



Census of Population and Housing

Ageing in Australia

2001



New
Issue

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Ageing in Australia

2001

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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PREFACE

Census of Population and Housing: Ageing in Australia analyses the characteristics of the older population drawing on 2001 census data. While a major focus is on the number and characteristics of older Australians, that is, persons aged 65 years and over, it also explores the ageing process in Australia as well as examining trends over time.

Information is organised into seven chapters, by major areas of social concern: population; cultural diversity; living arrangements; work and economic environment; transport; education; and technology. Data are mainly presented at a national level, but this report also includes some tables, charts and maps at a more detailed geographic level, down to Statistical Local Area. Many of the other national tables may be available at the state or Statistical Local Area level on request.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, government and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

Additional statistical information about older people and ageing in Australia can be obtained from the National Ageing Statistics Unit, ABS on (07) 3222 6206.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ARIA	Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASCRG	Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
CD	Collection District
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
LGA	Local Government Area
NOIE	National Office for the Information Economy
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
SA	South Australia
SACC	Standard Australian Classification for Countries
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SD	Statistical Division
SLA	Statistical Local Area
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
n.a.	not available
'000	thousand
%	per cent

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

POPULATION

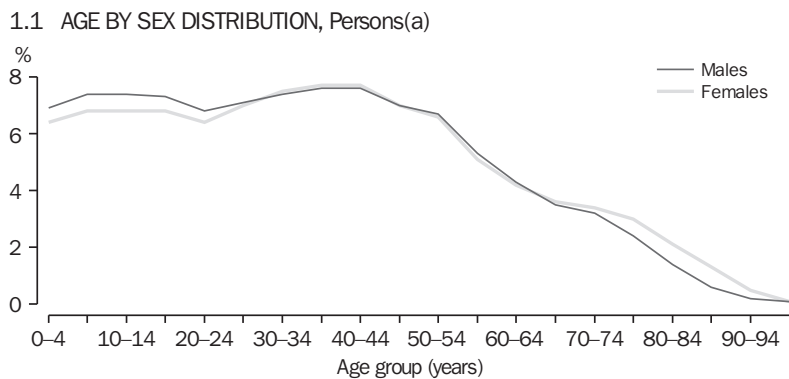
As in many developed countries, Australia's population is ageing and is projected to continue to age rapidly over the next several decades. This fact has been well documented, as have the main factors that have driven the change in the composition of the Australian population — declining fertility rate, increases in life expectancy, and shifts in levels and composition of migration. The population is ageing both numerically (the increase in the number of people aged 65 years and over), and structurally (the increase in the proportion of people aged 65 years and over). While the total Australian population increased around fivefold during the last century, the number of older people (aged 65 years and over) has increased over fifteen fold. Changes associated with increases in the proportion of elderly people in a community impact on all aspects of social and economic life. This Chapter examines the current demographic structure of the Australian population and how this has changed over the last century. It also examines the geographic distribution of the older population across Australia's different regions, and internal migration between regions, a factor impacting on regional ageing.

AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE

ABS POPULATION COUNTS

The statistics in this publication, unless otherwise stated, are census usual residence counts and therefore exclude overseas visitors. These differ from the Estimated Resident Population (ERP). ERP includes an adjustment for underenumeration and for Australians who were temporarily overseas on census night. See Explanatory Notes for more details.

On census night, 7 August 2001, there were 18.8 million people living in Australia, excluding overseas visitors. Of these, 3.9 million (20.8%) were children aged less than 15 years, 12.5 million (66.5%) were of working age (aged 15–64 years), while the remaining 2.4 million (12.6%) were older persons (aged 65 years and over).



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

1.2 AGE BY SEX, PERSONS(a)

Age group (years)	Males		Females		Persons		Persons aged 65 and over	Males per 100 females
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	%	no.
0-4	638.1	6.9	605.9	6.4	1 244.0	6.6	..	105
5-9	683.8	7.4	648.1	6.8	1 331.9	7.1	..	106
10-14	686.0	7.4	650.6	6.8	1 336.6	7.1	..	105
15-19	677.3	7.3	647.9	6.8	1 325.3	7.1	..	105
20-24	628.6	6.8	612.5	6.4	1 241.1	6.6	..	103
25-29	653.6	7.1	665.4	7.0	1 319.0	7.0	..	98
30-34	687.3	7.4	716.9	7.5	1 404.2	7.5	..	96
35-39	703.1	7.6	728.6	7.7	1 431.6	7.6	..	96
40-44	705.5	7.6	731.2	7.7	1 436.7	7.7	..	96
45-49	651.8	7.0	668.1	7.0	1 319.8	7.0	..	98
50-54	624.2	6.7	624.3	6.6	1 248.5	6.7	..	100
55-59	490.1	5.3	480.7	5.1	970.7	5.2	..	102
60-64	394.6	4.3	394.4	4.2	789.0	4.2	..	100
65-69	322.9	3.5	337.7	3.6	660.6	3.5	27.9	96
70-74	292.6	3.2	327.0	3.4	619.6	3.3	26.1	89
75-79	220.0	2.4	284.6	3.0	504.7	2.7	21.3	77
80-84	125.3	1.4	198.0	2.1	323.4	1.7	13.6	63
85-89	58.7	0.6	118.8	1.3	177.5	0.9	7.5	49
90-94	18.1	0.2	47.9	0.5	66.0	0.4	2.8	38
95 and over	5.1	0.1	14.1	0.1	19.2	0.1	0.8	36
Total	9 266.5	100.0	9 502.7	100.0	18 769.2	100.0	100.0	98
45 and over	3 203.3	34.6	3 495.7	36.8	6 699.0	35.7	..	92
65 and over	1 042.7	11.3	1 328.2	14.0	2 370.9	12.6	..	79
85 and over	81.8	0.9	180.8	1.9	262.7	1.4	..	45
Median age (years)	34.0	..	36.0	..	35.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Within this older population, just over half (54.0%) were in the 65–74 year age group while around one-third (34.9%) were aged 75–84 years and the remaining 11.1% were very old (aged 85 years and over). There were 2,500 Australian centenarians reported in the 2001 census.

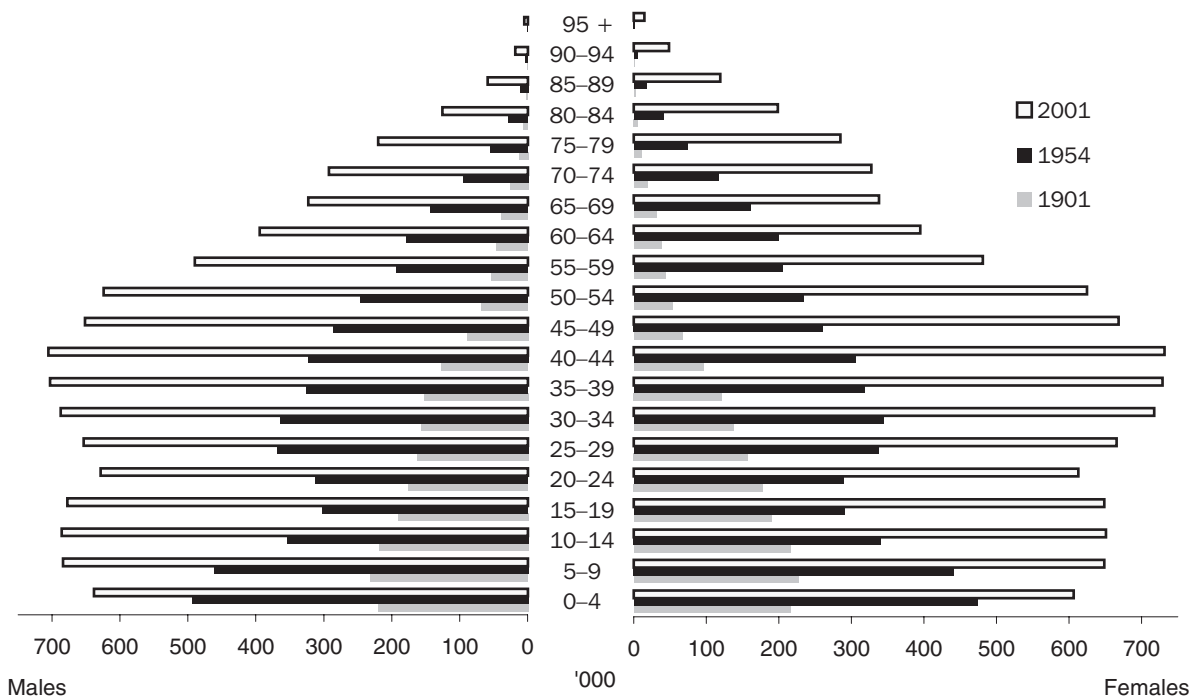
While the numbers of males and females in the population as a whole are similar (9.3 million men and 9.5 million women in 2001), this distribution differs with age, with more males than females in the younger age groups and significantly more women than men in the older age groups. This is attributable to the fact that, on average, women live longer than men. A woman aged 65 years in 2001 could expect to live a further 20.7 years, while a man of the same age could expect to live a further 17.2 years (ABS 2002b).

In 2001, 48.7% of children aged less than 15 years were female, which represents 105 males for every 100 females. This proportion increased slightly to remain around 50.0% between the ages of 25 and 64 years. Of people aged 65 years and over, 56.0% were female, which equates to 79 males for every 100 females. Within this age group, the proportion of women to men increases markedly with age, from 51.1% for the 65–69 years age group, to 73.5% for the 95 years and over age group.

AN AGEING POPULATION

In 1901, the proportion of older persons (aged 65 years and over) was 4.0% and remained around that level until the end of World War I. This proportion doubled to 8.0% by the 1947 census, reflecting the slow growth of the younger population during the Great Depression of the 1930s and world War II. This slow growth can be attributed to factors such as delayed marriage and childbearing, leading to the fertility rate decreasing to replacement level (2.1 babies per woman) by 1934. During the years following World War II, Australia then experienced growth in population due to significant post-War immigration and an increase in the number of births, a period now known as the 'baby boom'. This was a result initially of a catch-up among those who had delayed childbearing during the Depression and War, but was sustained by near universal marriage, reduction in ages at marriage, low unemployment, availability of housing, and reduced infecundity (Hugo 2001). These factors resulted in the proportion of older persons remaining relatively stable at around 8.0% of the total population until the early 1970s.

1.3 AGE BY SEX DISTRIBUTION, PERSONS(a)(b), SELECTED CENSUS YEARS



(a) Under the Constitution at Federation, Indigenous people were not included in the census. This changed following a referendum in 1967. Indigenous people have been included in the figures for 1971 onwards.

(b) Data for 1971 onwards excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1901 and 1954 Censuses of the Commonwealth of Australia; 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

After reaching a peak of 3.6 babies per woman in 1961, the fertility rate experienced a marked decline in the early 1960s and 1970s, falling to replacement levels again in 1976. This fall in the fertility rate reflected changes in Australian society including the introduction of the contraceptive pill, liberalisation of abortion laws, changing perceptions of the desired family size and growing acceptance of women's participation in paid employment and education, and the associated increases in age at marriage, divorce and de facto partnering.

Surveys such as the Australasian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health that began in 1996, indicate that young Australian women express a desire for, on average, two children. The reality is that the fertility rate has continued to fall, to 1.7 babies per woman in 2001 (ABS 2001c), with little likelihood of rising above replacement level again in the foreseeable future. A couple's or woman's decision to have children may be influenced by factors such as the direct and opportunity costs of children; the cultural and institutional framework in which families are created; the impact of gender on the relative responsibilities that women face in having children; and possibly, difficulties in locating an acceptable partner for some groups of men and women (Barnes 2001). This below replacement level fertility over the last 30 years will contribute towards growth in the proportion of older people over the next 50 years.

Another factor influencing the age structure of the population has been the change in life expectancy. At around the turn of the last century, average life expectancy at birth was below 60 years for both males and females. By the early 1970s, this had increased to 67.8 years for males and 74.5 years for females (ABS 1974). Up until this time, most of the improvement in life expectancy was associated with declines in infant, child and maternal mortality brought about by improvements in pre-natal and post-natal care, reduced unplanned fertility, development of techniques to deal with prematurity, drug development, improved diet, improved sanitation, improved birth conditions, etc. (Hugo 2001).

Although life expectancy at birth increased, the same improvements were not experienced for life expectancy at the older ages until after 1970. A period of high mortality among older males following the post-war fertility boom meant that the proportion of older persons did not begin to increase again until after this time. Subsequent reductions in the death rate among older Australians over the last 30 years, in particular for diseases such as coronary heart disease and stroke, in conjunction with the continued decline of the fertility rate, resulted in the proportion of persons aged 65 years and over increasing from 8.4% in 1971 to 12.6% in 2001. Over the same time, while children aged less than 15 years increased in number from 3.7 million to 3.9 million, they decreased as a proportion of the total population from 28.9% to 20.8%.

1.4 AGE BY SEX, PERSONS(a)(b), SELECTED CENSUS YEARS

	Age group (years)									
	0–44		45–64		65–84		85 and over		Total	Total 65 years and over
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	'000 %
MALES										
1901	1 636.4	82.7	255.8	12.9	83.4	4.2	2.2	0.1	1 977.9	85.7 4.3
1911	1 844.9	79.8	367.1	15.9	97.6	4.2	3.4	0.1	2 313.0	101.0 4.4
1921	2 151.5	77.9	488.0	17.7	118.7	4.3	4.7	0.2	2 762.9	123.3 4.5
1933	2 524.2	75.0	628.2	18.7	208.7	6.2	6.0	0.2	3 367.1	214.7 6.4
1947	2 713.1	71.4	802.0	21.1	270.6	7.1	11.7	0.3	3 797.4	282.3 7.4
1954	3 306.0	72.7	904.9	19.9	321.2	7.1	14.1	0.3	4 546.1	335.3 7.4
1961	3 870.4	72.9	1 057.8	19.9	368.4	6.9	15.8	0.3	5 312.3	384.2 7.2
1971	4 651.8	73.0	1 272.3	20.0	424.7	6.7	20.6	0.3	6 369.4	445.3 7.0
1981	5 234.9	72.3	1 403.2	19.4	570.8	7.9	27.3	0.4	7 236.2	598.1 8.3
1991	5 883.5	70.7	1 630.8	19.6	768.8	9.2	43.5	0.5	8 326.6	812.3 9.8
2001	6 063.3	65.4	2 160.6	23.3	960.8	10.4	81.8	0.9	9 266.5	1 042.7 11.3
FEMALES										
1901	1 531.3	85.3	198.9	11.1	63.7	3.5	2.0	0.1	1 795.9	65.7 3.7
1911	1 755.0	81.9	296.1	13.8	87.2	4.1	3.6	0.2	2 142.0	90.8 4.2
1921	2 122.1	79.4	433.8	16.2	111.5	4.2	5.4	0.2	2 672.9	116.9 4.4
1933	2 443.0	74.9	604.8	18.5	206.8	6.3	8.2	0.3	3 262.7	215.0 6.6
1947	2 644.3	69.9	809.9	21.4	311.1	8.2	16.7	0.4	3 782.0	327.8 8.7
1954	3 133.5	70.6	896.2	20.2	388.8	8.8	21.9	0.5	4 440.4	410.7 9.2
1961	3 653.5	70.3	1 032.3	19.9	481.1	9.3	29.0	0.6	5 195.9	510.1 9.8
1971	4 430.2	70.1	1 269.7	20.1	570.8	9.0	45.2	0.7	6 315.9	616.0 9.8
1981	5 066.1	69.6	1 390.9	19.1	750.0	10.3	73.7	1.0	7 280.7	823.8 11.3
1991	5 765.4	68.3	1 594.4	18.9	977.6	11.6	107.7	1.3	8 445.1	1 085.3 12.9
2001	6 007.0	63.2	2 167.5	22.8	1 147.3	12.1	180.8	1.9	9 502.7	1 328.2 14.0
PERSONS										
1901	3 167.7	83.9	454.7	12.0	147.1	3.9	4.2	0.1	3 773.8	151.4 4.0
1911	3 599.9	80.8	663.3	14.9	184.8	4.1	7.0	0.2	4 455.0	191.8 4.3
1921	4 273.7	78.6	921.8	17.0	230.2	4.2	10.1	0.2	5 435.7	240.3 4.4
1933	4 967.2	74.9	1 233.0	18.6	415.5	6.3	14.2	0.2	6 629.8	429.7 6.5
1947	5 357.4	70.7	1 611.9	21.3	581.7	7.7	28.4	0.4	7 579.4	610.1 8.0
1954	6 439.5	71.7	1 801.0	20.0	710.0	7.9	36.0	0.4	8 986.5	746.0 8.3
1961	7 523.9	71.6	2 090.1	19.9	849.4	8.1	44.8	0.4	10 508.2	894.2 8.5
1971	9 082.0	71.6	2 542.0	20.0	995.4	7.8	65.9	0.5	12 685.3	1 061.3 8.4
1981	10 301.0	71.0	2 794.1	19.2	1 320.8	9.1	101.0	0.7	14 516.9	1 421.9 9.8
1991	11 648.9	69.5	3 225.2	19.2	1 746.5	10.4	151.1	0.9	16 771.7	1 897.6 11.3
2001	12 070.3	64.3	4 328.1	23.1	2 108.2	11.2	262.7	1.4	18 769.2	2 370.9 12.6

(a) Under the Constitution at Federation, Indigenous people were not included in the census. This changed following a referendum in 1967. Indigenous people have been included in the figures for 1971 onwards.

(b) Data for 1971 onwards excludes overseas visitors.

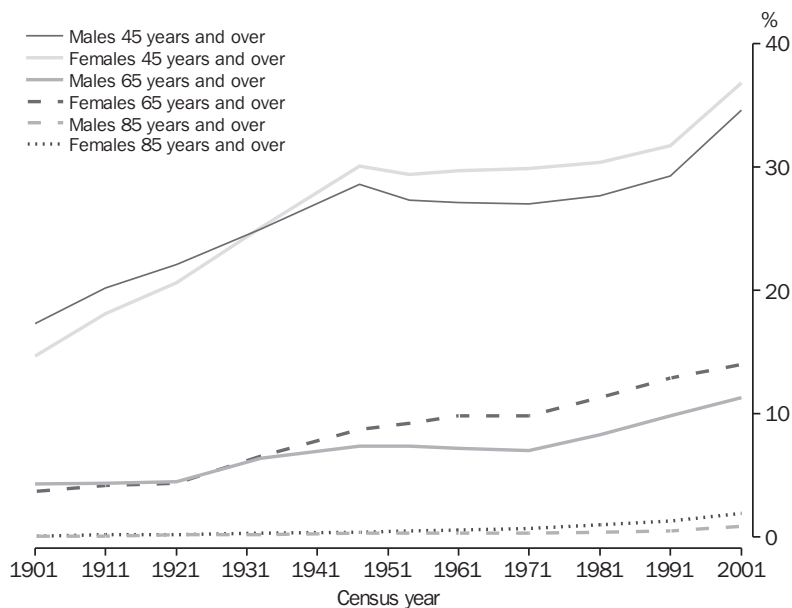
Source: ABS data available on request, 1901–61 Censuses of the Commonwealth of Australia; 1971–2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

These increases in life expectancy have also resulted in changes to the structure of the older age groups. While in 1901, three-quarters (75.1%) of the older population were aged 65–74 years and 2.8% were aged 85 years and over, by 2001, these proportions had changed to 54.0% and 11.1% respectively.

As well as the change in age distribution, the sex distribution of older persons has changed. In 1901, only 43.3% of the older population was female or 130 males for every 100 females. The proportion of the older population who were females has gradually increased, reaching 50.0% by the 1933 census, and a peak of 58.0% by the 1971 census, after which it has fallen slightly to 56.0%, or 79 males for every 100 females in 2001.

This change in the sex ratio within the older population reflects changes in the sex ratio of migrants to Australia. The flow of 'involuntary' and free-migrants to Australia from colonisation through the early 1800s was distinguished by a high ratio of males, as was the flow during the gold-rush years. In an attempt to combat the shortage of women at this time, sex ratios were deliberately and calculatingly balanced under a government assistance scheme (Jupp 2001). In addition, the greater life expectancy of women compared with men has led to women comprising a higher proportion of the older population.

1.5 AGE BY SEX DISTRIBUTION, PERSONS(a)(b) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED CENSUS YEARS



(a) Under the Constitution at Federation, Indigenous people were not included in the census. This changed following a referendum in 1967. Indigenous people have been included in the figures for 1971 onwards.
(b) Data for 1971 onwards excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1901–61 Censuses of the Commonwealth of Australia; 1971–2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

BABY BOOMERS

BABY BOOMERS

In this publication, baby boomers refer to Australian residents who were born in Australia or overseas during the years 1946–1965 inclusive. This group includes people in the 'baby boom' age cohort who immigrated to Australia from countries which did not experience a post World War II 'baby boom'.

The 'baby boom' cohort has had a huge influence on not only the demographic structure of the nation, but also on society and the economy more widely. Prior to 1971, the 0–4 and 5–9 year age groups were consistently the largest in numerical terms, together accounting for around one-fifth of the total population. Between 1971 and 1981, the 10–14 year age group was the largest. Progressively thereafter, the age of the largest group increased, reflecting the transition of the baby boomers and their children through the age structure. In 1991, the 30–34 year age group was the largest; and in 2001 it was the 40–44 year olds.

BABY BOOMERS *continued*

As this group progressively ages, it will continue to make a large impact. In 2001, baby boomers were aged between 36–55 years, and comprised 28.6% of the population. In 2031, by which time the youngest of the baby boomers will have turned 65 years, it is projected that 5.4 million people will be aged 65 years and over, or 22.3% of the Australian population (ABS 2000d).

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

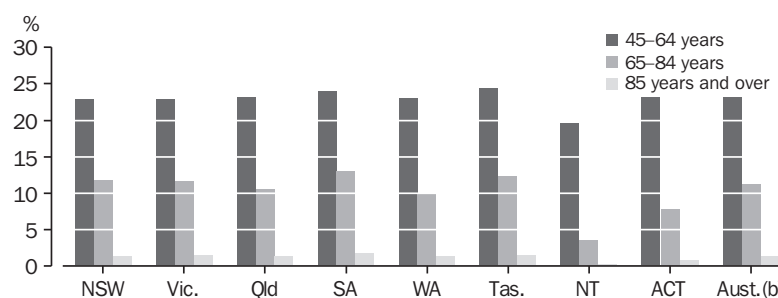
The age structure of the population varies across the different geographic regions of Australia. This has implications for the provision of, and distribution of funding for, services to the elderly. For example, regions with a large number of older people may have a greater need for specialised health services, home help, public transport and smaller housing than regions with a younger population (ABS 2002a).

STATES AND TERRITORIES

Australia's states and territories are ageing at different rates. New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, comprised higher proportions of people aged 65 years and over than Australia as a whole, while the populations of the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory comprised the lowest proportions of older persons.

In 2001, South Australia had the highest proportion of people aged 65 years and over (14.7%) and the lowest proportion aged less than 15 years (19.6%) compared with the other states and territories. Tasmania was second, with 13.9% of its population aged 65 years and over and 21.2% aged less than 15 years. Both of these states shared the highest median age of 37.0 years, 2.0 years higher than the median age for Australia. Over the next 50 years, Tasmania is expected to overtake South Australia as the state with the largest proportion of older people (ABS 2000d). The Northern Territory had the youngest age structure of all states and territories with a median age of only 29.0 years, 6.0 years less than the median age for Australia. In this territory, older people comprised only 3.9% of the population while children aged less than 15 years comprised 25.8%, compared with national figures of 12.6% and 20.8% respectively. This is influenced by the fact that the Northern Territory's population has a high Indigenous component (27.0% compared with 2.2% for Australia), which is characterised by a very young age structure (see Chapter 2, Cultural diversity).

1.6 STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

1.7 STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
NUMBER ('000)									
0-4	422.8	300.6	240.9	89.6	122.8	30.3	16.3	20.4	1 244.0
5-9	446.3	322.7	259.8	98.5	132.6	33.2	16.8	21.8	1 331.9
10-14	445.4	323.1	258.7	99.6	137.5	34.1	15.5	22.5	1 336.6
15-19	436.7	321.9	257.3	101.2	136.4	33.2	14.1	24.4	1 325.3
20-24	409.3	311.7	236.8	91.3	124.3	27.1	15.2	25.4	1 241.1
25-29	447.2	331.4	248.1	94.6	128.2	27.4	17.4	24.5	1 319.0
30-34	469.3	360.4	258.7	104.7	138.1	30.9	17.5	24.5	1 404.2
35-39	483.6	357.9	264.5	109.9	141.7	33.2	16.3	24.3	1 431.6
40-44	482.9	355.3	267.4	113.2	142.9	35.7	14.8	24.2	1 436.7
45-49	439.2	325.5	246.9	105.2	133.5	33.3	13.1	23.1	1 319.8
50-54	414.4	306.0	236.9	102.0	123.4	31.8	11.4	22.4	1 248.5
55-59	327.8	238.1	186.1	79.6	91.0	25.3	7.4	15.4	970.7
60-64	269.8	196.7	147.0	65.2	73.3	21.4	4.9	10.7	789.0
65-69	229.9	168.1	118.1	56.4	59.3	17.8	2.8	8.0	660.6
70-74	218.1	159.3	107.8	55.9	53.0	16.5	2.0	6.9	619.6
75-79	178.0	130.4	86.8	47.5	41.5	13.7	1.2	5.7	504.7
80-84	115.0	82.5	56.2	30.9	26.1	8.7	0.7	3.4	323.4
85-89	61.6	46.6	30.0	17.0	15.3	4.9	0.4	1.7	177.5
90-94	22.7	17.7	11.0	6.3	5.9	1.7	0.2	0.6	66.0
95 and over	6.6	5.1	3.2	1.8	1.8	0.5	0.1	0.2	19.2
Total	6 326.6	4 661.0	3 522.0	1 470.1	1 828.3	460.7	188.1	310.0	18 769.2
PROPORTION (%)									
45 and over	36.1	36.0	34.9	38.6	34.1	38.1	23.4	31.6	35.7
65 and over	13.1	13.1	11.7	14.7	11.1	13.9	3.9	8.5	12.6
85 and over	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.5	0.3	0.8	1.4
YEARS									
Median age	35.0	35.0	35.0	37.0	34.0	37.0	29.0	33.0	35.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

At the time of the 1971 census, Queensland had the highest proportion of its population aged 65 years and over (9.1%), followed by New South Wales and South Australia (both 8.5%). Over the last 30 years, while the proportion of older people in Australia has increased by 4.2 percentage points, South Australia and Tasmania's proportions have both increased by around 6.0 percentage points. While the two territories had similar proportions of older persons in 1971 (2.5% for the Northern Territory and 2.8% for the Australian Capital Territory), over the 30 year period the proportion increased only marginally in the Northern Territory to 3.9% in 2001 while in the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion increased 5.7 percentage points to 8.5%.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

As is the case for Australia's states and territories, differences exist in the age structure and rate of ageing of the population across different geographic regions, such as urban versus rural areas. The remainder of this section of the Chapter examines these differences across selected geographic structures as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) including Section of State, Remoteness and Statistical Local Area.

SECTION OF STATE

Section of State uses population counts from the latest Census of Population and Housing to class Collection Districts (CDs) as urban or rural. Within a state or territory, each Section of State represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas of a particular urban/rural type. Not all Section of State categories are represented in all states and territories, for example, there are no Major Urban areas in the Northern Territory. The categories are:

- Major Urban: urban areas with a population of 100,000 or more
- Other Urban: urban areas with a population between 1,000 and 99,999
- Bounded Locality: rural areas with a population between 200 and 999
- Rural Balance: the remainder of the state or territory
- Migratory: areas composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs (figures for these areas are not shown separately in this publication).

Note that for the purposes of this publication Rural areas refer to an aggregation of Bounded Localities and the Rural Balance.

For more information, refer to *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Older people live in Major Urban areas in proportions similar to the population as a whole (64.1% compared with 65.0% respectively in 2001). However, older people are more likely to live in Other Urban areas (24.5% compared with 21.5%) and less likely to live in Rural areas (10.3% compared with 12.5%) than the total Australian population. Within the older population, the propensity to live in Major Urban areas increases with age. In 2001, 61.8% of those aged 65–69 years lived in Major Urban areas, increasing to 67.5% of those aged 95 years and over.

These proportions have remained relatively stable over the last 30 years. A comparison based on place of enumeration shows a slight increase in the proportion of older persons living in Other Urban areas (from 23.5% in 1971 to 25.2% in 2001) and a corresponding decrease in the proportion living in Rural areas (from 11.9% to 10.7%).

Although, like the general population, older people are more likely to live in Major Urban areas, these areas did not have the highest proportions of older people. In 2001, 12.5% of the population residing in Major Urban areas were aged 65 years and over, while a larger proportion of the population residing in Other Urban areas (14.4%) and Bounded Localities (13.9%) were older persons. Only 9.5% of the population living in the Rural Balance were older persons. This may reflect the educational and employment opportunities in capital cities which attract young and working-age people from other areas, while the comparatively lower cost of living in non-metropolitan areas, including many coastal areas, both attracts and retains higher proportions of older people (ABS 2002a).

SECTION OF STATE *continued*

Although the population living in Other Urban areas consists of a greater proportion aged 65 years and over than other areas within Australia, the population living in Rural areas has a higher median age (37.0 years, compared with 36.0 years for Other Urban areas and 35.0 years for Major Urban areas). This reflects the lower proportion who are of younger working age (15-44 years) and the higher proportion who are of mature working age (45-64 years) living in Rural areas. The median age in the Rural Balance has shown the greatest increase over the 30 years to 2001, up 12.0 years, while the median ages in Other Urban areas and Bounded Localities have increased by 10.0 years, and in Major Urban areas by 7.0 years over the same period.

The age structure across the urban and rural areas of Australia differs between states and territories. While the larger capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane had younger populations than for the balance of their respective states, the converse was the case for capital cities in the other states and territories. In the Sydney Statistical Division, 11.9% of the population were aged 65 years and over in 2001, while 15.2% of the balance of New South Wales were older persons. In comparison, in the Statistical Division of Perth, 11.3% of the population were older persons, while 10.4% of the balance of Western Australia were aged 65 years and over.

