

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU  
OF STATISTICS

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# **CENSUS OF THE TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND**

**30 JUNE 1966**

## **SUMMARY OF POPULATION**



**PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL TERRITORIES**

**BY**

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CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

CENSUS OF THE TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND

30 JUNE 1966

CENSUS BULLETIN NO. 11.1 - SUMMARY OF POPULATION

TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND

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Prepared under instructions from the  
Minister for External Territories  
by

K.M. Archer, Statistician for the Census

### Section 1. Introduction

Population totals recorded by field personnel during the taking of the Census of 30 June 1966 have been published in Field Count Statement No. 2 issued on 22 July 1967.

This bulletin contains details of the characteristics of the population of Christmas Island compiled from Householder's Schedules. The figures are preliminary and subject to amendment.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in percentages in tables are due to rounding.

### Section 2. General

TABLE 1. - POPULATION : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND  
CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966

Census, 30 June 1961			Census, 30 June 1966			Intercensal increase
Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	
1,963	1,136	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	292

### Section 3. Age

At the 1966 Census persons were asked to state age in accordance with the following instructions.

"State age in years and completed months. If aged under one year, state age in completed months (for example, a child of eleven months should be shown as "0" years "11" months). If aged under one month, write "0" years "0" months."

This question is more specific than that asked at the 1961 Census, which sought "age last birthday" (in years). The change should overcome some mis-statement of age due to rounding. Similarly, it is expected that confusion in the reporting of ages of young children (which are conventionally thought of in "months" up to the age of about two years) should now be largely obviated.

Prior to the 1954 Census ages "not stated" were distributed to specific ages in accordance with the frequency of stated ages. In the 1954 and later Censuses, "not stated" ages were individually estimated prior to tabulation by firstly establishing the minimum range of ages within which the "not stated" age most probably lay (as indicated by other information supplied in the Householder's Schedule) and by then selecting an age from within that range from a table of random ages according to sex. This table had been compiled previously using the latest estimates of the age distribution of the population which were available at the time.

The proportion of persons who failed to state an age is very small.

TABLE 2. - POPULATION, BY AGE (GROUPED AGES) (a) : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND  
CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966

Age last birthday (years)	Census, 30 June 1961			Census, 30 June 1966				
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons		
						Total	Per cent of total	Intercensal increase or decrease
0-4	255	223	478	206	200	406	% 11.97	-72
5-9	232	223	455	243	225	468	13.80	13
10-14	155	156	311	216	202	418	12.33	107
15-19	91	64	155	172	104	276	8.14	121
20-24	261	82	343	220	67	287	8.46	-56
25-29	208	81	289	271	90	361	10.65	72
30-34	166	82	248	178	93	271	7.99	23
35-39	119	56	175	167	74	241	7.11	66
40-44	111	54	165	109	47	156	4.60	-9
45-49	125	33	158	102	43	145	4.28	-13
50-54	105	32	137	105	26	131	3.86	-6
55-59	72	26	98	91	28	119	3.51	21
60-64	40	9	49	48	18	66	1.95	17
65-69	13	9	22	18	4	22	0.65	..
70-74	8	4	12	8	5	13	0.38	1
75-79	1	..	1	4	4	8	0.24	7
80-84	1	..	1	..	1	1	0.03	..
85-89	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	-1
90-94	..	1	1	..	1	1	0.03	..
95-99	..	..	..	..	1	1	0.03	1
<u>Total</u>	1,963	1,136	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	100.00	292
Under 21	783	683	1,466	883	747	1,630	48.07	164
21-64	1,157	438	1,595	1,245	470	1,715	50.58	120
65 & over	23	15	38	30	16	46	1.36	8
<u>TOTAL CHRISTMAS ISLAND</u>	1,963	1,136	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	100.00	292

(a) Recorded ages adjusted by the distribution of ages "not stated".

NOTE. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

#### Section 4. Marital Status

At the 1966 Census, persons were asked to state marital status in accordance with the following instructions.

"If never married, write "N.M."; at present married, write "M"; married but permanently separated (legally or otherwise), write "P.S."; divorced and not remarried, write "D"; widowed and not remarried, write "W"."

A very small proportion of persons omitted to state any marital status. In such cases, marital status was assessed as follows.

