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# CENSUS SILHOUETTE

AUSTRALIA



**CENSUS  
SILHOUETTE**



## THE CENSUS

The numbering of the people by Moses is mentioned in the Old Testament, and a form of Census is said to have existed in Babylon, Egypt and China some thousands of years before Christ. Among the Romans the Census was a highly developed instrument for the administration of the Empire.

Census-taking appears to have fallen into disuse, except in China, from the time of the Romans until the 17th and 18th Centuries, when the honour of introducing the first modern Census appears to have been shared between Old and New Worlds. Thereafter the Census spread rapidly through many countries.

In 1801 the first Census of England, Wales and Scotland was held, and during the same century most of the important countries throughout the world, including the whole British Empire, took Censuses.

The first Census in Australia, disregarding the early "musters", was held in 1828 (in New South Wales); from this developed a regular series for all States, with a uniform Census year, at decennial intervals from 1881 onwards. The first Census conducted under Commonwealth authority was taken in 1911.

During the decade around 1950 there were Censuses in more than 150 countries (including Australia) with an estimated population of about 2,000 million persons, or 80 per cent. of the world's peoples.

The uses of the modern Census are far removed from those of Roman and earlier times, which were mainly military or fiscal. Demographer, economist, administrator, business man, researcher—all derive information for their purposes from the modern Census which it alone can supply.

The Census furnishes basic information for studies in population movements, social welfare, fertility, age projections and life expectation, for problems in the fields of employment, industry, the absorption of migrants and the development of new areas, for town planning and housing surveys, and for market research and sampling techniques.

The broad outlines of the characteristics of the population of Australia recorded at the Census of 1954 are depicted in this booklet. For detail the reader is referred to the Census publications issued by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics (see last page) or is invited to apply to the Commonwealth Statistician, Canberra, for advice on specific subjects or problems.

S. R. CARVER,  
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

Canberra, A.C.T.,  
September, 1956.



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# POPULATION, 1881-1954

## Persons

	Census—							
	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947	1954
New South Wales .....	(a) 749,825	(a) 1,127,137	(a) 1,354,846	1,646,734	2,100,371	2,600,847	2,984,838	3,423,529
Victoria .....	861,566	1,140,088	1,201,070	1,315,551	1,531,280	1,820,261	2,054,701	2,452,341
Queensland .....	213,525	393,718	498,129	605,813	755,972	947,534	1,106,415	1,318,259
South Australia .....	276,414	315,533	358,346	408,558	495,160	580,949	646,073	797,094
Western Australia .....	29,708	49,782	184,124	282,114	332,732	438,852	502,480	639,771
Tasmania .....	115,705	146,667	172,475	191,211	213,780	227,599	257,078	308,752
Northern Territory ..	3,451	4,898	4,811	3,310	3,867	4,850	10,868	16,469
Australian Capital Territory .....	(b)	(b)	(b)	1,714	2,572	8,947	16,905	30,315
Australia .....	2,250,194	3,177,823	3,773,801	4,455,005	5,435,734	6,629,839	7,579,358	8,986,530

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Included with New South Wales.

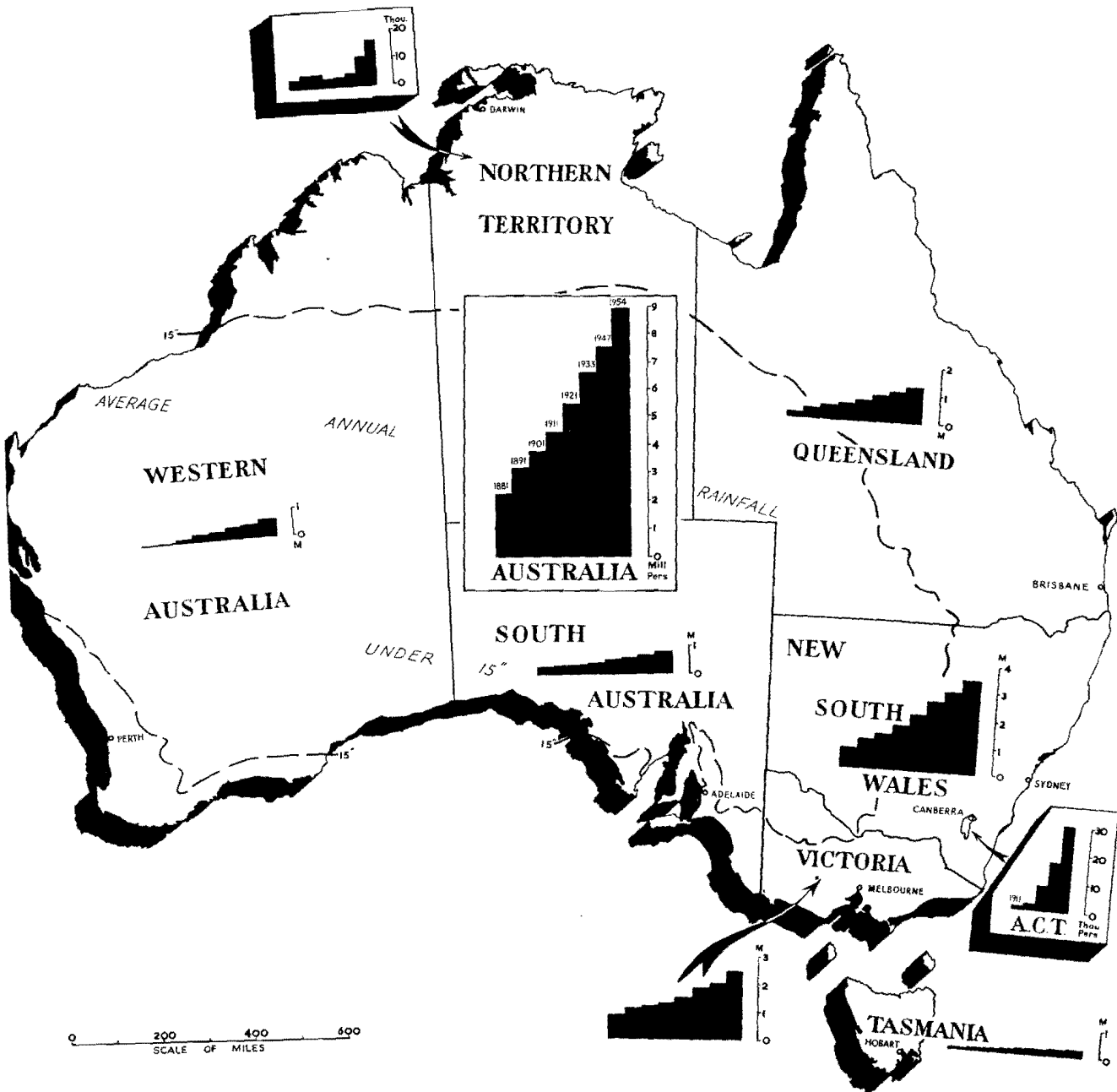
## AREA, POPULATION AND DENSITY

	Area (Sq. Miles)	Census 1954—			
		Males	Females	Persons	Density (a)
New South Wales .....	309,433	1,720,860	1,702,669	3,423,529	11.04
Victoria .....	87,884	1,231,099	1,221,242	2,452,341	27.81
Queensland .....	670,500	676,252	642,007	1,318,259	1.96
South Australia .....	380,070	403,903	393,191	797,094	2.09
Western Australia .....	975,920	330,358	309,413	639,771	0.65
Tasmania .....	26,215	157,129	151,623	308,752	11.75
Northern Territory .....	523,620	10,288	6,181	16,469	0.03
Australian Capital Territory .....	939	16,229	14,086	30,315	32.28
Australia .....	2,974,581	4,546,118	4,440,412	8,986,530	3.01

(a) Persons per square mile.