1.8 SECTION OF STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a)

	Age group (years)					Total	Total 65 years and over
	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-84	85 and over		
	NUMBER ('000)						
Major Urban	2 422.9	5 507.4	2 746.9	1 343.7	175.5	12 196.3	1 519.2
Other Urban	917.8	1 645.7	900.4	514.7	65.8	4 044.4	580.5
Bounded Locality	112.8	180.1	114.3	59.4	6.4	473.1	65.8
Rural Balance	438.3	737.0	519.3	165.8	11.6	1 872.0	177.4
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>3 912.5</i>	<i>8 157.8</i>	<i>4 328.1</i>	<i>2 108.2</i>	<i>262.7</i>	<i>18 769.2</i>	<i>2 370.9</i>
	PROPORTION (%) BY SECTION OF STATE						
Major Urban	61.9	67.5	63.5	63.7	66.8	65.0	64.1
Other Urban	23.5	20.2	20.8	24.4	25.0	21.5	24.5
Bounded Locality	2.9	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.8
Rural Balance	11.2	9.0	12.0	7.9	4.4	10.0	7.5
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
	PROPORTION (%) BY AGE GROUPS						
Major Urban	19.9	45.2	22.5	11.0	1.4	100.0	12.5
Other Urban	22.7	40.7	22.3	12.7	1.6	100.0	14.4
Bounded Locality	23.8	38.1	24.2	12.5	1.4	100.0	13.9
Rural Balance	23.4	39.4	27.7	8.9	0.6	100.0	9.5
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>43.5</i>	<i>23.1</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>12.6</i>

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes migratory and not stated or inadequately described place of usual residence.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

REMOTENESS STRUCTURE

In 2001, the Australian Standard Geographical Classification included for the first time a remoteness structure designed to compare, on the one hand, the major cities, and at the other extreme, very remote areas. This new structure is based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) which utilises road distance to various size service centres as a measure of physical remoteness. Within a state or territory, each Remoteness Area represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas which share common characteristics of remoteness. Not all Remoteness Areas are represented in all states and territories, for example, there is no Very Remote in Victoria.

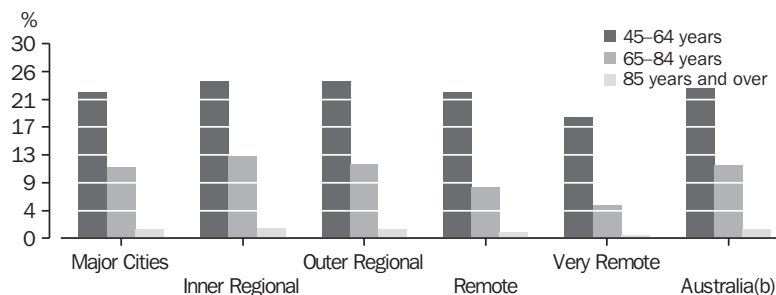
The Remoteness Areas are:

- Major Cities of Australia
- Inner Regional Australia
- Outer Regional Australia
- Remote Australia
- Very Remote Australia
- Migratory: composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs (figures for these areas are not shown separately in this publication).

For more information, refer to *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001* (cat. no. 1216.0) and *Information Paper: Outcomes of ABS Views on Remoteness Consultation, Australia, 2001* (cat. no. 1244.0.00.001).

The 2001 census indicates that most older persons live in the least remote areas with 64.4% living in Major Cities of Australia. However, the population residing in these cities comprise a lower proportion aged 65 years and over (12.3%), compared with Inner Regional Australia (14.1%) and Outer Regional Australia (12.6%). In Remote Australia, 8.6% of the population were older persons, while only 5.6% of the population in Very Remote Australia were aged 65 years and over.

1.9 REMOTENESS AREAS OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes migratory and not stated or inadequately described place of usual residence.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

1.10 REMOTENESS AREAS OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a)

	Age group (years)					Total	Total 65 years and over
	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-84	85 and over		
	NUMBER ('000)						
Major Cities of Australia	2 476.9	5 582.5	2 793.9	1 351.7	175.3	12 380.4	1 527.0
Inner Regional Australia	854.8	1 510.4	926.4	484.2	57.0	3 832.7	541.2
Outer Regional Australia	437.8	764.0	461.0	215.1	23.9	1 901.7	239.0
Remote Australia	76.1	133.7	68.6	24.1	2.3	304.8	26.4
Very Remote Australia	46.1	79.6	31.1	8.5	0.8	166.2	9.3
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>3 912.5</i>	<i>8 157.8</i>	<i>4 328.1</i>	<i>2 108.2</i>	<i>262.7</i>	<i>18 769.2</i>	<i>2 370.9</i>
	PROPORTION (%) BY REMOTENESS AREAS						
Major Cities of Australia	63.3	68.4	64.6	64.1	66.7	66.0	64.4
Inner Regional Australia	21.8	18.5	21.4	23.0	21.7	20.4	22.8
Outer Regional Australia	11.2	9.4	10.7	10.2	9.1	10.1	10.1
Remote Australia	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.1
Very Remote Australia	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.4
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
	PROPORTION (%) BY AGE GROUPS						
Major Cities of Australia	20.0	45.1	22.6	10.9	1.4	100.0	12.3
Inner Regional Australia	22.3	39.4	24.2	12.6	1.5	100.0	14.1
Outer Regional Australia	23.0	40.2	24.2	11.3	1.3	100.0	12.6
Remote Australia	25.0	43.9	22.5	7.9	0.8	100.0	8.6
Very Remote Australia	27.7	47.9	18.7	5.1	0.5	100.0	5.6
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>43.5</i>	<i>23.1</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>12.6</i>

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes migratory and not stated or inadequately described place of usual residence.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA

STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA (SLA)

SLAs are primarily based on the boundaries of incorporated bodies of local government where these exist. These bodies are the Local Government Councils and the geographical areas which they administer are known as Local Government Areas (LGAs). In the Northern Territory, an incorporated administrative body gazetted under the *Northern Territory Local Government Act* can take the form of a Community Government Council. In the remainder of Australia where there is no incorporated body of local government, SLAs are defined to cover the unincorporated areas. For statistical purposes, the ABS may split some LGAs into one or more SLAs, for example, the LGA of the City of Brisbane, which incorporates most of the population of Brisbane, was split into 163 SLAs in 2001, generally based on suburbs. Australia as a whole was made up of 1,353 SLAs in 2001.

The SLAs comprising the highest concentrations of people aged 65 years and over in 2001 were mainly located in coastal areas in the eastern states of Australia, extending from south-east Queensland, through the eastern half of New South Wales, throughout Victoria and into the south-east corner of South Australia, and the north and east coasts of Tasmania.

Of the ten SLAs with the highest proportions of older persons (excluding those SLAs with a population of less than 1,000), nine were coastal locations, mainly in Queensland, and also in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

Queenscliffe Borough in Victoria had the highest proportion aged 65 years and over (31.0%), and a median age of 49.0 years, 14.0 years older than the Australian median age. Chermside (a suburb of Brisbane) was the only non-coastal location to rank in the top ten. Its high proportion of older persons (26.0%) is partly attributable to the fact there are a number of nursing homes located within this SLA — 22.7% of persons aged 65 years and over in this area reported residing in nursing homes in 2001. Chermside was also characterised by a relatively younger median age (40.0 years) due to a larger proportion of the population being of younger working age (20–34 years) compared with other SLAs in the top ten.

1.11 OLDEST POPULATIONS(a)

<i>Top 10 Statistical Local Areas(b)</i>	<i>State/ territory</i>	<i>Proportion aged 65 and over</i>	<i>Median age</i>
		<i>%</i>	<i>years</i>
Queenscliffe	Vic.	31.0	49.0
Victor Harbor	SA	30.8	50.0
Bribie Island	Qld	29.6	52.0
Caloundra - South	Qld	27.0	48.0
Mornington Peninsula - South	Vic.	26.9	46.0
Chermside	Qld	26.0	40.0
Tweed - Part A	NSW	25.9	45.0
Paradise Point	Qld	25.3	49.0
Great Lakes	NSW	25.1	47.0
Coolangatta	Qld	24.7	46.0

(a) Based on the proportion of persons aged 65 years and over using census usual residence counts.

(b) Excluding migratory SLAs and SLAs with a population of less than 1,000.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Five of the ten SLAs comprising the lowest proportion of older persons were located in the Northern Territory, reflecting the high proportion of Indigenous people (see Chapter 2, Cultural diversity) and the relatively small numbers of older people living in that part of Australia. Other SLAs within the top ten youngest populations were characterised by the existence of universities, and defence and mining establishments which generally have younger populations.

1.12 YOUNGEST POPULATIONS(a)

<i>Top 10 Statistical Local Areas(b)</i>	<i>State/ territory</i>	<i>Proportion aged 65 and over</i>	<i>Median age</i>
		%	years
Acton	ACT	0.1	20.0
Duntroon	ACT	0.5	20.0
Roxby Downs	SA	0.5	28.0
Durack	NT	0.9	27.0
Cook - Weipa only	Qld	1.0	29.0
Nhulunbuy	NT	1.3	32.0
Groote Eylandt	NT	1.6	27.0
Douglas	Qld	1.6	35.0
Bakewell	NT	1.9	26.0
Jabiru	NT	1.9	30.0

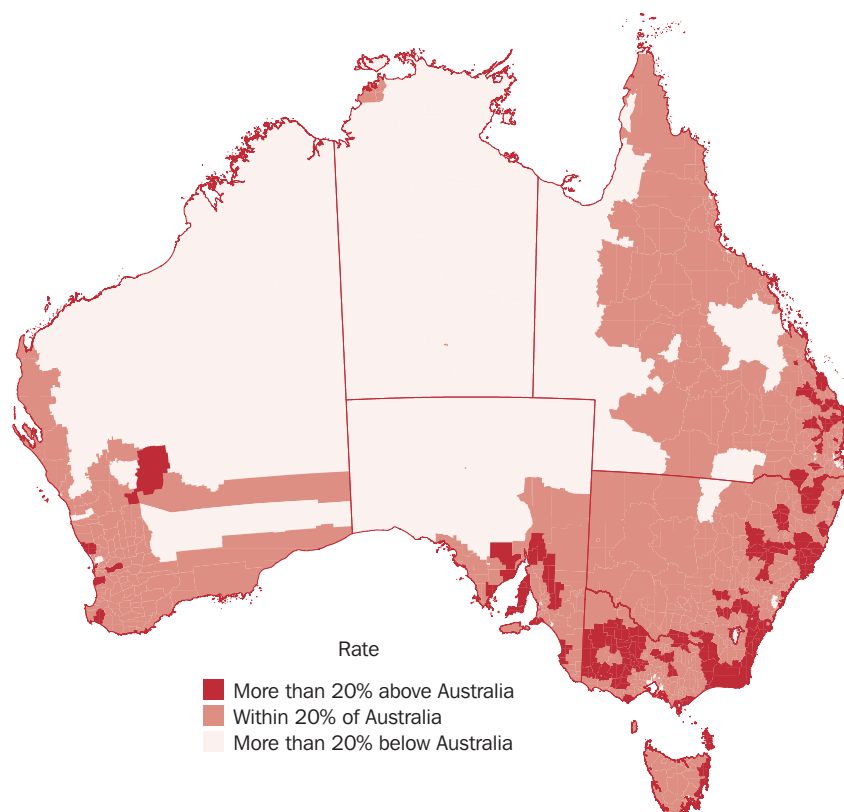
(a) Based on the proportion of persons aged 65 years and over using census usual residence counts.

(b) Excluding migratory SLAs and SLAs with a population of less than 1,000.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The maps included on the following pages show how the relative concentrations of the population aged 45 years and over, 65 years and over, and 85 years and over vary across Australia by SLA.

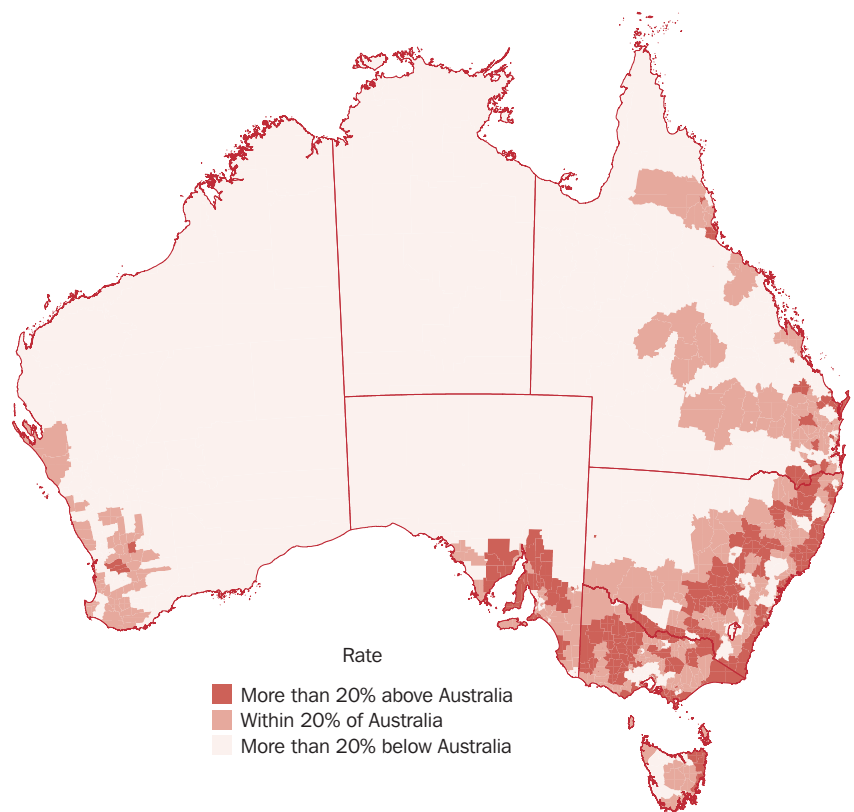
1.13 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER BY SLA OF USUAL RESIDENCE



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

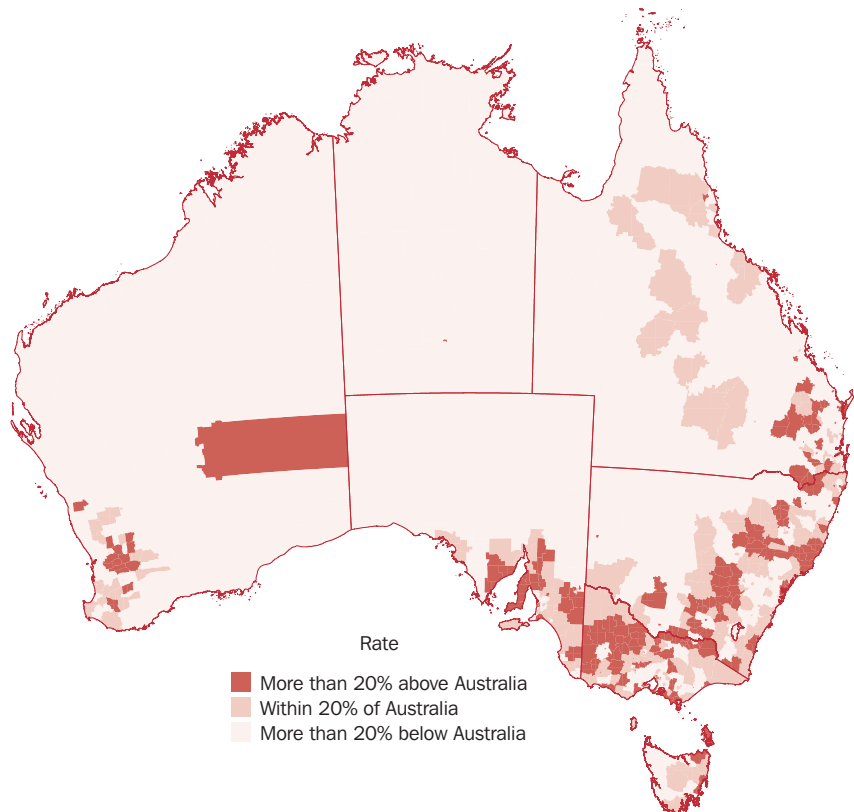
1.14 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER BY SLA OF USUAL RESIDENCE



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

1.15 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 85 YEARS AND OVER BY SLA OF USUAL RESIDENCE



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data on available request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

MOBILITY

Ageing in regional areas is affected mostly by the proportion and age structure of people entering or leaving an area, rather than due to the impact of other demographic influences, such as fertility and mortality, the underlying causes of population ageing in Australia as a whole. A region's population will age if a relatively large number of older people move into an area and/or young people leave the area. Across Australia there is a constant flow of individuals and families moving dwellings, and many moving to new locations. Between the 1996 and 2001 censuses, 6.8 million people changed their address in Australia, representing 40.4% of the population.

Persons most likely to move residence are young adults, with 64.7% of persons aged 25–34 years moving residence between 1996 and 2001. Older persons are less likely to move residence than other age groups with around one-fifth (20.6%) moving residence during that five-year period. However, among older people, mobility rates increase with age. Of people aged 85 years and over, 26.1% had moved between the 1996 and 2001 censuses compared with 20.4% aged 65–74 years. This reflects the tendency of the very old to move closer to family members or into more suitable accommodation (see Chapter 3, Living arrangements).

1.16 TYPE OF MOVE, PERSONS(a) WHO MOVED RESIDENCE — 1996–2001

Age group (years)	Within same Statistical Local Area	Other Statistical Local Area same Statistical Division	Other Statistical Division same state	All persons who moved(b)		
				Interstate		%
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
5–14	423.8	391.7	160.3	123.0	1 121.3	43.7
15–24	353.2	421.6	209.9	131.5	1 144.6	47.2
25–34	454.3	720.3	212.0	200.1	1 631.4	64.7
35–44	409.4	488.5	154.5	140.3	1 218.2	44.5
45–54	255.2	302.1	109.9	82.5	764.2	30.4
55–64	135.9	167.0	82.4	48.3	442.7	25.5
65–74	88.5	93.2	45.9	25.6	258.2	20.4
75–84	58.5	58.9	21.8	12.8	156.1	19.0
85–94	23.9	25.1	6.8	3.7	62.4	25.8
95 and over	2.2	2.4	0.5	0.2	5.8	30.8
Total	2 205.0	2 670.7	1 004.0	767.9	6 805.0	40.4
45 and over	564.3	648.6	267.4	173.1	1 689.5	25.6
65 and over	173.1	179.5	75.0	42.3	482.5	20.6
85 and over	26.1	27.5	7.3	3.9	68.2	26.1

(a) Persons who moved residence between 1996 and 2001, excluding persons who were overseas in 1996, and overseas visitors in 2001. Moves reflect changes of address between census night 1996 and census night 2001 and do not take into account moves which occurred in the intervening period.

(b) Includes persons who indicated that they had moved, but did not state their previous address.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Although the very old were more likely to have moved in the last five years, they tended to have not moved very far. Of those aged 85 years and over who had moved, 78.5% moved either within their own Statistical Local Area (SLA) or within the same Statistical Division (SD). Over the same period, 10.7% moved to another SD in the same state or territory and 5.7% moved to a different state or territory. In comparison, those aged 65–74 years were less likely to have moved within their own SLA or another SLA within the same SD (70.4%), and more likely to have moved to another SD (17.8%) or interstate (9.9%) than their older counterparts.

1.17 STATES AND TERRITORIES OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER — 1996–2001

	States and territories of usual residence on census night									
									Aust.(b)	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
All persons										
Same usual address 5 years ago	603.2	436.8	305.5	161.1	143.5	46.1	6.4	18.5	1 721.3	73.3
Different usual address 5 years ago	164.6	106.6	106.9	38.7	45.6	11.2	3.1	5.7	482.5	20.6
Not stated(c)	51.7	36.9	25.6	10.4	13.1	3.7	1.0	1.1	143.6	6.1
Total	819.5	580.4	438.1	210.3	202.2	61.0	10.5	25.4	2 347.4	100.0
All persons at a different usual address 5 years ago										
Same SLA	71.0	38.0	27.8	12.1	17.2	5.2	1.1	0.8	173.2	35.9
Different SLA in										
New South Wales	80.7	3.1	10.5	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.3	1.4	98.3	20.4
Victoria	3.5	59.8	5.2	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	70.8	14.7
Queensland	4.3	1.8	58.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	66.0	13.7
South Australia	0.8	0.8	1.3	23.0	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	26.7	5.5
Western Australia	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.3	25.1	0.2	0.1	—	27.5	5.7
Tasmania	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	4.3	—	—	5.9	1.2
Northern Territory	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	—	1.0	—	1.9	0.4
Australian Capital Territory	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	—	—	—	2.8	4.7	1.0
Total different SLA(b)	91.4	66.6	77.2	25.9	27.9	5.9	2.0	4.8	301.7	62.5
Not stated(d)	2.2	2.1	1.9	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	7.6	1.6
<i>Total</i>	164.6	106.6	106.9	38.7	45.6	11.2	3.1	5.7	482.5	100.0

(a) Excludes persons who were overseas in 1996 and overseas visitors in 2001.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

(c) Comprises persons who did not state whether they were usually resident at a different address 5 years ago.

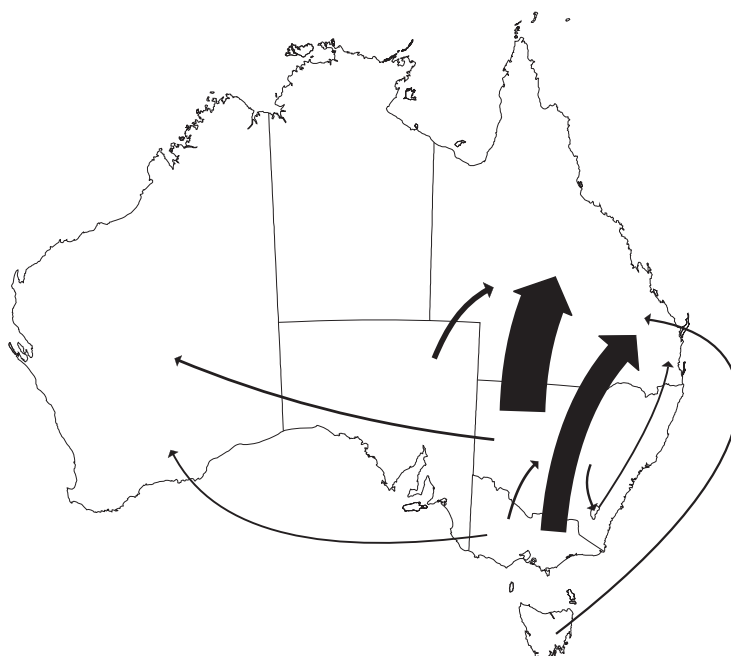
(d) Comprises persons who stated they were usually resident at a different address 5 years ago but did not state or adequately describe that address.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Older persons who moved interstate between the 1996 and 2001 censuses were most likely to have settled in Queensland. Of the 47,000 persons aged 65 years and over who moved interstate, 40.9% settled in Queensland (compared with 30.0% of all Australians who moved interstate) followed by 22.8% in New South Wales (compared with 23.5%) and 14.5% in Victoria (compared with 18.4%).

In general, net interstate migration flows of older persons (i.e. the difference between the number of older people who move into a state or territory and the number who have moved out of that state or territory) were northwards up the east coast and a small number westwards to Western Australia as indicated in Figure 1.18. Queensland had the largest gain of older persons from interstate migration between 1996 and 2001 with 19,200 older persons arriving from interstate while only 8,000 departed for another state or territory, resulting in a net gain of 11,200 older persons. The largest contributor to Queensland's net gain was New South Wales with 10,500 older persons having moved over the border, followed by Victoria which contributed 5,200 older persons. In fact, Queensland was the only state or territory to record net gains of older persons from all other states and territories. While 10,700 older persons chose to move to New South Wales, some 17,600 moved out of the state resulting in the largest net loss of 6,900 older persons.

1.18 MAIN NET INTERSTATE MIGRATION FLOWS(a), PERSONS(b)
AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER — 1996–2001



Scale: 1 mm of thickness of line corresponds to 1,000 people.

(a) Excludes net flows of less than 250 people.

(b) Excludes persons who were overseas in 1996 and overseas visitors in 2001.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

CHAPTER 2

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

Australian society is made up of a culturally diverse population, displaying differing demographic, social, cultural and linguistic characteristics. Due to these differences, elements of the population can face barriers to access appropriate services. Older people from culturally diverse backgrounds may have special needs for types of aged care services, particularly as they reach very old age. Factors affecting the number and type of services required include not only the size of the population, but also its characteristics such as age and sex structure, location, living arrangements, health and disability status and proficiency in spoken English. This Chapter examines the cultural diversity of the older population by using identifiers such as Indigenous status, country of birth, proficiency in spoken English and religious affiliation. Other Chapters in this publication further examine the living arrangements (Chapter 3) and participation in the labour force (Chapter 4) of particular interest groups within this population.

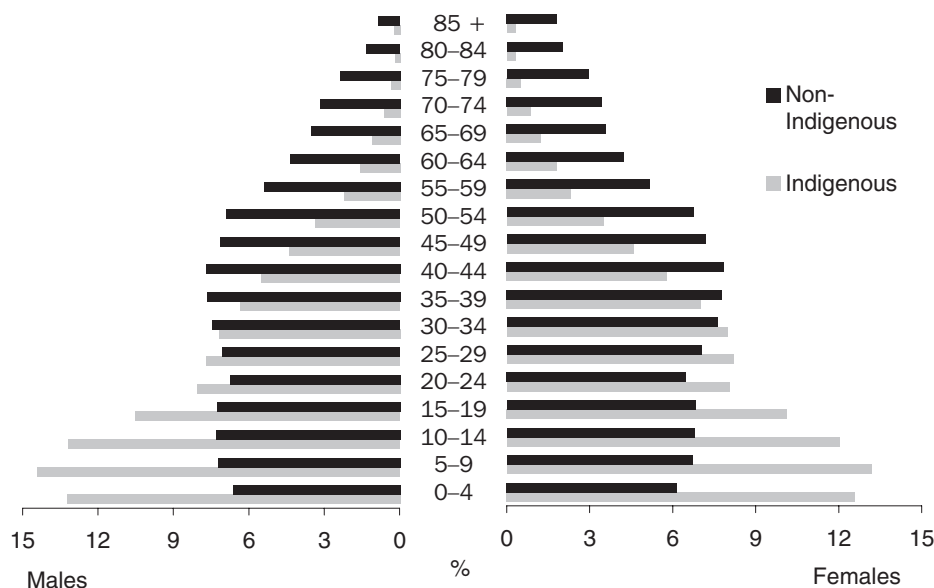
INDIGENOUS STATUS

INDIGENOUS POPULATION COUNTS

There has been considerable volatility in the counts of Indigenous people in the five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. Increases reported in the Indigenous population between censuses may only partially be attributable to natural growth, with the remaining increase explained by several other factors including changes in the rate at which children with only one Indigenous parent are identified as Indigenous; changes in the propensity of Indigenous people to record their Indigenous status on census forms; improvements to the census enumeration procedures; and changes in the rates of non-response to the question on Indigenous origin. To arrive at an estimate of the size of the Indigenous population, the ABS produces Estimated Resident Population (ERP) counts derived from census usual residence counts, allowing for net undercount, and for instances in which Indigenous status is unknown. For further information on the quality of Indigenous statistics, see *Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2001* (cat. no. 4705.0).

The number of people who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin in the census provides a good measure of the Indigenous status of Australia's population. According to the 2001 census, 410,000 people were identified as being Indigenous, representing 2.2% of the total Australian population. Some 39.3% of the Indigenous population were children aged less than 15 years (compared with 20.8% of all Australians), while only 2.8% were older persons, that is aged 65 years and over (compared with 12.6% of all Australians). The population pyramid below highlights the younger age structure of the Indigenous population, reflecting both its higher fertility and lower life expectancy.

2.1 INDIGENOUS STATUS BY AGE, SEX DISTRIBUTION, PERSONS(a)



(a) Excludes overseas visitors. Also excludes those persons who did not state their Indigenous status.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The Indigenous fertility rate was 2.1 babies per woman in 2001, compared with 1.7 babies for all women (ABS 2001c). The Indigenous fertility rate refers to births where the mother was identified as Indigenous regardless of the Indigenous status of the father and therefore is an underestimate of the number of Indigenous births as births to Indigenous fathers and non-Indigenous mothers may not be registered as Indigenous. The life expectancy of Indigenous Australians is about 20 years less than for the total population. In the 1999–2001 period, the life expectancy at birth of an Indigenous male was 56.3 years (compared with 77.0 years for all Australian males) while an Indigenous female was expected to live 62.8 years (compared with 82.4 years for all Australian females) (ABS 2002b).

Over the last 30 years, the total Indigenous population has increased substantially (by 254.1% between 1971 and 2001). While the proportion of the Indigenous population who were older persons remained relatively stable at around 3% over this time, the number of older Indigenous persons increased by 187.7%. While not all of this increase is due to natural growth, the level of change and the different needs of Indigenous people indicate an increasing requirement for services to provide for increases in the older Indigenous population.

Experimental projections of the Indigenous population released for the period 1996 to 2006 indicate that, based on trends in fertility and mortality at the time, Australia's Indigenous population is projected to grow at an annual average rate of 2.0% per year. However, if a change in propensity to identify based on the 1991–1996 period is assumed, the Indigenous population would grow at an annual average rate of 5.3% per year. The number of Indigenous persons aged 65 years and over is projected to be between 11,800 and 16,300 by 2006, while the proportion of older persons is expected to remain at a similar level over this time, around 2.5% (ABS 1998c).

