### **Information Paper**

**Census of Population and Housing** 

## **ABS Views on Content and Procedures**

2006

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# ABS Views on Content and Procedures

2006

R.W. Edwards Acting Australian Statistician

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#### **INQUIRIES**

- For information about ABS related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.
- For further information about this paper please contact Norah Sloane on Canberra (02) 6252 5942 or email: <norah.sloane@abs.gov.au> or Roslyn Harvie on Canberra (02) 6252 7542 or email: <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

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#### **PREFACE**

The purpose of this document is to initiate public consultation regarding the nature and content of the 2006 Census. The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* requires that the "...census shall be taken in the year 1981 and in every fifth year thereafter, ...". The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is now preparing to undertake the next census on Tuesday 8 August 2006.

The census is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the ABS and one of the most important. There are two broad objectives that underpin the census. Firstly, to accurately measure the number and key characteristics of people in Australia on Census Night and the dwellings in which they live. Secondly, to provide timely, high quality and relevant data for small geographic areas and small population groups, to complement the rich but broad level data provided by ABS surveys.

This publication describes the proposed procedures for the 2006 Census and the topics that might be included. Users of census data and others are invited to comment on any aspect of the conduct and content of the census by 30 July 2003.

Further publications will seek views about other aspects of the census, including the output strategy, and the classifications, products and services to be produced.

R.W. Edwards Acting Australian Statistician

#### **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSCQ ABS Classification of Qualifications

AC Automatic Coding

ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classifications

of Occupations

ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification

AQF Australian Qualifications Framework
ASAC Australian Statistics Advisory Council

ASCCEG Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups

ASCED Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCL Australian Standard Classification of Languages
ASCO Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASCRG Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups
ATSIC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

CAC Computer Assisted Coding

CD Collection District

DPC Data Processing Centre

EES Ethnic Enumeration Strategy

HES Homeless Enumeration Strategy

ICR Intelligent Character Recognition

IES Indigenous Enumeration Strategy

ISS Indigenous Social Survey

n.d. no date

#### **CHAPTER 1**

#### INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW OF PUBLICATION

Australia's fifteenth national Census of Population and Housing will be held on 8 of August 2006. A significant amount of planning is devoted to each census to ensure that the output reflects the information needs of Australians. ABS Views on Content and Procedures is the first in a series of information papers in which the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) will publish its views and seek comments in the lead up to the 2006 Census.

This information paper is part of the public consultation process about the content and procedures of the 2006 Census. Comments are being sought on views expressed in this publication. The information paper also outlines the ABS plans for the 2006 Census, in the areas of privacy and confidentiality, collection operations, processing and output of results.

Chapter 5 provides information on how to comment on views expressed in this publication.

Chapter 6 sets out those topics that the ABS considers should be included in the next census based on previous census consultations and demand for output.

Chapter 7 contains a group of topics on which the ABS either wishes to inform users of current developments, or seeks further information. In some cases, the ABS is aware of emerging demand and is seeking to confirm the justification for including these topics in the census. In other cases, the ABS has yet to establish that the census is the best way to collect the data.

Chapter 8 contains topics that have been raised as possible census topics in the past but which the ABS considers should not be included in the 2006 Census.

Appendix 1 provides additional information on the criteria used to assess submissions.

WHY HAVE A CENSUS?

The Census of Population and Housing is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the ABS and one of the most important. Its objective is to accurately measure the number and certain key characteristics of people in Australia on Census Night, and the dwellings in which they live. This provides a reliable basis for the estimation of the population of each of the states, territories and Local Government Areas, primarily for electoral purposes and the distribution of government funds. The census also provides the characteristics of the Australian population and its housing within small geographic areas and for small population groups to support the planning, administration, policy development and evaluation activities of governments and other users.

KEY GOALS FOR 2006

The ABS has seven key goals for the 2006 Census. These are:

- ensuring the relevance of the data to users and providers
- maintaining provider load at a similar level as the 2001 Census
- revising field procedures to incorporate Internet return of census forms and cost effective collection in difficult to enumerate areas
- improving the timeliness of the release of 2006 Census data compared with 2001 Census data
- maintaining at least the same high level of data accuracy as achieved for the 2001 Census
- reducing the real per capita cost of conducting the census
- maintaining census privacy and the public perception of privacy.

**CENSUS TOPICS** 

Ensuring that the census operation is conducted efficiently and effectively imposes constraints on the types of topics that can be included. There is also a need to limit the total number of questions in order to minimise respondent load and census costs.

Since the first national census in 1911, the content of censuses has varied. Some topics have been included in each census since 1911, for example, age, marital status and religion, while others have been included or excluded depending on the importance of the topic at the time.

To see the ABS views on topics to be included and excluded in the 2006 Census, go to Chapters 6, 7 and 8. A copy of the 2001 Census Household Form can be found at Appendix 2. This is referred to for each question discussed in Chapter 6, 7 and 8.

CONSULTATION AND ASSESSMENT OF TOPICS

Following the release of this information paper, the ABS intends to hold discussions with groups of users in all states and territories during July 2003. The views of users obtained through written submissions and consultation meetings will be discussed with the Australian Statistics Advisory Council (ASAC) later in 2003. All individuals or organisations who have made submissions will be advised of the results of these deliberations. During 2004, the ABS plans to make a submission to the Government on the nature and content of the 2006 Census and release an information paper outlining the 2006 Census content.

As the census development continues, the ABS will be consulting census users about other aspects, including the output strategy, classifications to be used in output, and the details of the 2006 Census products and services. This will commence with an evaluation of the 2001 Census products and services in the second half of 2003, and continue with the other phases through to 2005.

HOW TO COMMENT ON ABS **VIEWS** 

For the 2001 Census, the ABS received 130 submissions stemming from ABS Views on Content and Procedures. It is hoped that organisations and individuals will once again participate in this process as consultation plays an important part in determining census content.

Anyone wishing to make a submission for the 2006 Census should refer to Chapter 5 and Appendix 1.

Submissions may be lodged electronically by email to <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

People making submissions in hardcopy should forward them to Roslyn Harvie, Population Census Development, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Locked Bag 10, Belconnen, ACT, 2616.

State Government users should forward their submissions to their relevant state statistical coordinating body, to the ABS Regional Office in their state or by email to <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

CLOSING DATE FOR **SUBMISSIONS** 

The closing date for submissions is 30 July 2003.

#### **CHAPTER 2**

#### CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

**GENERAL ISSUES** 

Although the census collects information relating to each person and household in the country, it is not concerned with information about individuals as such. The census is taken to provide information about the community as a whole and about groups within the community. The public expects that the information they provide will be kept confidential and this protection is given by provisions in the Census and Statistics Act 1905. The ABS also has an obligation to comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the Privacy Act 1988.

To ensure that confidentiality and privacy provisions are observed, a comprehensive set of practices will be adopted by the ABS. In the 2006 Census they will include the following:

- (a) Temporary staff recruited for collection and processing of the census, as well as ongoing staff having access to completed census forms, are officers of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. All ABS officers will be legally bound to secrecy under the Census and Statistics Act 1905. Officers sign an undertaking of fidelity and secrecy to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities. Section 19 of the Census and Statistics Act 1905 forbids past or present ABS officers from divulging information collected under this Act, either directly or indirectly, under penalty of a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, or both.
- In large urban areas procedures will be established to avoid (b) collectors working in the districts in which they live, to minimise the possibility of collecting information from people they know personally. However, in other areas, where fewer applications are expected for census collector positions and travel involves significant costs, it is more likely collectors will be recruited who might know some householders. If a collector does know a householder they will be instructed to offer the householder an envelope in which to seal the completed form.
- Householders will be advised that anyone who does not want their (c) completed form to be seen by the collector will be able to obtain from the collector an envelope in which to seal the form. In addition, any individual member of a household (including a visitor) can request a separate form and envelope in which to record their own details. Census collectors will be required to pass all envelopes unopened to their field supervisor who will then conduct quality assurance. People not in private dwellings generally receive separate forms and envelopes. People who are not satisfied with these arrangements will be able to send a completed form to the ABS by mail. For the 2006 Census, people will have the option to complete an electronic version of the census form. Each person who submits a form electronically will be issued with a receipt number.

**GENERAL ISSUES** continued

- (d) An information booklet explaining the reasons for including each topic in the census will be delivered to each household along with the census form. This booklet will also be available online.
- (e) Census collectors will be instructed to pick up census forms in person from householders and not to suggest arrangements whereby completed forms are left outside the house at some pre-arranged location.
- (f) Completed paper census forms will be transferred from the field to the Census Data Processing Centre (DPC) under secure arrangements. Forms submitted electronically will be transferred securely. Full-time security personnel will be employed to prevent any unauthorised access to the processing centre.
- (g) Strong security arrangements are implemented on the ABS computer system which include the use of regularly changed passwords, access control and audit trails. No records of names and addresses will be kept once processing is completed.
- (h) In accordance with the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, no results will be released in a way which would enable particular individuals or households to be identified. In past censuses, the ABS has made slight random adjustments to the tabulated data. Similar or enhanced procedures will be employed in the 2006 Census.

#### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **CENSUS PROCEDURES**

**COLLECTION OPERATIONS** 

Objectives

The objective of the collection operation is to achieve a high quality census count that obtains maximum coverage of the population in a cost-effective manner. This involves the recruitment, training, supervision and payment associated with a temporary workforce of some 37,000 people. It also includes the logistics associated with designing and preparing maps and the printing, packing, distribution and return of over 850 tonnes of material.

Census date

The 2001 Census was held on 7 August. The 1991 and 1996 Censuses were both held on 6 August. Prior to 1991, late June was the traditional census date. The early August date has been selected to avoid a clash with school holiday periods. If the census is scheduled close to the holidays then operational difficulties increase and data quality declines due to people being absent from their usual residences.

It is the ABS view that the 2006 Census should be held on 8 August.

Scope

The scope of the census is all people in Australia on Census Night, excluding foreign diplomats and their families. Visitors to Australia are counted regardless of how long they have been in the country or how long they plan to stay. Australian residents out of the country on Census Night are out of the scope of the census.

People outside Australia who are not required to undertake migration formalities, such as those on oil and gas rigs off the Australian coast, are included.

People will be counted where they are on Census Night. This means that the census will be conducted on an actual location or place of enumeration basis (often referred to as a de facto census).

Mapping

A collector will be responsible for the taking of the census in a clearly bounded local area, known as a Collection District (CD). For 2001 there were 37,209 CDs covering Australia without overlap or omission, and it is expected that this number will grow to about 40,000 for 2006. The design and mapping of these areas is an important preliminary to the census as CDs represent both the basic unit of collection and the building block for aggregation into broader level spatial units for output purposes. While some change to CDs is necessary over time to allow for population growth and changes in administrative boundaries, they are, as far as possible, designed in such a way as to allow comparison of information over time.

For the 2006 Census, the ABS will use computer-based mapping systems similar to those used for the 2001 Census for design of CDs and for the production of the maps used by collectors. The main benefits of these systems are a common map base for both collection and dissemination purposes, more detailed and appropriately scaled maps for use by collectors leading to better coverage, and increased ABS control over the design of CDs and dissemination products.

Public awareness and assistance Public cooperation and acceptance of the census is essential for production of high quality statistics. For this reason a public awareness campaign will be conducted prior to and during the census. The aim of the campaign will be to maintain high quality response to the census by informing the public of the usefulness of the statistics obtained and the confidentiality of the information provided. The availability of help for those who may, for language or other reasons, have difficulty in completing the form, will also be made known.

An Internet site will be available to provide information about the census and answer commonly asked questions.

An information booklet will be delivered with the census form to each household. The booklet will explain the census aims and provide a question and answer part for commonly asked questions. This booklet will also be available online with the electronic version of the census form.

A telephone inquiry service will be available to answer questions. In addition, there will be a telephone interpreter service to assist people, who need assistance to complete their census forms.

Delivery and collection of census forms Most of the temporary field staff recruited will be area supervisors (previously known as group leaders) and collectors. An area supervisor will be responsible for 8-12 collectors who will each be responsible for the delivery and collection of census forms for approximately 450 dwellings. The number of dwellings covered does vary depending on the difficulty of the workload and whether the area is urban or rural. In addition, special collectors will be recruited to undertake census duties in large non-private dwellings such as hospitals and hotels.

The census will be predominantly conducted by census collectors who will deliver forms to each dwelling before census day and then return to collect the forms after census day. In areas where delivery and collection of census forms has proven difficult in the past, alternative methods, such as mailing forms out and asking householders to mail them back, are being tested and evaluated. An option to complete and submit an electronic version of the census form will also be available for the 2006 Census.

Enumeration of Indigenous, homeless and ethnic people Special procedures will be implemented to ensure the coverage of Indigenous, homeless and ethnic people is as complete as possible. These procedures will be further developed from those used successfully for the 2001 Census and are discussed in Chapter 4.

Non cooperation

It is expected that the public awareness campaign on the nature of the census, the assurances on confidentiality and the uses of the resulting statistics, will keep non cooperation to a minimum. People who do not cooperate with the collector will usually be approached by the area supervisor in an endeavour to overcome problems or objections. If necessary, this approach will be followed up by a letter from the ABS explaining the purposes and value of the census and its legal status, and seeking the householder's cooperation. Further action, including legal action, will generally be considered only after these measures have failed.

**PROCESSING** 

A key goal for the 2006 Census is to further improve the timeliness of the release of results whilst maintaining or improving data quality. For the 2006 Census, data will be captured and processed using the same technologies that were introduced successfully in 2001, namely imaging, Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR), and Automatic Coding (AC). Forms returned electronically will also be integrated into this processing methodology. To assist in achieving this key goal, the ABS will undertake a review of the processing methodology in order to gain further efficiencies.

Processing outline

A Data Processing Centre (DPC) will be established to undertake the processing of the 2006 Census. Processing of data will proceed as follows:

Receipt and register of forms: a check will be undertaken to ensure that all expected census forms have been received at the DPC. Follow up of missing forms will be rigorous, to ensure coverage is complete.

Data capture: the forms will be scanned and a reconciliation process conducted to ensure that all forms have been captured. Much of the data will be captured directly from responses on the forms and AC will be undertaken to code some written responses directly to output classifications. Other data will require repair and/or computer assisted coding for those responses which cannot be automatically captured or coded.

Only data for missing values for sex, age, marital status and usual residence will be imputed.

Some editing will be undertaken. The kinds of error which editing procedures can detect are limited to responses and/or codes which are invalid, or which are in conflict with census definitions. Some responses which are inconsistent with others will not be edited where it is not possible to determine the true situation from the information on the census form.

Quality assurance processes will be implemented at the DPC to maximise the accurate and consistent processing of information from the census form.

#### **RESULTS AND OUTPUT**

Improving the useability of census data

The census is one of the many data collections conducted by the ABS.

In order to improve the useability of census and other ABS data, ABS will be considering the possibility of linking census and data from other sources to further expand the benefits available from this data. The purpose of this linking is to provide larger statistical data sources which are of greater benefit than the individual data sources themselves, which involves linking anonymous records which have similar characteristics. Some of the potential benefits include:

- Providing access to more data at a reduced cost: Augmenting data sources with Population Census data, will increase the number of topics/data items available for aggregation at minimal cost.
- Reducing respondent load: There is potential for ABS surveys completed within the same timeframe as the Population Census to have their topic coverage reduced by removing identical topics.
- *Improving the data quality:* Census typically has high response rates with 97% of the population responding to the census. For most data items, non response rates are around 2%. Linking data would provide a better understanding of the non responding populations in surveys and provide opportunities to improve techniques for estimating data.

As an example, there may be potential to link a Population Census data with health related data collected by the ABS. The data would then provide a wealth of health related statistical data for a sample of the population. The combined dataset will allow the exploration of the connections between health conditions and social and economic factors.