# GROWTH OF POPULATION AUSTRALIA 1881-1954



# URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION

Census, 1954

	Persons							
	Capital Cities		Other Cities and Towns		Rural		Total	
		%		%		%		%
New South Wales .....	1,863,161	54.4	965,387	28.2	594,981	17.4	3,423,529	100
Victoria .....	1,524,111	62.1	470,063	19.2	458,167	18.7	2,452,341	100
Queensland .....	502,320	38.1	460,080	34.9	355,859	27.0	1,318,259	100
South Australia .....	483,508	60.7	110,107	13.8	203,479	25.5	797,094	100
Western Australia .....	348,647	54.5	105,418	16.5	185,706	29.0	639,771	100
Tasmania .....	95,206	30.8	108,128	35.0	105,418	34.2	308,752	100
Northern Territory .....	.....	.....	10,856	65.9	5,613	34.1	16,469	100
Australian Capital Territory .....	28,277	93.3	.....	.....	2,038	6.7	30,315	100
Australia .....	4,845,230	53.9	2,230,039	24.8	1,911,261	21.3	8,986,530	100

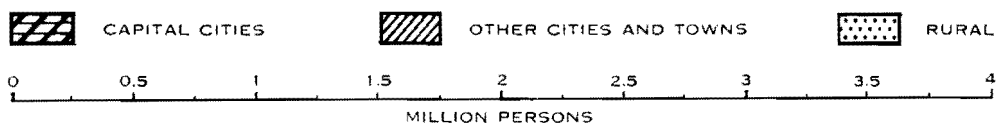
Capital Cities—the Capital City (complete Metropolitan Area) of each State, and Canberra, the Capital of Australia.

Other Cities and Towns—all separately incorporated cities and towns, all other towns with a population of 1,000 persons or more (750 in Tasmania), and Darwin, the capital city of the Northern Territory.

Rural—the remainder of each State and Territory.

# URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION

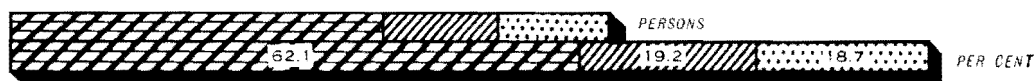
## CENSUS 1954



### New South Wales



### Victoria



### Queensland



### South Australia



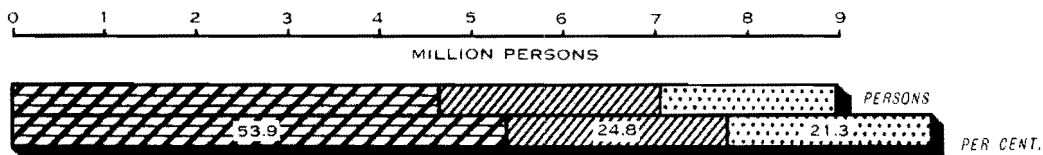
### Western Australia



### Tasmania



### AUSTRALIA



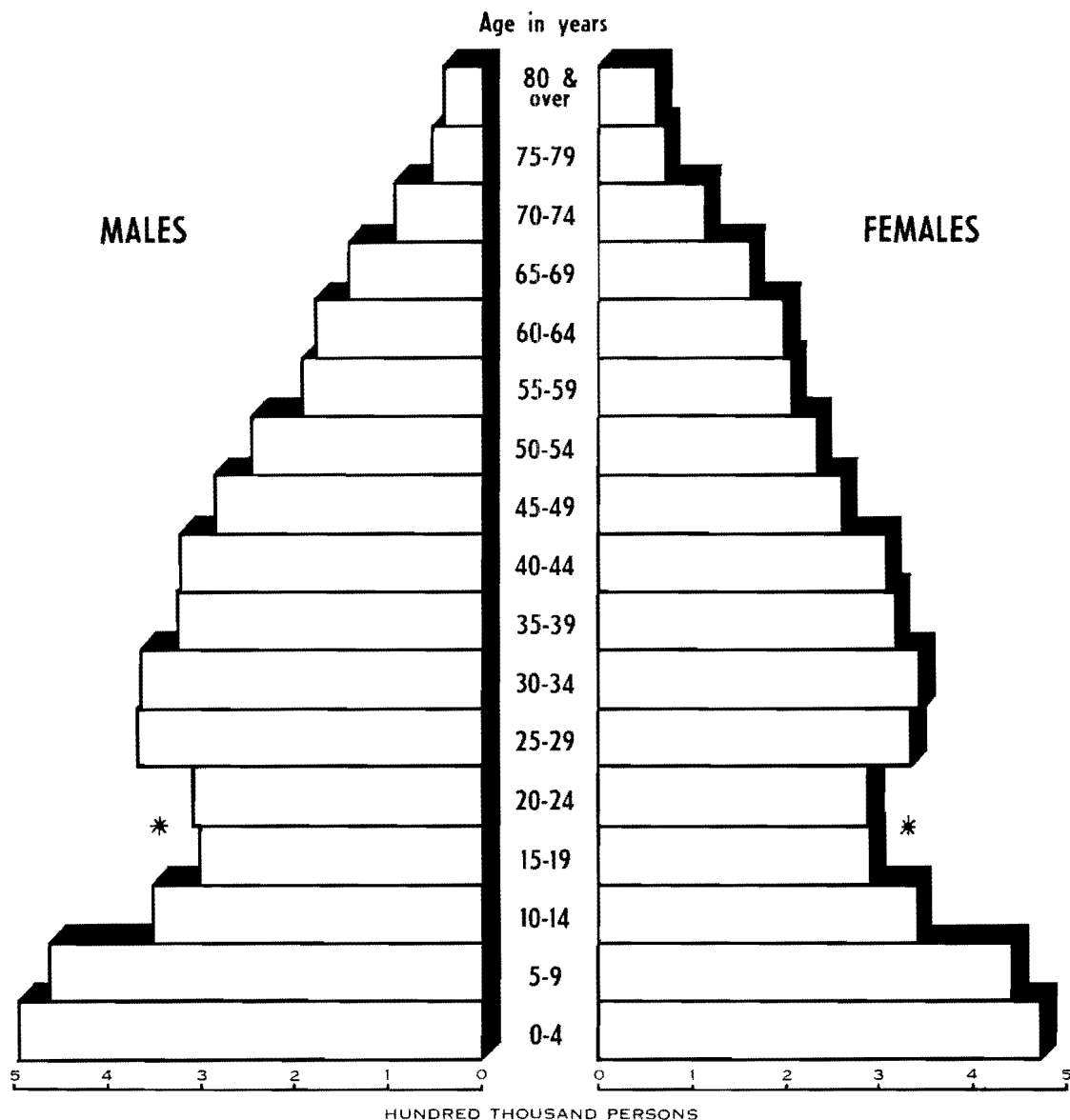
# AGE STRUCTURE, AUSTRALIA

Census 1954

Age (years)	Males	Females
80 and over .....	42,063	62,399
75 - 79 .....	55,104	72,738
70 - 74 .....	94,961	115,429
65 - 69 .....	143,140	160,172
60 - 64 .....	178,947	198,695
55 - 59 .....	193,148	204,122
50 - 54 .....	246,061	233,140
45 - 49 .....	286,705	260,224
40 - 44 .....	323,418	305,010
35 - 39 .....	325,768	317,355
30 - 34 .....	364,238	343,605
25 - 29 .....	368,639	336,178
20 - 24 .....	311,979	288,187
15 - 19 .....	302,287	289,484
10 - 14 .....	354,075	340,105
5 - 9 .....	461,903	440,834
0 - 4 .....	493,682	472,735
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>4,546,118</b>	<b>4,440,412</b>

# AGE STRUCTURE — AUSTRALIA

## CENSUS 1954



\* This break in the outline of the population pyramid is due to reduced numbers in these age groups brought about by the low birthrate during the depression years of the 1930's and during the early war years of the 1940's.