2.2 INDIGENOUS STATUS, PERSONS(a), SELECTED CENSUS YEARS

Age group (years)	1971		1981		1991		2001	
	Indigenous	All persons(b)	Indigenous	All persons(b)	Indigenous	All persons(b)	Indigenous	All persons(b)
NUMBER ('000)								
0-4	20.2	1 221.0	21.2	1 109.7	39.5	1 259.1	52.9	1 244.0
5-9	17.7	1 217.6	23.3	1 247.7	35.1	1 253.2	56.5	1 331.9
10-14	15.3	1 223.6	23.5	1 292.8	31.1	1 241.6	51.6	1 336.6
15-19	11.8	1 104.0	19.6	1 254.6	28.9	1 305.8	42.3	1 325.3
20-24	10.0	1 079.2	15.7	1 239.3	27.4	1 334.3	33.0	1 241.1
25-29	7.6	922.6	12.2	1 177.3	23.1	1 328.3	32.6	1 319.0
30-34	6.4	794.8	9.8	1 186.9	19.7	1 381.9	31.1	1 404.2
35-39	5.8	735.2	7.8	973.2	15.8	1 288.5	27.3	1 431.6
40-44	5.0	784.0	6.5	819.5	12.5	1 256.1	23.1	1 436.7
45-49	4.1	778.5	5.4	720.4	9.0	996.7	18.3	1 319.8
50-54	3.4	660.6	4.5	754.4	7.0	817.0	13.9	1 248.5
55-59	2.4	603.4	3.1	723.2	5.4	701.3	9.3	970.7
60-64	2.1	499.4	2.7	596.1	4.2	710.3	6.9	789.0
65-69	1.7	384.8	2.0	521.3	2.9	647.6	4.7	660.6
70-74	1.2	291.7	1.3	392.0	1.8	498.6	3.0	619.6
75-79	0.5	199.3	0.6	255.8	1.1	375.3	1.7	504.7
80-84	0.3	119.7	0.4	151.7	0.6	224.9	1.0	323.4
85 and over	0.2	65.9	0.3	101.0	0.5	151.1	1.0	262.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>115.8</i>	<i>12 685.3</i>	<i>159.8</i>	<i>14 516.9</i>	<i>265.4</i>	<i>16 771.7</i>	<i>410.0</i>	<i>18 769.2</i>
PROPORTION (%)								
0-4	17.4	9.6	13.3	7.6	14.9	7.5	12.9	6.6
5-9	15.3	9.6	14.6	8.6	13.2	7.5	13.8	7.1
10-14	13.2	9.6	14.7	8.9	11.7	7.4	12.6	7.1
15-19	10.2	8.7	12.2	8.6	10.9	7.8	10.3	7.1
20-24	8.6	8.5	9.8	8.5	10.3	8.0	8.0	6.6
25-29	6.6	7.3	7.6	8.1	8.7	7.9	7.9	7.0
30-34	5.5	6.3	6.2	8.2	7.4	8.2	7.6	7.5
35-39	5.0	5.8	4.9	6.7	5.9	7.7	6.7	7.6
40-44	4.3	6.2	4.1	5.6	4.7	7.5	5.6	7.7
45-49	3.6	6.1	3.4	5.0	3.4	5.9	4.5	7.0
50-54	3.0	5.2	2.8	5.2	2.6	4.9	3.4	6.7
55-59	2.1	4.8	1.9	5.0	2.0	4.2	2.3	5.2
60-64	1.8	3.9	1.7	4.1	1.6	4.2	1.7	4.2
65-69	1.5	3.0	1.2	3.6	1.1	3.9	1.1	3.5
70-74	1.1	2.3	0.8	2.7	0.7	3.0	0.7	3.3
75-79	0.5	1.6	0.4	1.8	0.4	2.2	0.4	2.7
80-84	0.3	0.9	0.2	1.0	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.7
85 and over	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.3	1.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
45 and over	13.9	28.4	12.6	29.0	12.2	30.5	14.6	35.7
65 and over	3.4	8.4	2.8	9.8	2.6	11.3	2.8	12.6

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes not stated Indigenous status.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1971-2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

PEOPLE BORN OVERSEAS

Throughout most of the last century, government policy actively determined the cultural mix of immigration, and hence has had a direct bearing on the cultural mix of older people now living in Australia. This population is becoming increasingly culturally diverse, with more older overseas-born Australians coming from a greater variety of countries.

According to the 2001 census, 4.1 million people living in Australia were born overseas, representing 21.8% of the total population. Within the older population (those aged 65 years and over), a greater proportion (30.5%) originated from overseas. The most common birthplace was the United Kingdom and Ireland, accounting for 35.7% of all older persons born overseas. For older people born in countries other than those where English is the predominant language, Italy was the most common country of birth, accounting for 12.7% of all older persons born overseas.

2.3 SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH, PERSONS(a)

	Age group (years)					Total 65 years and over		Median age years
	0-44	45-64	65-84	85 and over	Total			
	%	%	%	%	'000	%	'000	
United Kingdom and Ireland	36.8	39.5	20.9	2.8	1 086.5	23.8	258.1	51.0
New Zealand	67.8	25.9	5.6	0.7	355.8	6.3	22.3	37.0
Italy	13.0	45.0	39.1	3.0	218.7	42.0	91.9	62.0
Viet Nam	70.0	23.5	6.1	0.4	154.8	6.5	10.1	37.0
China (excluding SARs and Taiwan Province)	60.5	24.6	13.6	1.3	142.8	14.9	21.3	40.0
Greece	16.4	52.2	29.6	1.8	116.4	31.4	36.6	59.0
Germany	23.2	49.6	25.4	1.7	108.2	27.1	29.3	55.0
Philippines	68.4	26.9	4.3	0.4	103.9	4.6	4.8	38.0
India	59.5	27.8	11.7	1.0	95.5	12.7	12.1	40.0
Netherlands	16.2	51.9	29.2	2.7	83.3	31.9	26.6	57.0
South Africa	65.0	27.0	7.1	0.8	79.4	8.0	6.3	37.0
Malaysia	63.2	31.3	5.2	0.3	78.9	5.4	4.3	38.0
Lebanon	57.7	33.0	8.7	0.5	71.3	9.3	6.6	41.0
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	71.4	24.5	3.8	0.3	67.1	4.1	2.8	33.0
Poland	29.4	32.3	34.5	3.9	58.1	38.4	22.3	54.0
United States of America	63.6	29.2	6.4	0.7	53.7	7.1	3.8	38.0
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	40.1	39.9	18.8	1.1	55.4	20.0	11.1	49.0
Sri Lanka	58.4	30.5	10.1	1.0	53.5	11.0	5.9	41.0
Croatia	30.5	48.4	20.2	1.0	51.9	21.2	11.0	54.0
Canada	66.9	24.6	7.5	1.0	27.3	8.5	2.3	37.0
Other countries of birth	57.2	29.7	12.0	1.1	1 025.2	13.1	134.3	41.0
<i>Total born overseas</i>	<i>48.1</i>	<i>34.2</i>	<i>16.1</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>4 087.8</i>	<i>17.7</i>	<i>723.9</i>	<i>45.0</i>
Australia	69.0	20.1	9.6	1.3	13 629.7	10.9	1 485.5	31.0
Total(b)	64.3	23.1	11.2	1.4	18 769.2	12.6	2 370.9	35.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes those persons for whom the country of birth was not stated or inadequately described.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

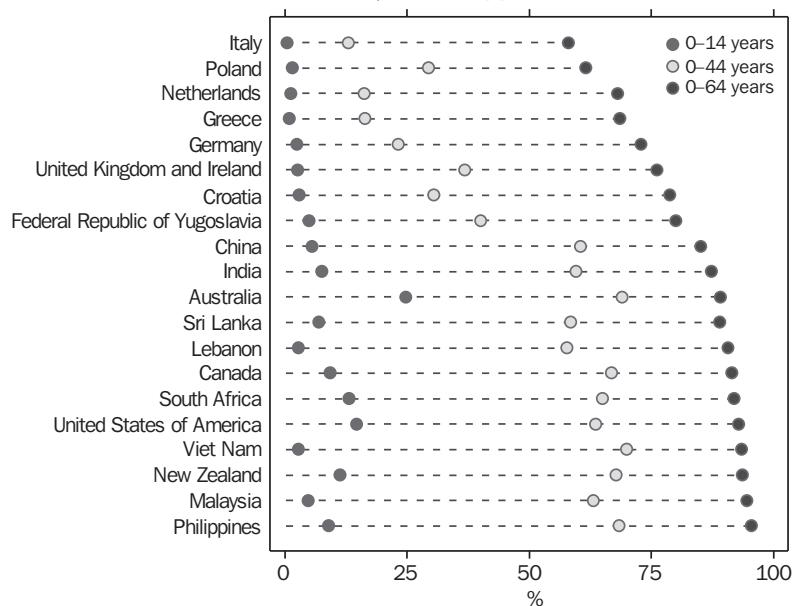
The proportion of older persons is greater amongst the overseas-born population than for the Australian-born population (17.7% of the overseas-born were aged 65 years and over compared with 10.9% of those born in Australia). The age structure of persons born overseas varies considerably according to the country of birth reflecting the changing immigration policies of different governments over time. Some 42.0% of Italian-born people living in Australia were aged 65 years and over in 2001. Other birthplaces with a relatively high proportion of older persons (over 25%) were Poland, the Netherlands, Greece and Germany.

The composition of Australia's present population of older persons born overseas very much reflects the significant immigration intake of young adults from Europe immediately following World War II. Following the abolition of the White Australia Policy by the mid-1970s, settlers were attracted to Australia from non-European origins, especially Asia. Immigrants born in Viet Nam, the Philippines and Malaysia, for example, have younger age structures characterised by the relatively lower proportions of persons aged 65 years and over — less than 7% in these countries.

Of the predominantly English speaking countries of origin, the United Kingdom and Ireland accounted for a significantly greater proportion aged 65 years and over (23.8%), reflecting the ongoing intake of migrants from these countries during the last century. Those originating from New Zealand, South Africa, the United States of America and Canada were characterised by a lower proportion of older persons (an average of 6.7%).

Graph 2.4 demonstrates the varying age structures of Australian residents from selected countries of birth compared with those born in Australia. Also of relevance to the ageing issue is the large proportion of persons aged 45–64 years from some birthplaces who will be reaching the traditional retirement age over the next 20 years. More than one-third (34.2%) of persons born overseas were aged 45–64 years in 2001, representing 32.3% of all persons aged 45–64 years. Birthplaces with large proportions of persons in this age group include Greece, the Netherlands, Germany, Croatia and Italy.

2.4 SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH, PERSONS(a)

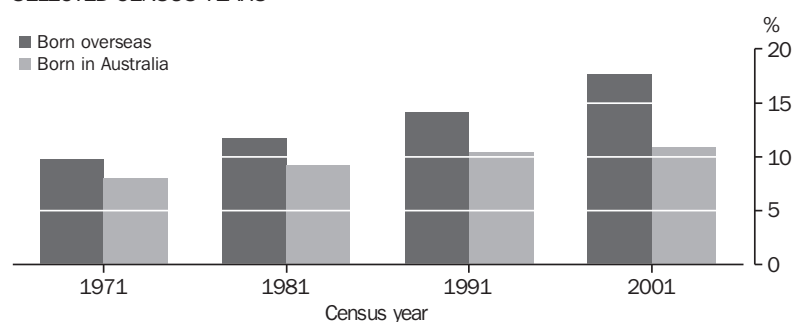


(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The number of older overseas-born Australian residents has increased in recent years as the post-war migrants, most of whom came to Australia as young adults, turn 65 years. Over the last 30 years, the number of older people who were born overseas increased from 245,000 at the 1971 census to 723,900 at the 2001 census, an increase of almost 200%, while the number of older people who were born in Australia increased only 82.0% over that time. Older overseas-born persons as a proportion of all overseas-born persons increased from 9.8% to 17.7% over this time, while this proportion for Australian-born persons increased from 8.0% to 10.9%.

2.5 COUNTRY OF BIRTH, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED CENSUS YEARS

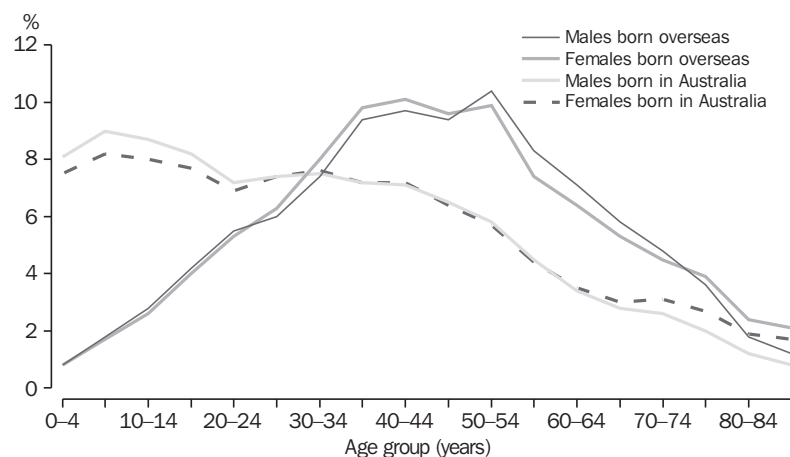


(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

While the proportion of women in the total overseas-born population (50.5%) is similar to that for the total Australian-born population (50.8%), the distribution of women across age groups differs between these populations, with older women forming a relatively lower proportion of the population for overseas-born compared with Australian-born. For both populations, men outnumber women in the younger age groups (less than 25 years). For the Australian-born population, women slightly outnumber men across the ages 25–59 years, after which the proportion of women increases markedly from 51.3% for the 60–64 years age group to 70.5% for the 85 years and over age group. For the overseas-born population, while women also outnumber men across the ages 25–49 years, the men then outnumber the women again for the ages 50–74 years, after which the proportion of women increases from 53.0% for the 75–79 years age group to 64.6% for the 85 years and over age group. The lower proportions of women amongst the older overseas-born population is partly attributable to the higher proportion of men among post-war migrants.

2.6 COUNTRY OF BIRTH BY AGE, SEX DISTRIBUTION, PERSONS(a)



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Older people who were born overseas are more likely to live in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia and less likely to live in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania than older people who were born in Australia. In 2001, 28.9% of the older overseas-born population lived in Victoria, compared with 24.2% of the older Australian-born population. In contrast, Queensland's population had a relatively smaller proportion of overseas-born (13.7%) compared with Australian-born (19.3%) older people.

2.7 SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH, BY STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, PERSONS(a)
AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
<i>Country of birth</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
United Kingdom and Ireland	27.2	21.8	17.4	13.2	16.1	2.7	0.3	1.5	258.1
New Zealand	31.1	14.1	40.6	3.3	7.5	1.6	0.5	1.3	22.3
Italy	27.1	40.7	7.9	12.0	10.8	0.6	0.2	0.8	91.9
Viet Nam	41.3	35.3	8.1	6.5	6.9	0.1	0.3	1.5	10.1
China (excluding SARs and Taiwan Province)	58.6	25.1	7.4	2.7	4.1	0.4	0.3	1.3	21.3
Greece	32.0	46.3	4.1	12.2	3.7	0.4	0.4	1.0	36.6
Germany	28.2	29.4	15.9	15.1	6.6	2.2	0.4	2.0	29.3
Philippines	55.7	22.0	11.0	4.3	3.4	0.5	1.9	1.2	4.8
India	28.9	28.2	10.3	6.3	23.6	0.9	0.4	1.5	12.1
Netherlands	25.7	29.8	17.6	9.8	12.4	3.0	0.3	1.5	26.6
South Africa	37.5	21.1	16.1	4.5	17.4	2.0	0.3	1.2	6.3
Malaysia	26.7	28.1	8.9	4.5	28.1	0.7	0.8	1.7	4.3
Lebanon	75.2	17.8	2.1	3.3	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	6.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	53.7	22.9	10.3	3.3	7.2	0.7	0.4	1.5	2.8
Poland	28.7	37.1	9.2	11.7	9.3	2.1	0.1	1.8	22.3
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	33.8	33.5	10.6	10.0	8.9	0.9	0.2	2.0	11.1
United States of America	33.3	18.7	23.9	6.9	11.8	2.5	0.7	2.2	3.8
Sri Lanka	26.7	51.9	9.3	2.2	6.8	0.4	0.4	2.3	5.9
Croatia	34.8	35.0	7.3	8.0	11.5	0.7	0.1	2.6	11.0
Canada	32.3	17.9	25.4	7.2	12.9	1.9	0.5	1.9	2.3
<i>Total born overseas(c)</i>	32.3	28.9	13.7	10.3	11.4	1.6	0.3	1.4	723.9
Australia	36.3	24.2	19.3	8.7	7.1	3.2	0.3	1.0	1 485.5
Total(d)	35.1	25.7	17.4	9.1	8.6	2.7	0.3	1.1	2 370.9

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

(c) Includes other overseas countries.

(d) Includes those persons for whom country of birth was not stated or inadequately described.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Older persons originating from some specific countries have shown a tendency to settle in specific states. For example, in 2001, 75.2% of older persons born in Lebanon, 58.6% born in China and 55.7% born in the Philippines lived in New South Wales. Victoria was home to high concentrations of older persons born in Sri Lanka (51.9%), Greece (46.3%), Italy (40.7%) and Poland (37.1%), while older persons born in New Zealand were most likely to live in Queensland (40.6%).

LANGUAGE

Australia's cultural diversity is reflected in part by the numbers of people who speak languages other than English. The maintenance of other languages is an important element of retaining cultural identity. Lack of proficiency in spoken English, however, has the potential to inhibit social integration, education, training, employment and, of particular relevance for older people, access to services.

At the time of the 2001 census, 23.2% of persons born in other than predominantly English speaking countries spoke only English at home. A similar proportion of these people aged 65 years and over spoke only English at home (22.0%). However, a significantly lower proportion of older people from other than predominantly English speaking countries who spoke other languages at home (45.3%) were able to speak English well compared with all persons from that background (58.6%), and they were more likely to report they could not speak English well or at all (31.1% compared with 16.9%). Of the very old, those aged 85 years and over, 18.4% did not speak English at home at all.

Older immigrants' ability to speak English varies depending on factors such as birthplace and length of time since arrival in Australia. Older people born in Viet Nam and China, as examples of more recently arrived birthplace groups, are significantly more likely to have greater difficulty speaking English, with over 75% not speaking English well or at all. This compares with those born in countries such as Germany, the Netherlands, India and Sri Lanka, partly reflecting the immediate post-war immigration wave, with almost all (over 90%) reporting speaking only English at home, or speaking English well.

2.8 SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH BY PROFICIENCY IN SPOKEN ENGLISH AT HOME, PERSONS(a) BORN IN OTHER THAN PREDOMINANTLY ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Country of birth	Spoke languages other than English									
	Spoke only English		Spoke English well(b)		Did not speak English well		Did not speak English at all		Total(c)	
	0-64	65 and over	0-64	65 and over	0-64	65 and over	0-64	65 and over	0-64	65 and over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000	'000
Italy	21.9	7.6	66.2	52.5	10.0	32.8	0.5	5.1	126.8	91.9
Viet Nam	2.5	1.3	56.9	12.4	33.1	33.7	6.0	50.8	144.7	10.1
China (excluding SARs and Taiwan Province)	3.8	6.9	62.9	16.2	26.4	32.4	5.7	43.2	121.5	21.3
Greece	8.7	3.5	66.5	45.3	22.4	43.7	1.0	5.9	79.9	36.6
Germany	58.2	42.6	40.2	52.8	0.8	2.8	0.2	0.4	78.9	29.3
Philippines	28.2	11.5	69.1	64.8	1.4	19.5	0.1	2.1	99.1	4.8
India	43.2	77.9	53.5	15.0	2.0	3.3	0.5	2.9	83.3	12.1
Netherlands	70.3	46.2	28.9	50.1	0.3	2.3	—	0.4	56.7	26.6
Malaysia	35.7	38.7	59.5	39.4	3.9	15.0	0.4	5.8	74.6	4.3
Lebanon	6.2	6.2	73.7	38.8	16.5	34.4	2.4	19.6	64.7	6.6
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	9.8	20.5	76.1	39.0	12.2	23.2	1.2	15.9	64.3	2.8
Poland	19.7	26.4	71.0	53.5	7.9	15.9	0.5	2.5	35.8	22.3
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	17.8	19.4	67.0	47.6	12.4	25.2	1.5	5.9	44.3	11.1
Sri Lanka	37.4	64.3	58.9	28.2	2.7	4.3	0.2	2.5	47.6	5.9
Croatia	15.4	11.2	68.4	50.9	13.9	30.7	1.2	5.7	40.9	11.0
Total born in other than predominantly English speaking countries(d)	23.4	22.0	61.4	45.3	12.2	22.8	1.7	8.3	2 054.1	431.0

(a) Excludes persons born in predominantly English speaking countries (Australia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United States and Canada). Also excludes overseas visitors and those persons for whom country of birth was reported as 'born at sea', 'not elsewhere classified', 'inadequately described' and 'not stated'.

(b) Comprises persons who reported that they spoke English 'very well' or 'well'.

(c) Includes persons for whom language at home and/or proficiency in spoken English was 'not stated'.

(d) Includes persons born in other countries not separately listed.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

RELIGION

Religious affiliation identifies the religious belief to which a person adheres or religious group to which they belong, and also identifies those who do not belong to any religious group. It provides a useful indicator of the cultural diversity of Australian society. Data on religious affiliation aids policy and planning by religious organisations in respect of a range of education and community services, including the provision of aged care facilities and services.

The likelihood of a person to identify a religious affiliation increases markedly with age. Some 84.7% of those aged 65 years and over, specified a religion in the 2001 census, in contrast with 70.4% of persons aged less than 45 years. Most people were affiliated with Christian religions, with the tendency to once again increase with age — 82.1% of the very old reported affiliation with a Christian denomination compared with 63.3% of people under 45 years of age. Of those people who affiliated with a Christian religion, the largest denominations were Catholic and Anglican, with younger people more likely to be Catholics and older people more likely to be Anglicans.

The proportion of older people identifying as being affiliated with a Christian religion has remained relatively stable over the last 20 years, falling by only 1.3 percentage points since the 1981 census. In comparison, the proportion fell by 11.0 percentage points over the same period for people aged less than 45 years. This decrease can be partially accounted for by the corresponding increase in the number of younger people declaring they have no religion, which increased from 12.6% of persons aged less than 45 years in 1981 to 18.4% in 2001. There has also been an increase in the number of younger people affiliating with a non-Christian religion, most notably Buddhism, partly resulting from an increase in migration from countries with non-Christian religions over this time and the younger age structure of these migrants.

2.9 RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, PERSONS(a)

	Age group (years)				Total
	0-44	45-64	65-84	85 and over	
	%	%	%	%	%
1981					
Christian religions					
Anglican	24.3	29.6	33.0	35.4	26.2
Baptist	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.3
Catholic	27.0	25.3	20.8	16.9	26.0
Lutheran	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.4
Orthodox	3.1	2.9	1.5	1.0	2.9
Presbyterian and Reformed	3.8	5.4	6.6	8.1	4.4
Uniting Church(b)	7.8	9.1	11.2	13.2	8.4
Pentecostal	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5
Other Christian religions	5.2	5.4	6.7	6.8	5.4
Total	74.3	80.9	83.1	84.7	76.5
Other religions					
Buddhism	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2
Islam	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.5
Hinduism	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Judaism	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4
Other non-Christian religions	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	1.5	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.3
Total all religions(c)	75.8	81.9	84.1	85.5	77.8
No religion	12.6	7.2	5.1	3.1	10.8
Not stated/inadequately described	11.7	10.9	10.8	11.4	11.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2001					
Christian religions					
Anglican	17.6	24.4	29.4	32.7	20.7
Baptist	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.6
Catholic	27.2	25.7	26.0	20.7	26.6
Lutheran	1.2	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.3
Orthodox	2.7	3.0	3.0	1.7	2.8
Presbyterian and Reformed	2.3	4.7	6.4	7.0	3.4
Uniting Church(b)	5.6	7.7	9.8	12.4	6.7
Pentecostal	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.0
Other Christian religions	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.8
Total	63.3	73.5	81.9	82.1	68.0
Other religions					
Buddhism	2.2	1.8	0.9	0.7	1.9
Islam	1.9	0.9	0.3	0.2	1.5
Hinduism	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5
Judaism	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.4
Other non-Christian religions	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5
Total	5.7	4.0	2.2	2.1	4.8
Total all religions(c)	70.4	78.5	84.7	84.7	74.1
No religion	18.4	12.3	6.6	4.7	15.5
Not stated/inadequately described	11.2	9.2	8.6	10.6	10.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Congregational and Methodist. In 1978 three Christian denominations (Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational) joined to become the Uniting Church. While Methodist and Congregational Churches all united (or formed separate non-aligned Churches) the Presbyterians were able to choose to join the Uniting Church or remain Presbyterian.

(c) Includes religious belief not further defined.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1981 and 2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

CHAPTER 3

INTRODUCTION

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

As people age, they experience various life transitions associated with changes in levels of physical and economic dependence, and personal circumstances, for example, changes in family structure related to the formation and dissolution of relationships (including death of a partner), or the inability to maintain their house or land due to changes in health, which may lead to changes in their living arrangements. Demand for resources required for income support, aged care, health and welfare services and housing provision is influenced by the living arrangements of the older population.

TYPE OF DWELLING

The Census of Population and Housing classifies housing into two broad types — private dwellings and non-private dwellings. Note that this classification excludes persons who live in migratory and off-shore collection districts, and therefore these persons are excluded from data included in this Chapter.

PRIVATE DWELLINGS

Dwellings used as a private place of residence including separate houses, semidetached, row or terrace houses, townhouses, flats, units, apartments, caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents, sleepers out, and houses or flats attached to a shop or office.

Also classified as a private dwelling is self-care accommodation for the retired or aged where the occupants provide their own meals and are regarded as being self-sufficient.

NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS

Establishments which provide communal or transitory type accommodation including hotels, motels, boarding houses, boarding schools, residential colleges, hospitals, hostels for disabled, nursing homes, cared accommodation for the retired or aged, hostels for homeless, night shelters, refuges, childcare institutions, corrective institutions, other welfare institutions, prisons, convents, monasteries, and nurse/staff quarters.

Of the 2.4 million people aged 65 years and over living in Australia on census night in 2001, 2.2 million were enumerated at home in their usual residence while the remainder were enumerated as visitors to other dwellings. Of those enumerated at home, 93.3% lived in private dwellings, and the remaining 6.7% lived in non-private dwellings. The first section (Families and households) of this chapter examines the family and household relationships of older persons within these dwellings, while the second section (Type of housing) examines the types of housing in which older persons live, their structure and tenancy status. Data included in this chapter refer to people counted at home on census night and therefore exclude people who were away from their place of usual residence, that is, visitors.

As for all people, an older person's wellbeing is influenced by the amount of financial, physical and emotional support they receive and have access to, and for most older people, a significant source of this support is family. Changes in the demographic and cultural structure of the Australian population, as well as changes in social trends (as discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 of this publication) have led to increasing diversity of family formations which influence the extent to which family support will be available for older persons. Family support is also dependent on factors such as proximity, financial resources, ethnicity, experiences of the family members (e.g. divorce), health and disability status, etc.

Nearly two thirds of Australia's older people live with other family members. In 2001, just over half (53.3%) of persons aged 65 years and over were living in a private dwelling with their partner (with or without others present), while 9.0% were living with one or more relatives other than their partner. A further 27.1% were living alone and 6.7% were living in non-private dwellings, mainly cared accommodation such as nursing homes, accommodation for the retired/aged, and hospitals.

The living arrangements of the population change markedly with increasing age. The proportion of persons living with their partner decreased from a high of 74.1% for those aged 45–54 years to 11.5% for those aged 95 years and over. While there was an increase in the proportion living with family members other than their partner across these age groups, from 10.5% for 45–54 year olds to 14.9% for those aged 95 years and over, a substantial proportion of older persons made the transition initially to a lone person household (from 9.8% for those aged 45–54 years to a high of 36.0% aged 85–94 years decreasing again to 18.9% for those aged 95 years and over), and then later in life to aged care accommodation with 48.8% of those aged 95 years and over living in such accommodation. These changes in living arrangements across the older age groups reflect, among other things, changes in family and support structure, such as the loss of a partner or the change in availability of a carer. Declining health, such as an increasing incidence of illness and disability, may also lead to a change in living arrangements for the older person such as the need to move into the home of an adult son or daughter or into cared accommodation.

The proportion of the older population with a profound or severe core activity limitation (those people with a disability who always or sometimes require assistance in one or more of: self-care, mobility or communication) increases with increasing age. In 1998, of those people aged 60–64 years, 11.4% had a profound or severe core activity limitation, rising to 31.3% of those aged 80–84 years, and to 64.9% for those aged 85 years and over (ABS1999f).

3.1 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER

Age group (years)	In private dwelling				In non-private dwelling			Total all dwellings
	With partner(b)	With other relatives	Total with relatives	Lone person	Total in private dwelling(c)	Resident of cared accommodation(d)	Total in non-private dwelling(e)	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
MALES								
45-54	75.5	7.1	82.6	11.0	99.0	0.2	1.0	1 215.7
55-64	77.2	4.6	81.8	12.3	98.9	0.4	1.1	832.6
65-74	74.8	3.8	78.6	14.8	98.1	1.3	1.9	573.8
75-84	66.5	4.9	71.4	19.5	94.7	4.6	5.3	325.3
85-94	43.9	8.6	52.5	25.5	81.0	17.6	19.0	72.5
95 and over	27.4	13.7	41.1	21.2	68.0	27.8	32.0	4.7
Total 45 and over	74.0	5.6	79.6	13.3	97.9	1.4	2.1	3 024.6
Total 65 and over	69.5	4.6	74.1	17.2	95.6	3.7	4.4	976.3
Total 85 and over	42.9	8.9	51.8	25.2	80.2	18.2	19.8	77.2
FEMALES								
45-54	72.8	13.8	86.6	8.7	99.6	0.2	0.4	1 246.9
55-64	69.7	9.7	79.4	15.7	99.4	0.3	0.6	823.0
65-74	56.0	10.6	66.6	27.5	98.4	1.3	1.6	623.3
75-84	31.8	13.4	45.2	43.3	91.8	7.5	8.2	457.6
85-94	9.2	15.9	25.1	40.8	68.1	30.2	31.9	158.2
95 and over	6.0	15.4	21.4	18.0	41.3	56.1	58.7	13.4
Total 45 and over	59.9	12.2	72.2	20.3	96.5	3.1	3.5	3 322.3
Total 65 and over	40.7	12.3	53.1	34.9	91.5	7.8	8.5	1 252.5
Total 85 and over	9.0	15.8	24.8	39.0	66.0	32.3	34.0	171.7
PERSONS								
45-54	74.1	10.5	84.6	9.8	99.3	0.2	0.7	2 462.5
55-64	73.5	7.1	80.6	14.0	99.1	0.4	0.9	1 655.6
65-74	65.0	7.4	72.4	21.4	98.3	1.3	1.7	1 197.1
75-84	46.2	9.9	56.1	33.5	93.1	6.3	6.9	782.9
85-94	20.1	13.6	33.7	36.0	72.2	26.3	27.8	230.7
95 and over	11.5	14.9	26.4	18.9	48.1	48.8	51.9	18.1
Total 45 and over	66.7	9.1	75.7	17.0	97.2	2.3	2.8	6 346.9
Total 65 and over	53.3	9.0	62.3	27.1	93.3	6.0	6.7	2 228.8
Total 85 and over	19.5	13.7	33.2	34.7	70.4	27.9	29.6	248.8

(a) Excludes all visitors and persons in migratory and off-shore collection districts.