Males under 20 years of age and females under 18 years of age were classified "never married" unless there was definite evidence of marriage given in the Schedule, in which case they were classified "married". All other persons were classified "married" if there was any evidence of marriage given in the Schedule. Otherwise a marital status was allocated from a random list according to the age and sex of the person concerned. The random list for the allocation of "not stated" marital status had been compiled previously using the latest available statistics of the distribution of the population by marital status.

TABLE 3. - POPULATION, BY MARITAL STATUS : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND  
CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966

Marital status	Census, 30 June 1961			Census, 30 June 1966			
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	
						Total	Inter-censal increase
Never married -							
Under 15 years of age	642	602	1,244	665	627	1,292	48
15 years of age and over	690	78	768	740	122	862	94
<u>Total</u>	1,332	680	2,012	1,405	749	2,154	142
Married	604	419	1,023	715	445	1,160	137
Married but permanently separated (a)	3	1	4	13	..	13	9
Divorced	3	2	5	2	3	5	..
Widowed	21	34	55	23	36	59	4
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	1,963	1,136	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	292

(a) Legally or otherwise..

### Section 5. Birthplace

At the 1966 Census persons were asked to state birthplace in accordance with the following instructions.

"For persons born in Australia write the name of the State or Territory where born. For persons born outside Australia write the name of the country where born (not town or locality)."

For the small number of cases where no reply was given the allocation of a birthplace was made in accordance with other information on the Schedule (usually nationality).

**TABLE 4. - POPULATION, BY BIRTHPLACE : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND  
CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966**

Birthplace	Census, 30 June 1961 Persons	Census, 30 June 1966			Intercensal increase or decrease
		Males	Females	Persons	
<b>AUSTRALASIA -</b>					
Christmas Island	899	632	584	1,216	317
Australia	108	85	59	144	36
New Zealand	4	5	2	7	3
Other countries in Australasia	232	132	94	226	-6
<u>Total born in Australasia</u>	1,243	854	739	1,593	350
<b>EUROPE -</b>					
United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland	40	26	12	38	-2
Other Countries in Europe	9	9	3	12	3
<u>Total born in Europe</u>	49	35	15	50	1
ASIA	1,804	1,265	477	1,742	-62
AFRICA	1	2	1	3	2
AMERICA	1	2	..	2	1
PACIFIC ISLANDS (N.E.I.)	1	..	1	1	..
<u>Total born outside Christmas Island</u>	2,200	1,526	649	2,175	-25
<u>Total born in Christmas Island</u>	899	632	584	1,216	317
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	292

NOTE. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

### Section 6. Period of Residence in Territory of Christmas Island

Persons who were born outside Christmas Island were asked to state their period of residence in the Territory in accordance with the following instructions.

"For persons born outside Territory write the number of completed years of continuous residence in Territory ignoring absences of less than twelve months. If resident less than twelve months, write "0"."

**TABLE 5. - OVERSEAS BORN POPULATION, BY PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION  
TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND, CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966**

Period of residence in Christmas Island (years)	Census, 30 June 1961 Persons	Census, 30 June 1966			Proportion of overseas born population		Intercensal increase or decrease
		Males	Females	Persons	1961	1966	
					%	%	
Under 1 year	282	367	119	486	12.82	22.34	204
1 and under 2	100	138	27	165	4.54	7.59	65
2 " " 3	1,500	86	20	106	68.18	4.87	-1,394
3 " " 4	26	83	27	110	1.18	5.06	84
4 " " 5	11	71	34	105	0.50	4.83	94
5 years and over	261	742	405	1,147	11.86	52.74	886
Not stated	20	39	17	56	0.91	2.57	36
<u>Total born outside Christmas Island</u>	2,200	1,526	649	2,175	100.00	100.00	-25

NOTE. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

Section 7. Nationality

At the 1966 Census persons were asked to state nationality in accordance with the following instructions.

"State nationality or citizenship of the person in relation to the country to which he or she owes legal allegiance, for example: "Australian", "British", "French", "Stateless", etc. If Australian or British by naturalization, write "Australian" or "British"."

The tables in this section relate to nationality rather than to citizenship and consequently the category "British" includes all persons who, by virtue of the Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1948-1966, are deemed to be British subjects. Under Section 7 of the Act this includes citizens of: "(a) the United Kingdom and Colonies; (b) Canada; (c) New Zealand; (d) the Union of South Africa; (e) India; (f) Pakistan; (g) Ceylon; (h) the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland; (i) Ghana; (j) the Federation of Malaya; (k) the State of Singapore."

