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## CHAPTER 6

### DEMOGRAPHY

This chapter deals with the size, growth, geographic location and characteristics of the population and with components of population change, namely births, deaths, marriage, divorce and migration.

The sources of the statistics in this chapter are population censuses, population surveys, State and Territorial registers of births, deaths and marriages, records of courts dealing with divorce, and other administrative records such as passenger cards required from international travellers and records of electoral roll and family allowance transfers.

With the proclamation of the *Constitution Alteration (Aboriginals) Act* 1967 on 10 August 1967, the provision in Section 127 of the Constitution requiring the exclusion of Aboriginals in reckoning the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth or of a State or other part of the Commonwealth was repealed. Accordingly, population and vital statistics for all dates subsequent to 10 August 1967 no longer exclude full-blood Aboriginals. Also, estimates for periods back to 30 June 1961 have been revised to include Aboriginals.

The references at the end of this chapter list publications of the Central Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics dealing specifically with the topics of this chapter.

### THE POPULATION

#### The population census

Basic enumerations of the population have been made since the early days of settlement in Australia. The early enumerations were known as 'musters'. A census conducted in New South Wales in 1828 became the first in a series of regular censuses in that colony. Periodic censuses were taken in the other Australian colonies. The first simultaneous censuses of all the Australian colonies was taken in 1881. The first national census was taken in 1911. It was followed by others in 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954, 1961 and at five yearly intervals thereafter. A special article on early censuses appears in Year Book No. 15 of 1922. A special article outlining the history, purposes, legal basis, organisation and publication of results of population censuses appears in Year Book No. 53 of 1967, pages 164-70.

Every census from 1881 has inquired into age, sex, marital status, birthplace, nationality or citizenship, and occupation. A wide variety of other topics has been included from time to time.

The most recent census in Australia was conducted on 30 June 1981. The first results are expected to be available early in 1982.

The 1981 census contains fewer questions than the 1976 census. However, in addition to basic demographic topics mentioned above, questions were asked on such topics as previous residence, birth place of parents, language usage, Aboriginality, religious affiliation, school attendance, educational qualifications, income, employment, mode of travel to work and certain characteristics of dwellings.

The questions which were deleted in 1981 were concerned principally with more detailed characteristics of dwellings. Some welfare related questions such as incidence of handicaps and child care usage were also omitted.

As for previous censuses, foreign diplomatic personnel and their families were out of the scope of the census, as were all persons residing in diplomatic residences on census night.

Despite elaborate arrangements aimed at obtaining complete coverage, it is not possible to ensure that a census schedule is returned for every individual. Some error inevitably remains for various reasons (e.g. inadvertent omission of very young children, missed dwellings or occupied dwellings mistakenly taken as unoccupied). Since 1966, sample surveys have been taken soon after each census to discover the approximate extent of underenumeration and the effects on the census results of misstatement or nonreply to specific questions. Underenumeration of the population of Australia at the 1976 census is estimated to have been 2.7 per cent. Estimated underenumeration of State and Territory populations ranged from 1.1 per cent in Tasmania to 4.4 per cent in the Northern Territory. Underenumeration varies from location to location and for populations of different ages and other characteristics. These and similar problems are common to all population censuses and, although underenumeration has increased in Australia since the 1971 census, it is of a similar order to that experienced by comparable countries.

## Population estimates

The census count, adjusted for underenumeration, forms the basis for quarterly estimates of the population by sex and State. These are calculated by updating for subsequent births and deaths and for overseas and interstate migration. Age estimates as at 30 June each year are published by sex for each State and Territory. Small area population estimates are also made annually.

From 1976, and retrospectively to June 1971, the overseas migration component is defined as the excess of arrivals over departures of permanent and long-term movements. Long-term comprises visits to or absences from Australia lasting one year or longer. Previously, all overseas movement was included. Since 1961, interstate movement which enters the calculation of population estimates for the States and Territories has excluded holiday, business or other short term movements. Thus, quarterly changes due to short term overseas movement are reflected in Australian and State population figures prior to 1971 but not thereafter, and quarterly movements due to interstate travel are reflected in population figures prior to 1961 but not thereafter.

Estimates of the population at 30 June 1971 and 30 June 1976 are based on the population as counted in the censuses with an adjustment for underenumeration. The estimate of the population at 30 June 1971 is 12,937.2 thousand compared with the counted population of 12,755.6 thousand. The estimate of the population at 30 June 1976 is 13,915.5 thousand compared with the counted population of 13,548.5 thousand. The estimate of the population at 30 June 1980 is 14,615.9 thousand. While adjustments have been made to the estimates of the age and sex of the population of each State and of the population of each local government area, it is not possible to adjust all the statistical material derived from the census.

The quarterly estimates from June 1971 to June 1976 have also been revised to take into account the 1976 census and to allow for underenumeration at that and the preceding census.

Mean populations, by sex, are calculated for calendar and financial years and are used in the calculation of crude rates.

## Size and growth of Australia's population

When Europeans first settled in Australia, the Aboriginal population is believed to have been at least 300,000. The Aboriginal population suffered a drastic decline in numbers over the next 145 years so that by 1933 it is estimated to have totalled about 67,000. It has since risen (to about 161,000 in 1976).

The population of Australia reached 1 million in 1858, 5 million in 1918 and 14 million early in 1977.

From 1861 natural increase has been the major element in population growth, and immigration the most variable. In the years 1861 to 1890, total growth on average exceeded 3 per cent a year and natural increase 2 per cent. The rate of natural increase declined during the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth century, and this, together with a near cessation of immigration during that period, reduced the rate of growth from 3.70 per cent in 1861-70 to 1.63 per cent in 1901-10.

The 1914-18 war was the dominating influence in the decade 1911-1920: during the war and immediate post-war years the birth rate rose and immigration was resumed. In the economic depression of the 1930s, however, natural increase fell to very low levels and immigration ceased; indeed, in some years, overseas departures exceeded arrivals.

With the outbreak of the 1939-45 War, Australia entered a new phase. The immediate effect of the war was to increase the number of marriages and births. The increasing births more than offset the rise in deaths due to war casualties and higher civilian death rates. Migration in these years was negligible.

The period 1947 to 1961 was marked by continued high natural increase and a resumption of immigration, the latter resulting in very high net gains in each of the four years 1949 to 1952.

Between 1961 and 1970, net migration continued at about the same level as in the previous decade, but there were declines in the crude birth rate and the rate of natural increase. The years since 1971 have been characterised by a reduced rate of natural increase due to a decline in the birth rate. Net migration gain, moderate for most of the seventies, increased sharply in 1979 and 1980, following changes in migration intake targets and Australia's acceptance of a large number of Indo-Chinese refugees as settlers.

The rate of population growth in 1980 was 1.45 per cent, the highest since 1974 (1.62 per cent). The population estimates in the following table relate to the end of December. Estimates for the end of June are given in other tables in this Chapter.

## POPULATION AND COMPONENTS OF GROWTH

| Period                      | Population at<br>end of period<br>( <sup>000</sup> ) (a) | Average annual rate of growth (b) (per cent) |                         |       |
|-----------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|-------|
|                             |  | Natural<br>increase                          | Net<br>migration<br>(c) | Total |
| 1851-1860 . . . . .         | 1,145.6  |  |                         |       |
| 1861-1870 . . . . .         | 1,647.8  | 2.47   | 1.23                    | 3.70  |
| 1871-1880 . . . . .         | 2,231.5  | 2.07   | 1.01                    | 3.08  |
| 1881-1890 . . . . .         | 3,151.4  | 2.05   | 1.46                    | 3.51  |
| 1891-1900 . . . . .         | 3,765.3  | 1.73   | 0.07                    | 1.80  |
| 1901-1910 . . . . .         | 4,425.1  | 1.53   | 0.10                    | 1.63  |
| 1911-1920 . . . . .         | 5,411.3  | 1.60   | 0.43                    | 2.03  |
| 1921-1930 . . . . .         | 6,500.8  | 1.32   | 0.53                    | 1.85  |
| 1931-1940 . . . . .         | 7,077.6  | 0.79   | 0.05                    | 0.85  |
| 1941-1950 . . . . .         | 8,307.5  | 1.13   | 0.47                    | 1.61  |
| 1951-1955 . . . . .         | 9,311.8  | 1.38   | 0.95                    | 2.31  |
| 1956-1960 . . . . .         | 10,391.9   | 1.40   | 0.83                    | 2.22  |
| 1961-1965 . . . . .         | 11,505.4   | 1.27   | 0.74                    | 1.98  |
| 1966-1970 . . . . .         | 12,663.5   | 1.11   | 0.91                    | 1.94  |
| 1971-1975 . . . . .         | (d) 13,849.3   | 1.08   | 0.49                    | 1.59  |
| 1972 . . . . .              | (d) 13,283.9   | 1.19   | 0.43                    | 1.64  |
| 1973 . . . . .              | (d) 13,490.6   | 1.03   | 0.51                    | 1.56  |
| 1974 . . . . .              | (d) 13,709.5   | 0.96   | 0.65                    | 1.62  |
| 1975 . . . . .              | (d) 13,849.3   | 0.90   | 0.10                    | 1.02  |
| 1976 . . . . .              | (d) 13,991.2   | 0.83   | 0.18                    | 1.02  |
| 1977 . . . . .              | (d) 14,163.5   | 0.84   | 0.39                    | 1.23  |
| 1978 . . . . .              | (d) 14,330.9   | 0.82   | 0.36                    | 1.18  |
| 1979 . . . . .              | (d) 14,516.5   | 0.81   | 0.41                    | 1.22  |
| 1980 <sup>p</sup> . . . . . | (d) 14,726.8   | 0.80   | 0.64                    | 1.45  |

(a) Excludes full-blood Aborigines prior to 1961. (b) The average annual rates of population growth for periods greater than one year are calculated on the compound interest principle. The rates refer to the population at the beginning of the period. Discrepancies between the sum of the rate of growth due to natural increase and net migration and the rate of total growth are due to intercensal adjustments. (c) From 30 June 1971, net migration is defined as the excess of overseas arrivals over overseas departures classified as permanent and long-term movement. (Long-term comprises visits to and absences from Australia lasting one year or longer). From 30 June 1933 to 30 June 1971, net migration represents the excess of all arrivals over all departures. Prior to 30 June 1933, net migration includes discrepancies disclosed by the various censuses, which were corrected by adjusting recorded overseas departures. (d) These population estimates and rates of growth incorporate revisions resulting from an examination of evidence of underenumeration in the 1976 and 1971 censuses. The estimated population at 31 December 1970 used to compute rates of growth thereafter was 12,799,600.

## Projections of the population

Projections of Australia's population have been made by the ABS using the component method in which a base population is brought forward year by year by applying assumptions about future levels of fertility, mortality and the characteristics of overseas migration.

The 1978 projections presented in the following table give a possible 2011 population in the range 18.6 million to 20.6 million persons. The 1980 projection is available only up to the year 2001 where it gives a population of 19.4 million, higher than each of the 1978-based projections for that year.

Assumptions used in 1978 projection series—

Base population: The four series are based on provisional estimates of the population of Australia at 30 June 1978.

Series A: *Fertility*—Total fertility rates for Australia are assumed to decline from 2,035 births per thousand females in 1977 to a low point of 1,905 in 1979 and to recover to long-term replacement level of 2,110 by 1984, remaining constant thereafter.

*Mortality*—Infant mortality rates are assumed to continue the recorded 1966-76 average annual rate of decline, reduced by 1 per cent a year. The 1975-76 average life table mortality rates are assumed to apply throughout the whole projection period for ages 1 and above.

*Migration*—Net overseas migration to Australia is set at 50,000 persons per year.

Series B: *Fertility*—Total fertility rates for Australia are assumed to decline from 2,035 births per thousand females in 1977 to 1,730 by the year 1980 and to recover partially to 1,900, below long-term replacement level, in 1984, remaining constant thereafter.

*Mortality*—as in Series A.

*Migration*—as in Series A.

Series C: *Fertility*—Total fertility rates for Australia are assumed to rise from 2,035 births per thousand females in 1977 to 2,320 in 1984, remaining constant thereafter.

*Mortality*—as in Series A.

*Migration*—as in Series A.

Series D: *Fertility*—as in Series A.

*Mortality*—1975-76 life table mortality rates are assumed to decline by 1.5 per cent a year. This rate of reduction would mean that Australians' life expectancy at birth would reach 73.6 (males) and 80.3 (females) by 2001, currently about the highest level achieved by any country.

*Migration*—as in Series A.

Assumptions used in 1980 projection—

Base population: Preliminary estimates of the population of Australia at 30 June 1980, by single years of age and sex.

*Fertility*—as in Series A, above, but with the recovery to replacement level being extended 3 years to 1987.

*Mortality*—The age-sex specific mortality rates for 1977 and 1978 were adjusted to produce the estimated deaths figure for the financial year 1980-81 of 105,000. For each subsequent year to 2001 the mortality rates were assumed to decrease by 1.5 per cent per year.

*Migration*—Net overseas migration to Australia is set at 80,000 persons per year.

According to the 1980 projection, the population will number 17.4 million in 2001 without further immigration and 19.4 million with net immigration at 80,000 persons a year.

**POPULATION: ACTUAL AND PROJECTED**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

|            |                      |            | Projected population |          |          |          |            |  |
|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|--|
|            |                      |            | 1978 Projections     |          |          |          | 1980       |  |
| At 30 June | Actual<br>population | At 30 June | Series A             | Series B | Series C | Series D | Projection |  |
| 1947       | 7 579.4              | 1980       | 14 563.1             | 14 540.0 | 14 585.1 | 14 564.9 | 14 615.8   |  |
| 1954       | 8 986.5              | 1981       | 14 720.3             | 14 674.4 | 14 764.9 | 14 725.5 | 14 813.7   |  |
| 1961       | 10 508.2             | 1982       | 14 885.1             | 14 815.3 | 14 953.2 | 14 895.3 | 15 015.6   |  |
| 1966       | 11 550.5             | 1983       | 15 057.1             | 14 962.8 | 15 149.6 | 15 073.8 | 15 222.2   |  |
| 1971(a)    | 12 937.2             | 1984       | 15 234.6             | 15 115.0 | 15 352.4 | 15 259.4 | 15 434.0   |  |
| 1972       | 13 177.0             | 1985       | 15 415.1             | 15 269.7 | 15 558.9 | 15 449.5 | 15 654.3   |  |
| 1973       | 13 380.4             | 1986       | 15 595.6             | 15 424.0 | 15 765.5 | 15 640.9 | 15 882.4   |  |
| 1974       | 13 599.1             |            |                      |          |          |          |            |  |
| 1975       | 13 771.4             | 1991       | 16 487.8             | 16 182.9 | 16 791.0 | 16 607.4 | 17 069.4   |  |
| 1976       | 13 915.5             | 1996       | 17 347.4             | 16 905.8 | 17 787.4 | 17 571.4 | 18 259.1   |  |
| 1977       | 14 074.1             | 2001       | 18 141.3             | 17 555.2 | 18 727.5 | 18 496.4 | 19 410.2   |  |
| 1978       | 14 248.6             | 2006       | 18 867.3             | 18 106.5 | 19 636.9 | 19 377.9 | n.a.       |  |
| 1979       | 14 422.0             | 2011       | 19 580.7             | 18 599.3 | 20 588.6 | 20 271.1 | n.a.       |  |

(a) Population adjusted from 1971 for under-enumeration in 1971 and 1976 censuses.

