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**1996 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:
ABS VIEWS ON CONTENT AND PROCEDURES**

**IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The ongoing objective of the Australian Census is to measure the number and key characteristics of people in Australia on Census night, and the dwellings in which they live.

The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* requires that the " ... Census shall be taken in the year 1981 and in every fifth year thereafter, ... ". In accordance with this provision ABS is preparing now to undertake the next Census in 1996. It is intended that Census day be 6 August 1996.

The purpose of this document is to initiate public consultation regarding the nature and content of the 1996 Census.

Key Goals for the 1996 Census

For the 1996 Census the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has established a key goal of significantly reducing the time between taking the Census and the results becoming available in comparison with the 1991 Census.

The nature and content of the 1991 Census was well received by the public who provided the information. To ensure continued public co-operation ABS has also set a goal that the 1996 Census be no larger, in terms of respondent load, than the 1991 Census. This goal also reflects likely resource constraints on the Census.

Privacy

Protection of the privacy of individuals and the confidentiality of information supplied by them continue to be paramount to the successful conduct of a Census. Confidentiality and privacy issues are discussed in Chapter 3.

Overview of this document

This document outlines ABS plans for procedures to be followed in the 1996 Census, in the areas of collection operations, privacy and confidentiality, processing and output of results.

These procedural statements are followed by three chapters considering individual topics which could be included in the next Census.

Chapter 6 sets out those topics for which ABS considers submissions in previous Census consultations and demand for output are sufficient to justify their inclusion in 1996. ABS regards these topics as fundamental to the Census.

Chapter 7 sets out a group of topics on which ABS is seeking the views of users regarding their inclusion or exclusion from the 1996 Census. While in each case the current ABS view is given, additional user consultation would help ABS' further assessment of these topics. These assessments will be made in the context of any new topics put forward, and the goal that the 1996 Census will be no larger than the 1991 Census.

Chapter 8 sets out a range of topics which the ABS considers should not be included in the 1996 Census. In each case a summary of the reasons underlying the ABS view is given. None of these topics were included in the 1991 Census.

A summary of the issues on which the ABS is seeking advice

While comment is welcomed on any aspect of the 1996 Census, the main issues on which ABS is seeking advice are as follows:

- whether those topics set out in Chapter 7 should be included or excluded?
- whether there are any other topics which should be included in the 1996 Census? If proposing inclusion of an additional topic, users should propose which topic(s) collected in 1991 should be deleted so that the goal that the 1996 Census be no larger than the 1991 Census can be met; and
- the arrangements for confidentiality and privacy described in Chapter 3 of the document.

How to comment on ABS views

Comments from State Government users on the ABS views will be co-ordinated through the appropriate statistical co-ordinating body in each State. For other users a copy of a submission form, and a set of guidelines for completing this form are enclosed with this document. If further copies of the submission form are required please write to the local office of ABS at the address given in Appendix 1.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, 16 April 1993.

Following analysis of written submissions the ABS will arrange follow up discussions with user groups in the period May to June 1993. In the light of these discussions draft final recommendations on the 1996 Census will be discussed with the Australian Statistics Advisory Council in July 1993. This process will ensure that the Government's decisions on the content of the 1996 Census take account of all relevant considerations.

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2. COLLECTION OPERATIONS

Census Date

The 1991 Census was held on 6 August 1991.

This date was selected to avoid a clash with school holiday periods. If the Census is scheduled for a period close to the holidays, operational difficulties would increase and data quality reduce due to people being absent from their usual residences. It is likely that the pattern of school holidays in 1996 will prevent a return to the previously 'traditional' date around the 30th of June.

Noting that another change of date would have potentially adverse impact upon users of statistics, particularly for statistics which display seasonal variation, it is the ABS's view that the 1996 Census should be held on Tuesday, 6 August 1996. ABS believes that the operational difficulties that arose in 1991 from poor weather and reduced hours of daylight in some parts of Australia can be mitigated.

Objectives

The objective of collection operations is to develop and operate a secure collection system that achieves maximum coverage of the population in a cost effective manner. This incorporates the recruitment, training, supervision and remuneration associated with a temporary workforce of approximately 44,000 people. This also incorporates the logistics associated with designing and preparing maps and the printing, packing, distribution and return of over 1,500 tonnes of material.

Mapping

Each collector will be responsible for the taking of the Census in a clearly bounded local area, known as a collection district (CD). There will be about 33,000 CDs covering Australia without overlap or omission. The design and mapping of these areas is a most important preliminary to the Census as they represent both the basic unit of collection and the building block for aggregation into broader level spatial units for dissemination purposes.

For the 1996 Census, the ABS is working to establish a computer-based mapping system to replace the traditional paper-based one. The main benefits of this will be a common map base for both collection and dissemination purposes, better maps for use by collectors leading to better coverage, increased ABS control over the design of CDs and dissemination products, and reduced mapping costs for subsequent Censuses.