Also included as "British" are persons who, under the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948-1966, are Australian citizens or citizens of any other country declared by Regulation 5A of the Citizenship Regulations to be "a country within the Commonwealth of Nations". These are the Federation of Nigeria, the Republic of Cyprus, Sierra Leone, Tanganyika, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Jamaica and Malaysia.

Additionally for the purposes of these tables Irish Nationality is included with British.

In the small number of cases where nationality was not stated allocation of a selected nationality was made in accordance with other information on the Schedule (usually birthplace).

TABLE 6. - POPULATION, BY NATIONALITY : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND  
CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966

Nationality	Census, 30 June 1961 Persons	Census, 30 June 1966			Intercensal increase or decrease
		Males	Females	Persons	
BRITISH (a)					
Born in Christmas Island	899	632	584	1,216	317
Born outside Christmas Island	1,848	1,403	591	1,994	146
<u>Total British</u>	2,747	2,035	1,175	3,210	463
FOREIGN	352	123	58	181	-171
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	292

(a) See text in section 7.

NOTE. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

Section 8. Religion

At the 1966 Census persons were asked to state their religion in accordance with the following instructions.

"State the full name of the religious denomination. (There is no penalty for failure to answer this question.)"

Section 21 of the Census and Statistics Act, 1905-1966 provides that "No person shall be liable to any penalty for omitting or refusing to state the religious denomination or sect to which he belongs or adheres."

Owing to the very large numbers of persons who take advantage of the voluntary nature of the question and who failed to give any particulars regarding religion at the 1966 Census and at the three preceding Censuses, it is not possible to define precisely the composition of the population in terms of religious creed; neither is it possible to make entirely satisfactory intercensal comparisons of the numbers of persons adhering to the various religious denominations.

TABLE 7. - POPULATION, BY RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION  
TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND, CENSUSES, 1961 AND 1966

Religion	Census, 30 June 1961 Persons	Census, 30 June 1966			Proportion of total population		Intercensal increase or decrease
		Males	Females	Persons	1961	1966	
					%	%	
<b>CHRISTIAN -</b>							
Baptist	..	6	2	8	..	0.24	8
Brethren	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Catholic, Roman (a)	63	80	40	120	2.03	3.54	57
Catholic (a)	41	22	17	39	1.32	1.15	-2
Churches of Christ	5	2	..	2	0.16	0.06	-3
Church of England	84	60	46	106	2.71	3.13	22
Congregational	..	3	4	7	..	0.21	7
Orthodox	7	..	..	..	0.23	..	-7
Lutheran	3	..	..	..	0.10	..	-3
Methodist	13	16	5	21	0.42	0.62	8
Presbyterian	23	15	9	24	0.74	0.71	1
Salvation Army	..	1	..	1	..	0.03	1
Seventh-day Adventist	1	1	..	1	0.03	0.03	..
Protestant (undefined)	16	3	..	3	0.52	0.09	-13
Other (including Christian undefined)	8	18	9	27	0.26	0.80	19
<u>Total Christian</u>	264	227	132	359	8.52	10.59	95
<b>NON-CHRISTIAN -</b>							
Hebrew	..	..	1	1	..	0.03	1
Other	1,490	429	318	747	48.08	22.03	-743
<u>Total Non-Christian</u>	1,490	429	319	748	48.08	22.06	-742
Indefinite	7	5	3	8	0.23	0.24	1
No religion	1	94	78	172	0.03	5.07	171
No reply	1,337	1,403	701	2,104	43.14	62.05	767
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	3,099	2,158	1,233	3,391	100.00	100.00	292

(a) As stated in individual Census Schedules. NOTE. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.



Section 9. Work Force

At the 1961 and previous Censuses the work force was determined as:

"Those who are engaged in industry, business, profession, trade or service at the time of the Census (including those on long service leave, etc.) ....."; and

"..... those out of a job at time of the Census but who are usually engaged in an industry, business, profession, trade or service ....."

At the 1966 Census an additional set of four questions was asked in order to obtain information on the basis of which the work force could be determined more precisely. The questions were as follows.

"Did the person have a job or business of any kind last week (even though he may have been temporarily absent from it)? ANSWER "YES" or "NO"."

"Did the person do any work at all last week for payment or profit? ANSWER "YES" or "NO". Persons working without pay as a helper in a "family business" or farm and members of the clergy and of religious orders (other than purely contemplative orders) should answer "YES" to this question. Persons doing only unpaid housework should answer "NO"."

"Was the person temporarily laid off by his employer without pay for the whole of last week? ANSWER "YES" or "NO"."