If data linking is to be considered, further ABS investigation will be required to determine:

- additional processes and practices needed in order to maintain confidentiality of the data
- the data quality limitation of linking data sources, especially in terms of census data which ages as the population changes over time.

Major review of output products

The ABS intends to undertake a major review of the products and services from the 2001 Census as part of an overall review of that census. This will serve as an input to the development of the 2006 Census Dissemination Strategy. During 2004, a comprehensive consultation program will provide users with an opportunity to suggest improvements and to propose new products to meet emerging needs.

Major review of output products continued Other investigative work includes:

- increasing the scope of dissemination methods using Internet applications
- ways of integrating other ABS data with the census data
- increasing the level of analytical output from the census.

Population measures

The 2006 Census will be conducted on an actual location basis. In past censuses, the first data to be released have been presented on an 'as enumerated' basis with adequate provision for a range of usual residence based data. For 2006, consideration will be given to releasing standard products based on where people usually live (place of usual residence), with provision for access to 'as enumerated' data.

Classifications

Most classifications to be used in the 2006 Census will be similar to those used in the 2001 Census. Some new and revised classifications will be necessary to reflect changes in the Australian social environment and in consideration of new topics introduced to the census. Comment will be sought during 2004 on classifications.

Data release

In recent censuses, data have been released in two stages. This two stage strategy will be reviewed for the 2006 Output Program and consideration will be given to releasing data progressively, topic by topic. The aim will be to deliver the results of the census earlier than previous censuses. Users' views will be sought on all release proposals during 2004.

Evaluation

An integral step in the conduct of the census is an evaluation aimed at providing a measure of the extent of underenumeration. For this purpose a post enumeration survey will be conducted soon after Census Night. Further detailed evaluation studies will be conducted to provide users of census data with information about data quality, and to provide feedback for improvements for the following census.

Retention of name-identified data Following recommendations from the House of Representatives Standing Committee, the Government decided as part of the Centenary of Federation celebrations, that all Australians were to be given the option of having their name-identified census responses retained for 99 years. After 99 years, the name-identified data will be made public for future generations.

Some 53% of the population chose to have their individual responses retained and these are now with National Archives of Australia.

For retention of name-identified data to occur, in addition to funding, legislation was changed to allow the retention of responses from the 2001 Census. At this stage, there is no known requirement for retention of responses to occur for the 2006 Census.

Geographic outputs

The census CD is currently the smallest geographical building block of the census. CDs have a dual purpose. As well as being a geographic area for which outputs from the census are published, CDs are also used to manage the collection operation. To ensure that everyone is counted, sometimes collection imperatives have to take precedence and the CD is not always an optimal geographical area for census data outputs.

To improve the geographic outputs from the census, and provide users with the ability to specify areas of special interest which may not fit with CDs, ABS will be examining the possibility of creating a new level of geography for the output of 2006 Census data. Details of this level of geography are still being formulated. The new building blocks will be areas which are smaller than CDs. Effectively, a block of dwellings bounded by geographical features such as roads, rivers or property boundaries will be used to create this new level of geography. The new building block will be termed a Meshblock or Unit Block.

With the introduction of Meshblocks for the 2006 Census, ABS will be considering:

- the ability for outputs to be based on either the Meshblocks of where the population are counted, or the Meshblocks of where the population usually live
- the ability to allocate dwellings to the Meshblock they are located in, where an inexact or incomplete street address has been provided for the dwelling
- confidentiality provisions needed to allow for outputs based on meshblocks while maintaining the current levels of confidentiality, the optimum size of meshblocks, (somewhere between 20 and 50 dwellings), and the process required when a meshblock falls outside this optimum size
- the optimum size and characteristics of a new geographical unit to replace CDs for output purposes in 2011.

Standard census outputs for 2006 will be based on the current CD geography. If Meshblocks prove successful, minimal data, such as a population count, will be available for each Meshblock and a range of data will be available for various aggregations of Meshblocks. In anticipation of the successful implementation of a new output geography in 2011, CD design for 2006 will focus on collection issues. Work commenced in 1996 to make CDs more suitable as output units will not be continued.

#### **CHAPTER 4**

#### **SPECIAL ENUMERATION STRATEGIES**

ENUMERATION OF INDIGENOUS, HOMELESS AND ETHNIC PEOPLE Special procedures will be implemented to ensure that the coverage of Indigenous, homeless and ethnic people is as complete as possible. These procedures will be further developed from those used successfully for the 2001 Census.

Indigenous

The Indigenous Enumeration Strategy (IES) is a collection of procedures which allow for potential barriers, caused by cultural factors, to the effective enumeration of Indigenous people to be addressed. The strategy also encompasses census awareness activities aimed at encouraging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to participate in the census.

The strategy provides a framework of approaches to cover the enumeration of:

- nominated discrete communities of Indigenous people
- other Indigenous households.

A 2006 Indigenous Enumeration Strategy Consultative Committee was established in April 2003. This group is comprised of external stakeholders and internal representatives from the ABS. The group has been established to provide advice for the development of the 2006 Indigenous Enumeration Strategy.

Homeless

The Homeless Enumeration Strategy (HES) involves a range of approaches which recognise and address social and cultural barriers to the effective enumeration of homeless people. The strategy also emphasises census awareness activities aimed at encouraging homeless people to participate in the census.

The strategy provides a range of tactics and suggestions encompassing the enumeration of:

- 'primary homeless', that is homeless people on the street or without a roof over their head
- 'relative homeless', that is homeless people staying temporarily in private or public dwellings, such as boarding houses, hotels or hostels.

Cultural diversity

The Ethnic Enumeration Strategy (EES) is a framework of techniques aimed at gaining support for facilitating and encouraging participation in the census from the many community groups and nationalities that exist throughout Australia.

The overall aims of the EES are:

- the identification of ethnic groups, especially those communities likely to be missed or undercounted
- awareness raising by explaining the purpose of the census and encouraging cooperation

Cultural diversity continued

• the provision of appropriate assistance to those people who may need it, particularly those who may have been undercounted in previous censuses and people who are likely to have difficulty understanding or who need assistance in completing a census form.

Review of procedures for 2006 Census

Users wanting further information on, or input into, the Indigenous, Homeless and/or Ethnic Enumeration Strategies should contact Roslyn Harvie on (02) 6252 7542 or by email <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

#### **CHAPTER 5**

#### **MAKING A SUBMISSION**

INTRODUCTION

With the release of the *Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing, ABS Views on Content and Procedures, 2006* (cat. no. 2007.0), the ABS is inviting users of census data and members of the public to comment on the views expressed in the publication. This chapter provides background information for people considering making submissions on topics and/or other issues concerning the 2006 Census.

HOW TO COMPLETE A SUBMISSION

Hardcopy and electronic submissions must be completed in the question format outlined below. Please note, a separate submission is required for each topic.

Submissions for the inclusion of a new topic or the modification of an existing topic require detailed justification against the following criteria to facilitate ABS assessment:

- the topic is of major national importance
- there is a need for data on the topic for small groups in the population or for small geographic areas
- the topic is suitable for inclusion in the census.

Assessment criteria are discussed in more detail in Appendix 1.

Please answer the questions below, in as much detail as possible for each submission.

Details of the person to contact for any queries regarding this submission:

Name:

Organisation Name:

Designation:

Telephone No:

Address:

**Email Address:** 

Signature:

Date:

Please note:

The ABS may make public the views put forward in your submission. However, the ABS will not publish the names of persons or organisations making submissions without first obtaining their written permission to do so.

#### Question 1

Does this submission relate to:

■ a new topic? Go to question 2

change to an existing topic?
Go to question 2

• the deletion of a topic? Go to question 4

some other aspect of the census? Go to question 11

#### Question 2

What is the name of the topic?

#### Question 3

Define the topic and/or describe modifications you are proposing for the 2006 Census as precisely as possible.

#### Question 4

What topic(s) recommended to be included in the 2006 Census (see Chapter 6 of this document) do you consider to be of low priority or for other reasons, should be excluded?

People making a submission to include a new topic will need to nominate which topics recommended for inclusion by the ABS should be excluded, in order to keep the cost of the census at the same level as 2001. The list of topics being considered by the ABS for inclusion in the 2006 Census is set out in Chapter 6.

#### Question 5a

For what specific purposes will the information from your proposed topic be used?

Please provide details of:

- how specific studies or programs rely on this information
- uses in policy-making, long-term planning, social and economic applications.

Indicate as clearly as possible the benefits that flow from the data.

#### Question 5b

What output from the census would be required to support the uses you have described?

#### Question 6

Are you aware of any classification changes that would be required if this particular topic were included?

Please provide details of the output categories required and if appropriate ranges/descriptions for each category.

#### Question 7

How, and with what other topic(s), will the information provided from the proposed topic be cross-classified?

#### HOW TO COMPLETE A SUBMISSION continued

#### Question 8

At what geographical level (e.g. collection district, statistical local area, etc.) do you require this information to be tabulated?

Please indicate the level of classification required at each geographical level. Note that in order to protect confidentiality, detailed classifications and large cross-tabulations may not be released for small areas.

#### Question 9

Where information on this topic is available from other sources, indicate in what ways these sources are inadequate for your requirements.

Please consult with your local ABS office on what ABS data is available.

#### **Question 10**

What would be the consequences for your organisation (or other users) if your submission for the 2006 Census is not successful?

In particular:

- What activities could not take place or would be significantly reduced or degraded in quality?
- Would any additional costs be incurred by your organisation to collect substitute data? If so, please indicate the type of collection envisaged and its cost.

#### Question 11

Do you have any comments on any other aspect of the census?

MORE THAN ONE **SUBMISSION** 

Each topic will be considered on its own merits. It should be noted that each submission should be about only ONE topic. A separate submission needs to be completed for each topic requested for inclusion, exclusion or modification.

INFORMATION AND HELP

Additional copies of the Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing, ABS Views on Content and Procedures, 2006 (cat. no. 2007.0) are available from any ABS office, electronically via the ABS web site at <a href="http://www.abs.gov.au/census">http://www.abs.gov.au/census</a> or by sending an email to <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

If you would like any help with your submission please contact your local ABS Regional Office either by telephone on the number given in Appendix 4 or email <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for submissions is 30 July 2003.

WHERE TO SEND **SUBMISSIONS** 

Electronic submissions should be e-mailed to <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

Hardcopy submissions should be sent to:

Roslyn Harvie Population Census Development Australian Bureau of Statistics Locked Bag 10 Belconnen ACT 2616

State Government users should forward submissions to their relevant state statistical coordinating body, to the ABS Regional Office in their state or by email to <roslyn.harvie@abs.gov.au>.

Once a submission has been received by the ABS, an acknowledgment to the person or organisation making the submission will be sent.

The ABS intends to hold seminars in each capital city during July 2003 to explain the consultation process and to facilitate understanding of the requirements for the inclusion of topics in the 2006 Census.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SUBMISSIONS CLOSE

Following assessment of submissions, final recommendations on the nature and content of the 2006 Census will be discussed with the Australian Statistics Advisory Committee (ASAC) in late 2003. People who have provided submissions will be advised of the outcome of these discussions. The ABS will then make a submission to the Government, including recommendations on the nature and content of the 2006 Census. A decision on the content of the 2006 Census is expected to be known by the end of 2004.

INFORMATION ON OR SUBMISSIONS FOR ABS **SURVEYS** 

Users seeking more information on ABS population surveys and/or considering putting forward a proposal for surveys to be conducted should consult the ABS. A full list of the ABS publications referred to in ABS Views can be found in Appendix 3.

State Government users should forward their proposal for a survey to their relevant state statistical co-ordinating body, or to the ABS Regional Office in their state.

For information on all data published by the ABS, users should obtain the Catalogue of Publications and Products (cat. no. 1101.0) available from any ABS office.

#### **CHAPTER 6 TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2006 CENSUS**

This chapter contains assessments of the following topics which ABS considers should be included in the 2006 Census. These topics are included on the basis of continued demand for output for small areas and for small population groups or are required to assist in collection and processing operations.

Address on Census night

Name

Sex and age

Family relationship

Registered marital status

Usual residence

Internal migration

Country of birth

Year of arrival in Australia

Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander origin

Religious affiliation

Attendance at an educational institution

Highest year of school completed

Non-school qualifications

Income (including family and household income)

Labour force status

Occupation

**Industry** 

Hours worked

Journey to work

Mode of travel to work

Number of motor vehicles garaged

Number of bedrooms

Tenure type

Housing loan repayments

Rent and Landlord type

Structure of private dwelling (classification)

Location of private dwelling (classification)

Non-private dwelling (classification)

Number of children ever born

#### ADDRESS ON CENSUS NIGHT

**JUSTIFICATION** Household address on Census Night is essential for the conduct of an

accurate and high quality census.

CONFIDENTIALITY Confidentiality of the information provided is carefully guarded. The

> Census and Statistics Act 1905 requires that no identifiable information about an individual be made available to any other person, government

agency or private organisation.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION Census counts of where people spent Census Night, classified by

statistical areas, are available from every national census.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION See Question 1 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**PURPOSE** Census output is available on a place of enumeration basis (i.e. where

> people spent Census Night) for individual collection districts or aggregations of them. These aggregations include Local Government Areas and (CD derived) Postcodes. Household address on Census Night is used

to confirm the geographic code allocated to the household.

Household address is essential for the conduct of a high quality post-enumeration survey which is used to measure the level of under enumeration in the census. These measures are an important component in the estimation of resident population for each of the states, territories and Local Government Areas as required by the States Grants (General Revenue) Act 1988 and the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 and for determining the number of seats allocated to each state and territory in the House of Representatives.

Household address is the best way for collectors to ensure that all forms they deliver and collect are accounted for.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 ABS is experimenting with new levels of geographic outputs from the 2006 Census. To allow this to occur, all dwellings and persons in dwellings will be allocated to a small geographic region called a Meshblock. It is expected that Meshblocks will consist of 20-50 dwellings. If Meshblocks prove successful, minimal data, such as a population count, will be available for each Meshblock and a range of data will be available for various aggregations of Meshblocks. For the 2006 Census the CD will still be the smallest available geographical unit but for 2011 Meshblocks will be aggregated to a new output unit of around 220 dwellings, completely independent of CDs. Confidentiality provisions will also be examined to ensure confidentiality is maintained.

#### **NAME**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Names are regarded as essential for the conduct of an accurate census and the ABS view is to include name.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The inclusion of names in the census raises privacy concerns, even though the confidentiality of data provided is carefully guarded. The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* requires that no identifiable information about an individual be made available to any other person, government agency or private organisation.

Once census processing is completed, all name-identified census information will be destroyed.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Names have been requested in all previous censuses.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 2 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**PURPOSE** 

Names are essential for the conduct of a high quality post-enumeration survey which is used to measure the level of underenumeration in the census. These measures are an important component in the estimation of resident populations for each of the states, territories and Local Government Areas as required by the *States Grants (General Revenue)* Act 1995 and the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 and for determining the number of seats allocated to each state and territory in the House of Representatives.

Names are used with other information to help determine, for coding purposes, the composition of households, especially where households consist of more than one family. They are also used by collectors to help ensure all forms are accounted for and where they need to refer back to individuals within households.

Including names on census forms reduces the incidence of non-completion and inaccurate responses. The Australian Law Reform Commission, in its 1979 report on *Privacy and the Census*, found that an anonymous census would result in an unacceptable level of non-response and an equally unacceptable bias in responses.

#### **SEX AND AGE**

**JUSTIFICATION** The topics sex and age are essential items for the production of accurate

> state population estimates, a major objective of the census, and for sub-state population estimates. They are valuable items in their own right for planning and policy development and information on sex and age are

essential for virtually all demographic studies.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION The topics of sex and age have been included in every Australian census

since 1911.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS See Questions 3 and 4 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS Sex and age counts are essential for the production of accurate

> population estimates. Users require counts by single year of age and sex for small geographic areas and small groups of the population as a basic input to many planning and policy development activities. The sex and age variables are also widely used with other characteristics of the

population in cross-classified tables.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 A question asking date of birth instead of age last birthday is being considered in 2006 question design with the aim of improving quality. If asked, date of birth will not be available as an output item but will be used to determine age.

