

(a) As a proportion of all families.

(b) As a proportion of all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

(c) For all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

3.11 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Couple families with dependent children(a)*	*One-parent families with dependent children(a)*	*Couple families without children(a)*	*Lone person households(b)*	*Group households(b)*	*Households containing more than one family(b)*	*Average household size(c)*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	persons
South Australia	**35.8**	**11.0**	**38.7**	**27.4**	**3.1**	**0.6**	**2.5**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	36.8	13.2	34.5	23.0	2.6	0.8	2.6
Western Adelaide (SSD)	31.1	11.5	38.8	32.8	3.9	0.6	2.3
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	35.6	8.7	40.7	32.0	4.9	0.4	2.3
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	36.3	11.4	37.9	26.6	3.2	0.5	2.5
Outer Adelaide (SD)	37.5	8.9	42.7	22.5	2.0	0.6	2.6
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	32.7	8.0	49.1	26.8	1.7	0.3	2.4
Murray Lands (SD)	36.0	9.8	41.9	26.7	2.3	0.5	2.5
South East (SD)	39.3	8.9	39.6	25.4	2.4	0.3	2.5
Eyre (SD)	39.0	9.4	41.4	26.0	2.6	0.4	2.5
Northern (SD)	37.3	12.7	38.7	29.7	1.9	0.9	2.5
Western Australia	**39.0**	**11.0**	**36.1**	**24.3**	**3.7**	**0.8**	**2.6**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	37.7	8.4	40.2	34.5	7.0	0.3	2.3
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	39.6	11.3	34.3	22.4	3.0	0.9	2.7
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	40.1	10.7	34.2	23.3	3.6	0.8	2.6
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	39.2	11.2	35.4	23.4	3.3	0.7	2.6
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	36.8	11.7	35.4	25.8	4.5	0.7	2.5
South West (SD)	36.9	11.6	40.3	22.5	3.0	0.5	2.6
Mandurah (S Dist)	31.4	12.3	45.6	23.5	2.5	0.7	2.5
Bunbury (S Dist)	39.3	12.4	36.2	21.9	3.5	0.5	2.6
Balance of South West (SD)	39.5	10.6	38.9	22.0	3.0	0.4	2.6
Lower Great Southern (SD)	37.1	11.5	40.8	23.8	2.5	0.6	2.6
Upper Great Southern (SD)	40.0	7.1	42.9	25.3	2.0	0.3	2.5
South Eastern (SD)	43.9	10.6	34.5	22.6	4.0	1.4	2.7
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	44.8	10.5	33.0	22.1	5.1	0.8	2.7
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	42.9	10.8	36.2	23.3	2.6	2.0	2.8
Midlands (SD)	38.3	8.5	42.8	24.3	2.5	0.4	2.6
Central (SD)	39.5	11.7	38.1	23.8	3.1	0.9	2.6
Geraldton (S Dist)	39.1	14.2	34.9	23.4	2.9	0.7	2.6
Balance of Central (SD)	39.9	8.7	41.7	24.2	3.2	1.0	2.6
Pilbara (SD)	50.5	10.0	31.6	20.5	3.6	1.6	2.9
Kimberley (SD)	40.3	18.4	31.0	21.4	5.2	5.6	3.2
Tasmania	**36.4**	**12.2**	**38.4**	**26.9**	**3.0**	**0.4**	**2.5**
Greater Hobart (SD)	36.8	13.3	36.5	27.8	3.5	0.5	2.5
Southern (SD)	37.0	9.7	41.8	23.6	2.0	0.6	2.6
Northern (SD)	35.9	11.9	39.4	27.0	3.1	0.4	2.5
Launceston (S Dist)	35.5	13.1	38.1	27.7	3.6	0.4	2.4
Balance of Northern (SD)	36.9	8.7	42.8	25.0	1.8	0.4	2.5
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	36.3	11.4	39.7	26.2	2.0	0.4	2.5
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	34.0	12.8	40.6	27.2	2.1	0.4	2.4
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	42.4	8.0	37.1	23.3	1.7	0.4	2.6

(a) As a proportion of all families.

(b) As a proportion of all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

(c) For all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

3.11 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Couple families with dependent children(a)*	*One-parent families with dependent children(a)*	*Couple families without children(a)*	*Lone person households(b)*	*Group households(b)*	*Households containing more than one family(b)*	*Average household size(c)*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	persons
Northern Territory	**43.6**	**14.3**	**31.4**	**21.9**	**5.0**	**4.2**	**3.0**
Darwin (SD)	41.7	13.4	33.6	21.9	5.7	1.1	2.7
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	46.2	15.5	28.4	21.9	4.0	9.1	3.6
Australian Capital Territory	**41.9**	**11.5**	**33.9**	**23.1**	**4.7**	**0.6**	**2.6**
North Canberra (SSD)	31.2	12.1	45.0	33.8	8.9	0.3	2.2
Belconnen (SSD)	40.7	11.5	33.1	20.8	5.2	0.7	2.7
Woden Valley (SSD)	37.1	9.4	41.4	29.2	4.6	0.6	2.4
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	36.0	10.5	37.6	23.3	2.9	0.7	2.5
Tuggeranong (SSD)	49.9	13.1	25.6	16.0	2.6	0.8	3.0
South Canberra (SSD)	34.2	10.9	43.0	33.6	6.1	0.3	2.2
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	49.4	9.5	32.0	17.1	4.3	0.9	2.8
Other Territories	**56.8**	**6.1**	**27.4**	**18.9**	**1.2**	**5.5**	**3.2**

(a) As a proportion of all families.

(b) As a proportion of all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

(c) For all households occupied by usual residents where household type could be classified.

CHAPTER 4 EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

Education helps to develop an individual's ability to realise their full potential and make positive choices about their wellbeing. At the broad level, education also provides an indication of a population's level and range of proficiencies to produce goods and services, and to be innovative and responsive to change. Education is the basis for building positive social values that underlie social cohesion, and can assist in reducing problems such as unemployment, poor health and crime.

In Australia, formal learning is traditionally undertaken within three major sectors: schools, vocational education and training (VET), and higher education. Over recent decades, the knowledge and skills of Australians have continued to improve, as shown by higher levels of participation in education and training and the strong growth in the numbers of persons with non-school qualifications. Since the mid-1980s, retention rates of school students (the proportion of students who continue schooling past compulsory years) have increased substantially. In 2001, 82% of 16-year-olds attended school, compared with 48% in 1971 (as measured by the 1971 census). The proportion of people who have attained non-school qualifications has also increased during this period, reflecting the fact that education has become increasingly important for employment outcomes. A greater proportion of Australians are undertaking non-school vocational and higher education courses than in the past. Between 1971 and 2001, the proportion of people aged 15 years and over attending non-school educational institutions increased from 3% to 9%.

SCHOOL STUDENTS

School attendance is compulsory throughout Australia between the ages of 6 years and 15 years (16 years in Tasmania). In August 2001, there were 1.8 million students attending Australian primary schools and 1.3 million students in secondary schools. Of these students, 93% were aged 6–17 years (i.e. school aged). Discussion of school students in the remainder of this chapter refers to those students aged 6–17 years (studying either full-time or part-time).

Indigenous school students

In 2001, there were 99,000 Indigenous school students in Australia (as measured by the census), of whom 86% were enrolled in government schools, and 14% in non-government (including Catholic) schools. At the regional level, Kimberley (SD) in Western Australia and the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) had the largest proportions of Indigenous school students relative to all students in these regions (64% and 55% respectively).

Distribution of school students

The distribution of school students across regions of Australia reflects the distribution of families with dependent children. Regions which had the largest proportions of school students in their populations included Tuggeranong (SSD) (21%), Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD) (20%) and Outer South Western Sydney (SSD) (19%), located in the outer suburban areas of Canberra, Brisbane and Sydney respectively. These regions also had some of the highest proportions of families with dependent children, and consequently a younger age profile than the total Australian population (see Chapter 3, Living arrangements). Conversely, regions with some of the lowest concentrations of families with dependent children also had the lowest proportions of school students in their areas. For example, inner city regions of Inner Melbourne (SSD), Brisbane City Core (SRS) and Inner Sydney (SSD), which are popular with young couple families without children or lone person households, all had proportions of school students under 7% (table 4.1).

4.1 SCHOOL STUDENTS(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	*Proportion of population* %
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	20.7
2	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	18.8
3	Logan City (SSD)	Qld	18.4
4	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	18.4
5	Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	Qld	18.4
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	19.7
2	Moreton SD Bal (SD)	Qld	17.8
3	Fitzroy (SD)	Qld	17.6
4	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	17.4
5	Ovens-Murray (SD)	Vic.	17.4
	Australia		**12.3**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	5.6
2	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	5.7
3	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	6.8
4	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	Qld	7.1
5	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	9.3
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Far West (SD)	NSW	14.1
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	14.3
3	South West and Central West	Qld	14.5
4	Northern (SD)	Tas.	14.7
5	North West (SD)	Qld	15.2
	Australia		**12.3**

(a) All school students aged 6–17 years.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of school students in the total population.

GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

Over two-thirds (68%) of all school students in Australia were undertaking their education through the public school system (government funded schooling). A further 20% of students were enrolled in Catholic schools and 12% attended other non-government schools. The decision to attend a specific school may be influenced by a number of factors, such as the location of a school (i.e. convenience), the income level of the child's parents (i.e. the cost of schooling), religious affiliation, or a perception that a certain school may provide higher quality education.

Government Schools

In 2001, the proportion of students attending government schools varied across regions of Australia. Students living in country or isolated areas mainly undertook their education through government schooling due to the limited number of non-government schools within more remote regions. Of all school students living in Mixed urban/rural regions of Australia, 75% attended government schools, compared with 65% of students in Mainly urban regions. The Upper Great Southern (SD) region of Western Australia recorded the highest proportion of students attending government schools (94%) (table 4.2), while the Eastern Suburbs (SSD) of Sydney had the lowest proportion (36%).

4.2 ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS(a), Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of all students %
	GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	81.8
2	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	77.9
3	Frankston City (SSD)	Vic.	77.2
4	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	76.7
5	Newcastle (SSD)	NSW	75.6
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	94.0
2	Far West (SD)	NSW	91.7
3	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	88.0
4	Midlands (SD)	WA	87.6
5	Pilbara (SD)	WA	87.5
	Australia		**67.7**
	NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS(c)		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	63.8
2	Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	57.4
3	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	56.7
4	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	53.1
5	Southern Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	52.7
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Darling Downs (SD)	Qld	35.0
2	Central Highlands (SD)	Vic.	34.2
3	Northern (SD)	Qld	32.6
4	Central West (SD)	NSW	31.9
5	Murrumbidgee (SD)	NSW	30.8
	Australia		**32.3**

(a) By students aged 6–17 years.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of school students attending government and non-government schools.

(c) Includes Catholic schools.

Non-Government Schools

In 2001, 32% of school students in Australia were attending non-government schools, with 20% at Catholic schools and 12% at other non-government schools. As most non-government schools were located in metropolitan areas, inner regions of capital cities had relatively large proportions of school students attending non-government schools. These regions included the Eastern Suburbs (SSD) of Sydney, Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD), Boroondara City (SSD) in Melbourne, and Western Inner Brisbane (SRS) (table 4.2). Of Mixed urban/rural regions, the Darling Downs (SD) in south east Queensland had the highest proportion of students attending non-government schools (35%).

Catholic Schools

Of Australian school students attending a non-government school in 2001, 63% were enrolled in a Catholic school. Populations with higher proportions of Catholic school students tended to be in larger, urbanised areas of Australia (where the majority of non-government schools are located). Higher proportions of Catholic school students in an area may be partly related to the location of a Catholic school in a region (making attendance more convenient), a higher proportion of Catholic affiliation in a region's population, or perceptions about the quality of Catholic-school education.

The highest concentrations of Catholic school students in Australia were located in areas such as the Inner Western (SSD) suburbs of Sydney and Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS). Not only did these regions have some of the highest levels of household income in Australia, they also had a higher concentration of people with Catholic affiliation than the total Australian population (table 4.3) (see Chapter 2, Cultural diversity).

4.3 ATTENDANCE AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS(a), Top ten regions(b)(c)

Rank	Region	State or territory	*Proportion of all school students(a)* %	*Proportion of population with Catholic affiliation* %
1	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	34.9	38.9
2	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	34.3	40.2
3	Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	33.7	33.6
4	Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	33.7	31.7
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	32.6	28.3
6	Western Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	32.4	39.2
7	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	31.9	33.0
8	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	31.5	32.2
9	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	30.9	28.3
10	Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	30.5	31.0
	Australia		**20.3**	**26.6**

(a) By students aged 6–17 years.

(b) Top regions were all Mainly urban regions.

(c) Ranked according to the proportion of all school students attending a Catholic school.

Other Non-government Schools

In 2001, 37% of those attending a non-government school were in non-Catholic schools. Attendance at other non-government schools reflected the location of such schools, with high proportions in the inner regions of Sydney, Melbourne and Perth (table 4.4). Participation in non-government schooling can be directly related to income levels across regions, as these schools often have high tuition fees. Those areas with high proportions of students attending non-government schools also had some of the highest median weekly household incomes in Australia (table 4.4; see also Chapter 6, Income and living standards).

4.4 ATTENDANCE AT OTHER NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS(a), Top ten regions(b)(c)

			Proportion of all school students(a)	*Median gross weekly household income*
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	%	$
1	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	37.1	1 110
2	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	35.8	1 159
3	Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	34.0	943
4	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	32.8	930
5	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	31.6	976
6	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	31.2	1 129
7	Southern Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	27.7	937
8	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	25.9	823
9	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	23.8	1 451
10	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	Qld	22.6	687
	Australia		**12.0**	**785**

(a) By students aged 6–17 years.

(b) Top regions were all Mainly urban regions.

(c) Ranked according to the proportion of all school students attending other non-government schools (excluding Catholic schools).

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOLING

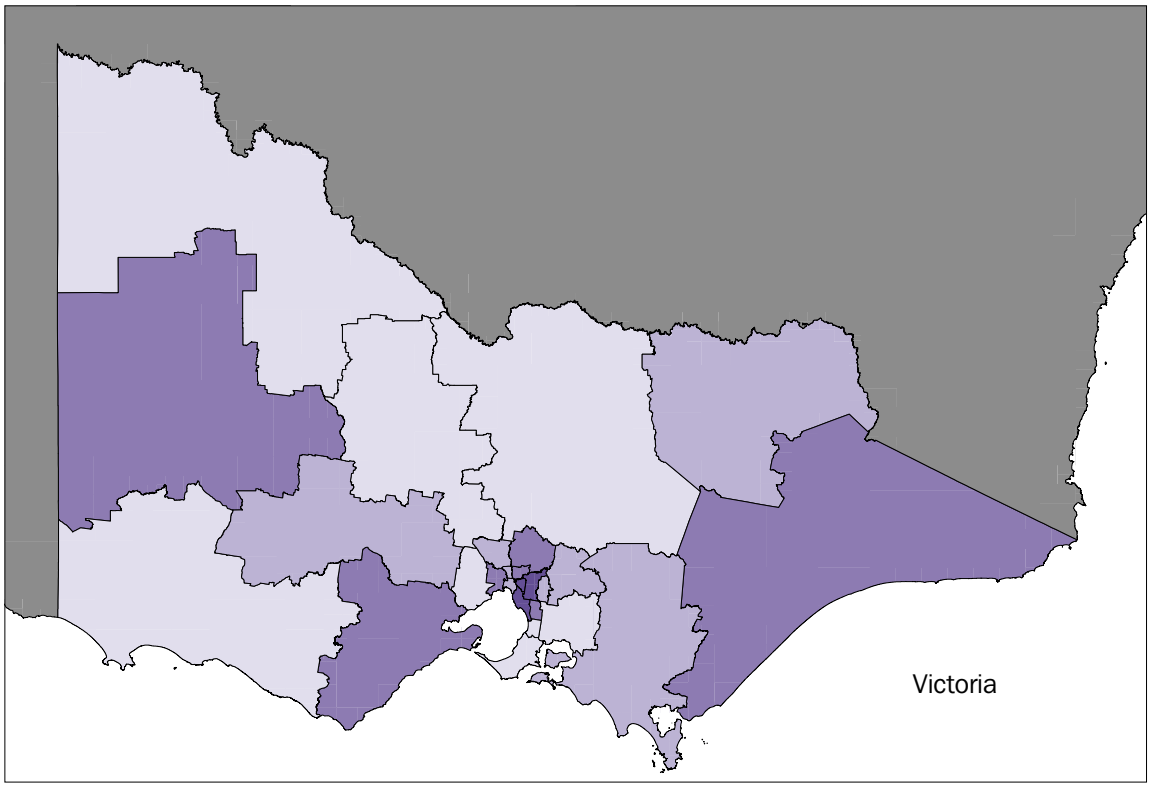
In August 2001, 95% of 6–17-year-olds attended school, unchanged since the 1996 census. As compulsory schooling ends between the ages of 14 years and nine months and 16 years, the proportion of 16-year-olds who are still at school is one measure of non-compulsory school participation. In 2001, 82% of all 16-year-olds were still at school, a slight increase from the 1996 census (80%).

A number of factors are associated with the likelihood of children continuing their schooling past the compulsory age. These include the cultural background, income level and educational attainment of their parents, the availability of job and apprenticeship opportunities, and whether they live in rural or urban regions. Urban areas usually present greater opportunities for the pursuit of education beyond school and offer more job opportunities, providing an incentive for students to stay in school past the compulsory age. In addition, as employment in urban regions is often dependent on the attainment of University qualifications (more so than in rural areas), students living in these regions may be more inclined to pursue further education.

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOLING *continued*

In 2001, a greater proportion (84%) of 16-year-olds living in Mainly urban regions of Australia were attending school than those of the same age living in Mixed urban/rural regions (78%). Across Australia, Boroondara City (SSD) (an inner region of Melbourne) had the highest proportion of 16-year-olds still at school (96%). A high proportion of 20–24-year-olds in this region stated they had completed school to the end of Year 12 (93% compared with 70% for the whole of Australia). This region also had one of the lowest unemployment rates within Australia (4.4%, compared with 7.4% for Australia as measured by the 2001 census).

4.5 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OF 16-YEAR-OLDS, Victoria(a)



(a) See Appendix 1 for detailed maps identifying regions.

Other city areas had similarly high participation rates (around 93%–94%) of 16-year-olds at school, including the Woden Valley (SSD) and Weston Creek-Stromlo and Balance of ACT regions of the Australian Capital Territory , Western Inner Brisbane (SRS) (94%) and Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD) (93%). Some Mixed urban/rural regions also had relatively high rates of participation at school by 16-year-olds, such as in the Wimmera (SD), Gippsland (SD) and East Gippsland (SD) regions of Victoria (all around 88%). These regions also had some of the highest rates of school participation by all school aged children (6–17 years) (table 4.6).

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOLING *continued*

Regions with the lowest participation rates for 16-year-olds in school were mainly located in more remote areas of Australia, the lowest (39%) in the Kimberley (SD) region of Western Australia. Some Mainly urban regions with low school participation rates, such as Greater Hobart (SSD) (64%), also had lower household income levels than the Australian average and higher unemployment rates (see Chapter 5, Employment and unemployment).

4.6 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OF 16 YEAR OLDS, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	*16-year-olds at school* %	*School aged(b) at school* %
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	96.0	98.7
2	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	94.3	97.8
3	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	93.7	91.8
4	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	93.3	97.6
5	Weston Creek-Stromlo(c) (SSD)	ACT	93.2	97.2
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	88.5	96.8
2	East Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	88.0	96.0
3	Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	87.9	96.4
4	Ovens-Murray (SD)	Vic.	86.9	96.1
5	Eyre (SD)	SA	86.6	95.0
	Australia		**82.1**	**94.9**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Greater Hobart (SSD)	Tas.	64.3	92.2
2	Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	74.6	94.1
3	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	74.7	94.2
4	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	75.3	94.6
5	South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	76.1	91.2
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	39.2	88.3
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	45.9	87.5
3	South West and Central West	Qld	49.7	89.6
4	Southern (SD)	Tas.	50.7	91.2
5	Mersey-Lyell (SD)	Tas.	52.3	89.9
	Australia		**82.1**	**94.9**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of 16-year-olds attending school.

(b) Aged 6–17 years.

(c) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Balance (SSD).

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOLING *continued*

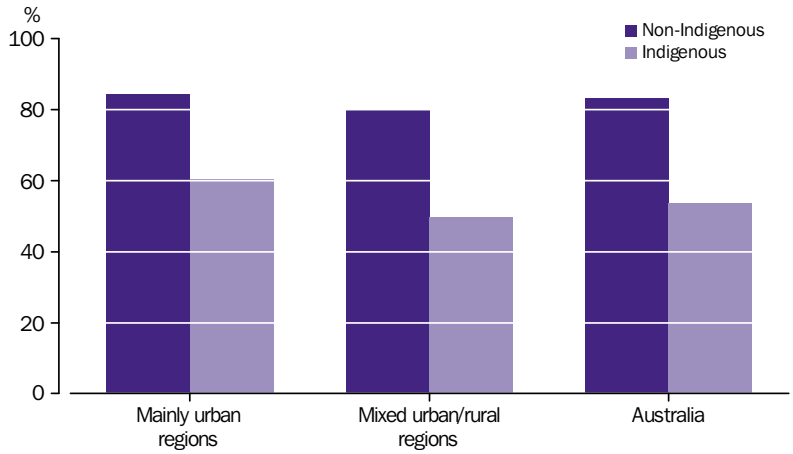
Many remote regions that had low school participation rates for 16-year-olds also had relatively large proportions of people employed in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing and Mining industries. This might reflect a lack of opportunities for education beyond school, combined with opportunities for young people to obtain early employment, or to work on a family property, once they have completed the compulsory years of schooling. In addition, many young people in rural areas who pursue further education, often move away from home to live and study in larger cities or other regions, staying with relatives, living in group households or attending colleges or boarding schools. As a result, in the census, they are counted in the usual resident population of the areas in which they are studying. School participation rates of 16-year-olds in rural areas may be reduced as a consequence.

Indigenous students' participation in school

Lower school participation rates in more remote regions may also be associated with relatively larger Indigenous populations. There are a range of factors that may affect participation in education for Indigenous Australians, including access to educational institutions, financial constraints, community expectations, and language difficulties.

Overall, participation in school by Indigenous children aged 6–17 years was slightly lower than that of the non-Indigenous school-aged population (90% compared with 95%). However, the participation rate of the Indigenous school aged population was higher in Mainly urban regions (91%) than Mixed urban/rural regions (89%).

4.7 SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, Proportion of 16-year-olds by Indigenous status



In 2001, the Indigenous population had a much lower participation rate for 16-year-olds in school (54%) than the non-Indigenous population of the same age (83%). Again, the school participation rate for Indigenous 16-year-olds was higher in Mainly urban regions (61%) than in Mixed urban/rural regions (50%). However, in 2001, a higher proportion of Indigenous 16-year-olds were attending Tertiary and Further Education (TAFE) institutions than were non-Indigenous 16-year-olds (9% compared with 5%).

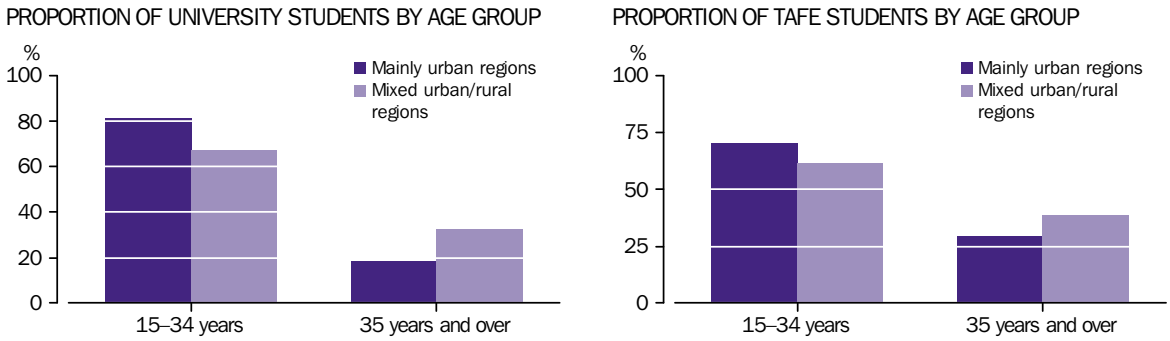
STUDENTS IN NON-SCHOOL EDUCATION

A large proportion of Australians continue their education beyond their years at school by attending Universities or TAFE institutions. Study at non-school educational institutions also encompasses study undertaken to finish school level qualifications (i.e. Years 11 and 12) outside the school system, such as through TAFE.

In 2001, 9% of Australians aged 15 years and over were participating in non-school education, with 5% undertaking study at a University (64% of these studying full-time) and 4% enrolled in a TAFE institution (33% of these studying full-time). In 2001, participation in non-school education varied across regions of Australia. As most Universities are located in large cities, with a large number of young people from rural areas moving to these regions for higher education, the vast majority (86%) of University students lived in Mainly urban regions.

Populations in inner city regions of Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney had high proportions of people aged 15 years and over participating in non-school education (table 4.9). Western Inner Brisbane (SRS) had the highest proportion attending a University (27%), followed by North Canberra (SSD) (20%) and Brisbane City Core (SSD) (16%). Some of these students may have moved from country areas to study, taking up residence on campus. In 2001 these city regions had large numbers of students living in residential colleges or halls of residence (see Chapter 7, Housing).

4.8 ATTENDANCE AT A NON-SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, By age group



Attendance rates at TAFE institutions were generally more consistent across Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions of Australia (table 4.9). Outer regions of capital cities such as Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) and Tuggeranong (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory, and Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) in Sydney, as well as Mixed urban/rural regions including Nowra-Bomaderry (SD), Far West New South Wales (SD) and Pilbara (SD), had the highest proportions of people in their populations attending TAFE institutions (all 5%).

STUDENTS IN NON-SCHOOL EDUCATION *continued*

Compared with Universities, non-school education through TAFE is generally more accessible for people living in most parts of Australia, due to a greater number and wider distribution of learning centres across the country. However, lower participation rates in TAFE colleges compared with Universities is associated with the generally smaller size of student populations in TAFE institutions.

4.9 ATTENDANCE AT A TAFE OR UNIVERSITY(a), Top ten regions(b)

Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	*%*	*Rank*	*Region*	*State or territory*	*%*
	UNIVERSITY				TAFE		
1	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	27.2	1	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	5.2
2	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	19.5	2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	5.1
3	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	15.8	3	Far West (SD)	NSW	4.9
4	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	14.7	4	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	4.7
5	Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	12.1	5	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	4.7
6	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	11.1	6	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	4.7
7	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	10.4	7	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	4.6
8	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	10.2	8	Northern (SD)	NSW	4.6
9	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	9.6	9	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	4.6
10	Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	9.5	10	Blacktown (SSD)	NSW	4.5
	Australia		**5.1**		**Australia**		**3.5**

(a) By persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of population aged 15 years and over attending a University or TAFE.

Non-school students aged 35 years and over

In August 2001, 3% (307,000) of Australians aged 35 years and over were participating in non-school education or training (at a University or TAFE institution), making up one-quarter of all non-school students. Almost 80% of these students undertook study part-time, suggesting that the majority combined study with paid employment (77% of part-time students aged 35 years and over were employed) and/or family responsibilities (54% had dependent children).

Over half (55%) of students aged 35 years and over studying at a University already held a Bachelor degree or above qualification, while one-quarter held qualifications at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level. Of TAFE students the same age, over 40% already held another qualification at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level.

Some of the highest rates of participation by people aged 35 years and over in non-school education were in the Australian Capital Territory, with North Canberra (SSD) at 8% and Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) at 7%. North Canberra (SSD), the Western Inner (SRS) region of Brisbane, and Darwin (SD) had the highest rates of participation of people aged 35 years and over at Universities, while Pilbara (SD) had the greatest proportion attending TAFE institutions (table 4.10). Higher rates of students aged 35 years and over participating in non-school education may be related to a higher proportion of the population within these regions being in those age groups that are likely to be studying.

4.10 STUDENTS AGED 35 YEARS AND OVER, ATTENDANCE AT TAFE OR UNIVERSITY, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Attending TAFE %	Attending University %	Total %
	Mainly urban regions				
1	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	1.9	5.6	7.5
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	2.6	4.3	6.9
3	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	1.3	5.4	6.7
4	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	1.7	4.3	6.0
5	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	1.5	4.5	6.0
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	1.6	4.6	6.2
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	3.4	1.5	4.9
3	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	2.2	2.4	4.6
4	Kimberley	WA	2.4	2.1	4.5
5	Northern (SD)	NSW	2.8	1.6	4.4
	Australia		**1.7**	**1.6**	**3.4**

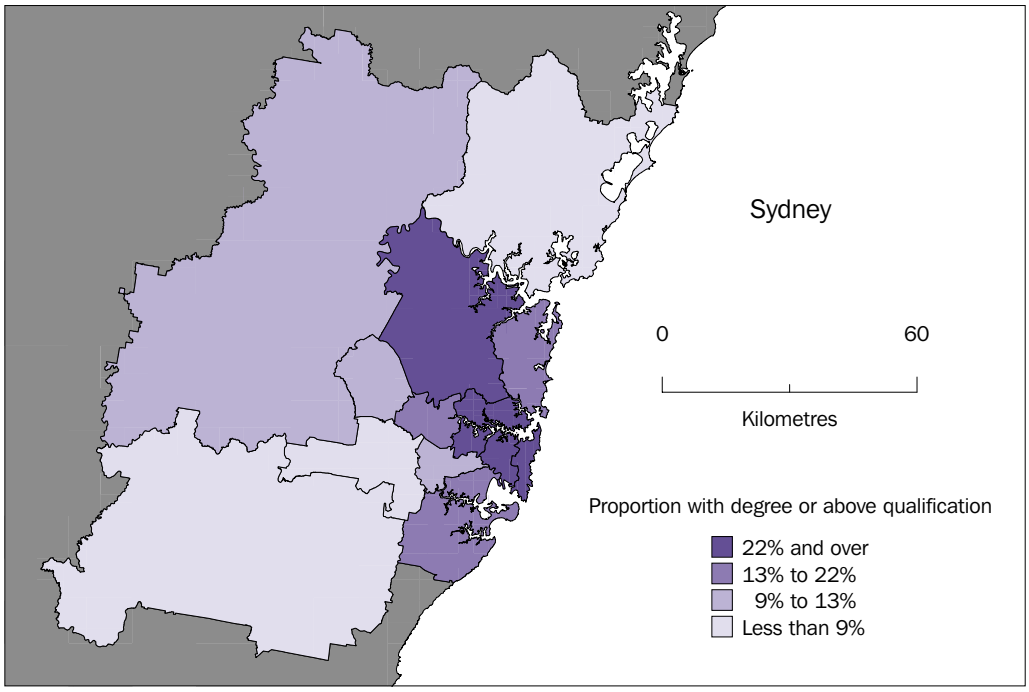
(a) Ranked according to the proportion of the total population aged 35 years and over attending a non-school educational institution.

NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

In 2001, 13% of people aged 15 years and over in Australia held a Bachelor degree or above qualification, while 22% held a qualification at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level. The proportion of people with non-school qualifications increased between the 1996 and 2001 censuses (Bachelor degree or above qualifications increasing by 32% and qualifications at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level increasing by 19%).

In 2001, people who held a Bachelor degree or above were more concentrated in Mainly urban regions than Mixed urban/rural regions (15% compared with 8%). As younger people are more likely to hold University qualifications than older people, the age structure of Mixed regions (being generally older than Mainly urban populations) may partly explain the lower proportion of people with these qualifications in such regions.

4.11 POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH A BACHELOR DEGREE OR ABOVE, Sydney (SD)(a)



(a) See Appendix 1 for detailed maps identifying regions.

Inner city regions of Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne had some of the highest proportions of people with a Bachelor degree or above (table 4.12), with South Canberra (SSD) and North Canberra (SSD) recording the highest proportions (37% and 35% respectively). These regions also had household income levels above the Australian average (see Chapter 6, Income and living standards) and lower unemployment rates than the Australian average (see Chapter 5, Employment and unemployment), reflecting the importance of qualifications for success in the labour market. Map 4.11 above illustrates the distribution of those with a Bachelor degree or above qualification for the Sydney (SD) area, with higher proportions in inner city regions than outer urban areas.

Those who held qualifications at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level were spread more evenly across all regions of Australia, as seen in table 4.12. The more even distribution of people with these types of qualifications may be related to the wider accessibility of courses that offer such qualifications, the nature of the courses offered and the types of jobs available (e.g. Agricultural qualifications can be applied in more remote regions, while Hospitality and Tourism qualifications are useful in both urban and rural locations).

4.12 NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of population(b) %
	WITH A BACHELOR DEGREE OR ABOVE(c)		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	37.2
2	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	34.6
3	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	33.7
4	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	33.6
5	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	32.7
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	13.3
2	Central Highlands (SD)	Vic.	10.1
3	Loddon (SD)	Vic.	10.0
4	South Eastern (SD)	NSW	9.6
5	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	9.0
	Australia		**12.9**

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of population(a) %
	WITH AN ADVANCED DIPLOMA, DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	27.0
2	St George-Sutherland (SSD)	NSW	26.3
3	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	25.8
4	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	25.4
5	Wollongong (SSD)	NSW	25.4
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	26.9
2	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	26.5
3	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	25.9
4	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	25.1
5	Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	24.2
	Australia		**21.8**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of the population aged 15 years and over who held a non-school qualification.

(b) Aged 15 years and over.

(c) Includes Bachelor degree, Post-graduate diploma and higher degree.

4.13 EDUCATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State Region Sub-Region	School students in total population(a)	School students attending a government school(a)	6–17-year-olds participating in school(b)	16–year-olds attending school(c)	Participation in non-school education(d)	Participation in non-school education by persons aged 35 years and over(e)	People with a Bachelor degree or above(d)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
AUSTRALIA	**12.3**	**67.7**	**94.9**	**82.1**	**8.6**	**3.4**	**12.9**
New South Wales	**14.8**	**67.6**	**95.3**	**81.2**	**8.8**	**3.5**	**13.6**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	6.8	60.3	94.9	84.2	14.5	5.3	25.5
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	9.3	36.2	96.5	89.7	13.3	3.8	27.4
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	13.8	66.7	96.6	87.0	8.9	3.0	14.2
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	13.9	61.0	95.5	81.9	8.4	2.9	9.7
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	16.1	72.1	95.5	82.2	8.2	2.9	7.1
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	18.8	73.3	94.2	74.7	7.5	3.0	7.7
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	11.9	48.7	96.8	88.7	11.4	3.8	22.0
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	13.4	63.6	95.4	82.4	10.2	3.8	13.4
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	17.2	65.9	94.1	74.6	8.2	3.6	10.5
Blacktown (SSD)	16.8	66.0	94.4	76.4	8.0	3.3	9.7
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	11.0	49.8	97.6	92.7	12.0	4.4	30.9
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	17.4	56.5	97.8	93.0	10.9	3.9	25.8
Northern Beaches (SSD)	12.6	61.1	96.8	87.4	8.2	3.1	19.1
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	15.7	77.9	94.6	75.3	6.0	2.8	7.6
Newcastle (SSD)	15.2	75.6	94.3	77.1	8.7	3.4	9.0
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	16.1	78.7	94.7	78.4	5.2	2.8	6.4
Wollongong (SSD)	15.3	75.2	94.5	78.1	9.6	3.5	10.4
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	17.4	76.5	93.8	73.1	7.3	4.2	7.1
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	16.3	71.6	95.3	77.5	5.2	3.1	9.0
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	16.2	69.4	95.0	80.2	6.8	3.4	8.9
Lismore (S Dist)	15.6	68.5	94.2	79.4	13.8	5.3	10.2
Tweed Heads (SSD)	13.2	67.0	94.4	75.7	4.3	2.2	5.8
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	17.4	70.2	95.4	81.6	6.1	3.5	9.8
Mid-North Coast (SD)	16.9	75.5	95.0	79.8	5.5	3.2	6.8
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	16.6	68.6	94.7	79.4	7.0	3.4	8.0
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	15.2	61.2	95.2	80.8	5.5	3.2	8.2
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	17.3	79.4	95.0	79.8	5.1	3.2	6.3
Northern (SD)	16.7	74.3	94.4	77.7	8.6	4.4	8.6
Tamworth (S Dist)	17.9	70.2	94.8	81.1	7.1	4.1	8.1
Balance of Northern (SD)	16.4	75.7	94.2	76.6	9.1	4.5	8.7
North Western (SD)	16.7	74.3	94.3	76.2	6.1	3.6	7.0
Dubbo (S Dist)	17.2	69.5	94.5	76.1	7.2	3.7	8.6
Balance of North Western (SD)	16.5	76.4	94.2	76.2	5.7	3.5	6.3
Central West (SD)	16.9	68.1	94.6	79.6	7.8	3.6	7.9
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	17.4	58.2	94.8	82.0	10.1	4.1	10.2
Balance of Central West (SD)	16.5	75.9	94.6	77.6	6.0	3.4	6.1
South Eastern (SD)	15.9	72.2	95.3	80.1	6.1	3.6	9.6
Murrumbidgee (SD)	16.8	69.2	94.2	77.4	8.1	3.4	7.9
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	16.4	63.1	94.0	78.9	13.6	4.8	10.2
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	17.0	72.2	94.3	76.6	5.2	2.8	6.6
Murray (SD)	16.3	75.2	95.0	79.2	7.1	3.5	7.7
Albury (SSD)	16.0	69.7	93.9	74.3	10.9	4.8	9.5
Balance of Murray (SD)	16.5	78.5	95.7	82.5	4.7	2.8	6.5
Far West (SD)	14.1	91.7	91.8	70.1	6.5	4.1	5.0

(a) All students aged 6–17 years.

(b) As a proportion of total population aged 6–17 years.

(c) As a proportion of total population aged 16 years.

(d) Persons aged 15 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 15 years and over.

(e) Persons aged 35 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 35 years and over.

4.13 EDUCATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*School students in total population(a)* %	*School students attending a government school(a)* %	*6–17-year-olds participating in school(b)* %	*16–year-olds attending school(c)* %	*Participation in non-school education(d)* %	*Participation in non-school education by persons aged 35 years and over(e)* %	*People with a Bachelor degree or above(d)* %
Victoria	**14.9**	**65.1**	**96.4**	**87.9**	**8.7**	**3.0**	**14.2**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	5.6	50.2	94.3	86.9	18.2	5.2	31.9
Western Melbourne (SSD)	13.5	57.6	96.7	89.2	8.4	2.6	12.2
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	18.4	64.4	95.8	84.0	7.0	2.6	7.8
Moreland City (SSD)	10.8	57.1	96.0	86.6	10.5	3.3	16.1
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	12.4	61.3	96.8	88.7	10.4	3.4	17.1
Hume City (SSD)	18.3	67.4	96.3	86.4	7.0	2.4	6.6
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	17.7	63.9	96.7	88.4	8.1	2.7	11.0
Boroondara City (SSD)	14.5	43.3	98.7	96.0	14.0	4.1	33.6
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	13.2	60.2	97.6	93.3	11.2	3.2	20.7
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	16.5	70.5	96.5	87.9	8.0	2.8	12.0
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	17.9	73.1	96.2	87.2	7.5	3.2	10.6
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	13.2	47.3	97.8	92.2	9.7	3.0	21.5
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	13.4	69.7	96.0	88.6	7.9	2.2	6.9
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	18.4	70.0	96.0	83.6	6.6	2.4	7.6
Frankston City (SSD)	15.9	77.2	95.1	82.7	6.7	2.5	7.8
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	15.2	71.1	95.7	86.0	5.3	2.2	10.2
Barwon (SD)	15.8	68.0	96.5	88.3	7.1	3.0	10.4
Geelong (S Dist)	15.2	65.8	96.4	87.7	7.9	3.0	10.0
Balance of Barwon (SD)	16.8	71.3	96.8	89.3	5.7	2.9	11.2
Western District (SD)	17.0	71.3	95.9	84.4	5.9	3.1	8.1
Warrnambool (S Dist)	16.3	69.1	95.4	79.9	8.9	4.0	10.1
Balance of Western District (SD)	17.3	72.1	96.1	86.2	4.7	2.8	7.2
Central Highlands (SD)	16.6	65.8	95.9	86.2	8.0	3.3	10.1
Ballarat (S Dist)	16.3	61.9	95.7	86.2	9.7	3.6	11.1
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	17.2	71.1	96.3	86.3	5.5	3.0	8.6
Wimmera (SD)	16.4	81.0	96.8	88.5	4.3	2.5	7.2
Mallee (SD)	16.7	74.0	95.6	83.3	4.1	2.0	6.7
Mildura (S Dist)	16.8	73.1	95.1	80.8	4.8	2.4	7.2
Balance of Mallee (SD)	16.6	74.9	96.1	85.6	3.3	1.6	6.1
Loddon (SD)	16.9	72.5	95.8	84.3	7.0	3.3	10.0
Bendigo (S Dist)	16.3	72.7	94.9	81.2	9.0	3.6	10.3
Balance of Loddon (SD)	17.5	72.3	96.5	87.0	5.2	3.0	9.9
Goulburn (SD)	17.1	74.2	96.0	85.8	4.5	2.3	7.5
Shepparton (S Dist)	16.7	75.9	95.6	85.5	5.2	2.7	8.0
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	17.2	73.7	96.1	85.9	4.3	2.2	7.4
Ovens-Murray (SD)	17.4	74.9	96.1	86.9	7.2	3.8	8.9
Wodonga (S Dist)	17.6	71.4	95.4	86.0	11.0	5.0	8.1
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	17.2	76.7	96.5	87.3	5.2	3.2	9.3
East Gippsland (SD)	16.6	71.5	96.0	88.0	4.3	2.4	7.2
Gippsland (SD)	17.2	72.2	96.4	87.9	5.4	2.7	7.8
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	17.7	69.7	96.0	86.6	6.4	3.0	7.4
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	16.8	74.5	96.7	89.2	4.5	2.5	8.1

(a) All students aged 6–17 years.

(b) As a proportion of total population aged 6–17 years.

(c) As a proportion of total population aged 16 years.

(d) Persons aged 15 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 15 years and over.

(e) Persons aged 35 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 35 years and over.

4.13 EDUCATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*School students in total population(a)*	*School students attending a government school(a)*	*6–17-year-olds participating in school(b)*	*16–year-olds attending school(c)*	*Participation in non-school education(d)*	*Participation in non-school education by persons aged 35 years and over*(e)	*People with a Bachelor degree or above(d)*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Queensland	**15.5**	**69.9**	**94.1**	**82.3**	**7.9**	**3.2**	**10.8**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	5.7	58.9	91.5	84.6	19.4	6.0	27.9
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	11.8	49.9	94.9	90.2	11.6	4.5	22.5
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	12.5	48.8	95.6	90.8	11.6	4.3	20.9
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	11.0	62.0	95.2	89.5	13.0	4.9	21.9
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	10.0	46.9	91.8	93.7	29.7	6.7	33.7
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	15.0	60.6	95.2	88.9	8.5	3.2	13.2
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	14.6	63.5	93.8	81.7	6.9	3.0	11.0
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	14.6	66.8	94.1	87.4	12.8	3.9	14.9
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	16.7	63.2	95.3	88.1	10.8	4.0	20.0
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	17.7	76.7	93.2	78.3	5.8	2.7	5.3
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	19.7	76.2	94.8	83.6	5.7	2.9	5.9
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	17.7	81.8	94.1	79.9	4.9	2.4	5.4
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	17.1	70.6	93.3	78.4	6.8	3.3	6.2
Logan City (SSD)	18.4	74.5	93.5	80.7	6.7	3.0	6.1
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	18.4	70.7	95.4	87.9	7.8	3.3	10.8
Redcliffe City (SSD)	14.0	65.4	93.5	80.7	5.3	2.6	6.7
Redland Shire (SSD)	17.4	64.4	94.0	80.7	6.8	2.8	8.9
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	13.5	65.2	94.3	81.6	6.1	2.6	8.6
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	14.9	73.5	94.6	83.2	5.6	2.7	8.8
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	17.8	81.1	94.8	83.8	5.0	2.7	7.5
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	16.1	83.1	93.6	77.8	4.8	2.8	5.7
Bundaberg (S Dist)	16.0	78.4	93.4	81.2	5.9	3.3	6.4
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	14.9	81.9	93.2	75.9	5.6	3.1	5.8
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	16.5	85.3	93.9	77.0	4.2	2.5	5.4
Darling Downs (SD)	17.0	65.0	94.1	81.7	7.1	3.0	8.8
Toowoomba (S Dist)	17.3	53.4	94.2	85.8	10.0	3.7	11.0
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	16.6	78.1	94.0	76.2	4.0	2.2	6.3
South West and Central West	14.5	78.5	89.6	49.7	4.4	2.0	7.0
Fitzroy (SD)	17.6	71.8	94.0	81.8	7.2	3.6	8.0
Rockhampton (S Dist)	16.6	60.1	93.0	81.5	9.4	3.8	8.7
Gladstone (S Dist)	18.6	82.5	94.7	82.9	7.0	4.2	7.8
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	17.8	75.1	94.3	81.4	5.4	3.3	7.4
Mackay (SD)	16.7	77.3	94.4	81.0	5.2	3.0	6.6
Northern (SD)	16.3	67.4	93.9	82.3	8.8	3.7	9.5
Townsville (S Dist)	15.9	67.5	93.9	83.8	10.7	4.2	10.9
Balance of Northern (SD)	17.3	67.2	94.2	79.1	4.2	2.7	5.9
Far North (SD)	15.7	73.4	93.8	78.0	5.5	3.4	8.3
Cairns (S Dist)	15.2	64.7	94.3	81.5	7.0	4.2	10.0
Balance of Far North (SD)	16.2	81.8	93.2	74.6	3.9	2.5	6.5
North West (SD)	15.2	79.8	91.0	61.0	4.4	2.6	6.9

(a) All students aged 6–17 years.