# AGE DISTRIBUTION, AUSTRALIA

## 1933-1954

### Proportion of Total Population in each Age Group

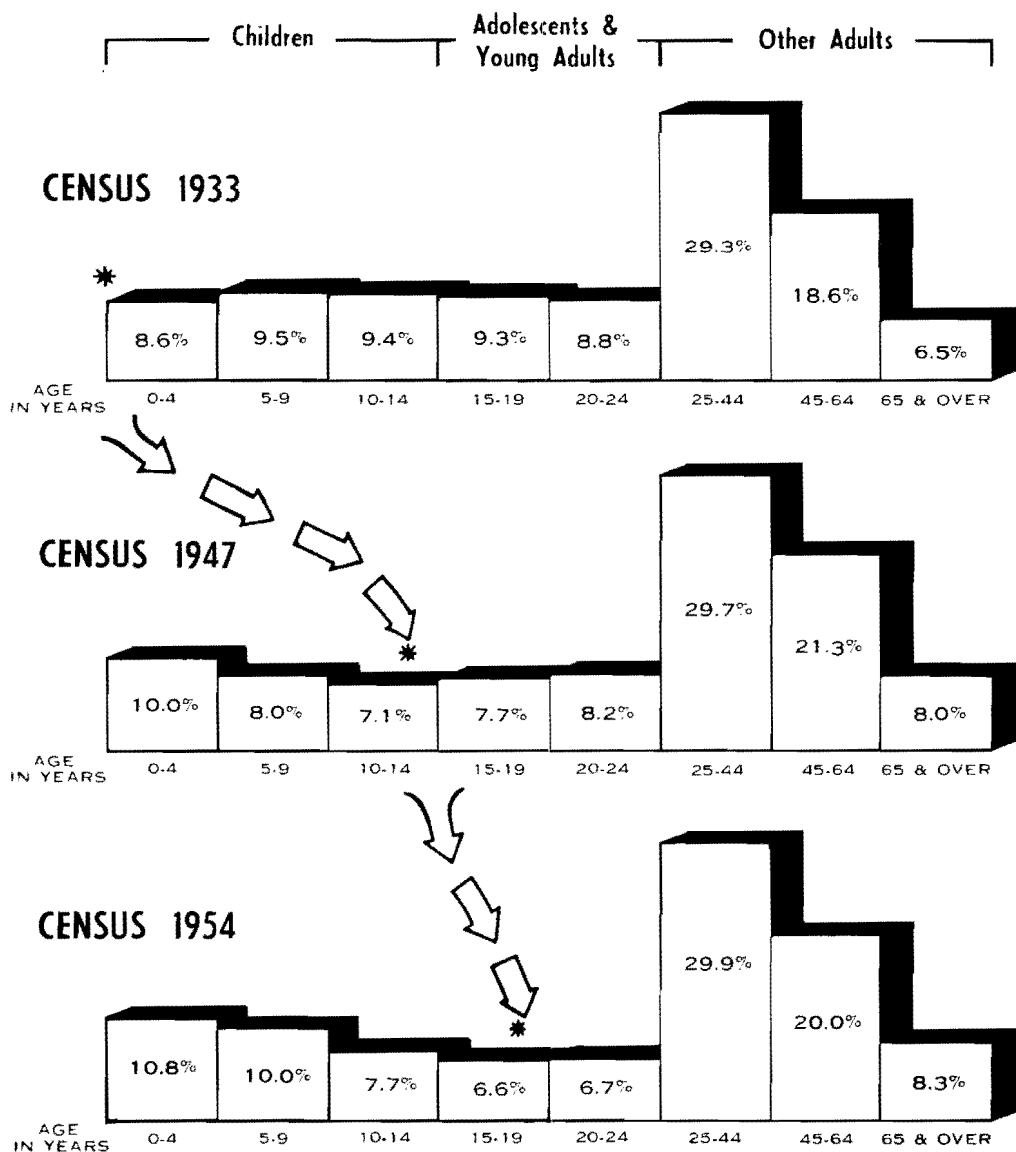
#### Persons

Age (years)—									
Census—	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Total
1933—									
Number .....	568,965	627,380	625,222	615,410	584,618	1,945,593	1,232,951	429,700	6,629,839
Per Cent. of Total Popu- lation .....	8.6	9.5	9.4	9.3	8.8	29.3	18.6	6.5	100
1947—									
Number .....	760,387	603,983	534,683	586,666	617,954	2,253,722	1,611,874	610,089	7,579,358
Per Cent. of Total Popu- lation .....	10.0	8.0	7.1	7.7	8.2	29.7	21.3	8.0	100
1954—									
Number .....	966,417	902,737	694,180	591,771	600,166	2,684,211	1,801,042	746,006	8,986,530
Per Cent. of Total Popu- lation .....	10.8	10.0	7.7	6.6	6.7	29.9	20.0	8.3	100

# AGE DISTRIBUTION – AUSTRALIA 1933-1954

PROPORTIONS OF TOTAL POPULATION

## PERSONS



\* See note to previous graph.

# CONJUGAL CONDITION IN AGE GROUPS

## AUSTRALIA

Census 1954

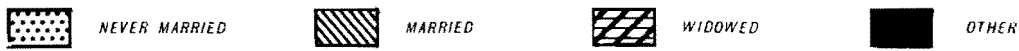
Age (Years)	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	Total
<b>MALES</b>						
Per Cent.						
18 .....	99.1	0.9	....	....	....	100
19 .....	97.3	2.7	....	....	....	100
20 .....	93.3	6.7	....	....	....	100
21 .....	85.2	14.1	....	....	0.7	100
22 .....	75.3	23.9	....	....	0.8	100
23 .....	65.1	34.1	....	0.1	0.7	100
24 .....	56.0	43.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	100
25 .....	47.3	51.9	0.1	0.2	0.5	100
26 .....	41.6	57.5	0.1	0.3	0.5	100
27 .....	36.1	62.9	0.2	0.4	0.4	100
28 .....	31.2	67.7	0.2	0.6	0.3	100
29 .....	26.5	72.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	100
30 - 34 .....	19.5	79.0	0.3	0.9	0.3	100
35 - 39 .....	13.9	83.9	0.6	1.4	0.2	100
40 - 44 .....	12.3	84.8	1.0	1.7	0.2	100
45 and over .....	11.4	78.4	8.5	1.4	0.3	100
<b>FEMALES</b>						
Per Cent.						
18 .....	89.3	10.5	....	....	0.2	100
19 .....	79.5	20.2	....	....	0.3	100
20 .....	65.2	34.4	0.1	....	0.3	100
21 .....	50.8	48.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	100
22 .....	38.8	60.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	100
23 .....	29.7	69.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	100
24 .....	24.3	74.9	0.2	0.4	0.2	100
25 .....	19.8	79.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	100
26 .....	16.4	82.4	0.4	0.6	0.2	100
27 .....	14.5	84.2	0.4	0.8	0.1	100
28 .....	12.7	85.8	0.5	0.9	0.1	100
29 .....	11.7	86.6	0.6	1.0	0.1	100
30 - 34 .....	9.6	88.0	1.0	1.3	0.1	100
35 - 39 .....	8.6	87.6	1.9	1.8	0.1	100
40 - 44 .....	9.2	85.5	3.3	1.9	0.1	100
45 and over .....	12.1	61.2	25.2	1.3	0.2	100

"Married" includes "Married, but permanently separated".