The average annual rate of population growth would rise from 0.8 per cent to 0.9 per cent and would then decline to 0.7 per cent, if there is no further immigration or emigration. The crude birthrate on the assumptions used would rise from 15 per thousand of population to 17 per thousand and would then decline to 15 again. The crude death rate would rise from 7 per thousand to 8 per thousand.

With net immigration at 80,000 persons a year, the average annual rate of growth would rise from 1.4 per cent to 1.5 per cent and then decline to 1.2 per cent. The crude birthrate would rise from 15 per thousand of population to 17 per thousand and then decline to 15 again. The crude death rate would remain steady at 7 per thousand.

**PROJECTED AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES OF GROWTH (a), AUSTRALIA 1980 TO 2001**  
(Per cent)

|                     | <i>Excluding migration<br/>after 30 June 1980</i> |               |                           | <i>Including net immigration at the<br/>illustrative level of 80,000 persons<br/>a year after 30 June 1980</i> |               |                             |                              |                           |
|---------------------|---|---------------|---------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                     | <i>Births</i>                                     | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Rate of<br/>growth</i> | <i>Births</i>  | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Natural<br/>increase</i> | <i>Net immi-<br/>gration</i> | <i>Rate of<br/>growth</i> |
| 1980-81 . . . . .   | 1.52  | 0.72          | 0.80                      | 1.52   | 0.72          | 0.80                        | 0.55                         | 1.35                      |
| 1981-86 . . . . .   | 1.58  | 0.73          | 0.85                      | 1.60   | 0.72          | 0.88                        | 0.52                         | 1.40                      |
| 1986-91 . . . . .   | 1.66  | 0.75          | 0.91                      | 1.69   | 0.73          | 0.96                        | 0.49                         | 1.45                      |
| 1991-96 . . . . .   | 1.59  | 0.76          | 0.83                      | 1.64   | 0.73          | 0.90                        | 0.46                         | 1.36                      |
| 1996-2001 . . . . . | 1.50  | 0.78          | 0.72                      | 1.54   | 0.73          | 0.80                        | 0.43                         | 1.23                      |

(a) Calculated using the compound interest principle. The rates are split between the components of natural increase and net immigration according to the relative size of each component.

The proportion of juveniles aged under 15 would fall from 25 per cent to 22 per cent without immigration and to 23 per cent with immigration. The proportion of elderly aged 65 and over would rise from 10 per cent to 13 per cent without immigration and to 12 per cent with immigration. The proportion of the population aged 15 to 64 would remain at approximately 65 per cent whether or not there is any further immigration.

**PROJECTED AGE DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN AGE**

|                | <i>Excluding migration<br/>after 30 June 1980</i> |              |                      |                                   | <i>Including net immigration at<br/>illustrative level of 80,000<br/>persons a year</i> |              |                      |                                   |
|----------------|---|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                | <i>Age distribution (per cent)</i>                |              |                      | <i>Median<br/>age<br/>(years)</i> | <i>Age distribution (per cent)</i>  |              |                      | <i>Median<br/>age<br/>(years)</i> |
| <i>30 June</i> | <i>0-14</i>                                       | <i>15-64</i> | <i>65 &amp; over</i> |                                   | <i>0-14</i>   | <i>15-64</i> | <i>65 &amp; over</i> |                                   |
| 1981 . . . . . | 24.9  | 65.3         | 9.8                  | 29.8                              | 25.0  | 65.3         | 9.8                  | 29.8                              |
| 1986 . . . . . | 23.1  | 66.2         | 10.8                 | 31.3                              | 23.4  | 66.1         | 10.5                 | 30.9                              |
| 1991 . . . . . | 22.2  | 65.9         | 11.9                 | 32.6                              | 22.8  | 65.8         | 11.5                 | 32.0                              |
| 1996 . . . . . | 22.3  | 65.0         | 12.7                 | 34.0                              | 23.0  | 64.9         | 12.1                 | 33.2                              |
| 2001 . . . . . | 22.1  | 64.9         | 13.1                 | 35.3                              | 22.8  | 65.0         | 12.2                 | 34.2                              |

**Location of the population**

For historical, climatic and economic reasons the population of Australia is concentrated in capital cities and other major cities, mainly on the south and east coasts of the continent. In June 1980, 69.70 per cent of the population lived in the national capital, the six State capital cities and five other major cities of 100,000 or more persons (metropolitan statistical divisions and statistical districts). Of these, only Canberra is located inland. The percentage of the population living in rural areas declined over the years as the major cities and towns attracted most of the population growth; there were periods when the rural population actually declined in numbers. This trend, however, appears to have slowed considerably since 1971. In 1980, New South Wales was the State with the highest per cent of the population living in the capital city or towns of over 100,000 (75.0 per cent), followed by Victoria (74.7 per cent), South Australia (71.9 per cent), Western Australia (71.3 per cent), Queensland (52.1 per cent) and Tasmania (40.2 per cent).

**POPULATION IN STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES(a)**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

|   | 30 June 1978    | 30 June 1979     | 30 June 1980    |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Sydney . . . . .                                | 3,155.2         | 3,193.3          | 3,231.7         |
| Melbourne . . . . .                             | 2,717.6         | 2,739.7          | 2,759.7         |
| Brisbane . . . . .                              | 1,004.5         | 1,015.2          | 1,028.9         |
| Adelaide . . . . .                              | 930.5           | 933.3            | 934.2           |
| Perth . . . . .                                 | 864.9           | r884.2           | 902.0           |
| Newcastle . . . . .                             | 375.3           | 379.8            | 385.0           |
| Canberra (b) . . . . .                          | 234.8           | 241.3            | 245.5           |
| Wollongong . . . . .                            | 222.0           | 224.0            | 226.3           |
| Hobart . . . . .                                | 166.5           | 168.5            | 170.2           |
| Geelong . . . . .                               | 139.9           | 141.1            | 142.3           |
| Gold Coast (c) . . . . .                        | r133.5          | r144.2           | 161.1           |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                          | <b>r9,944.5</b> | <b>r10,064.0</b> | <b>10,186.9</b> |
| <b>Percentage of total population . . . . .</b> | <b>69.79</b>    | <b>69.78</b>     | <b>69.70</b>    |

(a) Capital city statistical divisions and statistical districts of 100,000 persons or more in 1976. (b) Includes Queanbeyan. (c) Includes Tweed Heads.

While there has been population growth in all States during the past decade, there has been substantially higher than average growth in the States of Queensland (19.5 per cent), Western Australia (21.3 per cent), and the two Territories—the Northern Territory (32.0 per cent) and the Australian Capital Territory (55.6 per cent) between 30 June 1971 and 30 June 1980.

**POPULATION OF STATES AND TERRITORIES(a)**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

|   | N.S.W.       | Vic.         | Qld          | S.A.        | W.A.        | Tas.        | N.T.        | A.C.T.(b)   | Aust.         |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 5 April 1891 . . . . .                                  | 1,127.1      | 1,140.1      | 393.7        | 315.5       | 49.8        | 146.7       | 4.9         | ..          | 3,177.8       |
| 31 March 1901 . . . . .                                 | 1,354.8      | 1,201.1      | 498.1        | 358.3       | 184.1       | 172.5       | 4.8         | ..          | 3,773.8       |
| 3 April 1911 . . . . .                                  | 1,646.7      | 1,315.6      | 605.8        | 408.6       | 282.1       | 191.2       | 3.3         | 1.7         | 4,455.0       |
| 4 April 1921 . . . . .                                  | 2,100.4      | 1,531.3      | 756.0        | 495.2       | 332.7       | 213.8       | 3.9         | 2.6         | 5,435.7       |
| 30 June 1933 . . . . .                                  | 2,600.8      | 1,820.3      | 947.5        | 580.9       | 438.9       | 227.6       | 4.9         | 8.9         | 6,629.8       |
| 30 June 1947 . . . . .                                  | 2,984.8      | 2,054.7      | 1,106.4      | 646.1       | 502.5       | 257.1       | 10.9        | 16.9        | 7,579.4       |
| 30 June 1954 . . . . .                                  | 3,423.5      | 2,452.3      | 1,318.3      | 797.1       | 639.8       | 308.8       | 16.5        | 30.3        | 8,986.5       |
| 30 June 1961(b) . . . . .                               | 3,918.5      | 2,930.4      | 1,527.5      | 971.5       | 746.8       | 350.3       | 44.5        | 58.8        | 10,548.3      |
| 30 June 1966 . . . . .                                  | 4,237.9      | 3,220.2      | 1,674.3      | 1,095.0     | 848.1       | 371.4       | 56.5        | 96.0        | 11,599.5      |
| 30 June—  |              |              |              |             |             |             |             |             |               |
| 1971 . . . . .  | 4,679.4      | 3,520.4      | 1,881.4      | 1,185.3     | 1,043.1     | 390.2       | 91.9        | 145.6       | 12,937.2      |
| 1972 . . . . .  | 4,746.9      | 3,577.4      | 1,932.5      | 1,202.4     | 1,070.9     | 392.2       | 96.6        | 158.0       | 13,177.0      |
| 1973 . . . . .  | 4,793.4      | 3,628.4      | 1,987.3      | 1,217.9     | 1,089.8     | 395.7       | 99.7        | 168.2       | 13,380.4      |
| 1974 . . . . .  | 4,839.4      | 3,676.8      | 2,046.1      | 1,236.2     | 1,117.4     | 399.3       | 104.4       | 179.6       | 13,599.1      |
| 1975 . . . . .  | 4,884.5      | 3,719.1      | 2,084.0      | 1,252.1     | 1,146.7     | 404.7       | 89.4        | 190.9       | 13,771.4      |
| 1976 . . . . .  | 4,914.3      | 3,746.0      | 2,111.7      | 1,261.6     | 1,169.8     | 407.4       | 101.4       | 203.3       | 13,915.5      |
| 1977 . . . . .  | 4,956.7      | 3,782.3      | 2,136.8      | 1,276.8     | 1,197.1     | 410.6       | 105.5       | 208.2       | 14,074.1      |
| 1978 . . . . .  | 5,011.8      | 3,818.4      | 2,166.7      | 1,287.6     | 1,222.3     | 413.7       | 112.5       | 215.6       | 14,248.6      |
| 1979 . . . . .  | 5,078.5      | 3,853.5      | 2,197.4      | 1,293.8     | 1,242.8     | 417.7       | 115.9       | 222.3       | 14,421.9      |
| 1980 . . . . .  | 5,146.2      | 3,887.0      | 2,247.8      | 1,299.1     | 1,265.0     | 422.9       | 121.3       | 226.6       | 14,615.9      |
| <b>Percentage of total population in 1980 . . . . .</b> | <b>35.21</b> | <b>26.59</b> | <b>15.38</b> | <b>8.89</b> | <b>8.65</b> | <b>2.89</b> | <b>0.83</b> | <b>1.55</b> | <b>100.00</b> |

(a) Figures before 1961 exclude Aborigines, later figures do not. The estimates from June 1971 for each State and Territory are made from the 1971 census results, with augmented adjustments for under-enumeration to make the total balance with the estimates for Australia made retrospectively from 1976. (b) Part of New South Wales before 1911.

### Age distribution of the population

The age distribution of the population is shown in Plate 30, page 93, in the form of an age-sex pyramid. The low birthrates of the depression years of the 1930s, the prolonged "baby boom" from the end of World War II to the early 1960s and the declining birthrate of the 1970s are reflected in the profile.

#### ESTIMATED AGE DISTRIBUTION: 30 JUNE 1980 (<sup>'000</sup>)

| Age group (years)         | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 0-4 . . . . .             | 580.4          | 550.4          | 1,130.9         |
| 5-9 . . . . .             | 666.5          | 635.4          | 1,301.9         |
| 10-14 . . . . .           | 649.6          | 615.0          | 1,264.6         |
| 15-19 . . . . .           | 667.0          | 629.8          | 1,296.8         |
| 20-24 . . . . .           | 637.6          | 614.8          | 1,252.4         |
| 25-29 . . . . .           | 593.7          | 590.4          | 1,184.1         |
| 30-34 . . . . .           | 598.3          | 577.9          | 1,176.2         |
| 35-39 . . . . .           | 486.9          | 459.8          | 946.7           |
| 40-44 . . . . .           | 421.6          | 399.9          | 821.4           |
| 45-49 . . . . .           | 382.1          | 361.1          | 743.2           |
| 50-54 . . . . .           | 398.0          | 377.0          | 775.0           |
| 55-59 . . . . .           | 365.8          | 367.9          | 733.7           |
| 60-64 . . . . .           | 283.5          | 304.1          | 587.6           |
| 65-69 . . . . .           | 240.7          | 280.2          | 520.9           |
| 70+ . . . . .             | 347.6          | 533.0          | 880.6           |
| <b>All ages . . . . .</b> | <b>7,319.2</b> | <b>7,296.7</b> | <b>14,615.9</b> |

The median age of the population has been increasing since the early 1970s. It stood at 29.5 years on 30 June 1980.

#### MEDIAN AGE OF THE POPULATION, SELECTED YEARS 1901-80

|                              | 1901 | 1921 | 1933 | 1947 | 1961 | 1971 | 1980 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Median age (years) . . . . . | 22.5 | 25.8 | 27.7 | 30.7 | 29.4 | 27.5 | 29.5 |

The age distribution of the population has changed gradually in the past decade. The proportion of the population aged over 60 years has increased, due in part to a declining number of births, but also to improvements in life expectancy resulting from a falling death rate.

Substantial levels of immigration have had the effect of reducing the proportion of the population in elderly groups to levels below what it would otherwise have been.

Australia's age profile, with a median age approximately 30 years, is comparatively younger than that of much of Europe, the original source of most of Australia's population. This is because of a higher rate of natural increase and the effect of immigration to Australia.

#### The labour force age group

The proportion of the population in the labour force age group (usually defined as the population aged 15-64) increased between 1971 and 1980 from 62.9 to 65.1 per cent of the population. The increase was particularly large in the 15-44 age group.

#### PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP: SELECTED YEARS 1947-80

| Age group                   | 30 June             |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                             | 1947(a)             | 1954 | 1961 | 1966 | 1971 | 1976 | 1980 |
|                             | ( <sup>'000</sup> ) |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 0-14 years . . . . .        | 25.1                | 28.5 | 30.2 | 29.4 | 28.7 | 27.1 | 25.3 |
| 15-44 years . . . . .       | 45.2                | 43.1 | 41.4 | 42.2 | 43.0 | 44.1 | 45.7 |
| 45-64 years . . . . .       | 21.1                | 20.0 | 19.9 | 19.9 | 19.9 | 20.0 | 19.4 |
| Total 15-64 years . . . . . | 66.3                | 63.2 | 61.3 | 62.1 | 62.9 | 64.1 | 65.1 |
| 65 years and over . . . . . | 8.0                 | 8.3  | 8.5  | 8.5  | 8.4  | 8.9  | 9.6  |

(a) Excludes a proportion (0.6 per cent) of not stated ages which are not distributed among recorded ages as in later censuses.