(b) As a proportion of total population aged 6–17 years.

(c) As a proportion of total population aged 16 years.

(d) Persons aged 15 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 15 years and over.

(e) Persons aged 35 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 35 years and over.

4.13 EDUCATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*School students in total population(a)*	*School students attending a government school(a)*	*6–17-year-olds participating in school(b)*	*16–year-olds attending school(c)*	*Participation in non-school education(d)*	*Participation in non-school education by persons aged 35 years and over*(e)	*People with a Bachelor degree or above(d)*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
South Australia	**14.6**	**68.1**	**95.2**	**85.0**	**7.6**	**3.2**	**10.7**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	15.6	67.5	94.1	80.9	6.7	2.8	6.4
Western Adelaide (SSD)	11.7	57.8	95.4	86.4	7.9	3.0	9.8
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	12.7	50.3	97.3	92.1	12.1	4.3	23.3
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	15.0	69.0	95.5	86.2	8.6	3.7	12.2
Outer Adelaide (SD)	16.5	72.0	95.4	86.3	5.4	3.1	8.6
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	15.5	88.0	96.2	86.5	3.7	2.3	5.3
Murray Lands (SD)	15.7	82.2	94.4	82.2	3.4	2.1	4.5
South East (SD)	16.4	85.5	94.4	83.1	4.7	2.8	5.7
Eyre (SD)	16.4	84.3	95.0	86.6	4.1	2.6	5.6
Northern (SD)	15.6	76.9	94.1	79.9	5.2	3.1	5.5
Western Australia	**15.4**	**69.4**	**92.3**	**75.6**	**8.9**	**3.6**	**12.1**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	12.5	42.6	95.2	92.2	15.3	4.8	31.3
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	15.9	67.8	92.4	77.4	8.6	3.9	10.2
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	15.5	64.0	92.7	78.8	9.7	3.7	12.8
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	15.7	67.9	93.0	79.3	9.1	3.5	12.8
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	14.4	70.2	91.2	76.1	10.7	3.6	11.4
South West (SD)	16.7	76.7	91.9	69.4	5.4	3.0	7.1
Mandurah (S Dist)	15.4	75.4	90.9	63.1	4.5	2.3	5.3
Bunbury (S Dist)	17.4	76.1	90.8	67.3	7.4	4.1	8.1
Balance of South West (SD)	17.3	77.8	93.1	75.2	4.9	2.9	7.8
Lower Great Southern (SD)	16.8	82.7	92.2	68.9	5.5	3.5	8.0
Upper Great Southern (SD)	16.6	94.0	93.9	76.1	3.4	2.1	7.4
South Eastern (SD)	15.3	83.7	90.5	56.7	5.4	3.1	8.0
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	15.0	76.9	90.3	52.7	6.8	3.6	9.2
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	15.7	91.1	90.8	61.4	3.8	2.5	6.7
Midlands (SD)	16.2	87.6	92.9	65.6	4.4	2.3	6.6
Central (SD)	16.4	70.8	91.6	64.5	5.0	3.1	6.6
Geraldton (S Dist)	18.2	63.0	91.6	69.9	6.0	3.7	6.6
Balance of Central (SD)	14.6	81.2	91.6	54.4	3.9	2.4	6.5
Pilbara (SD)	16.7	87.5	92.5	67.2	7.0	4.9	8.4
Kimberley (SD)	14.3	70.7	88.3	39.2	5.8	4.5	8.2
Tasmania	**15.0**	**72.3**	**91.2**	**59.2**	**7.8**	**3.3**	**9.8**
Greater Hobart (SD)	14.9	65.7	92.2	64.3	9.4	3.6	13.2
Southern (SD)	15.3	79.6	91.2	50.7	4.4	2.4	7.0
Northern (SD)	14.7	75.7	91.0	59.2	8.0	3.3	8.8
Launceston (S Dist)	14.6	72.7	90.9	60.7	9.1	3.6	9.6
Balance of Northern (SD)	15.1	83.9	91.4	54.3	4.8	2.6	6.3
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	15.4	77.5	89.9	52.3	5.8	3.0	5.8
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	14.8	76.3	89.7	52.5	6.1	3.1	6.0
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	16.9	80.1	90.2	51.8	4.9	2.7	5.1

(a) All students aged 6–17 years.

(b) As a proportion of total population aged 6–17 years.

(c) As a proportion of total population aged 16 years.

(d) Persons aged 15 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 15 years and over.

(e) Persons aged 35 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 35 years and over.

4.13 EDUCATION INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State *Region* *Sub-Region*	*School students in total population(a)* %	*School students attending a government school(a)* %	*6–17-year-olds participating in school(b)* %	*16–year-olds attending school(c)* %	*Participation in non-school education(d)* %	*Participation in non-school education by persons aged 35 years and over(e)* %	*People with a Bachelor degree or above(d)* %
Northern Territory	**15.4**	**76.0**	**91.1**	**63.3**	**7.7**	**5.5**	**11.0**
Darwin (SD)	15.5	74.6	94.6	81.1	9.8	6.2	13.3
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	15.7	77.7	87.5	45.9	5.1	4.6	8.0
Australian Capital Territory	**15.9**	**62.0**	**96.7**	**88.7**	**13.5**	**5.8**	**25.9**
North Canberra (SSD)	9.8	65.5	95.8	86.4	23.2	7.5	34.6
Belconnen (SSD)	15.6	67.3	96.5	87.6	14.2	5.4	24.3
Woden Valley (SSD)	14.1	54.7	97.8	94.3	11.9	6.0	32.7
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	14.9	64.0	97.2	93.2	10.6	5.1	27.1
Tuggeranong (SSD)	20.7	61.2	96.7	87.0	10.0	5.3	17.4
South Canberra (SSD)	13.2	50.2	96.7	92.2	12.5	6.0	37.2
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	15.2	59.9	97.2	89.9	12.7	6.9	23.6
Other Territories	**18.1**	**98.3**	**95.6**	**70.0**	**4.6**	**3.8**	**10.8**

(a) All students aged 6–17 years.

(b) As a proportion of total population aged 6–17 years.

(c) As a proportion of total population aged 16 years.

(d) Persons aged 15 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 15 years and over.

(e) Persons aged 35 years and over, as a proportion of total population aged 35 years and over.

CHAPTER 5 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

INTRODUCTION

Levels of employment and unemployment can be indicative of a region's economic and social wellbeing. At the community level, rates of employment and unemployment can indicate whether local industries, with the potential to attract people and investment into the region, are performing well in an increasingly competitive market. For individuals, employment has a direct bearing on their own and their family's material wellbeing. Moreover, employment can enhance an individual's sense of community participation and provide them with much personal satisfaction.

Over the last 20–30 years, factors such as globalisation and rapid technological change have led to substantial industrial change across all regions of Australia, with a major impact on the way Australians work. One change has been growth in the service sector and a corresponding fall in employment in industries such as manufacturing and mining. Some regions, especially those dependent on only one or two major industries, have fared worse through this process than others, and may have experienced increased unemployment as a result. Nevertheless, some regions have been able to establish new economic activities and create employment opportunities for people who want work.

One change to the labour market, arising from the growth of service industries, is the growth of part-time work. Over the last 20–30 years, the number of part-time jobs in Australia has increased at a faster rate than full-time jobs. Part-time work is attractive to people at different life stages when the primary focus may be on other activities such as study or caring for children. It is also attractive to many older people who choose to remain attached to the labour force but in a less than full-time capacity. Regions with high levels of part-time work often have relatively high proportions of people at these life stages. However, others may not work part-time through choice, and would prefer to work more hours.

At the regional level, employment and unemployment are influenced by a variety of other factors such as migration into and out of the region. Out-migration of younger people can affect the economic and social structure of the region they leave. This effect is compounded by the ageing of the Australian population, leading to an overall increase in the number of retired people compared with the number of people working. In some regions, this has resulted in relatively low labour force participation, with fewer people available for employment.

These changes to economic activities and labour markets have influenced regional employment in different ways and to different degrees. This chapter will examine some of the working patterns of people in different regions across Australia.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION

The 2001 census counted 9 million people aged 15 years and over in the labour force (i.e. either employed or unemployed). This equates to 63% of the total population aged 15 years and over. The labour force participation rate was higher for men (71%) than for women (55%), reflecting the fact that women often spend some time out of the labour force to have and to look after children.

The remaining 37% of the population aged 15 years and over were not in the labour force for reasons such as being retired, caring for children or other family members, studying full-time, or undertaking voluntary work.

5.1 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

			LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE...		
		State or territory	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*
Rank	*Region*		%	%	%
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS				
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	86.2	74.1	79.9
2	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	81.9	70.7	76.1
3	Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	Qld	80.3	64.1	72.1
4	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	76.8	67.0	71.8
5	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	75.0	65.7	70.4
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	85.5	67.0	77.3
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	80.3	70.9	75.8
3	North West (SD)	Qld	82.1	63.7	73.5
4	South West and Central West	Qld	80.8	64.7	73.1
5	South Eastern (SD)	WA	82.2	61.7	72.7
	Australia		**70.9**	**55.4**	**63.0**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS				
	Mainly urban regions				
1	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	62.1	46.1	53.6
2	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	63.4	49.2	56.1
3	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	66.1	47.3	56.6
4	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	66.3	47.5	56.7
5	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	NSW	65.3	49.1	56.8
	Mixed urban/rural regions				
1	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	58.2	45.0	51.4
2	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	58.6	44.7	51.5
3	Far West (SD)	NSW	59.9	44.6	52.2
4	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	60.8	45.8	53.4
5	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	61.0	46.3	53.6
	Australia		**70.9**	**55.4**	**63.0**

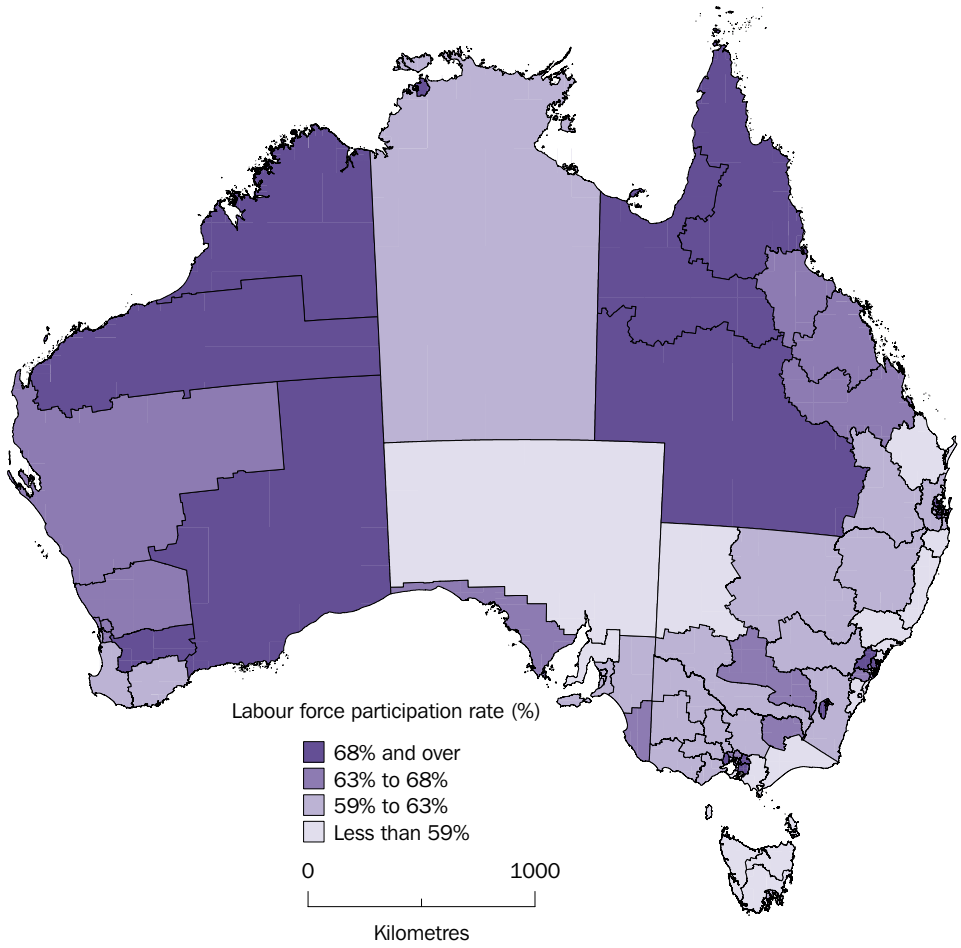
(a) Ranked according to the labour force participation rate of persons.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION *continued*

In August 2001, labour force participation was slightly higher in Mainly urban than in Mixed urban/rural regions (64% compared with 61%). This can partly be attributed to the slightly older age structure of people in Mixed regions (see Chapter 1, Population growth and distribution).

In 2001, people aged 65 years and over made up a greater proportion of people not in the labour force (38%) than any other age group. Following from this, some of the regions with the lowest labour force participation rates were those with high proportions of people aged 65 years and over. The Mid-North Coast (SD) and Illawarra SD Balance (SSD) were not only the regions with the lowest labour force participation rates in Australia (both around 51%), but were also among the 'oldest' regions of Australia (see Chapter 1, Population growth and distribution). Around 18% of the population of the Mid-North Coast (SD) and around 19% of the population of the Illawarra SD Balance (SSD) were aged 65 years and over, compared to an Australian average of 13%.

5.2 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION, Australia



LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION *continued*

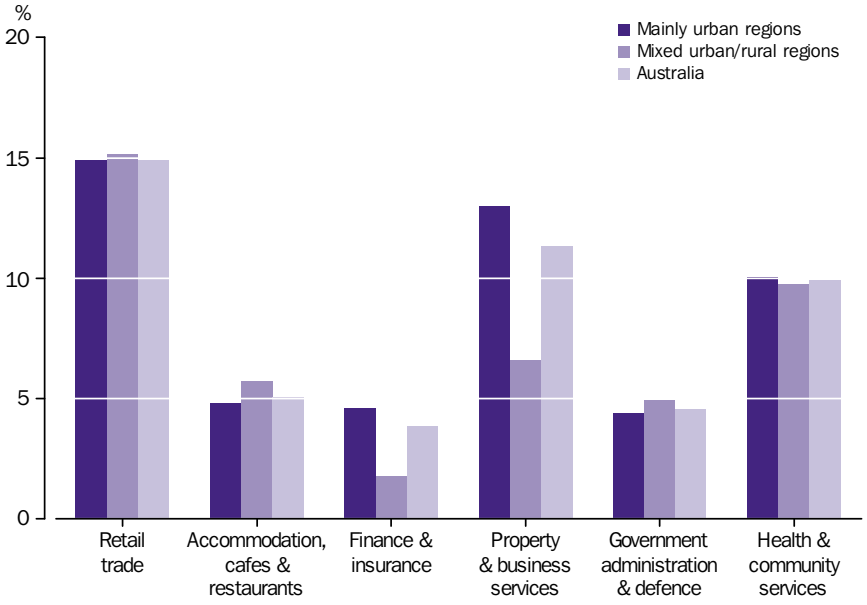
Other regions with low labour force participation rates were those with substantial proportions of mothers not in the labour force. For example, 51% of women with children aged under 15 years in Greater Dandenong City (SSD), and 50% in Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD), were not in the labour force (compared with an Australian average of 39%).

The Australian Capital Territory featured prominently among the Mainly urban regions with the highest labour force participation rates. The Pine Rivers Shire (SSD) in northern Brisbane and Inner Sydney (SSD) also had labour force participation rates above 70%. Among Mixed urban/rural regions, the mining regions of Pilbara (SD) and North West Queensland (SD) had substantial participation rates (77% and 74%, respectively), as did Darwin (SD) (76%). Most of these regions are characterised by high proportions of 15–64-year-olds. For example, 78% of the population of Inner Sydney (SSD), and 71% of the populations in each of Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) and Pilbara (SD) were aged 15–64 years, compared with an Australian average of 67%.

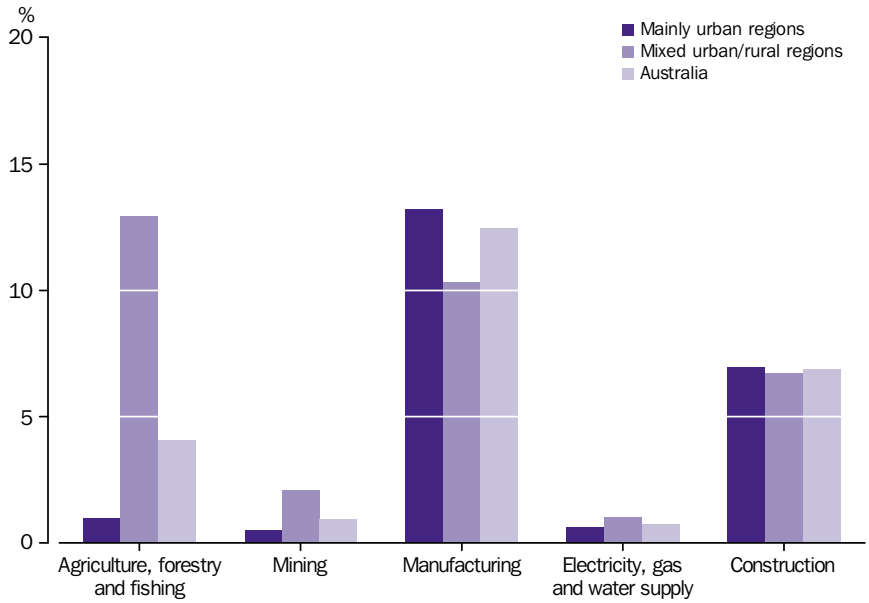
INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT

In August 2001, three-quarters of employed Australians worked in service industries, and the remaining quarter were employed in goods-producing industries, reflecting the shift in Australia's industrial base over the last 20–30 years. Across Australia, almost half of all employed people aged 15 years and over were working in the four largest industries: Retail trade (15%), Manufacturing (12%), Property and business services (11%) and Health and community services (10%).

5.3 PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN SELECTED SERVICE INDUSTRIES



5.4 PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES



Overall, service industries provided a relatively larger base for employment in Mainly urban regions than in Mixed urban/rural regions (78% compared with 67%). However, greater differences between Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions were apparent when looking at particular industries. As shown in graph 5.4, people employed in Agriculture, forestry and fishing were particularly concentrated in Mixed regions, accounting for 13% of employed people in Mixed regions but only 1% of employed people in Mainly urban regions. In contrast, people employed in Property and business services were more concentrated in Mainly urban regions (13% compared with 7%) (graph 5.3). However, other industries with large shares of employees, such as Manufacturing, Health and community services, and Retail trade, were more evenly represented in Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions.

Service industries

In 2001, all regions in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) had very high proportions of people employed in service industries (more than 88%). This was largely due to the relatively high proportion of employed people in Government administration and defence in the ACT (24%), compared with that of all employed Australians (5%). The proportion of employed people in Property and Business services was also slightly higher than the Australian average (15% compared with 11%).

Of Mixed urban/rural regions, Darwin (SD) and the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) had the highest proportions of people employed in service industries (84% and 82%, respectively). The industrial base in both of these regions was varied, but included substantial contributions from Government administration and defence, Accommodation, cafes and restaurants and Personal and other services.

5.5 EMPLOYED PERSONS IN SERVICE AND GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all employed people %	All people employed in service or goods-producing industries '000
	SERVICE INDUSTRIES			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	94.1	17.1
2	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	92.6	10.3
3	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	92.3	14.2
4	Weston Creek-Stromlo(b)	ACT	90.8	11.00
5	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	90.3	38.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	84.2	41.4
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	82.2	25.7
3	Kimberley (SD)	WA	78.6	10.0
4	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	78.2	8.5
5	Far North (SD)	Qld	75.9	71.2
	Australia		**74.9**	**6 070.7**
	GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	39.0	18.0
2	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	34.9	35.2
3	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	32.5	40.5
4	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	31.5	20.7
5	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	30.8	5.4
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	52.2	4.5
2	Murray Lands (SD)	SA	46.5	13.1
3	Midlands (SD)	WA	46.4	10.2
4	South East (SD)	SA	45.8	13.0
5	South West and Central West	Qld	44.8	8.5
	Australia		**25.1**	**2 035.4**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of employed people working in service industries, and the proportion of people working in goods-producing industries.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Balance (SSD).

Goods-producing industries

Among Mainly urban regions, a relatively high proportion of people were employed in goods-producing industries in a band of regions stretching across outer eastern Melbourne, including Greater Dandenong City (SSD), South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) and Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD). All of these regions had more than 30% of their employed populations working in goods-producing industries, compared with 25% nationally. Manufacturing was the prominent industry in these regions (employing 23% of workers, compared with 12% of Australian workers overall). Many of the people employed in manufacturing in this area were working in Machinery and equipment manufacturing, or Petroleum, chemical and coal manufacturing, in industrial areas outside of Dandenong City (see Chapter 9, Case study: South Eastern Outer Melbourne, for a detailed account of employment and other characteristics of this region).

Goods-producing industries *continued*

Agriculture, forestry and fishing featured prominently among Mixed urban/rural regions with a relatively high proportion of employed people working in this industry. To the south east of Perth, Upper Great Southern (SD) had just under half (43%) of its very small working population employed in Agriculture, forestry and fishing (compared with an Australian average of 4%). Similarly, the Murray Lands (SD) and South East (SD) regions of South Australia recorded relatively high proportions of employed people in this industry (29% and 22%, respectively).

WORKING HOURS

Both long working hours and underemployment have been identified as research and policy issues in Australia. On the one hand, over the last 20 years, average working hours of full-time workers have increased and higher proportions of people are working very long hours, trends which may impact negatively on their health and the quality of their family and community life (ABS 2003b). On the other hand, as the number of part-time jobs has increased more rapidly than the number of full-time jobs, there are many people who would prefer to work more hours than they presently do. Together, these trends have led to concerns that the workforce is polarising into low income, part-time workers who want to work more hours, and overworked full-time workers (Burgess 2002).

Long working hours

In August 2001, the census counted 1.5 million people or 19% of the employed population who reported working 50 hours and over in all jobs in the previous week. Longer working hours are more common among people who are self-employed than among employees. In August 2001, 39% of self-employed people worked 50 hours and over per week, compared with 15% of employees.

Related to this, longer working hours are also more common among jobs characterised by high levels of personal responsibility and accountability, relatively high earnings and no set working hours. Of all occupations, Managers and administrators had the highest proportion of people working 50 hours and over per week (48%). The industries with the highest proportion of employed people working 50 hours and over per week were Mining (44%) and Agriculture, forestry and fishing (42%).

The proportion of people working 50 hours and over per week was slightly higher in Mixed urban/rural regions than in Mainly urban regions (22% compared with 18%). Farming areas such as Upper Great Southern (SD) in Western Australia and South West and Central West Queensland had around 35% of their workers working 50 hours and over per week, while the Western Australian mining regions of South Eastern (SD) and Pilbara (SD) had similarly high proportions (36% and 32%, respectively).

Among Mainly urban regions, the high proportions of people working as Managers and administrators, especially in inner-city areas, helped to account for high proportions of people working long hours. Specifically, in Boroondara City (SSD) in Melbourne, Lower Northern Sydney (SSD) and Inner Melbourne (SSD), around a quarter of employed people reported working 50 hours and over in the week prior to the census.

5.6 EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) WORKING LONG AND SHORT HOURS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

Rank	Region	State or territory	As a proportion of all employed people %	All people working 50 hours and over per week or 35 hours and under per week no.
	WORKING 50 HOURS AND OVER PER WEEK			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	25.2	18 204
2	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	25.1	36 039
3	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	25.1	31 388
4	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	24.1	2 672
5	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	23.6	8 171
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	South Eastern (SD)	WA	35.5	8 601
2	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	34.9	3 008
3	South West and Central West	Qld	34.4	6 461
4	Pilbara (SD)	WA	31.9	5 768
5	Midlands (SD)	WA	31.4	6 867
	Australia		**19.2**	**1 543 770**
	WORKING 35 HOURS AND UNDER PER WEEK			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	40.8	27 164
2	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	38.6	10 475
3	Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	37.7	29 312
4	Newcastle (SSD)	NSW	37.6	67 954
5	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	Vic.	37.4	19 288
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	41.2	29 531
2	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	41.2	36 245
3	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	40.3	13 301
4	Southern (SD)	Tas.	39.6	4 774
5	Lower Great Southern (SD)	WA	38.3	8 024
	Australia		**33.4**	**2 689 709**

(a) Includes both full-time and part-time employed people.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of employed people who were working 50 hours and over per week, and the proportion of employed people working 35 hours and under per week.

Part-time work

The rapid increase in the number of part-time jobs in Australia over the past 20 years is associated with the increase in service industries, where working hours tend to be more varied than traditional daytime weekday working hours. It is also associated with the increase of women's participation in the paid labour force. The growth in part-time jobs has afforded many benefits, allowing people to balance work with other aspects of their lives, such as caring for young children. However, it has also had some negative effects, as some people working part-time would prefer to work longer hours.

Part-time work *continued*

In 2001, around a third of employed people reported working part-time hours in the week prior to the census. Part-time workers were evenly distributed across Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions, and a large proportion were aged 35–49 years. Moreover, part-time workers are more commonly female than male. Together, these characteristics suggest that many part-time workers are women balancing their paid work with unpaid care of children. Other people working part-time include young people who are also studying, and older people who are semi-retired.

In 2001, Richmond-Tweed (SD) and the Mid-North Coast (SD) regions in northern New South Wales, and the Sunshine Coast (SSD) in Queensland, had the highest proportions of part-time workers of all regions in Australia (41% each). In Richmond-Tweed (SD) and the Mid-North Coast (SD), people aged 65 years and over made up a relatively large share of part-time workers, compared with the distribution for Australia as a whole. The Sunshine Coast (SSD) had a higher proportion of younger (15–19 years) part-time workers, compared with Australia in general.

UNEMPLOYMENT

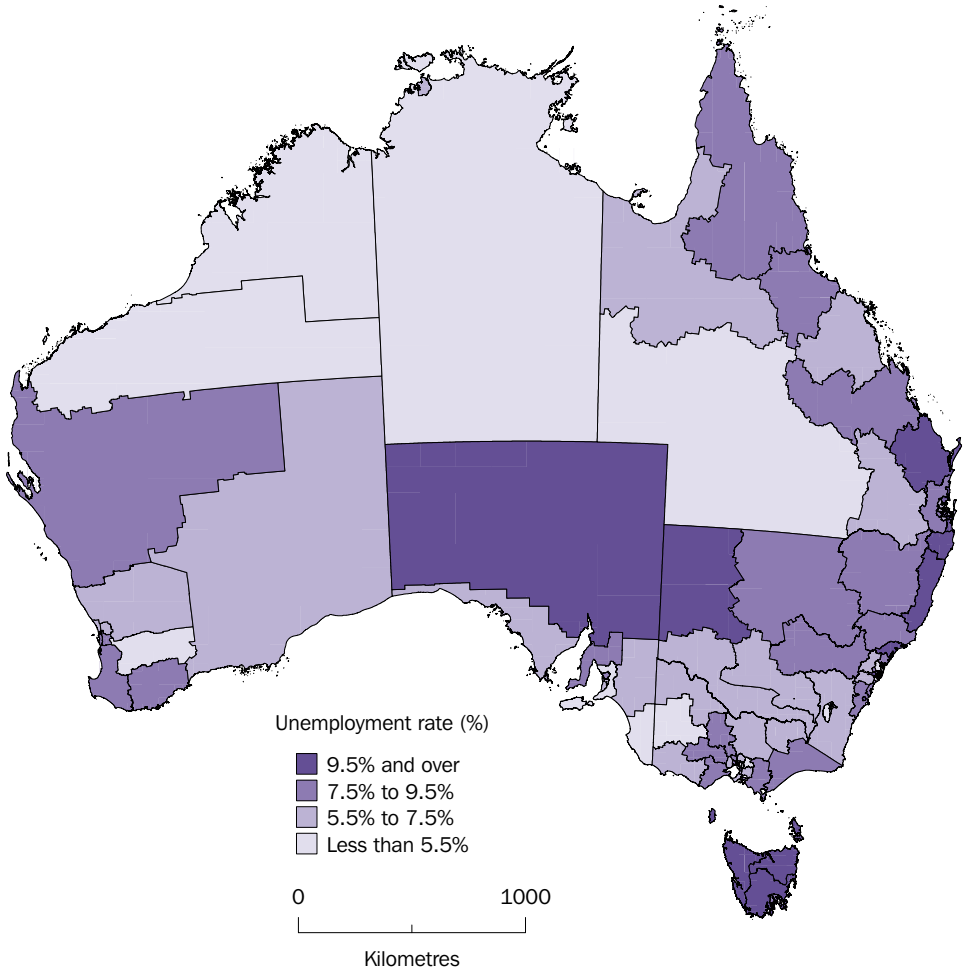
The unemployment rate is a well-established indicator of economic conditions, and at the regional level is a key measure of community wellbeing. In August 2001, the unemployment rate (as measured by the census) for Australia was 7.4%, but this varied widely across regions. A long belt of coastal regions in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland had unemployment rates that were among the highest in the country (10% or more). In contrast, parts of inner Sydney and Canberra, as well as remote mainland areas of Queensland and Western Australia, had the lowest unemployment rates in the country (less than 5%).

Variation in unemployment rates between regions is associated with a range of factors, including the movement of unemployed people into and out of an area, the demographic characteristics of residents, and the characteristics of local industries and labour markets (ABS 2003b). For example, more remote inland areas may have low unemployment rates because of the movement of unemployed people out of these areas. Conversely, coastal areas of New South Wales and Queensland may have high unemployment rates because unemployed people move there for cheaper housing or for lifestyle reasons. Other areas may experience high unemployment because of the closure or downsizing of local industries, due to structural labour market change and the relative fall in employment opportunities in goods-producing industries in Australia.

Mainly urban regions had a lower overall unemployment rate than Mixed urban/rural regions (7.1% compared with 8.1%). However, there was great variation in unemployment rates within each of these two groups, from 3.4% to 11.6% in Mainly urban regions and from 4.2% to 13.3% for Mixed regions.

As well as having the highest proportions of part-time workers, the northern coastal area of New South Wales had the highest unemployment rates of all regions. In both the Mid-North Coast (SD) and Richmond-Tweed (SD) regions, around 13% of people in the labour force were looking for work. Areas such as the Sunshine Coast (SSD) and Gold Coast City Part A (SSD) had similarly high proportions (around 11%).

5.7 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Australia



These areas have all experienced high population growth over the last five years, due largely to the movement of people into these areas. For example, 39,200 people aged 15 years and over moved to the Mid-North Coast (SD) and 31,100 moved to Richmond-Tweed (SD) between 1996 and 2001. In 2001, the unemployment rate of people aged 15 years and over who had moved to both regions was around 20%. Unemployed people, especially those from city areas, may have been attracted to these regions for cheaper housing, for lifestyle reasons or to be closer to family or friends. Regions may experience increases in their unemployment rates if employment growth cannot keep apace with working-age population growth.

The Far West (SD) region of New South Wales also had high unemployment (12%). This may be associated with the closure of mines in Broken Hill over the last 10–15 years, as they were previously a major source of the region's employment (New South Wales Department of Mineral Resources 2003). Similarly, the movement of businesses from Greater Dandenong City (SSD) to Melbourne and the slow recovery of this region from economic downturn in the early 1990s may help to account for its relatively high unemployment rate of 11.3% (McCulloch and Tivendale 2003). The affordability of housing in these areas, as well as ties to the local community, may discourage people living in these regions from moving elsewhere to find work.

UNEMPLOYMENT *continued*

In 2001, the Mainly urban regions with the lowest unemployment rates included the Northern Beaches (SSD) of Sydney and Central Northern Sydney (SSD), and Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) and Tuggeranong (SSD) in the ACT. Mixed urban/rural regions with very low unemployment included South West and Central West Queensland and Upper Great Southern (SD) in Western Australia.

5.8 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Unemployment rate %	Population with non-school qualifications %
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	11.6	40.3
2	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	11.3	30.4
3	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	11.2	32.3
4	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	10.8	33.7
5	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	10.8	32.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	13.3	37.4
2	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	12.5	39.0
3	Far West (SD)	NSW	12.2	28.8
4	Mersey-Lyell (SD)	Tas.	11.9	32.4
5	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	11.7	30.9
	Australia		**7.4**	**41.5**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	3.4	55.4
2	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	3.5	57.4
3	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	3.7	53.3
4	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	3.9	60.1
5	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	4.3	46.5
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	South West and Central West	Qld	4.2	28.8
2	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	4.5	29.5
3	Pilbara (SD)	WA	4.7	44.1
4	Kimberley (SD)	WA	5.0	34.1
5	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	5.0	32.2
	Australia		**7.4**	**41.5**

(a) Ranked according to the unemployment rate.

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

For individuals, employment outcomes are directly influenced by educational qualifications, with qualified people generally having greater success in finding work than unqualified people. At the regional level, the sustainability of the local economy depends on having a match between the skills available in the population and the workforce requirements of local industry.

Over the last 20–30 years, skill requirements in the labour force have shifted, with higher levels of qualification now required than was previously the case. Related to this, the proportion of people with non-school educational qualifications is greater among younger people than among older people (see Chapter 4, Education). However, regardless of age, qualifications are still more important for some occupations (e.g. Professionals) than for others (e.g. Labourers and related workers).

The prevalence of non-school educational qualifications in a region is therefore associated with both the industrial and occupational base of the region and the age structure of its population. Mainly urban regions such as Central Northern Sydney (SSD) and Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) had high employment rates, and more than half of residents aged 15 years and over in each of these regions held non-school educational qualifications (compared with an Australian average of 41%). These areas also had high proportions of people working in Professional or other highly skilled jobs.

In contrast, South West and Central West Queensland had a high employment rate but a low proportion of people with non-school educational qualifications. This was associated with the high proportion of people employed as Labourers and related workers, occupations which generally do not require non-school educational qualifications.

5.9 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Male labour force participation rate*	*Female labour force participation rate*	*Employed in service industries, of all employed*	*Working 50 hours and over per week, of all employed*	*Part-time workers, of all employed*	*Unemployment rate*
	%	%	%	%	%	%
AUSTRALIA	**70.9**	**55.4**	**74.9**	**19.2**	**33.4**	**7.4**
New South Wales	**70.2**	**54.4**	**76.4**	**19.1**	**32.3**	**7.2**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	75.0	65.7	86.7	22.1	26.9	6.3
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	73.4	62.5	87.7	23.5	29.7	4.8
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	73.6	58.2	79.7	18.1	31.0	4.5
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	66.3	47.5	74.8	14.4	29.0	8.3
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	69.4	49.2	67.5	14.5	27.0	10.5
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	76.9	58.4	72.0	17.2	30.1	6.9
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	70.9	56.9	83.4	20.1	29.0	5.4
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	68.3	51.3	76.3	15.3	28.5	8.1
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	76.9	60.3	74.6	17.7	32.0	5.5
Blacktown (SSD)	74.1	55.6	73.0	14.6	27.6	7.6
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	76.2	62.1	87.4	25.1	28.1	3.9
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	76.4	60.5	82.8	22.9	33.6	3.5
Northern Beaches (SSD)	77.2	62.2	81.3	21.3	33.4	3.4
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	65.3	49.1	76.2	15.4	36.9	8.4
Newcastle (SSD)	65.5	49.8	75.1	15.5	37.6	10.1
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	65.1	47.0	61.4	23.6	34.8	8.2
Wollongong (SSD)	67.4	50.1	74.1	15.6	35.4	8.9
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	66.8	49.0	78.2	15.5	37.4	9.6
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	58.6	44.7	73.5	19.0	40.3	8.5
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	60.9	47.5	75.6	17.4	41.2	12.5
Lismore (S Dist)	64.5	50.5	81.1	14.3	38.6	12.7
Tweed Heads (SSD)	52.4	41.0	80.6	15.6	42.5	12.1
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	63.1	49.3	72.9	18.7	41.4	12.5
Mid-North Coast (SD)	58.2	45.0	75.8	17.3	41.2	13.3
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	63.5	50.4	81.6	16.4	42.0	12.7
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	57.2	44.1	81.3	16.4	40.6	10.2
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	57.1	43.9	73.1	17.7	41.0	14.1
Northern (SD)	69.1	51.9	66.9	23.6	33.7	8.7
Tamworth (S Dist)	69.8	53.4	78.7	17.6	34.2	8.7
Balance of Northern (SD)	68.9	51.4	63.1	25.5	33.5	8.7
North Western (SD)	70.1	53.5	64.7	25.6	32.0	7.9
Dubbo (S Dist)	74.1	57.5	79.3	18.3	32.1	6.9
Balance of North Western (SD)	68.6	51.7	58.0	28.9	32.0	8.4
Central West (SD)	68.6	52.3	64.3	22.2	33.0	7.5
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	70.4	56.0	71.7	18.1	33.4	7.7
Balance of Central West (SD)	67.2	49.4	58.2	25.6	32.7	7.3
South Eastern (SD)	67.4	53.6	73.3	20.4	35.2	7.1
Murrumbidgee (SD)	72.2	55.1	65.2	22.5	31.7	6.3
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	73.9	57.2	81.4	17.2	33.8	7.6
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	71.4	53.9	56.4	25.4	30.5	5.6
Murray (SD)	71.0	54.2	62.3	23.7	32.9	6.3
Albury (SSD)	71.9	55.4	74.1	16.4	35.2	8.3
Balance of Murray (SD)	70.4	53.4	54.9	28.4	31.4	5.0
Far West (SD)	59.9	44.6	71.5	19.9	36.6	12.2

5.9 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Male labour force participation rate* %	*Female labour force participation rate* %	*Employed in service industries, of all employed* %	*Working 50 hours and over per week, of all employed* %	*Part-time workers, of all employed* %	*Unemployment rate* %
Victoria	**71.3**	**55.4**	**73.2**	**19.0**	**33.1**	**6.8**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	74.4	66.3	87.5	25.1	28.4	7.1
Western Melbourne (SSD)	69.4	53.3	73.4	15.8	30.3	9.3
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	78.2	59.7	72.3	16.4	30.4	6.8
Moreland City (SSD)	65.0	50.9	78.4	15.8	31.4	8.7
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	68.5	53.8	78.2	16.4	32.6	6.9
Hume City (SSD)	73.4	53.2	69.3	15.0	31.2	8.4
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	75.6	59.2	70.1	16.6	32.6	6.1
Boroondara City (SSD)	72.5	58.4	86.6	25.2	34.8	4.4
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	70.0	55.6	79.9	18.8	33.7	5.2
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	77.7	60.5	72.5	17.4	33.0	5.0
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	77.1	60.7	68.6	18.1	35.5	5.1
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	72.2	56.8	79.9	20.9	33.1	5.0
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	66.1	47.3	61.0	12.3	29.0	11.3
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	79.0	59.7	65.1	17.9	31.4	5.8
Frankston City (SSD)	73.7	56.0	69.7	16.6	33.5	7.2
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	66.6	50.4	72.4	19.4	37.4	5.9
Barwon (SD)	68.4	51.4	71.1	17.4	36.1	8.0
Geelong (S Dist)	68.8	51.0	72.4	15.7	35.7	8.9
Balance of Barwon (SD)	67.7	51.9	68.9	20.1	36.8	6.6
Western District (SD)	71.4	54.0	59.5	24.9	34.2	6.0
Warrnambool (S Dist)	71.5	54.6	75.5	16.1	37.2	6.9
Balance of Western District (SD)	71.4	53.8	53.0	28.5	33.0	5.6
Central Highlands (SD)	67.8	52.1	70.5	18.4	35.9	8.5
Ballarat (S Dist)	68.4	52.7	74.4	16.1	36.4	9.4
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	66.9	51.2	64.7	21.7	35.0	7.1
Wimmera (SD)	69.9	51.3	61.6	25.3	33.2	5.0
Mallee (SD)	70.8	53.1	60.2	23.2	31.8	5.7
Mildura (S Dist)	70.6	53.7	67.0	19.0	32.8	7.0
Balance of Mallee (SD)	71.0	52.5	53.7	27.2	31.0	4.4
Loddon (SD)	67.3	52.0	70.5	18.9	36.8	8.0
Bendigo (S Dist)	67.4	52.5	76.1	15.9	38.0	8.9
Balance of Loddon (SD)	66.9	51.5	65.3	21.7	35.7	7.1
Goulburn (SD)	70.3	53.9	61.2	22.9	33.7	6.3
Shepparton (S Dist)	72.0	55.2	68.6	18.5	33.8	8.0
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	69.8	53.5	59.0	24.2	33.7	5.8
Ovens-Murray (SD)	71.6	55.8	67.0	19.5	34.7	6.4
Wodonga (SSD)	75.0	57.8	74.0	15.7	34.1	7.9
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	69.8	54.7	63.3	21.6	35.0	5.6
East Gippsland (SD)	62.5	49.5	66.9	22.6	38.1	8.2
Gippsland (SD)	67.2	49.7	65.0	20.5	36.9	9.1
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	68.2	49.1	67.9	16.1	36.8	11.9
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	66.3	50.1	62.7	24.3	36.9	6.7

5.9 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Male labour force participation rate* %	*Female labour force participation rate* %	*Employed in service industries, of all employed* %	*Working 50 hours and over per week, of all employed* %	*Part-time workers, of all employed* %	*Unemployment rate* %
Queensland	**71.6**	**56.5**	**74.8**	**20.3**	**33.8**	**8.3**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	72.9	65.3	88.4	23.6	30.5	8.7
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	75.6	62.5	84.9	20.4	31.2	6.3
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	75.3	63.2	82.8	20.1	31.4	6.1
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	72.1	60.4	83.8	17.8	32.8	6.9
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	70.2	61.3	89.3	19.7	38.6	8.1
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	72.4	57.6	81.2	17.1	33.8	6.4
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	73.3	57.5	76.2	17.9	32.5	6.6
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	71.9	57.3	79.6	17.8	33.3	7.7
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	72.1	58.5	79.7	20.4	32.9	6.9
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	72.2	53.5	69.2	17.7	33.2	11.2
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	79.8	63.9	67.7	20.6	31.8	6.3
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	65.5	49.4	71.5	17.5	36.1	10.8
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	72.2	53.6	72.9	14.9	32.1	8.6
Logan City (SSD)	76.4	58.1	71.4	17.2	32.3	10.0
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	80.3	64.1	77.7	17.4	33.4	5.7
Redcliffe City (SSD)	62.1	46.1	76.6	16.0	35.8	10.8
Redland Shire (SSD)	73.1	57.6	74.8	18.6	34.4	6.9
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	69.6	56.1	79.4	18.5	37.0	9.7
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	63.8	50.5	78.9	18.2	40.8	11.6
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	66.7	52.2	65.7	22.5	36.7	8.8
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	61.0	46.3	66.4	21.6	36.4	11.7
Bundaberg (S Dist)	62.4	46.3	72.6	17.6	37.3	12.4
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	51.1	41.3	81.0	18.3	41.3	15.2
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	63.3	47.8	60.6	23.9	34.9	10.6
Darling Downs (SD)	72.1	54.0	66.8	23.7	32.7	6.7
Toowoomba (S Dist)	71.3	54.5	77.5	17.9	34.6	7.2
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	72.9	53.5	55.3	30.1	30.7	6.2
South West and Central West	80.8	64.7	55.2	34.4	25.6	4.2
Fitzroy (SD)	74.3	55.8	67.1	23.0	31.7	8.0
Rockhampton (S Dist)	70.8	54.1	79.1	16.2	34.7	9.1
Gladstone (S Dist)	79.2	56.7	65.0	19.5	31.5	8.7
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	74.7	56.8	59.1	29.8	29.5	6.7
Mackay (SD)	76.6	56.5	64.6	26.2	29.9	7.3
Northern (SD)	74.3	58.9	74.5	22.8	31.4	7.9
Townsville (S Dist)	75.7	61.4	80.9	20.5	32.1	8.4
Balance of Northern (SD)	71.1	52.7	57.6	28.6	29.6	6.4
Far North (SD)	74.2	61.7	75.9	22.0	34.0	7.7
Cairns (S Dist)	77.8	66.1	83.2	20.3	32.2	8.0
Balance of Far North (SD)	70.6	56.8	67.2	24.1	36.0	7.4
North West (SD)	82.1	63.7	60.3	29.3	27.5	5.6

5.9 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State *Region* *Sub-Region*	*Male labour force participation rate* %	*Female labour force participation rate* %	*Employed in service industries, of all employed* %	*Working 50 hours and over per week, of all employed* %	*Part-time workers, of all employed* %	*Unemployment rate* %
South Australia	**68.2**	**52.9**	**71.9**	**17.2**	**35.8**	**7.6**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	69.2	51.7	71.4	13.4	35.9	9.1
Western Adelaide (SSD)	63.4	49.2	76.1	14.3	35.3	9.2
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	68.9	56.4	83.9	20.0	35.6	5.8
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	69.4	54.4	75.8	15.1	36.8	7.0
Outer Adelaide (SD)	69.5	53.6	63.4	20.0	36.8	5.5
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	60.8	45.8	57.3	26.4	36.3	7.8
Murray Lands (SD)	69.0	53.5	53.6	22.4	33.7	6.7
South East (SD)	76.0	57.1	54.3	22.0	32.6	5.1
Eyre (SD)	71.5	55.1	59.1	25.5	35.7	6.6
Northern (SD)	64.4	49.1	65.7	21.7	35.7	10.6
Western Australia	**73.3**	**56.9**	**73.0**	**20.1**	**35.3**	**7.5**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	71.7	57.5	85.9	23.0	36.6	6.3
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	73.6	57.7	75.7	17.7	34.4	7.2
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	74.8	59.2	77.2	17.2	35.9	7.3
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	71.0	54.5	75.4	18.3	36.3	8.1
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	73.1	56.4	75.9	17.0	34.6	8.1
South West (SD)	69.8	52.4	62.3	19.8	37.9	8.6
Mandurah (S Dist)	60.7	44.4	65.2	18.1	40.0	12.1
Bunbury (S Dist)	75.0	57.3	68.4	18.0	35.9	8.1
Balance of South West (SD)	73.2	55.4	56.9	21.9	37.9	6.8
Lower Great Southern (SD)	69.7	54.4	61.9	23.5	38.3	7.6
Upper Great Southern (SD)	78.0	59.3	47.8	34.9	31.2	4.5
South Eastern (SD)	82.2	61.7	59.7	35.5	29.2	6.0
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	84.7	65.3	62.0	35.7	25.7	5.7
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	79.4	57.7	56.7	35.3	33.6	6.4
Midlands (SD)	73.6	55.5	53.6	31.4	32.9	6.4
Central (SD)	73.7	57.3	63.8	27.1	34.0	9.2
Geraldton (S Dist)	72.8	54.9	74.5	18.4	36.9	11.2
Balance of Central (SD)	74.6	60.1	53.5	35.6	31.1	7.1
Pilbara (SD)	85.5	67.0	57.0	31.9	27.5	4.7
Kimberley (SD)	72.8	63.6	78.6	24.5	37.8	5.0
Tasmania	**66.4**	**51.0**	**74.0**	**15.9**	**37.5**	**10.1**
Greater Hobart (SD)	66.4	53.3	81.5	13.6	37.7	9.1
Southern (SD)	63.8	48.5	59.5	17.5	39.6	11.2
Northern (SD)	67.0	50.5	72.4	16.9	37.1	9.8
Launceston (S Dist)	67.4	51.3	77.9	15.1	37.3	9.7
Balance of Northern (SD)	66.0	48.0	55.8	22.1	36.4	9.9
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	66.6	48.2	65.6	18.6	36.8	11.9
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	64.3	46.6	71.8	15.9	38.0	12.4
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	72.4	52.9	51.2	25.2	34.1	10.8

5.9 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Male labour force participation rate* %	*Female labour force participation rate* %	*Employed in service industries, of all employed* %	*Working 50 hours and over per week, of all employed* %	*Part-time workers, of all employed* %	*Unemployment rate* %
Northern Territory	**74.4**	**63.6**	**83.4**	**21.9**	**29.4**	**6.1**
Darwin (SD)	80.3	70.9	84.2	21.7	27.5	6.4
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	67.3	55.1	82.2	21.4	32.6	5.3
Australian Capital Territory	**76.8**	**66.6**	**90.6**	**16.3**	**32.2**	**5.1**
North Canberra (SSD)	69.3	60.9	94.1	18.3	34.4	6.9
Belconnen (SSD)	76.8	67.0	90.3	14.7	33.4	5.7
Woden Valley (SSD)	71.9	62.1	92.4	17.9	32.7	4.8
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	74.6	65.1	90.8	15.3	33.2	4.7
Tuggeranong (SSD)	81.9	70.7	88.8	15.0	31.8	4.3
South Canberra (SSD)	72.0	60.6	92.6	24.1	29.2	4.7
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	86.2	74.1	89.5	15.8	28.1	3.7
Other Territories	**81.7**	**53.3**	**75.5**	**22.4**	**25.4**	**10.0**

CHAPTER 6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS

INTRODUCTION

The standard of living that can be achieved by Australians is largely determined by their command over economic resources. Higher levels of income, and reserves of wealth, allow individuals and families more discretion to purchase and consume goods and services for the lifestyle they desire.