# CONJUGAL CONDITION IN AGE GROUPS – AUSTRALIA

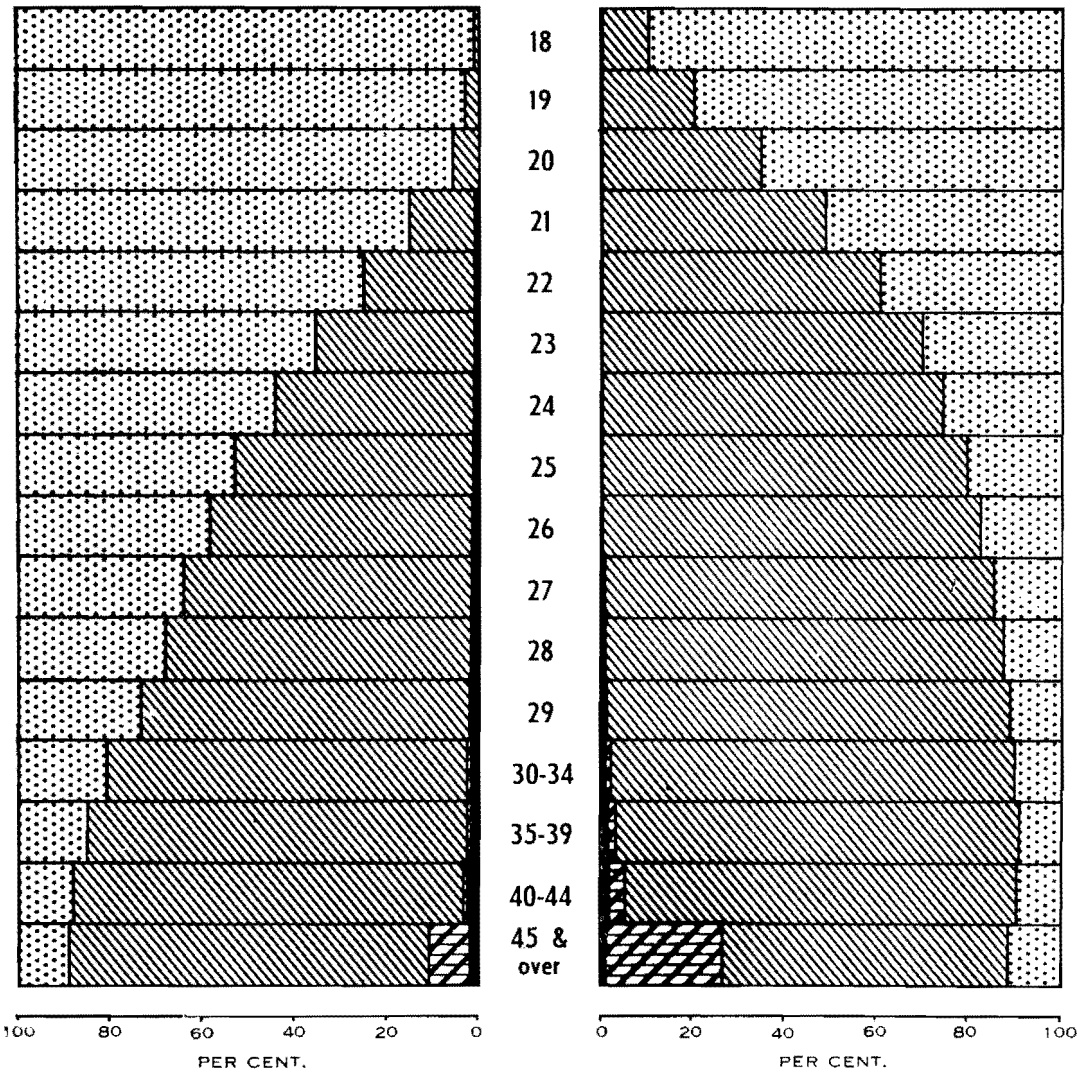
## CENSUS 1954



MALES

FEMALES

Age in years



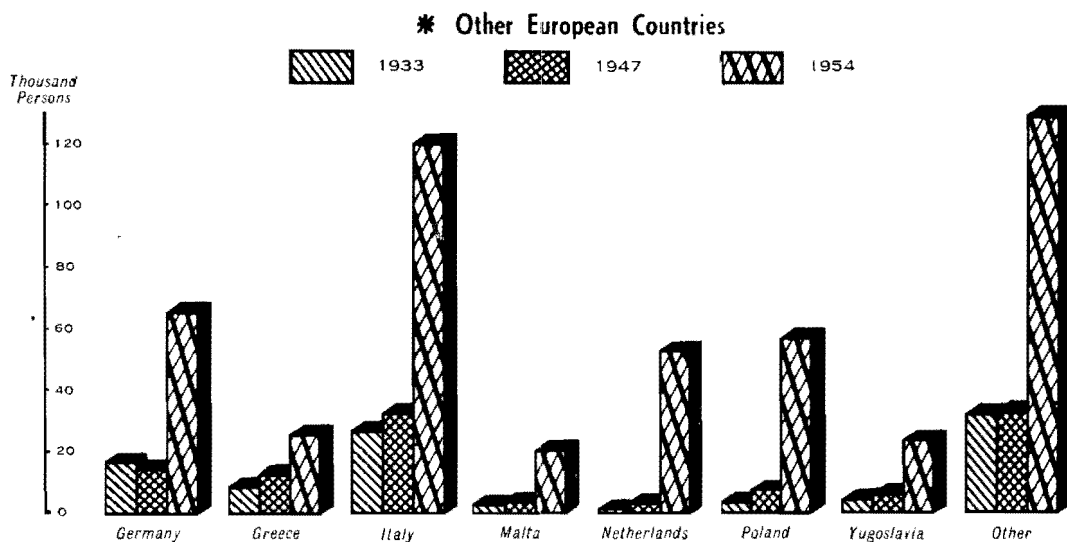
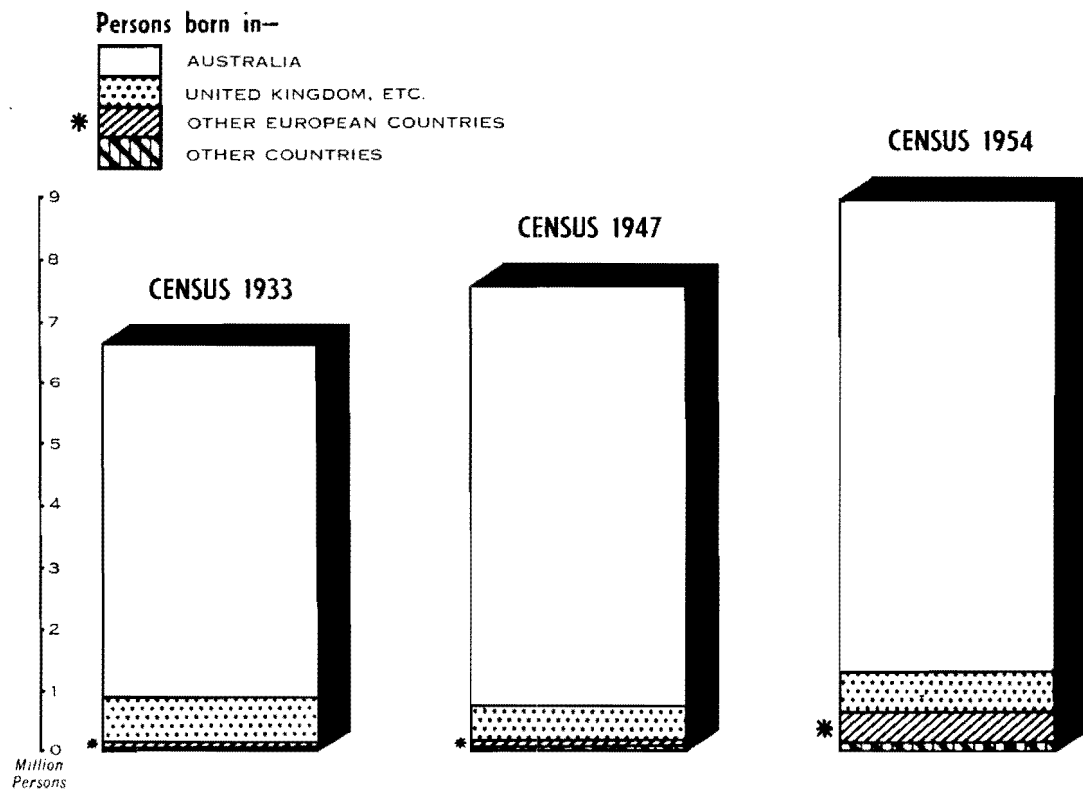
# BIRTHPLACES OF THE POPULATION

## AUSTRALIA, 1933-1954

### Persons

Born in—	Census—		
	1933	1947	1954
<b>Australia</b> .....	5,726,566	6,835,171	7,700,064
<b>United Kingdom, &amp;c.</b> .....	712,458	541,267	664,205
<b>*Other European Countries</b> .....	94,900	110,339	490,859
<b>Other Countries</b> .....	95,915	92,581	131,402
<b>Total</b> .....	6,629,839	7,579,358	8,986,530
<p style="text-align: center;">“ United Kingdom, &amp;c.” includes England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.</p>			
<b>Germany</b> .....	16,842	14,567	65,422
<b>Greece</b> .....	8,337	12,291	25,862
<b>Italy</b> .....	26,756	33,632	119,897
<b>Malta</b> .....	2,782	3,238	19,988
<b>Netherlands</b> .....	1,274	2,174	52,035
<b>Poland</b> .....	3,239	6,573	56,594
<b>Yugoslavia</b> .....	3,969	5,866	22,856
<b>Other</b> .....	31,701	31,998	128,205
<b>Total</b> .....	94,900	110,339	490,859