(b) With or without other family members or non-related persons present.

(c) Includes persons living in other arrangements such as an unrelated individual or member of a group household. Also includes persons living in 'not classifiable' households.

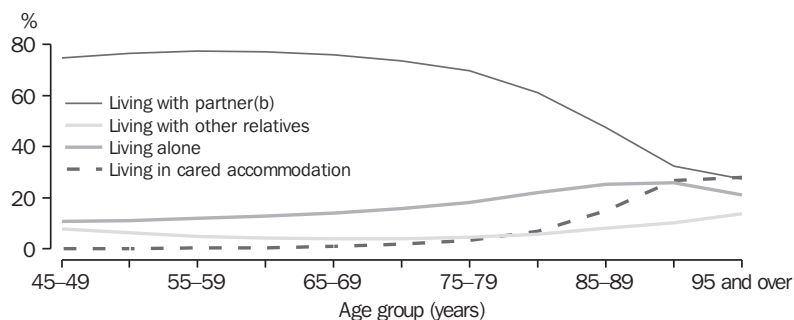
(d) Includes persons living in hospitals, nursing homes, cared accommodation for the retired/aged, hostels for the disabled, childcare institutions and other welfare institutions.

(e) Includes persons living in other types of non-private dwellings such as hotels/motels, boarding houses/private hotels, hostels for homeless/refugees, convents/monasteries, etc. Also includes owner, proprietors, staff and family living in non-private dwellings, and those who did not specify their relationship in the non-private dwelling.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Living arrangements of older persons also differ between males and females, reflecting the fact that many older women outlive their partners due to their greater life expectancy and tendency to be younger than their male partners. While the majority of men are still with their partner until the age of 75–84 years (66.5%), women are less than half as likely to still be living with their partner at the same age (31.8%). Women are more likely to live in cared accommodation than men, particularly at the older age groups. By the age of 85–94 years, 30.2% of women were living in cared accommodation compared with only 17.6% of men, while men were more likely to be living with family (52.5%) or in a lone person household (25.5%) at the same age. Even by the age of 95 years and over, only 27.8% of men were living in cared accommodation, compared with 56.1% of women.

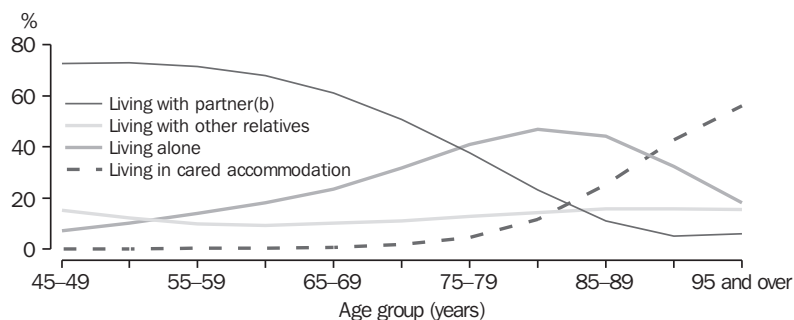
3.2 SELECTED LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, MALES(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes all visitors and persons in migratory and off-shore collection districts.
(b) With or without other family members or non-related persons present.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

3.3 SELECTED LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, FEMALES(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes all visitors and persons in migratory and off-shore collection districts.
(b) With or without other family members or non-related persons present.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EXTENDED FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

Throughout their life span, many people experience the transition from living with their partner and children to either living only with their partner, living with other relatives (including their children), or living alone. Some older people who have lost a partner, or are suffering from ill-health, find family members a valuable source of care and companionship. While they receive assistance from family, older persons are also major providers of care to other people, especially to their partners, or providing care to grandchildren, etc. Associated changes in housing type through the life cycle are discussed later in this Chapter in Type of housing.

Of the 2.1 million persons aged 65 years and over who were living in a private dwelling in 2001, most were living with their partner only (47.1%) or living on their own (29.1%). The majority of the remainder of the older population were living with other relatives, with 7.6% living with their partner and their children, 4.2% living with their children only, and 3.1% living with their children's family. Only a very small proportion were living with unrelated people (1.9%).

3.4 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Living with partner						
With partner only	548.2	58.7	430.5	37.5	978.7	47.1
With partner and children	99.2	10.6	57.8	5.0	157.0	7.6
With partner and children's family	17.1	1.8	12.3	1.1	29.5	1.4
With partner and other relatives	11.3	1.2	7.7	0.7	19.0	0.9
With partner and non-relatives only	2.6	0.3	1.8	0.2	4.4	0.2
Total	678.4	72.7	510.1	44.5	1 188.6	57.1
Living with children, but not partner						
With children only	16.8	1.8	71.4	6.2	88.2	4.2
With children's family	12.9	1.4	52.1	4.5	64.9	3.1
With children and other relatives	0.7	0.1	3.0	0.3	3.8	0.2
With children and non-relatives only	0.9	0.1	2.1	0.2	2.9	0.1
Total	31.3	3.4	128.6	11.2	159.9	7.7
Other living arrangements						
With grandchildren	1.5	0.2	7.8	0.7	9.3	0.4
With parents	1.3	0.1	1.8	0.2	3.1	0.1
With other relatives	11.0	1.2	16.4	1.4	27.3	1.3
With unrelated people only	20.4	2.2	19.6	1.7	40.0	1.9
Alone	168.0	18.0	436.9	38.1	604.9	29.1
Total	202.2	21.7	482.5	42.1	684.7	32.9
Total in private dwellings(c)	933.3	100.0	1 146.6	100.0	2 079.9	100.0
Total in one-family households	707.1	75.8	650.7	56.8	1 357.9	65.3
Total in multi-family households	19.8	2.1	16.9	1.5	36.7	1.8

(a) Non-relatives may also be present in all households except those specified as 'With partner only' and 'With children only'.

(b) Excludes all visitors.

(c) Includes persons living in 'not classifiable' households.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EXTENDED FAMILY
RELATIONSHIPS *continued*

Some 23.2% of the very old (aged 85 years and over) living in a private dwelling were living with their partner only. Most had made the transition to either living alone (49.3%), or living with other relatives including their children only (7.9%) or with their children's family (8.0%). The proportion living with unrelated people was the same as for older people generally (1.9%).

OLDER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

As a result of Indigenous people having a shorter life expectancy and higher incidence of illness and disability, some government agencies use the number of people aged 50 years and over when planning services for older Indigenous people (AIHW 2002a). In light of this, data regarding the living arrangements of Indigenous persons are presented here for those aged 50 years and over.

3.5 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION(a), INDIGENOUS PERSONS(b) AGED 50 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Living with partner						
With partner only	3.8	22.6	4.0	19.9	7.8	21.2
With partner and children	4.2	25.0	3.2	15.9	7.4	20.1
With partner and children's family	0.6	3.6	0.6	2.8	1.2	3.2
With partner and other relatives	1.0	6.1	0.7	3.7	1.8	4.8
With partner and non-relatives only	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.4
Total	9.8	57.9	8.5	42.7	18.3	49.7
Living with children, but not partner						
With children only	0.7	4.0	2.4	12.2	3.1	8.4
With children's family	0.5	3.2	1.6	8.2	2.2	5.9
With children and other relatives	0.3	1.7	1.2	6.2	1.5	4.2
With children and non-relatives only	0.1	0.6	0.3	1.3	0.4	1.0
Total	1.6	9.6	5.5	27.9	7.2	19.5
Other living arrangements						
With grandchildren	0.1	0.7	0.4	2.1	0.5	1.5
With parents	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.0	0.4	1.2
With other relatives	1.2	7.0	1.0	5.3	2.2	6.1
With unrelated people only	1.0	5.6	0.8	4.1	1.8	4.8
Alone	3.0	17.8	3.4	16.9	6.4	17.3
Total	5.5	32.5	5.8	29.3	11.3	30.8
Total in private dwellings(c)	17.0	100.0	19.9	100.0	36.8	100.0
Total in one-family households	11.5	67.5	13.6	68.2	25.0	67.9
Total in multi-family households	1.9	11.2	2.4	12.0	4.3	11.6

(a) Non-relatives may also be present in all households except those specified as 'With partner only' and 'With children only'.

(b) Excludes all visitors.

(c) Includes persons living in 'not classifiable' households.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

OLDER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
continued

The living arrangements and family structure of the Indigenous population are very different to that of the non-Indigenous population. Households comprising Indigenous persons are, on average, larger than for all households and are more likely to comprise more than one family (11.6% of Indigenous persons aged 50 years and over live in a multi-family household). Older Indigenous people are much less likely to be living with their partner only or on their own, and more likely to be living with their children or their children's family, or other relatives such as grandchildren, or parents, etc. These living arrangements show a greater tendency to maintain extended family networks.

Of the 36,800 Indigenous persons aged 50 years and over living in a private dwelling enumerated at home on census night in 2001:

- 21.2% were living with their partner only
- 20.1% were living with their partner and their children
- 19.5% were living with their children but not their partner (with or without others present)
- 17.1% were living with other relatives
- 17.3% were living alone.

OLDER PERSONS BORN IN
OTHER THAN
PREDOMINANTLY ENGLISH
SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Older persons who were born in other than predominantly English speaking countries were also more likely to be living in an extended family context. While a high proportion of those living in private dwellings did live with their partner only (43.5%), they were more likely than all Australians to be living with their children or their children's family, with or without their partner (29.7% compared with 16.7%), or other relatives such as grandchildren, or parents, etc. (3.3% compared with 2.8%), and as a result less likely to be living alone (21.3% compared with 29.1%). They were also more likely to be living in multi-family households (5.0% compared with 1.8% of all Australian households).

Consistent with the pattern for the total Australian population, over half (52.8%) of older men who were born in other than predominantly English speaking countries were living with their partner, compared with only 34.5% of older women. Although less likely to be living on their own than Australian women overall, older women born in other than predominantly English speaking countries were more than twice as likely than the men to be living on their own (28.6% compared with 13.6%).

3.6 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER BORN IN OTHER THAN PREDOMINANTLY ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Living with partner						
With partner only	103.9	52.8	70.1	34.5	174.0	43.5
With partner and children	36.6	18.6	17.5	8.6	54.1	13.5
With partner and children's family	9.9	5.0	6.8	3.4	16.7	4.2
With partner and other relatives	3.4	1.7	2.1	1.0	5.4	1.4
With partner and non-relatives only	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.3	1.4	0.4
Total	154.6	78.6	97.0	47.8	251.6	62.9
Living with children, but not partner						
With children only	4.1	2.1	16.2	8.0	20.3	5.1
With children's family	4.4	2.2	21.5	10.6	25.9	6.5
With children and other relatives	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.4	1.0	0.2
With children and non-relatives only	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.2
Total	8.8	4.5	39.0	19.2	47.8	12.0
Other living arrangements						
With grandchildren	0.3	0.2	1.9	0.9	2.2	0.5
With parents	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1
With other relatives	2.0	1.0	3.1	1.5	5.0	1.3
With unrelated people only	4.0	2.0	3.7	1.8	7.7	1.9
Alone	26.8	13.6	58.2	28.6	85.0	21.3
Total	33.5	16.9	67.1	33.0	100.4	25.1
Total in private dwellings(c)	196.7	100.0	203.2	100.0	399.9	100.0
Total in one-family households	155.6	79.1	133.5	65.7	289.1	72.3
Total in multi-family households	11.2	5.7	8.9	4.4	20.0	5.0

(a) Non-relatives may also be present in all households except those specified as 'With partner only' and 'With children only'.

(b) Excludes all visitors.

(c) Includes persons living in 'not classifiable' households.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS

A major consideration in assessing demand on services by the older population is the number and demographic characteristics of older people living alone, who may be without immediate support. In 2001, there were 604,900 persons aged 65 years and over living alone in private dwellings in Australia, representing 25.5% of the population of that age. The likelihood of a person living alone increases with age. While one-fifth (20.0%) of persons aged 65–74 years lived alone in 2001, this increased to almost one-third (32.9%) of the very old, aged 85 years and over. As discussed earlier in this chapter, older women are more than twice as likely as older men to be living alone, with 32.9% of women aged 65 years and over living alone compared with 16.1% of older men.

Recent social trends such as low fertility, smaller families, higher incidence of childlessness, and increased divorce rates have meant that the number and proportion of older persons living alone has increased and is likely to continue to increase in the future. These people will therefore have a smaller or non-existent family network to turn to for support and may be dependent on other forms of support.

3.7 LONE PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED CENSUS YEARS

	1971		1981		1991		2001	
	'000	% of all persons(b)	'000	% of all persons(b)	'000	% of all persons(b)	'000	% of all persons(b)
MALES								
15-44	69.0	2.5	162.9	4.8	228.4	5.8	329.0	8.1
45-54	31.9	4.4	45.9	6.1	65.9	7.1	133.3	10.4
55-64	35.9	6.6	54.1	8.3	64.6	9.1	102.3	11.6
65-74	31.8	10.4	47.9	11.5	63.4	11.9	85.0	13.8
75-84	17.7	14.9	26.0	16.7	40.8	17.1	63.6	18.4
85 and over	3.2	15.3	5.3	19.3	9.0	20.7	19.4	23.8
<i>Total 15 and over</i>	<i>189.4</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>342</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>472.1</i>	<i>7.4</i>	<i>732.5</i>	<i>10.1</i>
<i>Total 45 and over</i>	<i>120.4</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>179.1</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>243.7</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>403.6</i>	<i>12.6</i>
<i>Total 65 and over</i>	<i>52.7</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>79.1</i>	<i>13.2</i>	<i>113.2</i>	<i>13.9</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>16.1</i>
FEMALES								
15-44	37.0	1.4	100.5	3.1	141.6	3.6	208.7	5.1
45-54	30.4	4.3	38.8	5.4	54.2	6.1	108.6	8.4
55-64	68.2	12.2	95.1	14.2	95.1	13.5	129.5	14.8
65-74	90.3	24.4	143.7	28.9	166.7	27.1	171.6	25.8
75-84	58.2	29.1	93.8	37.2	142.6	39.3	198.4	41.1
85 and over	8.1	17.8	17.4	23.6	30.4	28.3	66.9	37.0
<i>Total 15 and over</i>	<i>292.2</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>489.3</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>630.6</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>883.7</i>	<i>11.6</i>
<i>Total 45 and over</i>	<i>255.2</i>	<i>13.5</i>	<i>388.8</i>	<i>17.6</i>	<i>489.0</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>674.9</i>	<i>19.3</i>
<i>Total 65 and over</i>	<i>156.6</i>	<i>25.4</i>	<i>254.9</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>339.7</i>	<i>31.3</i>	<i>436.9</i>	<i>32.9</i>
PERSONS								
15-44	106.0	2.0	263.4	4.0	370.1	4.7	537.7	6.6
45-54	62.3	4.3	84.7	5.7	120.1	6.6	241.8	9.4
55-64	104	9.4	149.2	11.3	159.7	11.3	231.7	13.2
65-74	122.1	18	191.5	21.0	230.1	20.1	256.6	20.0
75-84	75.9	23.8	119.8	29.4	183.4	30.5	261.9	31.6
85 and over	11.2	17	22.7	22.5	39.4	26.1	86.4	32.9
<i>Total 15 and over</i>	<i>481.6</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>831.2</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>1 102.7</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>1 616.2</i>	<i>10.9</i>
<i>Total 45 and over</i>	<i>375.6</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>567.8</i>	<i>13.5</i>	<i>732.6</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>1 078.5</i>	<i>16.1</i>
<i>Total 65 and over</i>	<i>209.2</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>334.0</i>	<i>23.5</i>	<i>452.9</i>	<i>23.9</i>	<i>604.9</i>	<i>25.5</i>

(a) Excludes all visitors.

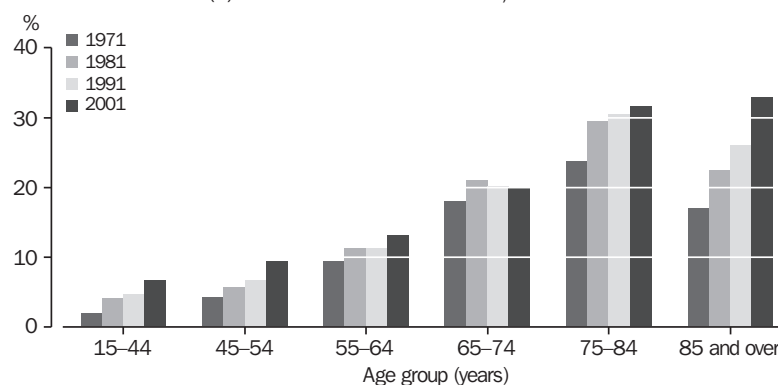
(b) All persons include persons living in private and non-private dwellings, as well as migratory and offshore.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1971-2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

The proportion of older people who were living alone increased 5.8 percentage points over the thirty year period from 1971 (19.7%) to 2001 (25.5%), consistent with the increase in proportion for all persons living alone (aged 15 years and over). The growth of lone persons aged 85 years and over far exceeded that of all other age groups, increasing 15.9 percentage points from 17.0% (11,200 persons) in 1971 to 32.9% (86,400 persons) in 2001.

This growth in the proportion of very old lone persons can be attributed to a number of factors, including the increase in life expectancy, as well as the increased emphasis by government on home based care and an associated provision of assistance programs to help people to live independently to older ages (see the next section of this Chapter, Type of housing).

3.8 LONE PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED CENSUS YEARS



(a) Excludes all visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1971-2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

TYPE OF HOUSING

Most older people are able to continue living independently in their own homes; however as they age, their need for assistance increases. While this assistance is often obtained from family, friends and/or community and government organisations, some people may need to move out of their home into some form of supported accommodation.

In 2001, 93.3% of persons aged 65 years and over lived in a private dwelling with most (71.1%) living in a separate house; 9.3% in a flat, unit or apartment; 8.0% in a semidetached, row/terrace house or townhouse; 3.3% in self-care accommodation located in a private dwelling; and the remaining 1.6% in other types of private dwellings such as caravans or improvised dwellings.

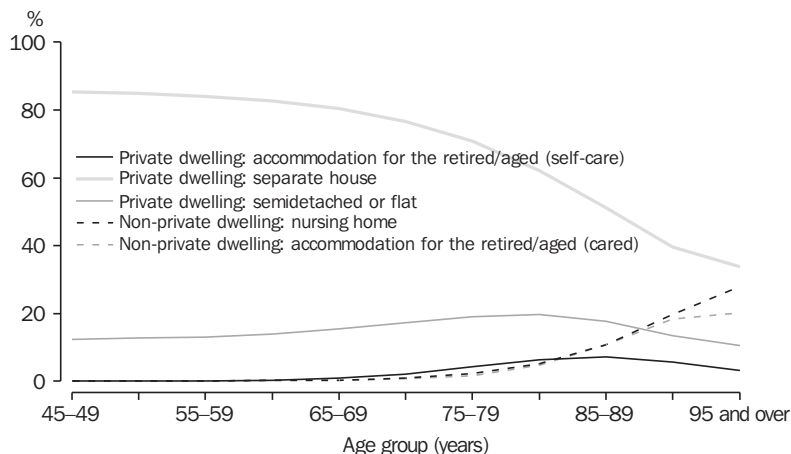
While only 1.7% of the total population lived in non-private dwellings in 2001, persons aged 65 years and over accounted for almost half (48.9%). Some 6.7% of older persons lived in non-private dwellings with 3.1% living in nursing homes; 2.8% living in cared accommodation for the retired/aged; 0.3% living in other types of cared accommodation such as hospitals; and the remaining 0.4% living in other types of non-private dwellings, including owners or staff working in non-private dwellings.

HOUSING ACROSS THE LIFE SPAN

As with family and household structure, the type of housing that people live in changes markedly with increasing age. While most people live in a separate house for most of their lives, around 80% up until the age of 65 years, this decreased rapidly to around one-third (33.7%) of those aged 95 years and over in 2001. The proportion living in a semidetached, row/terrace house, townhouse, flat, unit, or apartment increased from 16.3% of those aged 65-74 years to 19.3% of 75-84 year olds, decreasing to 10.5% of those aged 95 years and over. Residents of self-care accommodation rose from negligible levels of those aged less than 65 years to 6.8% of 85-94 year olds before decreasing again to 3.2% of those aged 95 years and over.

While only a small proportion of people were living in a non-private dwelling up until the age of 85 years, this increased to 27.8% of those aged 85–94 years and over half (51.8%) of those aged 95 years and over, with most moving into nursing homes and cared accommodation for the retired/aged reflecting the increased care needs of the very old.

3.9 SELECTED TYPES OF DWELLING, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes all visitors and persons in migratory and off-shore collection districts.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Although women were decreasingly likely to live in a separate house than men with increasing age (by the age of 95 years and over, 28.3% of women lived in a separate house compared with 49.0% of men), there were still more older women than older men residing in separate houses in 2001. Older women were more likely to live in other types of private dwellings such as a semi-detached, row/terrace house, townhouse, flat, unit or apartment (19.0% of women aged 65 years and over compared with 15.1% of men of the same age). Women were also almost twice as likely as men to reside in non-private dwellings, mostly in nursing homes and cared accommodation for the retired/aged (8.4% of older women compared with 4.4% of older men). This proportion increased markedly with age to 58.7% of women aged 95 years and over, compared with 32.0% of men aged 95 years and over. This higher proportion for women reflects their longer life expectancy and the fact that older men are more likely to be living with a spouse who can assist with caring for them. Older women are also more likely than older men to suffer from a severe or profound disability. In 1998, the profound or severe core activity restriction rate for women aged 65 years and over was 23.3% compared with 18.0% for older men, where profound or severe core activity restriction means always or sometimes requiring assistance in one or more of: self-care, mobility or communication (ABS 1999f).

Older people living on their own are more likely to live in a semidetached, row/terrace house, or townhouse (13.0%) or flat, unit or apartment (18.5%) than couple only households (6.8% and 5.8% respectively). They were also more likely to live in accommodation for the retired or aged (7.1% compared with 2.8% for couple only households).

3.10 DWELLING TYPE AND STRUCTURE, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)						Total	Total 65 years and over
	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85-94	95 and over		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES								
Private dwellings								
Accommodation for the retired (self-care)(b)	—	0.1	1.0	3.7	6.1	3.4	0.8	2.3
Separate house	84.8	83.8	80.6	73.0	58.3	49.0	81.7	76.3
Semidetached, row/terrace house, townhouse	5.4	5.6	6.4	7.6	7.0	5.7	5.9	6.9
Flat, unit, apartment	6.9	7.1	7.8	8.7	8.5	8.4	7.4	8.2
Total(c)	99.0	98.9	98.1	94.7	81.0	68.0	97.9	95.6
Non-private dwellings								
Nursing home	—	0.2	0.7	2.6	8.9	14.5	0.7	2.0
Accommodation for retired/aged (cared)	—	0.1	0.5	1.9	8.4	12.3	0.6	1.6
Hospital	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.1	0.2
Other cared accommodation(d)	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1
Total(e)	1.0	1.1	1.9	5.3	19.0	32.0	2.1	4.4
Total all dwellings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES								
Private dwellings								
Accommodation for the retired (self-care)(b)	—	0.3	2.0	5.9	7.1	3.1	1.6	4.1
Separate house	85.4	83.0	76.7	63.4	43.3	28.3	77.9	67.1
Semidetached, row/terrace house, townhouse	6.3	7.1	8.7	9.8	7.2	3.7	7.5	8.8
Flat, unit, apartment	6.4	7.3	9.4	11.6	9.8	5.6	8.1	10.2
Total(c)	99.6	99.4	98.4	91.8	68.1	41.3	96.5	91.5
Non-private dwellings								
Nursing home	—	0.1	0.7	3.8	15.3	32.7	1.6	4.0
Accommodation for retired/aged (cared)	—	0.1	0.5	3.6	14.8	22.8	1.4	3.7
Hospital	—	—	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.3	0.1	0.2
Other cared accommodation(d)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.1
Total(e)	0.4	0.6	1.6	8.2	31.9	58.7	3.5	8.5
Total all dwellings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS								
Private dwellings								
Accommodation for the retired (self-care)(b)	—	0.2	1.5	5.0	6.8	3.2	1.2	3.3
Separate house	85.1	83.4	78.5	67.4	48.0	33.6	79.7	71.1
Semidetached, row/terrace house, townhouse	5.9	6.3	7.6	8.9	7.1	4.2	6.7	8.0
Flat, unit, apartment	6.7	7.2	8.7	10.4	9.4	6.3	7.7	9.3
Total(c)	99.3	99.1	98.3	93.1	72.2	48.1	97.2	93.3
Non-private dwellings								
Nursing home	—	0.1	0.7	3.3	13.3	28.0	1.2	3.1
Accommodation for retired/aged (cared)	—	0.1	0.5	2.9	12.8	20.1	1.0	2.8
Hospital	—	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.3	0.1	0.2
Other cared accommodation(d)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1
Total(e)	0.7	0.9	1.7	6.9	27.8	51.9	2.8	6.7
Total all dwellings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes all visitors and persons in migratory and off-shore collection districts.

(b) Accommodation for the retired or aged where the occupants provide their own meals and are regarded as being self-sufficient.

(c) Includes persons living in other types of private dwellings such as caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents, sleepers out, house/flat attached to a shop, office, etc. Also includes persons who did not state the structure of the dwelling in which they were living.

(d) Includes persons living in hostels for the disabled, childcare institutions, other welfare institutions.

(e) Includes persons living in hotels/motels, boarding houses/private hotels, hostels for homeless/refuges, convents/monasteries, etc. Also includes owners, proprietors, staff and family living in non-private dwellings, and persons who did not state the type of non-private dwelling in which they were living.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

3.11 DWELLING STRUCTURE BY TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	<i>Lone males</i>	<i>Lone females</i>	<i>Total lone persons</i>	<i>In couple only households</i>	<i>In other households</i>	<i>Total</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
65 YEARS AND OVER						
Accommodation for the retired (self-care)	4.2	8.2	7.1	2.8	0.3	3.5
Separate house	62.0	58.1	59.2	83.1	83.4	76.2
Semidetached/row or terrace house/townhouse	10.3	14.1	13.0	6.8	6.4	8.5
Flat/unit/apartment	19.1	18.2	18.5	5.8	8.2	10.0
Other(b)	3.7	0.9	1.7	1.0	0.8	1.2
<i>Total(c)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
85 YEARS AND OVER						
Accommodation for the retired (self-care)	10.1	15.0	13.9	7.7	1.0	9.3
Separate house	63.8	52.3	54.9	74.7	82.9	66.7
Semidetached/row or terrace house/townhouse	9.6	12.8	12.1	8.3	6.8	9.9
Flat/unit/apartment	14.5	19.0	18.0	8.2	8.1	13.0
Other(b)	1.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6
<i>Total(c)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) Excludes all visitors.

(b) Includes persons living in other types of private dwellings such as caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents, sleepers out, house/flat attached to a shop, office, etc.

(c) Includes persons who did not state the structure of the private dwelling in which they were living.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

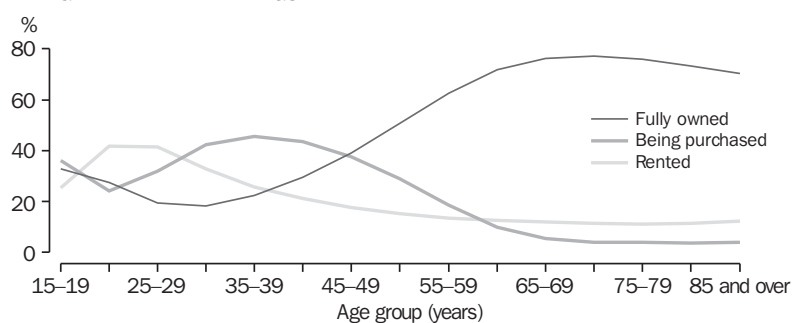
Trends in living arrangements over time are difficult to ascertain from the census due to changes in the classification of dwelling structure. In particular, dwellings in manufactured home estates and self-care units in accommodation for the retired or aged were reclassified from non-private dwellings to private dwellings for the 1996 census. Between the 1996 and 2001 censuses, the proportion of older people living in non-private dwellings decreased from 7.2% of those aged 65 years and over to 6.7%, and for those aged 85 years and over, the proportion decreased from 34.3% to 29.5%. This decrease reflects a continued trend away from institutional care towards community care as a result of a process of aged care reforms initiated by the Commonwealth Government in the mid-1980s, including the expansion of home-based care services, such as the Home and Community Care Program and Community Aged Care Packages, and hostel accommodation, and the reduction of the proportion of older people being placed in nursing home accommodation (AIHW 2002b).

More recently there has been a substantial trend toward 'ageing in place' in the Australian residential aged care system following the introduction of the *Commonwealth Aged Care Act* in 1997, which brought together hostels and nursing homes in one system. 'Ageing in place' allows low-care residents of former hostels to remain in the facility as their dependency increases, whereas under the previous system such residents were required to move to a nursing home (AIHW 2002b).

TENURE AND LANDLORD TYPE

Whether a person or family owns their own home, or is paying a mortgage or rent, has an effect on their economic wellbeing as well as their lifestyle, for example, whether they can modify their homes. The tenure of a household tends to follow a pattern related to the life cycle of the household. In general, this consists of renting during early adulthood, then moving to owning a home coinciding with forming relationships and raising children, firstly paying a mortgage then owning the home outright in older age.