#### **FAMILY RELATIONSHIP**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information on relationships between people in a household is used to identify the variety of household and family groups within households. Data about households and families are of considerable value in their own right and are even more valuable when cross-classified with other variables. Fine geographic level data are available only from the census and provide a benchmark for the analysis of changing family structures and characteristics over time.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on relationship has been included in all Australian censuses. In 1996, for the first time, family coding was undertaken for people living in self-contained units in retirement villages, manufactured home estates and caravan parks.

For the 2001 Census, people staying in non-private dwellings did not have to answer the relationship in household question. Those staying in private dwellings were asked to answer the following questions.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 5 and 44 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Questions on this topic allow the identification of different types of households and the structure of family groups within each household. Information relating to families and households are required at small area level for the development, implementation and monitoring of many social and economic policies.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on family structure are available from some ABS household surveys. However, because of restricted sample sizes, surveys do not provide reliable data for small areas and small groups of the population. The following surveys have relevance to the topic:

- Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)
- Family Characteristics, Australia, 1997 (cat. no. 4442.0)
- Child Care, Australia, 2002 (cat. no. 4402.0).

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• With the possible review of ABS standards for family data, the question on relationship in household may be reviewed.

#### **REGISTERED MARITAL STATUS**

JUSTIFICATION	Marriage continues to be an important social institution.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION	A question on marital status has been included in all previous censuses.
2001 CENSUS QUESTION	See Question 6 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.
USER REQUIREMENTS	The data are also used more generally in association with information about actual living arrangements (social marital status) for a range of social research purposes.
POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR	■ With the review of ABS standards for family data, the adequacy of the

2006 CENSUS

marital status question will be reviewed.

#### **USUAL RESIDENCE**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information on usual residence is essential to the production of accurate state, territory and local government population estimates, a primary objective of the census.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on a person's place of usual residence at census time was first included in the 1961 Census when people who were temporarily absent from their usual residence were asked to name their state or territory of usual residence (or overseas if appropriate). The topic was not included in 1966 but has been included in all censuses since 1971.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 7 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

The most important use for data on place of usual residence at census time is to provide usual residence census counts for the estimation of usual resident populations for states, territories and Local Government Areas. These population estimates are used in determining the number of seats in the House of Representatives allocated to each state and territory, and the distribution of funds to the states, territories and Local Government Authorities.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Many ABS surveys include questions on usual residence of members of the household but small sample sizes do not enable generation of data of sufficient accuracy to use in compiling resident population estimates for Local Government Areas.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- A review of the address questions (usual address, address one and five years ago) will be undertaken in the lead up to the 2006 Census.
- The standard for usual residence is currently under review.
- ABS is experimenting with new levels of geographic outputs from the 2006 Census. To allow this to occur, all dwellings and persons in dwellings will be allocated to a small geographic region called a Meshblock. It is expected that Meshblocks will consist of 20–50 dwellings. If Meshblocks prove successful, minimal data, such as a population count, will be available for each Meshblock and a range of data will be available for various aggregations of Meshblocks. For the 2006 Census the CD will still be the smallest available geographical unit but for 2011 Meshblocks will be aggregated to a new output unit of around 220 dwellings, completely independent of CDs. Confidentiality provisions will also be examined to ensure confidentiality is maintained.

#### INTERNAL MIGRATION

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information on usual residence one year ago and five years ago is used in the postcensal estimation of interstate migration, which in turn is used for calculating Estimated Resident Population.

The census is the only source of data on usual residence one and five years ago.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Since 1971 people have been asked to provide the full address of their usual residence five years ago. A question on usual residence one year ago has been included since 1976. In 1991, respondents were asked only for their state of usual residence one year ago and for their full address five years ago. The 1996 Census and 2001 Census asked for full address of usual residence for both one year ago and five years ago.

Only a Statistical Local Area code, not the actual address, is stored for output purposes.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 8 and 9 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Data on a person's usual residence one or five years ago, when combined with responses to the question on usual residence at census time, provides information on the extent of internal migration of the population. Coupled with other census topics, the questions on usual residence provide information on characteristics of the migratory population as well as the non-migratory population. Such data are used in the production of intercensal and postcensal population estimates, all of which are compiled on the basis of usual residence. In addition, as internal migration is a major component of population change for many areas the data are important in the calculation of population forecasts.

Information on the internal migration patterns of the population at national, state, regional and local government levels is required for many planning purposes. In particular the data are used in:

- forecasting short and medium term housing requirements
- planning transport, health and educational services
- zoning, release and development of land for residential and commercial purposes.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Some administrative by-product data, such as change of address information from Medicare, give regular statistics on the number of movements, but only very limited details are available on the characteristics of movers. Such data are also subject to changes in their coverage.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- A review of the address questions (usual address, address one and five years ago) will be undertaken in the lead up to the 2006 Census.
- The standard for usual residence is currently under review.

#### **COUNTRY OF BIRTH**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Data on country of birth are critical in targeting settlement assistance to migrants. They are used for the examination of the need for, and the utilisation of, health, education and other social services for migrant groups, for labour force training and recruitment and for the formulation and monitoring of many other government policies and programs related to migrants.

These needs cannot be met with acceptable quality from sample surveys nor from overseas arrivals and departures statistics. The value of the data is greatly enhanced when cross-classified with data on period of residence in Australia which enables recent migrants to be distinguished from those who arrived some time ago.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on a person's country of birth has been included in every Australian census. Before the 1981 Census, with the exception of the 1921 Census, respondents were asked to provide details of the state or territory of birth if born in Australia, or country of birth if born overseas. In 1921 and in censuses since 1981, state or territory details have not been required.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 11 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on country of birth are critical in targeting settlement assistance to migrants. They are used for the examination of the need for, and the utilisation of, health, education and other social services for migrant groups, for labour force training and recruitment and for the formulation and monitoring of many other government policies and programs related to migrants. For these purposes the data is mostly required at a small area level and is often cross-classified with year of arrival in Australia data. The inclusion of the country of birth topic in the census enables the ABS to maintain the accuracy of the estimated resident population by birthplace series.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A question on country of birth is included in every ABS population survey, although detailed birthplace information is not available from these surveys because of high sampling error on estimates for small geographic areas and for many small birthplace groups.

Regular statistics on overseas arrivals and departures classified by country of birth are available from the processing of passenger cards required to be completed for each person arriving or departing Australia.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 Consideration will be given to changing the question format and instructions.

#### YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA

**JUSTIFICATION** Year of arrival in Australia is used to analyse data on the overseas-born

> population. Survey data cannot provide the small area data needed, or the cross-classified tables on the many birthplace groups that are possible

with census results.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION A question on date of first arrival in Australia or number of completed

years of residence in Australia, has been asked of overseas-born residents

in all Australian censuses since 1911.

For the 2001 Census the question asked overseas-born respondents to write in the actual year they arrived in Australia, thereby providing more

detailed information than in previous censuses.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION See Question 12 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS Data on year of arrival in Australia, when cross-classified with other census data, are used to analyse changes in the characteristics of migrants to Australia over time. In addition, users have identified the following

needs for these data:

• for the separate identification of recent compared with 'older' migrant

• for analysis of various aspects of migrant participation in the labour

groups, with the former generally requiring more services

force.

The data are generally required at a small area level.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA Most ABS population surveys collect information on year of arrival for the overseas-born population. Regular statistics on overseas arrivals are available from the processing of passenger cards required to be completed for each person arriving or departing Australia.

#### ABORIGINAL/TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ORIGIN

**JUSTIFICATION** 

The census is the only comprehensive source of small area socio-demographic data on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In all censuses prior to 1971 respondents were asked to state their race and, where race was mixed, to specify the proportions of each. In the 1971 and 1976 Censuses a question with response categories of European, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Other was included. Since 1981, a specific question has been asked to identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Special measures have also been adopted to obtain as complete a coverage as possible of the Indigenous population. These included special census awareness activities, greater use of Indigenous staff, greater involvement of Indigenous organisations, and better coordination of special field operations.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 17 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

The main purpose of this topic is to determine the number and distribution of people of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Data on the distribution and characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are important to Commonwealth and state/territory authorities responsible for developing policies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in such fields as housing, health services, education, social security and special assistance programs. The Commonwealth Grants Commission requires accurate data on the Indigenous populations for use in the allocation of funds to the States and Territories for services directed at these populations. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) requires small area demographic data for use in the planning and administrative activities of ATSIC Regional Councils.

Users are keen to obtain Indigenous population figures which are comparable from one census to the next.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

There have been some improvements in recent years on the extent to which data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are available from relevant Commonwealth and state government authorities. However, the available data are still limited in coverage and quality.

The ABS conducted an Indigenous Social Survey (ISS) in 2002 (scheduled for release in 2003) which will provide statistical data on a wide range of topics at national, state and territory level.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

Some users have expressed a strong need for greater consistency in the counts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from one census to the next. The ABS continues to work towards finding an approach to questioning and collecting this information which would produce more consistent population counts and statistics.

#### **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information on religious affiliation is widely used in the religious community, and by Government agencies which provide services that complement services provided by religious organisations.

Religious organisations are the largest providers of services to the community outside those provided by Governments, and the census is the only source of religious affiliation data they can use for the effective and efficient planning of such services.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on a person's religion has been asked in all Australian censuses. The Census and Statistics Act 1905 specifies that response to this question is optional. Despite the optional nature of the religion question, approximately 90% of respondents provided an answer in 2001.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 19 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

The list of response categories reflects those religions which are reported most often at the previous census.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on the religious affiliations of the population are required for planning the extensive range of activities and services involving religious organisations, including:

- location of places of worship, education facilities, aged persons care and other social services
- the allocation of chaplains to hospitals, prisons and the armed services
- the accreditation of marriage celebrants
- the allocation of Government grants to non-government schools and religious groups, sociological research and the allocation of air time on public radio.

Information on a person's religion is also, to some extent, useful as a surrogate measure of ethnicity.

**AVAILABILITY OF** NON-CENSUS DATA Data on the religious affiliations of the population are not available from other sources, but some data on religion are obtained from marriage registrations in the form of files used by marriage celebrants.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- If there is a continuing demand for information on specific Eastern Catholic denominations, consideration will be given to testing this in the lead up to the 2006 Census.
- Consideration will be given to placing the 'No religion' response category at the top of the listed categories with the aim of further reducing non-response to this question. Testing will be undertaken before implementation.
- A minor review of the Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups (ASCRG) (cat. no. 1266.0) is planned.

#### ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information on whether a person is attending an educational institution has important uses for education and labour market planning. It is also used to identify dependent family children in family coding.

The census provides a wider range of information on the characteristics of students than is currently available from statistics derived from administrative sources. This topic is considered to be of high priority by education planners at Commonwealth, state and community level. Significant changes are occurring in education participation and further changes are anticipated. Data from this question cross-classified with other census variables is very important in monitoring these changes.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A variety of questions enabling the identification of full-time and part-time students have been included in recent censuses. Questions on the type of educational institution being attended by students have also been asked in varying degrees of detail in a number of censuses. This data enables comprehensive statistics to be produced on the characteristics of people attending various types of educational institutions.

For the 1996 Census, due to structural changes in the higher education system, some changes in terminology were made for the question on type of educational institution attended. Additionally, 'Catholic' and 'Other Non-Government' primary and secondary schools were separately identified. These changes were carried through to the 2001 Census.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 22 and 23 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users require data on demographic, family, economic and social characteristics of people attending particular types of educational institutions.

Information on whether each person aged 15–24 years is a full-time student or not is used for identifying dependent family children in family coding.

The data enable education planners to compare the current participation levels of small groups in the population. They also assist in developing policies affecting the labour market.

Information on the relationship between education and labour market activities, particularly for young people and disadvantaged groups, is required by governments to monitor the impact of their policies and programs relating to people in the labour market. While much of this need is met by data from surveys, the census provides data for small areas and for small population groups which assists in the planning and delivery of relevant programs.

# AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on attendance at schools, universities and technical or further educational institutions are collected each year from administrative sources. However, the socioeconomic data are available from some of these sources is limited. Where such information is available there can be inconsistency in definitions and classifications across the different systems, making meaningful cross-classifications difficult.

Monthly labour force surveys ask people whether or not they are attending school. Data on school and tertiary attendance for people aged 15-64 are also available from the 2002 ABS Survey of Education and Work (Education and Work, Australia, cat. no. 6227.0).

#### HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED

**JUSTIFICATION** 

This topic is an important input into determining level and main field of highest educational attainment, as well as an important indicator of educational need and disadvantage. It is also used for planning and profiling at the small area level. Information on highest year of school completed is particularly important because of the extent of change occurring in education participation and the labour market.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question relating to level of school attainment was first asked in 1966 when a question on the highest level of schooling was included. In 1976 the question was changed to age left school to overcome reporting problems due to the lack of standardisation of schooling across states and overseas. In 1991 and 1996, with Optical Mark Recognition being used to capture data, the question asked for responses in self-coded categories.

Given that standardised schooling in Australia has been in place for a number of years a question on highest level of school completed was included in the 2001 Census. The question also included a category 'Still at school'.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 25 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on highest year of school completed are primarily required for:

- determining level of highest educational attainment
- assessing the likely usefulness of extension courses or other educational programs and assessing demand for university education
- determining disadvantage for particular socioeconomic groups such as Indigenous peoples and recently arrived migrants
- planning and profiling at the small area level and in analysis of student pathways.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Statistics on highest year of school completed are collected annually for persons aged 15–64 in the Survey of Education and Work (*Education and Work, Australia*, cat. no. 6227.0).

Administrative data provide detailed information on age participation rates at school for contemporary students, and the highest year of schooling completed.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

■ The 'Still at school' response category is likely to be dropped for the 2006 Census. This will allow level of highest educational attainment (which relies on information about highest year of school completed and highest non-school qualification) to be determined for people still at school. Persons attending secondary school can still be identified by cross-classifying responses from this question with the two participation in education questions.

## NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Qualifications information from the census is used, in particular, to support planning and policy development in the areas of education, training and employment. This is an area of significant public debate.

Changes may be needed to ensure continued relevance of census qualifications data.

It is expected that information about education qualifications to be released from the 2006 Census will cover level and main field of highest non-school qualification and level and main field of highest educational attainment.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

An education question in which respondents reported their highest level of attainment was included in the 1911 Census. However, a question directly asking about educational qualifications was not included until 1966 when respondents were asked to provide their qualification name and the institution at which it was obtained. Since 1971, people aged 15 or over have been asked whether they have obtained a non-school qualification and, if they have, the name of the highest qualification they have obtained, the field of study, the institution from which it was earned, and the year it was obtained. This enabled the highest non-school qualification to be coded to a detailed classification incorporating both level and field of study.

For the 2001 Census, question wording, instructions and examples were modified to accommodate the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) and the introduction of the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1249.0).

Qualifications data in both the 1991 and 1996 Censuses were classified to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications (ABSCO) (cat. no. 1262.0). Following developments in education and training and the introduction of the AQF, the ABSCQ was considered to be out-of-date. The ASCED was developed to replace the ABSCQ and this was used to classify data in the 2001 Census.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Question 26, Question 27, Question 28, Question 29 and Question 30 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on educational qualifications is used extensively in such areas as: labour force planning and policy formulation, assessment of performance against government targets, monitoring long-term outcomes of school education and lifelong learning, international comparisons and benchmarking, and for equity assessment and provision of services.

Level of and main field of highest non-school qualification and highest educational attainment are used in labour market analysis and planning. Main field of highest non-school qualification is required in considerable detail for studies of skill wastage or underutilisation, and for planning vocational education and training courses.