**The aged population**

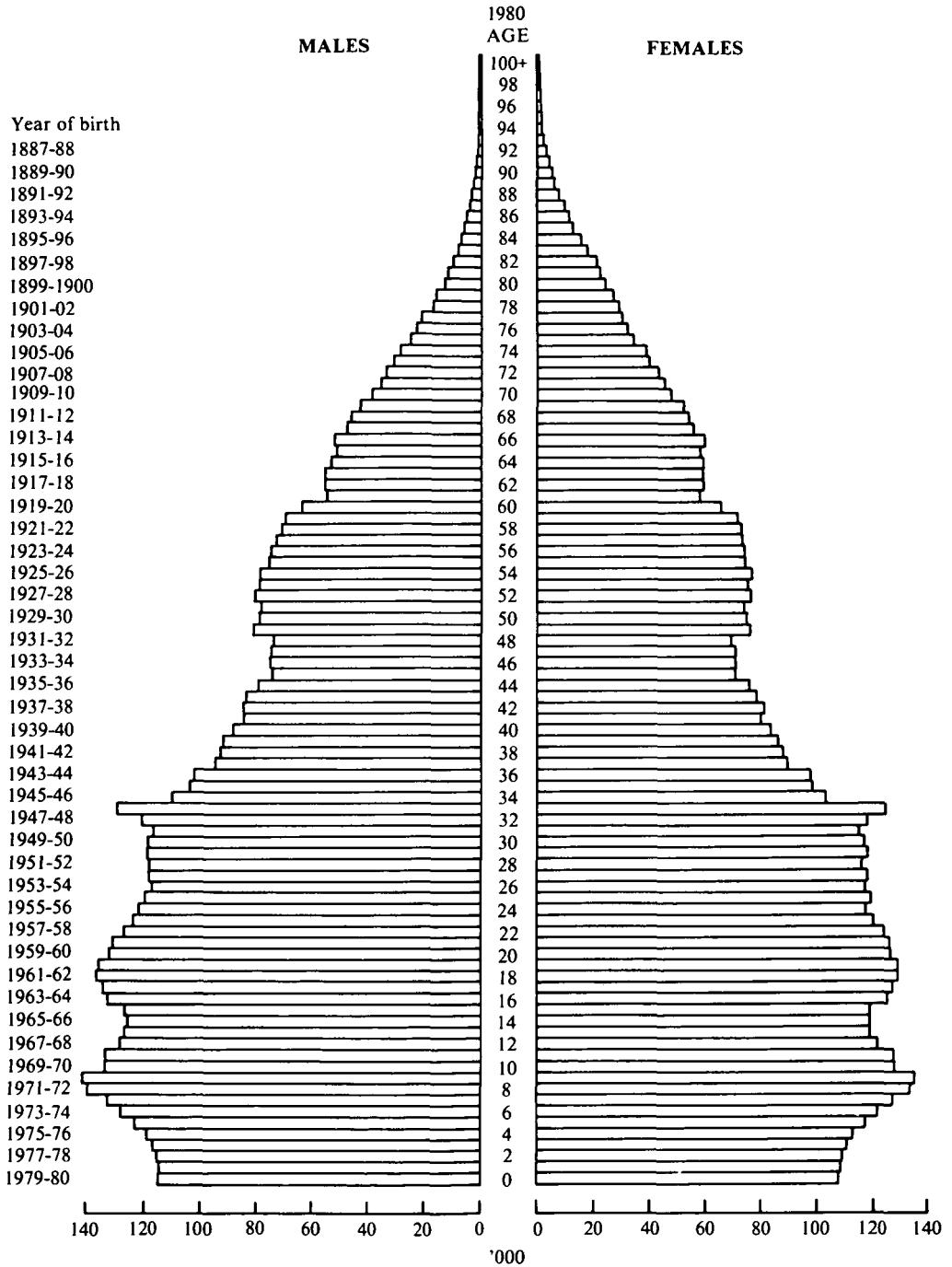
The proportion of total population aged 65 years and above is increasing. The proportion was 9.59 per cent in 1980; an increase from 8.43 per cent in 1971 and 8.88 per cent in 1976.

The proportion of females in this group is high; 58.02 per cent of the total in 1980. The female proportion increases with age due to higher male mortality at every age.

**POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS: 1971 TO 1980**

| 30 June        | Number ('000) |         |         |             | Per cent |       |       |             |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------|----------|-------|-------|-------------|
|                | Under 15      | 15-44   | 45-64   | 65 and over | Under 15 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over |
| <b>MALES</b>   |               |         |         |             |          |       |       |             |
| 1971           | 1,920.9       | 2,844.7 | 1,284.1 | 456.5       | 29.5     | 43.7  | 19.7  | 7.0         |
| 1976           | 1,932.7       | 3,133.3 | 1,394.9 | 518.4       | 27.7     | 44.9  | 20.0  | 7.4         |
| 1977           | 1,920.2       | 3,199.1 | 1,401.5 | 534.6       | 27.2     | 45.3  | 19.9  | 7.6         |
| 1978           | 1,910.1       | 3,266.3 | 1,410.8 | 552.0       | 26.8     | 45.8  | 19.8  | 7.7         |
| 1979           | 1,898.2       | 3,336.5 | 1,418.2 | 571.1       | 26.3     | 46.2  | 19.6  | 7.9         |
| 1980           | 1,896.5       | 3,405.0 | 1,429.4 | 588.3       | 25.9     | 46.5  | 19.5  | 8.0         |
| <b>FEMALES</b> |               |         |         |             |          |       |       |             |
| 1971           | 1,827.6       | 2,701.3 | 1,272.8 | 629.3       | 28.4     | 42.0  | 19.8  | 9.8         |
| 1976           | 1,834.1       | 3,002.1 | 1,382.2 | 717.7       | 26.4     | 43.3  | 19.9  | 10.4        |
| 1977           | 1,822.9       | 3,069.3 | 1,387.9 | 738.6       | 26.0     | 43.7  | 19.8  | 10.5        |
| 1978           | 1,813.3       | 3,138.2 | 1,395.8 | 762.1       | 25.5     | 44.1  | 19.6  | 10.7        |
| 1979           | 1,803.1       | 3,205.8 | 1,400.7 | 788.6       | 25.0     | 44.5  | 19.5  | 11.0        |
| 1980           | 1,800.8       | 3,272.5 | 1,410.1 | 813.2       | 24.7     | 44.8  | 19.3  | 11.1        |
| <b>PERSONS</b> |               |         |         |             |          |       |       |             |
| 1971           | 3,748.5       | 5,546.0 | 2,556.9 | 1,085.9     | 29.0     | 42.9  | 19.8  | 8.4         |
| 1976           | 3,766.8       | 6,135.4 | 2,777.1 | 1,236.1     | 27.1     | 44.1  | 20.0  | 8.9         |
| 1977           | 3,743.1       | 6,268.3 | 2,789.4 | 1,273.3     | 26.6     | 44.5  | 19.8  | 9.0         |
| 1978           | 3,723.4       | 6,404.5 | 2,806.6 | 1,314.1     | 26.1     | 45.0  | 19.7  | 9.2         |
| 1979           | 3,701.3       | 6,542.2 | 2,818.8 | 1,359.7     | 25.7     | 45.4  | 19.5  | 9.4         |
| 1980           | 3,697.4       | 6,677.5 | 2,839.5 | 1,401.5     | 25.3     | 45.7  | 19.4  | 9.6         |

AGE PYRAMID OF THE POPULATION, 1980



POPULATION OF AUSTRALIA : AGE LAST BIRTHDAY, BY SEX, 30 JUNE 1980

### Marital Status

The proportion of the population of marriageable age (18 years and above) who were married changed little between the censuses of 1971 and 1976.

A new divorce law, the Family Law Act, was introduced in 1976. A proper assessment of the impact of the change in the divorce law on the population of married people will not be possible until processing of marital status data from the 1981 census has been completed.

### Masculinity

The masculinity of the population is expressed as the number of males per 100 females. This ratio is influenced by the age structure: masculinity at birth is about 105.5, but higher male mortality gradually erodes the difference so that the numbers of males and females would tend to be about the same soon after age 50 in the absence of migration, and the masculinity ratio progressively declines thereafter. The overall masculinity of the population has been declining and in 1980 was 100.31.

#### MASCULINITY IN EACH AGE GROUP (males per hundred females)(a)

| 30 June | Age in years |        |        |             | Total  |
|---------|--------------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|
|         | 0-14         | 15-44  | 45-64  | 65 and over |        |
| 1971    | 104.85       | 105.87 | 100.40 | 72.17       | 101.17 |
| 1976    | 105.38       | 104.37 | 100.92 | 72.24       | 100.62 |
| 1977    | 105.34       | 104.22 | 100.99 | 72.35       | 100.52 |
| 1978    | 105.34       | 104.08 | 101.07 | 72.43       | 100.42 |
| 1979    | 105.27       | 104.08 | 101.25 | 72.42       | 100.36 |
| 1980    | 105.31       | 104.05 | 101.37 | 72.34       | 100.31 |

(a) Based on census results adjusted for mis-statement of age and, for 1971 and 1976, for under-enumeration.

### Ethnic composition

The composition of the population has been changing gradually in post-war decades due to changes in both the numbers and the origins of immigrant flows.

In 1976, persons born outside Australia made up 20 per cent of the population, approximately the same proportion as in 1971. This represents a substantially higher proportion than that recorded at the 1947 census (following the end of World War II) when the proportion was 10 per cent.

#### POPULATION BY BIRTHPLACE 30 JUNE 1976(a)

|                 | Males            | Females          | Persons           |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Australia       | 5,353,810        | 5,475,806        | 10,829,616        |
| UK and Ireland  | 571,035          | 546,564          | 1,117,599         |
| New Zealand     | 45,056           | 44,735           | 89,791            |
| Germany         | 53,820           | 53,739           | 107,559           |
| Greece          | 78,667           | 74,242           | 152,909           |
| Italy           | 152,886          | 127,268          | 280,154           |
| Malta           | 30,437           | 25,452           | 55,889            |
| Netherlands     | 50,206           | 41,905           | 92,111            |
| Poland          | 31,802           | 24,249           | 56,051            |
| Yugoslavia      | 79,185           | 64,406           | 143,591           |
| Other Europe    | 112,455          | 92,499           | 204,954           |
| Asia            | 125,102          | 115,520          | 240,622           |
| America         | 41,767           | 38,965           | 80,732            |
| Africa          | 35,720           | 34,791           | 70,511            |
| Other Countries | 13,000           | 13,359           | 26,359            |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>6,774,948</b> | <b>6,773,501</b> | <b>13,548,449</b> |

(a) Census figures, not adjusted for under enumeration.

**AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS BORN POPULATION**  
(Per cent)

| <i>Census</i>     | <i>Australian<br/>born</i> | <i>Overseas born</i> |              | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                   |                            | <i>U.K. and Eire</i> | <i>Other</i> |              |
| 1954 . . . . .    | 85.7                       | 7.4                  | 6.9          | 100.0        |
| 1961 . . . . .    | 83.1                       | 7.2                  | 9.7          | 100.0        |
| 1966 . . . . .    | 81.6                       | 7.9                  | 10.6         | 100.0        |
| 1971 . . . . .    | 79.8                       | 8.5                  | 11.7         | 100.0        |
| 1976(a) . . . . . | 79.9                       | 8.2                  | 11.8         | 100.0        |

(a) Based on 1976 Census counts, not adjusted for under enumeration.

### The Aboriginal population

A brief account was given of the Australian Aboriginal population, its origin and its numbers as estimated from time to time in Year Book No. 17, pages 951-61. A special article by A. R. Radcliffe Brown dealing with the estimated number and distribution of the Aboriginal population at the date of the first settlement of European people on the continent appeared in Year Book No. 23, pages 687-96. That article arrived at an estimated minimum Aboriginal population of 251,000, based on the evidence available at the time; however, estimates of upwards of 300,000 persons have since been considered more likely.

The task of collecting data on the Aboriginal population is difficult, raising problems of coverage, definition and reporting. For this reason, statistics, even of the total Aboriginal population, should be treated with caution. This applies particularly to comparison of the changes in numbers from one census to another which can be affected by social attitudes and by changes made in the nature of the question in an attempt to improve coverage and reporting. For the censuses of 1971 and 1976 the question was designed to distinguish those persons who identify themselves as Aboriginals or Torres Strait Islanders.

**ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS**  
(Persons)

| <i>State</i>                           | <i>30 June<br/>1971</i> | <i>30 June<br/>1976</i> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 23,873                  | 40,450                  |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 6,371                   | 14,760                  |
| Queensland . . . . .                   | 31,922                  | 41,345                  |
| South Australia . . . . .              | 7,299                   | 10,714                  |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 22,181                  | 26,126                  |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 671                     | 2,942                   |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | 23,381                  | 23,751                  |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 255                     | 827                     |
| <b>Total Australia . . . . .</b>       | <b>115,953</b>          | <b>160,915</b>          |

Compared with the rest of the Australian population, Aboriginal women have very high rates of fertility and Aboriginal people at all ages suffer high rates of mortality. At the time of the 1971 census, the average issue of married Aboriginal women was 4.1 children (excluding still-born children), but had declined to 3.3 by 1976. Acknowledging the probability of high reporting error among this group, this represents a total fertility rate still well above that of the population as a whole. The expectation of life at birth for Aboriginal Australians may be as low as 50 years, compared with 73 years for the rest of the population.

## Internal migration

The five-yearly censuses and annual internal migration surveys (conducted in conjunction with the labour-force survey) are the principal sources of internal migration data. Estimates of interstate migration are also made from address changes notified to the Electoral Office and the Department of Social Security. For reasons of timing, methodology, coverage (the surveys for example exclude children under 15) and other constraints, these three data series are not comparable.

### Internal migration surveys

Internal migration surveys were conducted in respect of each of the twelve-month periods ended 30 April 1970 to 1974 and for the twelve-month periods ended 31 December 1974, 31 January 1977, 30 September 1978, 30 June 1979 and 30 June 1980. In these surveys, the usual place of residence of respondents at the beginning and end of the reference period was ascertained. Estimates were made of the numbers and characteristics of movers and non-movers. (Because the estimates are based on information from occupants of a small sample of dwellings, the imprecision due to sampling variability should be kept in mind. Standard errors of estimates are published in the detailed bulletins providing the survey results.)

Recent internal migration surveys show that about 16 per cent of all persons aged 15 and over change their residence within a twelve-month period. Of those who change their residence, about 50 per cent remain within the same capital city and together with another 40 per cent, within the same State or Territory; slightly over 10 per cent are interstate movements.

While the pattern of migration has varied over the years, the age and sex composition of those who changed residence has been rather consistent: the masculinity ratio remains around 50 to 51 per cent and movers show a concentration in the ages 20 to 34 (59 per cent of all movers in the twelve-month period ended 30 June 1980).

### INTERNAL MIGRATION(a)

(Persons aged 15 years and over)

|                                       | Year ended—                              |                      |                 |                 |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                       | 31 January<br>1977                       | 30 September<br>1978 | 30 June<br>1979 | 30 June<br>1980 |
|                                       | ('000)                                   |                      |                 |                 |
| Changed usual residence—              |  |                      |                 |                 |
| Intrastate—                           |  |                      |                 |                 |
| Within State capital cities (b)       | 816.3                                    | 827.4                | 854.4           | 885.4           |
| To and from State capital cities (b)  | 149.5                                    | 158.1                | 168.0           | 177.7           |
| Within Territories and rest of States | 453.4                                    | 505.2                | 451.5           | 508.4           |
| Total, intrastate                     | 1,419.2                                  | 1,490.6              | 1,473.9         | 1,571.5         |
| Interstate                            | 161.9                                    | 193.5                | 179.2           | 185.6           |
| Total                                 | 1,581.1                                  | 1,684.1              | 1,653.1         | 1,757.0         |
| Did not change usual residence        | 8,161.6                                  | 8,522.1              | 8,672.5         | 8,783.6         |
| Total                                 | 9,742.7                                  | 10,206.2             | 10,325.6        | 10,540.6        |
|                                       | <i>Movers per thousand of population</i> |                      |                 |                 |
| <i>Mobility rate</i>                  | 162                                      | 165                  | 160             | 167             |

(a) Non-institutionalised civilians aged 15 years and over at the time of the survey who were resident in Australia at the beginning and end of the survey year. (b) State capital cities exclude Canberra and Darwin.