# BIRTHPLACES OF THE POPULATION AUSTRALIA 1933-1954



# PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA

## 1947 AND 1954

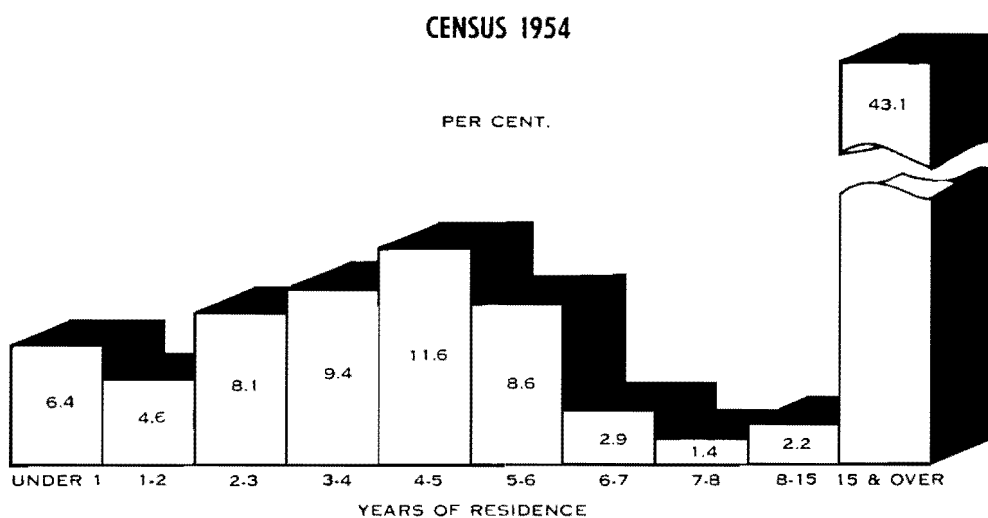
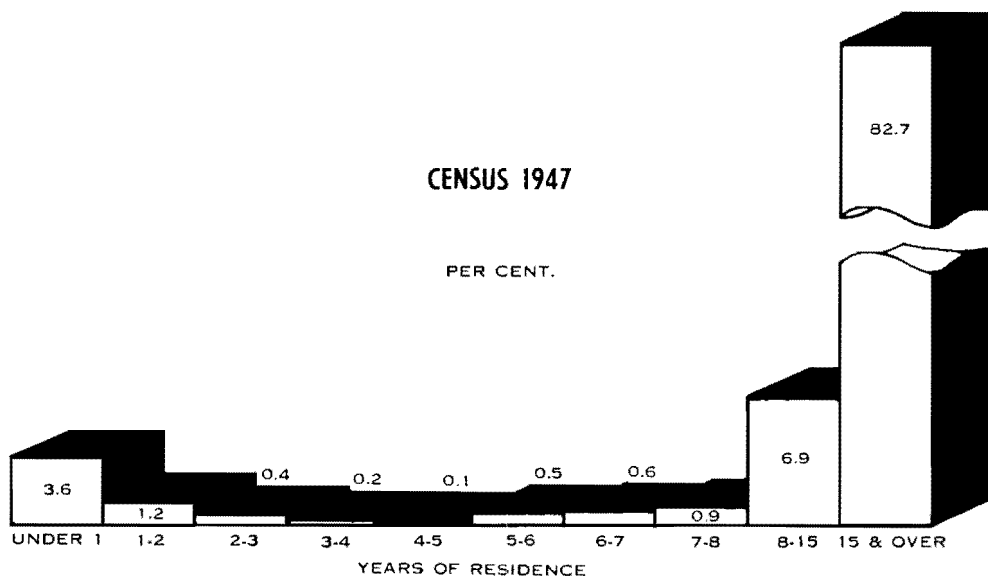
### Persons Born Outside Australia

Years of Residence in Australia—											
Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-15	15 and over	Not Stated	Total Born outside Australia
Census 1947											
26,613	9,069	3,446	1,284	990	3,455	4,201	6,640	51,481	615,438	21,570	744,187
Per Cent. . . 3.6	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.9	6.9	82.7	2.9	100
Census 1954—											
82,271	59,324	104,728	121,550	149,836	110,034	36,946	17,335	28,203	554,107	22,132	1,286,466
Per Cent. . . 6.4	4.6	8.1	9.4	11.6	8.6	2.9	1.4	2.2	43.1	1.7	100

# PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA

## PERSONS BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA

PROPORTIONS ACCORDING TO YEARS OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA



# NATIONALITIES, AUSTRALIA

## 1933-1954

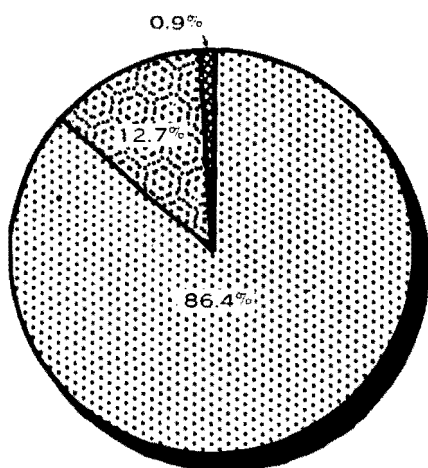
### Persons

Census—	Born in Australia	British Born Elsewhere	Total	Non- British	Total
1933—	5,726,566	842,952	6,569,518	60,321	6,629,839
Per Cent.	86.4	12.7	99.1	0.9	100
1947—	6,835,171	705,534	7,540,705	38,653	7,579,358
Per Cent.	90.2	9.3	99.5	0.5	100
1954—	7,700,064	882,187	8,582,251	404,279	8,986,530
Per Cent.	85.7	9.8	95.5	4.5	100

“ Nationality ” signifies allegiance. Naturalized British are included under “ British ”.

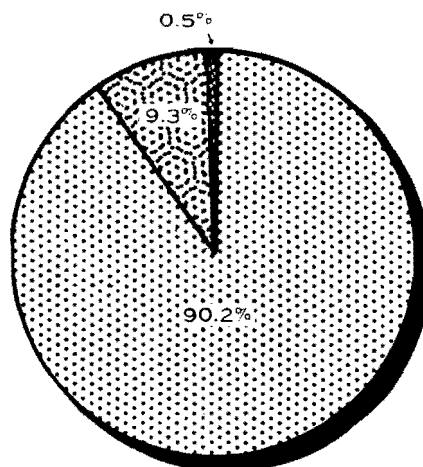
# NATIONALITIES — AUSTRALIA 1933-1954

## PROPORTIONS OF TOTAL POPULATION



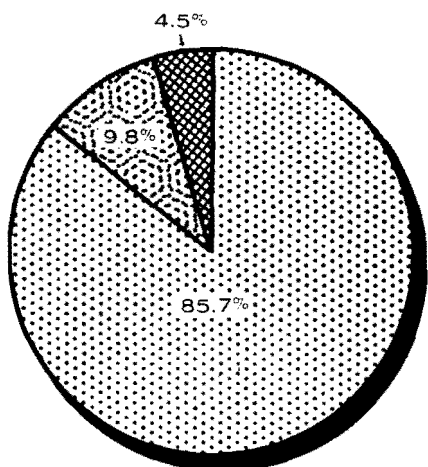
**CENSUS 1933**

TOTAL POPULATION 6 629 839 PERSONS



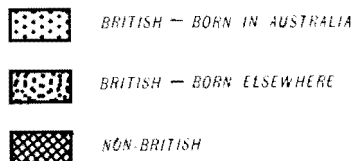
**CENSUS 1947**

TOTAL POPULATION 7 579 358 PERSONS



**CENSUS 1954**

TOTAL POPULATION 8 986 530 PERSONS



# RELIGIONS, AUSTRALIA

## 1933-1954

### Persons

Census—	Church of England	Roman Catholic (a)	Catholic (a)	Metho- dist	Presby- terian	Baptist	Other Christ- ian	Non- Christ- ian, &c	Total Replies	No Reply (b)
1933—										
	2,565,118	1,173,366	127,542	684,022	713,229	105,874	358,587	53,153	5,780,891	848,948
Per Cent. . .	44.4	20.3	2.2	11.8	12.3	1.9	6.2	0.9	100	12.8 (c)
1947—										
	2,957,032	630,198	956,540	871,425	743,540	113,527	400,674	81,598	6,754,534	824,824
Per Cent. . .	43.8	9.3	14.2	12.9	11.0	1.7	5.9	1.2	100	10.9 (c)
1954—										
	3,408,850	762,102	1,299,884	977,933	869,242	127,444	588,299	96,957	8,130,711	855,819
Per Cent. . .	41.9	9.4	16.0	12.0	10.7	1.6	7.2	1.2	100	9.5 (c)

(a) So described in individual Census Schedules.