USER REQUIREMENTS continued

Level of and main field of highest non-school qualification and highest educational attainment are also used in international human capital benchmarking, modelling education demand, employment projections, Vocational Education Training policy formation, assisting in determining educational programs, matching educational investment with industry development and in analysing graduates' industry of employment against main field of highest educational attainment.

Some users require data on level of qualifications as a general indicator of education advantage for use in socioeconomic analysis of groups in the population.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Educational institutions collect details of qualifications awarded each year.

Data on attendance at school, higher education, Techincal and Further Education and other educational institutions as well as information on the level and main field of highest non-school qualification and highest educational attainment are collected in the ABS Survey of Education and Work (*Education and Work, Australia*, cat. no. 6227.0) conducted each May. While the Labour Force supplementary surveys that include education topics all provide useful data, the sample sizes mean that detailed main field of highest non-school qualification, small area data and data for small population groups are not made available.

**COMMENTS** 

The response to the year highest non-school qualification obtained is used to assist in coding qualification level and field of study. The year highest non-school qualification obtained is coded and is available in census output (see note below regarding possible change for 2006 Census).

Questions on qualifications generally have a fairly high level of non-response.

There are also problems with interpreting level and main field of highest non-school qualification responses, particularly for overseas qualifications, qualifications obtained some time ago and where inadequate descriptions are provided by respondents.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- A change to the 'Year highest non-school qualification obtained' question is being trialled. Rather than asking the exact year the qualification was obtained the question may simply ask if the qualification was obtained before 1998 or from 1998 onward. 1998 being the year from when qualifications were completed under the AQF. The distinction between certificates awarded pre 1998 and post 1998 and later years is also used to assist in coding some certificates to a finer level of the ASCED classification.
- Level and field of highest educational attainment is expected to be available from the 2006 Census (it was not available from the 2001 Census).
- Minor changes to question wording on non-school qualifications are being trialled in the 2006 Census testing program.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS continued

• Collection of the name of institution where the persons highest non-school qualification was completed is likely to be removed. See Question 29 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2. This question is only used to assist in coding (to ASCED) the person's highest non-school qualification and its removal is expected to have minimal impact on the quality of coding.

## **INCOME (INCLUDING FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD INCOME)**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Income data from the census are useful as an indicator of relative advantage or disadvantage for small areas and small population groups.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on income was first asked in the 1933 Census in an attempt to measure the effects of the Depression. It was re-included in 1976 and for all subsequent censuses. Each person is asked to indicate the range within which their gross income from all sources lies. Statistics on personal, family and household income are produced from this question.

In 1996 and 2001, categories for nil and negative income were provided to overcome an apparent cause of non-response. To ensure that the 'nil income' category did not lead to biased results, the highest income categories were listed first.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 31 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information on the income levels of various small groups of the population and the geographic distribution of income is used in public and private sector planning activities. In particular it helps identify the location of the disadvantaged for planning social services. Broad income is a useful indicator of economic well-being and therefore is used extensively. It is usually cross-classified with other census variables. For many purposes, household income is the preferred data item.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on income are available from surveys of income and household expenditure conducted regularly by the ABS. A question on income is asked in most household surveys for use as a classificatory variable. Family income and type of income unit are separate variables available from some of these surveys.

**COMMENTS** 

Testing of the topic has shown that there is a general tendency for those not in the labour force not to answer this question, as they consider income only applies to payments received as a result of employment. Similarly, pensioners and self funded retirees sometimes state that they receive no income as they do not regard their pension as income.

Family and household income are derived from data on individual incomes of members of families and households. Only the incomes of people present on Census Night are included because of the collection and processing difficulties involved in accounting for people temporarily absent. A statistical method is used to derive family and household income from individuals' income which are reported in ranges.

Data based on actual dollar amounts would be more useful than the range information collected to date. However, it is not proposed to ask for actual income in 2006, as testing has clearly shown that attempts to collect actual dollar amounts lead to lower response. It is also likely that this would lead to a greater bias in the results.

# POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- Income ranges will be adjusted to account for rises in income since the 2001 Census.
- New question wording is being considered in the lead up to the 2006 Census, to clarify topic requirements particularly in relation to the recipients of government benefits, since they may think they have no income.
- The possibility of collecting income data for usual residents absent on Census Night may be explored so that household income can be derived for a larger proportion of households.
- The possibility of reducing the number of response categories will be investigated.

#### **LABOUR FORCE STATUS**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information about the labour force is essential for a wide range of social and economic policy and planning purposes.

While regular ABS surveys provide data on the labour force status of people, the need for such data at small area level and for small groups of the population can only be met by inclusion of the topic in the census.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Data on labour force status, and status in employment, have been obtained in every Australian census since 1911. In recent censuses, respondents were asked to answer a series of questions from which labour force status was derived.

In both the 1996 and 2001 Censuses, a question about availability to start work was included so that counts of unemployed people in the census would make the data more comparable to data collected in the monthly Labour Force Survey. The distinction between whether a person's own business was or was not a limited liability company was also included, with the aim of increasing the comparability of estimates of employees (wage and salary earners, including owner managers of limited liability companies) and self-employed people (owner managers of unlimited liability companies) between the census and Labour Force Survey.

For 2001, changes were made to the status in employment question to enable more accurate collection of data. Changes included the addition of an explanatory dot point for persons working in their own limited liability company and changes to response categories.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 32, 33, 42 and 43 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

The questions used to determine a person's labour force status enable:

- each person aged 15 years or over to be classified as either in the labour force or not in the labour force
- people in the labour force to be classified as employed or unemployed
- employed people to be classified as wage or salary earners, self-employed, employers or unpaid helpers in family businesses.

Users require these data to provide benchmarks for assessing labour force changes for small population groups and within small geographic areas. Because the census provides small area data, analysis of the economic condition of small areas is possible. In addition, labour force participation rates can be determined for small groups of the population such as Indigenous people, migrants from particular countries, detailed age groups, etc. It also provides data on those people not in the labour force.

# AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

The ABS Monthly Labour Force Survey — results released in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) — provides data on labour force status and status in employment of people for states and territories. Labour force status data is also produced for a number of broad regions within states.

# POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

The status of employment question may be changed to collect different information (e.g. casual and fixed term-contracts) and to separate people working in their own incorporated enterprise (currently coded as wage or salary earners).

#### **OCCUPATION**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information about occupation for small areas or for finely classified occupations is needed for a wide range of social and economic policy and planning purposes.

Regular data on *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations*, *(ASCO)* (cat. no. 1220.0) unit group occupations are available from the ABS Labour Force Survey (results released in *Labour Force*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0)) but detailed survey data are subject to quite high sampling variability. Data from surveys are not available for small geographic areas.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A variety of questions on occupation have been included in all previous censuses.

Occupation data were coded using ASCO for the first time in 1986. An additional question on the main tasks or duties that a person usually performs in his or her job was also included to assist in the coding of occupations at the unit group level. ASCO 2nd edition was used for coding 2001 Census data.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 34 and 35 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Detailed occupation data are needed for analysing current and potential imbalances in the supply and demand for labour with varying skills, at the national, regional and local area levels. These analyses provide input to the development of policies and programs in the fields of education, training, immigration, industry and industrial relations and also for the monitoring of changes taking place in specific occupational labour markets. The usefulness of data on occupation is considerably enhanced when analysed with detailed data on industry of employment and qualifications.

Small area and regional data about the structure of the labour market are required for advising governments (at all levels) and their agencies responsible for delivering programs and providing services at a regional level.

Occupation data are also used to provide measures of socioeconomic status at the small area level.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A question on occupation is included each quarter in the ABS Labour Force Survey. Information is also available from ABS special supplementary surveys and professional registration boards.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- Wording of questions and guidelines will be reviewed with the aim of further improving the accuracy and effectiveness of responses.
- For 2006 occupation data will be coded using a revised classification *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations* (ANZSCO) (n.d.).

#### **INDUSTRY**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Although a substantial amount of information on employment by industry is available from other ABS surveys, it is not available at the detailed level for most industries or for small areas. Extensive industry restructuring is occurring, so data on the geographic distribution of industry employment is needed to monitor these changes and provide a basis for social and economic policy and planning.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on the industry of a person's employment has been included in one form or another in all censuses. The industry coding for the 2001 Census used the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) (cat. no. 1292.0).

Prior to the 2001 Census, industry was coded from the names and addresses of respondents' employers' workplaces or, where no match was obtained, by using the person's response to a direct industry question. The business name matching used the industry codes of businesses on the Business Register maintained by the ABS. This method provided more consistency of the data with that from other ABS collections based on the register. For the 2001 Census, a structured coding methodology was introduced and the question was split into two questions to elicit better information from respondents to allow for more reliable coding.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 36, 37, 38 and Question 39 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Employment data by industry are needed for analysing and monitoring the rate of structural change at a national and local area level. Detailed analyses are undertaken on the demographic and labour force characteristics of employees in industries and in locations which are facing structural change. Recent examples of this are in the information, textile, steel and heavy engineering industries. The utility of data on industry is considerably enhanced when analysed with detailed data on occupation and qualifications.

Small area and regional data about the structure of the labour market are required for the purpose of advising governments (at all levels), and their agencies responsible for delivering programs and providing services at a regional level. Data on industry sector (i.e. whether the establishment of employment is owned by one of the various levels of government or by the private sector) are used to assess the impact of government activity in small areas.

# AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Industry data at the ANZSIC group level are available quarterly from the *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), but detailed survey data are subject to high sampling variability. Unemployed people in this survey are asked each month for their previous industry of employment. Personal characteristics of the employed and unemployed are collected each month from the Labour Force Survey.

The ABS undertakes a range of surveys of businesses collecting information on employment, but only limited industry detail is available, and personal characteristics of workers are not collected.

# POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- The ABS will be looking at removing the Industry Sector data item, which classifies employed persons into government or non-government industry sectors.
- The ABS will be looking at rewording the industry question to align industry responses more closely with ANZSIC classification principles.
- For 2006, industry responses will be dual coded, in the first instance on the basis of 1993 ANZSIC, and secondly on the basis of the new 2006 ANZSIC (currently under development).

#### **HOURS WORKED**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information about hours worked by employed people is important for labour market analysis of small areas and small population groups.

The information is also important as a cross-classifier for labour force variables and for users to derive a classification of full-time/part-time work. Survey data are inadequate for analyses for small areas or for small groups of the population.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question relating to the number of hours worked by employed people has been asked in each census since 1966 but has varied depending on whether only the main job or all jobs are included.

For 2001, the question referred to all jobs rather than being restricted to the main job, providing greater comparability with data from other sources. In addition, respondents were able to write in the actual number of hours worked, thereby providing more detailed information.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 40 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Information on hours worked, preferably classified by industry and occupation, is required by labour market economists as it allows shifts in the labour force to be analysed within small geographic regions. It is also important for labour market analyses of small groups such as Indigenous people, migrants, sole parents and specific age groups.

Data on the extent of part-time employment are used in the study of changing work patterns and growth in leisure.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Information is collected on the number of hours worked as part of the ABS Monthly Labour Force Survey (Labour Force, Australia, cat. no. 6202.0). Information is also available from the Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours (Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, cat. no. 6305.0) but not from any other employer surveys. However, none of these collections provide data for small population groups or small geographic areas.

#### **JOURNEY TO WORK**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Detailed data on the direction and magnitude of journeys are needed for transport planning (including roads) and are used extensively in land use planning. This information is increasingly a factor in environmental issues such as pollution.

Day time population figures are important for planners of facilities in employment centres. Journeys to and from work form the largest proportion of the total number of journeys and are concentrated in peak periods which place a critical load on transport systems.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The questions which enable the derivation of journey to work have been included since the 1971 Census.

There is no specific question addressing this topic. Rather, journey to work is a topic derived from coding address of usual residence and address of workplace to obtain origins and destinations of employed people travelling to work.

For the 2001 Census, a question asked for the person's rather than employer's workplace address. This was designed to encourage respondents to give their actual workplace address rather than a head office address.

Prior to 2001, this topic was collected only for urban areas. For 2001, this topic was collected Australia wide.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 7 and 37 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

The coding of addresses of place of work to destination zones allows census data to be produced on journey to work patterns and on daytime populations of employed people.

Journey to work data are required by transport authorities for the analysis of travel patterns within major metropolitan areas, the modelling of fuel usage, the forecasting of public transport patronage and the analysis of catchment areas for transport routes. The data also assist policy makers in the planning of transport systems, industrial development and the release of residential and industrial land.

Information on daytime populations is required for analysis of the distribution of industry across regions and for planning of private and public facilities in employment centres.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

No data are available on this topic for small areas from other ABS sources. Some information is available from results of the 1997 ABS Time Use Survey (*How Australians Use Their Time, Australia*, cat. no. 4153.0). State Transport Authorities collect survey data for their capital cities/metropolitan areas on a regular basis.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 Consideration will be given to collecting this topic only for urban and major rural centres.

#### **MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK**

JUSTIFICATION Information about how people travel to work is mainly used in

> conjunction with journey to work data for transport planning. For example, it helps identify public transport usage between a particular origin and destination and can be used for assessing car parking requirements at a particular destination. No viable alternatives to census

data exist for this topic.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION A question on mode of travel to work was asked for the first time in the

> 1976 Census. It has been repeated in all subsequent censuses with slight modifications. For the 2001 Census question, 'light rail' and 'truck' were

included as response categories.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION See Question 41 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS Users have indicated that data on mode of travel to work are

fundamental to journey to work analysis and to transport planning in

general. Data are also used to:

identify public transport customer groups

measure public transport patronage

assist in energy conservation studies.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA No ABS surveys provide this information. Some information is available from public transport records.

#### NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES GARAGED

**JUSTIFICATION** 

This topic is a significant part of a 'package' of transport-related census topics (journey to work and mode of travel to work) and has an important place in transport and town planning. It also serves as a useful socioeconomic indicator.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on number of vehicles was first asked in the 1966 Census. Since 1976, households have been asked to record the number of registered motor vehicles (excluding motor cycles and motor scooters) owned or used by members of the household garaged at or near their dwelling. For 2001, the question included an option to record the number of motor bikes and motor scooters. In addition, respondents were able to write in the actual number of vehicles rather than mark a self coding box.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 45 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information on number of vehicles garaged at a dwelling is required for transport modelling, town planning, market research and as a social and economic indicator. Data on the distribution of vehicles are important for indicating needs such as parking and public transport. It is particularly important in identifying the mobility of particular segments of the population when cross-classified with other characteristics.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A range of statistics on motor vehicles is available from:

- ABS Survey of Motor Vehicle Use, Australia (cat. no. 9208.0)
- ABS Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items (cat. no. 6535.0)
- Motor vehicle registration records.

These collections, however, do not allow extensive cross-classification of vehicle counts with the characteristics of their owners. Some small area data are available from motor vehicle registration statistics.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 Consideration will be given to collecting data on motor vehicles only, excluding motorbikes and motor scooters.

#### **NUMBER OF BEDROOMS**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

The census is the only comprehensive source of data on number of bedrooms at small area level.

Housing authorities and other users of ABS information have indicated that data of this kind are needed as a measure of overcrowding and of the adequacy of dwelling stock which are key social issues.

While a small number of users would prefer a question on number of rooms, given the definitional problems and extra costs involved with such a question, data on number of bedrooms are acceptable and in some cases preferable.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on number of rooms/bedrooms has been included in every Australian census since 1911.

While the 1986 Census household form asked householders to indicate the numbers of various room types, only the number of bedrooms was entered into the computer record. The 1991 and 1996 Censuses collected data on the number of bedrooms only.

For the 2001 Census, respondents were asked to write in the number of bedrooms in their dwellings rather than mark a response category.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 46 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

A question on number of rooms/bedrooms is required to:

- provide some indication of dwelling size
- provide an indication of overcrowding by calculating occupancy ratios (i.e. the number of people per room/bedroom).