3.12 SELECTED TENURE TYPE, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

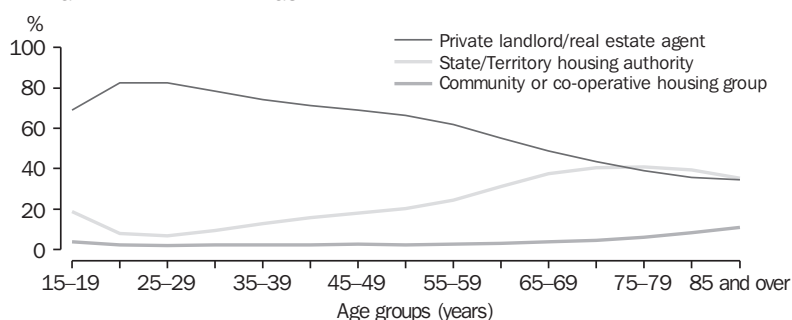


(a) Excludes all visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Home ownership was lowest amongst those aged 30–34 years in 2001, with 18.2% living in private dwellings that were fully owned by a member of the household, increasing rapidly to a high of 77.2% of those aged 70–74 years, after which it decreases again to 70.3% of those aged 85 years and over. A small proportion of older persons were living in homes where mortgage payments were still being made (4.4% of persons aged 65 years and over).

3.13 SELECTED TYPE OF LANDLORD, RENTERS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS



(a) Excludes all visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

3.14 TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD, TENURE AND LANDLORD TYPE, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	<i>Lone males</i>	<i>Lone females</i>	<i>Total lone persons</i>	<i>In couple only households</i>	<i>In other households</i>	<i>Total</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
65 YEARS AND OVER						
Owner						
Without mortgage	65.4	69.8	68.6	84.1	64.3	75.5
With mortgage	2.1	1.8	1.9	3.7	9.6	4.4
<i>Total owner</i>	67.5	71.6	70.5	87.8	73.9	79.9
Renter						
State/territory Housing Authority	9.4	9.1	9.2	2.8	4.0	4.9
Community or cooperative housing group	1.4	1.5	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.7
Private landlord/real estate agent	10.1	5.4	6.7	3.8	6.4	5.2
<i>Total renting(b)</i>	22.5	17.9	19.2	7.5	11.5	11.7
Life tenure scheme	1.8	2.9	2.6	1.2	0.3	1.4
Other tenure type(c)	2.9	2.6	2.7	1.4	1.3	1.8
<i>Total(d)</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
85 YEARS AND OVER						
Owner						
Without mortgage	69.0	67.2	67.6	78.5	65.3	70.3
With mortgage	1.2	0.8	0.9	4.1	10.8	4.0
<i>Total owner</i>	70.2	68.0	68.5	82.7	76.1	74.3
Renter						
State/territory Housing Authority	5.8	6.7	6.5	2.7	3.8	4.8
Community or cooperative housing group	2.0	2.4	2.3	0.8	0.5	1.5
Private landlord/real estate agent	5.0	4.0	4.2	3.6	6.2	4.5
<i>Total renting(b)</i>	14.9	15.8	15.6	8.0	11.2	12.4
Life tenure scheme	3.8	4.7	4.5	2.8	0.5	3.1
Other tenure type(c)	3.9	4.0	4.0	2.4	1.6	3.0
<i>Total(d)</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes all visitors.

(b) Includes persons renting from other types of landlords and those who did not state their type of landlord.

(c) Includes persons living in private dwellings being occupied rent free or other type of tenure.

(d) Includes persons who did not state their type of tenure.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

Renting is highest amongst those in their twenties, just over 40%, decreasing to 11.7% for those aged 65 years and over. Older persons who were renting in 2001 rented predominantly from private landlords or real estate agents (42.3%) and government housing authorities (39.0%), while a further 5.8% were renting through community or cooperative housing groups. This contrasts with the younger population participating in the rental market who were most likely to rent from private landlords or real estate agents (72.7% of those aged less than 65 years).

TENURE AND LANDLORD
TYPE *continued*

Older people living in couple only households were more likely to be living in dwellings that were owned outright than lone person households, with 84.1% of older persons living as a couple living in homes that were fully owned by a member of the household compared with 68.6% of older persons living on their own. The higher proportion of older lone persons living in rented homes (19.2% compared with 7.5% of couple households) coincides with the higher proportion living in semidetached, row/terrace houses, townhouses, flats, units or apartments.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS

Older people tend to live in dwellings with more bedrooms than they might need according to the number of people in the household. This could be due to a reluctance to move into a smaller dwelling due to factors such as emotional attachment to a family home and the location, preference for space to accommodate visits from family who are no longer living with them, and the difficulties associated with moving to a new home such as financial costs, physical effort, etc.

In 2001, almost half (48.4%) of persons aged 65 years and over living in a private dwelling, lived in a dwelling with three bedrooms and a further 16.3% lived in a dwelling with four or more bedrooms. Even among those aged 85 years and over, a substantial proportion lived in dwellings with three bedrooms (37.2%) and four or more bedrooms (12.1%). As expected, older people living on their own are more likely to live in a smaller dwelling than other types of households, with most lone persons aged 65 years and over living in a dwelling with two bedrooms or less (52.7%) compared with 25.2% for couple households and 14.9% for other types of households.

Older people living in purpose built self-care accommodation were much more likely to live in dwellings with a lower ratio of bedrooms to occupants compared with older people living in other types of private accommodation. Over half (56.5%) lived in dwellings with two bedrooms and a further 31.1% lived in dwellings with less than two bedrooms. As older people living in self-care accommodation age they are more likely to live in smaller dwellings, with 40.9% of the very old, aged 85 years and over, living in dwellings with less than two bedrooms.

3.15 NUMBER OF BEDROOMS BY TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	Living alone		Couple only		All other households				Total
	Self-care	Other private dwelling	Self-care	Other private dwelling	Self-care	Other private dwelling	Self-care	Other private dwelling	Total
65 YEARS AND OVER (%)									
One or no bedrooms	43.4	14.0	14.3	2.2	7.6	0.7	31.1	5.2	6.1
Two bedrooms	46.7	35.9	70.8	21.3	60.4	14.0	56.5	23.9	25.0
Three bedrooms	2.8	40.0	12.5	56.7	11.1	46.6	6.8	49.9	48.4
Four or more bedrooms	0.3	6.5	0.7	18.7	4.7	26.6	0.5	16.9	16.3
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
85 YEARS AND OVER (%)									
One or no bedrooms	48.6	14.1	20.4	3.3	9.0	0.9	40.9	7.8	10.9
Two bedrooms	39.7	41.9	68.6	29.9	50.7	18.6	46.9	32.8	34.1
Three bedrooms	1.6	34.6	6.6	48.0	4.9	44.0	2.9	40.8	37.2
Four or more bedrooms	0.3	4.3	0.9	16.3	6.8	27.3	0.6	13.3	12.1
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
TOTAL ('000)									
65 years and over	42.9	562.0	29.2	1 022.3	1.5	422.0	73.6	2 006.3	2 079.9
85 years and over	12.0	74.4	3.9	46.7	0.4	37.8	16.3	159.0	175.2

(a) Excludes all visitors.

(b) Includes those persons who did not state the number of bedrooms in their dwelling.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

CHAPTER 4

WORK AND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION

The economic environment for older people changes with their employment status, household composition and lifestyle. This Chapter examines various characteristics of the work and economic environment of older people, including their participation in the labour market and their level of income.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of the census, definitions of terms related to the labour force are given below.

LABOUR FORCE

Persons aged 15 years and over who were either employed or unemployed.

EMPLOYED

Persons aged 15 years and over who worked for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business, during the week prior to census night; had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; or were on strike or stood down temporarily.

FULL-TIME

Persons aged 15 years and over employed for 35 hours per week or more in all jobs in the week prior to the census.

PART-TIME

Persons aged 15 years and over employed for less than 35 hours per week in all jobs in the week prior to the census.

UNEMPLOYED

Persons aged 15 years and over who did not have a job but were actively looking for work and available to start work.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

Persons aged 15 years and over who were neither employed nor unemployed, including persons who were retired, pensioners and people engaged solely in home duties.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

For any group, the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population in the same group aged 15 years and over. Note that for the purposes of this publication, this calculation excludes those persons who did not state their labour force status.

Participation in the labour force is an important factor in economic growth. Labour force participation is important too at the individual level, as the financial benefits people derive from involvement in the labour force provide for their immediate consumer needs and savings towards their retirement income.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS
continued

With the ageing of the population, the proportion of mature age persons (aged 45–64 years) is projected to increase over at least the next 50 years. The corresponding structural shift in the age of the working population has implications for Government policy regarding income support (in the form of age and disability pensions), incentives to retire early, shaping attitudes to employing older people, and re-skilling of older people in order to extend the duration of their participation in the labour force.

At the time of the 2001 census, 44.8% of persons aged 45 years and over were employed compared with 25.2% aged 55 years and over and 7.6% aged 65 years and over. Of all people of traditional working age (aged 15–64 years), mature age persons (45–64 year olds) accounted for 32.9% of employed persons in this age group. People aged 45–64 years also accounted for 22.4% of the unemployed, and 41.5% of those not in the labour force (that is, not currently working or looking for work). Although older Australians can and do remain actively engaged in the labour force beyond the traditional retirement age, they account for a relatively small proportion of the total labour force.

LABOUR FORCE
PARTICIPATION RATES

Participation in the labour force generally decreases with age, with more substantial declines taking place after the age of 55 years. In 2001, 79.0% of people aged 45–54 years were participating in the labour force, that is, either employed or actively looking for work. This proportion fell to 50.6% for those aged 55–64, and 7.8% for those aged 65 years and over.

Men and women experience different labour force participation rates throughout their working lives, with lower proportions of women participating for all age groups except those aged 15–19 years in 2001. The effect of the child-bearing and child-rearing years are reflected in the drop in levels of participation during the ages from 20 to 44 years. Labour force participation for women increased following these age groups, to peak at 45–49 years of age, with participation levels declining with each successively older age group above this point.

The labour force participation rate of Australians underwent significant change in the decades leading up to 2001. In 1971, the labour force participation rate for 15–64 year olds was 65.0%. By 2001, it had grown to 72.8%, predominantly due to an increase in female participation, particularly in part-time employment. In 1971, 11.8% of those aged 65 and over, were either in paid employment or unemployed; by 2001 this had dropped to 7.8% of this age group. The participation rate for mature age persons increased over that time by 12.0 percentage points for those aged 45–54 years, and decreased slightly (1.7 percentage points) for those aged 55–64 years.

4.1 LABOUR FORCE STATUS(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

Age group (years)	In labour force					Not in labour force	Total(d)
	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Total employed(c)	Unemployed	Total		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
MALES							
15-44	57.1	15.4	75.0	7.5	82.5	17.5	4 055.4
45-49	69.6	11.9	83.6	4.9	88.5	11.5	651.8
50-54	65.2	12.4	79.6	4.7	84.3	15.7	624.2
55-59	52.3	13.7	67.7	5.0	72.6	27.4	490.1
60-64	31.3	13.4	46.0	3.5	49.6	50.4	394.6
65-69	10.5	8.6	20.0	0.5	20.5	79.5	322.9
70-74	4.3	5.1	10.2	0.2	10.4	89.6	292.6
75-79	2.3	2.9	5.9	0.2	6.1	93.9	220.0
80-84	1.8	1.9	4.3	0.2	4.5	95.5	125.3
85 and over	2.6	1.6	4.9	0.4	5.3	94.7	81.8
Total	50.1	13.2	65.3	5.7	71.0	29.0	7 258.6
FEMALES							
15-44	31.7	30.1	63.5	5.4	68.9	31.1	4 102.5
45-49	38.5	31.9	72.2	3.4	75.6	24.4	668.1
50-54	34.4	29.1	65.0	2.7	67.8	32.2	624.3
55-59	22.8	23.7	47.8	2.1	50.0	50.0	480.7
60-64	9.3	13.7	23.9	0.6	24.6	75.4	394.4
65-69	3.0	5.8	9.4	0.2	9.6	90.4	337.7
70-74	1.2	2.5	4.3	0.1	4.4	95.6	327.0
75-79	0.6	1.2	2.3	0.1	2.4	97.6	284.6
80-84	0.5	0.8	1.8	0.1	1.9	98.1	198.0
85 and over	0.5	0.7	1.6	0.2	1.8	98.2	180.8
Total	25.8	24.4	51.7	3.7	55.3	44.7	7 598.2
PERSONS							
15-44	44.3	22.8	69.2	6.5	75.7	24.3	8 157.8
45-49	53.8	22.0	77.8	4.1	81.9	18.1	1 319.8
50-54	49.8	20.8	72.3	3.7	76.0	24.0	1 248.5
55-59	37.7	18.7	57.8	3.6	61.4	38.6	970.7
60-64	20.3	13.5	35.0	2.1	37.1	62.9	789.0
65-69	6.7	7.2	14.6	0.3	15.0	85.0	660.6
70-74	2.7	3.7	7.1	0.2	7.3	92.7	619.6
75-79	1.4	1.9	3.9	0.1	4.0	96.0	504.7
80-84	1.0	1.2	2.8	0.1	2.9	97.1	323.4
85 and over	1.2	1.0	2.7	0.2	2.9	97.1	262.7
Total	37.7	18.9	58.3	4.6	63.0	37.0	14 856.8

(a) Calculations exclude those persons who did not state their labour force status.

(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

(c) Includes those persons who did not state their hours worked.

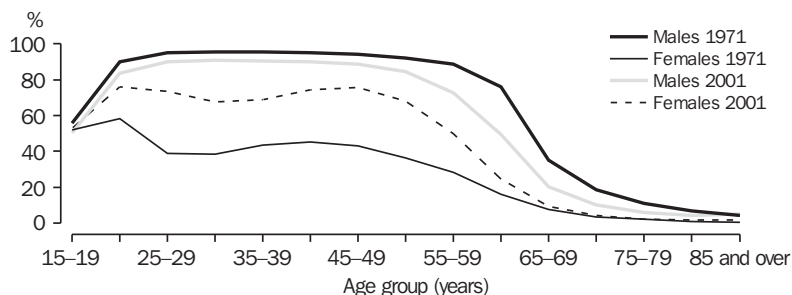
(d) Includes those persons who did not state their labour force status.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

LABOUR FORCE
PARTICIPATION RATES
continued

Over the 30 years to 2001, male participation rates have been declining, while female participation in the labour force has been increasing. While the participation rates for men decreased across all age groups between 45–84 years, the participation rates of women in those age groups rose significantly over the same period. Female participation for the age group 45–49 years rose from 43.1% in 1971 to 75.6% in 2001, with similar increases occurring in the older age groups. For women aged 55–59 years, the participation rate increased from 28.4% to 50.0% over that time.

4.2 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



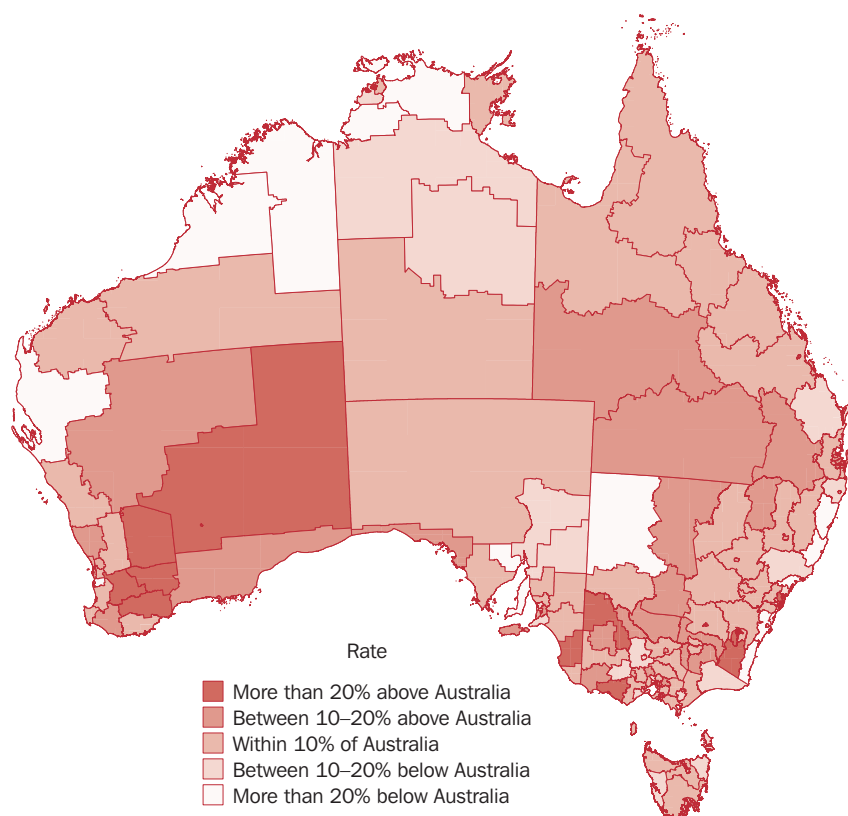
(a) Calculations exclude those persons who did not state their labour force status.
(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

REGIONAL LABOUR FORCE
PARTICIPATION

The labour force participation rate of persons aged 55–64 years varied between regions (mapped below in terms of Statistical Subdivisions, or SSDs) across Australia in 2001. Nationally, the labour force participation for this age group was 50.6%. Regions with the lowest participation rates were those located in eastern coastal areas that are commonly recognised as being attractive to retirees, such as Hervey Bay in Queensland (28.8%) and Tweed Heads in New South Wales (33.2%). Conversely, the regions with the highest labour force participation rates were in rural and regional areas, possibly attributable to the higher levels of people who were self employed (for example, farmers) in these regions. Lakes SSD in south western Western Australia had the highest labour force participation rate (77.6%), more than 10 percentage points higher than the second highest region, Central Northern Sydney SSD (NSW) which experienced a rate of 66.4%. Upper South East SSD (SA), Campion SSD (WA), Northern Beaches SSD (NSW) and South Canberra SSD (ACT) also had labour force participation rates higher than 65% for the 55–64 year age group.

4.3 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY STATISTICAL SUBDIVISIONS(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 55–64 YEARS



(a) Based on place of enumeration counts.

(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

There were significant variations in the ageing of the work force between industries. The industry with the oldest work force in 2001 was Agriculture, forestry and fishing with a median age of 45.0 years and 9.7% of persons employed in that industry aged 65 years and over. The Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry work force had the highest proportions of self-employed in the mature age and older persons age groups (45.5% and 60.2% respectively) of any industry. The Education industry also had an older work force, with a median age of 43.0 years, but only 1.3% were aged 65 years and over.

Industries with the smallest proportions of employees aged 45 years and over were Accommodation, cafes and restaurants (24.8%) and Retail trade (24.9%), as reflected in their median ages of 32.0 and 31.0 years, respectively. The Finance and insurance and the Cultural and recreational services industries also had very low levels of employees aged 45 years and over (less than 30%) with median ages of 36.0 and 35.0 years, respectively.

4.4 INDUSTRY, EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)					
	15-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total	Median age
	%	%	%	%	'000	years
MALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	51.8	21.6	16.7	9.9	230.6	44.0
Manufacturing	65.8	22.0	10.7	1.5	741.4	39.0
Construction	67.5	21.2	10.0	1.3	484.5	38.0
Wholesale trade	65.7	21.4	11.0	2.0	296.0	38.0
Retail trade	74.3	15.6	8.3	1.7	575.5	32.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	74.8	15.3	8.0	1.9	180.2	31.0
Transport and storage	56.4	27.4	14.2	2.0	264.9	42.0
Communication services	65.7	25.5	8.0	0.8	98.0	39.0
Finance and insurance	68.1	21.1	8.6	2.2	136.5	38.0
Property and business services	62.6	23.1	11.5	2.7	494.4	39.0
Government administration and defence	61.4	26.9	10.3	1.4	203.8	41.0
Education	49.6	33.7	14.6	2.0	186.5	45.0
Health and community services	56.3	26.6	13.5	3.6	173.5	42.0
Cultural and recreational services	71.5	17.5	8.6	2.4	105.5	35.0
Personal and other services	62.9	23.9	10.9	2.3	158.7	40.0
Total(b)	64.5	22.2	10.9	2.4	4 546.8	39.0
FEMALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	45.5	25.6	19.4	9.5	100.2	46.0
Manufacturing	64.7	25.5	8.6	1.2	268.8	40.0
Construction	64.5	24.5	9.8	1.3	74.1	40.0
Wholesale trade	68.1	22.6	8.0	1.3	141.1	38.0
Retail trade	75.7	17.2	6.2	0.9	635.9	31.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	75.4	17.4	6.3	0.9	230.4	32.0
Transport and storage	71.3	19.9	7.6	1.1	91.0	36.0
Communication services	72.3	21.2	6.0	0.5	50.5	36.0
Finance and insurance	76.7	18.1	4.5	0.7	175.9	34.0
Property and business services	70.0	21.0	7.8	1.3	426.0	37.0
Government administration and defence	66.7	24.8	7.6	0.8	166.0	39.0
Education	56.8	32.4	9.9	0.9	408.9	43.0
Health and community services	60.2	28.3	10.4	1.1	632.7	41.0
Cultural and recreational services	74.0	17.5	7.1	1.4	97.0	34.0
Personal and other services	73.0	18.8	7.1	1.1	141.9	35.0
Total(b)	67.2	23.0	8.3	1.4	3 751.8	38.0
PERSONS						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	49.9	22.8	17.6	9.7	330.8	45.0
Manufacturing	65.5	23.0	10.1	1.4	1 010.2	39.0
Construction	67.1	21.6	10.0	1.3	558.6	38.0
Wholesale trade	66.5	21.8	10.0	1.7	437.1	38.0
Retail trade	75.1	16.5	7.2	1.3	1 211.3	31.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	75.2	16.5	7.0	1.3	410.6	32.0
Transport and storage	60.2	25.5	12.5	1.8	355.9	41.0
Communication services	67.9	24.1	7.3	0.7	148.5	38.0
Finance and insurance	72.9	19.4	6.3	1.4	312.4	36.0
Property and business services	66.0	22.2	9.8	2.0	920.3	38.0
Government administration and defence	63.8	26.0	9.1	1.2	369.9	40.0
Education	54.6	32.8	11.4	1.3	595.4	43.0
Health and community services	59.4	27.9	11.0	1.6	806.2	42.0
Cultural and recreational services	72.7	17.5	7.9	1.9	202.5	35.0
Personal and other services	67.7	21.5	9.1	1.7	300.7	38.0
Total(b)	65.7	22.5	9.8	2.0	8 298.6	38.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes persons employed in the Mining and Electricity, gas and water supply industries. Also includes employed persons who did not state their Industry of employment and those employed in 'non-classifiable economic units'.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

Managers and administrators had the highest median age of any major occupation group in the 2001 census (44.0 years) and the highest median age for both males (45.0 years) and females (43.0 years). The proportion of men employed in those occupations varied from 15.7% of 45–49 year old employed men to 36.1% of employed men aged 75–79 years. There was a similar increase for women employed as Managers and administrators, with 6.5% of women aged 45–49 years working in these occupations compared with 22.5% of women aged 75–79 years. This is partly due to the increased propensity for people working in management and professional occupations to remain in the labour force longer relative to people employed in occupations undertaking clerical or manual duties, and also reflects the level of skill and experience required to attain their positions.

4.5 OCCUPATION, EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)				Total '000	Median age years
	15–44	45–54	55–64	65 and over		
	%	%	%	%		
MALES						
Managers and administrators	49.9	29.4	15.2	5.5	550.7	45.0
Professionals	61.1	25.2	11.1	2.6	718.6	40.0
Associate professionals	62.0	24.7	11.2	2.1	546.2	40.0
Tradespersons and related workers	71.3	18.8	8.7	1.2	906.7	36.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	60.8	22.9	12.5	3.8	35.2	40.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	68.1	20.6	9.8	1.6	390.0	37.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	63.8	23.0	11.8	1.4	578.3	39.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	74.2	14.4	9.1	2.3	271.1	30.0
Labourers and related workers	70.5	17.6	10.1	1.8	453.1	35.0
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>64.5</i>	<i>22.2</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>4 546.8</i>	<i>39.0</i>
FEMALES						
Managers and administrators	54.3	27.4	13.4	4.9	214.2	43.0
Professionals	66.3	24.9	7.8	1.0	795.5	39.0
Associate professionals	66.2	24.5	8.2	1.1	429.5	39.0
Tradespersons and related workers	71.8	19.6	7.4	1.2	112.2	35.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	62.4	25.1	10.7	1.8	274.8	40.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	70.0	21.8	7.3	0.8	976.7	37.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	63.9	26.6	8.5	0.9	92.6	40.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	76.7	16.1	6.3	0.9	521.3	29.0
Labourers and related workers	60.0	27.9	10.7	1.4	264.3	41.0
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>67.2</i>	<i>23.0</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>3 751.8</i>	<i>38.0</i>
PERSONS						
Managers and administrators	51.2	28.8	14.7	5.3	764.8	44.0
Professionals	63.9	25.1	9.3	1.7	1 514.1	40.0
Associate professionals	63.8	24.6	9.9	1.7	975.7	40.0
Tradespersons and related workers	71.4	18.9	8.5	1.2	1 018.9	36.0
Advanced clerical and service workers	62.2	24.8	10.9	2.0	310.0	40.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	69.5	21.4	8.0	1.0	1 366.7	37.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	63.8	23.5	11.3	1.3	670.8	39.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	75.8	15.5	7.2	1.4	792.4	29.0
Labourers and related workers	66.6	21.4	10.3	1.7	717.5	38.0
Total(b)	65.7	22.5	9.8	2.0	8 298.6	38.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes employed persons who did not state their occupation.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS In 2001, the older overseas-born population (65 years and over) had a lower proportion of employed persons than the older Australian-born population (6.1% compared with 7.7%) and a higher level of persons not in the labour force (88.3% compared with 86.3%).

4.6 COUNTRY OF BIRTH BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS, INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	<i>Persons born overseas</i>	<i>Persons born in Australia</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
	%	%	%
LABOUR FORCE STATUS			
Employed full-time	2.6	3.2	2.9
Employed part-time	3.0	3.8	3.4
Total employed(c)	6.1	7.7	6.9
Unemployed	0.3	0.2	0.2
Total labour force	6.4	7.9	7.1
Not in labour force	88.3	86.3	83.8
<i>Total(d)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
INDUSTRY			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.9	24.4	19.7
Mining	0.4	0.3	0.3
Manufacturing	12.5	7.3	8.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.2	0.2	0.2
Construction	6.2	3.9	4.6
Wholesale trade	5.3	4.5	4.7
Retail Trade	10.0	9.0	9.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	4.5	3.0	3.4
Transport and storage	3.8	3.8	3.8
Communication services	0.7	0.6	0.6
Finance and insurance	2.5	2.7	2.6
Property and business services	13.3	11.0	11.5
Government administration and defence	2.7	2.6	2.6
Education	4.9	4.6	4.6
Health and community services	10.3	7.4	8.1
Cultural and recreational services	2.0	2.6	2.4
Personal and other services	3.4	3.1	3.2
<i>Total(e)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
OCCUPATION			
Managers and administrators	15.1	28.9	24.9
Professionals	19.0	15.2	16.1
Associate professionals	11.2	9.5	9.9
Tradespersons and related workers	10.3	6.4	7.5
Advanced clerical and service workers	3.2	4.1	3.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	8.9	8.8	8.8
Intermediate production and transport workers	6.1	5.2	5.5
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	7.4	6.5	6.8
Labourers and related workers	9.4	6.6	7.4
<i>Total(f)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes those persons who did not state their country of birth.

(c) Includes employed persons who did not state the number of hours worked in the week prior to the census.

(d) Includes persons for whom labour force status was not stated.

(e) Includes employed persons who did not state their industry of employment.

(f) Includes employed persons who did not state their occupation.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS
continued

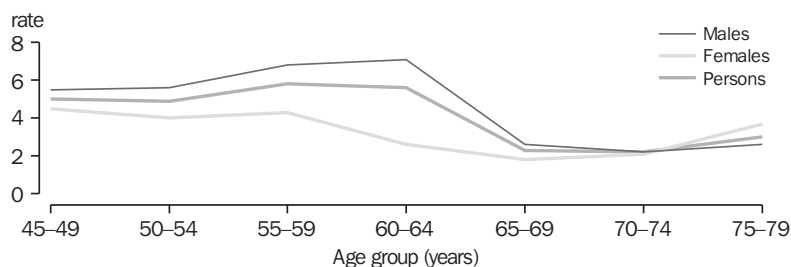
For Australian residents born in Australia, 24.4% of employed persons aged 65 years and older were working in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, compared with 7.9% of older persons born overseas. At the same time, employed, overseas-born people of 65 years and over were more highly represented in the Manufacturing, Construction and Health and community services industries than Australian-born people of the same age. The proportions of overseas and Australian-born people employed in other industries were similar.

There was a lower proportion of older persons born overseas that were employed as Managers and administrators (15.1%) compared with that for the population born in Australia (28.9%). For both Professionals and Tradespersons and related workers there were slightly higher proportions of older persons born overseas employed in these occupations, over 3 percentage points for each group. However, in general the proportions of persons born overseas in each occupation group at each age group, were similar to those for the Australian-born population.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The rate of unemployment varied across age groups in 2001, with gender differences also evident. The consistently lower unemployment rates for females across all but the oldest age groups may be due to women being more likely to exit the labour force than to remain unemployed. Unemployment increased throughout the age 45–64 years, peaking for males at age 60–64 years and for females at age 55–59 years. The decline in unemployment for men and women respectively after these ages may partially be due to eligibility for age pension payments.

4.7 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Note: The trend for increased unemployment in the older age groups is likely to reflect the very small numbers of people still active in the labour force at those ages, and should therefore be treated with caution.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

COHORT ANALYSIS

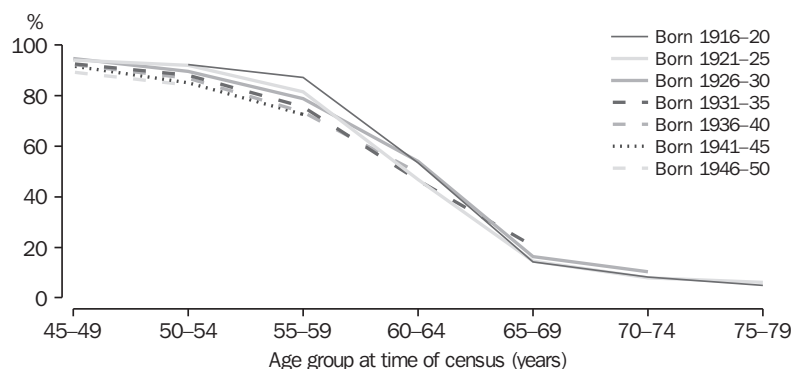
The census provides a snapshot of what is happening in Australia at a particular point in time. While it is possible to draw conclusions about changes over time by comparing people in the same age group across censuses, this does not reveal how the circumstances of people are changing as they move through the life cycle and therefore can be misleading when there are generational effects operating. For example, it cannot be assumed that the circumstances and experience of future generations will be similar to those of current generations.