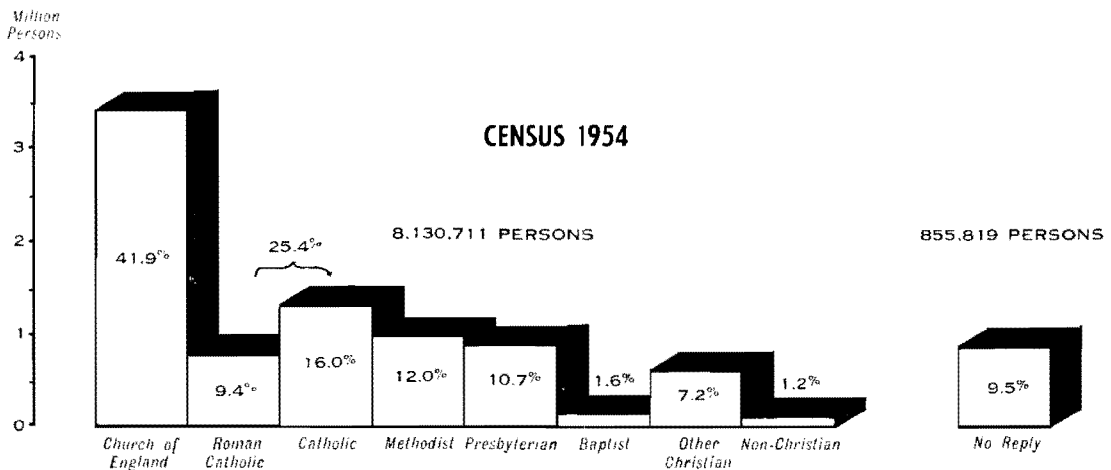
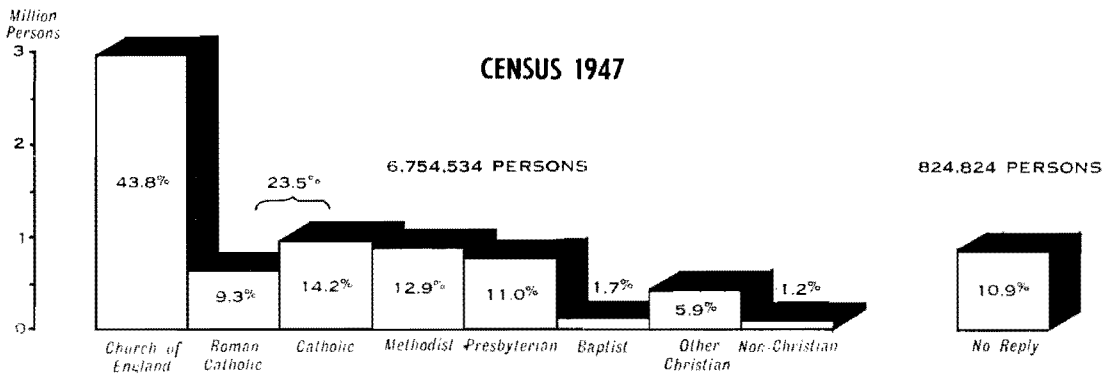
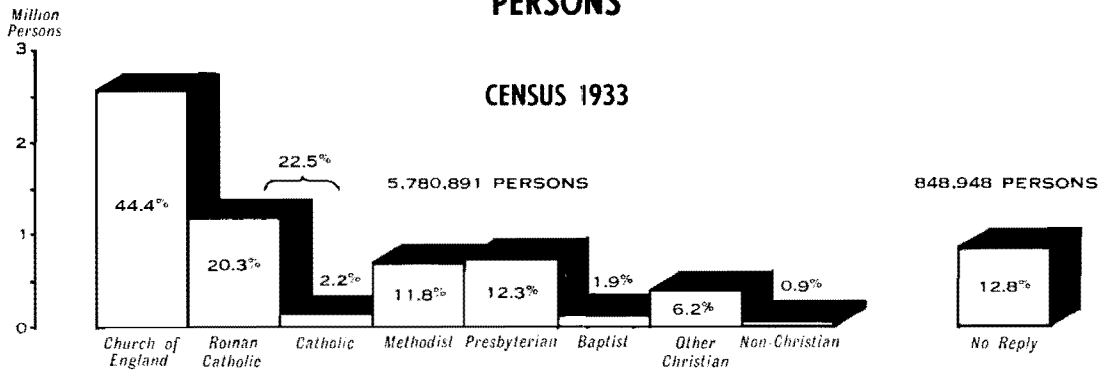
(b) The question on the Census form on religion is not obligatory; the figures in this column represent the numbers of persons who did not reply to it, and their proportions to the total population.

(c) Ratio to total population.