Small area data on occupancy ratios are required as a broad measure of housing standards when assessing the nature and utilisation of the Australian housing stock. Data on the number of bedrooms are one of several factors used to calculate weights for the rent and mortgage component of the consumer price index.

Virtually all user requirements are met by a question on the number of bedrooms.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA Data on the number of bedrooms are available from:

- the Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items (cat. no. 6535.0)
- the Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0).

#### **TENURE TYPE**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Information about the proportions of housing owned, being purchased or rented, and about the characteristics of associated households, are needed for housing and social welfare policy and planning in both the government and the private sector.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Data about whether a dwelling is owned, being purchased or rented have been obtained in all censuses since 1911.

From 1971 until 1991, the information on type of tenure was derived from the answers to more than one question. A single, direct question was used to determine type of tenure for 1996 and 2001. More detailed responses were listed, catering for a greater variety of tenancy/financial arrangements than in previous censuses.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 47 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Type of tenure (whether a dwelling is rented, owned with or without a mortgage) is a characteristic used to classify a range of other census data about households and dwellings. Data classified in this way are needed to monitor housing security, mobility issues and home ownership trends, and to develop housing and social welfare policies.

It should be noted that the tenure type questions cannot serve as a measure of housing stock, as they relate only to occupied dwellings.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA Data on tenure type are available from:

 Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0).

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• The current standard for tenure type differentiates between owners with and without a mortgage rather than whether owned or being purchased. As a consequence the response categories for this question may need to be revised.

#### **HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENTS**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

The census is the only source of housing loan repayments data for small areas and small groups of the population. Such data are important for housing policy-making and planning, and for studying the housing conditions of minority populations.

Housing loan repayment data are also used in conjunction with income data as an approximation of discretionary income.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on mortgage was asked for the first time in the 1976 Census. The question was simplified for the 1981 Census to ask only whether there was a mortgage and the monthly payments on the total mortgage on the dwelling. Since the 1986 Census, the question has asked the monthly payment being made on the loan(s) for the dwelling.

Because of the emergence of rent-buy schemes and strong user demand for actual amounts rather than range data, a new approach to collecting the data was undertaken for 1996. A question collecting actual amounts paid for the dwelling was asked instead of the range data obtained in the 1991 Census. Type of tenure responses were used to determine whether payments were recorded as rent or loan repayments.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 48 and 47 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users require data on housing loan repayments classified by household characteristics to measure access to home ownership and to provide benchmark data for evaluation of housing needs, housing finance and housing demand. Regional and small area (local government area) data are required.

Used in conjunction with income, housing loan repayment data provide an indication of disposable income.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA Data on housing loan repayments are available from:

- Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0)
- Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items (cat. no. 6535.0).

Because of small sample sizes, surveys cannot provide small area data.

#### **RENT AND LANDLORD TYPE**

JUSTIFICATION The census is the only source of rent data for small areas and for small

groups of the population. Such data are important for housing

policy-making and planning and for studying the housing conditions of

sub populations of specific interest.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION Weekly rent paid for each dwelling has been asked in every Australian

census since 1911. In 1947, householders were also asked to indicate whether the dwelling was rented furnished or unfurnished. Since 1971, in addition to stating the weekly rent, householders have been asked to

indicate the type of landlord.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS See Questions 47, 48 and 49 of the 2001 Census Household Form in

Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users have indicated that the rental question is important for housing

policy planning in Australia. In particular, rental information produced from the census aids in the identification of housing needs and the extent to which specific groups (e.g. low income households, aged

people and Indigenous people) have access to adequate housing.

Rent data from the census are used by the ABS in calculating estimates of imputed rent for the National Accounts and checking the

representativeness of dwelling samples used in the Consumer Price Index.

Used in conjunction with income, rent data provide an indication of

disposable income.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on rent are available from:

 Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0)

■ Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items (cat. no. 6535.0).

Because of small sample sizes, surveys cannot provide small area data.

## STRUCTURE OF PRIVATE DWELLING (CLASSIFICATION)

**JUSTIFICATION** 

There is a strong user demand for data on dwelling structure, especially at small area level and for small groups of the population, to determine urban form and density. The question is answered by the collector which contributes marginally to collection costs but requires no response by the public.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on class of dwelling has been asked in every Australian census since 1911.

Caravans have been included as a response option since 1961 and caravans in caravan parks were first enumerated with household forms in 1986.

Traditionally the census has defined a dwelling as the space occupied by a household. Therefore, where a dwelling unit was shared by more than a single household, the procedure led to an overcount of dwellings. To measure this effect, attempts have been made to identify dwellings that contain one or more household (1954, 1976) or in which a kitchen or bathroom was shared (1971, 1976). However, the quality of response to these questions was poor.

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See the Dwelling structure question on the last page of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users require data about the types of private dwelling structure for the analysis of personal and household (including family) characteristics in relation to the physical structure in which they live. The data are also used for providing the benchmark for regular estimates of the different types of housing available.

Initiatives in housing policy such as the National Housing Strategy have strengthened the need for detailed information about Australia's housing stock.

The results are used:

- to determine changes in housing patterns
- to review existing housing stock for use in housing policy advice
- for land use forecasting
- for transport planning.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA The ABS conducts a quarterly Building Activity Collection which provides data on additions to the stock of private dwellings. Information on type of dwelling has also been collected in housing and energy surveys conducted by ABS.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• The standard for structure of private dwellings is currently under review to improve data quality.

## **LOCATION OF PRIVATE DWELLING (CLASSIFICATION)**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

This classification was introduced for the 1996 Census to cater for changes in the scope of private dwellings. The scope of private dwellings was expanded to include self contained dwellings in retirement villages and dwellings in manufactured home estates. These changes allowed for a broader range of data to be collected for these housing types as well as permitting users to maintain a time series with previous census dwelling data.

The question is answered by the collector which contributes marginally to collection costs but requires no response by the public.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

For the 1996 Census, private dwellings were classified according to whether they were located in caravan parks (or marinas), manufactured home estates, retirement villages or elsewhere.

On the basis of this information, both dwelling and household data are able to be classified according to these locations.

Since 1986, dwellings in caravan parks and marinas have been treated as private dwellings. From 1996, self contained units in retirement villages and dwellings in manufactured home estates have also been counted as private dwellings.

This classification complements the existing private dwelling structure classification and enables the ABS to meet user requirements for data about these alternative forms of housing and their occupants.

USER REQUIREMENTS

The changes reflect the growing number of people residing long term in these types of accommodation and the consequent user requirements for a fuller range of household and family statistics for these population groups.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

No other sources of data on location of private dwelling exist.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

 A standard for location of private dwelling is currently under development.

# NON-PRIVATE DWELLING (CLASSIFICATION)

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Census data about people residing in non-private dwellings is important for the planning and delivery of many services. Over three-quarters of a million people were enumerated in non-private dwellings in the 1996 Census.

The classification of non-private dwellings (including hotels, motels, hospitals, boarding houses, etc.) is partially dependent on the perceptions of the person-in-charge of the particular dwelling and the arrangements made for collecting data. As a result, information about non-private dwellings and the people in such dwellings tends to be less accurate than for private dwellings.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Non-private dwellings have been enumerated and classified in all Australian censuses since Federation. Caravan parks were treated as non-private dwellings up until the 1981 Census, but since the 1986 Census, caravans in caravan parks have been enumerated as private dwellings using household forms.

For the 1996 and 2001 Censuses, self contained dwellings in retirement villages and dwellings in manufactured home estates were treated as private dwellings.

TYPE OF QUESTION

Information required for the classification of non-private dwellings is collected from the person-in-charge of each dwelling.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information on persons in non-private dwellings is required for:

- analysis of programs for the aged and disabled
- policy analysis and policy formulation in the development and financing of projects in the areas of health, the aged, children and rehabilitation.

There is need for consistency between output from the census and ABS population surveys and this will be investigated prior to further consultation about census outputs.

**AVAILABILITY OF** NON-CENSUS DATA Government departments have information on government-funded institutions although generally only limited details are available on the characteristics of residents.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• A standard for 'non-private dwelling type' is currently under development.

#### NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

JUSTIFICATION

After the 1986 Census, ABS concluded that there was justification for collecting data on number of children ever born only at ten yearly intervals. For the 2006 Census, this question will be included again in line with this ten yearly cycle.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on the number of children ever born was asked in nearly all Australian Censuses up until and including 1986. The question was not included in the 1991 and 2001 census because it was not considered necessary to collect data every five years. In the 1996 Census, a question was asked to gather information about the number of children ever born for each female aged 15 years or more.

1996 CENSUS QUESTION

28	For each female, how many	( ) None
	babies has she ever had?	( ) One
	• Include only live births.	( ) Two
		( ) Three
		( ) Four
		( ) Five
		( ) Six or mor

USER REQUIREMENTS

Data on fertility are required for investigations of fertility differentials between various groups such as Indigenous people, migrants and different socio-economic groups. Such information is needed for predicting future fertility of subgroups and for forming related policies.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Some information on the number of children ever born is available from the 1992 Family Survey but not for small groups of the population. Birth registrations and hospital based data (midwives) provide some information on fertility.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- Options will be considered and tested for making this question less sensitive in the lead up to the 2006 Census.
- The possibility of asking for the number of adopted children and stillbirths will be investigated.

# CHAPTER 7 TOPICS UNDER REVIEW

This chapter sets out assessments of a small number of topics about which the ABS either wishes to inform users of current developments or seeks further information. Along with the assessments the current ABS view on whether the topic should be in the 2006 Census or not is shown.

Country of birth of parents

Main language other than English spoken at home/Proficiency
in Spoken English

Ancestry

Information and Communication Technology

Disability

Unpaid work

#### **COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF PARENTS**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

There is a high level of demand for census information about ethnic or cultural origin, particularly for those groups which cannot be identified adequately through the questions on language, religion and country of birth. Questions on whether a person's parents were born in Australia or overseas, in conjunction with the ancestry question, provide this information.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on country of birth of parents was first asked in 1921, when the data were used to investigate the extent of the relationship between birthplace and race of persons born in Asia who were resident in Australia.

A question on country of birth of parents was not asked again until 1971 and was asked in all subsequent Australian censuses until 2001. As the 2001 Census included a question on a person's ancestry, the country of birth of parents question was replaced by questions asking whether a person's parents were born in Australia or overseas.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 13 and 14 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on whether a person's parents were born in Australia, in conjunction with a question on a person's ancestry indicate the ethnic background of Australians and are used in planning the delivery of services to migrants and in access and equity reviews.

The data are used in assessments of communities which in turn affect the allocation of resources/facilities that are made on a community basis.

They are also used to analyse the impact of migration flows from particular countries through to the second generation. Most uses of the data require detailed data for the large number of source countries and for small areas.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA The only regular data on whether a person's parents were born in Australia published by the ABS are derived from birth and marriage registrations. Data on country of birth of parents has been occasionally obtained in ABS surveys.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• For 2006, the ABS will be re-examining the usefulness of the parents born in Australia questions and an ancestry question compared to detailed country of birth of parents questions with no ancestry question.

# MAIN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH SPOKEN AT HOME/PROFICIENCY IN SPOKEN ENGLISH

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Language use questions have importance for the implementation of national and state/territory policies on language. The Government's objectives in its access and equity policy require language use data to be available for monitoring and implementing associated programs.

Users in all levels of Government and community groups require data on proficiency in English at small area level and for small population groups for use in targeting both language services and welfare and community services aimed at migrants. The Government's objectives in its access and equity policy require language use data to be available for monitoring and implementing associated programs.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A language question was first included in 1921, asking whether the person could read and write; in 1933 the question asked whether the person could read and write a foreign language if unable to read and write English. Language was not included again until 1976, when a question on languages regularly used was included.

Since the 1986 Census, a question on main language spoken at home has been asked. Response categories included in the question reflect the languages reported as most commonly spoken at home in the previous census. Respondents are able to provide their language spoken at home other than English, if it is not included in the list of response categories.

In 1981, a question was asked on proficiency in spoken English for those persons speaking a language other than English at home. A similar question has been asked on each Australian census since 1981.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 15 and 16 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on languages used are required:

- for the investigation and development of language services such as interpreter/translation and education
- for the implementation of national and state/territory language policies
- as an indicator of 'active' ethnicity.

Data on languages used are required at small area level and for small population groups for the planning and delivery of the services listed above.

Data on proficiency in English are needed for:

- the development of English teaching programs
- the development of multilingual information programs
- the provision of interpreter/translation services
- the provision of migrant welfare or community services.

### USER REQUIREMENTS continued

Data on proficiency in English are required at small area level and for small population groups for the planning and delivery of the services listed above.

## AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A number of ABS surveys collect data on the main language other than English spoken at home.

No other sources of data on proficiency in English exist.

### POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- A minor review of the Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) (cat. no. 1267.0) is planned to be undertaken before the 2006 Census.
- For 2006, the ABS will be re-examining the format of the main language other than English spoken at home question. It is proposed that the question output categories be reduced to only 'English' and 'Other' for the 2006 Census, with a more detailed set of response options asked every 10 years, the next time being 2011. Questions on birthplace, ancestry, country of birth of parents and year of arrival may be used as an alternative to this data item.

#### **ANCESTRY**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

The ABS recognises the demand for a census question about ethnic or cultural origin, particularly for those groups which cannot be identified adequately through the existing questions on language, religion, country of birth of individuals and their parents, and Indigenous status. An ancestry question was included in the 2001 Census. Provided ABS can be convinced there is sufficient justification and it is shown that high quality data can be collected, an ancestry question could again be included in the 2006 Census.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on each person's ancestry, (i.e. ethnic or cultural origin) was asked for the first time in the 1986 Census. This was the result of investigation by the 1986 Population Census Ethnicity Committee on the need for data on ethnicity other than language, country of birth or country of birth of parents. The question was designed to identify the respondent's origin rather than a subjective perception of their ethnic background. The aim of the question was to measure the ethnic composition of the population as a whole. Evaluation showed that it was not useful for this purpose as there was a high level of subjectivity and confusion about what the question meant, particularly for those people whose families had been in Australia for many generations.

As a result of user demands, the ABS established a Census Consultative Group on ancestry in 1995 to seek user input and to identify user requirements for these data, research international practices and develop and test questions which may provide acceptable and accurate data at a reasonable cost. Testing in the lead up to the 1996 Census indicated that the same data quality problems were experienced as with the 1986 Census. Subsequent discussions of the Consultative Group identified that the major policy issues were for those people who were either born overseas or whose parents were born overseas. For this purpose, it was determined an ancestry question in combination with a question on whether the person's parents were born in Australia or overseas would produce data of acceptable quality.

A question on ancestry was included in the 2001 Census. The responses to this question were coded to the new *Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ASCCEG)* (cat. no. 1249.0).

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 18 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

There is user demand for a census question about ethnic or cultural origin, for those groups which cannot be identified adequately through the previous set of census questions on language, religion, country of birth, country of birth of parents and Indigenous status.

Users indicated, during the consultation process, that the main population of interest for policy purposes were those who were born overseas themselves or who had parents born overseas.

# POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

- Consideration will be given to changing the question format and instructions, including examples given.
- Users need to consider this question in conjunction with the country of birth of parents question.
- If this question is not asked in the 2006 Census, it is likely that the country of birth of parents question will be expanded to provide additional data.
- A minor review of the ASCCEG is planned.

### INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Census data about the use of Information and Communication Technology is useful in showing the access to, and use of, these technologies.

The ABS is reviewing the need for questions on this topic on the 2006 Census, and is seeking input from users to provide further justification for including this topic in the 2006 Census.