When examining economic wellbeing across regions of Australia, it is important to consider income for both individuals and households. As most people live with others in a family or group household and often share resources, individuals generally do not retain their entire income for their own consumption.

Two types of household income are considered in this chapter: total household income, and household income divided by the number of people usually resident in that household (household income per capita). Household characteristics such as the number of people who usually reside in the dwelling, their age, their labour force status, and the presence of children influence both the amount of income received by the household and the number of people the income is likely to be shared between. These household characteristics are therefore considered in conjunction with household income in this chapter.

With sufficient income, most people aspire to more than the basic necessities of food, clothing and shelter. Housing is traditionally a major outlay for many individuals and families and has a major impact on their standard of living. Regional differences in housing are discussed in Chapter 7. Educational and employment opportunities are also considered to be key elements affecting living standards. Regional differences in education and employment are discussed in Chapters 4 and 5.

Living standards can also be considered in terms of access to services such as health care, education, transport, financial and recreational activities. Access to these services is particularly an issue in remote areas. However, shortfalls in some of these services may be overcome by advances in information technology. Regional differences in the use of home computers and the Internet are also discussed in this chapter.

A broader notion of socio-economic status that incorporates all of these characteristics would overcome some of the limitations of using income alone to examine living standards. To enable geographical comparisons of socio-economic status, the ABS has developed a set of Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA). These indexes summarise a large number of characteristics (such as income, housing, education and occupation) into a single measure and can be used to rank areas on a broad socio-economic scale. This chapter presents regional comparisons based on SEIFA to provide a more comprehensive picture of living standards across Australia.

INDIVIDUAL INCOME

Individual income in the census refers to gross income (i.e. before tax) from all sources, including wages and salaries, pensions, allowances, interest and dividends (see Glossary for more details). Individual income is closely related to paid work, as wages and salaries are the major source of income for most Australians. This section looks at the individual income of people in different regions and some of the work characteristics of people in those regions. Regional income levels are summarised using the median (i.e. the income value dividing the population into two equal parts, half falling below this value and half exceeding it).

In 2001, the median gross individual weekly income (referred to from now on as median individual income) for Australians aged 15 years and over was $375. Men had a substantially higher overall median than women ($498 compared with $291). This is largely because women's labour force participation rate is lower than men's, and their part-time employment rate is higher (see Chapter 5, Employment and unemployment). The differential is also associated with the different occupations in which men and women are generally employed. In 2001, 62% of employed men were engaged in high and medium skill level occupations; that is, as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, or Advanced clerical and service workers. The comparable figure for employed women was 50%.

Across regions of Australia, median individual incomes vary according to population characteristics. Areas with high proportions of people not in the labour force or with high proportions of people working part-time (such as regions with high proportions of older people) tend to have lower median individual incomes among their residents than those in other areas. In addition, people are employed in different occupations in different parts of Australia, which also influences the income they receive. In 2001, people living in Mainly urban regions had a higher median individual income than those in Mixed urban/rural regions ($398 compared with $323), reflecting the slightly higher proportion of people employed full-time in high and medium level skill occupations in Mainly urban regions (24% compared with 21%).

In 2001, among Mainly urban regions, the highest median individual incomes for both men and women were reported in regions of Canberra and Sydney. For men, these were all $730 or more per week, while for women, they were $480 or more per week. Among Mixed urban/rural regions, Pilbara (SD), Darwin (SD) and North West Queensland (SD) had some of the highest median individual incomes for men (all above $620 per week) and women (all above $300 per week). In particular, residents of the Pilbara (SD) region of Western Australia had the highest median weekly income for men ($1,020), associated with the high proportion of employed men in this region working full-time in mining (33% compared with 1% nationally). Of all industry groups, people employed in the mining industry had the highest median individual income ($1,255 per week).

6.1 MEDIAN GROSS INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

MEN					WOMEN				
Rank	Region	State or territory	Median income(b)	Employed full-time in high/ medium(c) skill level occupations	Rank	Region	State or territory	Median income(b)	Employed full-time in high/ medium(c) skill level occupations
			$	%				$	%
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS								
	Mainly urban regions					Mainly urban regions			
1	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	787	41.8	1	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	515	27.6
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	784	49.8	2	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	491	25.8
3	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	779	44.4	3	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	486	26.0
4	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	753	45.2	4	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	482	24.1
5	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	730	39.1	5	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	480	27.8
	Mixed urban/rural regions					Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1 020	38.1	1	Darwin (SD)	NT	444	23.2
2	South Eastern (SD)	WA	688	35.2	2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	325	16.8
3	Darwin (SD)	NT	624	36.7	3	North West (SD)	Qld	316	17.8
4	North West (SD)	Qld	622	31.8	4	Far North (SD)	Qld	312	15.1
5	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	537	34.0	5	South West and Central West	Qld	310	22.3
	Australia		**498**	**31.7**		**Australia**		**291**	**14.7**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS								
	Mainly urban regions					Mainly urban regions			
1	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	383	23.0	1	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	239	7.9
2	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	391	25.9	2	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	252	10.6
3	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	405	20.3	3	Wollongong (SSD)	NSW	259	11.5
4	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	408	24.1	4	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	259	9.3
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	409	25.1	5	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	262	10.5
	Mixed urban/rural regions					Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Far West (SD)	NSW	303	21.2	1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	243	15.8
2	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	313	22.6	2	Southern (SD)	Tas.	244	9.7
3	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	315	21.5	3	Northern (SD)	SA	244	11.7
4	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	332	22.8	4	Far West (SD)	NSW	245	10.8
5	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	333	28.4	5	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	246	10.3
	Australia		**498**	**31.7**		**Australia**		**291**	**14.7**

(a) Ranked according to median gross individual weekly income.

(b) Median gross individual weekly income for people aged 15 years and over.

(c) Proportion of all people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

The Mainly urban regions with the lowest individual incomes for men and women included coastal areas just north of Brisbane and outer suburban areas of Melbourne and Sydney. Median individual incomes in these areas were below $410 for men and below $265 for women. For Mixed urban/rural regions, the areas with the lowest median individual incomes included Far West New South Wales (SD), the northern coast of New South Wales, and parts of South Australia and Tasmania. In these areas, median individual incomes were below $340 for men and below $250 for women.

These areas tended also to have high unemployment rates (see Chapter 5, Employment and unemployment) and high proportions of older people (see Chapter 1, Population growth and distribution). In addition, they all had lower proportions of employed people working in high and medium skill level jobs than nationally.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

As household resources, including income, can be shared, measures based on the joint income of individuals living in the same household can offer some better insights into the living standards of Australians than individual incomes. Median gross household weekly income (referred to from now on as median household income) gives an overall summary of the total income households are receiving. A shortcoming of this measure is that it does not reflect the fact that the amount of income available to each person in the household depends on the number of people living in the household. In other words, a household consisting of two people would be better off than a household consisting of five people receiving the same amount of income. Median gross household weekly income per capita (referred to from now on as median household income per capita) is another measure of household income. It provides a summary of the share of income each person in the household would receive if household income was divided equally among members (see Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 33–35 for more information).

According to the 2001 census, median household income in Australia was $785 per week, while median household income per capita was $336 per week. Apart from the amount of income individuals receive and the size of the household, other factors that influence the living standards of a household include the age of household members, the number of earners present, and the number of children present.

Among Mainly urban regions, those where the residents had the highest household incomes (above $1,100 per week) included regions of northern Sydney and Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory. In these regions, the proportion of households with two or more earners was above 42% (compared with 39% for Australia as a whole) and the proportion with no earners was below 23% (compared with 30% for Australia as a whole). As previously discussed, these regions also had high proportions of people employed full-time in high and medium skill level occupations.

Household characteristics also contributed to high household income in Mainly urban regions. For example, Lower Northern Sydney (SSD) had relatively few households with two or more dependent children (16%, compared with 23% nationally), and high proportions of couple families without children where both partners were aged under 35 years (12%, compared with 7% nationally, see Chapter 3, Living arrangements). These characteristics help to account for this region's relatively high median household income of $1,209 per week. Median household income per capita in this region was also above the Australian average ($599 per week), reflecting its low average household size (2.4 people per household compared with 2.6 nationally).

Among Mixed urban/rural regions, Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia, North West Queensland (SD) and South Eastern Western Australia (SD) all had high median household incomes (above $900 per week). Having young populations and high labour force participation, there were relatively few households in these regions where the reference person was aged 65 years or over and high proportions of households with two or more earners. However, these regions were home to many young families, and therefore households tended to be larger than the Australian average.

6.2 HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Median gross household weekly income	Median gross household weekly income per capita	Average household size	Proportion of households with two or more earners(b)	Proportion of households with no earners(b)	Proportion of households with two or more dependent children	Proportion of households where the reference person is aged 65 years and over
			$	$	no.	%	%	%	%
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS								
	Mainly urban regions								
1	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1 451	484	3.0	52.9	20.0	30.6	20.0
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	1 231	501	2.8	55.0	10.5	28.4	5.0
3	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1 209	599	2.4	42.6	22.1	16.2	20.6
4	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	1 170	488	2.6	47.7	22.9	20.5	23.1
5	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	1 159	502	2.6	43.6	25.2	23.1	23.9
	Mixed urban/rural regions								
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1 350	545	2.9	49.8	9.7	31.0	3.0
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	1 016	443	2.7	48.7	17.4	24.6	7.0
3	North West (SD)	Qld	1 007	386	2.9	46.7	17.5	27.7	10.2
4	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	961	327	3.2	54.5	16.2	33.0	7.5
5	South Eastern (SD)	WA	958	376	2.7	43.5	19.2	26.6	10.0
	Australia		**785**	**336**	**2.6**	**39.3**	**29.8**	**22.6**	**20.6**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS								
	Mainly urban regions								
1	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	562	247	2.3	27.9	44.0	17.0	30.1
2	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	Qld	601	264	2.4	31.3	41.1	19.3	26.2
3	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	608	285	2.3	30.1	39.7	15.8	27.6
4	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	651	247	2.8	34.4	37.6	26.4	21.1
5	Newcastle (SSD)	NSW	667	275	2.5	33.5	38.0	21.9	24.1
	Mixed urban/rural regions								
1	Far West (SD)	NSW	491	247	2.4	25.7	45.3	18.8	26.7
2	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	509	247	2.4	31.9	42.5	19.5	29.3
3	Mid-North Coast (SD)	NSW	518	247	2.5	27.9	46.3	21.6	28.3
4	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	524	246	2.5	29.6	43.1	21.3	24.9
5	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	541	247	2.5	29.2	43.4	20.7	27.0
	Australia		**785**	**336**	**2.6**	**39.3**	**29.8**	**22.6**	**20.6**

(a) Ranked according to median gross weekly household income.

(b) 'Earners' refers to both full-time and part-time employed people aged 15 years and over.

Regions with the lowest median household income included Redcliffe City (SSD) and the Sunshine Coast (SSD) to the north of Brisbane ($562 and $601, respectively), and the Mid-North Coast (SD) and Richmond-Tweed (SD) in northern New South Wales ($518 and $541, respectively). Reflecting the high proportions of retirees in these regions, many households had a reference person aged 65 years or over. In Redcliffe City (SSD), for example, 30% of all households had a reference person aged 65 years or over, compared with 21% for Australia as a whole. These areas also had high proportions of households with no earners, which is associated not only with high proportions of retirees, but also with high unemployment rates relative to the rest of Australia (see Chapter 5, Employment and unemployment).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE AND DISADVANTAGE

Many items of social and economic interest were collected in the 2001 census, and a range of these have been reported in different parts of this publication (e.g. the proportion of one-parent families, the proportion of people with non-school educational qualifications, the unemployment rate, etc). Many of these characteristics influence socio-economic advantage and disadvantage across regions. To support research into regional advantage and disadvantage, the ABS has developed the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), which summarise a wide range of characteristics and compare them across regions. Based on different sets of socio-economic items from the 2001 census, four Indexes were developed: the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage; the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage; the Index of Economic Resources; and the Index of Education and Occupation.

The index used in the following analysis is the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage, which includes characteristics that enhance socio-economic conditions in an area (e.g. the proportion of high income households) as well as those that may reduce socio-economic conditions in an area (e.g. the proportion of people with no non-school qualifications). The index allows areas to be ranked on a continuum of advantage to disadvantage, with low scores indicating disadvantage and high scores indicating advantage. Appendix 2 provides background to this index and information on how to interpret and compare scores. It also lists all items included.

Table 6. 3 presents the top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions when regions are ranked on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage. In addition to the index score for each region, its decile among all regions of Australia is given, as well as its decile among Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural regions. More information about the use of deciles, as well as summary data for all regions of Australia, are given in Appendix 2. When comparing regions, it should be borne in mind that population size and the concentration of people in different parts of a region influence overall index scores. This effect tends to be more marked for areas which are larger in terms of population and geography (such as Statistical Divisions) than for areas which are smaller (such as Statistical Subdivisions). An example of how the size of the region can influence its index score is given in Appendix 2.

In 2001, Mainly urban regions such as Boroondara City (SSD), South Canberra (SSD) and Lower Northern Sydney (SSD) had the greatest relative advantage in Australia. These areas are also characterised by above-average household incomes and above-average proportions of people employed in highly skilled jobs. For example, households in Lower Northern Sydney (SSD) had median gross household weekly incomes that were well above the Australian average ($1,209 compared with $785 nationally); a high proportion of people employed full-time in high and medium skill level occupations (35% compared with 23% nationally); a large proportion of households with two or more earners (43% compared with 39% nationally); and a high proportion of people holding non-school qualifications (60% compared with 42% nationally).

The Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative advantage included those with high labour force participation and with relatively large proportions of people employed in highly-skilled and/or highly-paid jobs. Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia, with its large Mining industry, had consistently high relative advantage across the region, as did Darwin (SD) in the Northern Territory, with a large proportion of people employed in high and medium skill level occupations.

6.3 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

			INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/ DISADVANTAGE(b).....			
			Score	*Decile(c)*	*Mainly urban decile(d)*	*Mixed urban/rural decile(e)*
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	no.	no.	no.	no.
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS					
	Mainly urban regions					
1	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	1 173	10	10	. .
2	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	1 171	10	10	. .
3	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1 168	10	10	. .
4	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	1 161	10	10	. .
5	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	1 155	10	10	. .
	Mixed urban/rural regions					
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	1 045	8	. .	10
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1 040	8	. .	10
3	Midlands (SD)	WA	986	6	. .	10
4	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	985	6	. .	10
5	South Eastern (SD)	NSW	979	6	. .	9
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS					
	Mainly urban regions					
1	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	908	1	1	. .
2	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	926	1	1	. .
3	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	Qld	928	1	1	. .
4	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	937	2	1	. .
5	Redcliffe City (SSD)	Qld	938	2	1	. .
	Mixed urban/rural regions					
1	Southern (SD)	Tas.	899	1	. .	1
2	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	Qld	904	1	. .	1
3	Murray Lands (SD)	SA	904	1	. .	1
4	Mersey-Lyell (SD)	Tas.	907	1	. .	1
5	Far West (SD)	NSW	909	1	. .	1

(a) Ranked according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(b) Higher numbers indicate greater relative advantage, and lower numbers indicate greater relative disadvantage.

(c) The first decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions of Australia with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions of Australia with the greatest relative advantage.

(d) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions of Australia with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions of Australia with the greatest relative advantage.

(e) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions of Australia with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions of Australia with the greatest relative advantage.

SOCIOECONOMIC ADVANTAGE AND DISADVANTAGE *continued*

In contrast, the regions with the greatest relative disadvantage tended to be characterised by high unemployment rates, low incomes, and low proportions of people with non-school educational qualifications. Among Mainly urban regions, outer areas of Brisbane and Greater Dandenong City (SSD) on the outskirts of Melbourne had the greatest relative disadvantage. For example, Greater Dandenong City (SSD) had a labour force participation rate of 57% (compared with 63% nationally), an unemployment rate as measured by the census of 11.3% (compared with 7.4% nationally) and 30% of its population with non-school educational qualifications (compared with 42% nationally).

Among Mixed urban/rural regions, the Tasmanian regions of Southern (SD) and Mersey-Lyell (SD) had relatively greater disadvantage than Australia in general. In spite of some areas of greater advantage along the coast, Wide Bay-Burnett (SD) north of Brisbane also had relatively greater disadvantage overall. Again, this was associated with characteristics such as high unemployment and low proportions of people employed in highly skilled jobs.

USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT HOME

As computers become an increasingly important way for individuals to access and process information, and to undertake business and financial transactions, having a computer and/or access to the Internet at home may influence living standards and relative advantage or disadvantage. Some analysts have suggested that a new dimension of disadvantage may be developing in Australia — the divide between the information-rich and the information-poor. Through the Internet, people have access to a wealth of knowledge, services and skills development. For people with lower socio-economic status, limited access to information technology may exacerbate their disadvantage in terms of education and employment prospects.

The Internet also has implications for people's social wellbeing. For example, it may allow people who work long hours or who are otherwise pushed for time to maintain social contact with others. It can enhance social communication over long distances, and can support the establishment and maintenance of social networks.

In 2001, under half (44%) of Australians of all ages used a computer at home and almost a third (29%) accessed the Internet at home. The majority of home computer users (58%) and home Internet users (56%) were aged under 35 years, reflecting the increased role of information technology in education in recent decades. In 2001, 41% of home computer users and 38% of home Internet users were attending educational institutions.

Computers and the Internet have great potential to benefit people living in more remote areas of Australia, increasing their access to information and services which are not available locally, and reducing the barrier of distance for students, workers and the population as a whole. However, use of computers and the Internet at home remains more common in metropolitan areas of Australia than other areas. In 2001, the regions with the greatest proportion of people who used a computer at home included Western Inner Brisbane (SRS) (63%), Central Northern Sydney (SSD) (62%) and Boroondara City (SSD) in Melbourne (60%). These regions also had the highest rates of Internet use at home (from 45%–50%). Ready access to computers and the Internet at home is associated with other indicators of living standards and relative advantage. Residents of inner Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne also had high median household income and high relative advantage, compared with Australia as a whole.

6.4 HOME COMPUTER USE(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

			PEOPLE USING A COMPUTER AT HOME	
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	%	no.
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	63.3	33 310
2	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	61.7	232 800
3	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	60.5	51 948
4	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	59.8	87 169
5	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	59.8	13 789
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	46.9	12 431
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	45.6	15 714
3	Darwin (SD)	NT	43.9	40 812
4	Ovens-Murray (SD)	Vic.	42.4	36 880
5	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	42.3	11 896
	Australia		**43.7**	**7 881 983**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	33.7	40 204
2	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	34.3	110 447
3	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	35.4	99 204
4	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	36.3	71 778
5	Moreland City (SSD)	Vic.	36.8	46 506
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	23.0	6 277
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	24.6	19 189
3	North West (SD)	Qld	29.0	9 347
4	Far West (SD)	NSW	30.9	6 958
5	South West and Central West	Qld	31.6	11 654
	Australia		**43.7**	**7 881 983**

(a) People who used a computer at home in the week prior to census night.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of people who used a computer at home.

Mixed urban/rural regions with the highest proportions of people who used computers and the Internet at home included Pilbara (SD), Darwin (SD) and Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD) west of Brisbane. However, the rates of home computer and Internet use in these regions were similar to those for Australia as a whole, and below the highest rates for Mainly urban regions. Pilbara (SD), Darwin (SD) and Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD) all have young populations with many of their residents attending school or other educational institutions. Darwin (SD) and Pilbara (SD) are areas that many people move to for work, and the Internet may provide a convenient way for people in these regions to keep in touch with people and events in other parts of the country.

In 2001, the regions with the lowest rates of home computer and Internet use included areas with older populations, with large Indigenous or overseas-born populations, or with greater relative disadvantage. For example, in Western Adelaide (SD), 36% of people used a computer at home and 24% used the Internet at home. Western Adelaide (SSD) has a high proportion of its population aged 65 years and over

USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT HOME *continued*

(around 18%, compared with 13% for Australia). People aged 65 years and over are the age group least likely to use computers or the Internet at home. Kimberley (SD) in Western Australia and the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) also had low rates of home computer use (below 25%) and home Internet use (below 17%). These areas have high proportions of Indigenous people and high relative disadvantage, compared with Australia as a whole. Finally, Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) in Sydney and Greater Dandenong City (SSD) just outside of Melbourne had low rates of computer and Internet use at home, which could be associated with their greater relative disadvantage and their large overseas-born populations (see Chapter 2, Cultural diversity).

6.5 HOME INTERNET USE(a), Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(b)

			PEOPLE USING THE INTERNET AT HOME	
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	%	no.
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	50.2	26 312
2	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	46.7	175 236
3	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	45.1	65 395
4	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	43.6	114 533
5	Woden Valley (SSD)	ACT	43.1	12 973
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	31.1	10 664
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	29.5	27 288
3	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	28.2	7 412
4	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	27.1	7 567
5	Fitzroy (SD)	Qld	24.8	41 502
	Australia		**29.0**	**5 199 286**
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	21.8	25 767
2	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	22.0	70 404
3	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	23.7	24 433
4	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	23.7	66 042
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	23.7	46 601
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	14.0	3 794
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	16.3	12 676
3	South West and Central West	Qld	16.5	6 026
4	Southern (SD)	Tas.	17.4	5 619
5	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	17.8	7 470
	Australia		**29.0**	**5 199 286**

(a) People who used the Internet at home in the week prior to census night.

(b) Ranked according to the proportion of people who used the Internet at home.

6.6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Median individual gross weekly income for men(a)* $	*Men employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median individual gross weekly income for women(a)* $	*Women employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*People using a computer at home* %	*People using the Internet at home* %
AUSTRALIA	**498**	**31.7**	**291**	**14.7**	**336**	**43.7**	**29.0**
New South Wales	**513**	**31.6**	**296**	**15.2**	**349**	**43.0**	**29.1**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	603	34.0	456	25.7	548	46.9	36.2
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	690	37.7	482	24.1	549	51.3	40.2
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	606	36.3	340	16.9	405	46.8	33.7
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	443	25.1	263	11.5	291	35.4	23.7
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	461	25.1	252	10.6	275	34.3	22.0
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	573	32.2	303	13.5	335	42.9	27.0
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	566	34.9	360	20.4	444	47.4	35.0
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	489	27.5	282	13.8	336	40.0	27.8
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	589	34.3	320	15.0	350	45.9	29.9
Blacktown (SSD)	542	28.1	297	12.3	320	39.9	26.3
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	779	44.4	491	25.8	599	56.2	43.6
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	753	45.2	385	19.7	484	61.7	46.7
Northern Beaches (SSD)	705	41.3	413	19.6	487	52.7	39.8
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	468	28.1	276	10.6	288	41.4	26.8
Newcastle (SSD)	430	26.9	262	10.9	275	40.6	25.3
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	431	27.5	247	10.6	265	36.2	20.6
Wollongong (SSD)	478	28.3	259	11.5	299	41.4	26.9
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	452	29.3	263	10.1	256	42.3	27.1
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	387	24.9	261	10.3	247	39.5	23.7
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	332	22.8	264	10.2	247	37.1	23.2
Lismore (S Dist)	336	23.7	266	10.7	247	38.6	22.7
Tweed Heads (SSD)	324	19.3	259	7.7	247	34.0	21.7
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	334	23.8	265	11.0	247	37.8	23.8
Mid-North Coast (SD)	315	21.5	255	9.5	247	35.4	21.1
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	361	24.1	269	10.4	247	39.2	24.5
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	363	24.3	271	9.9	247	39.6	25.0
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	297	20.3	249	9.2	246	33.7	19.5
Northern (SD)	407	30.4	266	14.1	251	35.4	20.1
Tamworth (S Dist)	455	30.2	281	12.9	284	37.5	22.9
Balance of Northern (SD)	391	30.4	260	14.4	247	34.8	19.2
North Western (SD)	413	30.8	273	14.9	250	32.8	18.6
Dubbo (S Dist)	503	33.2	309	15.3	301	36.6	22.2
Balance of North Western (SD)	377	29.9	260	14.8	247	31.2	17.0
Central West (SD)	439	30.3	267	13.4	274	36.7	21.8
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	492	30.6	286	13.7	314	40.4	24.9
Balance of Central West (SD)	408	30.1	253	13.2	247	34.0	19.4
South Eastern (SD)	442	29.4	282	14.0	292	40.1	24.5
Murrumbidgee (SD)	467	33.7	280	13.9	291	37.2	21.7
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	494	34.6	288	13.8	314	43.8	27.5
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	454	33.2	276	14.0	274	33.8	18.7
Murray (SD)	451	32.7	276	13.8	288	39.0	22.6
Albury (SSD)	486	30.7	286	12.6	305	42.3	25.6
Balance of Murray (SD)	433	33.8	269	14.7	267	36.9	20.6
Far West (SD)	303	21.2	245	10.8	247	30.9	19.0

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

(b) Proportion of people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

6.6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Median individual gross weekly income for men(a)* $	*Men employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median individual gross weekly income for women(a)* $	*Women employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*People using a computer at home* %	*People using the Internet at home* %
Victoria	**505**	**32.9**	**290**	**14.7**	**348**	**44.8**	**29.5**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	627	37.5	480	27.8	552	51.6	39.6
Western Melbourne (SSD)	470	27.1	274	13.4	324	38.8	25.8
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	574	32.8	302	12.9	335	46.6	30.0
Moreland City (SSD)	420	26.5	278	15.2	326	36.8	24.7
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	484	31.5	289	15.4	349	42.7	29.1
Hume City (SSD)	492	27.4	262	10.5	295	40.2	25.0
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	529	34.0	284	13.2	328	45.3	29.5
Boroondara City (SSD)	701	42.3	411	21.0	502	59.8	45.1
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	549	36.2	302	16.5	386	52.2	37.8
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	587	39.1	305	14.5	357	51.3	34.9
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	545	37.5	292	13.7	335	49.2	31.5
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	591	37.7	348	17.5	433	50.9	37.1
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	405	20.3	239	7.9	264	33.7	21.8
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	560	34.5	292	12.1	324	45.4	27.8
Frankston City (SSD)	529	31.8	286	11.8	325	44.7	29.4
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	492	31.9	279	11.5	314	43.3	27.5
Barwon (SD)	464	30.6	265	11.6	298	42.6	26.2
Geelong (S Dist)	469	29.9	262	10.9	298	42.2	26.1
Balance of Barwon (SD)	457	31.7	272	12.8	298	43.4	26.4
Western District (SD)	442	34.1	270	14.1	267	39.4	21.8
Warrnambool (S Dist)	463	31.6	273	11.7	271	40.9	23.1
Balance of Western District (SD)	434	35.1	269	15.1	265	38.7	21.3
Central Highlands (SD)	427	30.2	266	12.2	274	41.7	24.1
Ballarat (S Dist)	432	30.0	270	12.0	280	42.5	25.0
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	419	30.5	257	12.5	258	40.6	22.7
Wimmera (SD)	413	35.4	270	14.4	250	36.7	19.5
Mallee (SD)	413	33.6	274	13.9	251	35.2	20.0
Mildura (S Dist)	425	31.2	277	12.6	264	36.0	20.9
Balance of Mallee (SD)	404	35.8	271	15.2	249	34.4	19.0
Loddon (SD)	425	30.0	267	11.9	267	41.8	24.2
Bendigo (S Dist)	430	29.0	274	11.3	274	41.9	24.7
Balance of Loddon (SD)	421	30.9	260	12.5	261	41.7	23.8
Goulburn (SD)	446	31.7	277	13.3	275	38.2	21.3
Shepparton (S Dist)	467	30.0	291	12.4	297	37.5	22.9
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	440	32.1	273	13.5	274	38.5	20.8
Ovens-Murray (SD)	462	32.3	279	13.5	284	42.4	24.0
Wodonga (SSD)	515	33.7	285	12.6	300	45.3	26.7
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	435	31.5	276	14.0	267	40.8	22.5
East Gippsland (SD)	379	27.5	256	11.9	247	39.7	23.3
Gippsland (SD)	414	29.6	255	11.4	250	41.0	23.9
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	429	28.3	247	10.1	251	42.6	25.0
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	405	30.7	261	12.5	247	39.6	22.9

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

(b) Proportion of people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

6.6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Median individual gross weekly income for men(a)* $	*Men employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median individual gross weekly income for women(a)* $	*Women employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*People using a computer at home* %	*People using the Internet at home* %
Queensland	**471**	**30.4**	**289**	**14.2**	**314**	**43.3**	**28.6**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	512	34.4	403	25.6	451	49.9	39.0
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	571	37.7	381	20.9	444	49.7	36.8
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	567	38.0	372	21.2	425	50.6	37.0
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	515	34.1	346	19.8	376	47.9	34.6
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	511	36.1	333	20.5	450	63.3	50.2
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	529	33.0	306	14.7	350	47.8	33.6
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	524	32.1	301	14.3	349	45.0	30.4
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	496	32.3	290	14.9	349	50.1	36.1
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	565	36.1	319	17.0	376	53.1	38.7
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	455	26.7	274	10.4	265	40.4	25.7
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	537	34.0	308	14.2	329	46.9	28.2
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	408	24.1	259	9.3	247	40.7	23.7
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	488	27.8	278	10.9	288	40.1	25.2
Logan City (SSD)	483	28.4	291	11.6	296	42.7	28.1
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	580	37.9	320	15.1	350	51.8	34.6
Redcliffe City (SSD)	383	23.0	264	9.5	247	37.4	24.9
Redland Shire (SSD)	525	33.2	292	13.1	327	48.8	32.4
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	454	28.4	302	12.9	316	44.6	31.3
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	391	25.9	277	11.2	264	43.7	29.6
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	392	26.5	259	11.8	247	40.6	23.7
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	313	22.6	246	10.3	246	34.7	19.0
Bundaberg (S Dist)	341	23.0	256	9.7	247	35.7	20.8
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	278	18.2	247	8.6	246	36.4	21.6
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	316	23.6	242	11.1	246	33.7	17.6
Darling Downs (SD)	438	32.0	267	13.9	267	38.8	21.9
Toowoomba (S Dist)	465	31.3	275	13.2	297	43.5	26.7
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	415	32.8	259	14.6	247	33.7	16.6
South West and Central West	492	36.9	310	22.3	304	31.6	16.5
Fitzroy (SD)	512	30.9	263	13.6	301	41.2	24.8
Rockhampton (S Dist)	449	27.7	273	12.4	275	39.9	24.9
Gladstone (S Dist)	626	34.4	252	12.7	328	45.4	27.7
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	516	31.7	259	15.2	314	40.2	23.3
Mackay (SD)	514	31.0	270	13.5	313	39.5	23.9
Northern (SD)	516	32.8	289	14.6	327	41.0	25.9
Townsville (S Dist)	548	34.2	304	15.3	349	44.5	29.0
Balance of Northern (SD)	445	29.6	261	12.7	274	32.7	18.5
Far North (SD)	445	29.1	312	15.2	304	35.8	23.5
Cairns (S Dist)	511	32.2	357	16.7	350	42.1	28.8
Balance of Far North (SD)	376	25.9	272	13.6	247	29.4	17.8
North West (SD)	622	31.8	316	17.8	385	29.0	18.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

(b) Proportion of people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

6.6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Median individual gross weekly income for men(a)* $	*Men employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median individual gross weekly income for women(a)* $	*Women employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*People using a computer at home* %	*People using the Internet at home* %
South Australia	**457**	**29.7**	**279**	**13.0**	**301**	**41.7**	**26.5**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	458	26.6	267	10.3	275	40.3	24.9
Western Adelaide (SSD)	409	25.1	271	12.0	285	36.3	23.7
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	538	36.5	338	18.4	399	50.0	35.2
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	495	31.5	289	13.0	327	46.7	31.0
Outer Adelaide (SD)	456	31.5	274	12.7	283	42.1	24.2
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	333	28.4	249	11.7	247	35.3	17.8
Murray Lands (SD)	396	28.9	268	12.5	247	34.6	18.9
South East (SD)	501	33.2	276	13.0	299	37.7	20.7
Eyre (SD)	410	34.0	266	14.9	249	35.8	19.7
Northern (SD)	382	24.8	244	11.7	247	34.2	19.7
Western Australia	**518**	**32.7**	**284**	**14.2**	**347**	**45.2**	**30.0**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	623	38.4	366	19.9	451	56.0	42.3
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	514	32.0	285	13.6	327	45.5	29.9
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	539	34.8	295	14.7	349	48.6	33.6
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	529	32.4	277	13.2	333	47.0	31.8
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	505	30.7	284	13.5	334	45.6	30.5
South West (SD)	463	28.7	257	10.8	275	39.6	23.1
Mandurah (S Dist)	394	23.1	239	8.4	247	38.6	23.3
Bunbury (S Dist)	550	32.3	270	11.9	315	42.4	25.2
Balance of South West (SD)	460	30.6	263	12.1	274	38.7	21.7
Lower Great Southern (SD)	396	30.6	267	14.3	247	39.1	22.9
Upper Great Southern (SD)	395	43.1	266	20.1	250	38.8	22.7
South Eastern (SD)	688	35.2	288	16.0	375	38.3	23.8
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	814	38.5	325	17.2	449	40.4	26.4
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	544	31.6	257	14.7	301	35.9	20.8
Midlands (SD)	430	35.6	260	15.8	257	39.4	22.0
Central (SD)	467	30.6	273	14.7	275	36.8	22.5
Geraldton (S Dist)	470	29.0	271	12.1	274	38.6	23.8
Balance of Central (SD)	464	32.1	276	17.7	284	34.7	21.2
Pilbara (SD)	1 020	38.1	325	16.8	540	45.6	31.1
Kimberley (SD)	405	23.7	293	16.1	326	23.0	14.0
Tasmania	**411**	**26.8**	**267**	**11.5**	**264**	**38.3**	**23.0**
Greater Hobart (SD)	448	28.9	287	12.9	300	41.3	26.2
Southern (SD)	340	22.3	244	9.7	247	32.8	17.4
Northern (SD)	405	26.5	261	11.0	249	37.9	22.2
Launceston (S Dist)	422	27.1	269	11.1	265	39.3	23.8
Balance of Northern (SD)	363	25.0	235	10.7	247	34.0	17.8
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	384	25.1	248	9.9	247	35.1	20.0
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	372	23.9	250	9.2	247	35.0	20.5
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	414	28.3	241	12.1	247	35.1	18.7

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

(b) Proportion of people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

6.6 INCOME AND LIVING STANDARDS INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-Region*	*Median individual gross weekly income for men(a)* $	*Men employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median individual gross weekly income for women(a)* $	*Women employed full-time in high/medium skill level occupations(b)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*People using a computer at home* %	*People using the Internet at home* %
Northern Territory	**535**	**31.5**	**351**	**19.8**	**400**	**34.9**	**23.3**
Darwin (SD)	624	36.7	444	23.2	443	43.9	29.5
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	333	25.4	243	15.8	349	24.6	16.3
Australian Capital Territory	**682**	**40.3**	**426**	**23.0**	**470**	**58.4**	**41.2**
North Canberra (SSD)	563	36.1	378	23.4	463	54.8	38.4
Belconnen (SSD)	641	38.6	401	21.5	450	58.2	40.7
Woden Valley (SSD)	730	39.1	459	22.9	548	58.5	43.1
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	693	38.9	447	23.9	502	58.5	42.7
Tuggeranong (SSD)	696	42.3	423	21.9	444	60.5	42.0
South Canberra (SSD)	787	41.8	515	27.6	599	54.9	40.4
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	784	49.8	486	26.0	499	59.8	41.4
Other Territories	**596**	**35.3**	**196**	**16.6**	**333**	**33.3**	**17.5**

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

(b) Proportion of people aged 15 years and over employed full-time as Managers and administrators, Professionals, Associate professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, and Advanced clerical and service workers.

CHAPTER 7 HOUSING

INTRODUCTION

Housing satisfies the essential needs of people for shelter, security and privacy. As such, it is an important component of individual wellbeing. In 2001, most Australians were well housed, with the vast majority enjoying uncrowded living conditions. The ways in which Australian families and individuals are housed reflect social, political and economic changes over the last century. For many decades, the Commonwealth government has promoted home ownership as part of an overall policy directed at achieving people's self-reliance in housing and a quality of housing adequate for their needs. Today, the majority of Australian households own their own homes.

The recent growth in popularity of inner city living (generally in medium and high density dwellings), reflecting changing trends in family formation, suggests a shift away from the typical Australian suburban home (i.e. a separate house on a 'quarter acre block' with a large backyard). Government policy has also pushed toward an increase in higher density housing due to the high price of land close to city centres and environmental concerns relating to urban sprawl. Between 1991 and 2001, while the number of separate houses in Australia increased by 18%, the increase in the number of higher density dwellings (i.e. flats, units and apartments, and semi-detatched, row, terrace and town houses) was twice as high (37%). As a result, higher density dwellings comprised 22% of all private dwellings in 2001.

Substantial variation exists across regions of Australia in relation to the costs and types of housing, and whether people are likely to rent, be paying off a mortgage, or fully own their homes. This variation is not only related to the physical environment and proximity to major urban centres, but also the characteristics of a region's population in terms of income, education, and age profile. Home ownership reflects the life-cycle stage of its occupants, generally following a pattern of renting in early adulthood, moving to home purchase and a mortgage as partnerships are formed and children are born, to outright ownership in older ages.

This chapter examines housing data from the 2001 census in relation to the various types of dwellings Australians live in, whether these dwellings are owned or rented, and the cost of housing across regions. The extent to which people reside in aged care facilities and other types of dwellings, such as caravans, hotels or motels is also discussed.

DWELLING STRUCTURE

In 2001, there were 7.8 million private dwellings in Australia, of which around 7.1 million were occupied on the night of the census. At the time of the census the most common dwellings were separate houses, housing 83% of the Australian population and accounting for 76% of all occupied private dwellings. Flats, units and apartments accounted for a further 13% of dwellings, followed by semi-detached, row, terrace houses and townhouses (9%). A small proportion of Australians lived in other types of dwellings (including caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents and sleepers out (people sleeping rough)), accounting for 2% of occupied private dwellings. Unless stated, this chapter uses counts of dwellings, rather than population counts.

7.1 DWELLING STRUCTURE OF OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS, Mainly urban and mixed urban/rural regions

Region	Separate houses %	Semi-detached, row, terrace and townhouses %	Flats, units and apartments %	Other housing(a) %	Total %
Mainly urban regions	72.7	10.6	15.7	0.9	100.0
Mixed urban/rural regions	84.0	4.8	6.7	4.4	100.0
Australia	**75.9**	**9.0**	**13.2**	**1.9**	**100.0**

(a) Comprises caravans, cabins and houseboats; improvised homes, tents and sleepers out; and houses and flats attached to a shop, office, etc.

Separate houses

Although the majority of Australians live in separate houses, the concentration of these dwellings varies across regions. In particular, inner city regions have lower concentrations of separate houses than other regions. In 2001, these dwellings accounted for 84% of all occupied private dwellings in Mixed urban/rural regions, and 73% in Mainly urban regions. The proportion of families with dependent children living in separate houses (92%) was greater than that for couple families without children (81%) and for lone person households (56%). Consequently, regions with a higher proportion of separate houses often have a larger proportion of couple families with dependent children in their population (table 1.2) (see Chapter 3, Living arrangements).

In 2001, Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD), a region south of Brisbane, had a higher proportion of separate houses (97%) than any other region in Australia (table 7.2). This region also had one of the largest concentrations of couple families with dependent children, relative to all families in the region (48%). Similarly, many outer urban areas of Melbourne, stretching from Melton-Wyndham (SSD) to South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) had high proportions of separate dwellings as well as a large proportion of couple families with dependent children.

Medium and high density dwellings

In 2001, over 20% of occupied private dwellings in Australia were semi-detached, row, and terrace houses and townhouses (medium density housing) or flats, units and apartments (high density housing). Medium density dwellings were concentrated in inner-city regions, with the highest proportions located in Inner Melbourne (SSD) (28%) and Inner Sydney (SSD) (27%). High density housing accounted for over half the dwellings in the inner suburbs of Brisbane (City Core (SRS) 56%), Melbourne (Inner Melbourne (SSD) 55%) and Sydney (Eastern Suburbs (SSD) 55%; Lower Northern Sydney (SSD) 44%; and Inner Sydney (SSD) 52%) (map 7.3).

7.2 SEPARATE HOUSES, Top ten Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of all occupied private dwellings %	Proportion of couple families with dependent children(b) %
	TOP TEN MAINLY URBAN REGIONS			
1	Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	95.3	44.5
2	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	Vic.	94.4	43.8
3	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	92.8	48.9
4	Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	Vic.	92.6	47.7
5	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	92.5	48.3
6	Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	Qld	92.0	46.1
7	Hume City (SSD)	Vic.	91.7	48.3
8	Ipswich City (Part in BSB)	Qld	91.7	39.9
9	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	Vic.	88.7	35.4
10	Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	87.8	43.6
	Australia		**75.9**	**38.6**
	TOP TEN MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
1	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	97.3	48.2
2	Southern (SD)	Tas.	95.6	37.0
3	Moreton SD Bal (SD)	Qld	94.4	37.9
4	Far West (SD)	NSW	93.1	31.8
5	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	92.5	32.7
6	Midlands (SD)	WA	92.3	38.3
7	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	92.2	40.0
8	Outer Adelaide (SD)	SA	91.9	37.5
9	Western District (SD)	Vic.	91.0	39.0
10	Loddon (SD)	Vic.	90.7	38.3
	Australia		**75.9**	**38.6**

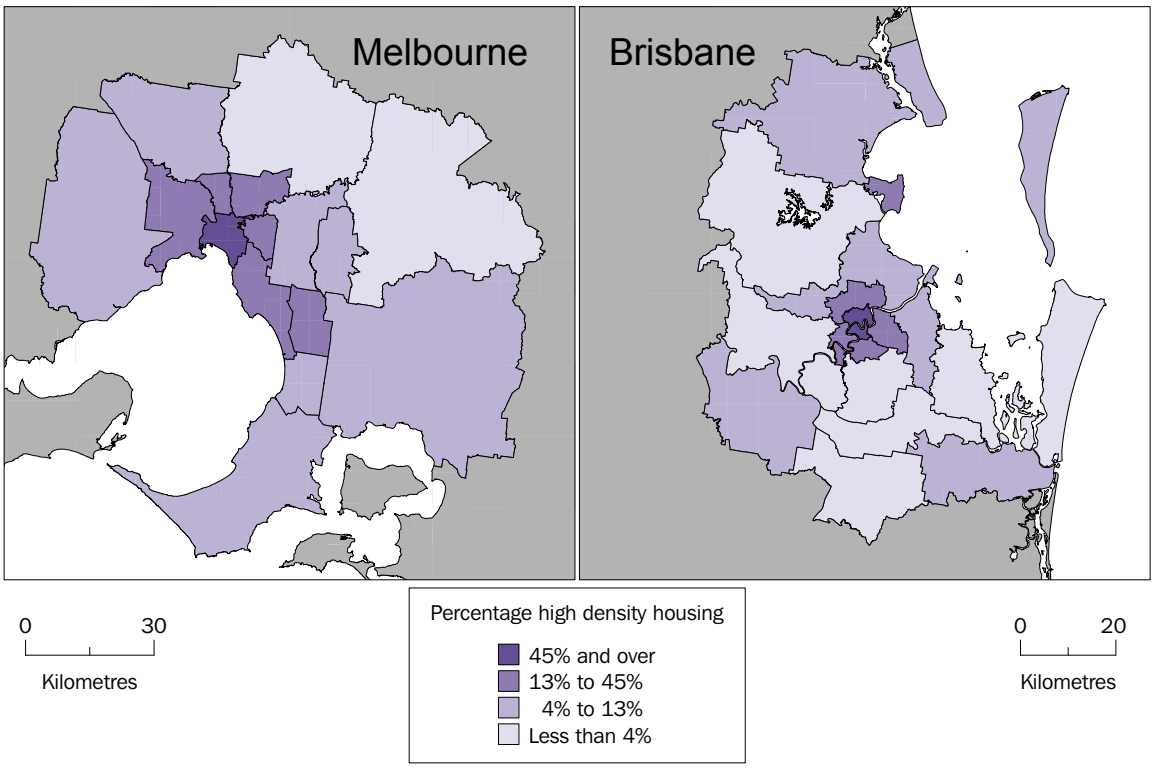
(a) Ranked according to the proportion of occupied private dwellings classified as separate houses.