# RELIGIONS – AUSTRALIA 1933-1954

## PERSONS



# WORK FORCE, AUSTRALIA

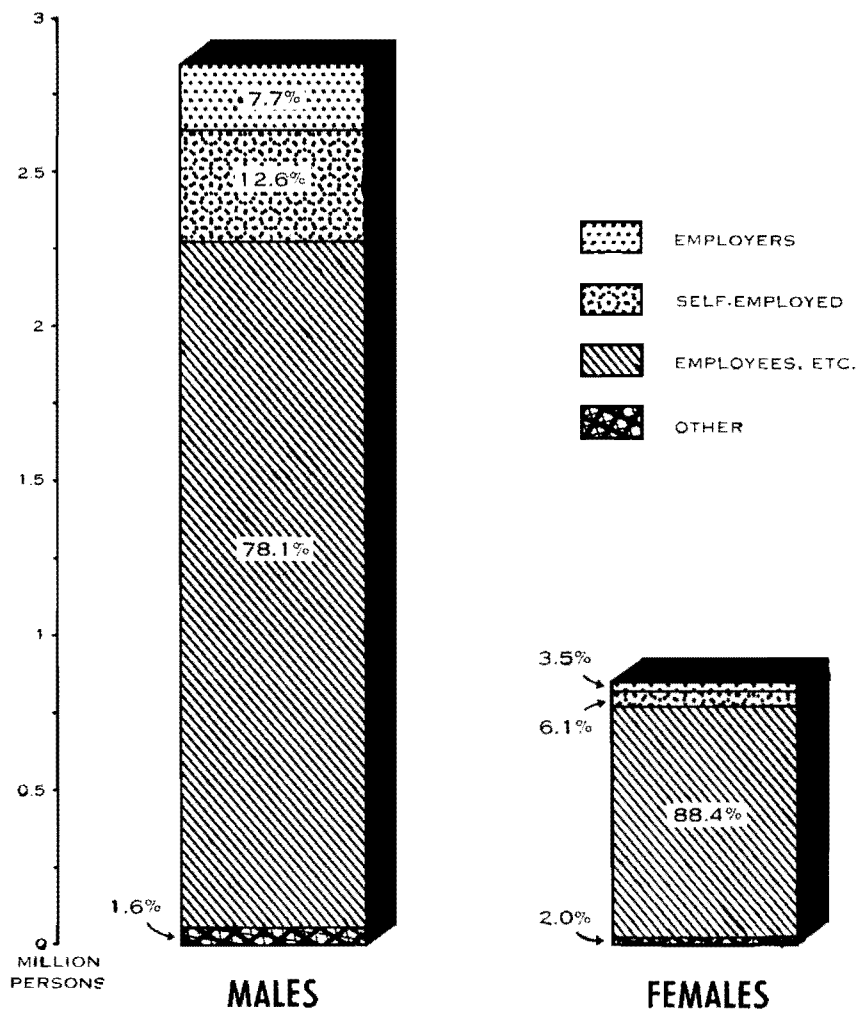
Census 1954

	MALES		FEMALES	
		%		%
<b>At Work—</b>				
Employers .....	220,408	7.7	30,028	3.5
Self-employed .....	358,746	12.6	51,436	6.1
Employees .....	2,211,915	77.5	737,488	87.2
Helpers (not on wage or salary) .....	18,342	0.6	9,866	1.2
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>2,809,411</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>828,818</b>	<b>98.0</b>
<b>Not at Work (a)</b> .....	<b>40,913</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>13,953</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Not Stated</b> .....	<b>6,296</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2,631</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Total Work Force</b> .....	<b>2,856,620</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>845,402</b>	<b>100</b>

(a) Includes those who stated that they were usually engaged in work but were not actively seeking a job at the time of the Census by reason of sickness, accident, &c., or because they were on strike, changing jobs or temporarily laid off, &c.; includes also persons able and willing to work but unable to secure employment, as well as casual and seasonal workers not actually in a job at the time of the Census. The numbers shown, therefore, do not represent the number of unemployed available for work and unable to obtain it.

# WORK FORCE – AUSTRALIA

CENSUS 1954



# WORK FORCE IN INDUSTRIES

## AUSTRALIA, 1933-1954

Thousand Persons

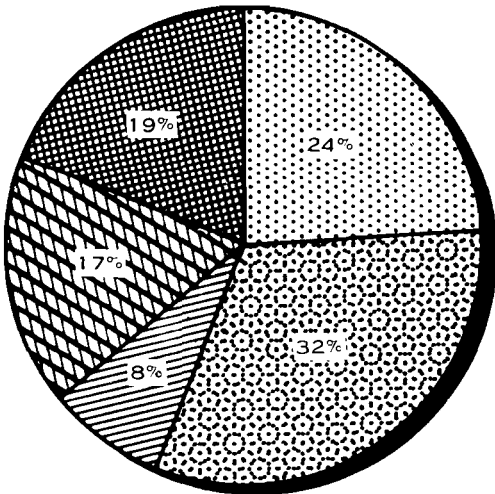
Census—	Primary Production, Mining, & Quarrying	Manufactur- ing, Gas, & Electricity, Water Supply, Building & Construction	Transport & Communica- tion	Finance, Property, Commerce	Other Industries	Total
1933—						
	659	882	227	456	504	2,728
Per Cent. ....	24	32	8	17	19	100
1947—						
	564	1,184	323	517	608	3,196
Per Cent. ....	18	37	10	16	19	100
1954—						
	557	1,446	340	682	677	3,702
Per Cent. ....	15	39	9	19	18	100

The recorded totals for these groups have been adjusted by the distribution of persons for whom the industry was not stated or was inadequately described. Precise comparison of figures for each group from Census to Census is not possible because of changes in Census classification and methods.

# WORK FORCE IN INDUSTRIES – AUSTRALIA 1933-1954

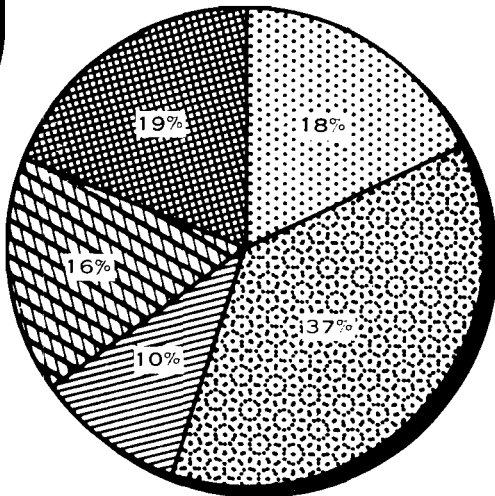
PROPORTIONS OF TOTAL WORK FORCE

CENSUS 1933



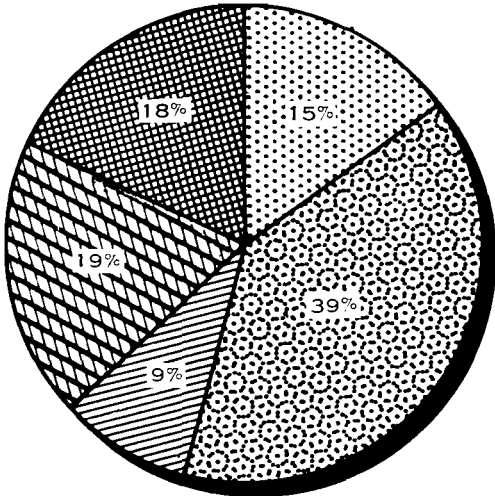
TOTAL WORK FORCE 2 728 277 PERSONS

CENSUS 1947

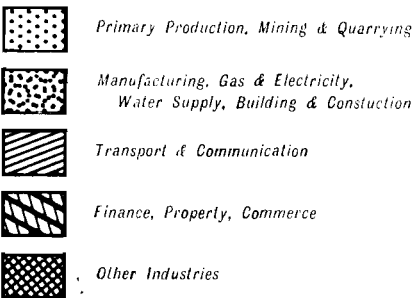


TOTAL WORK FORCE 3 196 431 PERSONS

CENSUS 1954



TOTAL WORK FORCE 3 702 022 PERSONS



# POPULATION AND HOUSING

## AUSTRALIA

Census 1954

	Occupied Dwellings		Inhabitants	
		%		%
<b>Private Houses—</b>				
Houses .....	2,006,871	84.3	7,448,978	83.4
Sheds, Huts, &c. ....	49,148	2.1	134,187	1.5
<b>Total</b> .....	2,056,019	86.4	7,583,165	84.9
<b>Shares of Private Houses</b> .....	107,216	4.5	290,579	3.3
<b>Flats</b> .....	127,420	5.3	329,265	3.7
<b>Other Private Dwellings</b> .....	52,766	2.2	111,353	1.2
<b>Total Private Dwellings</b> .....	2,343,421	98.4	8,314,362	93.1
<b>Dwellings other than Private</b> .....	36,932	1.6	618,743	6.9
<b>Total Occupied Dwellings</b> .....	2,380,353	100	8,933,105	100

A **Dwelling** is any habitation occupied by a household group living together as a domestic unit, whether comprising the whole or only part of a building.

**Occupied Dwellings** are classified into private and other dwellings.

**Private Dwellings** comprise mainly private houses (including sheds, huts, garages, &c., used for dwelling purposes), shares of private houses, flats and rooms, apartments, &c.

**Share of Private House** is a portion of a shared private house which is occupied separately and for which portion a separate Householder's Schedule was furnished.