RECENT TRENDS

- The Information and Communication Technology field is constantly changing and the key issues are quite likely to change over a 5-year period.
- The complexity of the issues in the Information and Communication Technology field can be significant and may not lend themselves to data collection through the population census.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The ABS received a small number of submissions requesting the inclusion of this topic in the 2001 Census. Questions on the use of the Internet and use of a personal computer at home were included.

2001 CENSUS QUESTIONS

See Questions 20 and 21 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

USER REQUIREMENTS

There is a continuing requirement by Commonwealth and state government bodies for data on the use of personal computers and use of the Internet at small geographic area level and for small population groups in order to target a range of policies and programs. Another important issue is the accessibility (as opposed to use) of personal computers and the Internet. The output from such questions when cross-classified with other questions on the Census form such as age, sex, address, qualifications and employment details provides information on the take up rates of these technologies by various target groups in the population and in small geographic areas. There are a number of access and equity issues associated with the use and accessibility of both personal computers and the Internet and without the detailed information that is available from the Census, government programs are difficult to accurately target.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

The ABS currently collects extensive annual data on the number of households with a home computer, whether they have access to the Internet from home, work, the local library or elsewhere, their frequency of use, whether they use it for e-commerce, and other related activities. This information is available for each state and territory. The survey is undertaken using trained interviewers which means that information on more difficult topics can be obtained. The most recent survey was conducted in 2002.

The ABS also collects information from agricultural holdings on whether they had used a computer and the Internet for personal and/or business use. The most recent survey was also conducted in 2002.

### POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• As suggested above, the inclusion of accessibility as well as use of computers and the Internet may be appropriate. However, it is unlikely that an increase in the number of questions will be possible, so a need to focus on either accessibility or use, or perhaps only on the Internet, will be considered.

#### **DISABILITY**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

There was strong user demand to include a question on disability in the 1996 Census and 2001 Census, and this strong user demand continues. The ABS appreciates the need for small area data on people with disabilities. The issue for the ABS is not one of justification but rather the problems surrounding obtaining quality data from the census. ABS has established a working group which is examining possible approaches for the 2006 Census.

Statistical agencies in most industrialised countries either do not ask a disability question in their censuses, or have experienced data quality problems when they have. A review of information on disabilities from such censuses in other countries has shown that the information obtained is unreliable for most practical applications.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Questions relating to disabilities of respondents were included in the 1911, 1921 and 1933 Australian censuses. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they were deaf, dumb or blind. A more general question on the effect of disabilities was asked in 1976. However, the quality of data obtained from this question was poor and no results were released.

The ABS established a Census Consultative Group on Disability in 1995, to seek user input and to identify user requirements for this data, to research international practices and to develop and test disability questions which might provide acceptable and accurate data. Questions developed during these consultations were tested with the aim of finding a suitable question (or a small number of questions) to provide high quality data on disability.

Results of testing disability questions for the 1996 and 2001 censuses showed that the census questions developed did not provide results that were relatable to the disability survey estimates. It was concluded that it was not possible to design a simple disability question for a self-enumerated form that was comparable to the disability concept used in the main survey. Consequently, a disability question was not included in the 1996 or 2001 Censuses.

USER REQUIREMENTS

Data are required for developing Federal and State Government policies and community-based programs, and for program and service delivery funding allocation. While much of this data is only required for large geographic areas, detailed data at the small area level and for small population groups are required for efficient planning and funding of disability service delivery.

### **AVAILABILITY OF** NON-CENSUS DATA

Surveys on disability were conducted by the ABS in 1981 and 1988. Surveys of Disability, Ageing and Carers were run in 1993 and 1998 and another is planned for 2003. These surveys on disability were comprehensive in scope and provided detailed information about disability in Australia and individual states and territories. The surveys asked a range of demographic questions similar to those asked in the census, and provided a range of disability data cross-tabulated with age, sex, education, employment and household data. However, reliable small-area data are not available from the surveys.

The ABS has developed a short disability question module for use in a range of ABS household surveys to identify people with disabilities. These surveys provide a range of data about people with disabilities, but not at the small area level.

Data are available from the Department of Family and Community Services in relation to recipients of relevant pensions and benefits. However, not all people with disabilities receive a pension or benefit. Therefore, while this administrative data is available at fine geographic level, it is not a good indicator of the prevalence of disability in the population.

### **UNPAID WORK**

**JUSTIFICATION** 

Submissions have been made in the past for census questions about activities outside those covered by labour force statistics (such as unpaid work in the home and unpaid voluntary activities) and to identify the status of people not in the labour force. One way to collect such information would be to include a question about unpaid work.

The ABS is not aware of any need for these data for small areas or for small population groups. Consequently the ABS is seeking justification for inclusion in future censuses. Nearly all submissions received for the 2001 Census focused on the importance of unpaid work rather than the statistical need for data for small areas or for small population groups.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Unpaid work has not been included in any Australian census. For the 2001 Census, the ABS did not believe there was sufficient justification to modify the labour force questions used in the 1996 Census, to include a question on unpaid work. There was concern that modifying the labour force questions would impact on the comparability of the data with data from previous censuses and with data from the monthly Labour Force Survey.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Requests have been received for data on voluntary work, unpaid work in the home (including domestic activities, child care, care of the aged and people with disabilities) and for the activities of retirees (especially self-funded retirees).

Users advise that data about usual major activity identify significant areas of human activity not usually monitored in more traditional social and economic statistics. Information on unpaid activities is important in measuring the characteristics of the carers of groups with special needs (such as the elderly, children, and people with disabilities), and assisting in planning for both work and non-work environments.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Time Use Surveys are the key source of data on people's use of time, including activities such as unpaid work. The ABS has conducted national Time Use Surveys in 1992 and 1997 and will conduct the next one in 2005–06.

Additional information has been collected in surveys on:

- Disability, Ageing and Carers (run in 1993 and 1998, with the next to be conducted in 2003)
- Voluntary Work (run in 1995 and 2000)
- Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey (run in 1997)
- ABS State Supplementary Surveys.

Other relevant publications include:

- Australian National Accounts: Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account (cat. no. 5256.0)
- Occasional Paper: Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy (cat. no. 5240.0).

## CHAPTER 8 TOPICS TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE 2006 CENSUS

It is the ABS View that the topic assessed on the following page should be excluded from the 2006 Census. The topic is:

Australian citizenship

### **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP**

**ASSESSMENT** 

Citizenship data are used for measuring the rate of take up of citizenship by the overseas-born population and for monitoring electoral enrolments. Citizenship data are also used in costing reciprocal social security arrangements with other countries.

Given the availability of some alternative data and the constraints on how many topics it is feasible to include in the census, the ABS is seeking further justification for continuing to ask this question every five years. It is proposed that this question be excluded from the 2006 Census and be asked only every 10 years. It would next be included in the list of topics for consideration for the 2011 Census.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on nationality was first asked in 1921, when respondents were asked to indicate what national subject they were by means of birthplace, parentage or naturalisation. In 1966 and 1971 the term 'nationality or citizenship' was used, and from 1976 onwards the question has used the word 'citizenship'. Since 1986, the question on citizenship has been self-coding with only two response categories (Australian citizen or not).

2001 CENSUS QUESTION

See Question 10 of the 2001 Census Household Form in Appendix 2.

**USER REQUIREMENTS** 

Data on citizenship are used for targeting electoral roll maintenance, citizenship promotion activities and costing reciprocal social security agreements with overseas countries. They also indicate the extent to which people born in certain countries take up Australian citizenship. The data are often cross-classified with country of birth, year of arrival and age data.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Census output serves as the benchmark for statistics on citizenship. This information can be updated using data on the:

- country of citizenship of settler arrivals indicated on passenger cards completed by people entering and leaving Australia
- number of migrants who become Australian citizens.

Both of these sources of information have limitations because they do not provide a complete picture of the total number of citizens at any point in time, nor do they provide reliable small area data.

POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR 2006 CENSUS

• It is proposed that Australian Citizenship be excluded from the 2006 Census and again included in the 2011 Census.

### APPENDIX 1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

A self-enumeration approach is used in the census. That is, each householder, or one householder on behalf of other members of the household, is asked to answer the questions on the census form with relatively little assistance from the census collector. This method imposes constraints on the types of topics and questions that can be included in the census if the public are to provide high quality and accurate information. There is also a need to limit the total number of questions asked in order to keep respondent load to an acceptable level and to ensure high levels of cooperation. Combined with this is the need to ensure that the large census operation is conducted as efficiently and effectively as possible.

These constraints are reflected in the three criteria (as outlined in Chapter 5) used to assess topics for inclusion in the census.

#### Whether the topic is of major national importance

The census is a large and costly operation that imposes a load on the householders who are required to answer the questions. It is essential that every question asked has a specific purpose and that the purpose is of major national importance. Submissions proposing the inclusion of new topics should clearly indicate the value of the information by showing the uses to which it will be put. Submissions should also spell out the specific consequences if the topic is not included in the census.

# Need for data for small population groups or small geographic areas

The census is appropriate for topics for which users require:

- detailed information for a large number of small geographic areas
- information about small groups in the population that cannot be identified through other means (e.g. administrative records)
- cross-classification with other characteristics collected in the census.

Information required for broad geographic areas only (e.g. at the state or national level) may be better obtained by other means (e.g. sample surveys) depending on the detail of the cross-classification required. If the need is restricted to information about a few specific small areas, other methods could be more appropriate.

Consideration should also be given to whether data are available from other sources. Similar or surrogate data may be collected by another organisation, there may have been surveys already conducted or planned to be conducted by the ABS, or the data may be available from administrative records.

The ABS produces an extensive range of information from economic censuses and surveys, administrative sources, and a comprehensive program of population surveys. While the ABS population surveys are not able to collect the detailed information that can be obtained from the census for small groups or small areas, there are general advantages associated with interviewers collecting the data rather than the self-enumeration method used in the census, as well as disadvantages in terms of timeliness of data availability.

The census cannot provide:

- up-to-date information it is usually about 11 months before census results start to become generally available
- information about identified persons the ABS collects data under the authority of the Census and Statistics Act 1905 which precludes the release of data in any form which is likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation.

### Whether the topic is suitable for inclusion in the census

The self-enumeration method used in the census requires that questions asked be readily understood by all householders.

In general, census topics should not:

- cause an adverse reaction from people by invading their personal privacy to an unacceptable degree — including topics of this nature will produce poor quality data for the questions concerned and may also affect response to other questions
- need more than one or two questions to obtain the required information — such topics impose an excessive burden on respondents and occupy space which could be used for other topics
- require a lengthy explanation or instruction to ensure an accurate answer — research has shown that people often do not read such instructions
- seek information not generally known and likely to be unreliable such as 'Where was your maternal grandmother born?'
- ask things which people are unlikely to accurately remember for example: 'Did your family take a holiday lasting at least seven days, five years ago... one year ago...?'
- seek opinions or attitudes
- present major coding problems or require extensive processing.





# census Why a Census?

The Census is the only practical way to get information on how many people there are in each part of Australia, what they do and how they live.

### **Collection authority**

The information asked for is collected under the authority of the Census and Statistics Act 1905. Your co-operation is sought in completing this form.

### Confidentiality

Under the Census and Statistics Act, the ABS must not release any information you provide in a way which would enable an individual's or household's data to be identified. The one exception is that if you agree at Question 50 then your information will be provided to the National Archives of Australia for release in 99 years time. See page 15 of the Census Guide for further information.

#### Help available

Refer to the Census Guide or ask your Collector or phone the Census Inquiry Service on 137 219.

# **Household Form**



Rec No. (RNO)

# DUCED SIZ

### What you need to do

- Use this form to record details of all people (including visitors) who spend the night in your dwelling on census night, Tuesday, 7 August 2001.
- Your Collector will return between 8 August and 27 August to collect your form.
- On one form you can record details of **six people.** Your Collector will give you enough forms for the number of people you expect to reside in your dwelling on census night. If you need more forms, or there is more than one household, ask your Collector or see 'Help available'
- If any person in your dwelling prefers a **separate form** for privacy reasons, ask your Collector or telephone 137 219 for a Personal Form and a Privacy Envelope. You may also ask for a Privacy Envelope if you do not want your Collector to see your completed form

#### How to answer

- Please use a black or blue pen.
- Most questions only need to be answered by marking a box like this,
- or writing a number like this.
- Please use **BLOCK** letters, and
- write like this, keeping each letter within the boxes provided.



TREET

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WILLIAM

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- Please answer all the questions for every person, unless the form asks you not to.
- If you **do not know** an answer, give the best answer you can.
- Please take your time to complete the form and refer to the Census Guide for help if needed
- Please do not fold or bend this form.

#### What is the address of this dwelling?

Please use **BLOCK** letters

Street number						
Street name						
					Т	
Suburb, rural locality or town						
Suburb, rural locality or town						
Suburb, rural locality or town State/Territory	П	П		Posto	ode	

	Please use BLOCK letters.	Person 1  Enter the householder or any adult I  'Person 1', and if present, the spous	
2	Name of each person <i>including visitors</i> who spent the night of Tuesday, 7 August 2001 in this dwelling:  Record details for all adults, children, babies and <i>visitors</i> .  Include any person who returned on Wednesday, 8 August 2001, without having been counted elsewhere.	First or given name  Surname or family name	First or given name  Surname or family name
3	Is the person male or female?  • Mark one box for each person, for example —.	Male Female	Male Female
4	<ul> <li>What was the person's age last birthday?</li> <li>If age is less than one year, write '0'.</li> <li>Example, for a person aged 19 years:</li> <li>1 9 Years</li> </ul>	Years  100 years or more	Years  100 years or more
5	What is the person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2?  • Examples of other relationships: son-in-law, granddaughter, uncle, boarder.	No answer required for Person 1	Husband or wife of Person De facto partner of Person Child of Person 1 Stepchild of Person 1 Brother or sister of Person Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify
6	What is the person's present marital status?  • 'Married' refers to registered marriages.	Never married     Widowed     Divorced     Separated but not divorced     Married	Never married     Widowed     Divorced     Separated but not divorced     Married
7	Where does the person usually live?  For persons who usually live in another country and who are visiting Australia for less than one year, mark 'Other country'.  For other persons, 'usually live' means that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in 2001.  For persons who now have no usual address, write 'no usual address'.  For boarders at boarding school, give address at boarding school or college.	The address shown on the front of this form Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number Street name Suburb, rural locality or town	Same as for Person 1  Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address  Street number  Street name  Suburb, rural locality or town
		State/Territory Postcode  Other country	State/Territory Postcode  Other country
8	Where did the person usually live one year ago (at 7 August 2000)?  If the person is less than one year old, leave blank. For persons who had no usual address on 7 August 2000, give the address at which they were then living.	Same as in question 7 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number Street name Suburb, rural locality or town	Same as for Person 1 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number Street name Suburb, rural locality or town
		State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode
		Other country	Other country

Person 3	Person 4	O3 Person 5	Person 6
First or given name			
Surname or family name			
Male Female	Male Female	Male Female	Male     Female
Years 100 years or more	Years  100 years or more	Years  100 years or more	Years  100 years or more
Child of both Person 1 and Person 2 Child of Person 1 only Child of Person 2 only Brother or sister of Person 1 Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2 Child of Person 1 only Child of Person 2 only Brother or sister of Person 1 Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2 Child of Person 1 only Child of Person 2 only Brother or sister of Person 1 Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2 Child of Person 1 only Child of Person 2 only Brother or sister of Person 1 Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify
Never married Widowed Divorced Separated but not divorced Married	Never married Widowed Divorced Separated but not divorced Married	Never married Widowed Divorced Separated but not divorced Married	Never married Widowed Divorced Separated but not divorced Married
Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number	Same as for Person 1  Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address  Street number  Street name	Same as for Person 1  Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address  Street number  Street name	Same as for Person 1  Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number  Street name
Suburb, rural locality or town			
State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode
Other country	Other country	Other country	Other country
Same as for Person 1 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number	Same as for Person 1 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number	Same as for Person 1 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number	Same as for Person 1 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number
Street name	Street name	Street name	Street name
Suburb, rural locality or town			
State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode
Other country	Other country	Other country	Other country