(b) As a proportion of all families.

Those regions with the highest concentrations of medium and high density dwellings also had large proportions of couple only families and lone person households. For example, at the 2001 census, Brisbane City Core (SRS) had the highest proportions of lone person households (40% of all households) and couple families without children (52% of all families) of all regions of Australia.

Mixed urban/rural regions had substantially lower concentrations of medium and high density housing than Mainly urban regions. The Mixed regions with the largest proportions of high density dwellings included Darwin (SD) (19%) and Far North Queensland (SD) (15%). In Far North Queensland (SD), the importance of the tourism industry contributes to high concentrations of higher density housing, in the form of holiday apartments.

7.3 HIGH DENSITY DWELLINGS(a), Melbourne (SD) and Brisbane (SD)(b)



(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) See Appendix 1 for detailed maps identifying regions.

7.4 MEDIUM AND HIGH DENSITY DWELLINGS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	SEMI-DETACHED, ROW, TERRACE HOUSES AND TOWNHOUSES		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	27.5
2	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	26.8
3	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	24.6
4	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	18.3
5	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	17.6
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Northern (SD)	SA	17.9
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	15.2
3	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	10.8
4	Darwin (SD)	NT	10.6
5	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	8.9
	Australia		**9.0**

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %
	FLATS, UNITS AND APARTMENTS		
	Mainly urban regions		
1	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	56.4
2	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	55.4
3	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	54.8
4	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	51.5
5	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	44.4
	Mixed urban/rural regions		
1	Darwin (SD)	NT	19.2
2	Far North (SD)	Qld.	15.3
3	Murray (SD)	NSW	10.2
4	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	10.0
5	North West (SD)	Qld	9.9
	Australia		**13.1**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of all occupied private dwellings that are medium density (semi-detached, row, terrace and townhouses) or high density (flats, units and apartments).

HOUSING TENURE

In August 2001, 42% of occupied private dwellings in Australia were fully owned (i.e. without a mortgage), 28% were owned with a mortgage and 28% were being rented. A range of factors may delay entry into home ownership including longer periods of education, increased levels of mobility, later family formation and the cost of home ownership.

As mentioned earlier, the tenure of a dwelling often reflects the life-cycle stage of its occupants. In 2001, the median age of a reference person living in a fully owned home was 59 years. In comparison, the median age of a reference person living in a mortgaged home was 41 years, while the median age of those who were renting was 37 years.

Fully owned and mortgaged dwellings

Fully owned dwellings were slightly more common in Mixed urban/rural regions than Mainly urban regions of Australia (44% compared with 41% of all occupied private dwellings). The Far West (SD) region of New South Wales, and Wimmera (SD) in Victoria had the highest proportions of fully owned dwellings of all regions of Australia (60% and 56% respectively). These levels are mainly related to the older age structure of country areas, reflected in higher median ages (see table 7.6, and Chapter 1, Population distribution and growth).

In contrast, regions with the highest proportions of dwellings owned with a mortgage were located in suburban areas of major population centres such as Brisbane, Canberra, and Melbourne (table 7.6). In 2001, the largest concentration of mortgaged dwellings in Australia was located in Beaudesert Shire - Part A (SD) where 56% of dwellings were owned with a mortgage, twice the proportion for Australia as a whole. The population of this region also had a relatively low median age (33 years) and a high proportion of families with dependent children (56%).

7.5 HOUSING TENURE(a), Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions

Region	*Fully owned* %	*Owned with a mortgage* %	*Rented* %	*Total(b)* %
Mainly urban regions	40.8	28.8	28.0	100.0
Mixed urban/rural regions	44.0	25.2	26.6	100.0
Australia	**41.7**	**27.8**	**27.6**	**100.0**

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Includes other forms of tenure such as occupied under a life tenure scheme.

7.6 HOME OWNERSHIP, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion of all occupied private dwellings %	Median age of population(b) years
	FULLY OWNED			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	54.4	38
2	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	52.2	37
3	Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	49.6	38
4	St George-Sutherland (SSD)	NSW	49.5	37
5	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	48.1	33
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Far West (SD)	NSW	59.7	39
2	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	56.1	40
3	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	56.0	43
4	Illawarra SD bal (SSD)	NSW	54.5	42
5	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	52.5	37
	Australia		**41.7**	**36**
	OWNED WITH A MORTGAGE			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	52.5	30
2	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	48.3	32
3	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	46.8	31
4	Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	Vic.	46.1	31
5	Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	Qld	43.7	33
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	55.8	33
2	Outer Adelaide (SD)	SA	34.4	39
3	Darwin (SD)	NT	33.7	31
4	Moreton SD bal (SD)	Qld	31.4	38
5	South West (SD)	WA	31.3	37
	Australia		**27.8**	**36**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of occupied private dwellings that are owned either with or without a mortgage, by the occupant(s).

(b) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

Rented dwellings

Rented dwellings can be accessed through various types of arrangements, from private landlords (including real estate agents, employer or community landlords) to those managed by state and territory housing authorities, which are also discussed later in this chapter. High density dwellings were more likely to be rented (67%) than separate houses (18%) or medium density dwellings (51%).

In 2001, 28% of occupied private dwellings were rented by their occupant(s), with the largest proportions concentrated in and around inner regions of capital cities. Brisbane City Core (SRS) had the highest concentration of rental housing (58%) of all regions of Australia, largely explained by the greater number of high density dwellings (flats, units and apartments) in the region. The population of this region had a lower median age (33 years), and a higher proportion of couple families without children (see Chapter 3, Living arrangements) than nationally.

7.7 RENTED DWELLINGS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Proportion %	Median age of population(b) years
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN REGIONS			
1	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	58.0	33
2	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	54.2	33
3	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	52.4	34
4	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	44.9	33
5	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	43.3	35
	Australia		**27.6**	**36**
	TOP FIVE MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	53.8	28
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	50.4	30
3	Kimberley (SD)	WA	47.7	28
4	Darwin (SD)	NT	40.8	31
5	Far North (SD)	Qld	38.6	34
	Australia		**27.6**	**36**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of occupied private dwellings that are rented.

(b) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

Inner city areas with high proportions of rented dwellings generally attract younger people (including group households) due to the flexibility that renting provides, and the lifestyle these regions offer. Other inner city regions with a relatively high concentration of rented dwellings included Inner Melbourne (SSD) (54%), Inner Sydney (SSD) (52%) and North Canberra (SSD) (45%).

High proportions of rented dwellings were also found in the balance of Northern Territory (SD) (54%), Pilbara (SD) (50%) and Kimberley (SD) (48%) in Western Australia. This pattern may be related to the relatively large Indigenous population living within these regions, as households with Indigenous person(s) were more likely to rent in 2001 than other households (64% compared with 27%). Higher proportions of rented dwellings in these regions may also be related to a greater provision of rental accommodation by state and territory housing authorities and Indigenous housing organisations. The higher proportion of rented dwellings in the Pilbara (SD) region of Western Australia is also related to the provision of rental accommodation for employees of the mining industry in this region.

HOUSING COSTS

In August 2001, the median weekly rent of occupied private dwellings in Australia was $154, substantially lower than the median weekly mortgage repayment of $218. Weekly mortgage repayments are reported in this publication as a quarter of the stated monthly mortgage repayment.

The cost of housing in Australia varied widely across regions, with higher rents and mortgages more common in larger population centres and particularly in prestigious suburbs of these cities. Overall, rents increased by 19%, as measured by median weekly rent, since the last census in 1996. Median weekly home loan repayments increased by 11% over the same period. Households in Mainly urban regions tended to pay more per week on both rent and mortgage repayments ($167 and $233, respectively) than those in Mixed urban/rural regions ($117 and $179, respectively).

High cost housing in Australia

In 2001, the inner and northern suburbs of Sydney had the highest median rents and highest median home loan repayments of all regions in Australia. The Eastern Suburbs (SSD) of Sydney, Lower Northern Sydney (SSD), Northern Beaches (SSD) and Central Northern Sydney (SSD) all had weekly rents and mortgage repayments around twice those of the equivalent costs for Australia overall (table 7.8 and map 7.9).

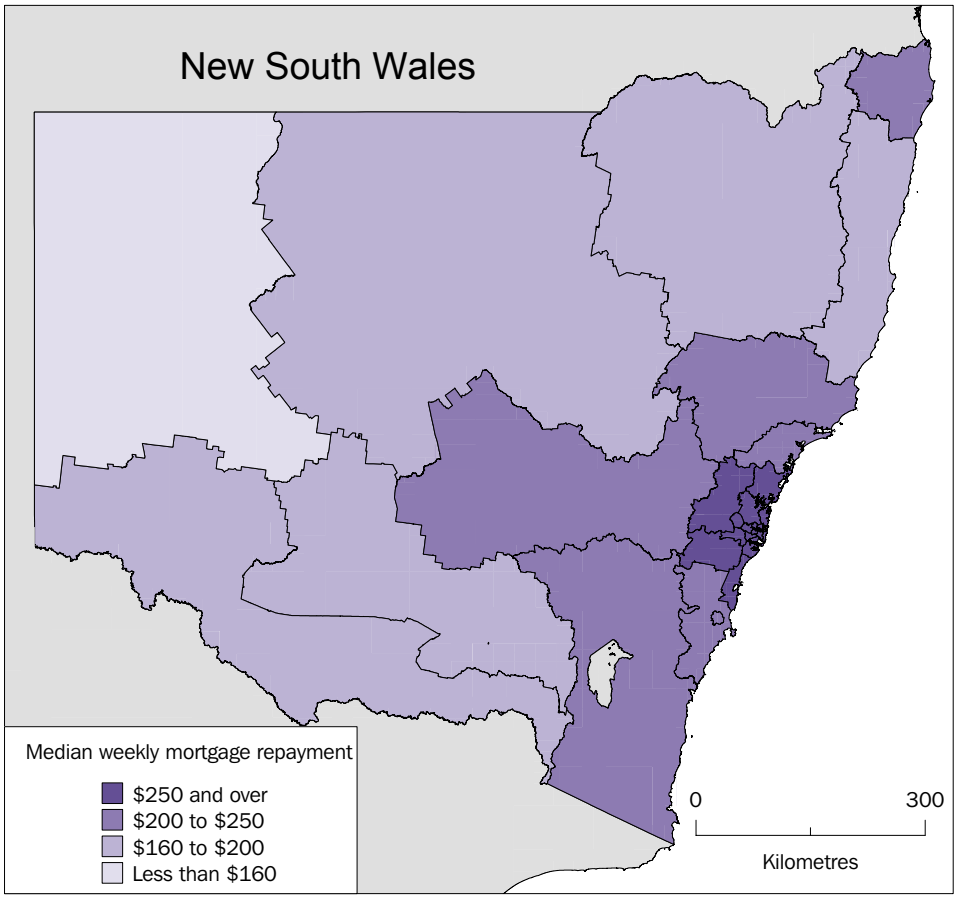
Within other Australian capital cities, the Melbourne region with the highest median mortgage repayments was Boroondara City (SSD), while Brisbane City Core (SRS) recorded the highest median mortgage repayments for Brisbane (table 7.10). South Canberra (SSD) recorded the highest figure for Canberra, as did Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD) for Perth and Eastern Adelaide (SSD) for Adelaide.

7.8 MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSING COSTS, Capital city SDs and selected regions within capital city SDs(a)

Region	*State or territory*	*Median weekly mortgage repayments* $	*Median weekly rents* $
Sydney (SD)	NSW	316	216
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	429	310
Melbourne (SD)	Vic.	229	169
Boroondara City (SSD)	Vic.	341	216
Brisbane (SD)	Qld	219	159
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	296	189
Adelaide (SD)	SA	176	126
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	227	150
Perth (SD)	WA	215	142
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	333	170
Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	164	114
Darwin (SD)	NT	255	162
Canberra (SD)	ACT	239	170
South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	318	192
Australia		**218**	**154**

(a) Regions within capital city SDs with the highest median weekly mortgage repayments.

7.9 MEDIAN WEEKLY MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS, New South Wales(a)



(a) See Appendix 1 for detailed maps identifying regions.

Low cost housing in Australia

In contrast, some country and remote regions of Australia had the lowest median weekly rental prices and home loan repayments. Dwellings in the balance of the Northern Territory (SD) had the lowest median weekly rent, at $70. Median rental prices in a region may be influenced by the proportion of rental properties managed through state and territory housing authorities, which are generally less expensive to rent than other properties. This is discussed further in the following section on housing affordability.

The lowest median weekly home loan repayments in 2001 were found in regions such as Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia ($103 per week) and Far West (SD) New South Wales ($120 per week). Low housing costs in remote regions sometimes reflect population decline in these areas. As a growing number of people are moving away from remote regions (see Chapter 1, Population distribution and growth), falling demand for housing pushes prices down. Further, population decline often leads to a cut-back in services which in turn contributes to fewer jobs and remote areas becoming less desirable places to live.

7.10 MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSING COSTS, Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

Rank	Region	State or territory	Median weekly payments $	Median gross household weekly income $
	HIGHEST MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	429	1 110
2	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	428	1 209
3	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	411	1 170
4	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	398	1 451
5	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	390	1 012
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	264	828
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	255	1 016
3	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	245	961
4	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	229	921
5	South Eastern (SD)	WA	225	630
	HIGHEST RENTS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	NSW	310	1 110
2	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	304	1 209
3	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	NSW	299	1 451
4	Northern Beaches (SSD)	NSW	298	1 170
5	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	259	1 012
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	Qld	181	961
2	Darwin (SD)	NT	162	1 016
3	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	NSW	148	541
4	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	NSW	148	598
5	Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	Qld	134	643
	LOWEST MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	163	681
2	Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	164	669
3	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	173	750
4	Southern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	176	719
5	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	178	670
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Pilbara (SD)	WA	103	1 350
2	Far West (SD)	NSW	120	491
3	York and Lower North (SD)	SA	123	509
4	Northern (SD)	SA	134	583
5	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	137	609
	Australia		**218**	**785**
	LOWEST RENTS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	114	608
2	Greater Hobart (SD)	Tas.	114	669
3	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	117	681
4	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	Qld	126	750
5	Barwon (SD)	Vic.	129	688
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	70	921
2	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	80	603
3	Northern (SD)	SA	81	583
4	South West and Central West	Qld	87	697
5	Midlands (SD)	WA	88	958
	Australia		**154**	**785**

(a) Ranked according to highest and lowest weekly rents and weekly mortgage repayments of occupied private dwellings.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Rental costs and mortgage repayments usually constitute a substantial proportion of a household's expenditure. While there is no single standard measure of housing affordability, one useful measure is the ratio of ongoing housing costs (i.e. rent or home loan repayments) to household income for low income households. Low income households (see Glossary) which spend more than 30% of their gross weekly income on housing costs often experience affordability problems. While higher income households may also spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs, they often have the discretion to lower their housing costs (see *Measuring Australia's Progress, 2002,* cat. no. 1370.0). Therefore, only low income households are included in the following analysis.

In 2001, lower income households which were renting were more likely to be spending 30% or more of their gross household income on housing costs, than those which were paying a mortgage (48% compared with 38%). Across Australia, low income households in Mainly urban regions were more likely to be in this situation than those in Mixed urban/rural regions. In 2001, 52% of low income households renting in Mainly urban regions spent 30% or more of their gross household income on rent, compared with 41% of those renting in Mixed regions (table 7.11).

7.11 HOUSING COSTS, Median weekly and as a proportion of gross household income for low income households, Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions

Region	*Median weekly rent(a)*	*Proportion of rented households spending 30% or more of gross household income on rent(b)*	*Median weekly mortgage repayment(a)*	*Proportion of mortgaged households spending 30% or more of gross household income on mortgage repayments(b)*
	$	%	$	%
Mainly urban regions	167	52.0	233	41.4
Mixed urban/rural regions	117	40.6	179	31.5
Australia	**154**	**48.4**	**218**	**37.9**

(a) For all occupied private dwellings.

(b) For low income households (i.e. households in the bottom 40% of the income distribution when all households are ranked from highest to lowest into equivalised income groups; see Glossary for more details).

Public sector rental dwellings

Public sector rental dwellings are owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities. Rents in public rental dwellings are generally set at a maximum of 25% of assessable household income, thereby providing affordable housing to people on low incomes. In 2001, 17% of rented dwellings were accessed through state and territory housing authorities, comprising 5% of all dwellings in Australia. The median weekly rent for dwellings rented from a state or territory housing authority was $68, compared to $170 for those rented from a private landlord.

Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions had similar proportions of public housing (5% and 4%, respectively). Across Australia, North Canberra (SSD) (17%) and the Northern (SD) region of South Australia (16%) had the highest proportions.

As with all dwellings in Australia, the most common type of public sector rental dwellings were separate houses. However, compared to all dwellings, public sector rental dwellings included more than double the proportion of high density dwellings (28% compared with 13%) and medium density dwellings (24% compared with 9%).

The structure of public sector rental dwellings varied across regions (table 7.12). Those in Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD) and Blacktown (SSD) in New South Wales were mostly in the form of separate houses (79% and 67% respectively), while in the South Australian regions of Northern (SD), Western Adelaide (SSD) and Northern Adelaide (SSD) medium density dwellings were most common (67%, 59% and 50% respectively). High density public sector rental dwellings were most common in North Canberra (SSD) (46%). Variation across regions is likely to reflect the specific characteristics of each region, such as how close to the inner city it is and what types of dwellings are in the region overall.

7.12 PUBLIC SECTOR RENTAL DWELLINGS, Top five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions(a)

				DWELLING STRUCTURE			
Rank	Region	State or territory	*Proportion of all occupied private dwellings*	*Separate houses*	*Semi-detached, row, terrace and townhouses*	*Flats, units and apartments*	*Total(b)*
			%	%	%	%	%
	Mainly urban regions						
1	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	16.7	33.9	20.0	46.1	100.0
2	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	13.6	43.0	24.1	32.9	100.0
3	Western Adelaide (SSD)	SA	11.8	19.0	59.1	21.9	100.0
4	Blacktown (SSD)	NSW	11.7	66.6	20.6	12.7	100.0
5	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	11.0	37.1	50.2	12.7	100.0
	Mixed urban/rural regions						
1	Northern (SD)	SA	15.5	24.9	67.2	7.8	100.0
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	12.0	67.7	16.4	15.4	100.0
3	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	NSW	10.0	79.4	9.5	11.1	100.0
4	Darwin (SD)	NT	9.9	56.5	16.2	27.2	100.0
5	Pilbara (SD)	WA	9.1	59.4	35.1	5.3	100.0
	Australia		**4.8**	**47.1**	**24.3**	**28.4**	**100.0**

(a) Ranked according to proportion of occupied private dwellings that are rented from public housing authorities.

(b) Includes other types of dwelling structures, such as caravans, cabins, improvised homes and houses or flats attached to shops.

HOUSING UTILISATION

The relationship between the number of people who usually reside in a dwelling and the number of bedrooms indicates whether a dwelling is under-utilised or overcrowded. There are a number of ways in which housing utilisation is measured. This publication uses two measures of over-crowding: the ratio of persons to bedrooms; and a Canadian measure considered by the National Housing Strategy and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to conform reasonably to social norms in Australia.

The Canadian National Occupancy Standard for housing appropriateness is sensitive to both household size and composition. Overcrowding is based on comparisons of the number of bedrooms in a dwelling with a series of household demographics, including the number of usual residents, their relationship to one another, age and sex (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 44–45 for further information). Households living in dwellings where the standards are not met are considered to be overcrowded, with a need for extra bedroom(s).

In August 2001, according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, 75% of occupied private dwellings in Australia had one or more spare bedrooms. Around 21% of dwellings had a reasonable number of bedrooms, with no extra bedrooms needed, while a small proportion (4%) of dwellings in Australia could be considered overcrowded. A higher proportion of rented dwellings were overcrowded (8%) than fully owned or mortgaged dwellings (2% and 3% respectively). There was little difference in the proportion of overcrowded dwellings between dwellings rented from a state or territory housing authority (public sector rentals) and those rented through a private landlord (table 7.13).

7.13 HOUSING UTILISATION, Tenure type

	CANADIAN NATIONAL OCCUPANCY STANDARD			
	Persons per bedroom(a)	*One or more spare bedrooms*	*No spare bedrooms (no extra needed)*	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings*	*Total*
Selected tenure of dwelling	average no.	%	%	%	%
Fully owned	0.77	84.9	12.8	2.4	100.0
Owned with a mortgage	0.95	77.4	19.6	3.0	100.0
Rented	0.97	56.3	35.8	7.9	100.0
Public sector rental	1.00	49.1	43.5	8.5	100.0
Private landlord	0.96	58.8	34.5	7.8	100.0
Other(b)	1.03	51.6	39.2	10.4	100.0
Australia(c)	**0.85**	**74.5**	**21.3**	**4.2**	**100.0**

(a) Based on counts of usual residents.

(b) Comprises employer landlords, community or co-operative housing groups, and other types of landlords.

(c) Includes other forms of tenure such as being occupied rent-free, being occupied under a life tenure scheme and other tenure types.

HOUSING UTILISATION *continued*

Overall, the Indigenous population experienced a higher degree of crowding than the non-Indigenous population. In 2001, 16% of households with Indigenous person(s) were overcrowded, (i.e. they required at least one extra bedroom) compared with just 4% of other households. However, Indigenous people residing in Mixed urban/rural regions of Australia lived in more crowded conditions than Indigenous persons living in Mainly urban regions. Around 20% of households with Indigenous person(s) located in Mixed regions were overcrowded compared with 11% of households with Indigenous person(s) in Mainly urban regions.

The balance of the Northern Territory (SD) and the Kimberley (SD) region of Western Australia had some of the largest proportions of overcrowded dwellings (21% and 20% respectively) possibly related to larger Indigenous populations in these areas. Over half (52%) of households with Indigenous person(s) located in the balance of the Northern Territory (SD) were overcrowded, a much larger proportion than experienced by other households in the same region (6%). Higher rates of overcrowding may be related to Indigenous persons maintaining their traditional lifestyle to a greater extent in more remote areas (i.e. extended families living in the same dwelling).

In Mainly urban regions, the highest levels of overcrowding were in inner city areas. Inner Sydney (SSD) had the highest rate of overcrowding (with 12% of dwellings overcrowded), and was closely followed by other regions of Sydney, including Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD) (11%), and Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD) and Central Western Sydney (SSD) (both 10%). Higher levels of overcrowding experienced by households in Sydney regions may be related to higher housing costs, with smaller dwellings offering a more affordable option for families. Overcrowding may also be related to higher proportions of overseas born populations (for example, in Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)) who may be more likely to live with extended family or friends, especially in the case of recent migrants to Australia (see Chapter 2, Cultural diversity).

Mainly urban regions with the lowest proportions of overcrowding included Weston Creek-Stromlo and the Balance of the Australian Capital Territory and Gungahlin-Hall (SSD) in the Australian Capital Territory, and the South West Metropolitan (SSD) and North Metropolitan (SSD) regions of Perth (all 2%). Mixed urban/rural regions with low levels of overcrowding were in the South East (SD) region of South Australia (2%), and Wimmera (SD) in Victoria (2%).

Under-utilisation of housing in some regions is associated with a higher number of single person and couple only households. Regions with large proportions of young couples without children are more likely to have less crowded households, as are regions with large proportions of older couples in their populations, who may be 'empty nesters' (people whose children have moved out of the family home).

7.14 HOUSING UTILISATION, Overcrowding — Top and bottom five Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions

Rank	Region	State or territory	Persons per bedroom average no.	Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(a) %
	TOP FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Inner Sydney (SSD)	NSW	0.86	11.6
2	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	NSW	1.00	11.4
3	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	NSW	0.99	10.1
4	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	0.95	9.9
5	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	Vic.	0.94	8.7
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	1.08	21.2
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	0.86	20.2
3	North West (SD)	Qld	0.89	9.3
4	Darwin (SD)	NT	0.86	6.9
5	Far North (SD)	Qld	0.82	6.4
	BOTTOM FIVE MAINLY URBAN AND MIXED URBAN/RURAL REGIONS			
	Mainly urban regions			
1	Weston Creek-Stromlo(b)	ACT	0.76	1.6
2	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	ACT	0.82	1.7
3	South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	0.78	1.9
4	North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	0.78	1.9
5	Tuggeranong (SSD)	ACT	0.87	2.1
	Mixed urban/rural regions			
1	South East (SD)	SA	0.83	2.0
2	Wimmera (SD)	Vic.	0.80	2.2
3	South West (SD)	WA	0.79	2.2
4	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	SA	0.81	2.2
5	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	0.79	2.3
	Australia		**0.85**	**4.2**

(a) Ranked according to overcrowding as measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard measure.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Balance (SSD).

NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS

At the 2001 census, 97% of the Australian population were usual residents of private dwellings. However, at different times in their lives, and for a variety of reasons, many people live in non-private dwellings, which comprise different kinds of communal accommodation. Non-private dwellings include residential aged care homes, prisons, corrective institutions and detention institutions, hostels for the homeless and student accommodation, to name a few.

Although only a small proportion of the Australian population were usual residents of such accommodation (3% at the time of the census), there are important regional issues associated with the provision of these facilities and the infrastructure required to support them. In particular, appropriate aged-care facilities may need to be provided in regions experiencing the ageing of their populations.

7.15 SELECTED NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS, Top five regions

Rank	Region	State or territory	no.	Proportion of usual residents %
	PRISONS, CORRECTIVE AND DETENTION INSTITUTIONS(a)			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	963	3.1
2	Pilbara (SD)	WA	652	1.7
3	Northern (SD)	SA	1 275	1.6
4	Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	1 891	1.5
5	East Gippsland (SD)	Vic.	802	1.0
	Australia		**24 537**	**0.1**
	HOSTELS FOR THE HOMELESS			
1	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	209	0.3
2	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	39	0.2
3	North West (SD)	Qld	57	0.2
4	Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	WA	188	0.2
5	Kimberley (SD)	WA	45	0.1
	Australia		**5 166**	**0.0**

Rank	Region	State or territory	no.	Proportion of usual residents %
	RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE, HALLS OF RESIDENCE			
1	North Canberra (SSD)	ACT	1 819	4.8
2	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	Qld	1 849	3.4
3	Upper Great Southern (SD)	WA	250	1.4
4	Belconnen (SSD)	ACT	985	1.2
5	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	Vic.	2 049	0.9
	Australia		**37 430**	**0.2**
	RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE(b)			
1	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	SA	3 770	1.8
2	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	Qld	1 136	1.7
3	South Canberra (SSD)	ACT	361	1.6
4	Boorondara City (SSD)	Vic.	2 318	1.5
5	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	NSW	2 345	1.5
	Australia		**142 634**	**0.8**

(a) Comprises institutions for adults and corrective institutions for children.

(b) Comprises nursing homes and other accommodation for the retired or aged.

Of all regions of Australia, North Canberra (SSD) had the highest concentration (11%) of its population living in non-private dwellings, of whom 43% were in residential colleges and halls of residence, reflecting the area's proximity to educational institutions. The Kimberley (SD) region in Western Australia also had a high proportion of its usual residents living in non-private dwellings (10%). Almost one-third (31%) of these were living in a Prison, corrective and detention institution for adults or a Corrective institution for children.

People in residential aged care facilities constituted 1% of the total Australian population. Eastern Adelaide (SD) had the largest concentration of aged care residents of any region in Australia (2%). Other regions that had similarly high proportions included Brisbane City Core (SRS), and South Canberra (SSD) (table 7.15). Consistent with the location of these aged care facilities, many of these regions also had higher proportions of their populations aged 65 years and over than nationally (see Chapter 1, Population growth and distribution).

A very small number (5,200) of Australians were usual residents of crisis accommodation for homeless people at the time of the census. However, the number of people in crisis accommodation may account for only a proportion of all homeless people.

OTHER PRIVATE DWELLINGS

In 2001, 1% of the Australian population (247,000 people) lived in other types of private dwellings, such as caravans, cabins or houseboats or improvised homes, tents or sleepers out (i.e. people sleeping rough). Although some people choose these types of housing because of their low cost, or for mobility or lifestyle reasons, these living arrangements are sometimes the result of disadvantage compounded by the lack of affordable alternative housing.

Caravans, cabins or houseboats

Of the 247,000 people in Australia living in other dwellings, 66% lived in caravans, cabins or houseboats. Remote regions had the highest proportions of their populations living in these dwellings. In Western Australia's Kimberley (SD) region, 7% of usual residents lived in caravans, cabins or houseboats, more than seven times the national figure (table 7.16). Other regions with high proportions were the balance of the Northern Territory (SD) (4%), Central Queensland (SD), North West Queensland (SD) (both 3%), and the Pilbara region of Western Australia (3%). Some people who live in caravans, cabins or houseboats are long-term travellers. Often they have no fixed address (for the purpose of the census) and are therefore considered usual residents of the region they are counted in on census night. As the census was conducted in August, the peak tourist season for outback Australia, census figures may over-estimate the number of people living in such dwellings in these regions during other times of the year.

Improvised homes, tents and sleepers out

A very small proportion (0.1%) of the Australian population lived in improvised homes, tents and sleepers out. The balance of the Northern Territory (SD) and the Kimberley (SD) region had the highest proportions of people living in these dwellings (2% of their usual populations). Again, many of the people living in these dwellings may be long-term travellers. Alternatively, they could be part of Indigenous communities in these regions, where improvised dwellings are more common (see *Housing and Infrastructure in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities, Australia, 2001,* cat. no. 4710.0).

7.16 SELECTED OTHER PRIVATE DWELLINGS(a), Top five regions

				Proportion of usual residents
Rank	*Region*	*State or territory*	no.	%
	CARAVANS, CABINS OR HOUSEBOATS			
1	Kimberley (SD)	WA	2 207	7.1
2	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	3 022	3.6
3	Central (SD)	Qld	1 924	3.3
4	Pilbara (SD)	WA	1 181	3.1
5	North West (SD)	Qld	977	2.8
	Australia		**162 464**	**0.8**
	IMPROVISED HOMES, TENTS AND SLEEPERS OUT			
1	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	NT	1 351	1.6
2	Kimberley (SD)	WA	474	1.5
3	Darwin (SD)	NT	883	0.9
4	Central (SD)	Qld	420	0.7
5	North West (SD)	Qld	210	0.6
	Australia		**22 222**	**0.1**

(a) Ranked according to the proportion of usual residents living in caravans, cabins or houseboats, or in improvised homes, tents and sleepers out.

7.17 HOUSING INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS

State *Region* *Sub-region*	*Separate houses(a)* %	*Fully owned dwellings(a)* %	*Median weekly mortgage repayments* $	*Median weekly rents* $	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(b)* %	*Public sector rental dwellings(c)* %
AUSTRALIA	**75.9**	**41.7**	**218**	**154**	**4.2**	**4.8**
New South Wales	**70.9**	**43.4**	**263**	**177**	**5.4**	**5.2**
Inner Sydney (SSD)	20.2	26.4	390	259	11.6	9.4
Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	25.3	39.4	429	310	6.9	4.4
St George-Sutherland (SSD)	64.1	49.5	340	231	5.3	2.7
Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	67.0	46.7	294	180	11.4	9.0
Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	77.4	39.3	277	161	10.1	9.0
Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	84.9	32.4	264	162	4.7	10.1
Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	52.3	45.1	383	253	8.0	3.0
Central Western Sydney (SSD)	63.3	40.6	287	200	9.9	8.1
Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	87.8	37.3	262	180	3.9	3.7
Blacktown (SSD)	87.0	33.1	267	171	6.6	11.7
Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	43.3	41.5	428	304	5.2	2.5
Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	84.2	52.2	398	299	2.4	0.8
Northern Beaches (SSD)	62.8	46.7	411	298	4.3	1.5
Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	80.9	44.8	257	173	3.3	3.5
Newcastle (SSD)	83.3	44.3	214	143	3.5	5.8
Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	83.7	48.8	215	128	3.0	3.5
Wollongong (SSD)	75.8	44.4	257	146	3.8	8.8
Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	85.7	39.1	204	116	2.6	10.0
Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	90.5	54.5	218	148	2.9	1.6
Richmond-Tweed (SD)	73.1	46.8	206	148	4.0	3.0
Lismore (S Dist)	79.5	39.8	186	136	3.4	4.9
Tweed Heads (SSD)	53.5	51.5	225	157	3.0	3.0
Balance of Richmond-Tweed (SD)	79.2	46.5	203	148	4.5	2.6
Mid-North Coast (SD)	78.8	48.9	193	133	3.8	3.7
Coffs Harbour (S Dist)	67.6	40.6	208	143	3.5	6.4
Port Macquarie (S Dist)	65.2	46.1	227	158	3.0	4.3
Balance of Mid-North Coast (SD)	84.4	51.4	180	127	4.0	2.9
Northern (SD)	88.0	46.2	181	113	3.4	4.2
Tamworth (S Dist)	84.1	41.0	193	133	3.0	5.9
Balance of Northern (SD)	89.2	47.8	174	108	3.5	3.7
North Western (SD)	86.8	44.9	191	109	4.6	5.2
Dubbo (S Dist)	81.5	35.5	213	134	4.0	8.0
Balance of North Western (SD)	89.0	48.7	171	101	4.8	4.1
Central West (SD)	88.6	46.5	202	118	3.3	5.3
Bathurst-Orange (S Dist)	84.0	38.9	217	141	3.1	6.7
Balance of Central West (SD)	91.9	52.1	175	104	3.4	4.4
South Eastern (SD)	81.4	46.8	205	122	3.3	3.4
Murrumbidgee (SD)	87.2	44.6	195	118	3.2	5.2
Wagga Wagga (S Dist)	84.6	35.8	202	128	2.7	7.6
Balance of Murrumbidgee (SD)	88.5	49.2	188	113	3.5	4.0
Murray (SD)	82.9	44.5	180	111	2.8	3.3
Albury (SSD)	77.7	37.1	193	119	2.7	5.3
Balance of Murray (SD)	87.3	50.8	168	106	2.8	1.5
Far West (SD)	93.1	59.7	120	94	2.8	2.0

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(c) Dwellings owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

7.17 HOUSING INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State *Region* *Sub-region*	*Separate houses(a)* %	*Fully owned dwellings(a)* %	*Median weekly mortgage repayments* $	*Median weekly rents* $	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(b)* %	*Public sector rental dwellings(c)* %
Victoria	**78.6**	**45.1**	**213**	**155**	**4.0**	**3.4**
Inner Melbourne (SSD)	16.5	26.3	329	215	6.6	7.7
Western Melbourne (SSD)	78.2	48.0	225	154	6.5	4.7
Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	92.6	35.7	209	155	3.7	2.0
Moreland City (SSD)	71.2	48.0	233	162	6.5	3.1
Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	75.5	47.1	235	160	4.9	5.0
Hume City (SSD)	91.7	41.3	212	159	6.4	4.3
Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	92.8	48.1	238	169	4.8	1.2
Boroondara City (SSD)	64.4	49.6	341	216	3.5	0.9
Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	83.1	54.4	260	191	3.0	1.6
Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	86.3	41.7	221	166	2.6	2.0
Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	94.4	40.8	208	152	3.2	0.9
Southern Melbourne (SSD)	65.8	47.8	269	183	3.2	1.7
Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	74.2	45.4	178	137	8.7	4.3
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	92.5	33.7	214	159	3.5	2.4
Frankston City (SSD)	84.2	36.3	199	146	3.1	3.1
Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	88.7	47.6	208	142	2.3	2.0
Barwon (SD)	87.7	47.1	181	129	3.0	3.7
Geelong (S Dist)	85.0	44.5	179	128	3.1	5.1
Balance of Barwon (SD)	92.4	51.8	185	132	2.7	1.3
Western District (SD)	91.0	51.1	155	106	2.4	3.9
Warrnambool (S Dist)	83.2	43.2	174	124	2.6	6.4
Balance of Western District (SD)	94.3	54.4	143	95	2.3	2.9
Central Highlands (SD)	88.5	45.9	167	120	3.1	4.4
Ballarat (S Dist)	84.9	42.8	167	126	2.9	5.6
Balance of Central Highlands (SD)	93.9	50.5	169	111	3.3	2.7
Wimmera (SD)	90.3	56.1	137	96	2.2	3.4
Mallee (SD)	86.0	47.8	161	113	3.6	5.0
Mildura (S Dist)	81.8	41.4	171	127	4.1	5.9
Balance of Mallee (SD)	90.1	54.1	144	97	3.2	4.2
Loddon (SD)	90.7	46.8	166	122	3.1	3.5
Bendigo (S Dist)	87.5	42.2	161	129	3.2	5.0
Balance of Loddon (SD)	93.7	51.1	172	114	3.1	2.0
Goulburn (SD)	88.3	45.1	180	119	3.3	4.5
Shepparton (S Dist)	83.2	38.6	187	133	3.9	6.5
Balance of Goulburn (SD)	89.9	47.1	177	114	3.1	3.8
Ovens-Murray (SD)	86.5	43.5	180	124	2.7	5.1
Wodonga (S Dist)	86.0	37.1	193	131	2.7	6.7
Balance of Ovens-Murray (SD)	86.9	49.2	168	118	2.7	3.7
East Gippsland (SD)	89.2	50.3	154	107	2.7	3.6
Gippsland (SD)	90.7	48.6	153	105	2.8	4.0
La Trobe Valley (S Dist)	88.8	45.2	141	99	2.8	5.9
Balance of Gippsland (SD)	92.3	51.7	164	111	2.8	2.3

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(c) Dwellings owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

7.17 HOUSING INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Separate houses(a)*	*Fully owned dwellings(a)*	*Median weekly mortgage repayments*	*Median weekly rents*	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(b)*	*Public sector rental dwellings(c)*
	%	%	$	$	%	%
Queensland	**77.8**	**38.4**	**212**	**152**	**3.6**	**3.7**
Brisbane City Core (SRS)	37.5	23.6	296	189	5.9	4.5
Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	65.7	36.0	256	158	2.7	4.3
Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	71.1	37.6	257	176	2.7	4.2
Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	70.4	35.9	240	154	3.3	5.8
Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	54.4	36.5	279	196	3.5	1.2
Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	86.3	43.6	220	164	2.5	4.1
Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	85.3	38.6	231	170	2.9	4.4
Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	86.1	41.8	230	179	2.9	3.7
Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	95.3	38.5	245	167	3.1	5.9
Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	85.7	28.9	197	136	3.1	5.5
Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	97.3	31.2	245	181	2.7	0.0
Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	87.3	36.7	204	145	3.0	4.7
Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	91.7	34.3	173	126	4.2	6.5
Logan City (SSD)	86.5	27.7	194	144	4.2	6.6
Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	92.0	35.2	221	162	2.5	2.6
Redcliffe City (SSD)	76.3	40.4	190	131	3.6	7.0
Redland Shire (SSD)	86.2	39.3	223	170	2.2	3.2
Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	56.6	36.3	246	184	3.2	2.4
Sunshine Coast (SSD)	66.2	40.9	215	169	2.6	2.7
Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	94.4	45.2	193	134	3.7	0.8
Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	85.1	47.4	160	118	3.7	2.5
Bundaberg (S Dist)	81.7	43.1	166	122	3.2	3.9
Hervey Bay (S Dist)	78.4	48.0	179	134	3.2	2.6
Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	88.5	48.9	153	110	4.0	1.9
Darling Downs (SD)	88.1	43.8	175	121	2.9	2.4
Toowoomba (S Dist)	84.7	38.7	188	135	2.5	3.2
Balance of Darling Downs (SD)	91.7	49.4	162	108	3.3	1.5
South West and Central West	84.0	46.5	153	87	4.4	3.1
Fitzroy (SD)	84.8	39.1	188	120	3.9	3.9
Rockhampton (S Dist)	85.4	39.5	171	122	4.1	4.9
Gladstone (S Dist)	83.8	33.5	209	135	2.9	5.1
Balance of Fitzroy (SD)	84.9	41.6	189	108	4.3	2.5
Mackay (SD)	79.3	40.0	209	126	4.2	3.3
Northern (SD)	80.3	36.0	210	136	4.5	4.8
Townsville (S Dist)	77.1	30.1	215	146	4.1	6.1
Balance of Northern (SD)	87.9	49.9	188	108	5.5	1.7
Far North (SD)	70.6	34.9	222	134	6.4	4.0
Cairns (S Dist)	66.0	28.4	235	154	4.8	4.9
Balance of Far North (SD)	75.8	42.1	200	109	8.3	2.9
North West (SD)	72.2	33.0	208	106	9.3	6.9

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(c) Dwellings owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

7.17 HOUSING INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Separate houses(a)* %	*Fully owned dwellings(a)* %	*Median weekly mortgage repayments* $	*Median weekly rents* $	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(b)* %	*Public sector rental dwellings(c)* %
South Australia	**78.3**	**41.2**	**170**	**117**	**2.7**	**8.0**
Northern Adelaide (SSD)	82.8	35.2	163	117	2.9	11.0
Western Adelaide (SSD)	67.8	42.2	184	114	3.4	11.8
Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	66.5	43.7	227	150	2.3	3.7
Southern Adelaide (SSD)	80.0	40.5	176	131	2.1	6.6
Outer Adelaide (SD)	91.9	44.4	171	128	2.5	2.3
Yorke and Lower North (SD)	92.5	56.0	123	97	2.2	3.0
Murray Lands (SD)	86.8	44.9	142	101	3.3	7.2
South East (SD)	87.1	42.6	154	100	2.1	7.5
Eyre (SD)	84.1	46.3	147	97	3.6	7.1
Northern (SD)	73.8	39.5	134	81	3.6	15.5
Western Australia	**78.8**	**37.6**	**211**	**134**	**2.7**	**4.5**
Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	60.7	39.9	333	170	3.4	3.0
East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	85.9	37.7	210	134	2.2	3.8
North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	76.8	37.0	218	146	1.9	3.8
South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	80.7	39.5	215	141	1.9	4.5
South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	78.4	34.7	203	138	2.6	5.1
South West (SD)	86.6	39.9	201	127	2.2	4.0
Mandurah (S Dist)	82.8	41.9	197	124	1.9	3.0
Bunbury (S Dist)	85.2	33.2	210	139	2.0	5.3
Balance of South West (SD)	90.4	42.3	193	120	2.7	4.0
Lower Great Southern (SD)	89.8	45.2	172	114	3.0	4.7
Upper Great Southern (SD)	92.2	52.5	137	79	2.3	4.8
South Eastern (SD)	80.1	26.5	225	118	4.4	5.0
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (S Dist)	77.9	20.9	256	144	3.3	6.1
Balance of South Eastern (SD)	82.6	32.9	175	98	5.8	3.7
Midlands (SD)	92.3	47.9	160	88	2.8	3.5
Central (SD)	71.3	40.7	180	106	4.1	6.6
Geraldton (S Dist)	80.6	34.2	183	112	3.0	8.0
Balance of Central (SD)	63.4	46.3	174	97	5.4	5.4
Pilbara (SD)	64.7	15.0	103	91	6.1	9.1
Kimberley (SD)	52.6	30.4	264	93	20.2	12.0
Tasmania	**86.6**	**43.1**	**154**	**107**	**2.8**	**6.7**
Greater Hobart (SD)	83.1	40.1	164	114	3.0	7.8
Southern (SD)	95.6	50.9	142	100	3.6	1.2
Northern (SD)	87.9	43.7	149	106	2.7	6.1
Launceston (S Dist)	85.6	40.9	151	110	2.5	7.3
Balance of Northern (SD)	94.5	51.9	142	89	3.1	2.3
Mersey-Lyell (SD)	88.8	45.8	139	98	2.4	7.3
Burnie-Devonport (S Dist)	86.5	44.5	140	101	2.3	9.2
Balance of Mersey-Lyell (SD)	94.9	49.2	137	90	2.7	2.0

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(c) Dwellings owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

7.17 HOUSING INDICATORS FOR ALL REGIONS *continued*

State / *Region* / *Sub-region*	*Separate houses(a)* %	*Fully owned dwellings(a)* %	*Median weekly mortgage repayments* $	*Median weekly rents* $	*Proportion of overcrowded dwellings(b)* %	*Public sector rental dwellings(c)* %
Northern Territory	**62.6**	**20.3**	**250**	**123**	**12.4**	**8.9**
Darwin (SD)	62.6	22.0	255	162	6.9	9.9
Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	62.6	17.9	229	70	21.2	7.4
Australian Capital Territory	**76.9**	**34.5**	**240**	**169**	**2.3**	**9.0**
North Canberra (SSD)	61.9	31.2	263	164	3.5	16.7
Belconnen (SSD)	81.7	37.2	223	168	2.3	8.9
Woden Valley (SSD)	69.7	42.4	261	169	2.4	6.5
Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	86.0	44.0	241	163	1.6	7.2
Tuggeranong (SSD)	87.0	29.9	229	166	2.1	7.2
South Canberra (SSD)	58.3	36.6	318	192	2.8	13.6
Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	74.0	22.0	259	187	1.7	2.6
Other Territories	**60.6**	**29.5**	**204**	**105**	**10.1**	**30.4**

(a) As a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(b) Measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

(c) Dwellings owned and managed by state and territory housing authorities, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

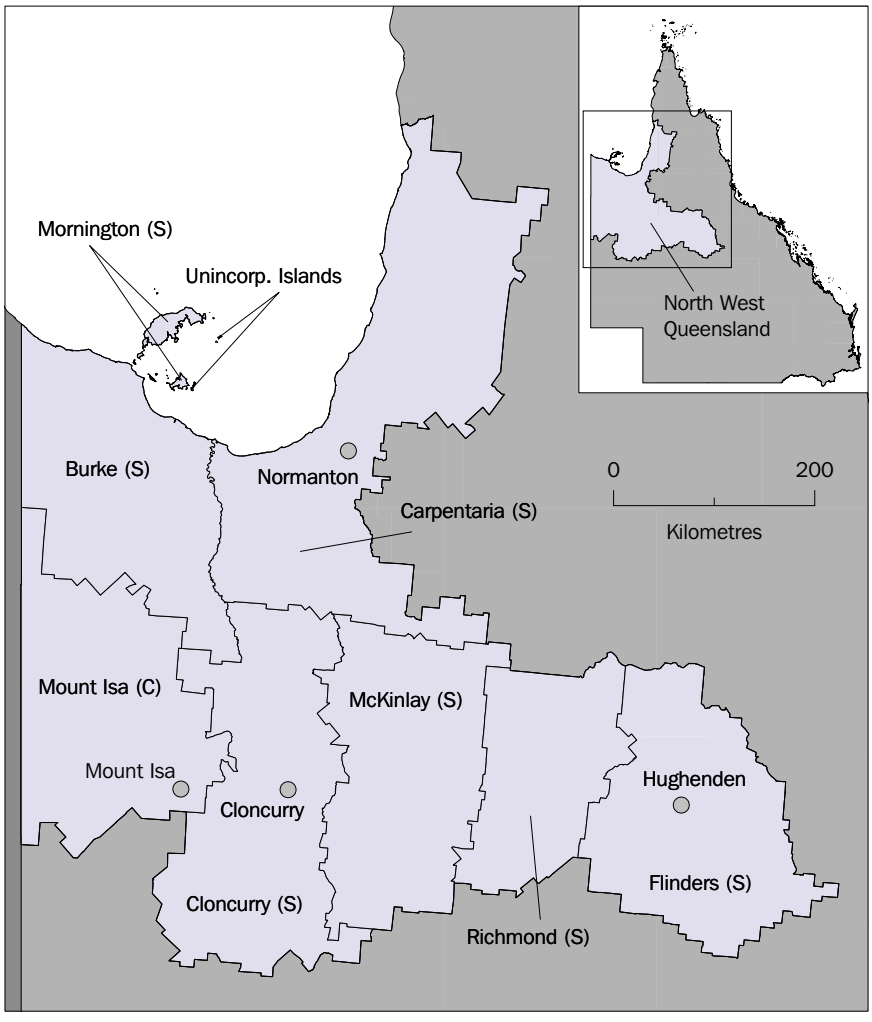
CHAPTER 8 CASE STUDY: NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND...