"Did the person look for work last week? ANSWER "YES" or "NO".  
(Note. "Looking for work" means (i) being registered with Commonwealth Employment Service, or (ii) approaching prospective employers, or (iii) placing or answering advertisements, or (iv) writing letters of application, or (v) awaiting the result of recent applications.)"

The work force includes all persons for whom the answer "yes" was given to any one of these four questions. Except that persons helping but not receiving wages or a salary who usually worked less than 15 hours a week were excluded from the work force.

This approach conforms closely to the recommendations of the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians held in Geneva in 1954 and the information so obtained has been used in determining the work force for the purposes of the 1966 Census.

Section 10. Occupational Status

Persons in the work force were asked to state occupational status in accordance with the following instructions.

"If working for wages or salary (including apprentices), write "W".  
If conducting own business or profession and not at present employing others, write "O".

If conducting own business or profession and at present employing others, write "E".  
If helping but not receiving wages or salary, write "H".  
If looking for first job, write "F"."

Persons not in the work force were asked to state activity in accordance with the following instructions.

"Persons not engaged in an industry, business, profession, trade or service.

For - Children not attending school, write "C". Full-time students or children attending school, write "S". Mainly dependent on pension or superannuation, write "P". Of independent means, write "M". Engaged in unpaid home duties, write "H.D.". Inmates of institutions (e.g., for invalids and the aged, gaols, reformatories, etc.), write "I". Others not engaged in industry, etc., write "N.A.". (Young persons seeking work but not previously employed, write "O" in answer to this question.)"

**TABLE 8. - POPULATION, BY OCCUPATIONAL STATUS, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION  
TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND, CENSUS, 30 JUNE 1966**

Occupational status	Males	Females	Persons	Percentage distribution		
				Males %	Females %	Persons %
<b>IN WORK FORCE -</b>						
Employed -						
Employer	..	1	1	..	0.08	0.03
Self-employed	..	..	..	..	..	..
Employee on wage or salary	1,424	67	1,491	65.99	5.43	43.97
Helper, unpaid	..	2	2	..	0.16	0.06
<u>Total Employed</u>	1,424	70	1,494	65.99	5.68	44.06
Unemployed	..	..	..	..	..	..
<u>Total in work force</u>	1,424	70	1,494	65.99	5.68	44.06
<b>NOT IN WORK FORCE -</b>						
Child not at school	272	258	530	12.60	20.92	15.63
Child attending school or full-time student	450	412	862	20.85	33.41	25.42
Mainly dependent on pension or superannuation	6	1	7	0.28	0.08	0.21
Of independent means	..	..	..	..	..	..
Home duties	..	483	483	..	39.17	14.24
Inmates of institutions	5	1	6	0.23	0.08	0.18
Others not in work force	1	8	9	0.05	0.65	0.27
<u>Total not in work force</u>	734	1,163	1,897	34.01	94.32	55.94
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	2,158	1,233	3,391	100.00	100.00	100.00

Section 11. Occupation

Persons in the work force were asked to state occupation in accordance with the following instructions.

"State in precise (or award) terms the person's main occupation last week, using where possible two or more words. For example, "Builder's Labourer", "Dairy Farm Hand", "Clothing Machinist", "Wood Machinist", "Motor Mechanic", "Electrical Fitter", "Coal Wheeler", "Dairy Farmer", etc. Employees of Government Departments or Authorities should be described by their official designation, such as "District Employment Officer", "Shire Clerk", etc., and not by such terms as "Public Servant", etc."

TABLE 9. - POPULATION, BY OCCUPATION : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND

CENSUS, 30 JUNE 1966

NOTE. Occupation major groups used in this table are contained in the 1966 Classification and Classified List of Occupations published by this Bureau.

Occupation (major groups)	Census, 30 June 1966			Proportion of total work force
	Males	Females	Persons	
Professional, technical and related workers	72	21	93	% 6.22
Administrative, executive and managerial workers	7	..	7	0.47
Clerical workers	53	22	75	5.02
Sales workers	4	..	4	0.27
Farmers, fishermen, hunters, timber getters and related workers	33	..	33	2.21
Miners, quarrymen and related workers	396	..	396	26.51
Workers in transport and communication occupations	200	..	200	13.39
Craftsmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	602	..	602	40.29
Service, sport and recreation workers	57	23	80	5.35
Members of armed services	..	..	..	..
Occupation inadequately described or not stated	..	4	4	0.27
<u>TOTAL IN THE WORK FORCE</u>	1,424	70	1,494	100.00

Section 12. Industry

Persons in the work force were asked to state industry in accordance with the following instructions.