### Interstate transfers

Estimates of net *interstate* migration from the survey are generally a small fraction of total gross flows and have a relatively high sampling error which affects the accuracy of the estimates. This is particularly the case when the net migration is derived from two gross flows of small magnitude such as interstate flows of the smaller States and the two Territories. Net migration figures from the survey are therefore inadequate as measures of the volume of net gain or loss of population through interstate migration. They only provide indicators of long-term trends over a period of time.

Official estimates of interstate migration have been compiled for the years commencing 1961 from address changes (transfers) notified to the Electoral Office and to the Department of Social Security (by recipients of Family Allowances). They also draw on results of the internal migration survey. Figures for the years 1979–80 and 1980–81 are shown below. New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia have been recording net losses, largely in favour of Queensland, and also to the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

**INTERSTATE MIGRATION**  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

|  | <i>Year ended 30 June—</i> |                   |            |                 |                   |            |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
|  | <i>1980</i>                |                   |            | <i>1981</i>     |                   |            |
|  | <i>Arrivals</i>            | <i>Departures</i> | <i>Net</i> | <i>Arrivals</i> | <i>Departures</i> | <i>Net</i> |
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 70.5                       | 75.4              | -4.9       | 70.9            | 83.5              | -12.5      |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 46.2                       | 62.9              | -16.7      | 46.3            | 59.3              | -13.0      |
| Queensland . . . . .                   | 65.5                       | 43.6              | 21.9       | 70.7            | 44.6              | 26.1       |
| South Australia . . . . .              | 22.2                       | 29.1              | -6.9       | 21.3            | 28.1              | -6.9       |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 22.7                       | 20.2              | 2.5        | 22.3            | 22.9              | -0.6       |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 9.4                        | 8.2               | 1.2        | 8.6             | 9.5               | -0.9       |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | 11.9                       | 9.1               | 2.8        | 11.4            | 6.1               | 5.3        |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 12.6                       | 12.4              | 0.2        | 15.6            | 13.1              | 2.5        |
| <b>Total</b> . . . . .                 | <b>261.0</b>               | <b>261.0</b>      | <b>-</b>   | <b>267.2</b>    | <b>267.2</b>      | <b>-</b>   |

**Censuses**

The 1971 census set out to measure internal migration by asking respondents where they usually lived and where they had lived five years before. An analysis of the data is given in the Census Monograph *Internal Migration in Australia*. The 1976 and 1981 Census asked respondents where they had lived one year as well as five years before. A summary of the 1976 results is given in Year Book No. 65.

**VITAL STATISTICS**

Registration of vital events, i.e. births, deaths and marriages, has been compulsory throughout Australia since 1856. The total number of these occurrences is available for each year since the 1860s and more detailed information since the 1910s. The number of divorces has been published since 1891, but other details have been published on a consistent basis only since the 1950s.

*Crude rates* are the number of vital events per thousand of the mean population of a particular year. *Natural increase* is the excess of births over deaths. In 1980, births numbered 225,527, deaths are preliminarily numbered at 108,693 and the natural increase was 116,834. The rate of natural increase for that year was 7.99 per thousand of the mean population made up of crude birth rate 15.43 and crude death rate 7.61. This represented a considerable decline since 1955-60 when the birth rate was 22.59, the death rate 8.78 and natural increase 13.81.

**BIRTHS, DEATHS AND NATURAL INCREASE**

| <i>Period</i>           | <i>Number</i> |               |                         | <i>Crude rates per 1,000 of mean population</i> |               |                         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|---|---------------|-------------------------|
|                         | <i>Births</i> | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Natural increase</i> | <i>Births</i>                                   | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Natural increase</i> |
| <b>Annual averages—</b> |               |               |                         |   |               |                         |
| 1961-65 . . . . .       | 232,952       | 95,465        | 137,487                 | 21.34   | 8.75          | 12.60                   |
| 1966-70 . . . . .       | 240,325       | 107,263       | 133,062                 | 19.95   | 8.90          | 11.05                   |
| 1971-75 . . . . .       | 253,438       | 111,216       | 142,222                 | 18.99   | 8.32          | 10.67                   |
| 1976-80 . . . . .       | 225,387       | p109,028      | p116,360                | p15.82  | p7.65         | p8.16                   |
| <b>Annual totals—</b>   |               |               |                         |   |               |                         |
| 1975 . . . . .          | 233,012       | 109,021       | 123,991                 | 16.92   | 7.91          | 9.00                    |
| 1976 . . . . .          | 227,810       | 112,662       | 115,148                 | 16.37   | 8.10          | 8.27                    |
| 1977 . . . . .          | 226,291       | 108,790       | 117,501                 | 16.08   | 7.73          | 8.35                    |
| 1978 . . . . .          | 224,181       | 108,425       | 115,756                 | 15.73   | 7.61          | 8.12                    |
| 1979 . . . . .          | r223,129      | r106,568      | 116,561                 | 15.47   | 7.39          | 8.08                    |
| 1980 . . . . .          | 225,527       | p108,693      | p116,834                | p15.43  | p7.44         | p7.99                   |

There were 109,240 marriages in 1980, a crude rate of 7.5. Divorces numbered 39,258 bringing the crude divorce rate to 2.7, which was a reduction from a peak of 4.6 in 1976.

#### MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

| Period            | Number    |           | Crude rates per 1,000 of mean population |         |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|--|---------|
|                   | Marriages | Divorces  | Marriage                                 | Divorce |
| Annual averages—  |           |           |  |         |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 83,250    | 7,611     | 7.6                                      | 0.7     |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 106,188   | 10,738    | 8.8                                      | 0.9     |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 111,803   | 17,405    | 8.4                                      | 1.3     |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 106,297   | 45,241    | 7.5                                      | 3.2     |
| Annual totals—    |           |           |  |         |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 103,973   | 24,307    | 7.5                                      | 1.8     |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 109,973   | 63,267    | 7.9                                      | 4.6     |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 104,918   | 45,175    | 7.5                                      | 3.2     |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 102,958   | 40,633    | 7.2                                      | 2.9     |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 104,396   | 37,873    | 7.2                                      | 2.6     |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 109,240   | 39,258(a) | 7.5                                      | 2.7(a)  |

(a) Excluding nullities.

#### Births and fertility

Special interest attaches to fertility as an element of population change. Fertility has had considerable impact on the population structure. In 1971, there was a record 276,362 births but the number of births has declined progressively in each year since. In 1980, there were 225,527 births.

#### Live births

Extensive statistics of live births are available since the 1910s. These include information about sex of children, the incidence of multiple births, marital status of the parents, the number of previous issue to the mother's existing marriage, the duration of marriage, the age of parents and their country of birth.

With rare exceptions, statistics indicate an excess of male over female births. In 1980, there were 115,948 male births and 109,579 female births, a masculinity ratio of 105.81.

The proportion of children born to parents not married to each other at the time of birth has been increasing. In 1951-55, 3.97 per cent of births were ex-nuptial. In 1980, there were 28,076 ex-nuptial births, 12.45 per cent of the total.

#### LIVE BIRTHS: SEX AND NUPTIALITY

| Period            | Live births |         |          |             | Ex-nuptial live births |             |                        | Per 1,000<br>of mean<br>population |
|-------------------|-------------|---------|----------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                   | Males       | Females | Persons  | Masculinity | Persons                | Masculinity | Percentage<br>of total |                                    |
| Annual averages—  |             |         |          |             |                        |             |                        |                                    |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 119,777     | 113,175 | 232,952  | 105.83      | 13,798                 | 106.88      | 5.92                   | 1.26                               |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 123,326     | 116,999 | 240,325  | 105.41      | 18,937                 | 105.11      | 7.88                   | 1.57                               |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 130,047     | 123,389 | 253,436  | 105.39      | 24,516                 | 106.71      | 9.69                   | 1.88                               |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 115,783     | 109,605 | 225,388  | 105.64      | 25,062                 | 106.34      | 11.12                  | p1.76                              |
| Annual totals—    |             |         |          |             |                        |             |                        |                                    |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 119,850     | 113,162 | 233,012  | 105.91      | 23,705                 | 107.83      | 10.17                  | 1.72                               |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 116,838     | 110,972 | 227,810  | 105.29      | 23,064                 | 108.20      | 10.12                  | 1.66                               |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 116,551     | 109,740 | 226,291  | 106.21      | 23,314                 | 106.03      | 10.30                  | 1.66                               |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 114,964     | 109,217 | 224,181  | 105.26      | 24,744                 | 106.73      | 11.04                  | 1.74                               |
| 1979 . . . . .    | r114,613    | 108,516 | r223,129 | 105.62      | r26,110                | 103.94      | 11.70                  | 1.81                               |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 115,948     | 109,579 | 225,527  | 105.81      | 28,076                 | 106.78      | 12.45                  | p1.92                              |

About 1 per cent of confinements result in twin births and about one in 10,000 in triplets. Quadruplets occur about once in 250,000 confinements. The likelihood of multiple confinement is about 0.9 per cent for the first nuptial confinement, rising to about 1 per cent at the second confinement and to as much as 1.5 per cent at the fourth and subsequent confinements. The incidence of multiple births also rises with age of mother.

Since the 1950s, there has been a decline in the proportion, and since 1971 in the number, of women having three or more children to their marriage. During the 1950s and early 1960s the median age of mother at first nuptial birth declined, but in recent years it has risen. In 1980, median age at first birth was 25.20 years.

#### NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS: BIRTH ORDER

|                        | Birth order |        |        |        |        |       |               | Total<br>nuptial<br>(a) | Ex-<br>nuptial | Confinement |
|------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Period                 | 1           | 2      | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6     | 7 and<br>over |                         |                |             |
| NUMBER OF CONFINEMENTS |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| Annual averages—       |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| 1961-65 . . . . .      | 69,281      | 57,971 | 40,818 | 23,612 | 12,125 | 6,160 | 6,862         | 216,829                 | 13,655         | 230,483     |
| 1966-70 . . . . .      | 80,999      | 62,930 | 37,446 | 18,899 | 8,961  | 4,489 | 5,213         | 218,937                 | 18,707         | 237,644     |
| 1971-75 . . . . .      | 88,120      | 74,641 | 36,914 | 15,216 | 6,006  | 2,805 | 2,959         | 226,674                 | 24,299         | 250,973     |
| 1976-80 . . . . .      | 77,877      | 69,291 | 34,288 | 11,119 | 3,332  | 1,278 | 1,173         | 198,373                 | 24,851         | 223,224     |
| Annual totals—         |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| 1975 . . . . .         | 81,543      | 73,456 | 33,036 | 11,653 | 3,979  | 1,873 | 1,699         | 207,267                 | 23,510         | 230,777     |
| 1976 . . . . .         | 78,086      | 73,338 | 33,505 | 11,130 | 3,584  | 1,497 | 1,534         | 202,692                 | 22,873         | 225,565     |
| 1977 . . . . .         | 78,588      | 70,859 | 34,596 | 11,032 | 3,438  | 1,349 | 1,263         | 201,135                 | 23,134         | 224,269     |
| 1978 . . . . .         | 76,999      | 68,759 | 34,783 | 11,248 | 3,307  | 1,224 | 1,134         | 197,461                 | 24,538         | 221,999     |
| 1979 . . . . .         | 77,032      | 67,250 | 34,387 | 11,100 | 3,124  | 1,140 | 1,050         | 195,084                 | 25,884         | 220,968     |
| 1980 . . . . .         | 78,680      | 66,247 | 34,167 | 11,084 | 3,207  | 1,179 | 884           | 195,492                 | 27,826         | 223,318     |
| MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHER   |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| Annual averages—       |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| 1961-65 . . . . .      | 23.12       | 25.72  | 28.35  | 30.64  | 32.51  | 33.88 | 35.02         | 26.54                   | 22.54          | 26.38       |
| 1966-70 . . . . .      | 23.14       | 25.63  | 28.21  | 30.54  | 32.53  | 34.06 | 35.42         | 25.92                   | 21.37          | 25.67       |
| 1971-75 . . . . .      | 23.60       | 25.96  | 28.21  | 30.55  | 32.53  | 34.09 | 36.84         | 25.87                   | 21.12          | 25.58       |
| 1976-80 . . . . .      | 24.79       | 26.60  | 28.77  | 30.59  | 32.47  | 34.23 | 37.29         | 26.64                   | 21.63          | 26.27       |
| Annual totals—         |             |        |        |        |        |       |               |                         |                |             |
| 1975 . . . . .         | 23.95       | 26.25  | 28.32  | 30.57  | 32.67  | 34.30 | 36.96         | 26.07                   | 21.29          | 25.76       |
| 1976 . . . . .         | 24.23       | 26.22  | 28.45  | 30.40  | 32.38  | 34.30 | 37.32         | 26.22                   | 21.60          | 25.91       |
| 1977 . . . . .         | 24.59       | 26.39  | 28.64  | 30.53  | 32.41  | 34.54 | 37.08         | 26.46                   | 21.51          | 26.13       |
| 1978 . . . . .         | 24.85       | 26.56  | 28.75  | 30.48  | 32.46  | 33.98 | 37.99         | 26.65                   | 21.55          | 26.28       |
| 1979 . . . . .         | 25.07       | 26.82  | 28.89  | 30.66  | 32.44  | 34.23 | 36.83         | 26.86                   | 21.62          | 26.46       |
| 1980 . . . . .         | 25.20       | 27.02  | 29.11  | 30.88  | 32.68  | 34.12 | 37.23         | 27.00                   | 21.89          | 26.56       |

(a) Includes those for whom birth order was not stated.

Since 1971, there has been a decline in the number of confinements occurring in the early years of marriage. The number of confinements to marriages of 10 years duration and longer has been declining since the 1950s.

#### Fertility

*The general fertility rate*, which is the number of births to women of any age per thousand females aged 15-44, is the simplest measure of fertility. The rates have been calculated for the three years' births around each census from 1881 and provide a consistent series for nuptial and ex-nuptial fertility as well as for total fertility.

The rates show a substantial decline in fertility over the total period with a low point in 1932-34 and a minor recovery, peaking in 1960-62. The 1975-77 general rate of 78 births per thousand females aged 15-44 was only 46 per cent of the rate in 1880-82. The decline has been greater among married women, the rate for 1975-77 of 107 per thousand being only 33 per cent of the 1880-82 rate. Ex-nuptial fertility in 1975-77 was 23 per thousand, 64 per cent above 1880-82.