INTRODUCTION

The North West Queensland (SD) region, known for its arid climate and remote location, is bounded by the Northern Territory in the west and the Gulf of Carpentaria to the north. The region spans a total area of 312,000 square kilometres, or 18% of the total area of Queensland. In June 2001, North West Queensland (SD) had a population of 36,000, just over one quarter of whom identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (27% or 9,700 people). The region accounted for 1% of Queensland's population, but 8% of its Indigenous population.

The largest population centre within the North West (SD) region is Mount Isa (C), situated approximately 900 km west of Townsville. Other significant population centres located within the North West (SD) region include the towns of Cloncurry, Hughenden and Normanton, within the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of Cloncurry (S), Flinders (S) and Carpentaria (S) respectively.

8.1 NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND (SD), Statistical Local Areas



INTRODUCTION *continued*

Mount Isa, one of the world's richest sources of copper, silver, lead and zinc, was discovered in 1923 by a prospector, John Campbell Miles. He named the region 'Mount Isa' after the stories he had heard of the Mount Ida goldfield in Western Australia. Eighty years later Mount Isa Mines is still one of Australia's major mining companies, providing a substantial base for the region's employment and infrastructure (Mount Isa City Council 2003).

Apart from its large mining industry, the North West (SD) region of Queensland is also known for its beef cattle grazing and wool growing. With a diverse range of industries in the region, Mount Isa is a busy industrial, commercial and administrative city, and a popular destination for tourists. The city provides many essential services such as health care and education to a large geographical region, in which population characteristics vary widely.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

At the 2001 census, the population of North West Queensland (SD) was relatively young, with a higher proportion of men than women in the region (54% men and 46% women), and a large Indigenous population (see the Indicator table at the end of chapter). Because the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations in the region have different characteristics, much of the analysis in this case study discusses the groups separately.

Fly-in/Fly-out population

A number of people employed by the region's mining industry are fly-in/fly-out workers. That is, they fly into the region to work for a few weeks at a time, then fly back to their family homes in other regions. In the census, some fly-in/fly-out workers have a tendency to report their usual residence where their family homes are rather than where they spend most of their time — at the mine site. Although this may result in small underestimates of the resident population, particularly in smaller communities where a high proportion of the population is involved in mining operations, this case study uses usual resident population counts from the census as the most reliable measure currently available.

Population distribution

In 2001, the majority of the population of North West Queensland (SD) lived in Mount Isa (C) (59%, or 21,100 people), followed by Carpentaria (S) and Cloncurry (S) (both 11%). The remainder of the region's population was distributed more thinly across remote regions, with just 3% of the population residing in the remote island region of Mornington (S) situated in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

North West Queensland (SD) is one of the most sparsely populated regions of Australia. Illustrating the vastness of the region, the population density is one person per ten square kilometres in 2001 (compared to three persons per square kilometre for Australia as a whole). Mount Isa (C) also had a low population density of one person per two square kilometres, due to the fact that its geographical area is much larger than the city itself.

Age structure

In 2001, the median age of North West Queensland (SD) residents was 29 years, compared with 37 years for Mixed urban/rural regions across Australia and 35 years for the total population of Queensland. The population had a higher proportion of young people aged 0–14 years than all Mixed urban/rural regions (27% compared with 23%). Conversely, there was a substantially lower proportion of the population aged 65 years and over (6%) than for all Mixed urban/rural regions (13%). The region's younger age structure can be attributed to both the Indigenous population and the types of employment opportunities within the region. Similar to other regions with a dominant mining industry (such as the Pilbara (SD) region in Western Australia), a high concentration of younger people (42% of the population was aged 20–44 years) is associated with the well paid jobs offered by the mining industry.

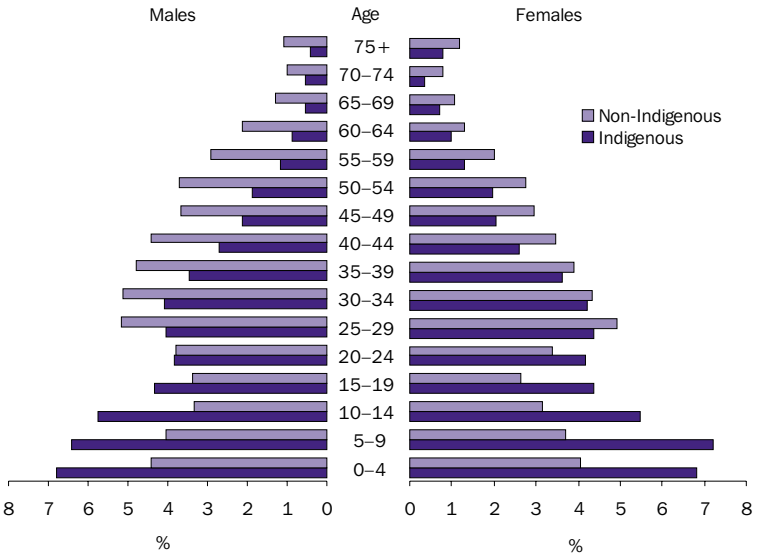
In 2001, a large proportion (61%) of households in North West Queensland (SD) were family households. Reflecting the younger age profile of the region, 44% of family households were couple families with dependent children, a higher proportion than for all Mixed urban/rural regions (38%). The next most common family type was couple families with no children (32%).

Indigenous population

In June 2001, 27% of the population of North West Queensland (SD) was Indigenous. With higher fertility rates and lower life expectancy, the Indigenous population had an even younger age structure than the non-Indigenous population. The median age of the Indigenous population living in North West Queensland (SD) was 22 years, compared with 32 years for the region's non-Indigenous population.

In 2001, 38% of the Indigenous population in the North West (SD) region was aged 0–14 years, compared with 22% for the non-Indigenous population (graph 1.2). In contrast, only 3% of the Indigenous population was aged 65 years and over compared with 6% of the non-Indigenous population.

8.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION, Indigenous and non-Indigenous population—June 2001(a)



(a) Experimental Indigenous estimated resident population as at 30 June, 2001.

8.3 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(a)

Region	no.	*Indigenous population(b)* %	*Non-Indigenous population(b)* %
North West Queensland (SD)	*35 932*	27.0	73.0
Mornington (S)	1 010	91.0	9.0
Burke (S)	1 701	75.2	24.8
Carpentaria (S)	3 939	64.4	35.6
Cloncurry (S)	3 827	26.2	73.8
Mount Isa (C)	21 149	17.3	82.7
Flinders (S)	2 090	9.5	90.5
McKinlay (S)	1 066	5.4	94.6
Richmond (S)	1 150	4.3	95.7
Queensland	**3 628 900**	**3.5**	**96.5**

(a) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001.

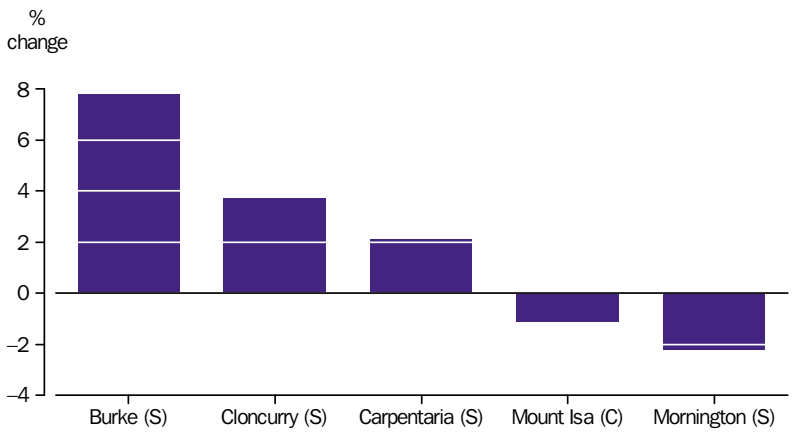
(b) As a proportion of the region's total population.

In 2001, a large proportion (38%) of the North West Queensland (SD) region's Indigenous population lived in Mount Isa (C), accounting for 17% of the city's total population. Elsewhere in the North West (SD) region, 26% of the Indigenous population lived in the Carpentaria (S) region, 13% in Burke (S) and 10% in Cloncurry (S).

In the northern parts of North West Queensland (SD), most of the population was Indigenous. For example, 91% of the population of the island region of Mornington (S) in the Gulf of Carpentaria were Indigenous; 75% in Burke (S); and 64% Carpentaria (S). However, these regions had relatively small populations (approximately 1,000, 1,700 and 4,000 people respectively) (table 8.3). The largest discrete Indigenous community in the region was Doomadgee, with a population of 1,200 in June 2001. It is located about 500 kilometres to the north (and a bit west) of Mount Isa.

From 1996 to 2001, the population of North West Queensland (SD) remained almost stable. There was substantial variation in population change across SLAs (graph 1.4), although the largest relative gains and losses occurred in areas with small populations, such as Burke (S) and Mornington (S).

8.4 POPULATION CHANGE(a), Selected regions of North West Queensland (SD)



(a) Average annual per cent change 1996–2001.

Cultural diversity

The North West (SD) region had about the same proportion of people born overseas (10%) as Mixed urban/rural regions overall (11%). Those living in North West Queensland (SD) who were born overseas were mainly located in Mount Isa (C), where they accounted for 13% of the city's total population. In the balance of North West Queensland (SD) they accounted for only 5% of the population. Of the overseas born population living in North West Queensland (SD), 26% were born in New Zealand, 24% in the United Kingdom and 9% in the Philippines. Around 13% were recent migrants to Australia, having arrived between 1997 and 2001.

About 4% of the population (1,400 people) in North West Queensland (SD) reported speaking a language other than English at home. Of this group, 13% spoke an Australian Indigenous language at home, 11% spoke Tagalog (Filipino), 8% spoke Italian, and 7% spoke German.

POPULATION MOVEMENTS

While the size of the population of North West Queensland (SD) remained almost constant between 1996 and 2001, there was a large transient population. The region is characterised by people who move there for short periods of time, usually for work in the mining, education and health industries. At the same time, many people also move out of the region for work or education. The overall effect of this is high population turnover which has the potential to cause community dislocation.

Movements out of the region

During the twelve months prior to the 2001 census, approximately 4,600 people moved out of the North West (SD) region, with 79% of them relocating to other areas of Queensland and 21% moving interstate. Of those people who moved to other Queensland regions, the greatest proportion relocated to Northern Queensland (SD), while other main destinations included Brisbane (SD) and Far North Queensland (SD) (table 8.5).

...and into the region

Conversely, during the same period, almost 3,400 people moved into the North West (SD) region from other areas. Most of these (74%) moved from other regions of Queensland such as Northern Queensland (SD), Brisbane (SD) and Far North Queensland (SD) (table 8.5). A smaller proportion (22%) of people relocated to North West Queensland (SD) from interstate, with the largest proportions coming from the Northern Territory and New South Wales. The remainder (4%) came from overseas.

The North West (SD) region attracts a large number of young people and families with children. People aged 20–44 years represented over 40% of the movements in the 12 months prior to the census, and children aged under 15 years accounted 26%. Of all employed people aged 20–44 years who moved into the region during this time, the highest proportion were working in mining (17%), reflecting the importance of the mining industry in the region. This was followed by smaller proportions of employed people aged 20–44 years who worked in Government administration and defence (11%) and the Retail trade industry (9%).

8.5 MOVEMENTS OUT OF AND INTO NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND (SD)(a)

		Proportion of all movements			*Proportion of all movements*
Region	no.	%	*Region*	no.	%
MOVEMENTS OUT OF THE REGION			MOVEMENTS INTO THE REGION		
To Queensland regions:	*3 654*	*79.0*	*From Queensland regions:*	*2 496*	*73.9*
Northern (SD)	876	18.9	Northern (SD)	558	16.5
Brisbane (SD)	730	15.8	Brisbane (SD)	464	13.7
Far North (SD)	469	10.1	Far North (SD)	447	13.2
Other regions	1 579	34.2	Other regions	1 027	30.9
To other states/territories:	*974*	*21.0*	*From other states/territories*:	*751*	*22.2*
New South Wales	364	7.9	Northern Territory	225	6.7
Northern Territory	203	4.4	New South Wales	208	6.2
Western Australia	160	3.5	Western Australia	108	3.2
Other states/territories	247	5.3	Other states/territories	210	8.4
To overseas	. .	. .	*From overseas*	131	3.9
Total	**4 628**	**100.0**	**Total**	**3 378**	**100.0**

(a) Movements in the 12 months prior to the 2001 census.

Following the general trend of movements among older Australians, a small proportion of the region's population aged 65 years and over had moved either into or out of the region within the year prior to the 2001 census. However, people aged 65 years and over made up a higher proportion of those who had moved into the region (6%) than of those who had moved out (3%).

Visitors on census night

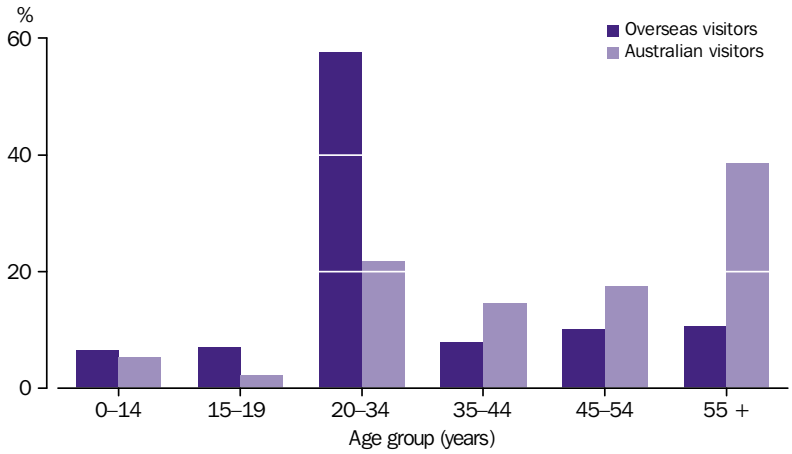
The North West (SD) region of Queensland is becoming an increasingly popular tourist destination for interstate and overseas visitors. Mount Isa is one of the major gateways to central and northern Australia, providing a convenient stopover for tourists travelling to destinations such as Uluru or Darwin. The North West (SD) region is also a destination in its own right, with natural attractions including the Lawn Hill Gorge and the World Heritage listed Riversleigh Fossil area.

As the 2001 census was conducted in August, which is the middle of the peak tourist season for outback Australia, visitor figures may only be representative for this particular period. There were almost 6,000 people enumerated in North West Queensland (SD) on census night who were usual residents of other regions, including 350 overseas visitors.

The majority (54%) of all visitors on census night were from other regions of Queensland, followed by New South Wales (17%) and Victoria (12%). Just over one-third of visitors (2,200 people) to the region spent census night in Mount Isa (C).

Over one-third (37%) of visitors to the North West (SD) region were aged 55 years and over, and almost one-quarter (24%) were aged 20–34 years. In general, overseas visitors were younger than visitors from other regions of Australia, with more than half of overseas visitors aged 20–34 years (graph 8.6).

8.6 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF VISITORS TO THE NORTH WEST (SD) REGION ON CENSUS NIGHT



EDUCATION

School students

In 2001, there were 5,300 students aged 6–17 years attending school in North West Queensland (SD), representing 91% of the region's population of that age. As the major population centre within the region, Mount Isa (C) was home to 63% of all students attending school.

The participation rate of 16-year-olds in school was relatively low in the North West (SD) region (61% compared with 78% for all Mixed urban/rural regions) suggesting lower completion rates of non-compulsory schooling through to Year 12. The participation rate was much lower for the balance of North West Queensland (SD) than for Mount Isa (C) (36% compared with 77%). The difference in these rates may be related to the fact that most students in the North West (SD) region were living in Mount Isa (C), while 16-year-olds living in the balance of the region were usually employed rather than attending school.

The participation rate of Indigenous 16-year-olds in North West Queensland (SD) was substantially lower than that of non-Indigenous 16-year-olds in the region (42% compared with 71%). However, the rate was much higher for those living in Mount Isa (C), with 74% of the city's 16-year-old Indigenous population attending school (slightly lower than the non-Indigenous population, at 79%).

Qualifications

In 2001, almost one-third of North West Queensland's (SD) adult population (aged 15 years and over) held a non-school qualification, just below the proportion for all Mixed urban/rural regions (36%). Given that many people move to the North West (SD) for employment reasons, those people with non-school qualifications were likely to have attained them elsewhere before moving into the region.

Qualifications *continued*

Just over 20% of the North West (SD) adult population had attained a qualification at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level, the same as the proportion for all Mixed urban/rural regions, while 7% held a Bachelor degree or above qualification (compared with 8% for Mixed regions). Related to the high proportion of people employed in mining, 73% of all qualifications held at the Certificate level were within the field of Engineering or related technology. The highest proportion of Bachelor degree or above qualifications were in the fields of Education (33%) and Health (20%), reflecting the importance of these service industries in the region.

There was a notable discrepancy between the qualifications held by the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations in the region. About 6% of the Indigenous population aged 15 years and over held a qualification at the Advanced diploma, diploma or certificate level, compared with 26% of the non-Indigenous population; 1% of the Indigenous population held a Bachelor degree or higher qualification compared with 9% of the non-Indigenous population. Overall, Indigenous achievement was slightly below the average for all Mixed urban/rural regions, while non-Indigenous was slightly above.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Participation in the labour force

In 2001, 74% of the North West's (SD) population were in the labour force, well above the labour force participation for Mixed urban/rural regions (61%). The high labour force participation rate reflects the fact that many non-Indigenous people live in the region because of the employment opportunities. The high rate can be attributed to relatively high participation rates for non-Indigenous men and women (85% and 70% respectively), and for Indigenous men (70%). The rate for Indigenous men is well above the average of 58% for all Mixed urban/rural regions. One-third of the Indigenous population in the labour force were reported as participating in Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP).

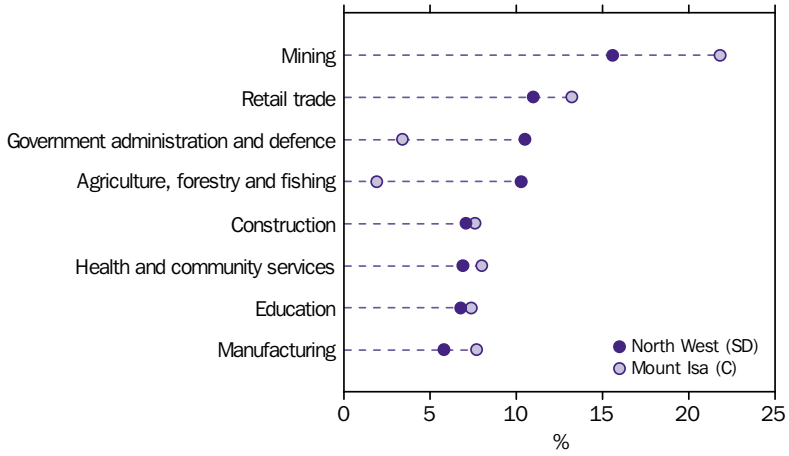
Unemployment within the region

As measured by the 2001 census, unemployment in the North West Queensland (SD) region was relatively low compared with other Mixed urban/rural regions, for both the non-Indigenous and the Indigenous populations. The unemployment rate for the non-Indigenous population was 4%, while that of the Indigenous population was 14% (compared with 8% and 19% respectively for Mixed urban/rural regions as a whole).

Industry and occupation

The Mount Isa mining operation is the largest underground mine in Australia, and one of the largest in the world, representing the economic backbone of the North West (SD) region of Queensland (Mount Isa City Council 2003). In 2001, the highest number of employed persons aged 15 years and over in the region were working in the Mining industry (16%). The North West (SD) region also has a large Retail trade industry employing 11% of workers, Government administration and defence industry (10%) and Agricultural, forestry and fishing industry (10%).

8.7 PARTICIPATION IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES



The distribution of employed persons across industries varied for Mount Isa (C) compared with the total North West (SD) region (graph 8.7). Due to the location of the mines, 22% of employed people living in Mount Isa (C) worked in the Mining industry. The Retail trade industry accounted for 13% of employment in Mount Isa (C), while Health and community services, the Manufacturing industry and Construction industry accounted for 8% each, and the Education industry for 7%. This distribution reflects the wide range of services that Mount Isa provides to the region of North West Queensland (SD) and closely mirrored the pattern of industries across all Mixed urban/rural regions, apart from Mining which was well above the average of 2%.

Across the region, a large proportion of workers in industries such as Mining, Construction and Manufacturing were men, accounting for 91%, 85% and 83% of people employed in these industries, respectively. On the other hand, 80% of employees in the Health and community services and Education industries were women.

Largely a 'blue collar' working class region, the highest proportions of employed persons (aged 15 years and over) were Labourers and related workers (17%), Tradespersons and related workers (also 17%), and Intermediate production and transport workers (15%). One-third (33%) of Labourers and related workers were employed in the Government administration and defence industry (the vast majority of whom were Indigenous peoples working in CDEP), while 24% of Tradespersons and 37% of Intermediate production and transport workers were employed in the Mining industry.

The three broad occupations of Managers and administrators, Professionals and Associate Professionals together made up almost one-third (31%) of the workforce of the North West (SD) region. The highest proportion of Managers and administrators were working in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry (52%), suggesting that many people within the region who work in this industry manage their own property or business. Around 32% of Professionals were in the Education industry, 21% in the Health industry and 15% in the Mining industry.

INCOME

Individual income

With high labour force participation rates and relatively low unemployment rates, it is not surprising that the adult population (those aged 15 years and over) living in North West Queensland (SD) had higher individual income levels than those in all Mixed urban/rural regions. In 2001, median gross individual weekly income (referred to from now on as median individual income) in North West Queensland (SD) was $436, while for Mixed regions across Australia it was $323. Further, median individual income in North West Queensland (SD) was also higher than that for all Australians ($375 per week). This is associated with the high proportion of people employed in the Mining Industry in North West Queensland (SD). For Australia as a whole, people employed in the Mining industry had the highest median individual income of all industry groups ($1,255 per week).

However, disparity existed between individual income levels for the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations of North West Queensland (SD). In 2001, the median individual income for Indigenous persons in the region was $230 per week, while that for non-Indigenous persons was $528 per week. Both of these figures were above the figures for people living in all Mixed urban/rural regions ($197 and $332, respectively). Again, this is associated with the region's employment opportunities, with both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations having lower unemployment rates than their counterparts in all Mixed regions.

Household income

High individual incomes were reflected in high household incomes. In 2001 the median gross household weekly income for the North West (SD) region was $1,007, compared with $645 for all Mixed urban/rural regions. Median gross household weekly income was even higher for people in Mount Isa (C) at $1,111 per week. Again there were differences between the levels of household income for the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations of the North West (SD). The median gross weekly income for households with at least one Indigenous person present was lower than for non-Indigenous households ($759 compared with $1,073).

In general, larger households need higher incomes to purchase the same level of goods and services for their individual members. As 38% of the Indigenous population in North West (SD) were dependent children aged 0–14 years (compared with 22% for the non-Indigenous population), Indigenous households tended to be larger than non-Indigenous households. On average, Indigenous households in the region had 4.3 people, compared with 2.6 people in non-Indigenous households. The disparity between the levels of income available for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households increased when the relative sizes of the households were taken into account. The median gross household weekly income per capita for Indigenous households was less than half that for non-Indigenous households ($196 compared with $449). Gross household income per capita is a summary of the income available for each person if it were distributed equally across all people in the household. However, it fails to reflect the economies of scale of living together that are likely to accrue to members of larger households.

HOUSING

A highly transient population, in addition to a relatively large Indigenous population, means that many people live in rental accommodation in North West Queensland (SD), particularly in Mount Isa. In 2001, a higher proportion of households in North West Queensland (SD) rented than in all Mixed urban/rural regions (38% compared with 27%). Although the median weekly rent of houses in the region was slightly below the average for Mixed urban/rural regions (at $106 compared with $117), the median weekly rent in Mount Isa (C) was above the average, at $132 per week.

There were notable differences in the housing tenure of the non-Indigenous and Indigenous populations in the region. One third (33%) of the non-Indigenous population rented their accommodation and most of these (80%) rented from a private landlord. In contrast, 69% of households with an Indigenous person(s) present were renting. Of these households, 33% rented from the State Housing Authority and 43% from a Community or cooperative housing group.

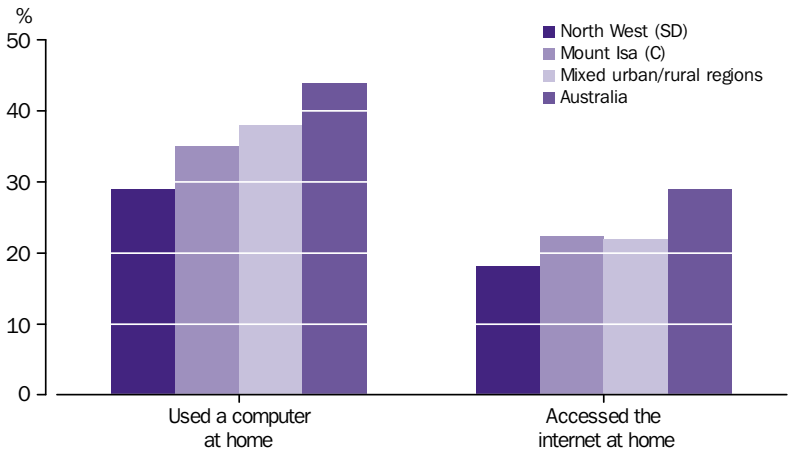
ACCESS TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For people living in remote areas of Australia, having a computer at home and/or using the Internet can improve access to information and services not available within the region, as well as enhance social interaction. General practitioners in remote communities rely heavily on information technology (IT) for communication and research, while schools in remote communities use computers and the Internet to help break down learning barriers for their students. Industries in rural and remote areas are also becoming increasingly reliant on IT, with IT use on farms increasing steadily.

In 2001, 29% of the population of North West Queensland (SD) had used a computer at home in the week prior to the census, lower than the average for Mixed urban/rural regions (38%). The Internet was accessed by 26% of the North West (SD) population (compared with 31% for Mixed urban/rural regions), and access was mainly gained from home (70% of Internet use).

Use of computers and the Internet was lower among the Indigenous population of the region than the non-Indigenous. Only 7% of the Indigenous population reported that they had used a computer at home in the week prior to the census (compared with 37% of the region's non-Indigenous population), while a similar disparity existed between the proportions who accessed the Internet (7% compared with 32%).

8.8 COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE



RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

The socio-economic strength of North West Queensland (SD) is reflected in its ranking in the 9th decile for Mixed urban/rural regions, based on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage (see Appendix 2). This Index provides a summary measure of many of the characteristics described in this case study, and reveals that overall the region is relatively more advantaged than most other Mixed regions.

However, across the region there were marked differences in the characteristics of the population, such as individual and household income levels, educational attainment and occupations of employed people. These are some of the attributes included in the Index of Relative Advantage/Disadvantage, which consequently varied substantially between SLAs in the region. Mount Isa (C), with 59% of the region's population stands out as the economic centre of the region and the area of greatest relative socio-economic advantage. In contrast, Mornington (S) and Burke (S) were highly disadvantaged. In general, the most disadvantaged SLAs in the region also had high proportions of their populations who were Indigenous.

8.9 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Local Areas, North West Queensland (SD)

Region	*Index score*(a)	*Decile(b)*	*Estimated resident population(c)* %	*Indigenous population(d)* %
Mount Isa (C)	1 004	7	58.9	17.3
Cloncurry (S)	983	6	10.7	26.2
McKinlay (S)	959	5	3.0	5.4
Richmond (S)	941	4	3.2	4.3
Flinders (S)	937	4	5.8	9.5
Carpentaria (S)	928	3	11.0	64.4
Burke (S)	902	1	4.7	75.2
Mornington (S)	851	1	2.8	91.0
North West Queensland (SD)	**978**	**. .**	**100.0**	**27.0**

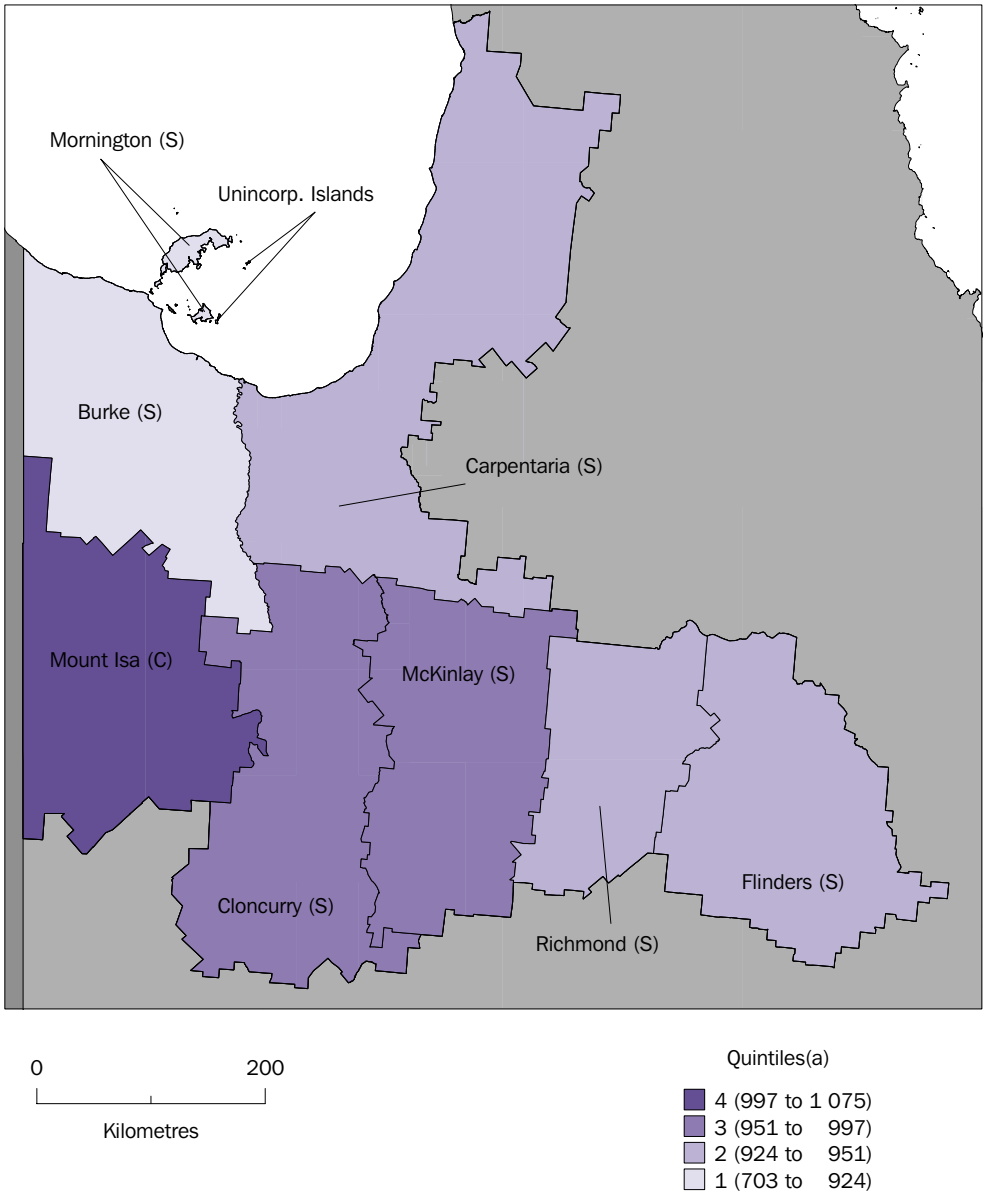
(a) Index of Relative Advantage/Disadvantage at SLA or SD level. Scores are based on place of enumeration.

(b) Decile 1 indicates that the SLA falls into the 10% of most disadvantaged SLAs in Australia; decile 10 indicates that the SLA falls into the 10% of most advantaged SLAs in Australia.

(c) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001, shown as a proportion of the population in North West Queensland (SD).

(d) As a proportion of the area's population.

8.10 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Local Areas North West Queensland (SD)



(a) Quintiles for all SLAs in Australia. No SLAs in North West Queensland (SD) were ranked in the 5th quintile (1,075 to 1,274).

8.11 INDICATOR TABLE

SELECTED SLAS IN NORTH WEST QUEENSLAND (SD).....

Indicator	*Unit*	*Mount Isa (C)*	*Carpentaria (S)*	*Cloncurry (S)*	*North West (SD)*	*Queensland*	*Mixed urban/rural regions*	***Australia***
Estimated resident population	'000	21.1	3.9	3.8	35.9	3 628.9	5 400.2	**19 413.2**
Indigenous population(a)	%	17.3	64.4	26.2	27.0	3.5	5.4	**2.4**
Sex ratio(b)	ratio	115	106	145	117	99	101	**98**
Population density	persons per km^2	0.49	0.06	0.08	0.12	2.09	0.71	**2.52**
Population change(c)	%	–1.1	2.1	3.7	0.0	1.7	0.9	**1.2**
Population characteristics								
Median age	years	30	29	29	29	35	37	**36**
Aged 0–14 years	%	26.9	28.0	25.0	26.6	21.3	22.5	**20.5**
Aged 65 years and over	%	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.6	11.6	13.2	**12.5**
Overseas born	%	13.0	5.0	6.0	9.6	18.0	10.6	**23.1**
Labour Force								
Participation rate	%	75.2	67.5	76.8	73.5	63.9	60.8	**63.0**
Female participation	%	66.0	60.5	66.3	63.7	56.5	52.8	**55.4**
Unemployment rate	%	6.5	5.8	4.7	5.6	8.3	8.1	**7.4**
Indigenous	%	13.1	4.6	11.7	7.9	20.0	19.4	**20.0**
Non-Indigenous	%	4.8	3.9	2.0	4.0	8.0	7.7	**7.2**
Income								
Median gross individual weekly income	$	518	287	498	436	361	323	**375**
Median gross household weekly income	$	1 111	749	914	1 007	734	645	**785**
Median gross household weekly income per capita	$	449	250	376	386	314	266	**338**
Indigenous	$	246	181	246	196	207	180	**199**
Non-Indigenous	$	467	408	448	449	316	274	**347**
IT use								
Uses a computer at home	%	35.0	11.4	27.0	29.0	43.3	37.8	**43.7**
Uses the Internet at home	%	22.4	8.0	14.8	18.2	28.6	22.2	**29.0**
Housing								
Median weekly home loan repayment	$	212	146	208	208	212	179	**218**
Median weekly rent	$	132	77	83	106	152	117	**154**
Housing tenure								
Rental	%	38.8	41.6	45.3	38.4	31.5	26.6	**27.6**
Fully owned	%	28.9	39.0	32.2	33.0	38.4	39.9	**41.7**
Education								
Participation of 16-year-olds in school	%	76.5	28.6	48.7	61.0	82.3	77.8	**82.1**
Indigenous	%	74.4	30.0	44.4	42.1	62.7	49.7	**53.6**
Non-Indigenous	%	78.5	—	52.4	71.0	83.3	80.1	**83.2**
With non-school qualifications	%	38.7	21.0	33.1	33.1	38.4	33.2	**39.2**

(a) Estimated resident population as a proportion of the total population.

(b) The sex ratio is the number of males per 100 females in the population.

(c) Average annual growth rate 1996–2001.

(d) As measured by The Canadian National Occupancy Standard measure.

CHAPTER 9 CASE STUDY: SOUTH EASTERN OUTER MELBOURNE

INTRODUCTION

Urban expansion in major Australian cities has been a subject of concern among urban planners. This is not only because of the high infrastructure costs associated with accommodating people in low density locations, but also the implications for sustainability of continuing suburban development (Australian Urban and Regional Development Review 1995). However, many Australians continue to choose to live in the outer suburbs, largely because of the lifestyle and relatively inexpensive housing that these areas offer.

South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD), incorporating the City of Casey and Cardinia Shire, is one of the outermost SSDs in Melbourne (SD), and is around 45 km from the city centre. As an outer-suburban area, the region is bordered by the rural areas of West Gippsland (SSD) to the east and South Gippsland (SSD) to the south-east. To the south, the region borders on Western Port Bay.

9.1 MELBOURNE (SD) AND SURROUNDS

INTRODUCTION *continued*

The South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) region forms part of the traditional lands of the Bunurong people, and includes the boundary with the Wurundjeri people (City of Casey 2003). European settlement began in the region in the 1830s, with the shires of Cranbourne and Berwick established by the late 1800s. Until the 1970s, the region remained predominantly rural in character. However, in recent decades Melbourne's urban fringe has expanded, taking in areas such as Hallam. At the same time, older townships such as Cranbourne and Pakenham have increased in size. This expansion has made South Eastern Outer Melbourne one of the fastest growing regions in Victoria, and although large areas of rural and bush land remain, the region has become increasingly urbanised.

Compared to some other metropolitan peripheries, the standard of living of people in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is relatively high, with low unemployment and a small proportion of people living in public housing. This case study discusses the family, employment, income, education and housing characteristics of the residents of this area, in order to examine the reasons for the high population growth in the region.

POPULATION

In June 2001 South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) was home to an estimated 228,600 people. People born overseas made up 27% of the population, compared to 30% across Melbourne (SD). Of those people born overseas, one in five was born in the United Kingdom. The population of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is growing rapidly as new areas within the region are opened up for residential development.

Population density

Reflecting its position as an outer suburban area, population density in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) in 2001 was 135 people per square kilometre, compared to 451 in Melbourne (SD) as a whole and 2,855 in Inner Melbourne (SSD). However, the population was not evenly distributed across the region, as the region contains a mix of established suburbs, newly developed urban areas and large tracts of non-urban areas such as agricultural land, forest and bush land. Casey (C) - Hallam, the SLA located closest to the centre of Melbourne and a more established residential area, had a population density of over 1,250 people per square kilometre. In contrast, Cardinia (S) - South, the SLA furthest from the centre of Melbourne, had a population density of just 15 people per square kilometre.

Increases in population density have occurred in SLAs with new housing developments. In 1996, Casey (C) - Berwick and Casey (C) - Cranbourne both had population densities of just under 550 people per square kilometre. By 2001 these had increased to 812 and 614 people per square kilometre respectively. Over the same period, population density in Cardinia (S) - Pakenham increased from 71 to 83 people per square kilometre. SLAs further from the centre of Melbourne (SD) had lower and more stable population densities over the same period.

9.2 SOUTH EASTERN OUTER MELBOURNE (SSD), Statistical Local Areas

Population growth

Between 1996 and 2001, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) experienced one of the highest population growth rates in Australia. The average annual growth rate of 3.6% was three times that of Melbourne (SD) and Australia as a whole (1.1% and 1.2% respectively). The only other SSD in Melbourne with comparable growth was Melton-Wyndham (SSD) (3.7%), located on the western outskirts of the city.

Population growth varied across South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD). As with changes to population density, growth rates indicated the pattern of recent urban development. Those SLAs closest to the centre of Melbourne grew the fastest between 1996 and 2001. Casey (C) - Berwick experienced by far the highest growth, averaging 8.2% per year, followed by Cardinia (S) - Pakenham (3.0%) and Casey (C) - Cranbourne (2.1%). In contrast, the outer area of Cardinia (S) - South grew by an average of 1.2% per year.

9.3 POPULATION GROWTH, 1996–2001

Region	*1996 population(a)* '000	*2001 population(b)* '000	*Annual population growth(c)* %	*Rate of internal migration(d)* %	*Persons per km²* no.
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	*191.7*	*228.6*	*3.6*	*6.5*	*135*
Casey (C) - Berwick	45.6	67.7	8.2	14.7	812
Casey (C) - Cranbourne	46.0	51.5	2.3	5.2	614
Casey (C) - Hallam	47.1	50.9	1.6	4.0	1 268
Casey (C) - South	10.3	11.4	2.1	0.7	56
Cardinia (S) - North	22.4	23.9	1.3	–0.2	33
Cardinia (S) - Pakenham	15.5	18.0	3.0	4.4	83
Cardinia (S) - South	4.9	5.2	1.2	–0.1	15
Melbourne (SD)	3 283.3	3 471.6	1.1	0.3	451
Australia	**18 310.7**	**19 413.2**	**1.2**	**. .**	**3**

(a) Estimated resident population at June 1996.

(b) Estimated resident population at June 2001.

(c) Average annual growth rate, 1996–2001.

(d) Net internal migration over the period 1996–2001 as a proportion of average 1996 and 2001 estimated resident populations.

Sources of growth

As a developing residential area, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) attracts many new residents. Between 1996 and 2001 the region experienced a net internal migration gain of over 13,500 people (see Explanatory Notes paragraphs 14–16), or 6.5% of the total population, the ninth highest of all regions of Australia. Internal migration accounted for 37% of the region's total population gain.

The vast majority of people moving to the region (89% of all arrivals) came from elsewhere within Victoria, and, in particular, from other parts of Melbourne (SD) (77% of all arrivals). Of those moving from other parts of Melbourne (SD), most people came from nearby or bordering regions of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD). For example, 27% of total arrivals had moved from the neighbouring region of Greater Dandenong City (SSD). Often, young people living in these established suburbs relocate to outer urban areas for more affordable housing, employment opportunities and the lifestyle these regions offer. The growth in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) therefore does not represent a shift in population from the inner city to the suburbs, but more the gradual spread of the suburban periphery.

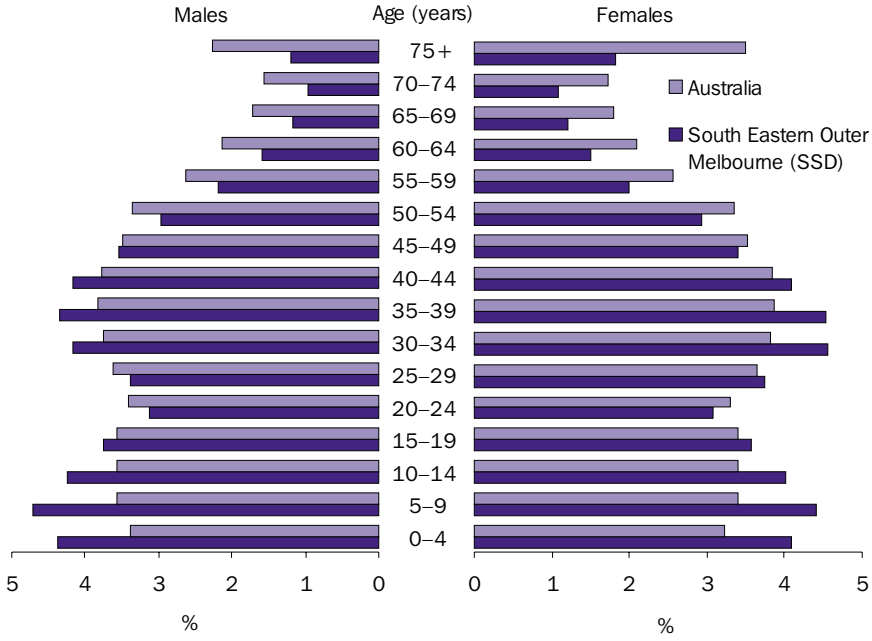
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) also experienced strong growth due to natural increase, which accounted for the majority of total growth in the region between 1996 and 2001. Again, this is due to a high proportion of young families in the region (families and households are discussed further below).