"State the exact branch of industry, business or service in which mainly engaged last week, using two or more words where possible. For example, "Dairy Farming", "Coal Mining", "Woollen Mills", "Retail Grocery", "Road Construction", etc. Employees should state the industry of their employer. For example, a carpenter employed by a coal mining company should state "Coal Mining". If employed by a Government Department or other public body, state also its name. For paid housekeepers and domestic servants in private households, write "P.H."."

From the answers to this question, persons were classified according to the Bureau's "Classification of Industries" which provides for each person to be classified according to the nature of the business in which mainly engaged, regardless of whether operated by a government authority, corporation or individual.

TABLE 10. - POPULATION, BY INDUSTRY : TERRITORY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND

CENSUS, 30 JUNE 1966

NOTE. Industry major groups used in this table are contained in the 1966 Classification and Classified List of Industries published by this Bureau.

Industry (major group)	Census, 30 June 1966			Proportion of total work force
	Males	Females	Persons	
Primary production	1	..	1	<sup>%</sup> 0.07
Mining and quarrying	1,300	35	1,335	89.36
Manufacturing	10	..	10	0.67
Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services (production, supply and maintenance)	..	..	..	..
Building and construction	40	..	40	2.68
Transport and storage	16	..	16	1.07
Communication	1	..	1	0.07
Finance and property	..	..	..	..
Commerce	1	1	2	0.13
Public authority (n.e.i.) and defence services	5	..	5	0.33
Community and business services (including professional)	50	17	67	4.48
Amusement, hotels and other accommodation, cafes, personal service, etc.	..	14	14	0.94
Other industries	..	..	..	..
Industry inadequately described or not stated	..	3	3	0.20
<u>TOTAL IN THE WORK FORCE</u>	1,424	70	1,494	100.00

LIST OF 1966 CENSUS PUBLICATIONS ISSUED

State	Field Count Statements	Census Bulletins							
		Summary of Pop. (1)	Summary of Dwgs (2)	Age x Marital Status (3)	Industry x Age (4)	O/S Born B'place x Nat'y (5)	Industry x Occ. St. (6)	Mar. St. x Age x Occ. St. (7)	Pop./ Dwgs. x L.G.A's (8)
1 N.S.W.	No. 6 22.12.66	13.10.67		8. 3.68	10. 4.68	14. 2.68	22. 5.68	9. 5.68	
2 Vic.	No. 7 10. 1.67	20.10.67		19. 3.68	24. 5.68	14. 2.68	22. 5.68	9. 5.68	
3 Qld	No. 8 19. 1.67	27.10.67		19. 3.68	8. 5.68	24. 5.68	9. 7.68	26. 6.68	
4 S.A.	No. 9 20. 1.67	17.11.67		26. 3.68	5. 6.68	14. 6.68	9. 7.68	26. 6.68	
5 W.A.	No.10 24. 1.67	7.11.67		9. 2.68	23. 2.68	9. 2.68	1. 3.68	23. 2.68	8. 5.68
6 Tas.	No.11 27. 1.67	2.11.67		1. 3.68	10. 4.68	6. 3.68	26. 3.68	19. 3.68	26. 6.68
7 N.T.	No.12 10. 2.67	10.11.67		10. 4.68	5. 6.68	14. 6.68	17. 7.68	2. 8.68	23. 8.68
8 A.C.T.	Nos.1&5 22. 7.66 and 2.12.66	11. 4.67	22. 6.67	26. 4.67	3. 5.67	4. 5.67	9. 5.67	10. 5.67	23. 6.67
9 Aust.	Nos.3&4 13.10.66 and 14.11.66	15.12.67	7. 2.68 (Interim)	24. 5.68	21. 6.68	23. 7.68	31. 5.68	21. 6.68	

F.C. Statement No. 2. - Population: Nauru, Norfolk Island, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands - 22.7.66.

Census Bulletin No. 10.1. - Summary of Population : Territory of Norfolk Island -21.6.68.  
 Census Bulletin No. 11.1. - Summary of Population : Territory of Christmas Island -25.10.67  
 Census Bulletin No. 12.1. - Summary of Population : Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands -25.10.68

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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

25 OCTOBER 1968

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 4 1971 Extension 60 or, in each State Capital by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.