## FERTILITY RATES: AUSTRALIA

| Period            |  |  |   | Index numbers (base year 1880-82=100)                  |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|
|                   | Births per<br>1,000<br>women<br>aged<br>15-44<br>years | Nuptial<br>births per<br>1,000<br>married<br>women<br>aged<br>15-44<br>years | Ex-nuptial<br>births<br>per 1,000<br>single,<br>widowed or<br>divorced<br>women<br>aged<br>15-44<br>years | Births per<br>1,000<br>women<br>aged<br>15-44<br>years | Nuptial<br>births<br>per 1,000<br>married<br>women<br>aged<br>15-44<br>years | Ex-nuptial<br>births<br>per 1,000<br>single,<br>widowed<br>or<br>divorced<br>women |
|                   |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                   |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| 1880-82 . . . . . | 170  | 321  | 14  | 100  | 100  | 100  |
| 1890-92 . . . . . | 159  | 332  | 16  | 94   | 103  | 114  |
| 1900-02 . . . . . | 117  | 235  | 13  | 69   | 73   | 93   |
| 1910-12 . . . . . | 117  | 236  | 13  | 69   | 74   | 93   |
| 1920-22 . . . . . | 107  | 197  | 11  | 63   | 61   | 79   |
| 1932-34 . . . . . | 71   | 131  | 7   | 42   | 41   | 50   |
| 1946-48 . . . . . | 104  | 160  | 11  | 61   | 50   | 79   |
| 1953-55 . . . . . | 109  | 149  | 14  | 64   | 46   | 100  |
| 1960-62 . . . . . | 112  | 154  | 18  | 66   | 48   | 129  |
| 1965-67 . . . . . | 95   | 132  | 21  | 56   | 41   | 150  |
| 1970-72 . . . . . | 100  | 134  | 29  | 59   | 42   | 207  |
| 1975-77 . . . . . | 78   | 107  | 23  | 46   | 33   | 164  |

*Age specific birth rates* provide a measure of changing patterns of fertility within the fertile ages. The sum of these rates is the *total fertility rate*. The total fertility rate represents the number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime if she experienced the rates of the year shown. Fertility is declining at all ages. The decline started first with the older ages in the 1950s, and spread progressively to the younger ages. Fertility for ages 15-19 years has been declining in the 1970s. The total fertility rate, which rose in the 1950s, has since declined.

## AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES(a)

| Period            | Age group (years) |        |        |        |       |       |       | Total<br>fertility<br>(b) |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------------|
|                   | 15-19             | 20-24  | 25-29  | 30-34  | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 |                           |
| 1956-60 . . . . . | 44.20             | 216.42 | 211.47 | 126.06 | 63.91 | 18.96 | 1.45  | 3.412                     |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 46.50             | 203.95 | 207.15 | 122.38 | 59.18 | 17.54 | 1.19  | 3.289                     |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 49.39             | 172.59 | 187.64 | 103.03 | 46.84 | 12.89 | 1.00  | 2.866                     |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 48.02             | 154.84 | 170.63 | 85.69  | 34.25 | 8.65  | 0.59  | 2.513                     |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 31.12             | 117.64 | 145.63 | 74.46  | 23.91 | 4.80  | 0.31  | 1.980                     |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 40.37             | 134.44 | 150.95 | 74.96  | 26.40 | 6.17  | 0.37  | 2.168                     |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 35.55             | 129.22 | 147.34 | 73.06  | 24.28 | 5.57  | 0.41  | 2.077                     |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 32.59             | 123.06 | 147.23 | 74.84  | 24.01 | 5.06  | 0.30  | 2.035                     |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 30.38             | 116.87 | 145.93 | 74.22  | 23.63 | 4.49  | 0.25  | 1.979                     |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 28.97             | 110.27 | 144.54 | 74.73  | 23.67 | 4.56  | 0.33  | 1.935                     |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 28.10             | 108.77 | 143.12 | 75.47  | 23.96 | 4.31  | 0.28  | 1.920                     |

(a) Number of births per 1,000 women in each age group. Excludes particulars of full-blood Aborigines before 1966. (b) The sum of the age specific rates multiplied by 5 and divided by 1,000. This is the number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime if she experienced the rates of the year shown.

*The gross reproduction rate* is derived from total fertility and the ratio of female to total births. It indicates the number of female children who would be born on average to women supposing the rates from which it was calculated were to apply throughout the reproductive period. It is an indication of the extent to which the population is reproducing itself except that it does not allow for females who fail to survive to the end of the childbearing period. *The net reproduction rate* allows for such mortality. It is obtained by multiplying the age-specific rates by the survivor proportions in the corresponding age group of the stationary or life table population. Mortality in childhood and young adulthood is now so low that there is little difference between current gross and net reproduction rates.

GROSS AND NET REPRODUCTION RATES

| <i>Period</i>  | <i>Gross<br/>reproduction<br/>rate</i> | <i>Net<br/>reproduction<br/>rate</i> | <i>Life<br/>tables<br/>used</i> |
|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1954 . . . . . | 1.559                                  | 1.499                                | 1953-55                         |
| 1961 . . . . . | 1.728                                  | 1.672                                | 1960-62                         |
| 1966 . . . . . | 1.400                                  | 1.357                                | 1965-67                         |
| 1971 . . . . . | 1.427                                  | 1.386                                | 1970-72                         |
| 1978 . . . . . | 0.964                                  | 0.944                                | 1978                            |
| 1979 . . . . . | 0.941                                  | 0.922                                | 1979                            |
| 1980 . . . . . | 0.933                                  | 0.913                                | 1980                            |

### Mortality

The number of deaths per year is in excess of 100,000. The increase from previous decades arises from the overall growth of the population, and from the advanced age of an increasing proportion of the population. The crude death rate, which fell from over 12 per 1,000 at the beginning of the century to 7.4 per 1,000 in 1979, can be expected to rise slowly as a result of further ageing of the population, unless there is a more than off-setting drop in age specific death rates.

#### General mortality

Between 1953-55 and 1960-62 mortality declined in every age-group. Between 1960-62 and 1970-72 there were further declines in most age groups, particularly infant mortality. However, increases in mortality were recorded for males aged 15-24 years. Since 1970-72, there have been further decreases in mortality at most ages.

Mortality is greater for males than for females at every age. It is relatively high in the first year of life (12.6 per 1,000 males and 10.1 per 1,000 females in 1979), very low in childhood and young adulthood, and then rises in middle and old age.

AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES<sup>(a)</sup>

| Age group<br>(years)   | 1953-55<br>(b) | 1960-62<br>(b) | 1965-67<br>(b) | 1970-72<br>(b) | 1975-77<br>(b) | 1977   | 1978   | 1979   |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| MALES                  |                |                |                |                |                |        |        |        |
| Under 1 <sup>(c)</sup> | 25.18          | 22.36          | 20.85          | 18.85          | 15.27          | 13.98  | 13.70  | 12.57  |
| 1-4 . . .              | 1.69           | 1.15           | 1.08           | 0.99           | 0.78           | 0.73   | 0.69   | 0.63   |
| 5-9 . . .              | 0.67           | 0.52           | 0.45           | 0.45           | 0.37           | 0.39   | 0.29   | 0.31   |
| 10-14 . . .            | 0.63           | 0.48           | 0.46           | 0.42           | 0.39           | 0.40   | 0.36   | 0.36   |
| 15-19 . . .            | 1.51           | 1.23           | 1.33           | 1.50           | 1.51           | 1.47   | 1.42   | 1.31   |
| 20-24 . . .            | 1.82           | 1.62           | 1.67           | 1.75           | 1.73           | 1.80   | 1.89   | 1.72   |
| 25-29 . . .            | 1.68           | 1.49           | 1.48           | 1.38           | 1.29           | 1.38   | 1.38   | 1.42   |
| 30-34 . . .            | 1.79           | 1.69           | 1.64           | 1.49           | 1.41           | 1.34   | 1.33   | 1.32   |
| 35-39 . . .            | 2.40           | 2.26           | 2.45           | 2.31           | 1.99           | 1.95   | 1.86   | 1.74   |
| 40-44 . . .            | 3.64           | 3.67           | 3.82           | 3.45           | 3.29           | 3.11   | 3.01   | 2.73   |
| 45-49 . . .            | 6.01           | 5.96           | 6.14           | 6.06           | 5.67           | 5.66   | 5.05   | 4.97   |
| 50-54 . . .            | 10.44          | 10.01          | 10.45          | 9.92           | 9.21           | 8.86   | 8.41   | 8.32   |
| 55-59 . . .            | 17.03          | 16.57          | 16.96          | 16.58          | 14.78          | 14.06  | 13.92  | 13.28  |
| 60-64 . . .            | 26.58          | 26.44          | 27.59          | 26.59          | 23.77          | 22.98  | 22.45  | 21.34  |
| 65-69 . . .            | 41.28          | 41.68          | 43.66          | 42.04          | 37.42          | 36.51  | 35.67  | 34.14  |
| 70-74 . . .            | 64.53          | 63.04          | 66.84          | 63.45          | 57.92          | 55.74  | 53.40  | 53.12  |
| 75-79 . . .            | 98.77          | 94.43          | 99.77          | 99.99          | 88.24          | 85.82  | 87.31  | 81.67  |
| 80-84 . . .            | 145.88         | 141.83         | 146.95         | 143.42         | 135.05         | 127.09 | 122.56 | 116.01 |
| 85 and over            | 248.14         | 243.69         | 241.98         | 230.68         | 227.86         | 216.44 | 212.38 | 209.25 |
| FEMALES                |                |                |                |                |                |        |        |        |
| Under 1 <sup>(c)</sup> | 19.88          | 17.57          | 16.35          | 14.37          | 11.85          | 10.86  | 10.60  | 10.07  |
| 1-4 . . .              | 1.35           | 1.08           | 1.14           | 0.78           | 0.59           | 0.57   | 0.53   | 0.54   |
| 5-9 . . .              | 0.50           | 0.38           | 0.34           | 0.33           | 0.27           | 0.26   | 0.23   | 0.24   |
| 10-14 . . .            | 0.37           | 0.29           | 0.27           | 0.26           | 0.23           | 0.22   | 0.24   | 0.17   |
| 15-19 . . .            | 0.58           | 0.50           | 0.54           | 0.59           | 0.52           | 0.56   | 0.51   | 0.48   |
| 20-24 . . .            | 0.67           | 0.60           | 0.63           | 0.58           | 0.51           | 0.54   | 0.55   | 0.58   |
| 25-29 . . .            | 0.83           | 0.71           | 0.72           | 0.67           | 0.52           | 0.55   | 0.47   | 0.54   |
| 30-34 . . .            | 1.11           | 0.95           | 0.98           | 0.89           | 0.75           | 0.70   | 0.71   | 0.65   |
| 35-39 . . .            | 1.74           | 1.47           | 1.54           | 1.44           | 1.21           | 1.14   | 1.05   | 0.96   |
| 40-44 . . .            | 2.55           | 2.26           | 2.31           | 2.23           | 1.98           | 1.93   | 1.75   | 1.61   |
| 45-49 . . .            | 4.19           | 3.65           | 3.86           | 3.63           | 3.15           | 3.08   | 2.90   | 2.69   |
| 50-54 . . .            | 6.43           | 5.55           | 5.87           | 5.56           | 4.91           | 4.88   | 4.57   | 4.26   |
| 55-59 . . .            | 9.25           | 8.14           | 8.67           | 8.29           | 7.42           | 7.13   | 7.01   | 6.50   |
| 60-64 . . .            | 14.75          | 13.31          | 13.56          | 13.01          | 11.57          | 11.36  | 11.18  | 10.52  |
| 65-69 . . .            | 23.89          | 21.99          | 21.94          | 20.70          | 18.32          | 17.37  | 16.95  | 16.12  |
| 70-74 . . .            | 40.93          | 37.14          | 37.47          | 35.79          | 30.01          | 28.72  | 28.22  | 26.84  |
| 75-79 . . .            | 69.72          | 63.18          | 62.37          | 60.24          | 51.99          | 50.72  | 48.04  | 45.79  |
| 80-84 . . .            | 117.36         | 105.10         | 107.93         | 100.96         | 89.36          | 86.20  | 80.74  | 76.62  |
| 85 and over            | 213.69         | 210.20         | 197.73         | 187.16         | 182.26         | 177.10 | 177.19 | 171.98 |

(a) Number of deaths per 1,000 of population of the same age group and sex. The populations used in the calculation of these rates are based on census populations at 30 June 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1976; and estimates at 30 June for other years. From 1971, the population figures have been adjusted for under-enumeration. (b) Average annual rate per 1,000 of census population, based on deaths in the three year period, i.e. census year and the years preceding and following it. (c) Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

## AGE AT DEATH, 1979

| Age at death (years) | Number        |               |                | Per cent      |               |               |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                      | Males         | Females       | Persons        | Males         | Females       | Persons       |
| Under 1              | 1,441         | 1,093         | 2,534          | 2.43          | 2.31          | 2.38          |
| 1-4                  | 299           | 242           | 541            | 0.50          | 0.51          | 0.51          |
| 5-9                  | 206           | 157           | 363            | 0.35          | 0.33          | 0.34          |
| 10-14                | 227           | 104           | 331            | 0.38          | 0.22          | 0.31          |
| 15-19                | 876           | 301           | 1,177          | 1.48          | 0.64          | 1.10          |
| 20-24                | 1,068         | 348           | 1,416          | 1.80          | 0.74          | 1.33          |
| 25-29                | 839           | 314           | 1,153          | 1.42          | 0.66          | 1.08          |
| 30-34                | 765           | 359           | 1,124          | 1.29          | 0.76          | 1.05          |
| 35-39                | 818           | 427           | 1,245          | 1.38          | 0.90          | 1.17          |
| 40-44                | 1,115         | 623           | 1,738          | 1.88          | 1.32          | 1.63          |
| 45-49                | 1,925         | 981           | 2,906          | 3.25          | 2.07          | 2.73          |
| 50-54                | 3,300         | 1,609         | 4,909          | 5.57          | 3.40          | 4.61          |
| 55-59                | 4,757         | 2,348         | 7,105          | 8.03          | 4.96          | 6.67          |
| 60-64                | 5,890         | 3,133         | 9,023          | 9.94          | 6.62          | 8.47          |
| 65-69                | 8,051         | 4,409         | 12,460         | 13.59         | 9.32          | 11.69         |
| 70-74                | 8,686         | 5,509         | 14,195         | 14.66         | 11.64         | 13.32         |
| 75-79                | 7,997         | 6,766         | 14,763         | 13.50         | 14.30         | 13.85         |
| 80-84                | 5,551         | 7,461         | 13,012         | 9.37          | 15.77         | 12.21         |
| 85-89                | 3,647         | 6,601         | 10,248         | 6.15          | 13.95         | 9.62          |
| 90-94                | 1,475         | 3,396         | 4,871          | 2.49          | 7.18          | 4.57          |
| 95-99                | 277           | 1,002         | 1,279          | 0.47          | 2.12          | 1.20          |
| 100 and over         | 28            | 122           | 150            | 0.05          | 0.26          | 0.14          |
| Not stated           | 19            | 6             | 25             | 0.03          | 0.01          | 0.02          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>59,257</b> | <b>47,311</b> | <b>106,568</b> | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |

## Life expectancy

Life tables are measures of life expectancy compiled from the death rates prevailing over a period. They form the basis for the *stationary population* which is the population that would result from a constant number of births each year which had been subject at each age to the life table mortality rates.

Since 1921, official life tables have been calculated from the separate male and female populations as enumerated at the census, and the deaths of the three years around the census. Earlier life tables were compiled for decennial periods 1881-90, 1891-1900 and 1901-10. Life tables have also been prepared in recent years using annual age estimates and the deaths of a particular year.