Public awareness

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

Delivery and collection of Census forms

Most of the temporary field staff recruited will be group leaders and collectors. Each group leader will be responsible for an average of about 11 collectors who themselves will be responsible for the delivery and collection of Census forms from an average of about 200 dwellings. However there is a large variation in the number of dwellings covered by collectors in urban and rural areas to take account of time taken by travel in rural areas. In addition, special collectors will be recruited to undertake Census duties in large non-private dwellings (such as hospitals, hotels and gaols) and caravan parks.

Collectors have responsibility for delivery of Census forms to all households prior to Census day and again for collection of completed Census forms after Census day.

A booklet, explaining the purpose of the Census, will be delivered with the Census form to each household. The collector will also answer any queries and arrange for collection of the completed Census form.

On collection, the collector will be instructed to scan each form for completeness, seek to resolve any omissions with the household concerned and provide other assistance if requested.

While experience has shown that in general this personal contact is welcomed, where a householder does not want the completed Census form to be seen by the collector, an envelope will be available from the collector in which the form can be sealed. The envelope will then be passed unopened to the group leader who will then check the form for completeness. In addition, any individual member of a household can request a separate form and envelope in which to record their own details. The availability of envelopes for privacy will be explained to householders on the Census form itself and in the accompanying booklet.

In non-private dwellings (such as hospitals, hotels and gaols), persons usually receive separate forms and envelopes in which the completed form can be sealed. Special collectors appointed to cover large establishments are not permitted to open the sealed envelopes. In some cases staff of these dwellings complete the form on behalf of the persons involved (e.g. for frail persons in a nursing home).

Special assistance in completion of Census forms

In addition to the public awareness campaign and assistance available from collectors, several other methods will be used to assist respondents to understand the nature and purpose of the Census and to complete the Census form. These include the use of a telephone interpreter service, interpreters for persons who have English language problems and a telephone enquiry service for general public enquiries.

Enumeration of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations

Special procedures will be implemented to ensure that the coverage of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations is as complete as possible. These procedures will be further developed from those used successfully for the 1986 and 1991 Censuses.

Non co-operation

It is expected that the public awareness campaign on the nature of, and uses of statistics from, the Census will keep problems of non co-operation to a minimum. For people who do not co-operate with the collector, an approach will usually be made by the group leader in an endeavour to overcome problems or objections and then, if necessary, written requests will be sent. Further action, including legal action, will generally be considered only after these measures have failed.

3. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

General Issues

The Census collects information relating to each person and household in the country. But it is not concerned with facts about individuals as such. It is taken to provide facts about the community as a whole and about groups within the community. The public have a right to expect that the information they provide will be kept confidential. This protection is provided by provisions in the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

The ABS also has an obligation to comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the *Privacy Act 1988*.

To ensure that confidentiality and privacy provisions are observed a comprehensive set of practices will be adopted by the ABS. In the 1996 Census they will take the following form:

- (a) Temporary staff recruited for collection and processing of the Census as well as permanent staff having access to completed Census forms are officers of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. All ABS officers are legally bound to secrecy under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. Officers sign an undertaking of fidelity and secrecy to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities in regard to Census data. Section 19 of the *Census and Statistics Act* forbids past or present ABS officers from divulging information collected under this Act, either directly or indirectly, under penalty of a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, or both.
- (b) In large urban areas procedures are established to avoid collectors working in the districts in which they live, to minimise the possibility of collection of information from people they know personally. However, in other areas, where fewer applications can be expected for Census collector positions and travel involves significant costs, collectors will be recruited who might know some householders. If a collector does know a householder they will be instructed to offer the householder an envelope in which to seal the completed form.
- (c) Householders will be advised in the booklet delivered with each form that anyone who does not want their completed form to be seen by the collector will be able to obtain from the collector an envelope in which to seal the form. Census collectors will be required to pass all such sealed envelopes unopened to their field supervisor who will then scan the form for completeness. In addition, any individual member of a household can request a separate form and envelope in which to record their own details and seal their Census form from other members of the household. Persons not in private dwellings generally receive separate forms and envelopes. Persons who say they are not satisfied with these arrangements will be able to send a completed form to the ABS by mail.
- (d) In order to prevent disclosure of Census information to third parties from the loss of forms, Census collectors will be instructed to pick up Census forms in person from householders and not to suggest arrangements whereby completed forms are left outside the house at some pre-arranged location.
- (e) Completed Census forms will be transferred from the field to the Census processing centre under secure arrangements. Full-time security personnel will be employed to prevent any unauthorised access to the processing centre.
- (f) Standard security arrangements are implemented on the ABS computer system which include the use of regularly changed passwords, access control and audit trails.

- (g) The results of the Census will be released in accordance with the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. This Act requires the results to be disseminated in a manner which is not likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation.

In the past, to ensure that this last requirement is met, the ABS has made slight random adjustments to the tabulated data. Similar, or enhanced, procedures will be employed in the 1996 Census.

Destruction of Census forms

In Australia, Census forms have been destroyed once the statistical data required for the purposes of the Census have been extracted. Such destruction is consistent with the guarantee of confidentiality provided to people completing the forms.