Cohort analysis can be used for studying a generation's differential experience of change. This section uses a cohort analysis to examine labour force participation of successive generations of Australians. Changes in these characteristics are examined for a series of five-year age groups (or cohorts) over a 30 year period from 1971 to 2001. Cohort comparisons contribute to the understanding of changes in labour force participation over time, providing information on what is happening to different age groups at a point in time and how the circumstances of different age groups are changing over time. Comparing the level and nature of labour force participation for each cohort to the levels experienced by other cohorts at the same ages, shows how the experience of the labour force has changed for each cohort. The most recent or youngest cohort, those born in 1946–50, entered the mature age category (45–64 years) by 1996, and in 2001 were aged 50–54 years. The oldest cohort, those born in 1916–20, were aged 50–54 years in 1971, and 80–84 years in 2001.

As outlined earlier, men and women have different experiences in the labour force throughout their working lives. These differences can be influenced by changes in the social, economic and political systems, which can have direct impacts on the structure and nature of the Australian labour market.

Between 1971 and 2001, the overall level of men's labour force participation declined from 80.6% to 71.0%. When comparing successive cohorts, this overall decline reflects decreases in the labour force participation of men across all stages of their working lives. The largest declines were evident in the latter half of the mature age person age groups. For example, in 1971, over three quarters of the cohort of men born in 1906–10 were participating in the labour force at age 60–64 years, compared with less than half of the cohort aged 60–64 years in 2001 (those born in 1936–40). These declines may reflect the trend towards the choice for earlier retirement by men possibly associated with older persons leaving the work force rather than being unemployed.

4.8 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES(a), MALES(b) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED BIRTH YEAR COHORTS—1971-2001



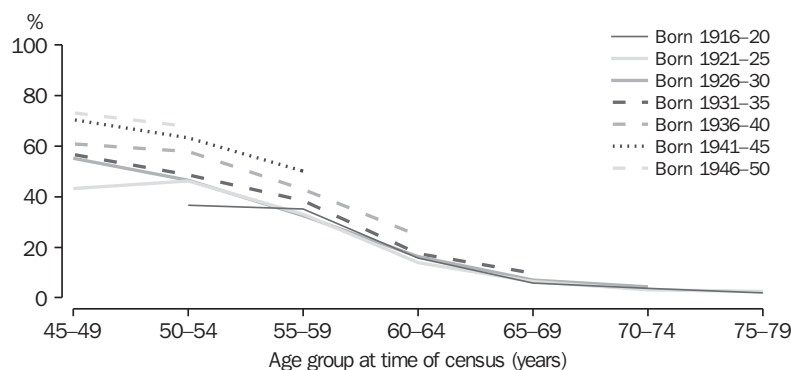
(a) Rates exclude those persons who did not state their labour force status.
(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1971-2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

In contrast to the decline in men's labour force participation, the participation rate for women increased from 37.1% to 55.3% between 1971 and 2001. In addition to general acceptance of women in the work force, greater opportunities emerged for women to participate in paid work while raising children, as employers offered more flexible working arrangements (notably flexible hours and part-time work).

When comparing successive cohorts of women at the same age, participation in the labour force increased for all age groups. The most substantial increases in labour force participation for successive cohorts of mature age women occurred in the age groups 45-49 and 50-54 years, increasing by 32.5 and 31.3 percentage points respectively over the 30 years to 2001.

4.9 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES(a), FEMALES(b) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER IN SELECTED BIRTH YEAR COHORTS — 1971-2001



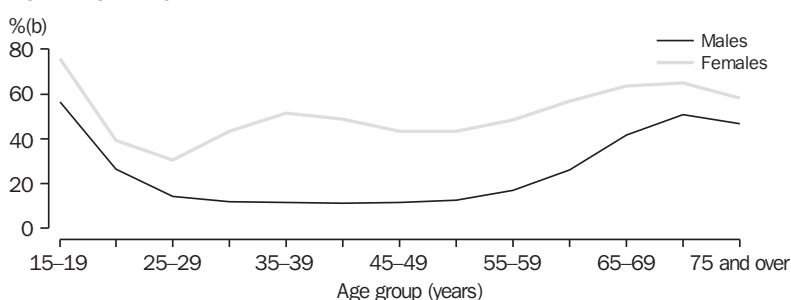
(a) Rates exclude those persons who did not state their labour force status.
(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 1971-2001 Censuses of Population and Housing.

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS

In 2001, 5.4 million people (69.3% of employed persons) were recorded as being employed on a full-time basis (persons actually working 35 hours or more in the previous week). This was more than double the number of people working part-time (2.4 million persons). Those aged 45 years and over showed a similar pattern, with 1.9 million people (70.8%) employed full-time, compared with 770,200 people in part-time employment. However, for those aged 65 years and over, the numbers of persons employed full-time and part-time had converged to similar levels, with 68,400 employed full-time compared with 69,800 people employed part-time.

4.10 PROPORTION WORKING PART-TIME, EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Calculations exclude those persons who did not state the number of hours worked, or did not work any hours in the week prior to the census.

Note: Due to the small numbers of persons in employment in the very old age groups, caution should be used when using or analysing the proportionate trends.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The proportion of persons employed part-time, as opposed to full-time, increases to a high point for those persons still in employment when aged between 70–74 years, before declining slightly in the oldest age groups. Those who do remain in the labour force at older ages tend to be self-employed, including those working in such industries as Agriculture, forestry and fishing.

In 1971, the proportions of males and females working part-time were 4.6% and 24.7% respectively. By 2001, the proportions had risen to 17.7% of employed men (nearly a fourfold increase) and 46.3% of employed women (almost double that of 30 years earlier). The number of persons working part-time has been increasing over time due to both changes in the types of jobs available within the labour market and individuals exercising their preference to work less hours for personal reasons. The increase in part-time jobs available has been influenced by the continued growth of service industries, such as finance and tourism which are typically large employers of part-time workers.

Women showed a higher propensity than men to be employed on a part-time, rather than full-time basis, across all age groups. This is partly due to some women choosing to combine work with child-bearing and child-rearing responsibilities and/or other personal and lifestyle choices. The influence of child-bearing and child-rearing is reflected in the increasing proportion over time of women working part-time between 25–39 years of age.

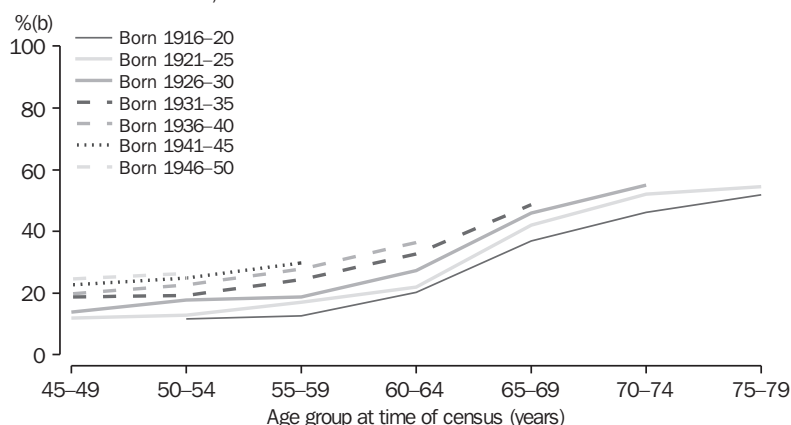
FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS *continued*

There has been a gradually increasing proportion of both employed men and women working part-time from age 50 years over the period from 1971 to 2001. Half (50.5%) of those aged 65 years and over who continued to work in 2001 did so on a part-time basis, compared with under one-third (29.3%) of persons in 1971.

COHORT ANALYSIS OF FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS

For progressively younger cohorts of employed persons, there has been an increase in the proportion working part-time across all age groups, reflecting the increase in the availability of part-time employment within the Australian labour market. The increase is influenced by the increase in participation of women in the labour force, and the higher propensity for women to be working part-time. This has occurred at the same time as the availability of part-time positions of employment has increased with the growth of the service sector. The largest shifts from full-time to part-time work were evident for successive cohorts aged 60–64 and 65–69 years. For both cohorts, the proportion of employed persons working part-time increased by 24 percentage points between 1971 and 2001 — from 12.4% to 36.4% for those aged 60–64 years and from 24.8% to 48.7% for those aged 65–69 years.

4.11 PROPORTION WORKING PART-TIME, EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER, SELECTED BIRTH YEAR COHORTS—1971-2001



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Calculations exclude those persons who did not state the number of hours worked, or did not work any hours in the week prior to the census.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

In 1971, more than nine in ten of employed men aged 60-64 years were working full-time, compared with less than three quarters of those aged 60-64 years in 2001 (those born between 1936-1940). Between 1971 and 2001, the proportion of employed 60-64 year olds working part-time increased by 18.9 percentage points for males (from 7.3% to 26.2%) and by 20.1 percentage points for females (from 36.6% to 56.7%).

4.12 HOURS WORKED(a), EMPLOYED PERSONS(b) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)								Total
	15-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75 and over	
Hours worked	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
0	100.0	17.3	18.3	13.9	8.6	3.2	1.6	1.5	164.4
1-15	208.2	14.9	15.3	15.5	14.8	9.9	5.8	3.6	288.0
16-29	179.7	23.1	23.1	21.2	17.5	8.8	4.2	2.5	280.3
30-34	114.0	19.3	18.4	14.6	9.9	4.2	2.2	1.3	183.8
35-39	464.4	79.3	72.5	47.6	24.8	5.9	1.8	1.3	697.6
40	627.3	108.6	98.0	63.3	31.7	8.3	2.9	2.3	942.5
41-44	138.6	22.9	20.4	12.5	6.0	1.4	0.5	0.4	202.6
45-48	287.6	56.4	48.6	29.0	12.9	3.3	1.2	0.9	439.9
49 and over	717.2	170.9	155.7	95.6	43.5	13.3	5.4	3.7	1 205.3
Total(c)	2 932.9	526.5	481.9	321.3	175.0	61.1	27.8	20.2	4 546.8
Median (hours)(d)	40.0	42.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	38.0	32.0	36.0	40.0
Mean (hours)(d)	41.3	44.8	44.6	43.1	40.1	35.6	32.9	34.0	42.0
FEMALES									
0	103.6	17.4	17.9	11.8	5.7	2.0	1.0	1.1	160.5
1-15	442.9	50.0	44.2	32.4	19.1	8.4	3.6	2.2	602.8
16-29	460.2	92.2	75.3	44.5	18.9	5.8	2.0	1.5	700.5
30-34	189.6	47.3	39.4	21.6	7.9	2.2	0.9	0.6	309.5
35-39	426.1	81.4	67.9	34.9	11.4	2.5	0.8	0.7	625.7
40	397.8	74.3	60.8	30.4	9.9	2.6	1.0	0.9	577.6
41-44	84.6	13.5	11.5	5.5	1.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	117.5
45-48	132.5	24.9	19.8	9.4	2.8	0.7	0.3	0.3	190.7
49 and over	216.5	55.5	48.5	25.8	9.4	3.2	1.3	1.0	361.2
Total(c)	2 522.6	467.6	394.7	222.5	90.4	29.8	12.8	11.4	3 751.8
Median (hours)(d)	36.0	37.0	37.0	35.0	30.0	24.0	24.0	28.0	36.0
Mean (hours)(d)	31.5	34.1	34.2	32.7	29.8	27.3	26.8	29.0	32.1
PERSONS									
0	203.6	34.7	36.2	25.7	14.2	5.2	2.6	2.6	324.8
1-15	651.1	64.9	59.4	47.9	33.9	18.3	9.4	5.8	890.8
16-29	639.9	115.4	98.4	65.7	36.4	14.7	6.2	4.0	980.7
30-34	303.6	66.6	57.8	36.2	17.8	6.4	3.1	1.9	493.3
35-39	890.6	160.7	140.4	82.5	36.2	8.4	2.6	2.0	1 323.3
40	1 025.1	182.9	158.8	93.7	41.6	10.9	3.9	3.2	1 520.1
41-44	223.1	36.4	31.9	18.1	7.6	1.7	0.7	0.5	320.1
45-48	420.0	81.3	68.5	38.4	15.7	4.0	1.5	1.2	630.6
49 and over	933.7	226.4	204.2	121.5	52.9	16.4	6.8	4.7	1 566.5
Total(c)	5 455.6	994.1	876.6	543.7	265.4	90.9	40.6	31.6	8 298.6
Median (hours)(d)	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	38.0	35.0	30.0	33.0	40.0
Mean (hours)(d)	36.7	39.8	39.9	38.9	36.6	33.0	31.1	32.4	37.5

(a) Number of hours worked in the week prior to the census.

(b) Excludes overseas visitors.

(c) Includes those persons who did not state the number of hours worked.

(d) Excludes those persons who did not state the number of hours worked, or did not work any hours in the week prior to the census.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED

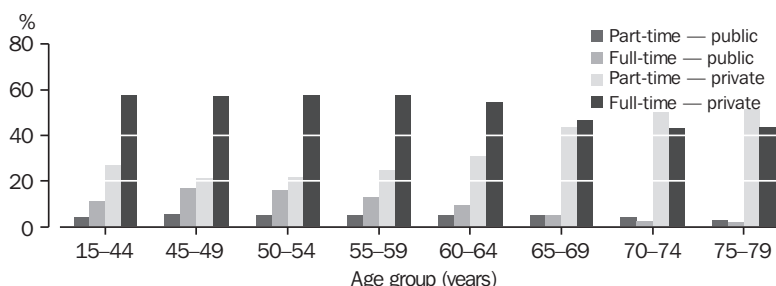
Employed persons aged 15 years and over worked an average of 37.5 hours in the week prior to the 2001 census, with men working an average of 42.0 hours, 10.1 hours longer than for women. Average hours worked by men decreased from 44.8 hours for those aged 45–49 years to 32.9 hours for those aged 70–74 years. For women, average hours was just over 34 hours for those aged 45–49 and 50–54 years, decreasing to 26.8 hours for those aged 70–74 years.

Approximately one in three employed men aged 45–59 years worked for 49 hours or more in the week prior to the 2001 census. The proportion of employed men working 49 hours or more declined progressively with older age groups, with approximately one in four employed 60–69 year olds and one in five employed men aged 70 years and older working those hours in the week leading up to the census. Approximately one in ten employed women reported working 49 hours or more in the week prior to the census, with the proportions similar across all age groups. The largest difference across age groups for women was for those working 1–15 hours per week, with the proportion increasing from around one in ten for those aged 45–60 years, to one in three or four for older age groups.

HOURS WORKED BY SECTOR

More than half of all employed persons work on a full-time basis within the private sector; however, the proportions of people working in either the private or public sector, on a full-time or part-time basis varies between age groups. While the proportion of people working in the public sector declined with progressively older age groups, the proportion employed full-time decreased at a greater rate than for part-time. There was a marked increase in the proportion of persons employed part-time within private industry from the age group 45–49 years upwards, with the increase more marked between 55–59 and 70–74 years. Persons employed part-time within the private industry accounted for the largest proportion of the employed labour force for all age groups above those aged 65–69 years.

4.13 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS(a) BY SECTOR(b), EMPLOYED PERSONS(c) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes those persons who did not work any hours in the week prior to the census or did not state the hours worked.

(b) Excludes those persons who did not state the sector.

(c) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

4.14 HOURS WORKED AND FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS(a) BY SECTOR(b), EMPLOYED PERSONS(c) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

Age group (years)	Public sector				Private sector			
	Mean hours worked	Median hours worked	Full-time	Part-time	Mean hours worked	Median hours worked	Full-time	Part-time
	hours	hours	'000	'000	hours	hours	'000	'000
MALES								
15-44	40.7	40.0	294.8	46.3	41.4	40.0	1 906.4	443.6
45-49	42.0	40.0	84.6	8.4	45.5	44.0	349.2	47.9
50-54	41.8	40.0	73.7	7.7	45.2	43.0	317.8	48.2
55-59	40.2	40.0	38.2	6.4	43.7	40.0	207.6	44.1
60-64	36.9	38.0	14.2	4.7	40.5	40.0	103.5	36.9
65-69	31.1	36.0	2.6	2.1	36.1	38.0	29.3	20.5
70-74	25.6	24.0	0.5	0.9	33.5	35.0	11.2	11.0
75-79	24.8	20.0	0.1	0.2	32.9	32.0	4.5	4.5
80-84	34.3	40.0	0.1	0.1	34.3	36.0	1.8	1.6
85 and over	39.3	40.0	0.2	—	39.4	40.0	1.6	0.8
Total	40.8	40.0	509.0	76.8	42.2	40.0	2 932.9	659.1
FEMALES								
15-44	34.0	38.0	264.3	160.1	31.0	35.0	975.9	914.4
45-49	35.4	38.0	70.9	40.8	33.8	36.0	175.6	145.7
50-54	35.6	38.0	56.6	30.5	33.8	36.0	149.5	125.8
55-59	34.0	37.0	26.0	17.6	32.4	34.0	78.7	79.4
60-64	30.9	35.0	7.5	7.5	29.6	30.0	27.1	37.6
65-69	26.6	28.0	1.3	2.0	27.4	24.0	7.9	14.0
70-74	24.3	22.0	0.3	0.5	27.0	24.0	3.2	5.8
75-79	27.2	30.0	0.1	0.1	27.1	24.0	1.3	2.2
80-84	34.4	37.0	0.1	0.1	29.7	30.0	0.7	0.9
85 and over	32.8	37.0	0.2	0.1	32.1	32.0	0.6	0.7
Total	34.3	38.0	427.3	259.3	31.6	35.0	1 420.5	1 326.5
PERSONS								
15-44	37.0	38.0	559.1	206.4	36.8	40.0	2 882.3	1 358.1
45-49	38.4	40.0	155.5	49.2	40.3	40.0	524.8	193.6
50-54	38.6	40.0	130.3	38.2	40.3	40.0	467.3	174.0
55-59	37.1	38.0	64.2	24.0	39.3	40.0	286.4	123.4
60-64	34.2	38.0	21.7	12.2	37.1	40.0	130.6	74.5
65-69	29.2	32.0	3.8	4.1	33.5	35.0	37.1	34.5
70-74	25.1	24.0	0.8	1.4	31.6	30.0	14.3	16.8
75-79	25.7	24.0	0.2	0.4	31.3	30.0	5.7	6.8
80-84	34.3	38.0	0.2	0.1	32.8	35.0	2.5	2.5
85 and over	35.8	38.0	0.3	0.2	36.8	38.0	2.2	1.5
Total	37.3	38.0	936.1	336.2	37.6	40.0	4 353.2	1 985.7

(a) Excludes those persons who did not work any hours in the week prior to the census or did not state the hours worked.

(b) Excludes those persons who did not state the sector.

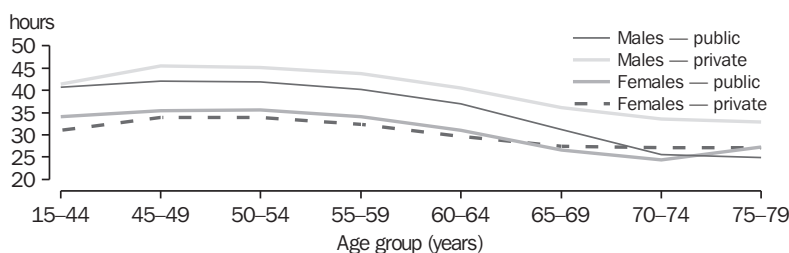
(c) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

HOURS WORKED BY SECTOR *continued*

The average number of hours worked in both the public and private sectors declined for age groups after 50–54 years. Males employed in the private sector, on average, worked longer hours than those in the public sector, with the difference peaking at 8.1 hours for the 75–79 year old age group. Conversely, consistent with a higher ratio of full-time to part-time female employees in the public sector, public sector female employees reported longer hours on average than the private sector, with the exception of the 65–69 and 70–74 year age groups.

4.15 MEAN HOURS WORKED(a), BY SECTOR(b), EMPLOYED PERSONS(c)
AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes those persons who did not work any hours in the week prior to the census or did not state the hours worked.

(b) Excludes those persons who did not state the sector.

(c) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

INCOME

INCOME

Income refers to the gross income (including pensions and allowances) that the person usually receives each week.

Inclusions: family allowance, parenting payment, unemployment benefits, rental assistance, pensions, student allowance, maintenance (child support), worker's compensation, superannuation, wages, salary, overtime, commissions and bonuses, interest received, dividends, rents received (less expenses of operation), business or farm income (less expenses of operation).

A significant number of people (7.6% of persons aged 15 years and over) did not answer this question in the 2001 census. While it is possible to use the reported data to gain an indication of levels of income, data presented in this section exclude persons who did not state their income.

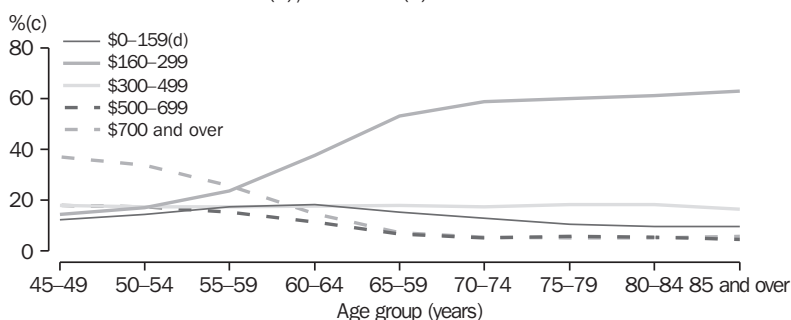
Note that disposable income, that is, gross income less the value of income tax to be paid on the gross income, would be a better indicator of resources available to a person to maintain their standard of living. However, only gross income is available via the census.

As a result of decreases in participation in the labour force by the older age groups and increases in life expectancy, people are likely to spend longer in retirement and as a consequence are likely to require more income to cover their retirement than previous generations. Most people aged 65 years and over who are not in the labour force are dependent on government income support payments (78% in 1999–2000), such as the age or service pension, while smaller proportions are reliant on superannuation (8%) and income from property investments (12%) (ABS 2002a).

The average gross weekly income of those who reported a positive income in the 2001 census, decreased from a high of \$662 for those aged 45–49 years to a low of \$302 for those aged 70–74 years, after which it increased slightly remaining relatively constant around \$310 per week. As shown in the following graph, the proportion of persons who reported a usual gross weekly income of \$160–299 per week, the second lowest income range, increased markedly between the ages of 50–54 years (17.0% of persons in this age group) and 70–74 years (58.9%), after which it remained relatively constant around 60% of persons. Conversely, 37.0% of persons aged 45–49 years were in the highest income range (\$700 and over), declining steadily with each successively older age group, to account for around 5% of persons aged 70 years and over.

The significant shifts in levels of weekly income across these age groups reflect people switching from full-time work to part-time work or exiting the work force altogether, with a corresponding increase in dependence on government income support payments.

4.16 INDIVIDUAL INCOME(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Usual gross weekly income. Includes pensions and allowances.

(b) Persons living in a private dwelling only. Excludes all visitors.

(c) Calculations exclude those persons who did not state their income.

(d) Includes negative income.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

While income is usually received by individuals, it is normally shared between partners in a couple relationship and with dependent children. To a lesser extent, it may be shared with independent children, other relatives and possibly other people living in the same household. Even when there is no transfer of income between members of a household, members are still likely to benefit from the economies of scale that arise from the sharing of dwellings.

The following table shows family type and relationship by individual income for persons aged 65 years and over in 2001. Just over half (50.4%) of older persons lived in a couple family without children and earned an average gross weekly income of \$309, while those living in a couple family with children (9.5% of older persons) reported earning a lower average of \$295 per week. Older persons living alone (29.1% of older persons) earned a higher average weekly income — \$357 for males and \$314 for females.

4.17 INDIVIDUAL INCOME(a) BY FAMILY TYPE(b) AND RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD, PERSONS(c) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

	\$0– \$159(d)	\$160– \$299	\$300– \$499	\$500– \$699	\$700 and over	Total(e)	Positive income mean(f)
	%	%	%	%		'000	\$
Couple family with children							
Husband, wife or partner	21.0	50.1	15.6	6.2	7.2	160.9	305
Other(g)	23.5	64.0	9.1	1.9	1.5	37.0	245
Total	21.5	52.6	14.4	5.4	6.1	197.9	295
Couple family without children							
Husband, wife or partner	15.6	53.0	18.5	6.4	6.5	1 027.7	310
Other related individual	14.7	70.2	11.3	2.1	1.7	19.8	255
Total	15.6	53.3	18.3	6.3	6.4	1 047.4	309
Member of one parent family	8.3	70.4	14.2	3.7	3.4	114.4	288
Member of other family	7.4	66.6	17.1	4.6	4.3	28.5	307
Unrelated individual living in family household	16.9	62.9	12.8	4.0	3.5	6.4	283
Non-family household							
Male lone persons	5.6	58.4	21.0	6.9	8.1	168	357
Female lone persons	4.8	67.8	17.9	4.8	4.6	436.9	314
Group household member	6.4	68.3	16.0	4.7	4.6	33.6	310
Total(h)	12.5	58.1	17.8	5.7	5.9	2 079.9	311

(a) Usual gross weekly income. Includes pensions and allowances.

(b) For definitions of family types, refer to the Glossary.

(c) Excludes all visitors.

(d) Includes negative income.

(e) Includes those persons who did not state their income.

(f) Excludes negative income.

(g) Includes 'non-dependent child' and 'other related individual'.

(h) Includes persons living in 'not classifiable' households.

NOTE: Calculations of percentages exclude those persons who did not state their income.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

CHAPTER 5

TRANSPORT

INTRODUCTION

The challenge of delivering effective public transport services and road systems for the future will need to take into account the changing age structure of the population, as well as changes in living arrangements, changing health and mobility, and levels of car ownership and usage. For older people, accessible and affordable public, private and community based transport can assist in maintaining mobility and independence, and reducing isolation by providing a link between them and the wider supportive environment. This chapter examines two transport related variables as collected in the census — the number of motor vehicles, which can be used as an indicator to identify potential mobility and ability to access services, and the method of travel to work by employed persons.

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES

For the purposes of this publication, the number of motor vehicles refers to the number of registered motor vehicles owned or used by household members, garaged, parked at or near occupied private dwellings on census night. It includes company owned vehicles, garaged, parked at or near occupied private dwellings on census night. It excludes motorbikes, scooters and tractors.

The number of motor vehicles garaged, parked at or near occupied private dwellings on the night of the 2001 census, decreased with age, with one in ten people in the 65–74 year age group reporting no vehicle, increasing to almost four in ten people aged 85 years and over. Overall, 17.1% of older persons (65 years and over) reported no vehicles, compared with 4.5% of persons aged 45–64 years. Almost half of the older population (48.7%) reported the presence of a single motor vehicle.

The pattern of number of motor vehicles varied according to the type of household. People who were living on their own were considerably less likely to have a motor vehicle than people of the same age group living in other household types. Higher proportions of older people living in couple only and other households containing two or more people had access to a single vehicle than was the case for the mature aged population (57.2% and 30.0% for older persons compared with 31.8% and 18.8% respectively for people aged 45–64 years). The presence of two or more vehicles was much less prevalent amongst people aged 65 years and over (reported by 26.8% of older people) than for the 45–64 year age group (62.2%).

5.1 NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES BY TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD, PERSONS(a) AGED 45 YEARS AND OVER LIVING IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS

Age group (years) and number of motor vehicles	'000				%			
	Lone person	Couple only	Other household	Total	Lone person	Couple only	Other household	Total
45-54								
None	40.0	12.2	43.5	95.8	16.6	2.0	2.7	3.9
One	160.4	159.2	299.7	619.3	66.3	26.5	18.7	25.3
Two	21.6	319.4	604.6	945.7	8.9	53.3	37.7	38.7
Three or more	5.2	97.6	570.1	672.9	2.2	16.3	35.6	27.5
Not stated	14.5	11.3	85.5	111.3	6.0	1.9	5.3	4.6
Total	241.8	599.8	1 603.4	2 445.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
55-64								
None	44.3	19.7	22.4	86.3	19.1	2.4	3.9	5.3
One	151.0	294.9	110.2	556.1	65.2	35.5	19.0	33.9
Two	17.3	397.7	196.4	611.4	7.4	47.9	33.9	37.2
Three or more	4.8	103.9	203.9	312.6	2.1	12.5	35.2	19.0
Not stated	14.4	13.7	47.0	75.2	6.2	1.7	8.1	4.6
Total	231.7	829.9	579.9	1 641.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
65-74								
None	71.8	36.6	17.7	126.1	28.0	5.5	6.9	10.7
One	149.5	365.9	68.7	584.1	58.2	55.1	26.9	49.7
Two	11.2	204.5	84.2	299.8	4.3	30.8	33.0	25.5
Three or more	3.8	43.4	48.9	96.1	1.5	6.5	19.2	8.2
Not stated	20.4	13.9	35.8	70.1	7.9	2.1	14.0	6.0
Total	256.6	664.2	255.3	1 176.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
75-84								
None	108.1	39.7	13.8	161.7	41.3	11.8	10.6	22.2
One	114.2	210.1	43.5	367.8	43.6	62.4	33.5	50.5
Two	5.7	59.8	35.7	101.2	2.2	17.8	27.5	13.9
Three or more	2.8	14.5	17.6	34.9	1.1	4.3	13.5	4.8
Not stated	31.1	12.5	19.4	63.0	11.9	3.7	14.9	8.6
Total	261.9	336.7	129.9	728.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
85 and over								
None	50.7	11.4	5.1	67.2	58.6	22.5	13.4	38.3
One	20.1	25.8	14.7	60.6	23.3	51.0	38.5	34.6
Two	1.0	7.5	8.5	17.0	1.2	14.8	22.3	9.7
Three or more	0.7	2.6	5.1	8.4	0.8	5.1	13.4	4.8
Not stated	13.9	3.4	4.8	22.0	16.1	6.7	12.5	12.6
Total	86.4	50.6	38.2	175.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total 45 and over								
None	314.9	119.6	102.6	537.1	29.2	4.8	3.9	8.7
One	595.2	1 055.9	536.8	2 187.9	55.2	42.6	20.6	35.5
Two	56.8	988.9	929.4	1 975.1	5.3	39.9	35.7	32.0
Three or more	17.3	262.0	845.6	1 124.8	1.6	10.6	32.4	18.2
Not stated	94.3	54.9	192.4	341.6	8.7	2.2	7.4	5.5
Total	1 078.5	2 481.3	2 606.8	6 166.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total 65 and over								
None	230.6	87.7	36.6	354.9	38.1	8.3	8.7	17.1
One	283.8	601.8	126.9	1 012.5	46.9	57.2	30.0	48.7
Two	17.9	271.8	128.4	418.0	3.0	25.8	30.3	20.1
Three or more	7.3	60.5	71.6	139.3	1.2	5.8	16.9	6.7
Not stated	65.3	29.8	59.9	155.1	10.8	2.8	14.2	7.5
Total	604.9	1 051.6	423.4	2 079.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes all visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK

All employed people aged 15 years and over were asked in the census to record how they travelled to work on census day. Travel by car, either as the driver or passenger, was by far the most common response across all age groups, although in smaller proportions for older persons. The second highest response by older people, representing 23.5% of employed persons aged 65 years and over, was that they had worked at home, a significantly higher proportion than for other age groups. The majority of these older home-based workers were self-employed (60.7%).