A key value in life tables is the expectation of life remaining at each age. Expectation of life, particularly at birth, improved at every age in the first half of this century. Between 1953-55 and 1970-72 there was little change in expectation of life. However, since 1970-72 there have been significant improvements, particularly in expectation of life at birth which has increased between 1970-72 and 1979 from 67.8 years to 70.8 for males and from 74.5 years to 77.8 for females.

## COMPLETE EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT SELECTED AGES

| Period         | Expectation of life (a) at |         |               |         |                 |         |                 |         |                 |         |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
|                | Birth                      |         | 1 year of age |         | 20 years of age |         | 40 years of age |         | 60 years of age |         |
|                | Males                      | Females | Males         | Females | Males           | Females | Males           | Females | Males           | Females |
| 1901-11 (b)(c) | 55.2                       | 58.8    | 60.0          | 62.9    | 44.7            | 47.5    | 28.6            | 31.5    | 14.4            | 16.2    |
| 1920-22 (b)(c) | 59.2                       | 63.3    | 62.7          | 66.0    | 47.0            | 50.0    | 30.1            | 33.1    | 15.1            | 17.2    |
| 1932-34 (b)(c) | 63.5                       | 67.1    | 65.5          | 68.7    | 48.8            | 51.7    | 31.1            | 34.0    | 15.6            | 17.7    |
| 1946-48 (b)(c) | 66.1                       | 70.6    | 67.3          | 71.5    | 49.6            | 53.5    | 31.2            | 34.9    | 15.4            | 18.1    |
| 1953-55 (b)(c) | 67.1                       | 72.8    | 67.9          | 73.5    | 50.1            | 55.1    | 31.7            | 36.0    | 15.5            | 18.8    |
| 1960-62 (b)(c) | 67.9                       | 74.2    | 68.5          | 74.5    | 50.4            | 56.2    | 31.8            | 37.0    | 15.6            | 19.5    |
| 1965-67 (c)    | 67.6                       | 74.2    | 68.1          | 74.4    | 50.0            | 56.0    | 31.4            | 36.9    | 15.3            | 19.5    |
| 1970-72 (c)    | r68.1                      | r74.8   | r68.5         | r74.9   | r50.4           | r56.5   | r31.8           | r37.3   | r15.5           | r19.9   |
| 1975-77 (c)    | 69.6                       | 76.6    | 69.6          | 76.5    | 51.5            | 58.0    | 32.8            | 38.7    | 16.4            | 21.0    |
| 1976 (d)       | 69.3                       | 76.3    | 69.4          | 76.2    | 51.2            | 57.7    | 32.5            | 38.4    | 16.1            | 20.7    |
| 1977 (d)       | 69.9                       | 76.8    | 69.9          | 76.6    | 51.7            | 58.1    | 33.1            | 38.8    | 16.6            | 21.1    |
| 1978 (d)       | 70.2                       | 77.2    | 70.2          | 77.0    | 52.0            | 58.5    | 33.4            | 39.2    | 16.7            | 21.4    |
| 1979 (d)       | 70.8                       | 77.8    | 70.7          | 77.6    | 52.4            | 59.0    | 33.8            | 39.7    | 17.1            | 21.8    |

(a) The average number of additional years a person of the given age and sex might expect to live if the age-specific death rates of the given period continued throughout his/her lifetime. (b) Excludes particulars of full-blood Aboriginals prior to 1967. (c) Based on Official Life Tables calculated by the Australian Government Actuary. (d) Based on annual life tables calculated by the Australian Statistician. These tables are based on age estimates revised in the light of the 1976 Census results adjusted for underenumeration and misstatement of ages.

## Marriages

Marriages in Australia are solemnised under Federal legislation, namely the *Marriage Act* 1961 as amended. The original Act, which superseded State Acts, came into part operation on 6 May 1961. The first regulations and major provisions under the Act commenced on 1 September 1963.

Under the Act, marriages may be celebrated by Ministers of Religion registered as Authorised Celebrants, Registrars or other persons whose function is the registration of marriages, and other authorised civil and religious celebrants.

One month's written notice of intended marriage must be given to the Celebrant, though this may be shortened in special circumstances. Celebrants issue marriage certificates to the parties and transmit copies of the certificates to Registrars in the States or Territories in which the marriages took place.

The marriageable age under the Act is 18 for males and 16 for females. After inquiry, a Judge or Magistrate may authorise, in exceptional and unusual circumstances, the marriage of a person below marriageable age, but not below 16 for males and 14 for females.

Minors require, generally speaking, parental consent. A prescribed authority, usually a Registrar, may dispense with consent where such consent can be presumed and it would be unreasonable to require it. If parental consent is refused unreasonably, a Magistrate may give consent in lieu of the parent or guardian. Such a Magistrate's decision is subject to appeal. The age of majority was reduced in 1973 from 21 to 18. Because the marriageable age for males is also 18, the only persons of marriageable age requiring parental consent are now females between the ages of 16 and 18.

The Act makes provision, on a uniform basis, in respect of prohibited relations, other grounds for void marriages, legitimation, marriages overseas, and pre-marital education.

In 1980, 76.8 per cent of grooms and 77.6 per cent of brides were marrying for the first time; approximately 3 per cent were widowers and 4 per cent widows; and 20.2 per cent of grooms and 18.8 per cent of brides had been divorced. The proportion of marriages involving divorced persons increased sharply in 1976 and slightly thereafter. This is associated with the larger numbers of divorces granted since the introduction of the *Family Law Act* 1975.

Median age at first marriage declined during the 1950s and 1960s but has risen slightly in recent years. In 1980 it was 24.2 years for males and 21.9 for females. In 1980, 3.7 per cent of grooms and 17.8 per cent of brides married under the age of 20.

## MARITAL STATUS AT MARRIAGE

|                   | Grooms    |          |          |                           | Brides    |        |          |                 |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| Period            | Bachelors | Widowers | Divorced | Total<br>bride-<br>grooms | Spinsters | Widows | Divorced | Total<br>brides |
| NUMBER            |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| Annual averages—  |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 75,384    | 3,063    | 4,803    | 83,250                    | 74,962    | 3,218  | 5,070    | 83,250          |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 96,438    | 3,320    | 6,430    | 106,188                   | 96,341    | 3,568  | 6,279    | 106,188         |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 99,203    | 3,473    | 9,126    | 111,802                   | 99,287    | 3,810  | 8,705    | 111,802         |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 82,344    | 3,394    | 20,559   | 106,297                   | 82,987    | 4,022  | 19,288   | 106,297         |
| Annual totals—    |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 89,912    | 3,308    | 10,753   | 103,973                   | 90,010    | 3,681  | 10,282   | 103,973         |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 86,792    | 3,777    | 19,404   | 109,973                   | 87,434    | 4,378  | 18,161   | 109,973         |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 81,172    | 3,385    | 20,361   | 104,918                   | 81,694    | 3,999  | 19,225   | 104,918         |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 79,581    | 3,279    | 20,098   | 102,958                   | 80,142    | 3,818  | 18,998   | 102,958         |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 80,226    | 3,266    | 20,904   | 104,396                   | 80,893    | 3,996  | 19,507   | 104,396         |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 83,950    | 3,264    | 22,026   | 109,240                   | 84,770    | 3,920  | 20,550   | 109,240         |
| MEDIAN AGES       |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| Annual averages—  |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 24.16     | 56.60    | 40.41    | 24.69                     | 21.32     | 49.25  | 36.63    | 21.67           |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 23.54     | 56.69    | 39.75    | 23.94                     | 21.19     | 50.05  | 36.08    | 21.50           |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 23.33     | 57.78    | 37.25    | 23.86                     | 20.99     | 51.13  | 33.04    | 21.43           |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 23.93     | 58.42    | 36.07    | 25.35                     | 21.55     | 51.64  | 32.52    | 22.67           |
| Annual totals—    |           |          |          |                           |           |        |          |                 |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 23.37     | 57.99    | 36.40    | 24.06                     | 20.97     | 51.35  | 32.82    | 21.55           |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 23.62     | 57.86    | 36.56    | 24.89                     | 21.23     | 51.19  | 32.58    | 22.24           |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 23.76     | 58.43    | 35.92    | 25.17                     | 21.35     | 50.88  | 32.24    | 22.48           |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 23.94     | 58.54    | 35.95    | 25.41                     | 21.55     | 51.81  | 32.37    | 22.71           |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 24.10     | 58.65    | 36.07    | 25.60                     | 21.72     | 52.30  | 32.63    | 22.89           |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 24.22     | 58.63    | 35.83    | 25.66                     | 21.91     | 52.04  | 32.80    | 23.03           |

## AGE AT MARRIAGE

| Period           | Age         |        |        |        |       |       |       |                | Total   |
|------------------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|---------|
|                  | Under<br>20 | 20-24  | 25-29  | 30-34  | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50 and<br>over |         |
| GROOM            |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| Annual averages— |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| 1961-65          | 5,278       | 38,845 | 20,344 | 7,495  | 3,799 | 2,154 | 1,498 | 3,837          | 83,250  |
| 1966-70          | 7,917       | 55,824 | 23,398 | 7,008  | 3,544 | 2,473 | 1,763 | 4,258          | 106,185 |
| 1971-75          | 8,427       | 59,058 | 24,374 | 7,408  | 3,425 | 2,376 | 1,970 | 4,765          | 111,802 |
| 1976-80          | 4,830       | 45,796 | 26,139 | 11,245 | 5,500 | 3,512 | 2,822 | 6,452          | 106,297 |
| Annual totals—   |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| 1975             | 7,399       | 52,512 | 23,510 | 7,674  | 3,685 | 2,352 | 1,998 | 4,843          | 103,973 |
| 1976             | 6,302       | 49,614 | 25,659 | 9,776  | 5,198 | 3,450 | 3,057 | 6,917          | 109,973 |
| 1977             | 5,242       | 46,059 | 24,908 | 10,750 | 5,216 | 3,399 | 2,915 | 6,429          | 104,918 |
| 1978             | 4,592       | 44,011 | 25,337 | 11,229 | 5,451 | 3,447 | 2,691 | 6,200          | 102,958 |
| 1979             | 4,069       | 43,778 | 26,537 | 11,687 | 5,706 | 3,576 | 2,710 | 6,333          | 104,396 |
| 1980             | 3,943       | 45,519 | 28,256 | 12,785 | 5,928 | 3,690 | 2,737 | 6,382          | 109,240 |
| BRIDE            |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| Annual averages— |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| 1961-65          | 23,454      | 39,370 | 8,760  | 3,553  | 2,416 | 1,715 | 1,367 | 2,616          | 83,250  |
| 1966-70          | 30,475      | 53,356 | 10,334 | 3,521  | 2,143 | 1,764 | 1,545 | 3,047          | 106,185 |
| 1971-75          | 34,319      | 51,846 | 12,363 | 4,280  | 2,279 | 1,733 | 1,621 | 3,362          | 111,802 |
| 1976-80          | 23,006      | 45,938 | 16,560 | 7,700  | 4,092 | 2,669 | 2,124 | 4,208          | 106,297 |
| Annual totals—   |             |        |        |        |       |       |       |                |         |
| 1975             | 31,483      | 45,872 | 12,581 | 4,742  | 2,521 | 1,752 | 1,642 | 3,380          | 103,973 |
| 1976             | 28,063      | 45,891 | 15,755 | 6,866  | 3,892 | 2,641 | 2,356 | 4,509          | 109,973 |
| 1977             | 24,827      | 44,208 | 15,692 | 7,360  | 3,945 | 2,519 | 2,229 | 4,138          | 104,918 |
| 1978             | 22,290      | 44,094 | 16,114 | 7,810  | 4,026 | 2,525 | 2,121 | 3,978          | 102,958 |
| 1979             | 20,382      | 46,029 | 16,974 | 7,873  | 4,225 | 2,803 | 1,950 | 4,160          | 104,396 |
| 1980             | 19,466      | 49,467 | 18,267 | 8,591  | 4,370 | 2,858 | 1,965 | 4,256          | 109,240 |

Marriage rates of the marriageable population provide a measure of changing marriage patterns. Marriage rates have been calculated for the three years around the census per thousand single, widowed and divorced males, females and persons.

The rates for 1975-77 were 64.86 for males, 61.92 for females, and 63.36 for persons.

The proportion of all marriages celebrated by civil officers rose to 36.3 per cent of all marriages registered in 1980. This proportion has more than doubled since 1973. The increase in the share of civil ceremonies has, however, tapered off in 1979 and 1980.

## MARRIAGE RATES OF MARRIAGEABLE POPULATION

| Censal period | Per thousand single, widowed and divorced, aged 15 and over |              |              | Per thousand persons |       |
|---------------|---|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------|
|               | Males rate  | Females rate | Persons rate | Rate                 | Index |
| 1880-82       | 39.38   | 63.56        | 48.63        | 7.62                 | 100   |
| 1890-92       | 36.50   | 35.50        | 44.04        | 7.28                 | 96    |
| 1900-02       | 37.32   | 48.39        | 42.14        | 7.27                 | 95    |
| 1910-12       | 45.80   | 55.33        | 50.12        | 8.74                 | 115   |
| 1920-22       | 54.00   | 58.08        | 55.97        | 8.75                 | 115   |
| 1932-34       | 41.70   | 44.13        | 42.88        | 7.12                 | 93    |
| 1946-48       | 71.89   | 70.60        | 71.24        | 10.15                | 133   |
| 1953-55       | 64.20   | 66.46        | 65.32        | 7.92                 | 104   |
| 1960-62       | 61.50   | 63.07        | 62.27        | 7.34                 | 96    |
| 1965-67       | 68.06   | 68.04        | 68.05        | 8.32                 | 109   |
| 1970-72       | 70.34   | 67.11        | 68.69        | 9.09                 | 119   |
| 1975-77       | 64.86   | 61.92        | 63.36        | 7.84                 | 103   |

## Divorce

The *Matrimonial Causes Act* 1959-66 provided for dissolution of marriage on one or more of 14 grounds. It also provided for nullity of marriage and for judicial separation. This Act, which came into operation in 1961, replaced separate State and Territory legislation. The *Family Law Act* 1975, which came into operation on 5 January 1976, provides for a single ground for divorce—irretrievable breakdown of marriage—and for nullity of marriage on the ground that the marriage is void.

Statistics prior to 1976 in the following tables relate to divorces granted under the Matrimonial Causes Act or under previous State or Territory legislation. Statistics for 1976 differentiate between divorces granted under Matrimonial Causes and Family Law legislation. Although Family Law legislation provides for petitions filed before 1976 to be heard under the superseded Matrimonial Causes legislation, statistics of divorces granted after 1976 make no such differentiation.

When comparing the number and rate of decrees granted from year to year it should be borne in mind that the availability of judges to hear petitions lodged can affect the number of decrees granted. A rise in one year may be due wholly or in part to the clearing of a backlog of cases from an earlier year. In addition, changes to legislature, rules or practices may also affect the number of divorce applications.

Following a sharp rise in the number of divorces in 1976, the first year of Family Law legislation, the number dropped by 29 per cent to 45,175 in 1977. However, this number was still 86 per cent higher than the number granted in 1975 under Matrimonial Causes legislation. The total number for 1979 was 37,873 and for 1980, 39,258.