Age distribution

In 2001, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) had a relatively young age profile, with a median age of 32 years compared to 36 years for Australia as a whole. This was the ninth lowest median age of all Mainly urban regions, and the third lowest in Melbourne (SD) (see Chapter 1, Population growth and distribution).

Despite a low median age, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) did not have uniformly high proportions of people across all the younger age groups. The region had higher proportions of children aged 0–14 years and adults aged 30–44 years than Australia as a whole, but a lower proportion of young adult aged 20–24 years (graph 9.4). This reflects the region's appeal to families with children.

9.4 AGE STRUCTURE(a)

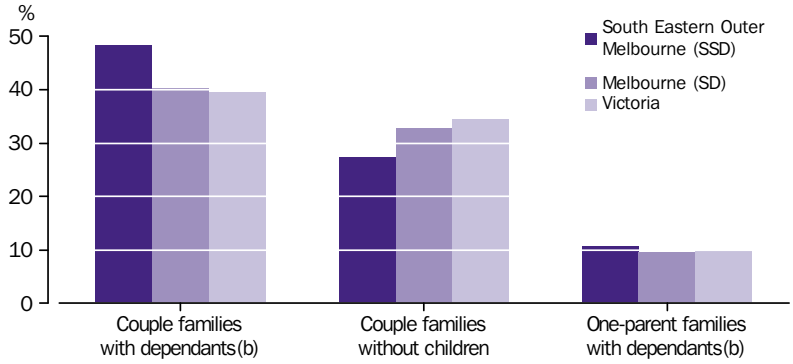


FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Partly due to the availability of relatively low cost housing sized to suit families and larger households, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) attracts a large number of family households to the region, especially young couples, and those with dependent children. In 2001, 83% of households in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were family households, a larger proportion than found across Melbourne (SD) and Victoria (both 72%).

Families with dependent children accounted for the largest number of families in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) (59% compared with 50% for Melbourne (SD) and 49% for Victoria). Of families living in the region, almost half (48%) were couple families with dependent children, while 11% were one-parent families with dependent children (graph 9.5). The number of one-parent families with dependent children increased more than any other type of family in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD), growing by 34% between 1996 and 2001 (graph 9.6).

9.5 SELECTED FAMILY TYPES(a)

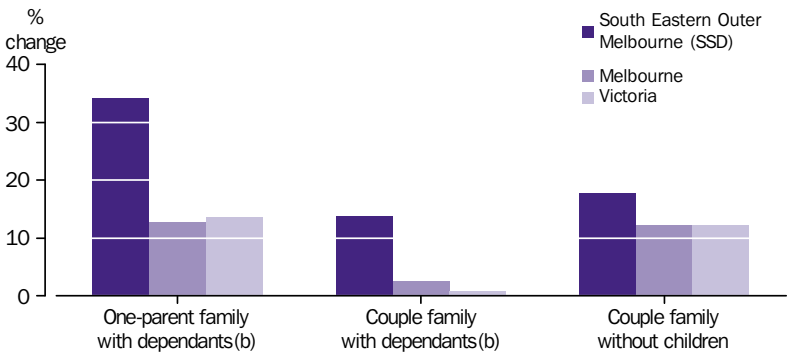


(a) As a proportion of all families.
(b) Children aged less than 15 years, and/or full-time students aged 15–24 years.

Due to the preferences of people at earlier stages of the life cycle, and the availability of high and medium density housing, many inner city regions of Melbourne (SD) have high proportions of couple families without children. For example, of all families living in Inner Melbourne (SSD), half were couple families without children. In contrast, they accounted for less than one-third (27%) of families in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD), a smaller share than for Melbourne (SD) and Victoria (33% and 34% respectively) (graph 9.5). Nevertheless, as with other types of families, the number of couple families without children in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) increased by 18% between 1996 and 2001, an even greater increase than for couple families with dependent children (14%) (graph 9.6).

Of those couple families without children living in the region 24% consisted of two partners aged under 35 years, slightly higher than for Melbourne (SD) (23%) and Victoria (20%). A smaller proportion (18%) of couple families without children within the region consisted of two partners aged 65 years and over, suggesting that South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is more attractive to younger couples who may be considering having children, than to 'empty nesters' (older couples whose children have left home).

9.6 INCREASE IN SELECTED FAMILY TYPES(a)—1996–2001



(a) Percentage change, 1996–2001.
(b) Children aged less than 15 years, and/or full-time students aged 15–24 years.

HOUSING

In conjunction with the growing number of families with dependent children moving to South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD), the number of private dwellings within the region (particularly in the case of separate dwellings) has increased substantially over the last intercensal period. Between 1996 and 2001, the number of dwellings in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) increased by 15% (over 9,500 dwellings).

The majority of dwellings in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were separate houses (92%), increasing by over 9,000 dwellings since 1996. A much smaller proportion of dwellings in the region were medium and high density (3% and 4% of all dwellings respectively).

Housing tenure

In 2001, almost half the dwellings (48%) in the region were being purchased by the occupants, well above the total Australian average (28%). However, a smaller proportion of dwellings were fully owned than for Australia (34% compared with 42%), reflecting the recent development in the region. At the time of the 2001 census, only 16% of houses within South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were being rented, a much smaller proportion than for Australia (28%).

The proportion of dwellings rented through a state housing authority (public sector rentals) in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) (2.4%) was similar to that for Melbourne (SD) (3.1%). Both of these were lower than the Australian average (4.8%).

9.7 HOUSING TENURE

Region	*Fully owned* %	*Owned with a mortgage* %	*Rented* %	*Total(a)* %
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	33.7	48.3	15.8	100.0
Melbourne (SD)	44.1	29.6	24.0	100.0
Victoria	45.1	29.2	23.2	100.0
Australia	**41.7**	**27.8**	**27.6**	**100.0**

(a) Includes other forms of tenure such as being occupied under a life tenure scheme.

Housing costs

The costs of rents and mortgage repayments for housing in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were relatively low compared to regions closer to the centre of Melbourne (SD). The median weekly home loan repayment at the time of the 2001 census was $214, slightly lower than $229 per week for Melbourne (SD). Rents were also less at $159 per week compared with $169 per week, making housing in the region more affordable for young families.

EDUCATION

The educational attainment and skills of its population have a major impact on a region's employment situation and income levels. Regions benefit from a close match between the skills of the working age population and the requirements of the region's industrial base. While South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) had a relatively low proportion of people with higher educational qualifications, its residents had higher than average levels of vocational training.

Non-school qualifications

Overall, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) had a lower proportion (37%) of people aged 15 years and over with non-school qualifications than Melbourne (SD) (43%) or Australia (42%). This was mainly due to a lower proportion of people with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification than for Australia as a whole (8% compared to 13%). In contrast, 18% of people living in the region had qualifications at the Certificate level, a higher proportion than Melbourne (SD) (14%) or Australia (16%).

These patterns of educational attainment appear to be perpetuated in the number of students currently undertaking non-school education. At the time of the 2001 census, 3.7% of people aged 15 years and over living in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were studying at a TAFE institution, similar to the Australian figure. Fewer people were attending a University, comprising only 2.9% of residents in the region aged 15 years and over, compared to 5.1% for Australia.

Sixteen-year-old participation in school

The proportion of 16-year-olds who are still attending school is a measure of non-compulsory school participation. In 2001, 84% of 16-year-olds living in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were attending school, slightly higher than 16-year-old participation rates for Australia as a whole (82%). However, there were several areas within the region experiencing lower rates, including Cardinia (S) - South (71%) and Casey (C) - Cranbourne (77%).

EMPLOYMENT

The educational profile of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is reflected in the predominance of lower skilled occupations, and the importance of goods-producing industries in the surrounding area. While these occupations and industries generally do not generate high incomes for individual employees, they provide relatively high levels of employment for the region.

Occupation and industry

A relatively large proportion of employed people in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) work in traditional 'blue-collar' occupations (Tradespersons, Intermediate production and transport workers and Labourers and related workers). These three broad groupings of occupations accounted for 40% of the employed population in the region, compared with 30% for Australia as a whole. A further 31% of employed people living in the region were Clerical and service workers (similar to Australia as a whole); the remaining 29% were employed as Managers, Professionals or Associate professionals, lower than Australia as a whole (40%).

9.8 EMPLOYED POPULATION IN SELECTED OCCUPATIONS

Region	*Blue-collar workers(a)* %	*Clerical workers(b)* %	*Managers and professionals(c)* %
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	40.1	31.3	28.6
Melbourne (SD)	27.5	31.1	41.4
Australia	**29.6**	**30.4**	**40.0**

(a) Comprises Tradespersons; Intermediate production and transport workers; and Labourers and related workers.

(b) Comprises Advanced clerical and service workers; Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers; and Elementary clerical, sales and service workers.

(c) Comprises Managers; Professionals; and Associate professionals.

occupations with the highest proportions of employed people reflect the key industries of employment in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD). Nearly 35% of people living in the region were employed by goods-producing industries, and 65% by service industries, compared to 25% and 75% respectively for Australia as a whole. The Manufacturing industry on its own accounted for 23% of total employment in the region, compared to 12% Australia-wide, an indication of the importance of outer Melbourne's 'manufacturing belt' for workers in this region.

9.9 EMPLOYED POPULATION IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES(a)

(a) As a proportion of all employed persons.
(b) Goods-producing industries.
(c) Service industries.

Employment outcomes

In 2001, people living in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) experienced relatively low levels of unemployment. As measured by the 2001 census, 5.8% of people in the labour force in the region were unemployed. This was lower than unemployment rates for Melbourne (SD) (6.8%) and Australia (7.4%). At the same time, the labour force participation rate for the region was 69%, compared to 63% for Australia. A relatively high proportion of the total population, therefore, was in paid employment.

However, there were areas of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) that experienced higher unemployment rates than the region as a whole. The SLAs of Casey (C) - Hallam and Casey (C) - Cranbourne had unemployment rates of 8.1% and 6.9% respectively. It is notable that Casey (C) - Hallam is the most established residential area in the region, while Casey (C) - Cranbourne is one of the fastest growing areas.

Location of employment

The ability to commute easily to work can be an important factor in a person's decision to live in a particular area. Proximity to areas which provide jobs can affect the levels of employment experienced by residents of a region, as well as providing an indication of where future population growth is likely to occur (Taylor and Birrell 2003). As previously discussed, employment opportunities for residents of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) are largely concentrated in the manufacturing industries located in outer regions of Melbourne (SD). In particular, 20% of employed residents of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) worked in the neighbouring region of Greater Dandenong City (SSD). In addition, 34% of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) residents worked in the same region in which they lived. In contrast, only 9% worked in Inner Melbourne (SSD), compared to 29% for the entire Melbourne (SD) population. The region's population therefore had relatively easy access to work, despite living on the fringe of the city.

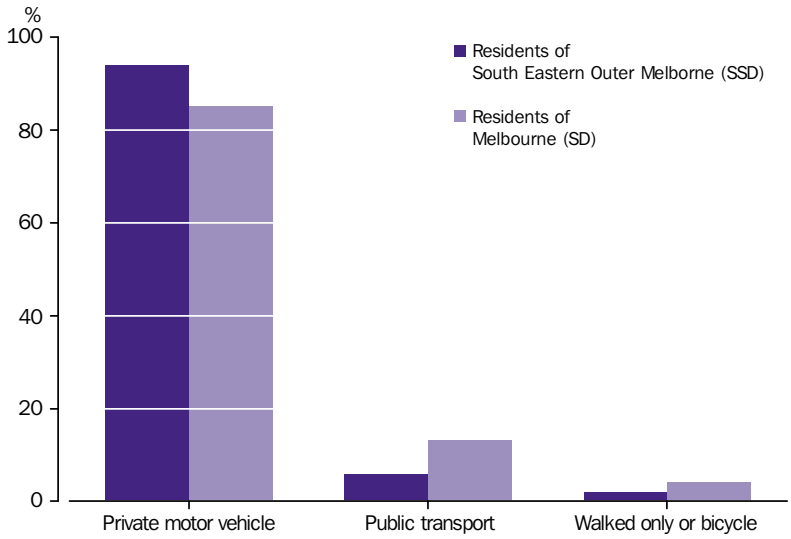
9.10 SELECTED REGIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, employed persons

(a) As a proportion of all employed residents of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD).

Journey to work

In 2001, 94% of people living in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) used a private motor vehicle for the journey to work, compared with 85% for Melbourne (SD) as a whole. Although train lines do connect the region with the centre of Melbourne, the overall availability of public transport in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is limited compared to inner city areas of Melbourne (SD). As a result, only a small proportion of residents in the region used public transport to get to work (6% compared with 13% of Melbourne (SD) as a whole). An even smaller proportion rode a bicycle or walked to work (2% compared with 4% for Melbourne (SD)).

9.11 SELECTED METHODS OF TRAVEL TO WORK(a), employed persons



(a) More than one method of transport may have been stated, so components do not add total.

INCOME

Income is an important factor in people's standard of living. Higher incomes generally allow people more discretion to purchase the goods and services for the lifestyle they desire. Income can be measured in a number of ways. In this chapter, income is reported as median gross individual weekly income (referred to as median individual income), median gross household weekly income (referred to as median household income) and median gross household weekly income per capita (referred to as median household income per capita) (see Chapter 6, Income and living standards, for an explanation of various income measures).

Individual income

While paid work is not the only source of income, it plays a key role in determining living standards for most people. As already mentioned, residents of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were mainly employed in lower skilled occupations, which tended to pay less than jobs that demand higher skills. However, occupation of employment is not the sole factor influencing the median individual income of people in a region. A relatively young adult population and low unemployment rates meant that a higher than average proportion of adult residents of South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were in paid employment. Median individual income in the region was $415 per week, slightly higher than the Melbourne (SD) median of $405, and higher still than the Australian median of $375.

Household income

Income can also be examined at the household level, which takes into account the pooling of resources among people living together. Again, low unemployment rates and high labour force participation rates resulted in a high proportion of households in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) having two or more people earning income from employment (48% compared with 39% nationally). Only 19% of households in the region had no people in paid employment, compared to 30% for Australia as a whole. As a result, median household income was relatively high at $913 per week, compared with the median for Melbourne (SD) ($889) and Australia as a whole ($785).

The standard of living that can be achieved depends not only on the level of household income, but also on the number of people in the household, among whom that income could be shared. A useful summary measure which takes household size into account is household income per capita. South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) is home to many young families, with an average household size of 3.0 people compared to the Australian average of 2.6. The proportion of households in the region with two or more dependent children was 33%, compared to 23% nationally. Once household size is taken into account, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) had income slightly below average. Median household weekly income per capita in the region was $324, compared to $351 for Melbourne (SD) and $336 for Australia as a whole.

9.12 INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

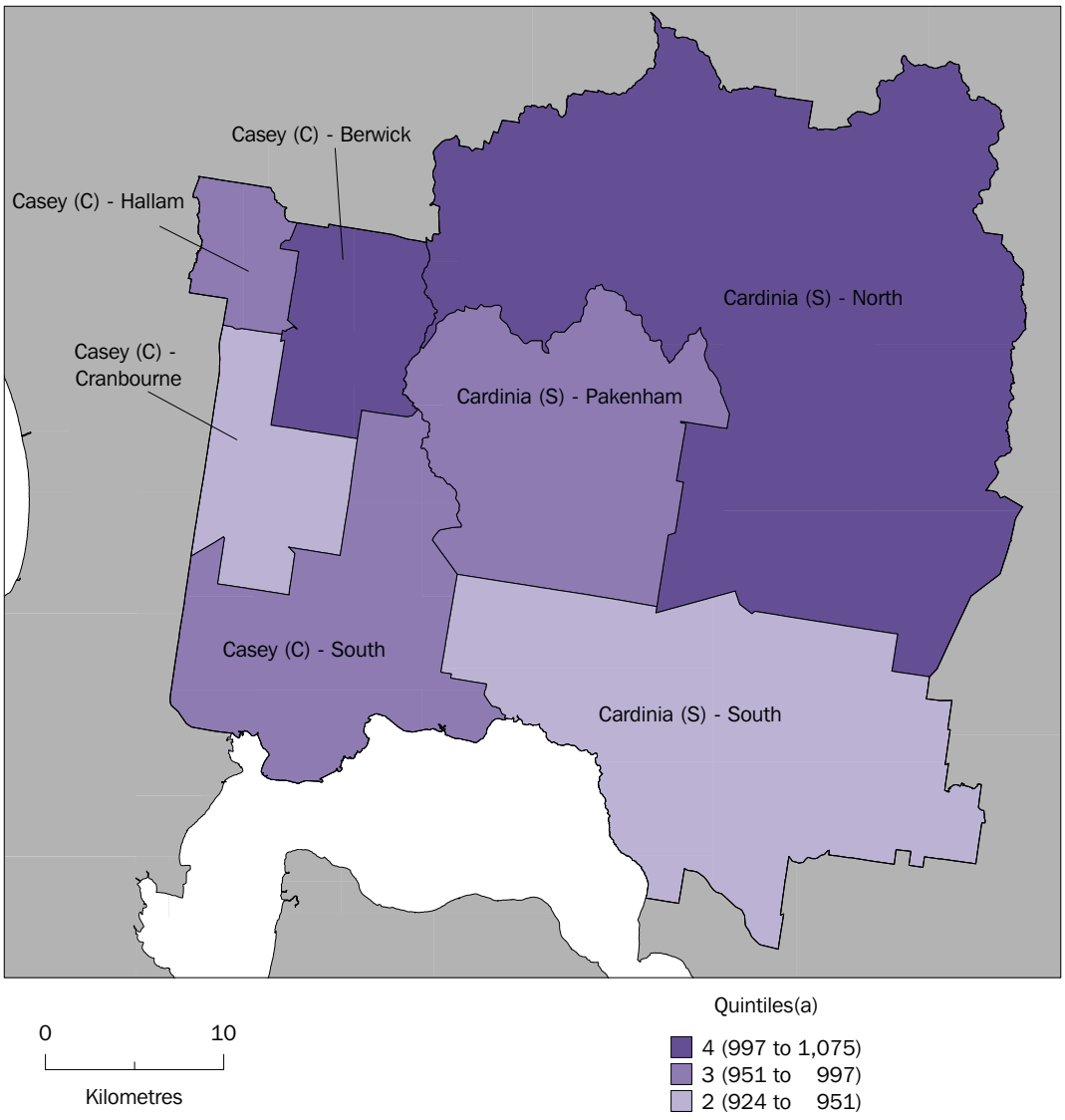
Region	*Median gross individual weekly income* $	*Median gross household weekly income* $	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*Households with two or more people in paid employment(a)* %	*Average household size* no.
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	415	913	324	48.3	3.0
Melbourne (SD)	405	889	351	41.6	2.7
Australia	**375**	**785**	**336**	**39.3**	**2.6**

(a) Full-time or part-time employed people.

RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

Many of the characteristics discussed in this case study can be summarised for geographic areas by using the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage. Based on this index, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) was in the 3rd decile for Mainly urban regions (see Appendix 2). This indicates that on the whole the region was slightly more disadvantaged than other Mainly urban regions. In particular, although incomes tend to be high, the region is characterised by relatively low proportions of people with university qualifications, and a high proportion of people working as Labourers and related workers and Intermediate transport and production workers.

9.13 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Local Areas, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)



(a) Quintiles for all SLAs in Australia. No SLAs in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) were ranked in the 1st (703 to 924) or 5th (1,075 to 1,274) quintiles.

RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

The index value for South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) as a whole is driven by the three SLAs with the highest populations, namely Casey (C)- Berwick, Casey (C) - Cranbourne and Casey (C) - Hallam. However, there was substantial variation in the index values across these and the other SLAS in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD), although no individual SLA was either highly advantaged or disadvantaged. The more advantaged areas, such as Casey (C) - Berwick and Cardinia (S) - North, were characterised by higher proportions of people with tertiary qualifications and people employed in higher skilled occupations, compared to other SLAs in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD). Combined with lower levels of unemployment, these characteristics contributed to higher incomes in these areas. Conversely, more disadvantaged areas, such as Casey (C) - Cranbourne and Cardinia (S) - South, tended to have higher unemployment rates, lower proportions of people with non-school qualifications and higher proportions of people employed in 'blue collar' occupations.

9.14 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Local Areas, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)

Region	*Index score*(a)	*Decile(b)*	*Estimated resident population(c)* %	*Median gross household weekly income per capita* $	*Unemployment* %
Casey (C) - Berwick	1 021	7	29.6	350	4.3
Cardinia (S) - North	1 010	7	10.4	335	4.5
Casey (C) - South	983	6	5.0	340	4.4
Cardinia (S) - Pakenham	966	5	7.9	303	5.5
Casey (C) - Hallam	966	5	22.3	300	8.1
Casey (C) - Cranbourne	936	3	22.6	300	6.9
Cardinia (S) - South	928	3	2.3	275	4.7
South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	**980**	**. .**	**100.0**	**324**	**5.8**

(a) Index of Relative Advantage/Disadvantage at SLA or SSD level. Scores are based on place of enumeration.

(b) Decile 1 indicates that the SLA falls into the 10% of most disadvantaged SLAs in Australia; decile 10 indicates that the SLA falls into the 10% of most advantaged SLAs in Australia.

(c) Estimated resident population as at 30 June 2001, shown as a proportion of the population in South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD).

CONCLUSION

The gradual spread of Melbourne's suburban fringe, driven by young families seeking affordable housing and employment, has made South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) one of the fastest growing regions in Melbourne (SD). The sustainability of such growth and the ramifications for transport and land use are important social and environmental issues. Currently, South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD) enjoys relatively high income levels due to steady employment in nearby industries. The ability of the region to continue to grow while maintaining living standards will, therefore, depend on how the region responds to continuing structural change driven by external factors, and the extent to which it can establish new employment opportunities for its working age population.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents a range of information collected in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. It describes the characteristics of people living in different parts of Australia and contrasts the circumstances of people living in different regions. The following Explanatory Notes provide information about the statistics compiled in this report. The notes also identify related publications that may be of interest to users of this report.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE OF 2001 CENSUS

2 The 2001 Census of Population and Housing was held on 7 August 2001. Australia's first national census was held in 1911 and since 1961 a census has been taken every five years, a frequency which is specified in the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. The objective of the census is to count the number of people in Australia on census night, identifying their key characteristics and those of the dwellings in which they live.

3 The census aims to count every person who spent census night in Australia. This includes Australian residents in Antarctica and people in the territories of Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island. The other Australian External Territories, Norfolk Island and minor islands such as Heard and McDonald Islands, are outside the scope of the Australian census. The only people in Australia on census night who are excluded from the census are foreign diplomats and their families.

4 The census includes people on vessels in or between Australian ports, on board long distance trains, buses or aircraft and on oil or gas rigs off the Australian coast. People entering Australia before midnight on census night are counted while people leaving an Australian port for an overseas destination before midnight on census night are not. Visitors to Australia are included regardless of how long they have been in the country or how long they plan to stay. However, for people who intend to be in Australia less than one year, only basic demographic data are available. The census includes homeless people and people camping out.

5 All occupied dwellings are counted in the census with the exceptions of diplomatic dwellings. Unoccupied private dwellings are also counted with the exception of unoccupied dwellings in caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates, and units in accommodation for the retired or aged (self-care). Unoccupied residences of owners, managers or caretakers of such establishments are counted.

6 Details about the 2001 census content, collection operations, confidentiality and privacy protection, processing and evaluation activities are contained in *2001 Census of Population and Housing: Nature and Content* (cat. no. 2008.0).

DATA LIMITATIONS

7 Census data are subject to a number of inaccuracies resulting from errors by respondents or mistakes in collection or processing. Whilst many of these are corrected by careful processing procedures, some still remain. The effect of the remaining errors is

DATA LIMITATIONS *continued*

generally slight, although it may be more important for small groups in the population. The main types of error to keep in mind are listed below.

- *Partial non-response*: In some cases where an answer is not provided to a specific question an answer is imputed (often from other information on the form). In other cases a 'Not stated' code is allocated.
- *Processing error*: While such errors can occur in any processing system, quality management is used continuously to improve the quality of processed data, and to identify and correct data of unacceptable quality.
- *Respondent error*: Because processing procedures cannot detect or repair all errors made by people in completing the forms, some remain in final data.
- *Undercount*: Although the census aims to count each person, there are some people who are missed and others who are counted more than once. With the exception of the estimated resident population data, the data in this publication are not adjusted for the net undercount.
- *Random adjustment*: In this publication, table cells containing small values are randomly adjusted or suppressed to avoid releasing information about particular individuals, families, or households. The effects of these adjustments are statistically insignificant.

8 For further information on sources of error in the census, refer to the appropriate entries in the 2001 Census Dictionary, (cat. no. 2901.0). Information on census data quality is also provided progressively in *Census Update* and *2001 Census Papers*.

CENSUS COUNTS

9 In the census, information was collected according to where people were staying on census night. Some people were counted in places other than where they usually live. For these people, additional information was also collected to enable their usual place of residence to be determined so that they could be counted in the area where they usually live. As a result, there are two types of counts: place of enumeration and place of usual residence.

Place of enumeration

10 The population count for place of enumeration is a count of every person who spent census night in Australia, based on where he or she was counted, including people on board vessels in or between Australian ports, or on long-distance trains, buses or aircraft. People were counted where they spent census night, which may not be where they usually live.

11 Place of enumeration data are presented where place of usual residence data are not available, for example, data presented on a Section of State basis (see paragraph 30 below) and data used to calculate the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage (see paragraph 43 below).

Place of usual residence

12 This is a count of all people within the scope of the census on the basis of where they usually live, rather than where they were on census night. Overseas visitors (i.e. people who indicated they will be usually resident in Australia for less than one year) are excluded from data based on place of usual residence.

Australia totals

13 In this publication, counts for migratory and off-shore areas and Other Territories are included in totals for Australia although these areas are not separately identified. Other Territories include Jervis Bay Territory, and the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Internal migration

14 Internal migration is the movement of people from one defined area to another within a country. Information on internal migration within Australia is available from the census.

15 The census asks a series of questions relating to each person's usual address. The indicative data from these questions are recorded as the Usual Address Indicator Census Night (UAICP), Usual Address One Year Ago Indicator (UAI1P) and Usual Address Five Years Ago Indicator (UAI5P).

16 Data collected in the census only reflect the latest movement in the intercensal period, even though there may have been multiple movements during this period.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

17 The Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of an area at a particular date is the estimate of the number of people who usually reside in that area, irrespective of where they were on that date.

18 The ERPs contained in Chapter 1 of this publication are the official ABS population estimates as at 30 June 2001. They are derived from 2001 census population counts by adjusting the census count of Australian usual residents for undercount and adding the number of Australian residents estimated to have been temporarily overseas at the time of the census. Further adjustments are made for births, deaths and net migration in the period 1 July to 7 August 2001 to bring the estimates to 30 June 2001. Further information on the method of estimation can be found in *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF GROWTH

19 The average annual rate of population growth, r, is calculated as a percentage using the formula:

$$r = \left(\sqrt[5]{\frac{P_{01}}{P_{96}}} - 1 \right) \times 100$$

where P_{96} is the ERP at 30 June 1996 and P_{01} is the ERP at 30 June 2001. The average annual rate of population growth can be found in Chapter 1, Population distribution and growth.

CALCULATION OF PROPORTIONS

20 Unless otherwise stated, when calculating the proportion of the population with a particular characteristic, 'Not stated' responses are excluded from the denominator. For example, in Chapter 2, Cultural diversity, the proportion of overseas-born was calculated by dividing the number of persons who stated that they were born overseas by the total population (excluding those who did not report their birthplace) and expressing the result as a percentage.

CALCULATION OF PROPORTIONS *continued*

21 When calculating the proportion of households with a particular characteristic and the total number of households, those that could not be classified and those consisting of visitors are excluded.

CALCULATION OF MEDIANS

22 A median is a measure of central tendency. It is the mid-value which divides a population distribution into two, with half the observations falling below it and half above it. Unlike averages (means), medians are not usually affected by extreme observations.

23 There are a number of issues to be aware of:

- The categories 'Not stated' and 'Not applicable' are not included in the calculation of medians.
- In the census, individual income is collected in ranges and household income is derived by summing individual incomes. However, it is not possible to sum income ranges. Estimated dollar values calculated from the Survey of Income and Housing Costs are therefore used to derive individual income. These values are used when summing values to create household incomes and in calculating median values for household incomes.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

24 Data in this publication are presented according to *Statistical Geography: Volume 1 — Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001* (cat. no. 1216.0). The ASGC is a classification system consisting of six interrelated classification structures. These structures are hierarchical, with different structures having different numbers of levels. Each hierarchical level is made up of one type of geographical spatial unit. The different classification structures are built of various combinations of geographical areas, or spatial units. Further information concerning statistical areas is contained in *Statistical Geography: Volume 1 — Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001* (cat. no. 1216.0).

25 This publication uses geographical areas mostly from the Main Structure of the ASGC, but also makes use of geographical areas from the Statistical Region Structure, the Statistical District Structure, and the Section of State Structure where appropriate. In total, 118 regions have been selected from these geographical structures to be used in ranking tables. Further information on the selection of regions can be found in Appendix 1.

26 For the purposes of this publication, all data refer to bounded areas as defined at census day, 7 August 2001.

27 A series of maps showing selected geographical areas for each state and territory are available in Appendix 1.

Main Structure

28 Under the ASGC Main Structure, geographical areas are defined as follows:

- *Statistical Local Areas (SLAs)*. These geographical areas are based on the boundaries of incorporated bodies of local government where these exist. These bodies are the Local Government Councils and the geographical areas which they administer are known as Local Government Areas (LGAs). Where there is no incorporated body of local government, SLAs are defined to cover the unincorporated areas. In aggregate, SLAs cover the whole of a state or territory without gaps or overlaps. In 2001, Australia had 1,353 SLAs.
- *Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs)*. These consist of one or more SLAs. In aggregate, they cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between the inhabitants. In non-urban areas an SSD is characterised by identifiable links between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Australia has 207 SSDs.
- *Statistical Divisions (SDs)*. These consist of one or more SSDs. The divisions are designed to be relatively homogenous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic links within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Australia has 66 SDs.

Statistical Region Structure

29 Statistical Region Sectors (SRSs) represent one of the six hierarchical levels in the Statistical Region (SR) Structure of the ASGC. The SR Structure is maintained as a separate structure from the Main Structure of the ASGC, and was devised to present regional data from Labour Force Surveys. SRSs consist of one or more adjoining SLAs, and have been used as the basis for nine of the regions used in this publication. There are 88 SRSs in Australia. For more information about their use, see Appendix 1, Regions selected for ranking tables.

Section of State Structure

30 The Section of State (SOS) Structure allows data to be presented in terms of urban and rural areas, and relates only to census data on a place of enumeration basis. It is a separate structure in the ASGC because SOS spatial units do not align with any of the spatial units from any of the other structures. Within a state or territory, each SOS represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographic areas of a particular urban type, with the rural balance constituting another Section of State. The SOS structure uses population counts from the 2001 census to define Collection Districts (CDs) (the smallest spatial unit in the ASGC) as urban or rural. The numerically small SOS category titled 'Migratory', which includes off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs, is not used in this publication. The Section of State categories are as follows.

- *Major urban*. All urban centres with a population count of 100,000 and over.
- *Other urban*. All urban centres with a population count of 1,000 to 99,999.
- *Bounded locality*. All population clusters of 200 to 999 people.
- *Rural balance*. The rural remainder of the state/territory.

Major population centres

31 Only the largest 20 population centres (based on the ERP as at 30 June 2001) have been included as major population centres in this publication. Major population centres are also used by the ABS to present annual ERP figures (see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0)).

32 Two ASGC units form the basis for defining the main population centres:

- *Capital City Statistical Division*. There is one capital city SD for each capital city. In this case, the capital city is the unifying influence for the relatively homogeneous region (see paragraph 28 above for a more detailed explanation of the SD). Capital City SDs are SDs which have been defined, after consultation with planners, to contain the anticipated development of a city for a period of at least 20 years. This is a fixed SD boundary which delimits an area which is stable for statistical purposes, represents the city in a wider sense, and can be used with place of usual residence data. Note that all capital cities are presented in terms of Capital City SDs with the exception of Canberra, which is presented as the Statistical District of Canberra-Queanbeyan.
- *Statistical District (S Dist)*. These consist of one or more SSDs and represent selected large urban areas outside Capital City Statistical Divisions. Because Statistical Districts are able to straddle Statistical Division and state/territory boundaries, they can encompass homogeneous regions near such borders. For example, Canberra-Queanbeyan, Gold Coast-Tweed and Albury-Wodonga are all S Dists which are partly in two different states/territories. All the non-capital city major population centres in this publication are S Dists. See Appendix 1 for a description of how S Dists are presented in the summary tables at the end of each chapter.

MEASURING INCOME

33 There are several ways to present information on income. The distribution of income for a given population can be reported in various ways, including in ranges (e.g. the number of people with an income of $400 per week and under) or by a measure of central tendency (e.g. the mean or median income value, see paragraphs 22–23 above). This publication uses two income measures: median gross weekly income (for individuals and for households), and median gross household weekly income per capita.

34 Median gross weekly income (for individuals and for households) represents the middle income value for a given population, with half the income values below it and half above it. See glossary for definitions of gross individual weekly income and gross household weekly income.

35 Median gross household weekly income per capita represents the middle income value for a given population of all gross household weekly income per capita values. See glossary for a definition of gross household weekly income per capita.

MEASURING ADVANTAGE AND DISADVANTAGE

36 The ABS has developed the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing using a statistical technique called principal components analysis. This technique summarises the information from a variety of social and economic variables, calculating weights that will give the best summary for these variables, to produce a single measure, or index, which can be used to rank areas

MEASURING ADVANTAGE AND DISADVANTAGE *continued*

(from highest to lowest and vice versa) on a broad socioeconomic scale. In total, four SEIFA indexes have been produced: the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage, the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage; the Index of Economic Resources; and the Index of Education and Occupation. These indexes differ from those of previous censuses as they were the result of a review of the methods and assumptions used in SEIFA. For more information on each of the indexes, see *Information Paper: 2001 Census of Population and Housing — Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas* (cat. no. 2039.0).

37 The SEIFA index used in this publication is the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage. Two types of variables were included in this index: those considered to be core variables representing socioeconomic status, and those measuring aspects of disadvantage. Core variables are education, income and occupation, such as the proportion of people aged 15 years and over with a degree or higher qualification, and the proportion of men and women employed as professionals. Aspects of disadvantage relate to (but are not limited to) wealth, living conditions and access to services, such as the number of bedrooms in a dwelling, whether a dwelling is owned or rented, and access to the Internet.

38 The Collection District (CD) is the smallest geographical area of the ASGC and the smallest area for which SEIFA indexes are available. In the 2001 census, there were 37,209 CDs defined throughout Australia. In urban areas, CDs comprise about 220 dwellings, while in rural areas they usually contain fewer. In this publication, SEIFA index scores for CDs have been used to calculate scores for larger geographical areas, by using population counts to take a weighted average across all the CDs that comprise the larger geographical area.

How to interpret the index

39 To enable easy recognition of high and low scores, all CD index scores across Australia have been standardised to have a mean of 1,000 and a standard deviation of 100. In practice, this means that around 95% of the index scores are between 800 and 1,200.

40 The indexes can be used to order areas in terms of advantage/disadvantage, but any other arithmetic relationships between index values may not be meaningful. For example, a CD with an index value of 1,200 does not have twice the advantage of a CD with an index value of 600.

41 The indexes reflect the socioeconomic wellbeing of an area, rather than that of individuals. Because all people within a CD are not identical, the index score for a CD does not directly apply to individuals within that CD, but rather it reflects the way that people group together in CDs. Thus it is possible for a relatively advantaged person to be resident in a CD with a low score on some or all of the indexes.

42 As the regional structure of this publication includes regions at the Statistical Division (SD), Statistical Subdivision (SSD) and Statistical Region Sector (SRS) levels of the ASGC (see Appendix 1 for details), it should be borne in mind that larger geographical areas (e.g. SDs) are likely to be more heterogeneous than smaller geographical areas (e.g. SSDs). As scores on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic

How to interpret the index *continued*

Advantage/Disadvantage are population weighted, scores in SDs may align more closely with the characteristics of people in larger population centres of the SD than with the characteristics of people in sparsely-settled and remote areas of the SD.

Factors affecting usefulness

43 There are a number of factors that can affect the usefulness of the indexes for measuring socioeconomic advantage and disadvantage. While a comprehensive list of these is given in *Information Paper: 2001 Census of Population and Housing — Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas* (cat. no. 2039.0), some of the major factors are listed below.

- The variables included are limited to those which are collected by the census. Some variables not measured by the census, such as inherited wealth, access to schools and to health and community services, are therefore not included.
- The variables used in the construction of the indexes are based on people's place of enumeration on census night, rather than their place of usual residence. Index scores in holiday resort areas may therefore be affected by the presence of holiday makers, and conversely, scores for other areas may be affected by the absence of people on holidays.
- The variables used in the indexes that pertain to families and dwellings are based on data from occupied private dwellings. Families in non-private dwellings (e.g. motels, boarding houses, refuges, etc.) are therefore not included.
- Some of the variables used in SEIFA relate differently to advantage and disadvantage in different areas. For example, the proportion of households with no car may be considered an indicator of disadvantage in rural areas but not in inner-city areas. SEIFA considers advantage and disadvantage relative to an Australia-wide standard, which overlooks the geographical context of different variables.

HOUSING UTILISATION (OVERCROWDING)

44 The concept of housing utilisation in this publication is based on a comparison of the number of bedrooms in a dwelling with a series of household demographics, such as the number of usual residents, their relationship to one another, age and sex. This publication uses the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, which is considered by the National Housing Strategy and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to conform reasonably to social norms in Australia.

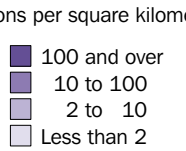
45 The Canadian National Occupancy Standard for housing appropriateness is sensitive to both household size and composition. The measure assesses the bedroom requirements of a household by specifying that:

- there should be no more than two persons per bedroom
- children less than five years of age of different sexes may reasonably share a bedroom
- children five years of age or older of opposite sex should have separate bedrooms
- children less than 18 years of age and of the same sex may reasonably share a bedroom
- single household members 18 years or over should have a separate bedroom, as should parents or couples.

A dwelling which does not meet these requirements is considered to be overcrowded.

MAP LEGENDS

46 The map legends identify the colours used to shade each class on a map e.g.



For simplicity, the ranges are shown as '2–10', '10–100' and so on. These should be read as, for example, 'from 2 to less than 10'. Individual values will appear in one range only.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

47 Other ABS releases that may be of interest to users of this publication include:

A Social Atlas, 2001 cat. nos. 2030.1–8

Australian Demographic Statistics cat. no. 3101.0

Australian Social Trends cat. no. 4102.0

Census Dictionary, 2001 cat. no. 2901.0

Census of Population and Housing: Population Growth and Distribution, 2001 cat. no. 2035.0

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Characteristics for Urban Centres, 2001 cat. no. 2016.0

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Characteristics for Urban Centres and Localities, 2001 cat. nos. 2016.1–7

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Education and Labour Force Characteristics, 2001 cat. no. 2017.0

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Education and Labour Force Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas, 2001 cat. nos. 2017.1–8

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Social and Housing Characteristics, 2001 cat. no. 2015.0

Census of Population and Housing: Selected Social and Housing Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas, 2001 cat. nos. 2015.1–8

Information Paper: 2001 Census of Population and Housing — Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, Australia cat. no. 2039.0

Population by Age and Sex: Australian States and Territories cat. no. 3201.0

Population Characteristics: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians cat. no. 4713.0

Population Distribution, Indigenous Australians cat. no. 4705.0

Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand cat. no. 3218.0

Statistical Geography: Volume 1 — Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001 cat. no. 1216.0

48 Compendia of demographic data for each state and territory are released annually in state or territory specific publications, *Demography* (cat. nos. 3311.1–0).

49 Information on census data quality is provided progressively in *Census Update* and in *2001 Census Papers*.

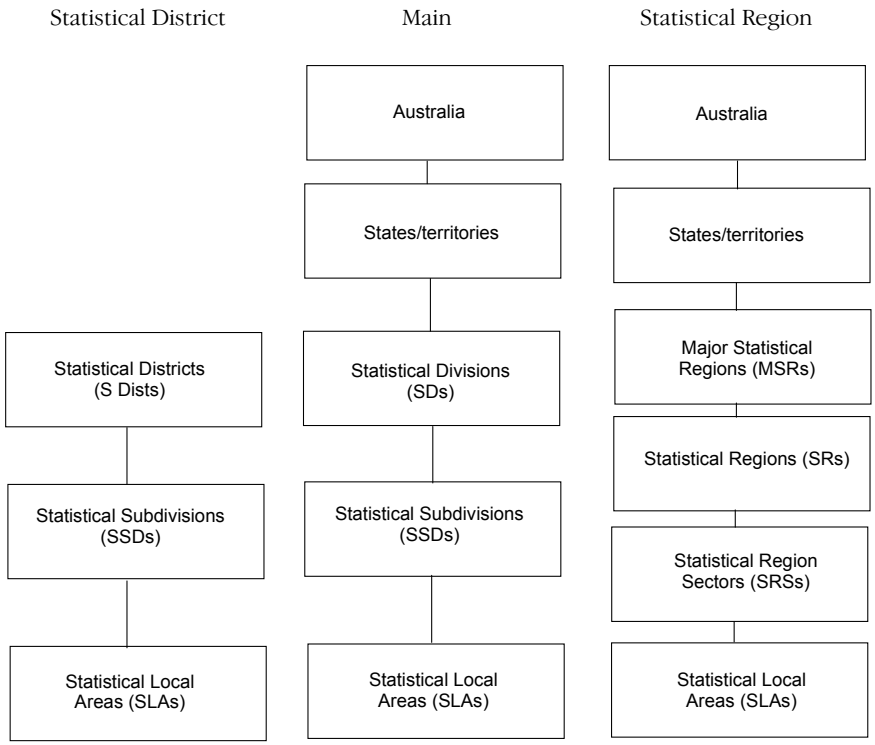
APPENDIX 1 REGIONS SELECTED FOR RANKING TABLES

INTRODUCTION

This Appendix describes the basis for selecting the 118 regions used throughout this publication. The aim was to choose regions covering all of Australia that provided manageable and meaningful detail. As the regions are based on the 2001 edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), the following briefly describes the relevant structures of the ASGC. Maps showing the location of the 118 regions are also included in this Appendix.

APPROACH FOR SELECTING REGIONS

The diagram below shows the Main, Statistical Region and Statistical District structures of the ASGC, all of which were used in this publication (see Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 28–32 for definitions of each spatial unit listed in these structures). Within each of these structures, the higher levels are generally larger than lower levels in terms of geographical area.



The basic building blocks for regions used in this publication are Statistical Divisions (SDs). However, SDs differ greatly in population size, having generally larger populations in metropolitan areas than in non-metropolitan areas. As this is one factor that can cause differences between regions to be disguised or overstated when comparisons are made, SDs were disaggregated to smaller regions in more populous areas, particularly in large metropolitan centres. As a result of this process, 118 regions with populations in a broadly similar size range were identified and are listed, with their ASGC name and population size, in table A1.2. Maps showing the location of these regions follow.

118 regions selected from the ASGC

Most capital city SDs were broken down into Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) to give more similarly sized regions. Melbourne (SD) comprises 16 SSDs, ranging from Melton-Wyndham (SSD) in the west through to Boroondara City (SSD) in inner Melbourne, and to Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD) south-east of Port Phillip Bay. Sydney (SD) comprises 14 SSDs from St George-Sutherland (SSD) in the south, through to Inner Sydney (SSD), to Gosford-Wyong (SSD) in the north.

Due to their smaller populations, Adelaide, Perth and Canberra SDs comprise a smaller number of SSDs. Hobart is presented as one SD, Greater Hobart (SD), which is made up of a single SSD, Greater Hobart (SSD).

Brisbane (SD) has one SSD (Brisbane City) which is relatively large in terms of population. To present regions of comparable population size with the other capital cities, SRSs from the Statistical Region Structure of the ASGC (see diagram on previous page) were used in Brisbane City (SSD). Surrounding metropolitan areas were presented at the SSD level. In total, Brisbane (SD/MSR) comprises nine SRSs within Brisbane City (SSD), surrounded by a further eight SSDs ranging from Gold Coast City Part B (SSD) south of Brisbane, through to Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD) in the west, and north to the Sunshine Coast (SSD).

In addition, Newcastle and Wollongong are two large metropolitan cities that are not part of a capital city. They have both been presented at the SSD level to separate them from the larger areas of Hunter (SD) and Illawarra (SD), respectively.

All other areas of Australia were presented at the Statistical Division (SD) level. Some examples include Richmond-Tweed (SD) and Murrumbidgee (SD) in New South Wales, Pilbara (SD) in Western Australia and Wimmera (SD) in Victoria's west.

Offshore and migratory areas were excluded from the full list of regions, as were the Other Territories of Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Grouping regions by size of urban centres

As a further step, the regions were grouped into two categories: Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions. This was achieved using the Section of State structure (see Explanatory Notes). Regions where more than half of the people were living in urban centres of 100,000 or more were categorised as Mainly urban regions. Most capital city regions were classified as Mainly urban regions, as were regions with larger population centres, such as Barwon (SD) which incorporates Geelong, and Northern Queensland (SD) which incorporates Townsville.