5.2 METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK, EMPLOYED PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)								Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	
	'000								
One method only									
Car as driver	581.9	1 110.0	1 303.5	1 162.3	455.9	52.5	7.0	2.1	4 675.2
Car as passenger	170.2	107.0	88.1	84.9	33.0	4.2	0.8	0.2	488.3
Walked	64.6	66.5	62.2	59.9	29.8	6.3	1.2	0.2	290.8
Train	54.8	82.0	58.4	45.5	15.1	1.7	0.3	0.1	258.0
Bus	50.8	56.0	40.5	34.5	14.2	1.8	0.3	0.1	198.3
Truck	6.8	22.9	35.0	35.3	23.7	4.2	0.6	0.1	128.5
Other method	37.8	66.6	55.4	38.0	15.8	2.7	0.6	0.2	217.1
Total	966.9	1 511.0	1 643.1	1 460.3	587.5	73.4	10.8	3.1	6 256.2
Two methods	56.1	68.8	57.0	48.3	17.8	2.1	0.4	0.1	250.5
Three methods	7.5	7.1	5.6	4.6	1.8	0.2	—	—	26.8
Total travelled to work	1 030.6	1 586.8	1 705.7	1 513.1	607.0	75.7	11.2	3.3	6 533.5
Worked at home	14.8	60.2	111.8	121.1	84.3	28.7	6.7	0.9	428.6
Did not go to work	233.6	182.6	190.1	141.4	65.5	12.7	2.2	0.5	828.6
Not stated	36.3	26.4	28.3	25.4	15.5	7.5	4.1	1.0	144.6
Total	1 315.3	1 856.0	2 036.0	1 801.0	772.4	124.7	24.3	5.7	7 935.3
	%								
One method only									
Car as driver	44.2	59.8	64.0	64.5	59.0	42.1	28.7	37.7	58.9
Car as passenger	12.9	5.8	4.3	4.7	4.3	3.4	3.4	3.8	6.2
Walked	4.9	3.6	3.1	3.3	3.9	5.1	5.0	4.0	3.7
Train	4.2	4.4	2.9	2.5	2.0	1.4	1.4	2.1	3.3
Bus	3.9	3.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.7	2.5
Truck	0.5	1.2	1.7	2.0	3.1	3.3	2.3	1.8	1.6
Other method	2.9	3.6	2.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.4	4.2	2.7
Total	73.5	81.4	80.7	81.1	76.1	58.9	44.6	55.4	78.8
Two methods	4.3	3.7	2.8	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.5	1.7	3.2
Three methods	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Total travelled to work	78.4	85.5	83.8	84.0	78.6	60.7	46.3	57.4	82.3
Worked at home	1.1	3.2	5.5	6.7	10.9	23.0	27.8	15.0	5.4
Did not go to work	17.8	9.8	9.3	7.9	8.5	10.2	8.9	9.3	10.4
Not stated	2.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.0	6.1	17.0	18.4	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes all visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

METHOD OF TRAVEL TO
WORK *continued*

Older people showed a higher incidence of walking as the sole method of travel to work, and a lower tendency to use public transport, such as buses and trains, for travelling to work than younger age groups.

Employed people in the 85 years and above over age group reported slightly higher use of public transport than 65–84 year olds, reflecting reduced personal mobility amongst the very old. Some 59.7% of persons aged 85 years and over required assistance with mobility compared with 6.7% of those aged 65–69 years in 1998 (ABS 1999f).

CHAPTER 6

EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

Education can be thought of as the lifetime process of obtaining or imparting knowledge, attitudes, skills, and socially valued qualities of character and behaviour occurring within a variety of environments, some more formal than others. Government policies, over the last decade, have been designed to increase access to educational systems for all ages in order to meet Australia's social, cultural, economic and labour market demands for a highly educated and skilled population. These demands have led to increased levels of participation in non-school educational programs. Further to this, the expansion of the non-school education system has provided more opportunities for study by older persons to improve existing skill levels or to retrain for new jobs.

Not all non-school studies undertaken by older people are job-related. For many, participation in educational programs provides opportunities to acquire new knowledge and skills simply out of interest. In addition to programs offered by formal education institutions (schools, vocational or higher education), there are many community-based adult education programs available to older persons.

This Chapter examines the formal education and attendance at educational institutions of older persons. A significant number of older people did not answer or provide adequate information for questions in the 2001 census relating to their education or attendance. However, it is possible to use census data to gain an indication of levels of education and attendance. To provide an appreciation of the representativeness of the analysis in this chapter for different age groups, the proportions of people who did not state or adequately describe the field or level of education for their non-school qualifications, or their highest year of school completed are shown below.

6.1 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO DID NOT STATE OR ADEQUATELY DESCRIBE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

	Age group (years)							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Main field of education	27.8	13.2	14.0	15.0	20.7	37.0	54.6	67.8
Level of highest non-school qualification	30.5	15.5	17.3	18.8	25.6	42.4	60.2	73.6
Highest year of school completed	6.6	5.3	5.7	5.8	7.6	13.5	20.9	27.7

(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those still at school.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Highest Year of School Completed (instruction: make this term bold) records the highest level of primary or secondary school a person has completed, irrespective of the type of institution or location where that education was undertaken. Persons who have not completed any non-school qualifications are classified as being **Without non-school qualifications** and the level of school completed has been grouped into three broad categories:

- Completed Year 12 or equivalent
- Did not complete Year 12 or equivalent
- Still at school. (Note that for the purposes of this analysis, persons still at school at the time of the census have been excluded.)

Level of Highest Non-school Qualification records the level of education of the highest non-school qualification a person has completed. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications. Persons who have completed any non-school qualifications are classified as being **With non-school qualifications** and the level of non-school qualification completed has been grouped into two broad categories:

- Bachelor degree or higher: comprising bachelor degree (including honours), graduate or postgraduate diploma/certificate, master's degree or doctorate.
- Other non-school qualification: comprising advanced diploma, associate degree, diploma and certificate level (including certificate levels I, II, III and IV).

Please note that this describes a person's highest qualification at the time of the 2001 census. The response to the question "What is the level of the highest qualification the person has completed" is based on self-enumeration.

For more information, refer to the publication *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)* (cat. no. 1272.0).

In 2001, almost half (47.4%) of persons aged 15 years and over had completed a non-school qualification, ranging from certificate level to postgraduate degree. Apart from those aged 15–24 years, many of whom would still be participating in and have not yet completed non-school qualifications, the proportion of persons with non-school qualifications generally decreased with age, from 55.9% of those aged 25–34 years to 40.9% of those aged 65 years and over.

The higher levels of completion of non-school qualifications by the younger age groups reflect the fact that older persons had fewer opportunities to obtain non-school qualifications as well as a lower demand in the workplace for higher educational qualifications at the time they left school. This will mean increased levels of non-school qualifications for successive generations of older persons.

LEVEL OF EDUCATION
continued

With the exception of the 15–24 year age group, males were more likely than females to have completed non-school qualifications at the time of the 2001 census. Among males, those aged 35–44 years had the highest proportion with non-school qualifications (60.4%), decreasing steadily with age to a low of 48.2% for those aged 65–74 years before rising slightly to 49.0% for very old males (aged 85 years and over).

6.2 LEVEL OF EDUCATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	With non-school qualifications			Without non-school qualifications			Total
	Bachelor degree or higher	Other non-school qualifications(b)	Total(c)	Completed Year 12 or equivalent	Did not complete Year 12 or equivalent	Total(d)	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
MALES							
15–24	5.4	16.2	31.8	34.4	32.8	68.2	1 068.3
25–34	17.8	32.7	59.1	17.2	23.0	40.9	1 336.7
35–44	17.0	34.9	60.4	10.8	27.9	39.6	1 406.2
45–54	16.5	33.5	58.6	10.4	30.0	41.4	1 274.6
55–64	11.2	32.1	53.1	8.1	37.3	46.9	884.1
65–74	6.8	26.7	48.2	7.3	42.1	51.8	615.0
75–84	5.4	21.9	48.8	7.0	40.7	51.2	345.0
85 and over	4.7	15.8	49.0	6.8	40.2	51.0	81.5
Total	13.0	29.4	52.8	14.7	31.3	47.2	7 011.4
FEMALES							
15–24	9.0	15.0	33.8	38.4	27.1	66.2	1 016.5
25–34	22.9	21.2	52.8	20.0	26.5	47.2	1 377.1
35–44	18.2	19.3	47.7	13.2	38.2	52.3	1 456.3
45–54	15.6	17.5	43.7	10.0	45.2	56.3	1 290.8
55–64	9.5	13.3	35.7	8.3	54.3	64.3	874.6
65–74	4.9	8.8	33.2	7.7	56.3	66.8	664.2
75–84	2.8	5.8	35.9	7.3	53.0	64.1	482.2
85 and over	2.1	4.5	38.4	6.0	51.6	61.6	180.5
Total	13.7	15.8	42.3	15.7	40.6	57.7	7 342.2
PERSONS							
15–24	7.1	15.6	32.8	36.4	30.0	67.2	2 084.7
25–34	20.4	26.9	55.9	18.6	24.8	44.1	2 713.9
35–44	17.6	27.0	53.9	12.0	33.1	46.1	2 862.6
45–54	16.0	25.4	51.1	10.2	37.7	48.9	2 565.4
55–64	10.3	22.7	44.4	8.2	45.8	55.6	1 758.6
65–74	5.9	17.4	40.4	7.5	49.4	59.6	1 279.2
75–84	3.9	12.5	41.3	7.2	47.9	58.7	827.1
85 and over	2.9	8.0	41.7	6.2	48.1	58.3	262.1
Total	13.3	22.5	47.4	15.2	36.0	52.6	14 353.6

(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those still at school.

(b) Includes advanced diploma, associate degree, diploma and certificate level.

(c) Includes level of highest non-school qualification not stated or inadequately described.

(d) Includes highest year of school completed not stated.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

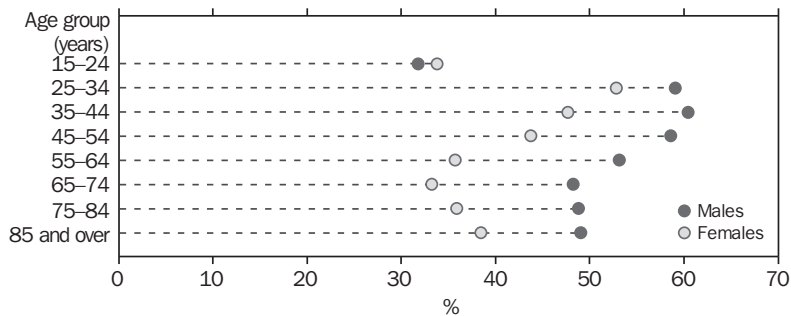
The 25–34 year old age group had the highest proportion of females with non-school qualifications (52.8%). As for males, the proportions decreased with age, falling to 33.2% for females aged 65–74 years, while the proportion of very old females with non-school qualifications was higher at 38.4%.

An analysis of the age at which people complete their highest level of non-school qualifications shows a large number of people obtained their highest non-school qualifications later in life, whether a first or subsequent qualification. Reasons for this may include the need to upgrade their current skill levels or to acquire new skills, often in conjunction with their employment.

At the time of the 2001 census, 61.1% of people aged 25 years and over had completed a non-school qualification by the age of 25 years. While 59.2% of persons aged 65 years and over had completed their non-school qualifications by the age of 25 years, 19.1% completed their qualifications between the ages of 25 and 34 years. A further 19.9% completed their studies in progressively smaller proportions between the ages of 35 and 64 years.

Females aged 65 years and over were more likely than males to have completed their highest level of non-school qualifications by the age of 25 years (66.8% and 54.7% respectively). However, males aged 65 years and over were almost twice as likely as females to have completed their studies between the ages of 25 and 44 years of age (35.2% compared with 18.0%). A further 12.9% of females and 8.6% of males completed their studies between the ages of 45 and 64 years.

6.3 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS



(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those still at school.
Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

In 2001, most (55.5%) older persons (aged 65 years and over) who had completed non-school qualifications and stated their highest level of qualification, held a certificate level qualification. Smaller proportions held a diploma or advanced diploma (19.7%) and a bachelor degree (18.5%). Although persons in the younger age groups were also most likely to hold a certificate level qualification (44.5% of those aged 15–64 years), they were more likely than older persons to hold higher level qualifications including a bachelor degree (29.0% compared with 18.5% of older persons), or higher degree (9.4% compared with 6.3%).

6.4 LEVEL OF HIGHEST NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

	Age group (years)		Total
	15–64	65 and over	
	%	%	%
MALES			
Postgraduate degree level	5.7	4.5	5.5
Graduate diploma and graduate certificate level	2.7	1.4	2.6
Bachelor degree level	23.4	14.4	22.4
Advanced diploma and diploma level	13	14.3	13.2
Certificate level			
Certificate I and II level	3.6	3.2	3.5
Certificate III and IV level	50.6	61.8	51.8
Total certificate level(b)	55.2	65.3	56.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES			
Postgraduate degree level	4.9	3.1	4.8
Graduate diploma and graduate certificate level	6.0	3.9	5.9
Bachelor degree level	36.3	27.5	35.8
Advanced diploma and diploma level	22.3	31.5	22.9
Certificate level			
Certificate I and II level	10.2	11.0	10.3
Certificate III and IV level	18.0	21.3	18.2
Total certificate level(b)	30.4	33.9	30.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS			
Postgraduate degree level	5.3	4.1	5.2
Graduate diploma and graduate certificate level	4.1	2.2	4.0
Bachelor degree level	29.0	18.5	28.1
Advanced diploma and diploma level	17.1	19.7	17.3
Certificate level			
Certificate I and II level	6.5	5.7	6.4
Certificate III and IV level	36.5	49.1	37.7
Total certificate level(b)	44.5	55.5	45.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those still at school. Also excludes persons who did not state or adequately describe their level of qualification.

(b) Includes those persons with a certificate level not further defined.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

FIELD OF EDUCATION

Australia has a diverse economy and a well-developed system of tertiary education providing individuals of all ages with opportunities to obtain qualifications in a broad range of fields. Levels of participation in different fields of education have been changing over time in response to changes in the workplace such as computerisation and automation. These developments have contributed towards a shift in the types of jobs available and therefore the type of skills required.

FIELD OF EDUCATION
continued

In 2001, the most common field of education for people who had completed non-school qualifications and who stated the field of education of their highest non-school qualification, was Engineering and related technologies (23.6%). This was influenced by the high proportion of males with qualifications in this field across all age groups. Almost half (47.3%) of older males (aged 65 years and over) had completed their highest non-school qualifications in Engineering and related technologies, compared with 38.7% for males aged 15–64 years. Among older males, 79.4% stated their highest qualification was a Certificate level III or IV in this field, as did 75.8% of males aged 15–64 years.

6.5 MAIN FIELD OF NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

	Age group (years)						Total
	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65-and over	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
MALES							
Natural and physical sciences	3.0	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.7	2.9	3.6
Information technology	9.2	5.8	3.8	2.1	0.7	0.2	3.5
Engineering and related technologies	31.4	35.7	40.3	39.8	43.3	47.3	39.6
Architecture and building	11.6	12.5	12.5	12.1	14.0	15.0	12.8
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	5.1	4.2	3.7	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.5
Health	2.4	3.9	4.5	4.5	4.4	5.2	4.3
Education	1.3	2.8	4.1	6.5	6.0	4.5	4.4
Management and commerce	16.2	15.1	14.1	14.8	13.0	11.8	14.2
Society and culture	6.1	7.3	6.9	8.0	7.0	6.1	7.1
Creative arts	5.0	3.5	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.6	2.7
Food, hospitality and personal services	8.5	5.5	3.9	3.1	3.3	2.8	4.2
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES							
Natural and physical sciences	3.9	4.3	3.7	3.0	2.3	1.9	3.5
Information technology	2.7	2.6	2.3	1.4	0.8	0.2	1.9
Engineering and related technologies	2.1	2.9	3.0	2.5	3.9	8.3	3.3
Architecture and building	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.9
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	2.4	1.9	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.4
Health	9.1	15.1	21.8	22.5	24.6	26.8	19.4
Education	5.8	11.4	16.2	22.5	22.4	18.3	15.8
Management and commerce	36.3	29.1	24.7	21.9	21.3	23.6	26.1
Society and culture	15.9	15.9	14.5	15.0	13.5	9.2	14.6
Creative arts	7.1	6.0	4.4	3.5	3.8	5.0	4.9
Food, hospitality and personal services	13.5	9.5	6.9	6.2	6.1	5.4	8.0
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS							
Natural and physical sciences	3.5	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.2	2.6	3.6
Information technology	5.8	4.2	3.2	1.8	0.7	0.2	2.8
Engineering and related technologies	16.0	19.9	23.6	24.0	28.6	32.9	23.6
Architecture and building	6.0	7.0	7.3	7.3	8.9	9.6	7.5
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	3.7	3.1	2.7	2.1	2.0	1.8	2.6
Health	5.9	9.3	12.2	12.1	11.9	13.2	11.0
Education	3.7	7.0	9.5	13.3	12.1	9.6	9.4
Management and commerce	26.7	21.8	18.8	17.8	16.1	16.1	19.5
Society and culture	11.2	11.5	10.3	10.9	9.5	7.2	10.4
Creative arts	6.1	4.7	3.3	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.7
Food, hospitality and personal services	11.1	7.4	5.2	4.4	4.3	3.8	5.9
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those still at school. Also excludes persons who did not state or adequately describe their field of education.

(b) Includes mixed field programmes.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

FIELD OF EDUCATION
continued

While Architecture and building and Management and commerce were the next most common highest qualifications for males of all ages, Architecture and building was more common among older males (15.0% of those aged 65 years and over) than younger males (12.5% for those aged 15–64 years), while the opposite was the case for Management and commerce, increasing from 11.8% of older males to 14.5% of younger males.

Among females aged 65 years and over, the most common highest qualifications held were in the fields of Health (26.8%) followed by Management and commerce (23.6%) and Education (18.3%). These were also the most common fields for younger females (aged 15–64 years), with the highest proportion with their highest qualifications in the field of Management and commerce (26.4%) followed by Health (18.8%) and Education (15.6%).

ATTENDANCE AT AN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Attendance at a tertiary educational institution, that is, a technical or further education institution, university or other tertiary institution, is most prevalent among persons aged 15–24 years, with attendance decreasing markedly with age.

6.6 TYPE OF INSTITUTION, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER ATTENDING A TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

	<i>University or other tertiary</i>		<i>Technical or further education</i>		<i>Total</i>
	'000	%	'000	%	'000
MALES					
15–24	176.9	57.6	130.0	42.4	306.8
25–34	82.5	61.4	51.8	38.6	134.3
35–44	40.8	54.2	34.5	45.8	75.3
45–54	17.8	49.2	18.5	50.8	36.3
55–64	4.1	39.2	6.3	60.8	10.4
65 and over	1.5	38.6	2.4	61.4	4.0
<i>Total</i>	323.6	57.1	243.5	42.9	567.1
FEMALES					
15–24	224.7	70.1	95.6	29.9	320.4
25–34	89.4	60.4	58.6	39.6	147.9
35–44	51.4	48.7	54.2	51.3	105.6
45–54	26.1	45.8	30.9	54.2	57.0
55–64	5.3	38.7	8.4	61.3	13.6
65 and over	1.6	37.2	2.8	62.8	4.4
<i>Total</i>	398.5	61.4	250.5	38.6	649.0
PERSONS					
15–24	401.6	64.0	225.6	36.0	627.2
25–34	171.9	60.9	110.4	39.1	282.2
35–44	92.2	51.0	88.7	49.0	180.9
45–54	43.9	47.1	49.4	52.9	93.3
55–64	9.3	38.9	14.7	61.1	24.0
65 and over	3.2	37.8	5.2	62.2	8.4
Total	722.1	59.4	493.9	40.6	1 216.0

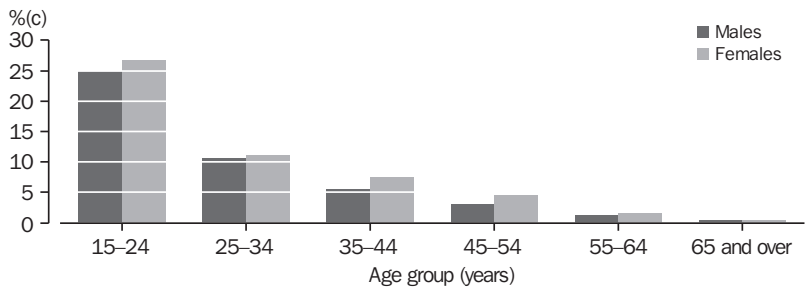
(a) Excludes overseas visitors. Also excludes those persons who did not state whether they were attending an educational institution and/or the type of institution they were attending.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

ATTENDANCE AT AN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
continued

Some 8,400 older persons (aged 65 years and over) were attending a tertiary educational institution in 2001, representing 0.4% of all older persons. Of these 5,200 (62.2%) were attending a technical or further education institution compared with 3,200 (37.8%) attending a university or other tertiary institution. Attendance levels were similar for males and females.

6.7 PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER ATTENDING A TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION(b)



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.
(b) Includes technical or further education institutions, universities and other tertiary institutions.
(c) Proportion has been calculated excluding those persons who did not state whether they were attending an educational institution and/or did not state the type of institution they were attending.
Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

Tertiary education is often essential for gaining entry to, or advancement within, a chosen career path. Among persons aged 15 years and over who stated they were attending a tertiary educational institution in 2001, the majority (70.6%) were in the labour force, with 63.0% employed and 7.6% actively seeking employment, or unemployed. Labour force participation rates for those attending a tertiary educational institution reached a high of 76.9% for those aged 45–54 years before decreasing to 60.7% for those aged 55–64 years and 27.6% for those aged 65 years and over.

This decrease in labour force participation rates across the older age groups for persons attending a tertiary educational institution generally reflects the decreasing rates for the total population. However, older persons who were attending a tertiary institution in 2001 were more likely to be in the labour force than those who were not attending. While 62.4% of all males and 38.6% of all females aged 55–64 years were participating in the labour force, those attending a tertiary educational institution were more likely to be in the labour force (66.7% of males and 56.1% of females). For those aged 65 years and over, 11.7% of all males and 4.7% of all females were participating in the labour force, compared with participation rates of 30.7% for older males and 24.9% for older females who were attending a tertiary institution.

6.8 LABOUR FORCE STATUS, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER ATTENDING A TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION(b)

	Age group (years)						
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES							
In the labour force							
Employed	57.7	71.8	75.8	73.0	56.2	27.1	64.2
Unemployed	8.6	7.2	7.1	8.5	10.6	3.5	8.0
Not in the labour force	33.6	20.8	17.0	18.3	32.9	68.1	27.6
Total(c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES							
In the labour force							
Employed	59.7	65.7	64.3	68.0	50.9	22.3	62.1
Unemployed	8.3	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.2	2.6	7.1
Not in the labour force	31.9	28.1	29.3	25.8	43.4	73.1	30.6
Total(c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS							
In the labour force							
Employed	58.7	68.6	69.1	70.0	53.2	24.6	63.0
Unemployed	8.4	6.6	6.5	7.0	7.5	3.0	7.6
Not in the labour force	32.7	24.6	24.2	22.8	38.9	70.7	29.2
Total(c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

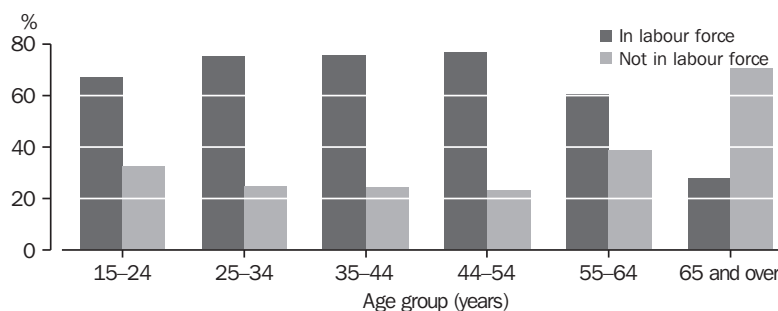
(a) Excludes overseas visitors. Also excludes those persons who did not state whether they were attending an educational institution and/or the type of institution they were attending.

(b) Includes technical or further education institutions, universities and other tertiary institutions.

(c) Includes those persons who did not state their labour force status.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

6.9 LABOUR FORCE STATUS, PROPORTION OF PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER ATTENDING AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION(b)



(a) Excludes overseas visitors and those persons who did not state whether they were attending an educational institution and/or the type of institution they were attending.

(b) Includes technical or further education institutions, universities and other tertiary institutions.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

CHAPTER 7

TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

Home computers and the Internet are rapidly becoming everyday tools for communication, information gathering, study and research, tele-working and operating home-based businesses. At the same time, the multimedia dimension of home computers and the Internet allows them to be used for a wide range of cultural and recreational activities.

Among older Australians, there is an increasing utilisation of technology as people recognise its capacity to improve their social well being as well as to facilitate communication. Research by the Council on the Ageing suggests that older adults are particularly attracted to technology products that enhance their capacity for independent living. There is also government recognition of the importance that older Australians have the skills and support required to make effective use of online technologies as well as adequate access to these new technologies (NOIE 2002a).

The 2001 census was the first census to seek information on the use of personal computers and the Internet. Data presented in this section relate to use of these technologies in the week prior to Census night.

COMPUTER USE AT HOME

In 2001, 6.1 million people aged 15 years and over (41.1% of all persons of that age) had used a personal computer at home in the week prior to the census. Home computer use varied markedly across age groups. While over half (52.0%) of people aged 15–44 years used a computer at home during the week prior to the census, this decreased to 43.8% of those aged 45–54 years, 28.6% of those aged 55–64 years and 9.8% of the 65 years and over age group. Of the very old (85 years and over), 2.4% used a computer during that time.

7.1 COMPUTER USE AT HOME, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)									
	15-44		45-54		55-64		65 and over		Total	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
MALES										
Used a computer at home	2 109.4	52.0	586.9	46.0	281.4	31.8	142.1	13.6	3 119.8	43.0
Did not use a computer at home	1 785.8	44.0	646.5	50.7	575.5	65.1	854.7	82.0	3 862.4	53.2
Total(b)	4 055.4	100.0	1 275.9	100.0	884.6	100.0	1 042.7	100.0	7 258.6	100.0
FEMALES										
Used a computer at home	2 136.4	52.1	538.3	41.7	221.4	25.3	89.5	6.7	2 985.6	39.3
Did not use a computer at home	1 830.5	44.6	717.5	55.5	628.9	71.9	1 172.3	88.3	4 349.2	57.2
Total(b)	4 102.5	100.0	1 292.4	100.0	875.1	100.0	1 328.2	100.0	7 598.2	100.0
PERSONS										
Used a computer at home	4 245.8	52.0	1 125.2	43.8	502.9	28.6	231.6	9.8	6 105.4	41.1
Did not use a computer at home	3 616.3	44.3	1 364.0	53.1	1 204.3	68.4	2 027.1	85.5	8 211.6	55.3
Total(b)	8 157.8	100.0	2 568.3	100.0	1 759.7	100.0	2 370.9	100.0	14 856.8	100.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes persons who did not state whether they used a computer.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

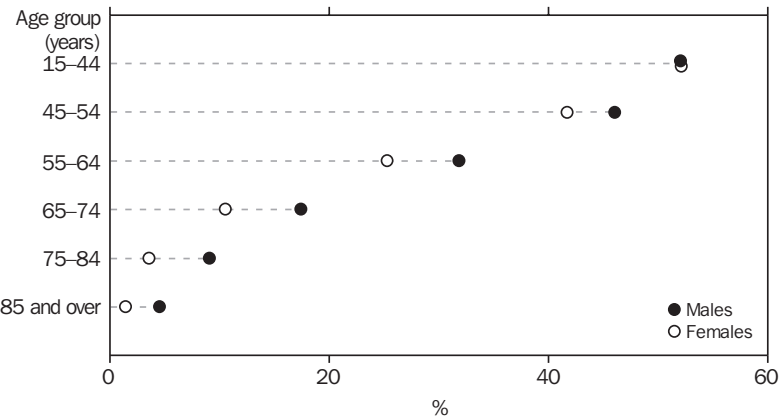
COMPUTER USE AT HOME
continued

PERSONAL COMPUTERS

Includes computers used at home for private and business purposes; portable computers; personal organisers; computers brought home from the workplace; and dedicated word processors. Game machines are not included.

While similar proportions of men and women aged 15–44 years made use of a computer in the week preceding the census, men were increasingly more likely to access a computer than women as age increased. In the 55–64 year age group, 31.8% of men and 25.3% of women used a home computer, while in the 65 years and over age group, 13.6% of men and 6.7% of women used a home computer.