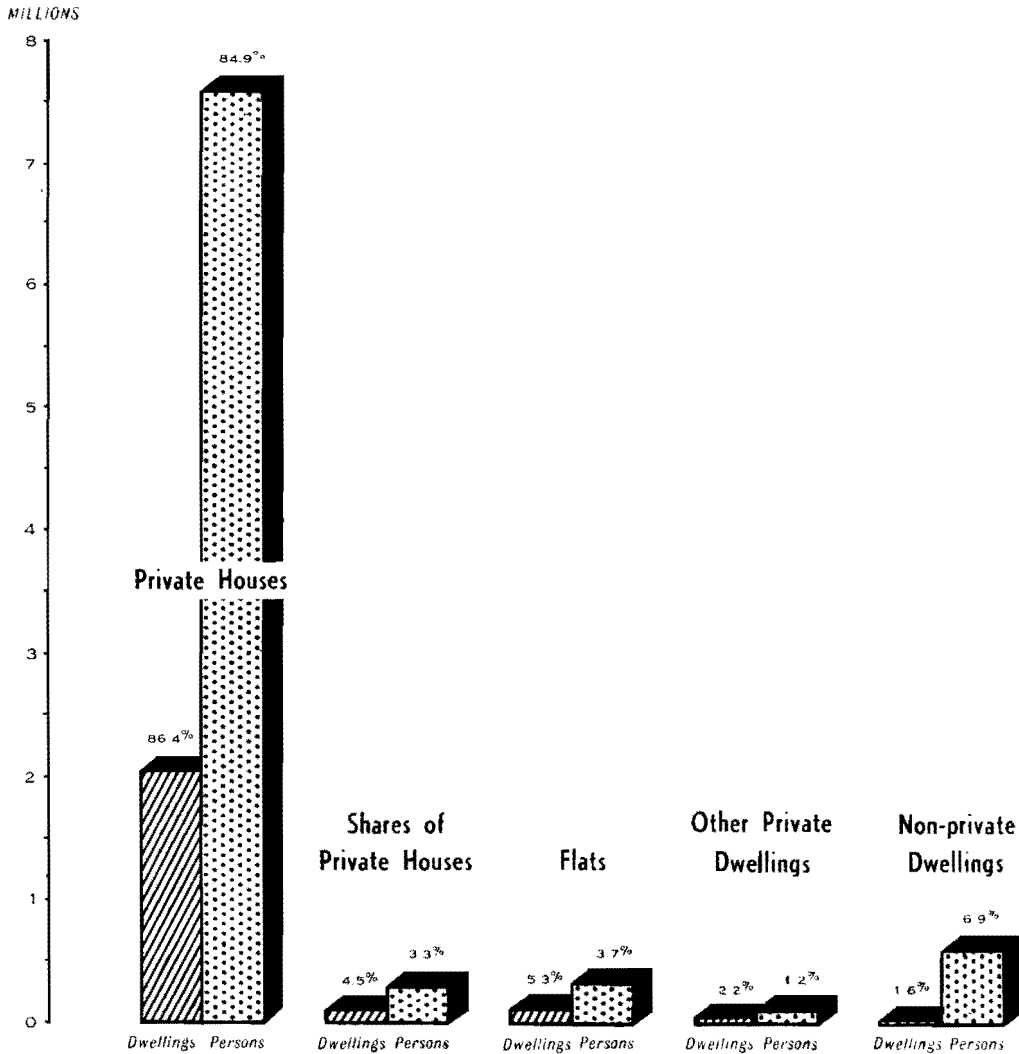
**Flat** is part of a house or other building which can be completely closed off and which includes both cooking and bathing facilities.

**Other Private Dwelling** is an apartment, room (s), &c., which is part of a building, but is not a self-contained unit.

**Dwellings other than Private** include Hotels, Boarding Houses, Lodging Houses, Hostels, Hospitals, Educational, Religious and Charitable Institutions, Defence and Penal Establishments, &c.

# POPULATION AND HOUSING — AUSTRALIA

CENSUS 1954



# OCCUPANCY OF PRIVATE DWELLINGS

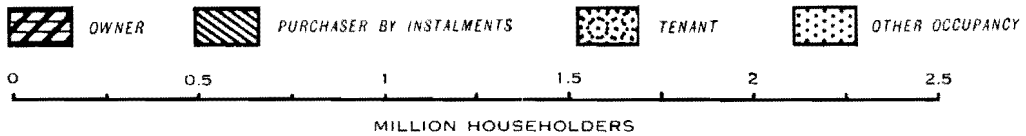
## AUSTRALIA, 1933-1954

	Owner	Purchaser by Instalments	Tenant	Other and Not Stated	Total
<b>Census—</b>					
<b>1933—</b>					
	604,413	189,627	615,412	100,219	1,509,671
Per Cent. ....	40.0	12.6	40.8	6.6	100
<b>1947—</b>					
	838,025	147,677	812,750	75,171	1,873,623
Per Cent. ....	44.7	7.9	43.4	4.0	100
<b>1954—</b>					
	1,121,814	353,093	799,230	69,284	2,343,421
Per Cent. ....	47.9	15.1	34.1	2.9	100

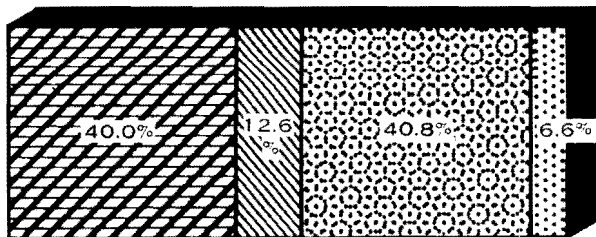


# OCCUPANCY OF PRIVATE DWELLINGS

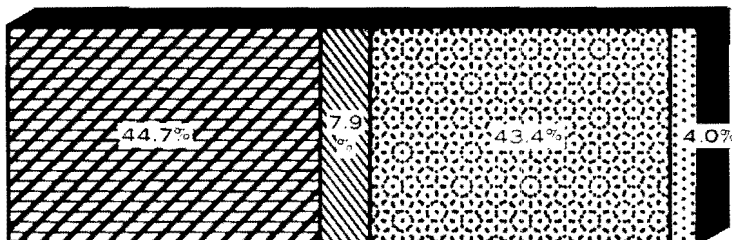
## AUSTRALIA 1933-1954



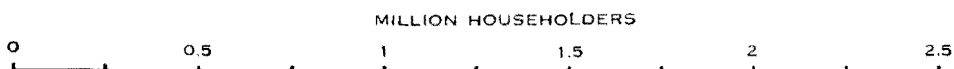
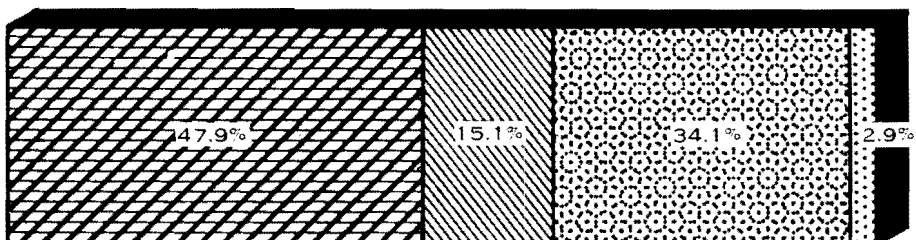
### CENSUS 1933



### CENSUS 1947



### CENSUS 1954



# 1954

## CENSUS PUBLICATIONS

### Mimeograph Statements\*—

Field Count Statements—Populations of Capital Cities, Municipalities, Non-municipal Towns, Shires—each State and Territory (preliminary figures).

Summaries of Population and Dwellings—particulars of each characteristic in comparison with 1947—each State and Territory.

Characteristics of the Population and of Dwellings—particulars for States, Territories and Australia—each Characteristic.

Density Statements—areas, populations, occupied dwellings, densities of local government areas—each State.

### Vari-type Statements†—

#### Census Bulletins—

Bulletin 1—Population and Dwellings in Divisions of States and Territories—comparisons with 1947 and earlier Censuses.

Bulletin 2—Population and Dwellings in Local Government Areas—supersedes Field Count Statements (mimeos.).

Bulletin 3—Dwellings according to Class—Local Government Areas—numbers, for each local government area in each State, of private houses, flats, &c., and non-private dwellings.

#### Census Volumes—

Parts I.—Analysis of Population in Local Government Areas—characteristics of population for each local government area in each State (with maps showing statistical divisions and local government areas).

Parts III.—Analysis of Dwellings in Local Government Areas—characteristics of dwellings for each local government area in each State.

Parts V.—Population and Occupied Dwellings in Localities of 50 persons or more—each State.

To be issued: Cross-classifications of the Characteristics of the Population—each State and Territory and Australia; Cross-classifications of the Characteristics of Dwellings and of Householders—each State and Territory and Australia; and Population and Occupied Dwellings in Localities of 50 persons or more—Australia (with geographical co-ordinates).

\* Available from Commonwealth Statistician free of charge.

† Available from Government Printer, Canberra. Price 2s. 6d. per copy, plus postage.