All other regions were categorised as Mixed urban/rural regions. The Mixed urban/rural regions may include some people living in urban centres of 100,000 or more as well as large proportions of people living in smaller centres and in more sparsely-populated areas. Examples of Mixed urban/rural regions include Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD) in New South Wales and Outer Adelaide (SD), as well as North West Queensland (SD) and Kimberley (SD). For brevity, Mixed urban/rural regions are sometimes referred to as Mixed regions in the text.

The purpose of this split was to assist with more meaningful analysis. As it is impractical to present data for all regions in Australia for all characteristics, most of the tables presented in this report show the regions that have the highest or lowest proportion of

Grouping regions by size of urban centres *continued*

people with a particular attribute. Looking at the highest and lowest proportions from both Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions makes it possible to consider 'like with like' (such as comparing Inner Sydney (SSD) with Inner Melbourne (SSD)) as well as 'like with different ' (such as comparing Inner Sydney (SSD) with Far West New South Wales (SD)).

Additional regional detail

In the summary tables presented at the end of each chapter, additional detail is given for selected Statistical Districts (S Dists). Statistical Districts are predominantly urban areas which are not located within a capital city SD, and which are generally defined as containing an urban centre of 25,000 or more. Statistical Districts are part of a structure separate to the ASGC Main Structure (see diagram on previous page), but have been included in the summary tables to show how a town or regional centre can influence the characteristics of a non-capital city SD. An example is Coffs Harbour (S Dist) — in the summary table at the end of each chapter, information is presented for Coffs Harbour (S Dist) as well as for the larger region (the Mid-North Coast (SD)) where it is found. Where Statistical Districts cross state boundaries, such as Albury-Wodonga (S Dist), the Statistical District has been broken down into its sub-component SSDs on either side of the border. A full list of these additional regions is given in table A1.3.

Naming conventions

Throughout this report, the ASGC unit corresponding to each region is referred to in abbreviated form after the region's name (e.g. 'Pilbara (SD)'). However, to assist with readability and to give a better sense of the location of different areas, region names have occasionally been augmented. So, for example, 'Far West New South Wales (SD)' gives a better sense of this region's location than 'Far West (SD)'.

TABLE A1.1 REGIONS BY STATE AND TERRITORY

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
118 regions selected from ASGC									
Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs)	19	16	12	4	5	1	0	6	63
Statistical Divisions (SDs)	9	10	6	6	8	3	2	0	44
Statistical Region Sectors (SRSs)	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
Combined units(a)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	**28**	**26**	**28**	**10**	**13**	**4**	**2**	**7**	**118**
Type of region									
Mainly urban regions	16	17	19	4	5	1	0	7	69
Mixed urban/rural regions	12	9	9	6	8	3	2	0	49
Total	**28**	**26**	**28**	**10**	**13**	**4**	**2**	**7**	**118**

(a) The combination of two SDs. For more information see the following table.

TABLE A1.2 118 REGIONS SELECTED FROM ASGC

Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a) '000	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural
	NEW SOUTH WALES			
	Sydney SD			
1	Inner Sydney	SSD	294.1	Mainly urban
2	Eastern Suburbs	SSD	241.5	Mainly urban
3	St George-Sutherland	SSD	433.1	Mainly urban
4	Canterbury-Bankstown	SSD	309.5	Mainly urban
5	Fairfield-Liverpool	SSD	348.1	Mainly urban
6	Outer South Western Sydney	SSD	234.0	Mainly urban
7	Inner Western Sydney	SSD	162.9	Mainly urban
8	Central Western Sydney	SSD	295.8	Mainly urban
9	Outer Western Sydney	SSD	317.2	Mainly urban
10	Blacktown	SSD	264.8	Mainly urban
11	Lower Northern Sydney	SSD	293.0	Mainly urban
12	Central Northern Sydney	SSD	406.9	Mainly urban
13	Northern Beaches	SSD	231.2	Mainly urban
14	Gosford-Wyong	SSD	296.3	Mainly urban
	Hunter SD			
15	Newcastle	SSD	492.5	Mainly urban
16	Hunter SD Bal	SSD	96.4	Mixed urban/rural
	Illawarra SD			
17	Wollongong	SSD	269.6	Mainly urban
18	Nowra-Bomaderry	SSD	30.2	Mixed urban/rural
19	Illawarra SD Bal	SSD	100.2	Mixed urban/rural
20	Richmond-Tweed	SD	216.3	Mixed urban/rural
21	Mid-North Coast	SD	280.6	Mixed urban/rural
22	Northern	SD	180.4	Mixed urban/rural
23	North Western	SD	119.6	Mixed urban/rural
24	Central West	SD	177.7	Mixed urban/rural
25	South Eastern	SD	193.1	Mixed urban/rural
26	Murrumbidgee	SD	152.5	Mixed urban/rural
27	Murray	SD	113.4	Mixed urban/rural
28	Far West	SD	24.4	Mixed urban/rural

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

TABLE A1.2 118 REGIONS SELECTED FROM ASGC *continued*

Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a) '000	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural
	VICTORIA			
	Melbourne SD			
29	Inner Melbourne	SSD	245.3	Mainly urban
30	Western Melbourne	SSD	423.4	Mainly urban
31	Melton-Wyndham	SSD	140.0	Mainly urban
32	Moreland City	SSD	136.4	Mainly urban
33	Northern Middle Melbourne	SSD	246.6	Mainly urban
34	Hume City	SSD	136.0	Mainly urban
35	Northern Outer Melbourne	SSD	178.9	Mainly urban
36	Boroondara City	SSD	157.2	Mainly urban
37	Eastern Middle Melbourne	SSD	424.1	Mainly urban
38	Eastern Outer Melbourne	SSD	247.7	Mainly urban
39	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A	SSD	142.0	Mainly urban
40	Southern Melbourne	SSD	390.7	Mainly urban
41	Greater Dandenong City	SSD	128.5	Mainly urban
42	South Eastern Outer Melbourne	SSD	228.6	Mainly urban
43	Frankston City	SSD	114.0	Mainly urban
44	Mornington Peninsula Shire	SSD	132.4	Mainly urban
45	Barwon	SD	254.7	Mainly urban
46	Western District	SD	100.5	Mixed urban/rural
47	Central Highlands	SD	141.5	Mixed urban/rural
48	Wimmera	SD	51.4	Mixed urban/rural
49	Mallee	SD	90.4	Mixed urban/rural
50	Loddon	SD	167.0	Mixed urban/rural
51	Goulburn	SD	194.0	Mixed urban/rural
52	Ovens-Murray	SD	93.2	Mixed urban/rural
53	East Gippsland	SD	80.9	Mixed urban/rural
54	Gippsland	SD	159.5	Mixed urban/rural

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

TABLE A1.2 118 REGIONS SELECTED FROM ASGC *continued*

Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a) '000	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural
	QUEENSLAND			
	Brisbane SD (MSR)			
55	City Core of Brisbane	SRS	68.3	Mainly urban
56	Northern Inner Brisbane	SRS	113.5	Mainly urban
57	Eastern Inner Brisbane	SRS	86.8	Mainly urban
58	Southern Inner Brisbane	SRS	57.2	Mainly urban
59	Western Inner Brisbane	SRS	56.3	Mainly urban
60	Northern Outer Brisbane	SRS	175.5	Mainly urban
61	Eastern Outer Brisbane	SRS	61.4	Mainly urban
62	Southern Outer Brisbane	SRS	151.8	Mainly urban
63	Western Outer Brisbane	SRS	125.8	Mainly urban
64	Gold Coast City Part A	SSD	45.8	Mainly urban
65	Beaudesert Shire Part A	SSD	27.8	Mixed urban/rural
66	Caboolture Shire Part A	SSD	108.7	Mainly urban
67	Ipswich City (Part in BSD)	SSD	114.5	Mainly urban
68	Logan City	SSD	167.5	Mainly urban
69	Pine Rivers Shire	SSD	122.3	Mainly urban
70	Redcliffe City	SSD	49.9	Mainly urban
71	Redland Shire	SSD	117.3	Mainly urban
	Moreton SD			
72	Gold Coast City Part B	SSD	377.9	Mainly urban
73	Sunshine Coast	SSD	185.4	Mainly urban
74	Moreton SD Bal	SSD	161.0	Mixed urban/rural
75	Wide Bay-Burnett	SD	236.5	Mixed urban/rural
76	Darling Downs	SD	210.3	Mixed urban/rural
77	South West and Central West(b)		39.5	Mixed urban/rural
78	Fitzroy	SD	181.7	Mixed urban/rural
79	Mackay	SD	137.5	Mixed urban/rural
80	Northern	SD	190.3	Mainly urban
81	Far North	SD	222.5	Mixed urban/rural
82	North West	SD	35.9	Mixed urban/rural
	SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
	Adelaide SD			
83	Northern Adelaide	SSD	349.0	Mainly urban
84	Western Adelaide	SSD	210.1	Mainly urban
85	Eastern Adelaide	SSD	222.8	Mainly urban
86	Southern Adelaide	SSD	326.1	Mainly urban
87	Outer Adelaide	SD	114.0	Mixed urban/rural
88	Yorke and Lower North	SD	44.4	Mixed urban/rural
89	Murray Lands	SD	68.6	Mixed urban/rural
90	South East	SD	62.6	Mixed urban/rural
91	Eyre	SD	34.0	Mixed urban/rural
92	Northern	SD	80.2	Mixed urban/rural

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) South West and Central West SDs combined.

TABLE A1.2 118 REGIONS SELECTED FROM ASGC *continued*

Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a) '000	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural
	WESTERN AUSTRALIA			
	Perth SD			
93	Central Metropolitan Perth	SSD	121.9	Mainly urban
94	East Metropolitan Perth	SSD	239.9	Mainly urban
95	North Metropolitan Perth	SSD	416.9	Mainly urban
96	South West Metropolitan Perth	SSD	294.7	Mainly urban
97	South East Metropolitan Perth	SSD	319.6	Mainly urban
98	South West	SD	194.1	Mixed urban/rural
99	Lower Great Southern	SD	53.6	Mixed urban/rural
100	Upper Great Southern	SD	18.9	Mixed urban/rural
101	South Eastern	SD	55.1	Mixed urban/rural
102	Midlands	SD	53.6	Mixed urban/rural
103	Central	SD	60.8	Mixed urban/rural
104	Pilbara	SD	39.5	Mixed urban/rural
105	Kimberley	SD	32.6	Mixed urban/rural
	TASMANIA			
106	Greater Hobart	SD	197.3	Mainly urban
107	Southern	SD	34.6	Mixed urban/rural
108	Northern	SD	133.1	Mixed urban/rural
109	Mersey-Lyell	SD	106.8	Mixed urban/rural
	NORTHERN TERRITORY			
110	Darwin	SD	106.8	Mixed urban/rural
111	Northern Territory - Bal	SD	90.9	Mixed urban/rural
	AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY			
	Canberra SD			
112	North Canberra	SSD	38.6	Mainly urban
113	Belconnen	SSD	85.6	Mainly urban
114	Woden Valley	SSD	32.5	Mainly urban
115	Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal(b)		24.0	Mainly urban
116	Tuggeranong	SSD	90.9	Mainly urban
117	South Canberra	SSD	23.3	Mainly urban
118	Gungahlin-Hall	SSD	24.4	Mainly urban

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

(b) Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT Bal SSDs combined.

TABLE A1.3 ADDITIONAL DETAIL FOR SELECTED REGIONS

Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a)
	NEW SOUTH WALES		
20	Richmond-Tweed	SD	216.3
	Lismore	S Dist	30.9
	Tweed Heads	SSD	46.9
	Balance of Richmond-Tweed		138.5
21	Mid-North Coast	SD	280.6
	Coffs Harbour	S Dist	46.1
	Port Macquarie	S Dist	38.1
	Balance of Mid-North Coast		196.4
22	Northern	SD	180.4
	Tamworth	S Dist	42.5
	Balance of Northern		137.9
23	North Western	SD	119.6
	Dubbo	S Dist	35.2
	Balance of North Western		84.4
24	Central West	SD	177.7
	Bathurst-Orange	S Dist	75.8
	Balance of Central West		101.9
26	Murrumbidgee	SD	152.5
	Wagga Wagga	S Dist	52.1
	Balance of Murrumbidgee		100.3
27	Murray	SD	113.4
	Albury	SSD	51.8
	Balance of Murray		61.6
	VICTORIA		
45	Barwon	SD	254.7
	Geelong	S Dist	159.5
	Balance of Barwon		95.2
46	Western District	SD	100.5
	Warrnambool	S Dist	29.6
	Balance of Western District		70.8
47	Central Highlands	SD	141.5
	Ballarat	S Dist	83.6
	Balance of Central Highlands		57.9
49	Mallee	SD	90.4
	Mildura	S Dist	45.3
	Balance of Mallee		45.1
50	Loddon	SD	167.0
	Bendigo	S Dist	79.7
	Balance of Loddon		87.3
51	Goulburn	SD	194.0
	Shepparton	S Dist	44.9
	Balance of Goulburn		149.1
52	Ovens-Murray	SD	93.2
	Wodonga	SSD	46.0
	Balance of Ovens-Murray		47.2
54	Gippsland	SD	159.5
	La Trobe Valley	S Dist	75.0
	Balance of Gippsland		84.5

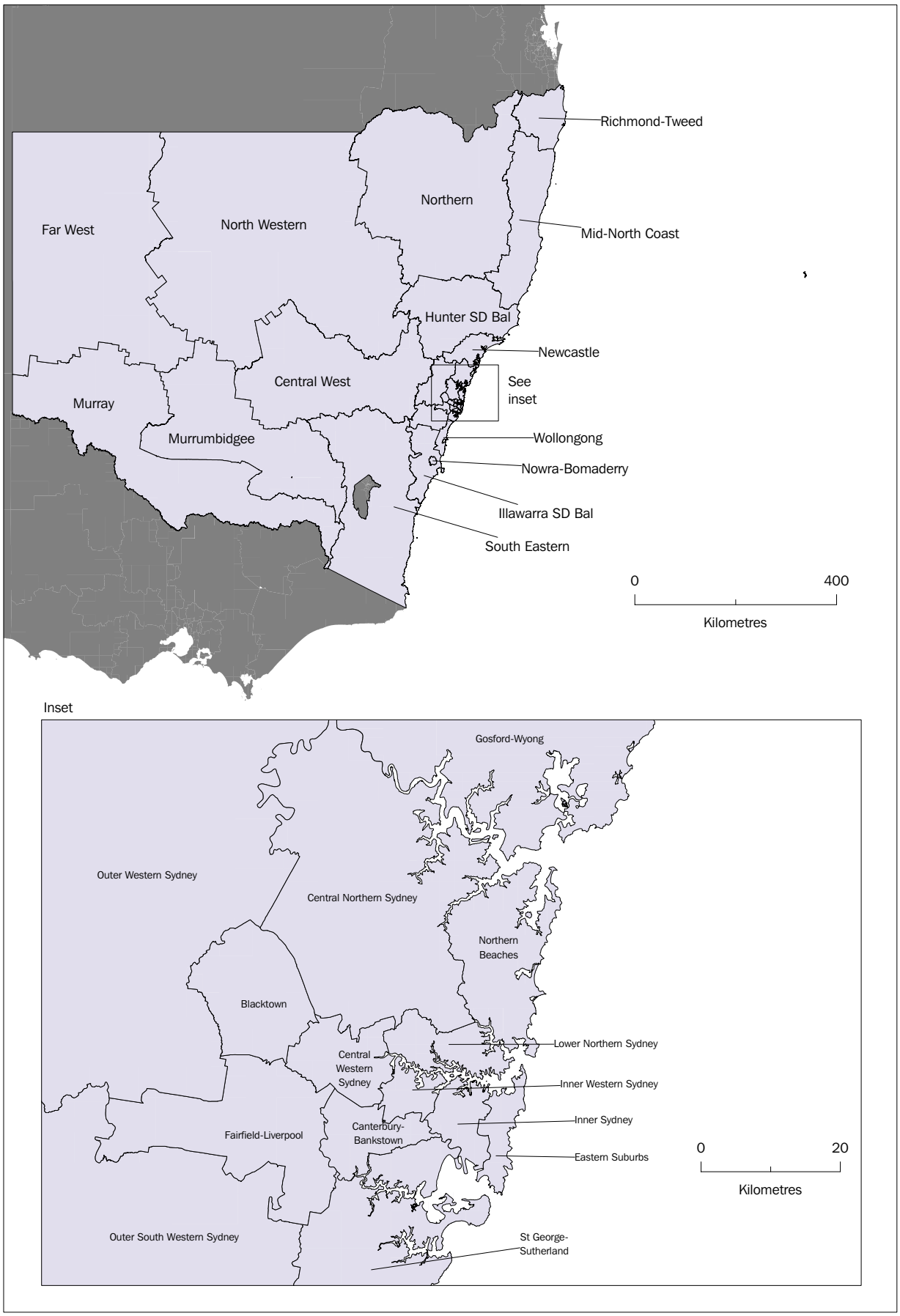
(a) As at 30 June 2001.

TABLE A1.3 ADDITIONAL DETAIL FOR SELECTED REGIONS *continued*

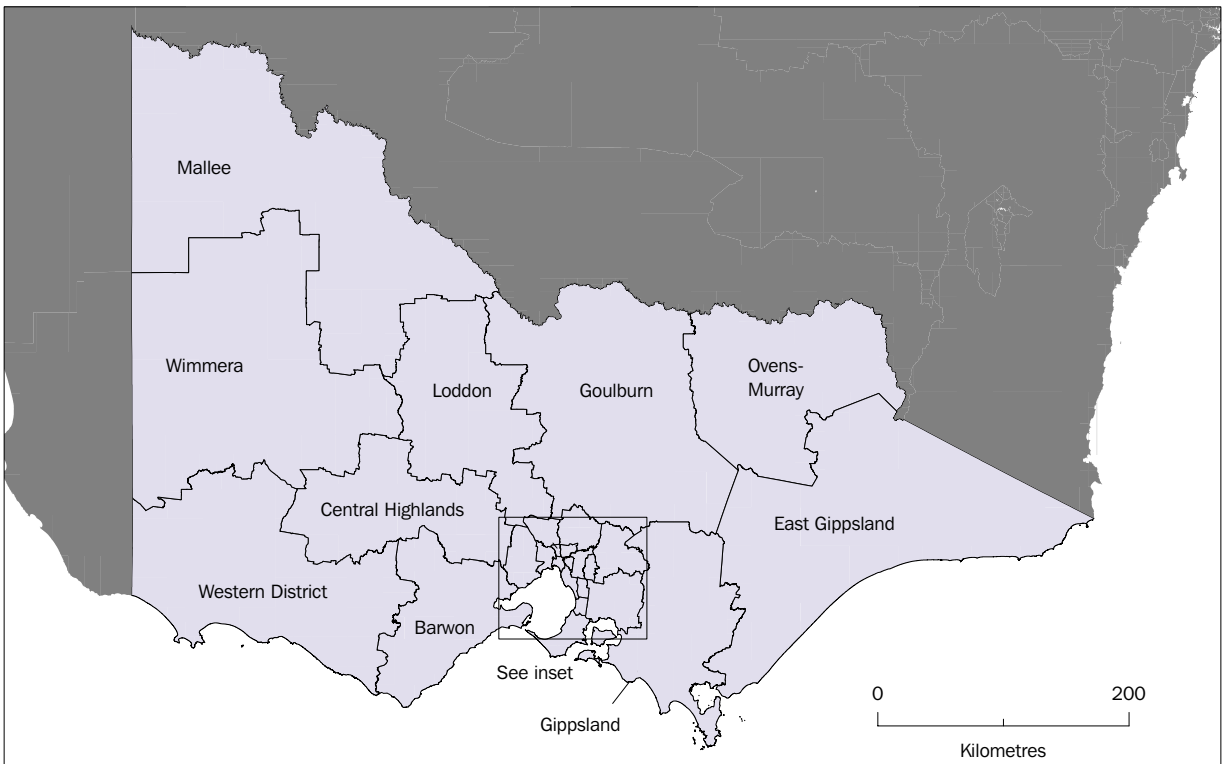
Number	Region	ASGC unit	Estimated resident population(a)
	QUEENSLAND		
	Wide Bay-Burnett	SD	
	Bundaberg	S Dist	56.8
	Hervey Bay	S Dist	39.6
	Balance of Wide Bay-Burnett		140.1
76	Darling Downs	SD	210.3
	Toowoomba	S Dist	109.4
	Balance of Darling Downs		100.9
78	Fitzroy	SD	181.7
	Rockhampton	S Dist	63.6
	Gladstone	S Dist	39.1
	Balance of Fitzroy		79.0
80	Northern	SD	190.3
	Townsville	S Dist	134.1
	Balance of Northern		101.8
81	Far North	SD	222.5
	Cairns	S Dist	112.9
	Balance of Far North		109.6
	WESTERN AUSTRALIA		
98	South West	SD	194.1
	Mandurah	S Dist	59.8
	Bunbury	S Dist	50.0
	Balance of South West		84.4
101	South Eastern	SD	55.1
	Kalgoorlie/Boulder	S Dist	29.4
	Balance of South Eastern		25.7
103	Central	SD	60.8
	Geraldton	S Dist	31.4
	Balance of Central		29.4
	TASMANIA		
108	Northern	SD	133.1
	Launceston	S Dist	98.5
	Balance of Northern		34.6
109	Mersey-Lyell	SD	106.8
	Burnie-Devonport	S Dist	77.5
	Balance of Mersey-Lyell		29.3

(a) As at 30 June 2001.

NEW SOUTH WALES

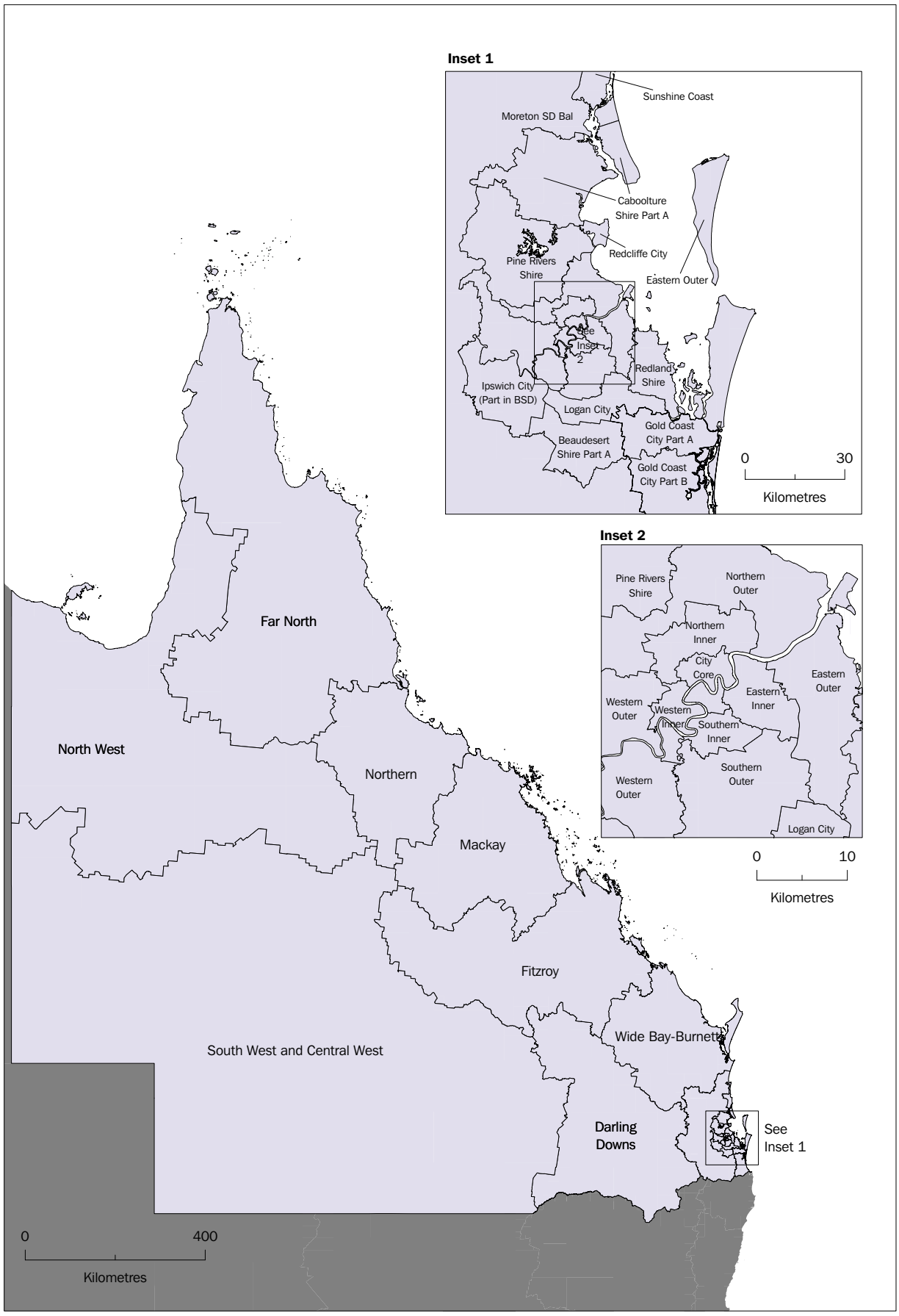


VICTORIA

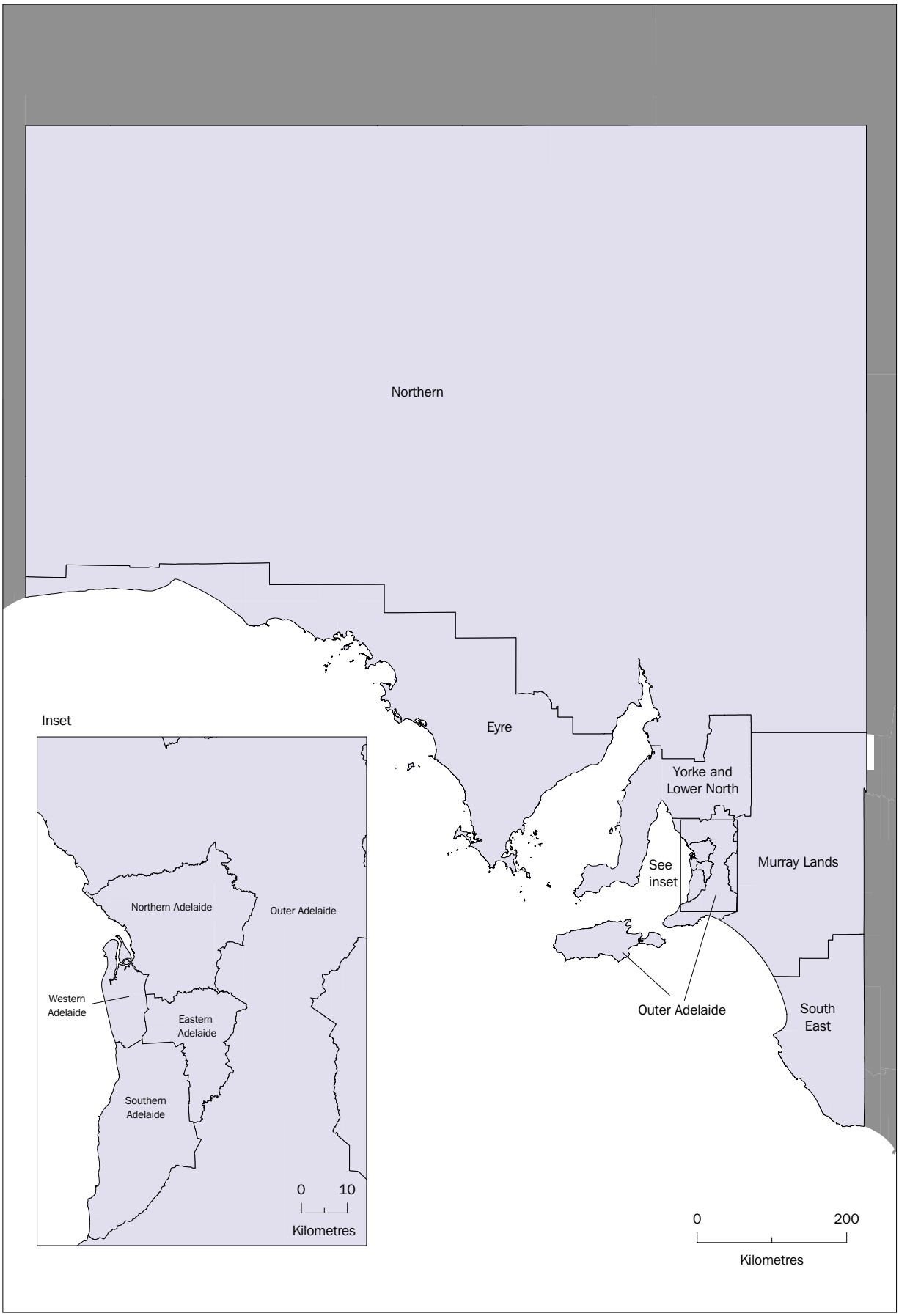


Inset

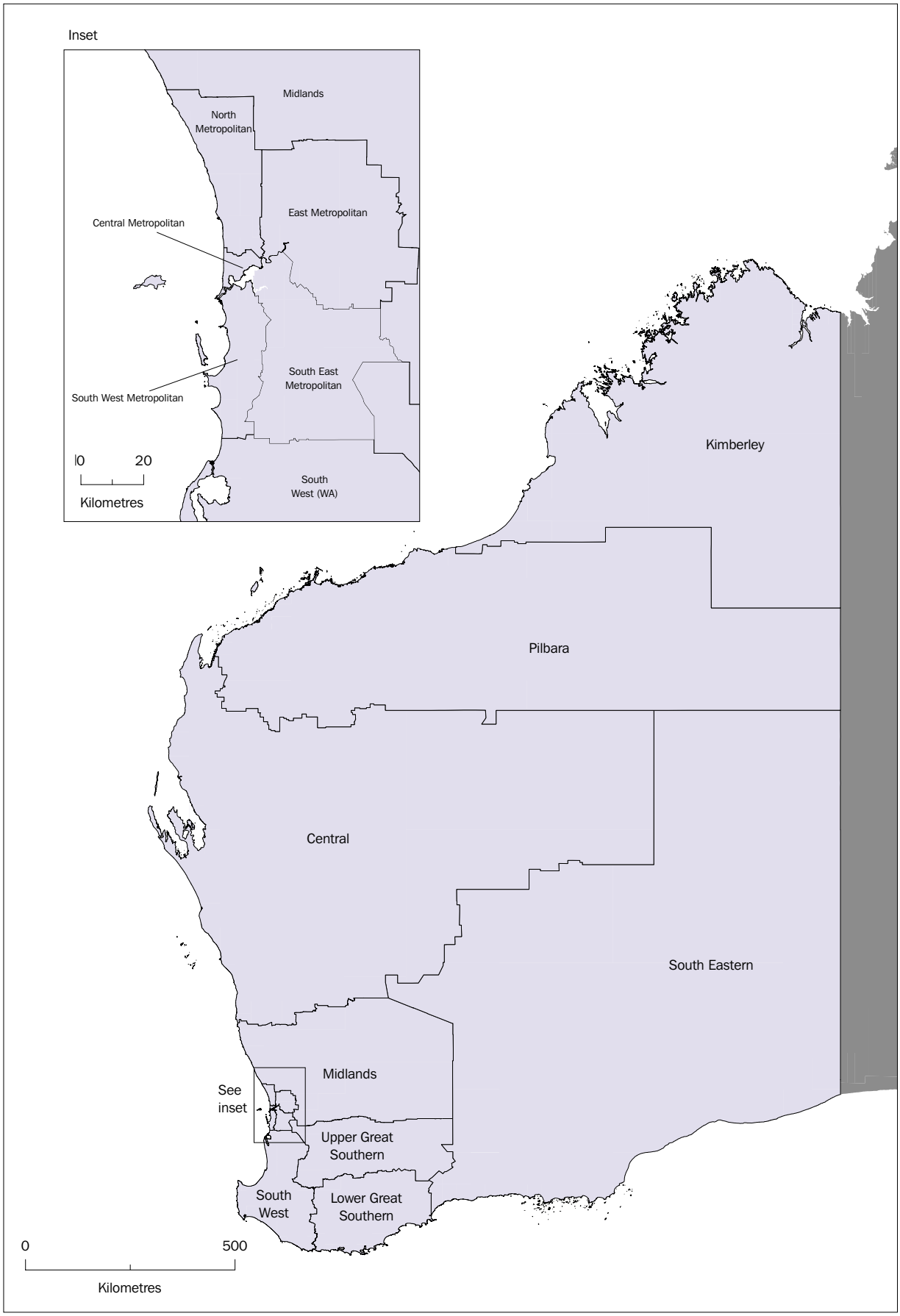
QUEENSLAND


Inset 1
Sunshine Coast
Moreton SD Bal
Caboolture Shire Part A
Redcliffe City
Pine Rivers Shire
Eastern Outer
See Inset 2
Redland Shire
Ipswich City (Part in BSD)
Logan City
Gold Coast City Part A
Beaudesert Shire Part A
Gold Coast City Part B
0 30
Kilometres
Inset 2
Pine Rivers Shire
Northern Outer
Northern Inner
City Core
Eastern Outer
Eastern Inner
Western Outer
Western Inner
Southern Inner
Southern Outer
Western Outer
Logan City
0 10
Kilometres
Far North
North West
Northern
Mackay
Fitzroy
Wide Bay-Burnett
South West and Central West
Darling Downs
See Inset 1
0 400
Kilometres

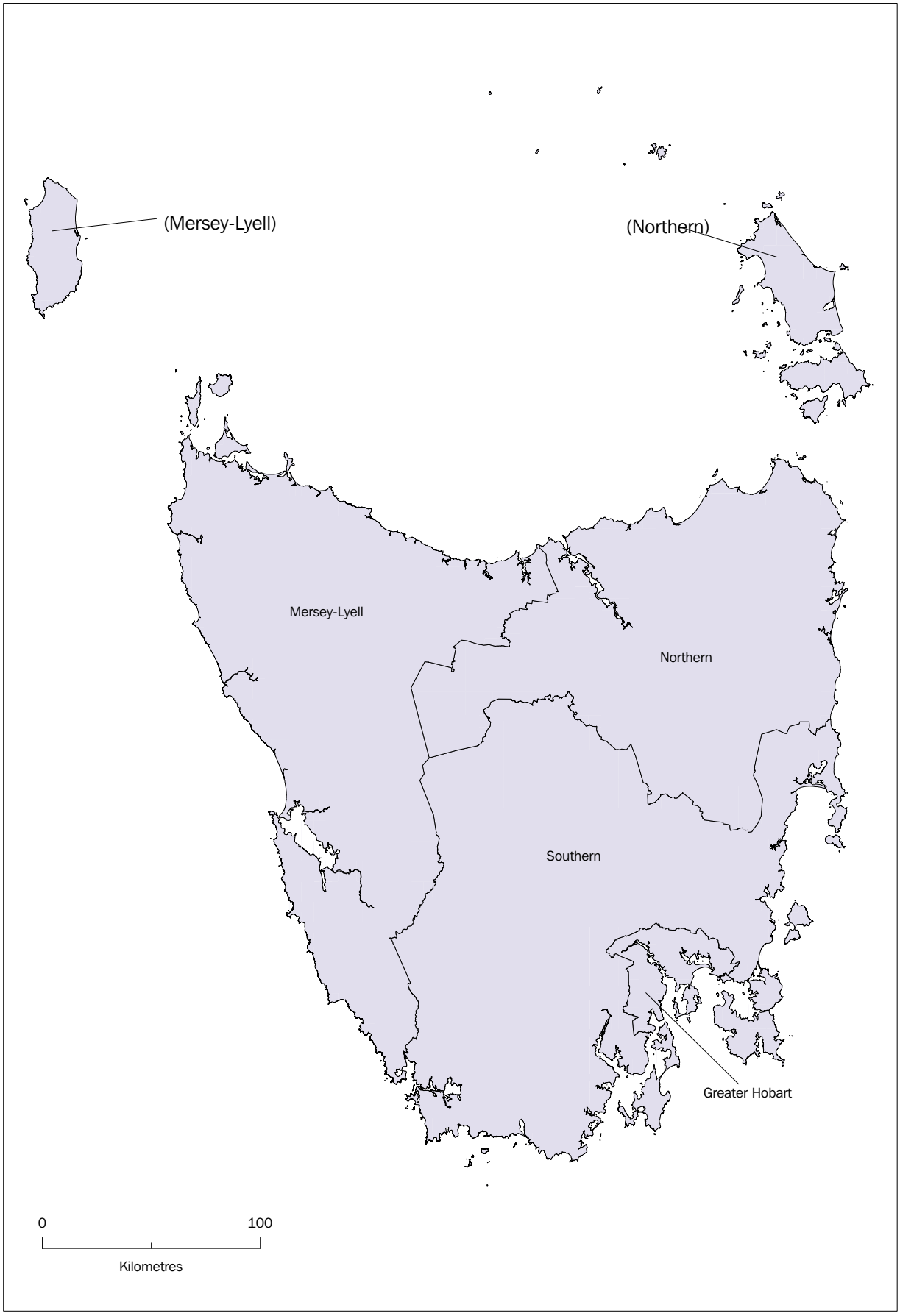
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



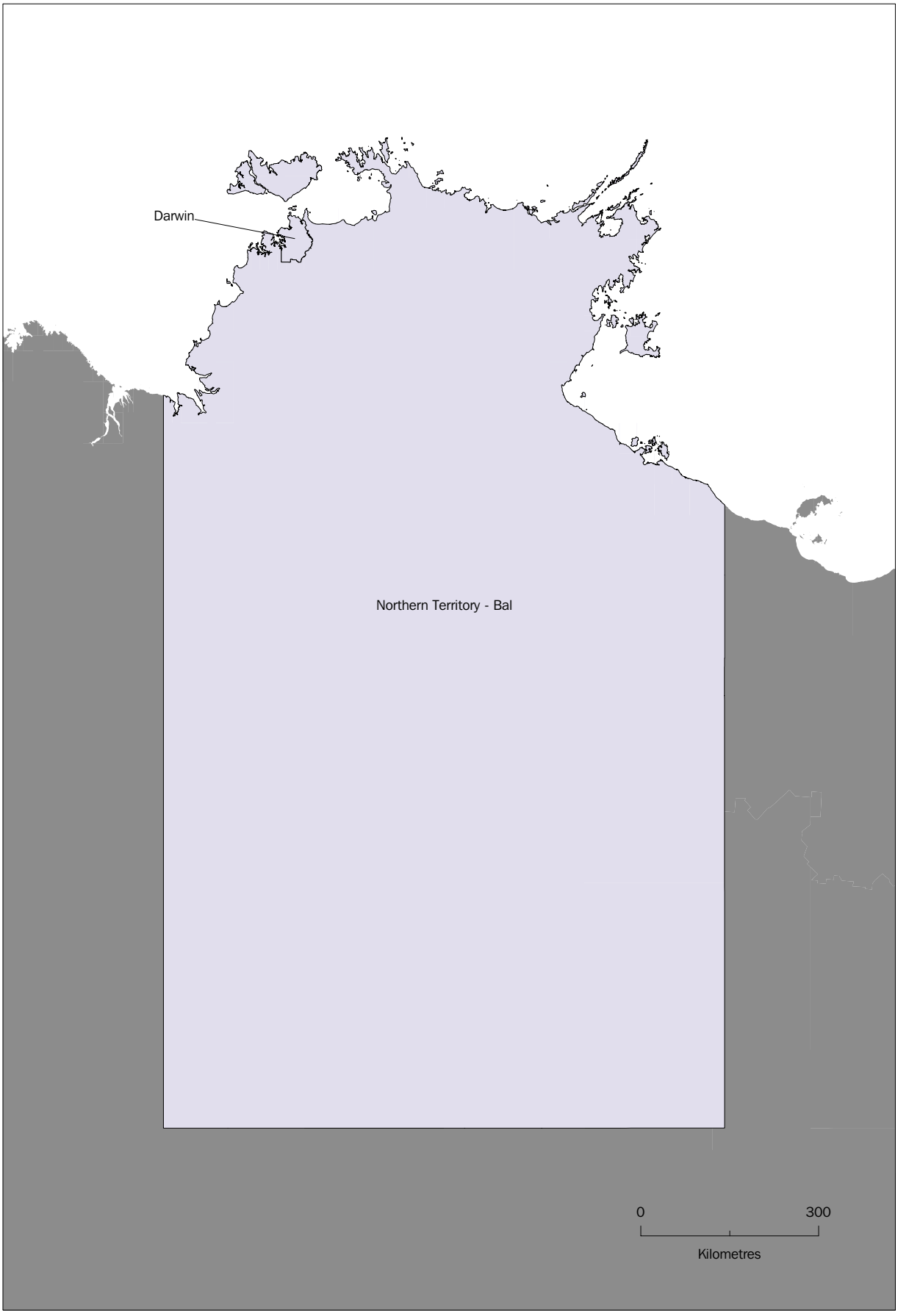
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



TASMANIA


(Mersey-Lyell)
(Northern)
Mersey-Lyell
Northern
Southern
Greater Hobart
0
100
Kilometres

NORTHERN TERRITORY



AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

APPENDIX 2 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

INTRODUCTION

Following the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, four indexes were derived to measure different aspects of socio-economic conditions by geographic areas. This publication presents one of these, the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage, which ranks Collection Districts (CDs) in terms of both advantage and disadvantage. The index aims to capture a range of characteristics pertaining to socio-economic advantage and disadvantage, and the full list of variables included in the index is given in this Appendix. A higher score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage indicates that an area has attributes such as a relatively high proportion of people with high incomes or a skilled workforce, and a relatively low proportion of people with characteristics such as low incomes and relatively few unskilled people in the workforce. Conversely, a low score on the index indicates that an area has a higher proportion of individuals with low incomes, more employees in unskilled occupations, and so on; and a low proportion of people with high incomes or in skilled occupations, and so on. It should be borne in mind that the index does not capture all characteristics associated with socio-economic advantage and disadvantage; only those included in the census. Some key aspects of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage, such as health and accumulated wealth, are therefore not included.

In Chapter 6, Income and living standards, the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage is used to make comparisons between the 118 regions discussed throughout this report. Further information on the index, on how it is calculated and how to interpret index scores, is given in the Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 36–43. The purpose of this appendix is to provide further background to the index, and information on making regional comparisons at different geographical levels. Much of this material has been taken from *Information Paper: 2001 Census of Population and Housing — Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas* (cat. no. 2039.0).

At the end of this Appendix, table A2.6 presents data from the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage for all 118 regions discussed in this report. Not only are index scores presented in this table, but also deciles, both for the 118 regions and for Mainly urban and Mixed urban/rural regions. Deciles divide the distribution of the index values into ten equal sized groups, from the first decile representing the 10% of regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, through to the tenth decile representing the 10% of regions with the greatest relative advantage. In table A2.6 deciles have been provided for all 118 regions to assist in making broad comparisons. Deciles have also been provided for Mainly urban regions and Mixed regions to aid broad comparisons within each of these two groups.

BUILDING THE INDEX ACROSS GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

As outlined in the Explanatory Notes, paragraph 38, the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage was calculated at the CD level, and reflects CD characteristics. The degree of heterogeneity within a CD influences its index score; the more homogeneous CDs tend towards the extreme index scores. This relationship is explored further in the *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia - Technical Paper* (cat. no. 2039.0.55.001).

Partly because of this, the interpretation of the index values tends to be more straightforward for areas which have extreme values (i.e. very high or very low index values). For example, it is usually easy to see why a CD which is in the top (or bottom) 5% of index values has that status. In contrast, areas with mid-range index values tend to contain a broader mix of socio-economic characteristics.

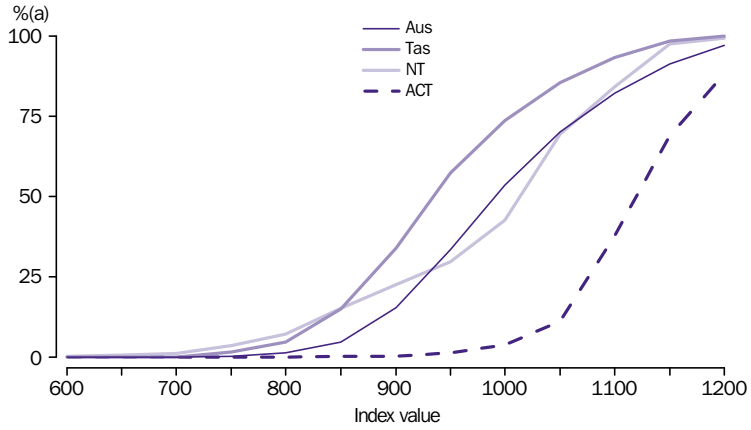
Indexes for higher geographies such as Statistical Subdivisions (see Explanatory Notes 24–28) are derived as a population weighted average of the CD level index scores. In this process, the extreme CD values are averaged out, so the indexes for larger areas are more stable than the CD level indexes. However, aggregating can disguise disadvantage in a larger area if the more populous parts of the area are less disadvantaged than other parts.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INDEX VALUES

The index reflects the socio-economic wellbeing of an area, rather than that of individuals. Because all people within a CD are not identical, the index score for a CD does not directly apply to individuals within that CD. It is possible for a relatively advantaged person to be resident in a CD which has a low score on some or all of the indexes. Thus it is not appropriate to base inferences about a particular individual on the index score of his or her CD.

Even so, it is possible to show the proportion of the population living in CDs with different index scores within each state/territory. While the distributions are generally similar between states and territories, some noticeable differences are observed for the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania. Graph A2.1 compares the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage values for the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania and Australia as a whole. Interesting points to note are that the Northern Territory has a greater proportion of CDs with lower SEIFA values, but after a value of about 930, the distribution broadly follows the Australian distribution. This is similar to the 1996 distribution; see *Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, Australia, 1996* (cat. no. 2039.0). In 2001, Tasmania is more disadvantaged than Australia as a whole at all points. It is the most disadvantaged state for three of the four indexes. The Australian Capital Territory has a higher proportion of CDs with high SEIFA values.