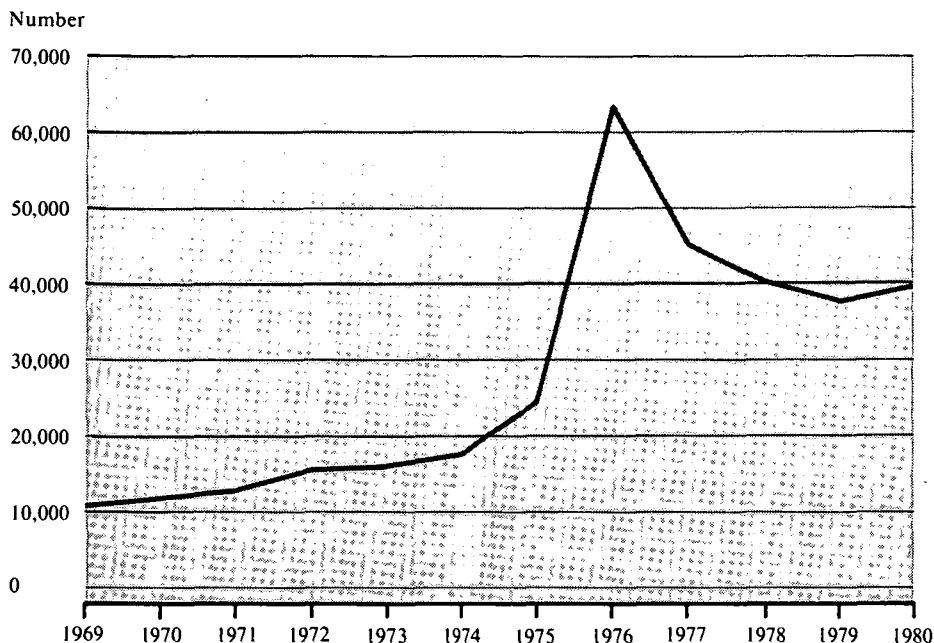
### DIVORCES

| <i>Period</i>                | <i>Petitions<br/>filed</i> | <i>Petitions<br/>granted</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Annual averages—</b>      |                            |                              |
| 1961-65 . . . . .            | 9,955                      | 7,611                        |
| 1966-70 . . . . .            | 13,089                     | 10,738                       |
| 1971-75 . . . . .            | 22,704                     | 17,405                       |
| 1976-80 . . . . .            | 45,312                     | 45,241                       |
| <b>Annual totals—</b>        |                            |                              |
| 1975 . . . . .               | 28,383                     | 24,307                       |
| 1976 . . . . .               | 66,092                     | 63,267                       |
| Matrimonial Causes . . . . . | —                          | 15,743                       |
| Family Law . . . . .         | 66,092                     | 47,524                       |
| 1977 . . . . .               | 41,628                     | 45,175                       |
| 1978 . . . . .               | 40,918                     | 40,633                       |
| 1979 . . . . .               | 37,393                     | 37,873                       |
| 1980 . . . . .               | 40,531                     | 39,258(a)                    |

(a) Excluding nullities.



## NUMBER OF DIVORCES, 1969 TO 1980



## Duration of marriage, age at marriage and age at divorce

The median duration of marriages dissolved in 1980 was 10.2 years. Of the 39,258 marriages which were dissolved, 49.0 per cent had lasted less than ten years, 31.1 per cent between ten and twenty years and 19.9 per cent twenty years or more.

## DIVORCE, YEARS MARRIED

| Period           | Years married |        |        |       |       |             | Total  | Median duration of marriage |
|------------------|---------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------------|--------|-----------------------------|
|                  | 0-4           | 5-9    | 10-14  | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25 and over |        |                             |
| Annual averages— |               |        |        |       |       |             |        |                             |
| 1961-65          | 501           | 1,999  | 1,747  | 1,329 | 926   | 1,040       | 7,542  | 13.6                        |
| 1966-70          | 903           | 2,937  | 2,146  | 1,685 | 1,429 | 1,581       | 10,681 | 13.4                        |
| 1971-75          | 1,693         | 5,478  | 3,432  | 2,398 | 1,930 | 2,417       | 17,349 | 11.9                        |
| 1976-80          | 8,234         | 13,112 | 8,359  | 5,556 | 4,265 | 5,694       | 45,220 | 10.6                        |
| Annual totals—   |               |        |        |       |       |             |        |                             |
| 1975             | 2,401         | 7,861  | 4,873  | 3,353 | 2,481 | 3,288       | 24,257 | 11.6                        |
| 1976             | 9,791         | 19,108 | 11,421 | 7,917 | 6,200 | 8,793       | 63,230 | 11.0                        |
| 1977             | 7,802         | 12,960 | 8,383  | 5,630 | 4,374 | 6,001       | 45,150 | 10.9                        |
| 1978             | 7,839         | 11,599 | 7,504  | 4,941 | 3,755 | 4,970       | 40,608 | 10.5                        |
| 1979             | 7,621         | 10,754 | 6,929  | 4,646 | 3,502 | 4,402       | 37,854 | 10.3                        |
| 1980             | 8,115         | 11,138 | 7,558  | 4,644 | 3,496 | 4,306       | 39,258 | 10.2                        |

In 1980, the median age at marriage of divorcing husbands was 23.4 years and of wives 20.9 years. Of husbands, 10.4 per cent had been aged under 20 at marriage and 54.1 per cent aged 20–24; of wives 37.4 per cent had been aged under age 20 and 44.0 per cent between 20–24.

#### DIVORCE, MEDIAN AGE AT MARRIAGE

| Period            | Median age at marriage of— |      |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------|
|                   | Husband                    | Wife |
| Annual averages—  |                            |      |
| 1966–70 . . . . . | 24.2                       | 21.7 |
| 1971–75 . . . . . | 23.5                       | 20.9 |
| 1976–80 . . . . . | 23.4                       | 20.8 |
| Annual            |                            |      |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 23.3                       | 20.8 |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 23.4                       | 21.0 |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 23.3                       | 20.7 |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 23.3                       | 20.8 |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 23.4                       | 20.8 |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 23.4                       | 20.9 |

At time of divorce, the median age of husbands was 35.3 years and of wives 32.7 years. A total of 26.7 per cent of husbands and 38.0 per cent of wives were aged under 30 years when the marriage was dissolved.

#### Children of the marriage

For the years in which the Matrimonial Causes Act was in force, children of the marriage were defined as living children under the age of 21 at the time of the petition. Under previous legislation there were differences between States. The Family Law Act defines them as children of the marriage if they were under the age of 18 at the time of application. In 1980, of the dissolutions granted under the Family Law Act, no children were involved in 39 per cent of the dissolutions, while 21 per cent of the dissolutions involved 1 child, 25 per cent 2 children, and 14 per cent 3 or more children.

#### DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NUMBER OF CHILDREN

| Period            | Number of children of the marriage |        |        |       |       |            | Total dissolutions | Total children | Average number of children |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
|                   | 0                                  | 1      | 2      | 3     | 4     | 5 and over |                    |                |                            |
| Annual averages—  |                                    |        |        |       |       |            |                    |                |                            |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 2,834                              | 1,950  | 1,611  | 753   | 279   | 143        | 7,568              | 9,347          | 1.2                        |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 3,628                              | 2,656  | 2,428  | 1,212 | 497   | 261        | 10,681             | 14,588         | 1.4                        |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 5,628                              | 4,062  | 4,200  | 2,147 | 874   | 438        | 17,349             | 24,840         | 1.4                        |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 17,013                             | 10,186 | 10,970 | 4,746 | 1,633 | 671        | 45,220             | 55,218         | 1.2                        |
| Annual totals—    |                                    |        |        |       |       |            |                    |                |                            |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 7,870                              | 5,467  | 6,031  | 3,029 | 1,254 | 606        | 24,257             | 34,992         | 1.4                        |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 23,606                             | 14,751 | 14,422 | 6,761 | 2,542 | 1,148      | 63,230             | 73,645         | 1.2                        |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 16,381                             | 10,473 | 11,005 | 4,857 | 1,679 | 755        | 45,150             | 57,878         | 1.3                        |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 14,965                             | 9,127  | 10,047 | 4,336 | 1,530 | 603        | 40,608             | 51,599         | 1.3                        |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 14,641                             | 8,167  | 9,488  | 3,876 | 1,243 | 439        | 37,854             | 46,130         | 1.2                        |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 15,471                             | 8,412  | 9,890  | 3,900 | 1,173 | 412        | 39,258             | 46,836         | 1.2                        |

## INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENTS

Statistics of overseas arrivals and departures are compiled from incoming and outgoing passenger cards which are collected from all travellers under the *Migration Act 1958*. Earlier statistics were obtained from passenger lists required under various Acts.

Since 1924, overseas travellers have been classified into two principal categories which distinguish movements for short terms from movements for longer periods (including permanent movements). Revised questions for travellers were introduced in 1958 and again in 1974. The 1958 revision enabled the separation, after 1959, of permanent from other long-term movements and also the identification of former settlers departing permanently. The 1974 revisions improved the classification without change of principle. The categories of overseas movement are:

*Permanent*—consists of persons arriving with the stated intention of settling permanently in Australia (settlers), and Australian residents (including former settlers) departing with the stated intention of residing permanently abroad. Before 1974, former settlers were not so classified unless they had spent at least 12 months in Australia.

*Long-term*—consists of overseas visitors arriving and Australian residents departing with the stated intention of staying in Australia or abroad respectively for 12 months or more; and visitors departing and residents returning who have stayed in Australia or abroad respectively for 12 months or more. Until 1974, Australian residents returning were classified as long-term only if their time spent abroad included a period of 12 months in any one country. Their classification is now governed solely by their total absence from Australia.

*Short-term*—consists of overseas visitors arriving and Australian residents departing whose intended or actual period of stay in Australia or abroad respectively is less than twelve months.

The classification of overseas movements is based on statements made by the traveller on arrival in or departure from Australia. The statistics represent the travellers' intentions at the time of arrival or departure; travellers may subsequently change their intentions, and this must be borne in mind in interpreting the statistics.

An upsurge of international tourism, particularly by Australian residents, occurred in the 1970s. The volume of sea travel has changed little over the period (the figures exclude pleasure cruises in the south west Pacific beginning and ending in Australia), so that in 1980 less than one per cent of arrivals and departures had travelled by ship. Net gain, i.e. the excess of total arrivals over total departures, until recently provided a satisfactory measure of the population gain from international migration. In recent years, however, distortions arising from seasonality of short-term arrivals and departures have become very large. For the purpose of estimating the population of Australia and the States and Territories, therefore, the migration component of population growth has been measured since 1 July 1971 by reference to permanent and long-term movements only.

### OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: AUSTRALIA 1961-1980

#### ARRIVALS

| Period            | Permanent and long-term movement           |                                      |                                  |  | Short-term movement(a)               |            |         |         |                   |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
|                   | Per-<br>manent<br><br>Settlers<br>arriving | Long-term                            |                                  | Total<br>permanent<br>and<br>long-term<br>arrivals | Overseas visitors arriving           |            |         |         | Total<br>arrivals |
|                   |  | Australian<br>residents<br>returning | Overseas<br>visitors<br>arriving |  | Australian<br>residents<br>returning | In transit | Other   | Total   |                   |
|                   |  |                                      |                                  |  |                                      |            |         |         |                   |
| Annual averages—  |  |                                      |                                  |  |                                      |            |         |         |                   |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 115,198                                    | 22,258                               | 14,770                           | 152,226  | 117,041                              | 28,685     | 102,776 | 131,461 | 400,727           |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 160,813                                    | 36,148                               | 24,481                           | 221,442  | 259,700                              | 41,476     | 255,800 | 297,275 | 778,417           |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 109,687                                    | 57,751                               | 26,254                           | 193,692  | 631,446                              | 74,356     | 401,569 | 475,925 | 1,301,063         |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 73,823                                     | 59,143                               | 28,730                           | 161,695  | 1,062,105                            | 62,521     | 622,208 | 684,729 | 1,908,530         |
| Annual totals—    |  |                                      |                                  |  |                                      |            |         |         |                   |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 54,117                                     | 58,352                               | 19,858                           | 132,327  | 880,609                              | 78,222     | 437,801 | 516,023 | 1,528,959         |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 58,317                                     | 59,875                               | 23,312                           | 141,504  | 968,265                              | 66,462     | 465,406 | 531,868 | 1,641,636         |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 75,640                                     | 57,700                               | 27,472                           | 160,813  | 973,677                              | 53,032     | 510,249 | 563,281 | 1,697,771         |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 68,419                                     | 57,938                               | 28,389                           | 154,745  | 1,029,482                            | 57,501     | 573,093 | 630,594 | 1,814,822         |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 72,236                                     | 61,441                               | 33,450                           | 167,127  | 1,144,334                            | 68,339     | 725,006 | 793,345 | 2,104,807         |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 94,502                                     | 58,760                               | 31,025                           | 184,288  | 1,194,768                            | 67,270     | 837,288 | 904,558 | 2,283,613         |

## DEPARTURES

| Period            | Permanent and long-term movement |                           |                            |                                |                             |  | Short-term movement(a)         |                             |                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
|                   | Permanent                        |                           |                            | Long-term                      |                             | Total permanent and long-term departures | Australian residents departing | Overseas visitors departing | Total departures |
|                   | Former settlers departing        | Other residents departing | Total permanent departures | Australian residents departing | Overseas visitors departing |  |                                |                             |                  |
|                   |                                  |                           |                            |                                |                             |  |                                |                             |                  |
| Annual averages—  |                                  |                           |                            |                                |                             |  |                                |                             |                  |
| 1961-65 . . . . . | 9,698                            | 6,798                     | 16,496                     | 37,905                         | 12,719                      | 67,120                                   | 118,624                        | 135,006                     | 320,749          |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 23,191                           | 8,752                     | 31,942                     | 56,219                         | 14,349                      | 102,511                                  | 258,824                        | 308,321                     | 669,656          |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 26,622                           | 12,032                    | 38,654                     | 66,430                         | 22,984                      | 128,067                                  | 647,608                        | 479,015                     | 1,254,690        |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 13,827                           | 9,917                     | 23,744                     | 59,223                         | 19,837                      | 102,803                                  | 1,077,331                      | 655,413                     | 1,835,548        |
| Annual totals—    |                                  |                           |                            |                                |                             |  |                                |                             |                  |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 18,315                           | 10,769                    | 29,084                     | 66,405                         | 23,327                      | 118,816                                  | 911,815                        | 506,454                     | 1,537,084        |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 16,815                           | 9,918                     | 26,733                     | 68,526                         | 20,631                      | 115,890                                  | 973,799                        | 512,468                     | 1,602,156        |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 14,171                           | 8,591                     | 22,762                     | 64,091                         | 19,182                      | 106,035                                  | 971,253                        | 540,943                     | 1,618,230        |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 14,027                           | 10,933                    | 24,960                     | 58,519                         | 19,643                      | 103,122                                  | 1,062,234                      | 597,123                     | 1,762,480        |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 12,670                           | 10,750                    | 23,420                     | 54,266                         | 20,422                      | 98,107                                   | 1,175,768                      | 752,440                     | 2,026,317        |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 11,450                           | 9,393                     | 20,843                     | 50,713                         | 19,306                      | 90,862                                   | 1,203,603                      | 874,090                     | 2,168,555        |

(a) Statistics of short-term movement since 1974 have been derived from a stratified sample of travellers and are subject to sampling error.

The total number of overseas arrivals and departures (excluding passengers on cruises which commence and complete their journeys in an Australian port) for the year 1980 was 4,452,200, 8 per cent more than for 1979. Growth in both arrivals and departures was particularly significant in the March quarter with almost half the total growth.