	Please use BLOCK letters.	04 Person 1	Person 2
9	Where did the person usually live five years ago (at 7 August 1996)?  If the person is less than five years old, leave blank.  For persons who had no usual address on 7 August 1996, give the address at which they were then living.	Same as in question 7 Same as in question 8 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number Street name Suburb, rural locality or town	Same as for Person 1 Same as in question 8 Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address Street number Street name Suburb, rural locality or town
10	Is the person an Australian citizen?	State/Territory Postcode  Other country  Yes, Australian citizen	State/Territory Postcode  Other country  Yes, Australian citizen
	io dio potoon dii Adottalian olizoiti	No No	No No
11	In which country was the person born?  • Mark one box.	Australia ► Go to 13 England Scotland New Zealand Italy Greece Viet Nam Other - please specify	Australia  • Go to 13 England Scotland New Zealand Italy Greece Viet Nam Other - please specify
12	In what year did the person first arrive in Australia to live here for one year or more?  • Example: 1 9 7 0 Year	Year  Will be in Australia less than one year	Year Will be in Australia less than one year
13	Was the person's father born in Australia or overseas?	Australia Overseas	Australia Overseas
14	Was the person's mother born in Australia or overseas?	Australia Overseas	Australia Overseas
15	Does the person speak a language other than English at home?  • Mark one box only.  • If more than one language, write the one that is spoken most often.	No, English only ► Go to 17  Yes, Italian  Yes, Greek  Yes, Cantonese  Yes, Mandarin  Yes, Arabic  Yes, Vietnamese  Yes, other - please specify	No, English only Go to 17 Yes, Italian Yes, Greek Yes, Cantonese Yes, Mandarin Yes, Arabic Yes, Vietnamese Yes, other - please specify
16	How well does the person speak <i>English</i> ?	Very well Well Not well Not at all	Very well Well Not well Not at all

Person 3	Person 4	05 Person 5	Person 6
Same as for Person 1	Same as for Person 1	Same as for Person 1	Same as for Person 1
Same as in question 8	Same as in question 8	Same as in question 8	Same as in question 8
Elsewhere in Australia –	Elsewhere in Australia –	Elsewhere in Australia –	Elsewhere in Australia –
please specify address	please specify address	please specify address	please specify address
Street number	Street number	Street number	Street number
Street name	Street name	Street name	Street name
Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town
State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode
Other country	Other country	Other country	Other country
Yes, Australian citizen No	<ul><li>Yes, Australian citizen</li><li>No</li></ul>	Yes, Australian citizen No	Yes, Australian citizen No
Australia ► Go to 13	Australia ► Go to 13	C Australia ► Go to 13	Australia ► Go to 13
England	C England	← England	☐ England
Scotland	Scotland		Scotland
New Zealand	New Zealand	New Zealand	New Zealand
Italy	C Italy	( Italy	( Italy
Greece	Greece	Greece	Greece
Viet Nam	○ Viet Nam		○ Viet Nam
Other - please specify	Other - please specify	Other - please specify	Other - please specify
Year	Year	Year	Year
Will be in Australia less than one year	Will be in Australia less than one year	Will be in Australia less than one year	Will be in Australia less than one year
than one year	than one year	than one year	than one year
Australia	Australia	Australia	Australia
Overseas	Overseas	Overseas	Overseas
Australia	Australia	Australia	Australia
Overseas	Overseas	Overseas	Overseas
No, English only ► Go to 17	No, English only ► Go to 17	No, English only ► Go to 17	○ No, English only ► Go to 17
Yes, Italian	Yes, Italian	Yes, Italian	Yes, Italian
Yes, Greek	Yes, Greek	Yes, Greek	Yes, Greek
Yes, Cantonese	Yes, Cantonese	Yes, Cantonese	Yes, Cantonese
Yes, Mandarin	Yes, Mandarin	Yes, Mandarin	Yes, Mandarin
Yes, Arabic	Yes, Arabic	Yes, Arabic	Yes, Arabic
Yes, Vietnamese	Yes, Vietnamese	Yes, Vietnamese	Yes, Vietnamese
Yes, other - please specify	Yes, other - please specify	Yes, other - please specify	Yes, other - please specify
C Very well	○ Very well	C Very well	Very well
Well	C Well	Well	Well
Not well	Not well	O Not well	Not well
O Not at all	Not at all	Not at all	Not at all

No Yes, Aboriginal Yes, Torres Strait Islander	<ul><li>○ No</li><li>○ Yes, Aboriginal</li></ul>
	Yes, Torres Strait Islander
English Irish Italian German Greek Chinese Australian Other – please specify	English Irish Italian German Greek Chinese Australian Other – please specify
Catholic Anglican (Church of England) Uniting Church Presbyterian Greek Orthodox Baptist Lutheran Islam Buddhism Other - please specify  No religion	Catholic Anglican (Church of England) Uniting Church Presbyterian Greek Orthodox Baptist Lutheran Islam Buddhism Other - please specify  No religion
No Yes	No Yes
No Yes, at home Yes, at work Yes, elsewhere	No Yes, at home Yes, at work Yes, elsewhere
<ul> <li>No ► Go to 24</li> <li>Yes, full-time student</li> <li>Yes, part-time student</li> </ul>	○ No ► Go to 24 ○ Yes, full-time student ○ Yes, part-time student
Pre-school Infants/Primary school Government Catholic Other non-government Secondary school Government Catholic Other non-government Tertiary institution Technical or further educational institution (including TAFE Colleges) University or other higher educational institution	Pre-school Infants/Primary school Government Catholic Other non-government Secondary school Government Catholic Other non-government Tertiary institution Technical or further educational institution (including TAFE Colleges) University or other higher educational institution
	Irish Italian German Greek Chinese Australian Other – please specify  Luiting Church of England) Uniting Church Presbyterian Greek Orthodox Baptist Lutheran Islam Buddhism Other - please specify  No Yes, at home Yes, at work Yes, elsewhere  No ▶ Go to 24 Yes, full-time student Yes, part-time student Yes, part-time student Catholic Other non-government Tertiary institution (including TAFE Colleges) University or other higher

Person 3	Person 4	07 Person 5	Person 6
No No	○ No	○ No	○ No
Yes, Aboriginal	Yes, Aboriginal	Yes, Aboriginal	Yes, Aboriginal
Yes, Torres Strait Islander	Yes, Torres Strait Islander	Yes, Torres Strait Islander	Yes, Torres Strait Islander
Tes, fortes strait islander	les, fortes strait islander	Tes, Torres Strait Islander	Tes, fortes strait islander
English	C English	C English	C English
☐ Irish	□ Irish	☐ Irish	☐ Irish
(in Italian	( Italian	( ) Italian	( Italian
German	German	German	German
Greek	Greek	Greek	Greek
Chinese	Chinese	Chinese	Chinese
<ul><li>Australian</li></ul>	Australian	Australian	Australian
Other – please specify	Other – please specify	Other – please specify	Other – please specify
Catholic	Catholic	Catholic	Catholic
Anglican (Church of England)	Anglican (Church of England)	Anglican (Church of Englar	nd) Anglican (Church of England)
<ul> <li>Uniting Church</li> </ul>	Uniting Church	Uniting Church	Uniting Church
	_	_	_
Presbyterian Creek Orthodox	Presbyterian  Crock Orthodox	Presbyterian  Crack Orthodox	Presbyterian  Crock Orthodox
Greek Orthodox	Greek Orthodox	Greek Orthodox	Greek Orthodox
Baptist	Baptist	Baptist	( ) Baptist
Lutheran	Lutheran	Lutheran	Lutheran
slam lslam			
Buddhism	Buddhism	Buddhism	Buddhism
Other - please specify	Other - please specify	Other - please specify	Other - please specify
No religion	○ No religion	○ No religion	→ No religion
	-	-	-
No No	○ No	○ No	( No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
○ No	○ No		○ No
Yes, at home	Yes, at home	Yes, at home	Yes, at home
Yes, at work	Yes, at work	Yes, at work	Yes, at work
Yes, elsewhere	Yes, elsewhere	Yes, elsewhere	Yes, elsewhere
		No ▶ Go to 24	
Yes, full-time student	Yes, full-time student	Yes, full-time student	Yes, full-time student
Yes, part-time student	Yes, part-time student	Yes, part-time student	Yes, part-time student
,		, ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Pre-school	○ Pre-school	Pre-school	Pre-school
Infants/Primary school	Infants/Primary school	Infants/Primary school	Infants/Primary school
Government	Government	Government	Government
Catholic	Catholic	Catholic	Catholic
Other non-government	Other non-government	Other non-government	Other non-government
Secondary school	Secondary school	Secondary school	Secondary school
Government	Government	Government	Government
Catholic	Catholic	Catholic	Catholic
Other non-government	Other non-government	Other non-government	Other non-government
Tertiary institution	Tertiary institution	Tertiary institution	Tertiary institution
Technical or further	Technical or further	Technical or further	Technical or further
educational institution (including TAFE Colleges)	educational institution (including TAFE Colleges)	educational institution (including TAFE Colleges)	educational institution (including TAFE Colleges)
University or other higher educational institution	University or other higher educational institution	University or other higher educational institution	University or other higher educational institution
	Other educational	Other educational	Other educational

	Please use B	LOCK letters.	08 Person 1	Person 2
24	Only co	ntinue for perso	ns aged 15 ye	ars or more
25 v s	What is the higher chool the person Mark one box only. For persons who ret schooling, mark the	st level of primary or secondary has completed?  urned after a break to complete their highest level completed when they last left. Census Guide for more information about	Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 11 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent	Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 11 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent
•	other educational  Mark one box only.  See page 10 of the 0	ompleted a trade certificate or any qualification?  Census Guide for more information on the vocational certificates.	No ► Go to 31  No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 31  Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship  Yes, other qualification	No ▶ Go to 31  No, still studying for first qualification ▶ Go to 31  Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship  Yes, other qualification
p	person has comp For example, trade of	of the <i>highest</i> qualification the oleted?  certificate, bachelor degree, associate 2, advanced diploma.	Level of qualification	Level of qualification
1.	highest qualificat For example, plumb	field of study for the person's ion completed? ing, history, primary school teaching, e, civil works, hospitality management.	Field of study	Field of study
q	<b>qualification</b> <i>com</i>	on was the person's <i>highest</i> pleted?  as, also state which country.	Full name of institution	Full name of institution
q	n which year did qualification? Example:	the person <i>complete</i> their <i>highes</i> Year study completed 1 9 9 5	Year study completed	Year study completed
a v •		• Do not deduct:  tax superannuation health insurance  onuses  operation) onne	\$1,500 or more per week (\$78,000 or more per year) \$1,000 - \$1,499 per week (\$52,000 - \$77,999 per year) \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per year) \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per year) \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per year) \$400 - \$499 per week (\$20,800 - \$25,999 per year) \$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per year) \$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per year) \$160 - \$199 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week (\$6,240 - \$8,319 per year) \$80 - \$119 per week (\$4,160 - \$6,239 per year)	\$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per ye  \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per ye  \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per ye  \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per ye  \$400 - \$499 per week (\$20,800 - \$25,999 per ye  \$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per ye  \$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per ye  \$3160 - \$199 per week

Person 3	Person 4	09 Person 5	Person 6
Only contin	ue for persons	s aged 15 year	s or more
Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 11 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent No ► Go to 31 No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 31	Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 11 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent No Go to 31 No, still studying for first qualification Go to 31	Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent No ► Go to 31 No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 31	Still at school Did not go to school Year 8 or below Year 9 or equivalent Year 10 or equivalent Year 12 or equivalent No Go to 31 No, still studying for first qualification Go to 31
Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship Yes, other qualification	<ul> <li>Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship</li> <li>Yes, other qualification</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship</li><li>Yes, other qualification</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship</li> <li>Yes, other qualification</li> </ul>
Level of qualification	Level of qualification	Level of qualification	Level of qualification
Field of study	Field of study	Field of study	Field of study
Full name of institution	Full name of institution	Full name of institution	Full name of institution
Year study completed	Year study completed	Year study completed	Year study completed
\$1,500 or more per week (\$78,000 or more per year) \$1,000 - \$1,499 per week (\$52,000 - \$77,999 per year) \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per year) \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per year) \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per year) \$400 - \$499 per week (\$20,800 - \$25,999 per year)	\$1,500 or more per week (\$78,000 or more per year) \$1,000 - \$1,499 per week (\$52,000 - \$77,999 per year) \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per year) \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per year) \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per year)	\$1,500 or more per week (\$78,000 or more per year) \$1,000 - \$1,499 per week (\$52,000 - \$77,999 per year) \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per year) \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per year) \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per year) \$400 - \$499 per week (\$20,800 - \$25,999 per year)	\$1,500 or more per week (\$78,000 or more per year) \$1,000 - \$1,499 per week (\$52,000 - \$77,999 per year) \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) \$700 - \$799 per week (\$36,400 - \$41,599 per year) \$600 - \$699 per week (\$31,200 - \$36,399 per year) \$500 - \$599 per week (\$26,000 - \$31,199 per year) \$400 - \$499 per week (\$20,800 - \$25,999 per year)
\$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per year)	\$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per year)	\$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per year)	\$300 - \$399 per week (\$15,600 - \$20,799 per year)
\$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per year) \$160 - \$199 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week	\$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per year) \$160 - \$199 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week	\$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per year) \$160 - \$199 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week	\$200 - \$299 per week (\$10,400 - \$15,599 per year) \$160 - \$199 per week (\$8,320 - \$10,399 per year) \$120 - \$159 per week
\$120 - \$159 per week (\$6,240 - \$8,319 per year) \$80 - \$119 per week	\$120 - \$159 per week (\$6,240 - \$8,319 per year) \$80 - \$119 per week	\$120 - \$159 per week (\$6,240 - \$8,319 per year) \$80 - \$119 per week	\$120 - \$159 per week (\$6,240 - \$8,319 per year) \$80 - \$119 per week
(\$4,160 - \$6,239 per year) \$40 - \$79 per week (\$2,080 - \$4,159 per year) \$1 - \$39 per week (\$1 - \$2,079 per year)	(\$4,160 - \$6,239 per year)  \$40 - \$79 per week (\$2,080 - \$4,159 per year)  \$1 - \$39 per week (\$1 - \$2,079 per year)	(\$4,160 - \$6,239 per year)  \$40 - \$79 per week (\$2,080 - \$4,159 per year)  \$1 - \$39 per week (\$1 - \$2,079 per year)	(\$4,160 - \$6,239 per year) \$40 - \$79 per week (\$2,080 - \$4,159 per year) \$1 - \$39 per week (\$1 - \$2,079 per year)
Nil income Negative income	Nil income Negative income	Nil income Negative income	Nil income Negative income

Yes, worked for payment or profit  Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down  Yes, unpaid work in a family business  Yes, other unpaid work  Go to 42  No, did not have a job  Go to 42  A wage or salary earner?  Conducting own business with employees?  Conducting own business without employees?  A helper not receiving wages?  Occupation	Yes, worked for payment or profit  Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down  Yes, unpaid work in a family business  Yes, other unpaid work  Go to 42  No, did not have a job  Go to 42  A wage or salary earner?  Conducting own business with employees?  Conducting own business without employees?  A helper not receiving wages?  Occupation
Conducting own business with employees? Conducting own business without employees? A helper not receiving wages?  Occupation	Conducting own business with employees? Conducting own business without employees? A helper not receiving wages?
	Occupation
Tasks or duties	
	Tasks or duties
Business name	Business name
Street number  Street name  Suburb, rural locality or town	Street number  Street name  Suburb, rural locality or town