A2.1 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE



(a) Cumulative percentage of people living in CDs below the index value.

Another way to interpret this graph is to consider the 50% quantile or median point. This is the cutoff point below which 50% of index values lie. For CDs in Australia the 50% quantile for the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage is 990, for CDs in Tasmania it is lower at 935, for CDs in the Northern Territory it is slightly higher at 1,010, and for CDs in Australian Capital Territory it is higher at 1,117.

The indexes are 'ordinal measures' and not 'interval measures'. That is, the indexes can be used to order areas in terms of advantage/disadvantage; but any other arithmetic relationships between index values may not be meaningful. For example, a CD with an index value of 1,200 does not have twice the wellbeing of a CD with an index value of 600. Similarly, the socio-economic difference between two CDs with index values of 800 and 900, is not necessarily the same as the difference between two CDs with index values of 1,050 and 1,150. A technical explanation of this is given in the *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia - Technical Paper* (cat. no. 2039.0.55.001).

AVERAGE AND QUANTILE INDEX VALUES ACROSS GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

Table A2.2 gives the average values for the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage, and a range of upper quantile points for the geographic areas of CDs, SLAs and SSDs in each state/territory and in Australia. 'Quantile' denotes a point in the distribution of index values below which a specified percentage of index values fall. In terms of deciles, mentioned earlier in this appendix, the 10% and 90% quantiles are the cut-off points for the first and tenth deciles. As an illustration, table A2.2 shows that 10% of CDs across Australia have an index score at or below 880, with these CDs being in the first decile. Quantiles which divide the distribution of index values into four equal sized groups are commonly referred to as quartiles (the 25%, 50% and 75% quartiles), with the 50% quartile also known as the median.

The distribution of index values in table A2.2 refers to different types of geographic areas. Index scores of SLAs and SSDs are formed by taking the population weighted average of index values of the CDs in the area. Their values depend on the distribution of population weights across the CDs.

Note that only the CD level indexes are rescaled to a mean of 1,000 and standard deviation of 100. The population weighted indexes are not rescaled.

A2.2 SUMMARY AREA DATA FOR INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

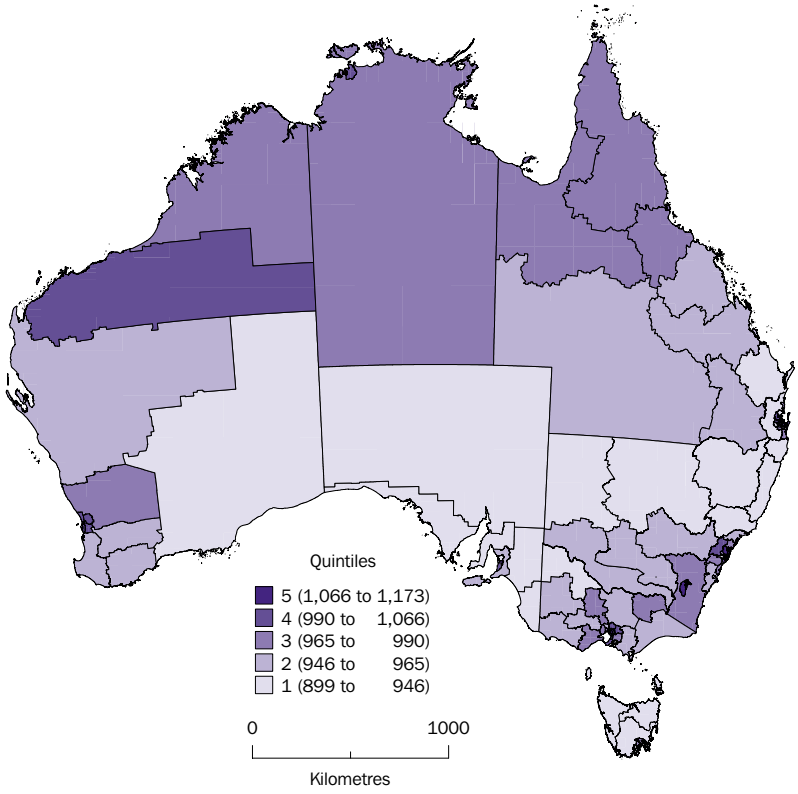
		Quantile				
	Average	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
	CD LEVEL INDEXES					
New South Wales	1 011	882	932	999	1 085	1 165
Victoria	1 011	889	942	1 003	1 080	1 147
Queensland	980	878	919	971	1 035	1 104
South Australia	973	859	907	966	1 036	1 108
Western Australia	1 001	886	936	994	1 067	1 127
Tasmania	943	831	881	935	1 007	1 073
Northern Territory	987	812	914	1 010	1 074	1 114
Australian Capital Territory	1 120	1 047	1 082	1 117	1 167	1 208
Australia	**1 000**	**880**	**928**	**990**	**1 068**	**1 141**
	SLA LEVEL INDEXES					
New South Wales	979	909	924	948	1 009	1 108
Victoria	989	920	941	967	1 023	1 089
Queensland	994	903	929	983	1 045	1 116
South Australia	960	887	916	942	994	1 068
Western Australia	970	918	936	951	984	1 053
Tasmania	928	877	892	911	944	986
Northern Territory	1 014	894	957	1 023	1 072	1 114
Australian Capital Territory	1 121	1 066	1 088	1 115	1 154	1 196
Australia	**994**	**906**	**930**	**969**	**1 053**	**1 120**
	SSD LEVEL INDEXES					
New South Wales	980	919	936	957	989	1 090
Victoria	980	934	944	963	995	1 038
Queensland	960	914	932	949	978	1 000
South Australia	945	898	915	933	943	997
Western Australia	973	932	942	949	998	1 027
Tasmania	920	884	899	908	916	985
Northern Territory	968	851	928	959	982	1 022
Australian Capital Territory	1124	1 055	1 099	1 130	1 139	1 171
Australia	**975**	**915**	**937**	**957**	**995**	**1066**

QUINTILE INDEX VALUES ACROSS AUSTRALIA

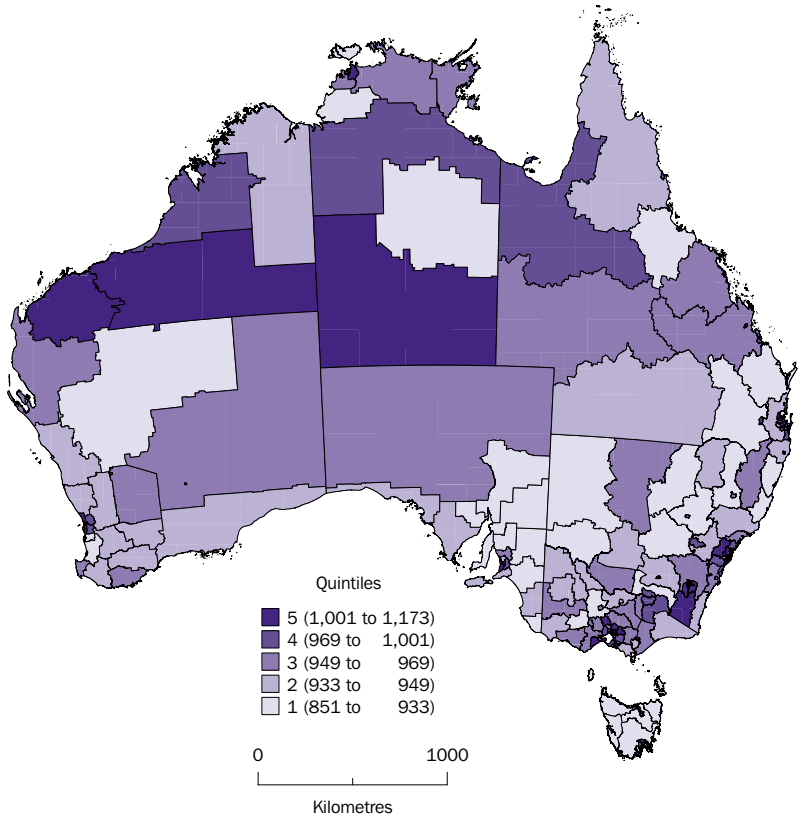
The three maps presented below shed light on some of the differences that can be observed when examining SEIFA at different geographical levels. Map A2.3 gives quintiles for the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage for the 118 regions of Australia used throughout this publication (see Appendix 1 for the full list of these regions). Under this regional structure, non-metropolitan areas of Australia are Statistical Divisions (SDs), which are geographically larger and which may have more heterogeneous population characteristics than the other, smaller geographical units used.

As an illustration, the Balance of the Northern Territory (SD) as a whole is relatively advantaged compared to many other regions, with a score on the index that falls into the third quintile (see map A2.3). However, disaggregating this SD into Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) reveals some of its heterogeneity, as shown in Map A2.4. In 2001, Central NT, which is the southern-most SSD in the Northern Territory, fell into the fifth (top) quintile of Statistical Subdivisions, while in contrast, Barkly, the SSD to its north east, fell into the first (bottom) quintile.

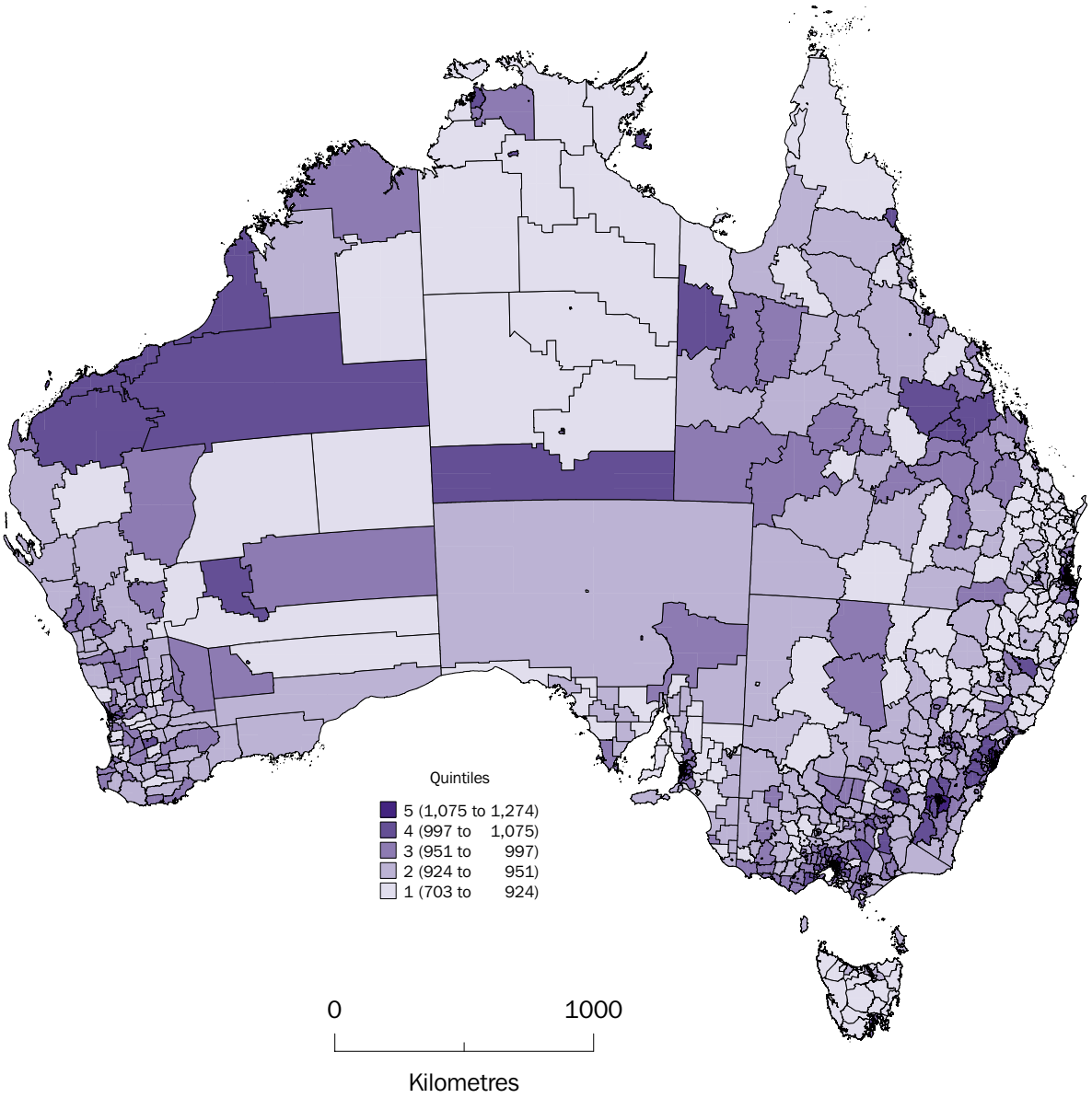
A2.3 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, 118 Regions, Australia



A2.4 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Subdivisions, Australia



A2.5 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE, Statistical Local Areas, Australia



Further disaggregation into SLAs, as illustrated in map A2.5, shows that in particular, the SLAs comprising Alice Springs, and Petermann, the southern-most SLA in the Northern Territory, were relatively advantaged, with scores in the third, fourth and fifth quintiles, while surrounding SLAs lay in the first quintile (i.e. the 20% of the most disadvantaged SLAs in Australia). Greater relative advantage in Alice Springs and Petermann is associated with the importance of tourism, with many people employed in hotels, resorts and restaurants.

It may also be associated with the fact that the Indexes are calculated on a place of enumeration rather than a place of usual residence basis (see Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 9–12). Therefore the characteristics of visitors from other parts of Australia are included in the SEIFA indexes for these SLAs. This needs to be taken into account when using the index to compare socio-economic conditions across regions.

VARIABLES UNDERLYING THE INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE

Variables included in the index

Below is the full list of variables included in the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage. The weight of each variable is given in brackets to two decimal places, to indicate the magnitude of the contribution each variable makes to the index.

- % Persons aged 15 years and over with degree or higher (0.24)
- % Couple families with dependent child(ren) only with annual income greater than $77,999 (0.24)
- % Couple families with no children with annual income greater than $77,999 (0.23)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Professionals' (0.23)
- % Persons aged 15 years or over having an advanced diploma or diploma qualification (0.21)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Professionals' (0.21)
- % Single person households with annual income greater than $36,399 (0.20)
- % Persons using Internet at home (0.19)
- % Couple families with dependents and non-dependents or with non-dependents only with annual income greater than $103,999 (0.18)
- % Single parent families with dependent child(ren) only with annual income greater than $36,399 (0.17)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over at university or other tertiary institution (0.15)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Associate Professionals' (0.14)
- % Single parent families with dependents and non-dependents or with non-dependents only with annual income greater than $62,399 (0.13)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Advanced Clerical & Service Workers' (0.10)
- % Dwellings with four or more bedrooms (0.08)
- % Single parent families with dependents and non-dependents or with non-dependents only with annual income less than $26,000 (–0.10)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Elementary Clerical, Sales & Service Workers' (–0.10)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Tradespersons' (–0.13)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Intermediate Production & Transport Workers' (–0.13)
- % One parent families with dependent offspring only (–0.13)
- % Couple families with dependents and non-dependents or with non-dependents only with annual income less than $52,000 (0.15)
- % Females (in labour force) unemployed (–0.16)
- % Males (in labour force) unemployed (–0.16)
- % Single person households with annual income less than $15,600 (–0.18)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Intermediate Production and Transport Workers' (–0.19)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Labourers & Related Workers' (–0.19)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Labourers & Related Workers' (–0.19)

VARIABLES UNDERLYING THE INDEX OF ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

- % Couple families with dependent child(ren) only with annual income less than $36,400 (–0.20)
- % Couple only families with annual income less than $20,800 (–0.20)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over with highest level of schooling completed being Year 11 or below (–0.24)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over with no qualifications (–0.25)

Variables dropped from the index

The list below presents those initial variables which were excluded from the Index as a result of the analysis.

- % Employed Males classified as 'Advanced Clerical & Service Workers' (0.08)
- % Households who are group households (0.07)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Intermediate Clerical, Sales & Service Workers' (0.06)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Managers or Administrators' (0.06)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Associate Professionals' (0.06)
- Average number of bedrooms per person (0.05)
- % Households purchasing dwelling (0.04)
- % Dwellings with three or more motor vehicles (0.03)
- % Households owning dwelling (0.03)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Managers or Administrators' (0.03)
- % Dwellings with one or no bedrooms (0.00)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over who are still at school (–0.00)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over at TAFE (–0.02)
- % Employed Males classified as 'Elementary Clerical, Sales & Service Workers' (–0.02)
- % Persons living in Caravan park (–0.03)
- % Households living in improvised dwellings (–0.03)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over with certificate qualification (–0.04)
- % Lacking fluency in English (–0.05)
- % Occupied private dwellings with two or more families (–0.05)
- % Rental dwellings (–0.05)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Intermediate Clerical, Sales & Service Workers' (–0.06)
- % Dwellings with no motor vehicles at dwelling (–0.06)
- % Employed Females classified as 'Tradespersons' (–0.07)
- % Single parent families with dependent child(ren) only with annual income less than $15,600 (–0.08)
- % Persons aged 15 years and over who did not go to school (–0.08)

A2.6 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

Number	Region	SEIFA score(a)	Decile(b)	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural	Mainly urban decile(c)	Mixed urban/rural decile(d)
	NEW SOUTH WALES					
	Sydney (SD)					
1	Inner Sydney (SSD)	1 100	9	Mainly urban	8	. .
2	Eastern Suburbs (SSD)	1 145	10	Mainly urban	9	. .
3	St George-Sutherland (SSD)	1 066	8	Mainly urban	7	. .
4	Canterbury-Bankstown (SSD)	969	5	Mainly urban	2	. .
5	Fairfield-Liverpool (SSD)	944	2	Mainly urban	1	. .
6	Outer South Western Sydney (SSD)	989	6	Mainly urban	4	. .
7	Inner Western Sydney (SSD)	1 090	9	Mainly urban	8	. .
8	Central Western Sydney (SSD)	1 004	7	Mainly urban	5	. .
9	Outer Western Sydney (SSD)	1 019	7	Mainly urban	6	. .
10	Blacktown (SSD)	978	5	Mainly urban	3	. .
11	Lower Northern Sydney (SSD)	1 168	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
12	Central Northern Sydney (SSD)	1 161	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
13	Northern Beaches (SSD)	1 122	9	Mainly urban	9	. .
14	Gosford-Wyong (SSD)	977	5	Mainly urban	3	. .
	Hunter (SD)					
15	Newcastle (SSD)	965	4	Mainly urban	2	. .
16	Hunter SD Bal (SSD)	943	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	4
	Illawarra (SD)					
17	Wollongong (SSD)	985	6	Mainly urban	3	. .
18	Nowra-Bomaderry (SSD)	955	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	6
19	Illawarra SD Bal (SSD)	965	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	8
20	Richmond-Tweed (SD)	939	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	3
21	Mid-North Coast (SD)	923	1	Mixed urban/rural	. .	2
22	Northern (SD)	946	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	4
23	North Western (SD)	940	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	3
24	Central West (SD)	954	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	6
25	South Eastern (SD)	979	6	Mixed urban/rural	. .	9
26	Murrumbidgee (SD)	956	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	7
27	Murray (SD)	959	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	7
28	Far West (SD)	909	1	Mixed urban/rural	. .	1

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(b) The first decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative advantage.

(c) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

(d) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

A2.6 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

Number	*Region*	*SEIFA score(a)*	*Decile(b)*	*Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural*	*Mainly urban decile(c)*	*Mixed urban/rural decile(d)*
	VICTORIA					
	Melbourne (SD)					
29	Inner Melbourne (SSD)	1 135	10	Mainly urban	9	. .
30	Western Melbourne SSD)	979	6	Mainly urban	3	. .
31	Melton-Wyndham (SSD)	990	6	Mainly urban	4	. .
32	Moreland City (SSD)	995	7	Mainly urban	4	. .
33	Northern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	1 025	8	Mainly urban	6	. .
34	Hume City (SSD)	953	3	Mainly urban	2	. .
35	Northern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	1 001	7	Mainly urban	5	. .
36	Boroondara City (SSD)	1 173	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
37	Eastern Middle Melbourne (SSD)	1 083	9	Mainly urban	7	. .
38	Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	1 038	8	Mainly urban	7	. .
39	Yarra Ranges Shire Part A (SSD)	1 010	7	Mainly urban	5	. .
40	Southern Melbourne (SSD)	1 091	9	Mainly urban	8	. .
41	Greater Dandenong City (SSD)	908	1	Mainly urban	1	. .
42	South Eastern Outer Melbourne (SSD)	980	6	Mainly urban	3	. .
43	Frankston City (SSD)	979	6	Mainly urban	3	. .
44	Mornington Peninsula Shire (SSD)	998	7	Mainly urban	4	. .
45	Barwon (SD)	975	5	Mainly urban	2	. .
46	Western District (SD)	956	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	7
47	Central Highlands (SD)	964	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	8
48	Wimmera (SD)	950	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	6
49	Mallee (SD)	937	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	3
50	Loddon (SD)	966	4	Mixed urban/rural	. .	8
51	Goulburn (SD)	950	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	6
52	Ovens-Murray (SD)	972	5	Mixed urban/rural	. .	9
53	East Gippsland (SD)	946	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	4
54	Gippsland (SD)	948	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	5

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(b) The first decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative advantage.

(c) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

(d) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

A2.6 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

Number	Region	SEIFA score(a)	Decile(b)	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural	Mainly urban decile(c)	Mixed urban/rural decile(d)
	QUEENSLAND					
	Brisbane SD (MSR)					
55	Brisbane City Core (SRS)	1 106	9	Mainly urban	8	..
56	Northern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	1 085	9	Mainly urban	7	..
57	Eastern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	1 081	9	Mainly urban	7	..
58	Southern Inner Brisbane (SRS)	1 065	8	Mainly urban	7	..
59	Western Inner Brisbane (SRS)	1 148	10	Mainly urban	10	..
60	Northern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	1 027	8	Mainly urban	6	..
61	Eastern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	1 004	7	Mainly urban	5	..
62	Southern Outer Brisbane (SRS)	1 031	8	Mainly urban	6	..
63	Western Outer Brisbane (SRS)	1 059	8	Mainly urban	7	..
64	Gold Coast City Part A (SSD)	928	1	Mainly urban	1	..
65	Beaudesert Shire Part A (SSD)	974	5	Mixed urban/rural	..	9
66	Caboolture Shire Part A (SSD)	926	1	Mainly urban	1	..
67	Ipswich City (Part in BSD) (SSD)	944	2	Mainly urban	1	..
68	Logan City (SSD)	941	2	Mainly urban	1	..
69	Pine Rivers Shire (SSD)	1 026	8	Mainly urban	6	..
70	Redcliffe City (SSD)	938	2	Mainly urban	1	..
71	Redland Shire (SSD)	1 000	7	Mainly urban	5	..
	Moreton SD					
72	Gold Coast City Part B (SSD)	988	6	Mainly urban	4	..
73	Sunshine Coast (SSD)	966	4	Mainly urban	2	..
74	Moreton SD Bal (SSD)	937	2	Mixed urban/rural	..	3
75	Wide Bay-Burnett (SD)	904	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	1
76	Darling Downs (SD)	952	3	Mixed urban/rural	..	6
77	South West and Central West	951	3	Mixed urban/rural	..	6
78	Fitzroy (SD)	961	4	Mixed urban/rural	..	7
79	Mackay (SD)	956	4	Mixed urban/rural	..	7
80	Northern (SD)	977	5	Mainly urban	3	..
81	Far North (SD)	968	5	Mixed urban/rural	..	8
82	North West (SD)	978	5	Mixed urban/rural	..	9
	SOUTH AUSTRALIA					
	Adelaide (SD)					
83	Northern Adelaide (SSD)	937	2	Mainly urban	1	..
84	Western Adelaide (SSD)	959	4	Mainly urban	2	..
85	Eastern Adelaide (SSD)	1 089	9	Mainly urban	8	..
86	Southern Adelaide (SSD)	1 003	7	Mainly urban	5	..
87	Outer Adelaide (SD)	964	4	Mixed urban/rural	..	8
88	Yorke and Lower North (SD)	913	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	1
89	Murray Lands (SD)	904	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	1
90	South East (SD)	934	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	2
91	Eyre (SD)	935	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	2
92	Northern (SD)	922	1	Mixed urban/rural	..	2

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(b) The first decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative advantage.

(c) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

(d) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

A2.6 INDEX OF RELATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE *continued*

Number	Region	SEIFA score(a)	Decile(b)	Whether Mainly urban or Mixed urban/rural	Mainly urban decile(c)	Mixed urban/rural decile(d)
	WESTERN AUSTRALIA					
	Perth (SD)					
93	Central Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	1 147	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
94	East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	998	7	Mainly urban	4	. .
95	North Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	1 027	8	Mainly urban	6	. .
96	South West Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	1 015	7	Mainly urban	6	. .
97	South East Metropolitan Perth (SSD)	1 000	7	Mainly urban	5	. .
98	South West (SD)	948	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	5
99	Lower Great Southern (SD)	948	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	5
100	Upper Great Southern (SD)	948	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	5
101	South Eastern (SD)	943	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	4
102	Midlands (SD)	986	6	Mixed urban/rural	. .	10
103	Central (SD)	947	3	Mixed urban/rural	. .	5
104	Pilbara (SD)	1 040	8	Mixed urban/rural	. .	10
105	Kimberley (SD)	973	5	Mixed urban/rural	. .	9
	TASMANIA					
106	Greater Hobart (SD)	985	6	Mainly urban	3	. .
107	Southern (SD)	899	1	Mixed urban/rural	. .	1
108	Northern (SD)	938	2	Mixed urban/rural	. .	3
109	Mersey-Lyell (SD)	907	1	Mixed urban/rural	. .	1
	NORTHERN TERRITORY					
110	Darwin (SD)	1 045	8	Mixed urban/rural	. .	10
111	Northern Territory - Bal (SD)	985	6	Mixed urban/rural	. .	10
	AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY					
	Canberra (SD)					
112	North Canberra (SSD)	1 130	10	Mainly urban	9	. .
113	Belconnen (SSD)	1 107	9	Mainly urban	8	. .
114	Woden Valley (SSD)	1 155	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
115	Weston Creek-Stromlo and ACT - Bal	1 138	10	Mainly urban	9	. .
116	Tuggeranong (SSD)	1 099	9	Mainly urban	8	. .
117	South Canberra (SSD)	1 171	10	Mainly urban	10	. .
118	Gungahlin-Hall (SSD)	1 138	10	Mainly urban	9	. .

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.

(b) The first decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all 118 regions with the greatest relative advantage.

(c) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mainly urban regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

(d) The first decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage, while the tenth decile represents the 10% of all Mixed urban/rural regions with the greatest relative disadvantage.

APPENDIX 3 CENSUS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

2001 PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

A wide range of products and services are available from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Brief descriptions of these are included below. For more detailed information on the 2001 census range of products and services, please refer to the *2001 Directory of Census Statistics* (cat. no. 2910.0).

Census products fall into two broad types: reference products and data products. Most of the reference products from the 2001 census are available free of charge from the ABS web site.

CENSUS REFERENCE

2001 Census Dictionary

The *2001 Census Dictionary* (cat. no. 2901.0) is a comprehensive reference guide to the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. The Dictionary includes a complete listing of 2001 census classifications. It describes new topics introduced for 2001 and highlights classification changes that have occurred since the 1996 census. The Dictionary also explains the concepts relevant to census collection, processing and output of data.

How Australia Takes a Census

How Australia Takes a Census (cat. no. 2903.0) provides information about the history of the census, the planning process and the way in which the census is conducted.

Geographic Classifications and Codes

Statistical Geography: Volume 1 — Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) 2001 Census Edition (cat. no. 1216.0) provides information about the names and codes of the standard geographic areas used in the 2001 census. *Statistical Geography: Volume 2 — Census Geographic Areas, Australia 2001 Census Edition* (cat. no. 2905.0) and *Statistical Geography: Volume 3—Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) Urban Centres/Localities: 2001 Census Edition* (cat. no. 2909.0) provide information on additional geographic areas.

2001 Census Statistical Local Area Maps

These reference maps show the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) from the 2001 census. Each map shows the boundary of an SLA and the Collection District boundaries contained within.

Digital Boundaries

Census boundaries are made available electronically as *Digital Boundaries*. They include all of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), Urban Centres and Localities, and census-specific areas.

CENSUS DATA PRODUCTS

Census Snapshots

Census Snapshots are a new product designed to provide a summary overview for selected geographic areas and are available from the ABS web site, free of charge. *Census Snapshots* contain subsets of Community Profile data, including person counts, age and birthplace, presented in a narrative form for easy access by a wide audience. A 1901 *Census Snapshot* for Australia is also available to celebrate the Centenary of Federation.

Estimated Resident Population

The Estimated Resident Population (ERP) is the official ABS population estimate. It is based on census usual residence counts, and is updated quarterly using births, deaths and migration data.

Two publications containing ERP data, based on 2001 census figures are:

- *Australian Demographic Statistics — 2001 Census Edition*, cat. no. 3101.0
- *Regional Population Growth, Australia — 2001 Census Edition*, cat. no. 3218.0.

Selected Characteristics

The Census of Population and Housing suite of publications contains data and commentary on various person and dwelling characteristics from the 2001 census at selected geographic levels. There are three series of publications in the suite with the following subtitles:

- *Selected Social and Housing Characteristics, Australia, 2001*, cat. no. 2015.0
- *Selected Social and Housing Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas, 2001*, cat. nos 2015.1–8
- *Selected Characteristics for Urban Centres and Localities, Australia, 2001*, cat. no. 2016.0
- *Selected Characteristics for Urban Centres and Localities, 2001*, cat. nos 2016.1–7.
- *Selected Education and Labour Force Characteristics, Australia, 2001*, cat. no. 2017.0
- *Selected Education and Labour Force Characteristics for Statistical Local Areas, 2001*, cat. nos 2017.1–8

Community Profile Series

The Community Profile Series provides detailed and comprehensive census characteristics of people, families and dwellings for small areas. This series is available for all standard census geographic areas, and is available in hardcopy and electronic formats.

The series comprises six Community Profiles:

- *Basic Community Profile* (cat. no. 2001.0) contains 33 tables of detailed data covering dwelling, household and family topics. This profile is available for all standard census geographic areas, Commonwealth and State Electoral Divisions, Postal Areas, and Suburbs, for the states/territories and Australia.

Community Profile Series *continued*

- *Indigenous Profile* (cat. no. 2002.0) contains 29 tables of key census characteristics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, for all ASGC areas from Statistical Local Area (SLA) level to whole of Australia, as well as Indigenous Areas and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) regions.
- *Time Series Community Profile* (cat. no. 2003.0) contains 22 tables comparing data from the 1991, 1996 and 2001 censuses where the classifications are comparable. Data are presented on 2001 geographic boundaries.
- *Usual Residents Profile* (cat. no. 2004.0) contains 28 tables of data for persons usually resident in the selected area. This is the only community profile based on place of usual residence.
- *Expanded Community Profile* (cat. no. 2005.0) contains 49 tables available for SLAs and larger areas, comprising more detailed versions of some of the Basic Community Profile tables, plus additional tables.
- *Working Population Profile* (cat. no. 2006.0) contains 19 tables of labour force and related data on the characteristics of employed people.

Classification Counts

Classification Counts, Australia (cat. nos 2022.0–8) provide frequency counts for 2001 census variables in complete classificatory detail, for every state/territory and Capital City Statistical Division, cross-classified by sex where applicable.

CLIB2001

CLIB2001 is an electronic product provided free of charge to public libraries through the ABS Library Extension Program. The product contains a large volume of tabulated data and software that allows access, display and printing of the data. For 2001 this product will be available as both a CD-ROM and (limited access) Internet-based product. *CLIB2001* comprises the complete 2001 Census Community Profile Series and Classification Counts.

CDATA 2001

CDATA 2001 is a CD-ROM product which contains a large volume of tabulated census data, digital boundaries and base map data, with software to produce tables, maps and graphs of the data. The product is available at the Australia and state/territory levels.

There are two *CDATA 2001* products available, offering different levels of functionality:

CDATA 2001—Full Geographic Information System (GIS): This version is aimed at the expert GIS user who requires detailed spatial data analysis using Structured Query Language, geocoding and importation of 'client own data'.

CDATA 2001—Quickbuild: This version has been designed for GIS users with more basic spatial analysis requirements. It allows users to produce data reports, graphs and/or maps. The product is aimed at inexperienced or intermediate GIS users. *CDATA2001—Quickbuild* users will also have the option to upgrade to *CDATA2001—Full GIS* if so desired.

Social Atlas Series

The *Social Atlas* (cat. nos 2030.0–8) publications feature colour maps of the key social, demographic and economic characteristics for each capital city. These will be released from November 2002.

Australia in Profile—a Regional Analysis

Australia in Profile—A Regional Analysis (cat. no. 2032.0) provides commentary and data on a number of key social indicators from the 2001 census, with the focus on regional distributions and comparisons.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The following census specific services are available:

- *Customised Profiles Service* provides community profile data tailored to your needs, on a variety of media.
- *Customised Table Service* provided detailed cross-classified table tailored to your needs on a variety of media.
- *Customised Geographic Data Reports Service* provides tabular geographic data which relate specifically to the census Geographic Areas and their characteristics (e.g. area).
- *Customised Mapping Service* provides both Customised Thematic Maps and Customised Reference Maps on request.

GLOSSARY

General descriptions of terms and concepts used in this publication are provided below. Tables are also footnoted where applicable for additional clarity. Detailed definitions of classifications and concepts are available in the *Census Dictionary, 2001* (cat. no. 2901.0).

Ancestry A person's ancestry, when used in conjunction with the person's birthplace and their parents' birthplace, provides a good indication of the ethnic background of first and second generation Australians. This is particularly useful for identifying distinct ethnic or cultural groups (e.g. Maoris or Kurds), which cannot be identified using country of birth alone.

Respondents were asked to consider and mark the ancestries they most closely identified with, and to count their ancestry back as far as three generations. Respondents had the option of nominating several ancestries but only the first two answers were processed for output purposes. Ancestries are classified according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ASCCEG)* (cat. no. 1249.0).

More information about the collection and coding of the ancestry question can be found in 'Census Paper 03/01b - Ancestry - Detailed Paper' under Fact Sheets and Census Papers on the ABS web site.

Computer use at home In the 2001 census, people were asked whether they used a Personal Computer (PC) at home in the week prior to census night. PCs include computers used at home for private and business purposes; portable computers; personal organisers; computers brought home from the workplace; and dedicated word processors. Games machines are not included.

Couple family A family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. The family may include any number of dependants, non-dependants and other related individuals. As it is not necessary for a parent-child relationship to be formed, a couple family can consist of a couple without children. Couple families include same-sex couples.

Degree or above qualification A qualification that is classified as a higher degree, postgraduate diploma or bachelor degree according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001* (cat. no. 1272.0). See also non-school qualifications.

Dependent child An individual who is either: a child aged less than 15 years; or a dependent student, which is any child in a family aged 15–24 years who is a full-time student. To be regarded as a child the individual can have no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the household.

Dwelling A dwelling is a building or structure in which people live. This can be a building, such as a house; part of a building, such as a flat; or it can be a caravan or tent, humpy or park bench. Houses under construction, derelict houses, vacant tents, or converted garages are not counted in the census.

Dwelling *continued*

There are private and non-private dwellings.

- *Private dwelling* — normally a house, flat, part of a house, or even a room; but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above, shops or offices; an occupied caravan or unit in a caravan park or craft in a marina; an occupied dwelling in a manufactured home estate; an occupied self-care unit in accommodation for the retired or aged; a houseboat; or tent if it is standing on its own block of land. An occupied caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling. Private dwellings can be either occupied or unoccupied.
- *Non-private dwelling* — dwellings not included above, which provide a communal or transitory type of accommodation. These dwellings include hotels, motels, guest houses, prisons, religious and charitable institutions, defence establishments, hospitals and other communal dwellings. Only occupied non-private dwellings are included in the census.

Earners People aged 15 years and over whose labour force status was 'employed' in the week prior to census night. It is assumed these people received employment income.

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. Unrelated persons living in the same household are not counted as family members (unless under 15 years of age).

Flat, unit or apartment All occupied private dwellings in blocks of flats, units or apartments. These dwellings do not have their own private grounds and usually share a common foyer or stairwell. Also includes flats attached to houses such as granny flats, and houses converted into two or more flats.

Full-time employed Employed persons who worked 35 hours or more in all jobs held during the week before census night. This excludes any time off, but includes any overtime or extra time worked.

Goods-producing industries Goods-producing industries include the following divisions of the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0): Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Mining; Manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply; and Construction.

Gross household weekly income Represents the sum of the individual incomes of each resident present in the household on census night. If any resident aged 15 years or over was temporarily absent on census night, or did not state his or her income, then household income is not derived for that household.

Individual incomes are collected in ranges by the census. To enable these range values to be summed to produce household income, information from the Survey of Income and Housing Costs is used to estimate the median income within each income range collected by the census. The relevant median values for all household members are then summed to produce the total household income figure.

Gross household weekly income per capita Represents the total gross weekly income of each household, divided by the number of people usually resident in that household. This measure recognises that the economic wellbeing of individuals (including those with no income of their own) is affected not only by the income received by the household but also by the size of the household.

Gross individual weekly income Records individual gross income for all people aged 15 years and over. In the census, people are asked to state their usual gross weekly income, which is income before tax, superannuation, health insurance, or other deductions are made. Gross income includes family payments, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, maintenance (child support), superannuation, wages, regular overtime, dividends, rents received (less operation expenses), interest received, business or farm income (less operation expenses) and workers' compensation received. In the 2001 census people aged 15 years and over were asked to state their usual gross weekly income in ranges.

High density housing Flats, units and apartments.

Household A group of people who usually reside together in the same private dwelling and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living. In this publication, there are three main types of households:

- *Family household* — a household consisting of 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. A household can contain one or more families. Thus the number of families living in occupied private dwellings may be more than the number of family households.
- *Lone person household* — a person who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials in living, without combining with any other person to form a multi-person household. He/she may live in a dwelling on his/her own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.
- *Group household* — a household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all persons are aged 15 years or over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.

Indigenous household A household which contains at least one person aged 15 years or over who is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Indigenous origin The question used in the 2001 census was 'Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?' Respondents could report Aboriginal origin, Torres Strait Islander origin, both origins or neither. Prior to the 1996 census only one or the other Indigenous origin could be recorded.

Industry From August 1994, Industry has been classified according to the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0).

Internet use In the 2001 census, people were asked whether they used the Internet in the week prior to census night at home, at work or elsewhere. The Internet includes Internet connections in private and business applications; Internet connection through a computer or set top box, games machine, mobile phone or other means; and Internet facilities at other locations including libraries, Internet cafes, shops, educational institutions, or at a neighbour's or friend's place of residence.

Labour force The labour force is made up of employed and unemployed people aged 15 years and over.

Labour force participation rate The number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over, excluding persons who did not state their labour force status.

Labour force status Labour force status identifies whether a person aged 15 years or over is employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.

- *Employed* — includes those people who, during the week prior to census night, worked for payment or profit; who had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; were on strike or stood down temporarily; or worked as unpaid helpers in a family business.
- *Unemployed* — includes people who, during the week prior to census night, did not have a job but were actively looking for work (either full-time or part-time) and were available to start work.
- *Not in the labour force* — includes people aged 15 years or more who were not employed or unemployed as defined above. This category includes people who were retired, pensioners and people engaged solely in home duties.

Language spoken at home Language spoken at home identifies any languages other than English spoken at home.

Lower income households Households in the bottom 40% (i.e. the bottom two quintiles) of the income distribution when all households are ranked from highest to lowest into equivalised income groups using OECD equivalence scales (see *Measuring Australia's Progress, 2002,* cat. no. 1370.0 for more details). These scales adjust income values, recognising that there are economic advantages associated with living with others, as household costs can be shared.

Median The value which divides a population into two equal parts, half falling below this value and half exceeding it.

Medium density housing Semidetached, row, and terrace houses and townhouses.

Non-school qualification A qualification awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education, and recognised as one of the following five levels of qualification under the *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001* (cat. no. 1272.0).

- *Postgraduate* — includes doctorates and master degrees. The minimum entry requirements are usually a master degree or bachelor (honours) degree for a doctorate and bachelor (honours or pass) degree or graduate diploma for a master degree. The duration of study is usually up to four years full time or equivalent for a doctorate and one or two years full-time or equivalent for a master degree.
- *Graduate Diploma* — includes graduate certificates. The entry requirement is usually a bachelor degree or an advanced diploma. The duration of study ranges from six months (for a graduate certificate) to one year full-time study or its equivalent.
- *Bachelor Degree* — the entry requirement is usually the satisfactory completion of Year 12 or its equivalent. The duration of study ranges from three to six years full-time study or its equivalent.
- *Advanced Diploma and Diploma* — entry to this level is by various pathways which may include the completion of Year 12 or equivalent, or completion of a recognised programme and/or recognition of prior learning. The duration of study is typically two years full-time study or its equivalent.

Non-school qualification *continued*

- *Certificate* — includes trade certificates and advanced certificate. Entry to this level is by various pathways, which often include the completion of year 10 or equivalent; however, courses may have no formal entry requirements. Duration of study varies depending on the pathway taken.

Occupation skill level

The formal education and/or training and previous experiences usually required for entry to an occupation as defined in the *ASCO — Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0).

- *Highest skill level occupation* — includes: Managers and administrators; and Professionals.
- *Medium skill level occupation* — includes: Associate professionals; Tradespersons and related workers; and Advanced clerical and service workers.
- *Lowest skill level occupation* — includes: Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers; Intermediate production and transport workers; Elementary clerical, sales and service workers; and Labourers and related workers.

One-parent family with dependent children

A family consisting of a lone parent with at least one dependent child who is usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other related individuals.

Owner occupied dwelling

A private dwelling that is occupied by a household on census night and is owned with or without a mortgage by one or more of the usual residents.

Population density

The number of people in a region divided by the region's area in square kilometres.

Proficiency in spoken English

People who indicated that they spoke a language other than English at home were asked to state how well they spoke English. Response categories were: very well; well; not well and; not at all. Because of the subjective nature of responses to this question in the census, data on the levels of proficiency in English of people who speak a language other than English at home should be interpreted with care.

Recent migrants

Migrants who arrived in Australia within five years of the 2001 census (between 1996 and 2001).

Reference person

The person who is used as the basis for determining the familial and non-familial relationships within a household. It is usually the person who has identified himself/herself as 'Person one' on the Household Form.

Semidetached, row, terrace house or townhouse

Occupied private dwellings where the dwelling has its own private grounds and no other dwelling above or below it. A key feature of these dwellings is that they are attached in some structural way to one or more dwellings, or separated from a neighbouring dwelling by less than half a metre.

Service industries

Service industries include the following divisions of the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0); Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Accommodation, cafes and restaurants; Transport and storage; communication services; Finance and insurance; Property and business services; Government administration and defence; Education; Health and community services; Cultural and recreational services; and Personal and other services.

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas This refers to a set of indexes produced by the ABS to rank areas according to socio-economic characteristics. See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 36–43 for more details.

Unemployment rate For any group, the number of unemployed people expressed as a proportion of the labour force in the same group.

LIST OF REFERENCES

ABS 2003a, *Year Book Australia, 2003,* cat. no. 1301.0, ABS, Canberra.

ABS 2003b, *Australian Social Trends, 2003*, cat. no. 4102.0, ABS, Canberra.

Australian Urban and Regional Development Review, Discussion Paper #5 1995, *Smart Planning Not Sprawl: The Costs and Benefits of Alternative Fringe Development*, The Australian Urban and Regional Development Review.

Burgess, J 2002, 'The changing labour market and its impact on work and employment relations', in *Working Futures: The Changing Nature of Work and Employment Relations in Australia,* edited by Callus, R and Lansbury, RD, The Federation Press, Sydney, pp. 70–77.

City of Casey 2003, *History of the Casey region*, <http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/casey>, accessed 27 October 2003.

Clyne, M & Kipp, S 2002, 'Australia's changing language demography', *People and Place*, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 29–35.

Clyne, M & Kipp, S 2003, 'Trends in the shift from community languages: insights from the 2001 Census', *People and Place*, vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 33–41.

McCulloch, A & Tivendale, K 2003, 'Understanding transit-oriented development', Paper presented at the Planning with Diversity Conference, Adelaide, 2003.

Mount Isa City Council, <http://www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/lifestyle.html>, accessed 25 June 2003.

Murphy, P 2002, 'Sea Change: Re-inventing rural and regional Australia', *Transformations*, no. 2, pp. 1–12.

New South Wales Department of Mineral Resources 2003, *Broken Hill: Silver City,* <http://www.minerals.nsw.gov.au/mine/silver.htm>, accessed 27 July 2003.

Taylor, A & Birrell, B 2003, 'Communities on the metropolitan periphery: The Sunshine Coast and Cranbourne compared', *People and Place,* vol. 11, no. 1, 2003, pp. 42–53.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

INTERNET	**www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
LIBRARY	A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
CPI INFOLINE	For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
DIAL-A-STATISTIC	For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data which have been published and can be provided within five minutes are free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user-pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE	**1300 135 070**
EMAIL	**client.services@abs.gov.au**
FAX	1300 135 211
POST	Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney 2001

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

ABS subscription services provide regular, convenient and prompt deliveries of ABS publications and products as they are released. Email delivery of monthly and quarterly publications is available.

PHONE	1300 366 323
EMAIL	subscriptions@abs.gov.au
FAX	03 9615 7848
POST	Subscription Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne 3001

2203200001015
ISBN 0 642 47887 2

Recommended retail price $48.00

Produced by the
Australian Bureau of Statistics