New South Wales, with 58.6 per cent of clearances, remained the principal State of arrival and departure in 1980.

Short-term movements accounted for approximately 94 per cent of total movements in both 1979 and 1980.

Changes in the pattern and volume of short-term movements is shown in Chapter 26, under the heading 'Tourism'.

### Migration to Australia

Migration to Australia is regulated by the *Migration Act* 1958 which came into force on 1 June 1959. Any person entering Australia after the commencement of the Act without having been granted an entry permit or who is not within an exempted class is a prohibited immigrant. Exempted persons include diplomatic and consular representatives of other countries, and seamen and air crew who enter with leave in Australian ports.

Immigration has contributed substantially to Australia's post war population growth. In the post-war years, some 3.6 million migrants have arrived, of which an estimated 80 per cent settled.

Settler arrivals totalled 94,500 in 1980, an increase of 31 per cent on the previous year.

Europe was the largest source of permanent settlers in 1980 with 44 per cent of the total settlers. Persons born in the U.K. or Eire were the largest group from any country. The number of settlers born in Asia was 28,400, 30 per cent of the total. A large proportion of the Asian born group were born in Indochina, admitted as settlers under Australia's current refugee resettlement program. Other significant Asian sources were the Philippines and Malaysia. A substantial increase has occurred in the number of permanent arrivals from New Zealand in recent years. Those born in New Zealand totalled 14,400 in 1980, the second largest "national" group, excluding refugees, after the U.K. or Eire born.

The age distribution of settlers has not changed significantly in the past few years. In 1980 the 20 to 34 year age group made up 37 per cent and 0 to 9 years olds 22 per cent of the total.

A total of 26,300 assisted settlers were among the total permanent settler arrivals, most of these were refugees.

## SETTLERS ARRIVING BY COUNTRY OF LAST RESIDENCE

|   | <i>Number</i>  |               | <i>Per cent</i> |              |
|---|----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
|   | 1970           | 1980          | 1970            | 1980         |
| South Africa . . . . .                              | 1,751          | 3,216         | 0.9             | 3.4          |
| Other Africa . . . . .                              | 3,799          | 1,154         | 2.1             | 1.2          |
| <i>Total Africa</i> . . . . .                       | <i>5,550</i>   | <i>4,370</i>  | <i>3.0</i>      | <i>4.6</i>   |
| Canada . . . . .                                    | 2,080          | 883           | 1.1             | 0.9          |
| U.S.A. . . . .                                      | 4,909          | 1,806         | 2.7             | 1.9          |
| Other America . . . . .                             | 4,262          | 1,614         | 2.3             | 1.7          |
| <i>Total America</i> . . . . .                      | <i>11,251</i>  | <i>4,303</i>  | <i>6.1</i>      | <i>4.6</i>   |
| Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka . . . . . | 4,119          | 895           | 2.2             | 0.9          |
| Indonesia . . . . .                                 | 85             | 4,438         | ..              | 4.7          |
| Lebanon . . . . .                                   | 3,974          | 746           | 2.1             | 0.8          |
| Malaysia and Singapore . . . . .                    | 1,501          | 8,053         | 0.8             | 8.5          |
| Philippines . . . . .                               | 351            | 2,974         | 0.2             | 3.1          |
| Thailand . . . . .                                  | 131            | 4,163         | 0.1             | 4.4          |
| Turkey . . . . .                                    | 4,399          | 940           | 2.4             | 1.0          |
| Other Asia . . . . .                                | 3,447          | 4,650         | 1.9             | 4.9          |
| <i>Total Asia</i> . . . . .                         | <i>18,007</i>  | <i>26,859</i> | <i>9.7</i>      | <i>28.4</i>  |
| U.K. and Ireland . . . . .                          | 77,522         | 23,521        | 41.8            | 24.9         |
| Austria . . . . .                                   | 12,790         | 3,883         | 6.9             | 4.1          |
| Germany . . . . .                                   | 5,106          | 1,763         | 2.8             | 1.9          |
| Greece . . . . .                                    | 10,098         | 1,174         | 5.4             | 1.2          |
| Italy . . . . .                                     | 8,843          | 2,411         | 4.8             | 2.6          |
| Yugoslavia . . . . .                                | 15,717         | 1,815         | 8.5             | 1.9          |
| Other Europe . . . . .                              | 14,102         | 6,048         | 7.6             | 6.4          |
| <i>Total Europe</i> . . . . .                       | <i>144,178</i> | <i>40,615</i> | <i>77.8</i>     | <i>43.0</i>  |
| New Zealand . . . . .                               | 5,532          | 17,023        | 3.0             | 18.0         |
| Other Oceania . . . . .                             | 807            | 1,331         | 0.4             | 1.4          |
| <i>Total Oceania</i> . . . . .                      | <i>6,339</i>   | <i>18,354</i> | <i>3.4</i>      | <i>19.4</i>  |
| Not Stated . . . . .                                | ..             | 2             | ..              | ..           |
| <b>Total</b> . . . . .                              | <b>185,325</b> | <b>94,502</b> | <b>100.0</b>    | <b>100.0</b> |

Each year Australia loses a proportion of its previous migrant intakes. Additionally, partly as a result of the high international mobility of professional and skilled workers, substantial numbers of Australians take up job opportunities overseas.

Eligibility for entry for settlement is restricted to certain family members and fiancées and fiancés of Australian residents, to others who possess skills, qualifications, personal or other qualities which represent an economic, social or cultural gain to Australia, and to certain refugees.

The grant of passage assistance is restricted to refugees and skilled workers in demand in Australia.

## SETTLER ARRIVALS

| <i>Period</i>     | <i>Assisted</i> | <i>Unassisted</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Annual averages—  |                 |                   |              |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 107,496         | 53,317            | 160,813      |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 58,176          | 51,511            | 109,687      |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 19,662          | 54,162            | 73,824       |
| Annual totals—    |                 |                   |              |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 21,345          | 32,773            | 54,118       |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 15,840          | 42,481            | 58,321       |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 17,532          | 58,108            | 75,640       |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 19,549          | 48,870            | 68,419       |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 19,063          | 53,173            | 72,236       |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 26,324          | 68,178            | 94,502       |

## SETTLER ARRIVALS BY AGE

|                   | Age in years |        |        |        |        |             |          |
|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Period            | 0-4          | 5-14   | 15-24  | 25-44  | 45-64  | 65 and over | All ages |
| MALES             |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| Annual averages—  |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 10,542       | 15,434 | 21,184 | 32,272 | 5,809  | 1,243       | 86,484   |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 7,411        | 10,009 | 12,878 | 20,326 | 3,921  | 1,247       | 55,792   |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 4,942        | 7,154  | 7,707  | 12,669 | 2,971  | 1,385       | 36,828   |
| Annual totals—    |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 4,124        | 4,968  | 4,011  | 8,673  | 1,735  | 1,063       | 24,575   |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 3,996        | 5,543  | 5,339  | 9,556  | 2,105  | 1,183       | 27,722   |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 5,205        | 7,221  | 8,009  | 12,410 | 3,461  | 1,344       | 37,650   |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 4,577        | 6,768  | 7,463  | 11,351 | 2,897  | 1,378       | 34,434   |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 4,986        | 6,837  | 7,598  | 12,205 | 2,873  | 1,339       | 35,838   |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 5,947        | 9,403  | 10,126 | 17,822 | 3,517  | 1,680       | 48,495   |
| FEMALES           |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| Annual averages—  |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 9,909        | 14,435 | 17,751 | 24,132 | 6,240  | 1,861       | 74,328   |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 6,952        | 9,301  | 13,685 | 17,445 | 4,787  | 1,725       | 53,895   |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 4,639        | 6,392  | 8,105  | 12,168 | 3,885  | 1,808       | 36,996   |
| Annual totals—    |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 3,908        | 4,671  | 6,990  | 9,676  | 2,807  | 1,491       | 29,544   |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 4,100        | 5,314  | 6,537  | 9,830  | 3,280  | 1,538       | 30,599   |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 4,821        | 6,597  | 8,070  | 12,104 | 4,595  | 1,803       | 37,990   |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 4,062        | 5,651  | 7,578  | 11,202 | 3,738  | 1,754       | 33,985   |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 4,621        | 6,062  | 8,438  | 11,874 | 3,607  | 1,796       | 36,398   |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 5,591        | 8,334  | 9,904  | 15,828 | 4,204  | 2,147       | 46,008   |
| PERSONS           |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| Annual averages—  |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 20,451       | 29,869 | 38,935 | 56,405 | 12,049 | 3,104       | 160,813  |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 14,363       | 19,311 | 26,563 | 37,771 | 8,708  | 2,972       | 109,687  |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 9,581        | 13,546 | 15,812 | 24,837 | 6,855  | 3,192       | 73,824   |
| Annual totals—    |              |        |        |        |        |             |          |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 8,032        | 9,639  | 11,001 | 18,350 | 4,542  | 2,554       | 54,118   |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 8,096        | 10,857 | 11,876 | 19,386 | 5,385  | 2,721       | 58,321   |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 10,026       | 13,818 | 16,075 | 24,518 | 8,056  | 3,147       | 75,640   |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 8,639        | 12,419 | 15,041 | 22,553 | 6,635  | 3,132       | 68,419   |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 9,607        | 12,899 | 16,036 | 24,079 | 6,480  | 3,135       | 72,236   |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 11,538       | 17,737 | 20,030 | 33,650 | 7,721  | 3,827       | 94,502   |

## SETTLER ARRIVALS BY MARITAL STATUS

|                   | <i>Never married</i>  |                          |                |                             |              |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Period</i>     | <i>Under 15 years</i> | <i>15 years and over</i> | <i>Married</i> | <i>Widowed and divorced</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| MALES             |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| Annual averages—  |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 25,976                | 25,742                   | 33,668         | 1,098                       | 86,484       |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 17,420                | 14,750                   | 22,595         | 1,027                       | 55,792       |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 12,095                | 9,052                    | 14,769         | 912                         | 36,827       |
| Annual totals—    |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 9,092                 | 4,664                    | 10,377         | 442                         | 24,575       |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 9,541                 | 6,710                    | 10,888         | 581                         | 27,720       |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 12,426                | 9,631                    | 14,826         | 767                         | 37,650       |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 11,345                | 8,451                    | 13,808         | 830                         | 34,434       |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 11,817                | 8,453                    | 14,562         | 1,006                       | 35,838       |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 15,344                | 12,015                   | 19,762         | 1,374                       | 48,495       |
| FEMALES           |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| Annual averages—  |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 24,344                | 12,530                   | 34,125         | 3,330                       | 74,328       |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 16,246                | 9,752                    | 25,055         | 2,842                       | 53,895       |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 11,005                | 6,435                    | 17,043         | 2,513                       | 36,996       |
| Annual totals—    |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 8,559                 | 5,521                    | 13,614         | 1,849                       | 29,544       |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 9,361                 | 5,473                    | 13,886         | 1,877                       | 30,597       |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 11,378                | 6,319                    | 17,874         | 2,419                       | 37,990       |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 9,700                 | 5,955                    | 15,950         | 2,380                       | 33,985       |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 10,672                | 6,609                    | 16,518         | 2,599                       | 36,398       |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 13,914                | 7,818                    | 20,987         | 3,289                       | 46,008       |
| PERSONS           |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| Annual averages—  |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1966-70 . . . . . | 50,320                | 38,272                   | 67,793         | 4,427                       | 160,813      |
| 1971-75 . . . . . | 33,666                | 24,502                   | 47,651         | 3,869                       | 109,687      |
| 1976-80 . . . . . | 23,100                | 15,487                   | 31,813         | 3,424                       | 73,824       |
| Annual totals—    |                       |                          |                |                             |              |
| 1975 . . . . .    | 17,651                | 10,185                   | 23,991         | 2,290                       | 54,118       |
| 1976 . . . . .    | 18,902                | 12,182                   | 24,779         | 2,458                       | 58,321       |
| 1977 . . . . .    | 23,804                | 15,950                   | 32,700         | 3,186                       | 75,640       |
| 1978 . . . . .    | 21,045                | 14,406                   | 29,758         | 3,210                       | 68,419       |
| 1979 . . . . .    | 22,489                | 15,062                   | 31,080         | 3,605                       | 72,236       |
| 1980 . . . . .    | 29,258                | 19,833                   | 40,748         | 4,663                       | 94,502       |

## Refugees

Australia accepted 21,692 people under refugee and special humanitarian programs in 1980. This compared with an intake of 17,057 in 1979.

Since 1945, Australia has accepted some 400,000 refugees or displaced persons, including 170,000 from Europe who were displaced by the Second World War and its aftermath.

Australia presently accepts refugees from about 40 countries. The largest single element in Australia's current refugee intake is the Indo-Chinese program. In 1980, 15,323 Indo-Chinese refugees were resettled in Australia, bringing the total intake since 1975 to 45,077.

Australia is one of 90 countries which have become party to an international convention and protocol on the status of refugees and, in so doing, have taken on certain international legal obligations to assist refugees. It is also a member of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Australia's response to refugee situations is two-fold. Through aid programs directed principally through UNHCR refugees are offered protection and assistance in countries of first asylum. Those refugees for whom other durable solutions are not feasible are offered resettlement (in Australia) when the group has cultural or historical ties with Australia, or in response to a regional problem.

### REFUGEE ARRIVALS

| <i>Period</i>          | <i>Assisted</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Annual average—</b> |                 |              |              |
| 1961-65 . . . . .      | 1,799           | n.a.         | n.a.         |
| 1966-70 . . . . .      | 7,446           | n.a.         | n.a.         |
| 1971-75 . . . . .      | 2,773           | 7,776        | 10,549       |
| 1976-80 . . . . .      | 9,274           | 3,284        | 12,558       |
| <b>Annual totals—</b>  |                 |              |              |
| 1975 . . . . .         | 853             | 3,302        | 4,155        |
| 1976 . . . . .         | 865             | 3,231        | 4,096        |
| 1977 . . . . .         | 2,202           | 7,272        | 9,474        |
| 1978 . . . . .         | 8,790           | 1,682        | 10,472       |
| 1979 . . . . .         | 14,639          | 2,418        | 17,057       |
| 1980 . . . . .         | 19,875          | 1,817        | 21,692       |

## Citizenship

The grant of citizenship is controlled by the *Australian Citizenship Act* 1948. Citizenship may be acquired by birth in Australia, by birth abroad to an Australian parent, or by grant of citizenship to persons resident in Australia under conditions prescribed in the Act.

An amendment to the legislation in 1973 meant that all persons are now eligible for the grant of Australian citizenship provided that they have lived in Australia for at least three years, are of good character, have an adequate knowledge of English and of the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship, and declare that their intention is to reside permanently in Australia.

### PERSONS GRANTED AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

| <i>Period</i>           | <i>Number</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Annual averages—</b> |               |
| 1961-65 . . . . .       | 43,823        |
| 1966-70 . . . . .       | 40,934        |
| 1971-75 . . . . .       | 61,182        |
| 1976-80 . . . . .       | 75,138        |
| <b>Annual totals—</b>   |               |
| 1975 . . . . .          | 84,059        |
| 1976 . . . . .          | 118,189       |
| 1977 . . . . .          | 70,706        |
| 1978 . . . . .          | 65,094        |
| 1979 . . . . .          | 53,555        |
| 1980 . . . . .          | 68,145        |



### Sources

Comprehensive statistics on aspects of demography are in the following publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics:

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