7.2 COMPUTER USE AT HOME, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.
Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

While a trend in the level of computer use over time cannot be ascertained from the census, data from *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia* (cat. no. 8146.0) show that there has been growth in the use of a computer over the period 1998 to 2001–02 among those aged 55 years and over. Note that this survey reports use of a computer at any site which could include access at work, via relatives or friends or a public access point, such as public libraries or universities, while the census reports on computer use at home only.

INTERNET ACCESS

INTERNET

For the purposes of the census, the term Internet includes: Internet connections in private and business applications; Internet connection through a computer or set top box, games machine, mobile phone, or other means; and Internet used at other locations including libraries, Internet cafes, shops, educational institutions, or at a neighbour's or friend's place of residence.

INTERNET ACCESS *continued*

Access to the Internet and associated online technologies are becoming increasingly important in supporting and improving the quality of life of older Australians. The National Office for the Information Economy (NOIE) reports that older Australians are steadily increasing their Internet use for reasons such as keeping in touch with family and friends; researching for information on products and services and important issues related to them; financial purposes; booking holidays or purchasing and obtaining travel information; shopping; and accessing genealogy sites (NOIE 2002b).

7.3 INTERNET ACCESS, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	Age group (years)									
	15-44		45-54		55-64		65 and over		Total	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
MALES										
Accessed the Internet from										
Home only	961.9	45.2	230.7	41.5	138.3	55.5	80.7	83.1	1 411.7	46.6
Work only	319.8	15.0	112.2	20.2	41.5	16.6	4.7	4.8	478.2	15.8
Elsewhere only	200.2	9.4	12.7	2.3	7.0	2.8	4.2	4.3	224.1	7.4
More than one location	644.6	30.3	199.8	36.0	62.6	25.1	7.6	7.8	914.6	30.2
Total	2 126.6	100.0	555.5	100.0	249.4	100.0	97.2	100.0	3 028.6	100.0
Accessed the Internet	2 126.6	52.4	555.5	43.5	249.4	28.2	97.2	9.3	3 028.6	41.7
Did not access the Internet	1 748.9	43.1	671.9	52.7	603.7	68.2	894.2	85.8	3 918.7	54.0
Total(b)	4 055.4	100.0	1 275.9	100.0	884.6	100.0	1 042.7	100.0	7 258.6	100.0
FEMALES										
Accessed the Internet from										
Home only	1 018.1	47.3	234.7	48.3	110.3	61.7	42.7	82.5	1 405.9	49.0
Work only	397.7	18.5	108.9	22.4	31.2	17.4	2.5	4.8	540.2	18.8
Elsewhere only	221.8	10.3	13.5	2.8	7.4	4.1	3.8	7.3	246.4	8.6
More than one location	516.5	24.0	129.0	26.5	29.8	16.7	2.8	5.4	678.1	23.6
Total	2 154.1	100.0	486.0	100.0	178.6	100.0	51.8	100.0	2 870.6	100.0
Accessed the Internet	2 154.1	52.5	486.0	37.6	178.6	20.4	51.8	3.9	2 870.6	37.8
Did not access the Internet	1 795.1	43.8	763.3	59.1	667.6	76.3	1 202.7	90.6	4 428.7	58.3
Total(b)	4 102.5	100.0	1 292.4	100.0	875.1	100.0	1 328.2	100.0	7 598.2	100.0
PERSONS										
Accessed the Internet from										
Home only	1 980.1	46.3	465.4	44.7	248.6	58.1	123.4	82.9	2 817.6	47.8
Work only	717.5	16.8	221.1	21.2	72.6	17.0	7.2	4.8	1 018.5	17.3
Elsewhere only	422.0	9.9	26.2	2.5	14.3	3.4	8.0	5.3	470.5	8.0
More than one location	1 161.1	27.1	328.8	31.6	92.4	21.6	10.4	7.0	1 592.7	27.0
Total	4 280.7	100.0	1 041.5	100.0	428.0	100.0	149.0	100.0	5 899.2	100.0
Accessed the Internet	4 280.7	52.5	1 041.5	40.6	428.0	24.3	149.0	6.3	5 899.2	39.7
Did not access the Internet	3 544.0	43.4	1 435.3	55.9	1 271.3	72.2	2 096.9	88.4	8 347.4	56.2
Total(b)	8 157.8	100.0	2 568.3	100.0	1 759.7	100.0	2 370.9	100.0	14 856.8	100.0

(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

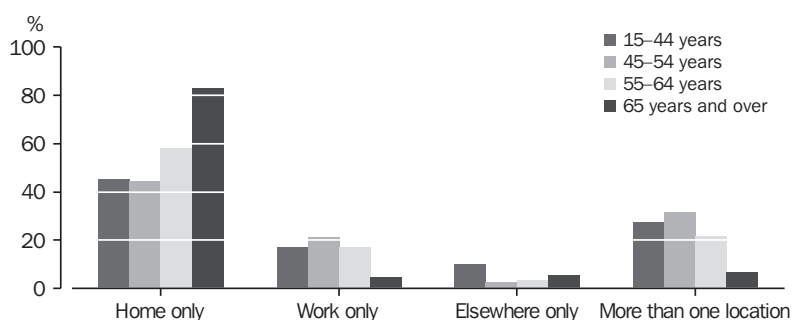
(b) Includes persons who did not state whether they accessed the Internet.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The total number of persons aged 15 years and over who accessed the Internet in the week preceding the 2001 census was 5.9 million (39.7% of all persons in that age group). As with computer use at home, people are increasingly less likely to access the Internet as they age, particularly after the age of 55 years. While almost half (49.6%) of persons aged 15–54 years accessed the Internet, this proportion decreased to 24.3% for those aged 55–64 years and to only 6.3% of those aged 65 years and over. Of the very old (aged 85 years and over) the proportion accessing the Internet during that time was 1.5%.

Most older persons who accessed the Internet did so only from home, and were much more likely to do so than the younger age groups. Some 82.9% of persons aged 65 years and over who accessed the Internet did so only from home, compared with only 45.9% of 15–54 year olds and 58.1% of 55–64 year olds. A further 4.8% of older persons reported accessing the Internet from work only, 5.3% from a location other than home or work only such as a library, Internet cafe, or university and 7.0% from more than one location during the week preceding the census. The corresponding proportions for those aged 15–64 years were 17.6% at work only; 8.0% from a location other than home or work only and 27.5% from more than one location. The significantly lower access to the Internet at work only by older persons reflects the lower participation rates of these persons in the work force.

7.4 INTERNET ACCESS BY LOCATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ACCESSED THE INTERNET IN THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE CENSUS



(a) Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

As for computer use, the proportion of persons in the younger age groups (15–44 years) who accessed the Internet was similar for men and women, while in the older age groups, men are more likely to access the Internet than women. For older persons aged 65 years and over, 9.3% of men accessed the Internet in the week preceding the 2001 census compared with 3.9% of women. Among all Internet users, women were more likely to access the Internet from home only or work only than men, except for older persons among whom the proportions were similar. Women were also more likely to access the Internet from a location other than home or work only across all age groups, while men were more likely to access the Internet from more than one location, most likely a combination of home and work. This pattern reflects the higher participation of men in the work force.

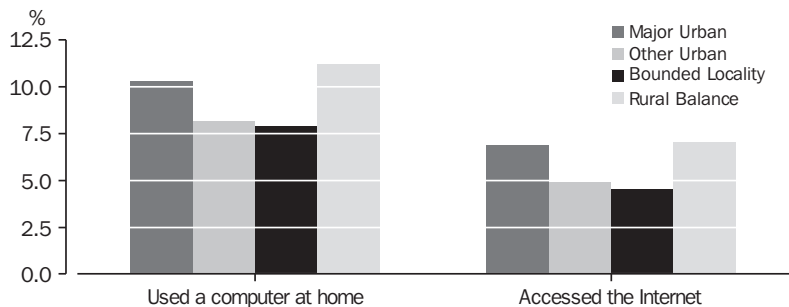
USE OF TECHNOLOGY BY
SELECTED
CHARACTERISTICS

There are a number of factors that appear to be associated with the likelihood of older persons using a personal computer at home or accessing the Internet. NOIE has identified factors affecting the take-up of technology by older people as including limited or inappropriate public access facilities for those who cannot afford home access; cost of access to computer equipment and the Internet; and lack of training and skills or education in the use of computers and the Internet (NOIE 2002b). This section examines characteristics of older people closely related to these factors, including geographic distribution, income and education, by their computer and Internet usage.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION
(SECTION OF STATE)

The proportion of persons aged 65 years and over who used a computer at home or who accessed the Internet in the week preceding the 2001 census varied with geographic location (see Glossary for definitions of areas included in the Section of state classification). While the proportion of older persons using a computer at home generally decreased across increasingly rural areas, it was actually highest amongst those living in the Rural Balance. Some 11.2% of older persons living in the Rural Balance used a home computer, compared with 10.3% in Major Urban areas, 8.2% in Other Urban areas, and 7.9% in Bounded Localities. The same pattern was evident for access to the Internet by older persons, with proportions similar for the Rural Balance (7.0%) and Major Urban areas (6.9%) decreasing to 4.9% for Other Urban areas and 4.5% for Bounded Localities.

7.5 COMPUTER USE AND INTERNET ACCESS BY SECTION OF STATE(a),
PERSONS(b) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Based on census usual residency counts.

(b) Excludes overseas visitors. Also excludes migratory and those who did not state or adequately describe their place of usual residence.

Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

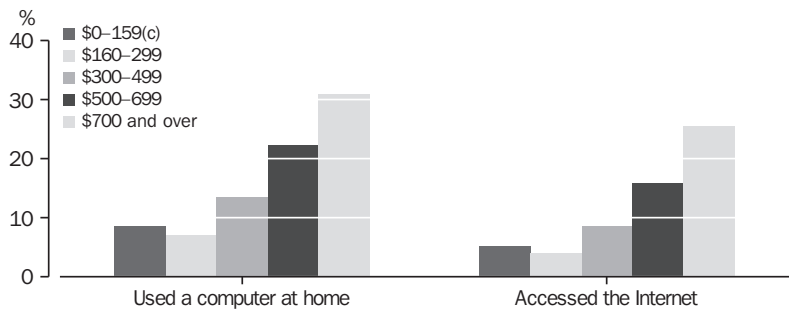
This higher proportion of computer use and Internet access by older Australians in the Rural Balance is associated with the continued strong growth in the use of such technology by farmers (ABS 2000e).

INCOME

Lower incidence of computer use and access to the Internet amongst older persons is associated with lower income, which generally coincides with retirement from paid employment. The proportion of persons aged 65 years and over who used a computer in the week prior to the 2001 census was lowest for those whose gross weekly income was less than \$300 per week (7.4%), increasing to a high of 31.0% for those earning \$700 and over per week.

Internet access by older persons showed a similar pattern to home computer use with the highest income range (\$700 and over per week) again showing the highest proportion accessing the Internet in the week prior to the 2001 census (25.6%).

7.6 COMPUTER USE AND INTERNET ACCESS BY INCOME(a), PERSONS(b) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

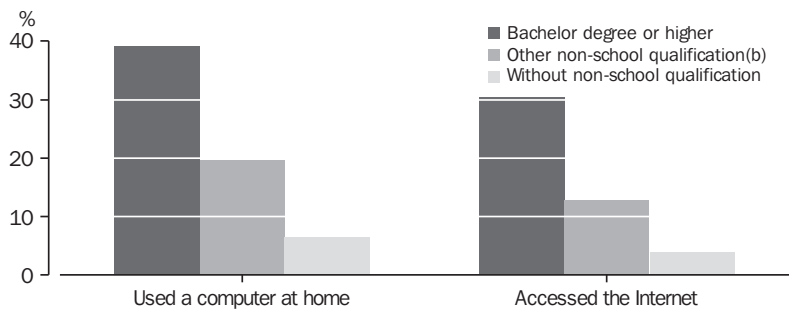


(a) Usual gross weekly income. Includes pensions and allowances.
(b) Excludes overseas visitors.
(c) Includes negative income.
Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EDUCATION

Home computer use and Internet use varied markedly with education. Older persons with non-school qualifications (such as a TAFE certificate, bachelor degree, etc. were more likely than those without non-school qualifications to have used a computer at home or accessed the Internet in the week preceding the 2001 census. Some 39.2% of older persons with a bachelor degree or higher used a home computer while 30.3% accessed the Internet. This compares with 6.5% of older persons without non-school qualifications using a computer at home and 3.8% accessing the Internet.

7.7 COMPUTER USE AND INTERNET ACCESS BY EDUCATION, PERSONS(a) AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER



(a) Excludes overseas visitors. Also excludes those persons who did not state their education or level of qualification.
(b) Includes advanced diploma, associate degree, diploma and certificate level.
Source: ABS data available on request, 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

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

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

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

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

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

ABS POPULATION COUNTS AND ESTIMATES

6 Unless otherwise specified, this publication includes population counts on a 'place of usual residence' basis, that is, numbers of persons usually resident in each state and territory on 7 August 2001, regardless of where they were counted on census night. Therefore overseas visitors, that is, persons who stated they would be in Australia for less than 12 months, are excluded.

7 Characteristics of individual visitors to a household are available at the household of enumeration. Visitors may also be tabulated according to their CD of usual residence but cannot be placed back to their dwelling of usual residence. The relationship of visitors to one another, or to any resident (including cases where all the people enumerated are visitors) is not further classified. Household and family classifications are based on the relationships of people usually residing in the household only, including people temporarily absent, but excluding visitors. Visitors are therefore excluded from data presented in Chapter 3 (Living arrangements) and Chapter 5 (Transport) of this publication.

8 The 2001 census was the first census where the CD of usual residence of visitors was recorded. However, the data were not imputed where the respondent had given insufficient address information. This information is available to at least the SLA level. Note that data presented in Chapter 1 (Population) by the geographical structure Section of State as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) are by place of enumeration when comparisons with previous census are made.

9 Figures presented in this publication may differ from data in other census publications which are for the most part presented on the basis of 'place of enumeration' basis, that is, number of persons counted in each state and territory on census night.

10 Figures presented in this publication will also differ from the ABS' official estimates of the Australian population. Estimated Resident Population (ERP) figures are derived from census usual residence counts, with the addition of the following adjustments:

- While the census aims to enumerate each person present in Australia on census night, some people are missed and some are counted more than once. This usually results in a net underenumeration (or undercount). The level of underenumeration is derived from the Post Enumeration Survey which is conducted soon after the census, and from estimates based on demographic analysis.
- The inclusion of an estimated number of Australian residents who are temporarily overseas on census night and are therefore not covered by the Australian census. The number of such people is estimated from statistics on overseas arrivals and departures.
- The third adjustment occurs because the census does not fall on 30 June. For example, the 2001 census was held on 7 August. Back dating of population estimates from 7 August to 30 June is accomplished using data from birth and death registrations, overseas arrivals and departures, and estimates of interstate migration, for the period 1 July to 7 August.

11 The following table is provided to highlight the difference between the census 'as enumerated' and 'usual residence' counts and ERP.

POPULATION MEASURES — 30 JUNE AND 7 AUGUST 2001

	<i>Census as enumerated</i>	<i>Census usual residence</i>	<i>Estimated resident population</i>
New South Wales	6 371 745	6 326 579	6 609 304
Victoria	4 644 950	4 660 991	4 822 663
Queensland	3 655 139	3 522 044	3 635 121
South Australia	1 467 261	1 470 057	1 514 854
Western Australia	1 851 252	1 828 294	1 906 114
Tasmania	456 652	460 672	472 931
Northern Territory	210 664	188 075	200 019
Australian Capital Territory	311 947	309 998	321 680
Australia(a)	18 972 350	18 769 249	19 485 278

(a) Includes Other Territories.

12 ERP is compiled as at 30 June of each census year and updated quarterly between censuses. The intercensal estimates of the resident population are revised following the next census.

13 ABS population estimates are published in *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0), produced quarterly, and in *Population by Sex and Age, Australian States and Territories* (cat. no. 3201.0) produced annually. ERPs for SLAs are published in *Regional Population Growth, Australia* (cat. no. 3218.0).

14 The ABS also provides projections (based on different assumptions as to future fertility, mortality and migration) of the resident population of Australia, states and territories. These projections are published every two years in *Population Projections, Australia* (cat. no. 3222.0).

DATA LIMITATIONS

15 Census data are subject to a number of inaccuracies resulting from errors by respondents or mistakes in collection or processing. Whilst many of these are corrected by careful processing procedures, some still remain. The effect of the remaining errors is generally slight, although it may be more important for small groups in the population. The main kinds of error to keep in mind are:

- Partial non-response: In some cases where an answer is not provided to a question an answer is imputed (often from other information on the form). In other cases a 'Not stated' code is allocated.
- Processing error: While such errors can occur in any processing system, quality management is used continuously to improve the quality of processed data, and to identify and correct data of unacceptable quality.
- Random adjustment: Table cells containing small values are randomly adjusted or suppressed to avoid releasing information about particular individuals, families, or households. The effects of these adjustments are statistically insignificant.
- Respondent error: Because processing procedures cannot detect or repair all errors made by people in completing the forms, some remain in final data.

DATA LIMITATIONS *continued*

- Undercount: Although the census aims to count each person, there are some people who are missed and others who are counted more than once. The data in this publication are not adjusted for the net undercount.

16 Further information on data quality is provided progressively in *Census Update* and in 2001 *Census Papers*.

QUALITY OF INDIGENOUS
STATISTICS

17 For further information on the quality of Indigenous statistics, see *Population Issues, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians* (cat. no. 4708.0) and *Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians* (cat. no. 4705.0).

CALCULATIONS OF
PROPORTIONS

18 When calculating the proportion of the population with a particular characteristic, 'Not stated' responses are included in the denominator for all calculations included in this publication unless otherwise stated. For example, in table 2.8 the proportion of people born in Italy who spoke only English is calculated by dividing the number of persons who stated that they were born in Italy and spoke only English by the total number of people born in Italy and expressing the result as a percentage. The total includes those persons who did not state their proficiency in English as well as the language they spoke at home.

19 For Chapter 6, due to the high level of non-response to questions relating to their education or attendance, the 'not stated' or 'inadequately described' categories are excluded from most calculations of proportions as indicated by the footnotes.

CALCULATION OF MEDIANS

20 A median is a measure of central tendency. It is a mid value which divides a population distribution into two, with half the observations falling below it and half above it. Unlike averages (means) medians are not usually skewed by extreme observations. The categories 'Not stated' and 'Not applicable' are not included in the calculation of medians.

GLOSSARY

Ageing of the population	Ageing of the population refers to the proportion of the population aged 65 years and over, and the way this proportion is continuing to increase, mostly due to persistent low fertility rates and increasing life expectancy. A population can age numerically and structurally. Numerical ageing refers to the number of people aged 65 years and over, while structural ageing refers to an increase in the proportion of people aged 65 years and over.
All visitors	Overseas visitors and visitors to a household.
Baby boomers	Australian residents who were born in Australia or overseas during the years 1946 to 1965 inclusive. This group includes people in the 'baby boom' age cohort who immigrated to Australia from countries which did not experience a post World War II 'baby boom'.
Cared accommodation	Comprises hospitals, nursing homes, cared accommodation for the retired/aged, hostels for the disabled, childcare institutions and other welfare institutions.
Children	A child is a person of any age who is a natural, adopted, step or foster son or daughter of a couple or lone parent, usually resident in the same household. There are three types of children: a child under 15 years; a dependent student (aged 15-24 years); and a non-dependent child.
Centenarian	A person who is at least 100 years of age.
Cohort	Members of a subpopulation which have some particular common attribute (e.g. persons born in a specific year).
Collection districts (CDs)	Collection districts are the smallest unit for the collection, processing and output of data and are used for the aggregation of statistics to larger Census Geographic Areas.
Core activity restriction	<p>Four levels of core activity restriction are determined based on whether a person needs help, has difficulty, or uses aids or equipment with any of the activities (communication, mobility or self-care). A person's overall level of core activity restriction is determined by their highest level of restriction in these activities.</p> <p>The four levels of restriction (in decreasing level of severity) are profound, severe, moderate and mild. For further detail, see <i>Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 1998</i> (cat. no. 4430.0).</p>
Core activity restriction rate	The proportion of people with a core activity restriction, in any given population or sub-population (e.g. age group).
Country of birth	Countries of birth as defined in the <i>Standard Australian Classification for Countries (SACC)</i> (cat. no. 1269.0).

Couple family	A couple family is based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. The family may or may not include any number of dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals, thus a couple family can consist of a couple without children present in the household.
Disability	In the context of health experience, the World Health Organisation defines disability as any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an action in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.
Educational institution	Any institution whose primary role is education. Included are schools, higher education establishments, colleges of technical and further education, public and private colleges, etc. Excluded are institutions whose primary role is not education, for example, hospitals.
Employed	Employed people are those aged 15 years and over who worked for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business, during the week prior to census night, or had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent, or were on strike or stood down temporarily.
Family	Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of either a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
Fertility rate	The fertility rate for a particular age group is the number of babies that group of women could expect to have given the fertility patterns prevailing in the group at the time.
Field of education	Field of education is defined as the subject matter of an educational activity. It is categorised according to the Field of Education classification of the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)</i> (cat. no. 1272.0).
Full-time worker	Persons who worked 35 hours or more during the week prior to census night are defined as working full-time.
Group household	A household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all persons are aged 15 years or over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.
Household	A group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person.

Indigenous	Persons who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Indigenous fertility rate	Refers to births were the mother identified as Indigenous regardless of the Indigenous status of the father.
Indigenous status	The census asks, for each person in a household or non-private dwelling, whether they are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin and the response(s) to this question determine their Indigenous status. People may identify, or be identified, as being in one of five categories: Aboriginal; Torres Strait Islander; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander; Non-Indigenous; or Not Stated.
Industry	Refers to the industry of the main job held in the week prior to the census of employed persons aged 15 years and over. Industry is coded according to the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)</i> , (cat. no. 1292.0).
Internet	Includes Internet connections in private and business applications; Internet connection through a computer or set top box, games machine, mobile phone, or other means; and Internet used at other locations including libraries, Internet cafes, shops, educational institutions, or at a neighbour's or friend's place of residence.
Labour force	The labour force consists of people aged 15 years and over who are employed, or those who do not have a job but are actively looking for work and are available to start work, during the week prior to census night.
Labour force participation rate	For any group, the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group aged 15 years and over.
Landlord type	Landlord type refers to the type of landlord for rented dwellings. It applies to all households who were renting the dwelling (including caravans. etc. in caravan parks) in which they were enumerated on census night.
Level of education	The highest level of a person's educational achievement, categorised according to the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)</i> (cat. no. 1272.0).
Level of post-school qualification	Level of post-school qualification identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study.
Life expectancy	Life expectancy is the average number of additional years of life remaining to a person at a specified age if current age-specific mortality experience does not change during the person's lifetime.
Living arrangements	Living arrangements refers to whether the person lives alone, with other family members or with other unrelated individuals; whether a person lives in a private dwelling, cared accommodation or other non-private dwelling.

Lone person	A person who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. He or she may live in a dwelling on their own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.
Mature age persons	For the purposes of this publication, mature age persons refers to persons aged between 45 and 64 years.
Median value	For any distribution the median value (age, duration, interval) is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below the value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.
Method of travel to work	Method or means of travel to work on census day used by a person aged 15 years and over who was employed during the week before the census. Up to three methods can be recorded.
Multi-family households	Households which consist of more than one family.
Net interstate migration flows	The difference between the number of persons who have changed their place of usual residence by moving into a given state or territory and the number who have changed their place of usual residence by moving out of that state or territory. This difference may be either positive or negative.
Non-private dwelling	Establishments which provide communal or transitory type accommodation including hotels, motels, boarding houses, boarding schools, residential colleges, hospitals, hostels for disabled, nursing homes, cared accommodation for the retired or aged, hostels for homeless, night shelters, refuges, childcare institutions, corrective institutions, other welfare institutions, prisons, convents, monasteries, and nurse/staff quarters.
Non-school qualification	Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Post Graduate Degree Level, Master Degree Level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level, Bachelor Degree Level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.
Not in the labour force	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not in the categories employed or unemployed as defined, including persons who were retired, pensioners and people engaged solely in home duties.
Number of motor vehicles	Number of registered motor vehicles owned or used by household members, garaged, parked at or near private dwellings on census night. It includes vans and company vehicles kept at home, but excludes motor bikes, scooters and tractors.

Occupation	Refers to the occupation of the main job held in the week prior to the census of employed persons aged 15 years and over. Occupation is coded according to the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), Second Edition</i> (cat. no. 1220.0).
Older persons	Persons aged 65 years and over.
One parent family	A lone parent with at least one child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the family household. The family may also include any member of other related individuals.
Other family	A family of other related individuals residing in the same household. These individuals do not form a couple or parent-child relationship with any other person in the household and are not attached to a couple or one parent family in the household.
Other related individual	An individual who is related to members of the household, but who does not form a couple relationship or parent-child relationship. He/she can be related through blood, step or in-law relationship and include any direct ancestor or descendant. Relatives beyond first cousin are excluded.
Overseas visitors	Those people who indicated they would be usually resident in Australia for less than one year. For the purpose of this publication, these persons have been excluded from all analyses.
Part-time worker	Persons employed for less than 35 hours during the week before census night are defined as working part-time.
Personal computer	Includes computers used at home for private and business purposes; portable computers; personal organisers; computers brought home from the workplace; and dedicated word processors. Game machines are not included.
Population projections	The ABS produces several series of population projections based on different combinations of assumptions about mortality, fertility and migration. For detailed information on the assumptions underlying the population projections, see <i>Projections of the Population of Australia, States and Territories, 1993 to 2041</i> (cat. no. 3222.0).
Predominantly English speaking countries	Refers to countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. Included are the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Private dwelling	Dwellings used as a private place of residence including separate houses, semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses, flats, units, apartments, caravans, cabins, houseboats, improvised homes, tents, sleepers out, and houses or flats attached to a shop or office. Also classified as a private dwelling is self-care accommodation for the retired or aged where the occupants provide their own meals and are regarded as being self-sufficient.

Proficiency in spoken English	An indicator of a person's ability to speak English. Responses to this question in the census are subjective and therefore it is not a definitive measure of a person's ability to speak English. Categories comprise Very well, Well, Not well, Not at all and Not stated.
Qualification	Formal certification, issued by a relevant approved body, in recognition that a person has achieved learning outcomes or competencies relevant to identified individual, professional, industry or community needs. Statements of attainment awarded for partial completion of a course of study at a particular level are excluded.
Regional ageing	A regional population will age if relatively large numbers of older people move into an area and/or young people leave an area.
Religious affiliation	Religious affiliation identifies the religious belief to which a persons adheres or religious group to which they belong. For further information, refer to <i>Australian Standard Classification of Religious Groups (ASCRG)</i> (cat. no. 1266.0).
Remoteness	<p>This classification is designed to compare, on the one hand, the major cities, and at the other extreme, very remote areas. This structure is based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) which utilises road distance to various size service centres as a measure of physical remoteness. Within a state or territory, each remoteness area represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas which share common characteristics of remoteness. The defined areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Major Cities of Australia ■ Inner Regional Australia ■ Outer Regional Australia ■ Remote Australia ■ Very Remote Australia ■ Migratory: composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs. <p>For further information refer to <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001</i>, cat. no. 1216.0, pp. 36–37 and <i>Information Paper: Outcomes of ABS Views on Remoteness Consultation, Australia</i>, (cat. no. 1244.0.00.001).</p>
Replacement level fertility	Replacement level fertility is the value of the total fertility rate which, when deaths of women of child-bearing age are taken into account, allows replacement of the total population. At current levels of mortality it is a total fertility rate of 2.1.
Retirement age	Traditionally, the retirement age is 65 years for males and 60 years for females. The retirement age for females is now between 60 and 65 years, depending on their date of birth.

Section of state	<p>This geographical classification uses population counts from the latest Census of Population and Housing to define Collection Districts (CDs) as urban or rural. Within each state or territory, each Section of State represents an aggregation of non-continuous geographical areas of a particular urban/rural type. The sections of state are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Major Urban: urban areas with a population 100,000 or more ■ Other Urban: urban areas with a population between 1,000 to 99,999 ■ Bounded Locality: rural areas with a population between 200 and 999 ■ Rural Balance: the remainder of the state or territory ■ Migratory: areas composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs. <p>For more information, refer to <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2001</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).</p>
Self-care accommodation	Accommodation for the retired or aged where the occupants provide their own meals and are regarded as being self-sufficient.
Sex ratio	The sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio is defined for total population, at birth, at death and among age groups by appropriately selecting the numerator and denominator of the ratio.
Statistical Division (SD)	An SD is a general purpose spatial unit and is the largest and most stable unit within each state or territory. An SD is defined around each capital city, to encompass the anticipated growth of that city for a period of at least 20 years. Elsewhere, SDs are defined as relatively homogenous regions characterised by identifiable links between the inhabitants and economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. They do not cross state or territory boundaries. (Further details are included in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).)
Statistical Local Area (SLA)	The SLA is the base level spatial unit for the collection and dissemination of statistics. They are based on the administrative areas of local government areas or parts thereof, or any unincorporated area. They cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. SLAs are used in defining and compiling data at the part of state level. (Further details are included in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).)
Statistical Subdivision (SSD)	The SSD is a general purpose spatial unit of intermediate size between the Statistical Local Area (smaller) and the Statistical Division (larger) in the Main Structure of the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0). SSDs consist of one or more SLAs. In aggregate, they cover Australia without gaps or overlaps. SSDs do not cross state or territory boundaries except in the case of the Other Territories SSD, which comprises the three Territories of Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Tenure type	Tenure type describes a person's or household's legal right to occupy the dwelling in which they were enumerated on census night. Tenure type is derived from the responses to a series of questions about ownership, payment to purchase and rental arrangements.
Tertiary institution	Includes technical or further educational institutions (including TAFE Colleges) and universities or other higher educational institutions.
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 years and over who did not have a job but were actively looking for work and available to work.
Unemployment rate	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
Unrelated individual (living in a family household)	A person who lives in a family household, but who is not related to any person in any of the families in the household, but who shares meals with a family, e.g. a boarder.
Usual residence	Usual residence within Australia refers to that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in a given reference year.
Very old persons	Persons aged 85 years and over.
Visitors to a household	Visitors to a household are those persons who do not usually reside at the dwelling recorded on census night.
Working age	Traditionally, the working age refers to between 15 and 64 years of age.

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