Person 3	Person 4	11 Person 5	Person 6
Yes, worked for payment or profit	Yes, worked for payment or profit	Yes, worked for payment or profit	Yes, worked for payment or profit
<ul> <li>Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down</li> </ul>	Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down	Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down	Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down
Yes, unpaid work in a family business	Yes, unpaid work in a family business	Yes, unpaid work in a family business	Yes, unpaid work in a family business
<ul><li>Yes, other unpaid work</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>	<ul><li>✓ Yes, other unpaid work</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>	<ul><li>✓ Yes, other unpaid work</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>	<ul><li>✓ Yes, other unpaid work</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>
<ul><li>No, did not have a job</li><li>Go to 42</li></ul>	<ul><li>○ No, did not have a job</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>	<ul><li>○ No, did not have a job</li><li>▶ Go to 42</li></ul>	○ No, did not have a job ► Go to 42
A wage or salary earner?	A wage or salary earner?	A wage or salary earner?	A wage or salary earner?
Conducting own business with employees?	Conducting own business with employees?	Conducting own business with employees?	Conducting own business with employees?
Conducting own business without employees?	Conducting own business without employees?	Conducting own business without employees?	Conducting own business without employees?
A helper not receiving wages?	A helper not receiving wages?	A helper not receiving wages?	A helper not receiving wages?
Occupation	Occupation	Occupation	Occupation
Tasks or duties	Tasks or duties	Tasks or duties	Tasks or duties
Business name	Business name	Business name	Business name
Street number	Street number	Street number	Street number
Street name	Street name	Street name	Street name
Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town	Suburb, rural locality or town
State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode	State/Territory Postcode

Please use BLOCK letters.	12 Pe	rson 1		Person 2
Which best describes the <i>business</i> of the employer?  • Mark one box only.  • If 'Other' is marked, please specify (e.g. Agriculture, Transport, Insurance, Education).	Wholesal Retailing Accommon Restaura Commun	ling (incl. Take-aways) odation, Cafes & nts ity & Health Services	Who Reta Acco Rest Com	ufacturing lesaling illing (incl. Take-aways) mmodation, Cafes & aurants munity & Health Services r (please specify)
What are the <i>main</i> goods produced or <i>main</i> services provided by the employer's <i>business</i> ?  • Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more.  • For example, wheat and sheep, bus charter, health insurance, primary school education, civil engineering consultancy service, house building, steel pipes.	Goods produce	ed/services provided	Goods pro	duced/services provided
Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs?  • Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.	None Hou	rs worked		Hours worked
How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 7 August 2001?  • If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used.  • See page 13 of the Census Guide for more information.	Taxi Car - as q Car - as q Truck Motorbike Bicycle Walked o Worked a	driver passenger e or motor scooter only at home	Bus Ferry Tram Taxi Car Car Trucl Moto Bicyo Walk Work Othe	n (including Light Rail)  as driver as passenger k  orbike or motor scooter cle ed only ked at home
Did the person actively look for work at any time in the last four weeks?  Examples of actively looking for work include: being registered with Centrelink as a job seeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work.	Yes, look	► Go to 44 ed for full-time work	Yes,	did not look for work  Go to 44  looked for full-time work  looked for part-time work
If the person had found a job, could the person have started work <i>last week</i> ?	last week  No, alrea  No, temp	dy had a job to go to orarily ill or injured	last v  No, a	could have started work week already had a job to go to emporarily ill or injured other reason
	Which best describes the business of the employer?  Mark one box only.  If 'Other' is marked, please specify (e.g. Agriculture, Transport, Insurance, Education).  What are the main goods produced or main services provided by the employer's business?  Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more.  For example, wheat and sheep, bus charter, health insurance, primary school education, civil engineering consultancy service, house building, steel pipes.  Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs?  Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.  How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 7 August 2001?  If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used.  See page 13 of the Census Guide for more information.  Did the person actively looking for work include: being registered with Centrelink as a job seeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work.  If the person had found a job, could the person have	Which best describes the business of the employer?  • Mark one box only. • If Other'is marked, please specify (e.g. Agriculture, Transport, Insurance, Education).  What are the main goods produced or main services provided by the employer's business? • Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more. • For example, wheat and sheep, bus charter, health insurance, primary school education, civil engineering consultancy service, house building, steel pipes.  Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs? • Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.  How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 7 August 2001? • If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used. • See page 13 of the Census Guide for more information.  Tital methods used. • See page 13 of the Census Guide for work include: being registered with Centrelink as a job seeker, checking or registering with any other employment agency; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work.  If the person had found a job, could the person have started work last week?  No, alrea. No, temp	Which best describes the business of the employer?  • Mark one box only. • If Other is marked, please specify (e.g. Agriculture, Transport, Insurance, Education).  What are the main goods produced or main services provided by the employer's business? • Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more. • For example, wheat and sheep, bus charter, health insurance, primary school education, civil engineering consultancy service, house building, steel pipes.  Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs? • Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.  How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 7 August 2001? • If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used. • See page 13 of the Census Guide for more information.  Did the person actively look for work at any time in the last four weeks? • Examples of actively look for work at any time in the last four weeks? • Examples of actively look for work at any time in the last four weeks? • Examples of actively looking for work include: being registered with Centreinin as a job seeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work.  If the person had found a job, could the person have  • Yes, could have started work  • Yes, could have started work	Which best describes the business of the employer?  • Mark one box only.  • Mark one box only.  • If 'Differ is marked, please specify (e.g. Agriculture, Transport, Insurance, Education).  What are the main goods produced or main services provided by the employer's business?  • Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more.  • For example, wheat and sheep, bus charer, health insurance, primary school education, o'vill engineering consultancy service, house building, steel pipes.  **Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs?  • Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.  **Hours worked*  **Hours worked*  **None None None None None None None None

Person 3	Person 4	13 Person 5	Person 6
<ul><li>Manufacturing</li><li>Wholesaling</li><li>Retailing (incl. Take-aways)</li></ul>	Manufacturing     Wholesaling     Retailing (incl. Take-aways)	Manufacturing Wholesaling Retailing (incl. Take-aways)	Manufacturing Wholesaling Retailing (incl. Take-aways)
Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants
<ul><li>Community &amp; Health Services</li><li>Other (please specify)</li></ul>	Community & Health Services Other (please specify)	Community & Health Services Other (please specify)	Community & Health Services Other (please specify)
Goods produced/services provided	Goods produced/services provided	Goods produced/services provided	Goods produced/services provided
○ None	None	○ None	None
Hours worked	Hours worked	Hours worked	Hours worked
		C Train	
Bus	Bus	Bus	Bus
Ferry	Ferry	Ferry	Ferry
Tram (including Light Rail)	Tram (including Light Rail)	Tram (including Light Rail)	Tram (including Light Rail)
( ) Taxi		( Taxi	☐ Taxi
Car - as driver	Car - as driver	Car - as driver	Car - as driver
Car - as passenger	Car - as passenger	Car - as passenger	Car - as passenger
□ Truck	□ Truck	□ Truck	□ Truck
Motorbike or motor scooter	Motorbike or motor scooter	Motorbike or motor scooter	Motorbike or motor scooter
Bicycle	Bicycle	Bicycle	Bicycle
Walked only	Walked only	Walked only	Walked only
Worked at home	Worked at home	Worked at home	Worked at home
Other	Other	Other	Other
Did not go to work	Did not go to work	Did not go to work	Did not go to work
No, did not look for work	No, did not look for work	No, did not look for work	No, did not look for work
► Go to 44  (□) Yes, looked for full-time work	► Go to 44	► Go to 44  ✓ Yes, looked for full-time work	► Go to 44  Yes, looked for full-time work
res, looked for full-time work	Yes, looked for full-time work	Yes, looked for full-time work	res, looked for full-time work
Yes, looked for part-time work	Yes, looked for part-time work	Yes, looked for part-time work	Yes, looked for part-time work
Yes, could have started work	Yes, could have started work	Yes, could have started work	Yes, could have started work
last week	last week	last week	last week
No, already had a job to go to	No, already had a job to go to	No, already had a job to go to	No, already had a job to go to
No, temporarily ill or injured	No, temporarily ill or injured	No, temporarily ill or injured	No, temporarily ill or injured
No, other reason	No, other reason	No, other reason	No, other reason

# Please answer the following questions for this dwelling

• 'Usually live' means that address at whice  No ► Go to 45  Yes ► Please complete one s			ore in 2001.
Name of each person who usually lives in this	First or given name	First or given name	First or given name
dwelling but was not here on the night of Tuesday, 7 August 2001.	Surname or family name	Surname or family name	Surname or family name
Is the person male or female?	( ) Male	C Male	( ) Male
Mark one box for each person absent.	Female	( ) Female	Female
Age last birthday.	Years	Years	Years
Is the person a full-time	○ No	○ No	○ No
student?	Yes	( Yes	( Yes
What is the person's relationship to Person 1/	Husband or wife of Person 1 De facto partner of	Husband or wife of Person 1 De facto partner of	Husband or wife of Person 1 De facto partner of
Examples of other relationships: son-in-law, granddaughter, uncle,	Person 1	Person 1	Person 1
boarder.	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2	Child of both Person 1 and Person 2
	Child of Person 1 only	Child of Person 1 only	Child of Person 1 only
	Child of Person 2 only Unrelated flatmate or	Child of Person 2 only Unrelated flatmate or	Child of Person 2 only Unrelated flatmate or
	co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify	co-tenant of Person 1  Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify	co-tenant of Person 1 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify
How many registered motor vehi residents of this dwelling were g near this dwelling on the night of 2001?	araged or parked at or	Motor vehicles	
<ul> <li>Include vans and company vehicles kep</li> <li>Please mark both sets of boxes.</li> </ul>	t at home.	Motorbikes and n	notor scooters

15

# Please answer the following questions for this dwelling

46	<ul><li>How many bedrooms are there in this dwelling?</li><li>If the dwelling is a bedsitter, write '0'.</li></ul>				Number of bedrooms			
47	Include owners	which best describes of caravans, manufactured lardless of whether or not the		Fully owned    Go to 50 Being purchased Being purchased under a Being rented Being occupied rent-free Being occupied under a Other	a rent/buy scheme  Go to 49			
48	<ul> <li>Include rent and caravan or manuestate.</li> <li>Exclude water ra</li> <li>Do not include or</li> </ul>	mortgage repayments and ufactured home in a caraval ates, council rates, repairs, lents.  please mark 'NIL' box.	ne \$	OR per fortnight				
49	If this dwelling	is being rented, who	Real estate agent Community or co-operati	Private landlord not in the same household Real estate agent Community or co-operative housing group Employer – Government Employer – Private				
	on this form be after 99 years?  • Answering this q  • A person's name answer is left bla  • See page 15 of the	uestion is <b>OPTIONAL</b> identified information will no	nal Archives of Austra ot be kept where a person of nformation.	alia and then made p	oublicly available	OT KNOWN TO YOU		
Pers		Person 2	Person 3	Person 4	Person 5	Person 6		
	Yes, agrees No, does not agree	Yes, agrees No, does not agree	Yes, agrees No, does not agree	Yes, agrees	Yes, agrees	Yes, agrees		
51	household.	at the answers to questio re you have not missed a e.		e view, where known, of	each person in the	Date		

Thank you for completing this form. Australian Statistician

# **Collector's Use Only**

### **CD Number**

State	
A C T	

### Record No. (RNO)

(0)	(0)	(0)	0
(1)	<b>(1</b> )	(1)	1
(2)	(2)	(2)	2
(3)	(3)	(3)	3
(4)	(4)	(4)	4
(5)	(5)	(5)	5
(6)	(6)	(6)	6
(7)	(7)	(7)	7
(8)	(8)	(8)	8
(9)	(9)	(9)	9

### **Total** Males

(0)	(0)	0
Œ	<b>(1</b> )	1
(2)	(2)	2
(3)	(3)	3
(4)	(4)	4
(5)	(5)	5
(6)	(6)	6
(7)	(7)	7
(8)	(8)	8
(9)	(9)	9

# Total

LAIII	1162	
(0)	(0)	0
(1)	(1)	1
(2)	(2)	2
(3)	(3)	3
(4)	(4)	4
(5)	(5)	5
(6)	(6)	6
(7)	(7)	7
(8)	(8)	8
(9)	(9)	9

### CF

(NC)	1
(R)	2
(MB)	3
- CUD	4

### **Dwelling Structure**

)	Separate house
	Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.
	One storey
	Two or more storeys
	Flat, unit or apartment
	In a one or two storey block
	In a three storey block
	In a four or more storey block
	Attached to a house
	Caravan, cabin, houseboat
	Improvised home, tent, sleepers out
	House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.

### **Other Dwelling Identifiers**

(Caravan Parks, Marinas, MHE's, Accommodation for the Retired or Aged - Self Care, and Apartment Complexes only)

io. (S	ary Fo FNO)	orm		<b>sehold</b> ODNO)	
(0)	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	0
<b>(1</b> )	(1)	1	(1)	(1)	1
(2)	(2)	2	(2)	(2)	2
(3)	(3)	3	(3)	(3)	3
(4)	(4)	4	(4)	(4)	4
(5)	(5)	5	(5)	(5)	5
(6)	(6)	6	(6)	(6)	6
(7)	(7)	7	(7)	(7)	7
(8)	(8)	8	(8)	(8)	8
(9)	(9)	9		(9)	9

# **Office Use Only**

MF	TF
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	

## APPENDIX 3

# PUBLICATIONS CITED IN ABS VIEWS ON CONTENT AND PROCEDURES (cat. no. 2007.0)

YEAR OF LAST PUBLICATION

### ABS POPULATION SURVEYS

Australian National Accounts: Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account (cat. no. 5256.0)	2000
Catalogue of Publications and Products (cat. no. 1101.0)	2003
Child Care, Australia (cat. no. 4402.0)	2002
Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings (cat. no. 4430.0)	1998
Education and Training Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6278.0)	2001
Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0)	2002
Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, Preliminary (cat. no. 6305.0)	2002
Family Characteristics, Australia (cat. no. 4442.0)	1997
Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items (cat. no. 6535.0)	1999
How Australians Use Their Time (cat. no. 4153.0)	1997
Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)	2003
Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)	2003
Occasional Paper: Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy (cat. no. 5240.0)	1997
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia (cat. no. 6238.0)	1997
Survey of Income and Housing Costs, Australia: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0)	1997
Survey of Motor Vehicle Use, Australia (cat. no. 9208.0)	2001
Voluntary Work, Australia (cat. no. 4441.0)	2000

### ABS CLASSIFICATIONS

YEAR OF LAST PUBLICATION

Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, (ANZSCO)	n.d.
Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) (cat. no. 1292.0)	1993
Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ) (cat. no. 1262.0)	1993
Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) (unput	ublished)
Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ASCCEG) (cat. no. 1249.0)	2001
Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1272.0)	2001
Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) (cat. no. 1267.0)	1997
Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, 2nd ed. (ASCO) (cat. no. 1220.0)	1997
Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups (ASCRG) (cat. no. 1266.0)	1996

### ACTS AND REGULATIONS

Census and Statistics Act 1905 Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 Privacy Act 1988 States Grants (General Revenue) Act 1988

### APPENDIX 4 ABS REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

Australian Bureau of Statistics Jill Tomlinson

SYDNEY Phone: (02) 9268 4123

Australian Bureau of Statistics Terry Byrnes

MELBOURNE Phone: (03) 9615 7860

Australian Bureau of Statistics Doylys Hartridge

BRISBANE Phone: (07) 3222 6083

Australian Bureau of Statistics Geoff Colton

ADELAIDE Phone: (08) 8237 7344

Australian Bureau of Statistics Wavne Rikkers

PERTH Phone: (08) 9360 5385

Australian Bureau of Statistics Adam Czapracki

HOBART Phone: (03) 6222 5839

Australian Bureau of Statistics Rebecca Luxford

DARWIN Phone: (08) 8943 2188

Australian Bureau of Statistics James Holt

CANBERRA Phone: (02) 6207 0244

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