At the same time it has been pointed out that retaining the forms for a period beyond that required for the immediate processing of the Census could permit the information to be used for a number of purposes. Despite the potential value of some of these further purposes the Government has in the past decided that the forms should not be retained. A relevant factor was concern that public confidence in the confidentiality of the Census could be undermined, hence reducing both the willingness of individuals to provide full and accurate information about themselves and the value of Census data for current purposes.

The Government has not yet considered the issue of retention of forms from the 1996 Census. In developing his advice to the Government on the nature and content of the Census, the Statistician wishes to be aware of any specific proposals for statistical analysis which require the retention of Census forms or identifiable Census data beyond the period required for Census purposes. Proponents of such proposals should note the ABS view that:

- any proposal would need to have substantial community value to outweigh the concerns of the public regarding privacy and confidentiality which underlie current policies and practices;
- any proposal should be for statistical purposes only;
- access to individual forms or identifiable data would continue to be restricted to officers of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*;
- funds to meet all additional costs would have to be provided to ABS; and
- full details of any proposal, including the reason for any retention of forms, the period of retention and what, if any, matching of Census records with other records is intended would have to be specified well in advance of the Census so that it could be subject to public and Parliamentary scrutiny.

Post Census Surveys

In some other countries the Census is used as a sampling framework for selection of surveys of small groups of the population. These surveys are designed to obtain more detailed information about particular subgroups of the population (for example, Canada undertakes a survey of their indigenous people) than is possible in the Census.

The principal benefit of the approach is that it can be used to contact people who indicate in the Census that they belong to a small group in the population for which:

- there is a priority need for further information; and
- there is no other comprehensive source of information on the location of members.

Under the present practices of ABS, to obtain information about small population groups it is necessary to sample the entire population. As a result a relatively large number of people are contacted to determine if they fall within the target group. This adds to the overall statistical reporting burden upon the population at large and to costs.

The Statistician is currently considering whether there are any justified uses of the Australian Census as a framework for surveys of subgroups of the population.

4. PROCESSING

For the 1996 Census data will be captured and processed using the same basic methods that were used successfully in 1991, namely Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) and computer assisted coding (CAC).

In keeping with the first of the key goals referred to in Chapter 1 the ABS will pay close attention to improving the way processing is carried out so that results become available significantly earlier than they have been from the 1991 Census.

Imputation for non-response

There are a number of circumstances in which less than complete information is provided in respect of a dwelling. In some of these circumstances it is possible to impute the missing information from that information which is provided by the respondent. However, in Australia it has been the practise to allocate a code of "not stated" in many situations of non-response and only to impute in a very limited number of circumstances:

- where there is missing information relating to age, sex, marital status or State of usual residence the answer is imputed in all cases;
- where no response is given for relationship, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, birthplace or birthplace of parents, but the true response is clear from other information on the form; and
- labour force status may be imputed by reference to responses to a number of questions.

Some other countries undertake imputation on a much wider scale, in some cases imputing for virtually all question non-response. In those countries it is believed that the statistical agency is better placed to make such judgements than the users who may resort to techniques such as prorata adjustment of published information on the frequency of 'not stated' codes across all 'stated' categories.

Initial results from the 1991 Census in Australia indicate that the level of question non-response may in many cases be higher than it was in the 1986 Census. This is similar to, but less severe than, experience in a number of other countries. Despite these circumstances the ABS does not propose to increase the extent of imputation on a wide scale as it is not likely to be of benefit to most users. In reaching this conclusion ABS has taken particular note that:

- the process of imputation may not represent any real increase in the information content of the Census output - rather, by concealing the level of question non-response, it will remove users' flexibility to use their judgement of the best way of overcoming the problem;
- by adding further work to the processing task, additional imputation will almost inevitably lead to delays in the availability of output; and
- it is often the case that where information from one question is needed to impute the answer to another question, both will be missing - thus in many practical situations there will still be a level of question non-response and some codes of 'not-stated'.

5. RESULTS/OUTPUT

Where people are counted

Australian Censuses have always counted people where they were on Census night; that is, Censuses have been based on actual location or place of enumeration. This is in contrast to place of usual residence Censuses where people are recorded in Census counts at the places where they usually reside. Some countries such as the United Kingdom and New Zealand conduct their Censuses on the same basis as Australia, but many countries including Canada, the United States, Japan and most European countries, conduct their Censuses on a usual residence basis. (The definition of 'usual residence' varies from country to country.)

An important difference between actual location and usual residence Censuses is the treatment of people who are absent from their own country of (usual) residence at Census time. A usual residence based Census could have to account for Australian residents overseas at the time of the Census, as well as excluding overseas residents in Australia at the time of the Census.

The great majority of people counted in the Census were at home on Census night, so the impact of persons away from their usual residence is generally not great. However, there are some Statistical Local Areas (SLA) where the difference between usual residence and actual location counts is significant because of the influx of visitors (e.g. holiday resorts, tourist areas and business accommodation areas).

Providing usual residence based data about individuals from an actual location Census such as Australia's is relatively simple, inexpensive and is already required for population estimates. To give a full range of usual residence based family and household data would be considerably more expensive. Current family and household data are partially usual residence based through the coding of absent spouses and dependent children.

Issues to be considered if Australia were to run a usual residence based Census include:

- the need for additional questions;
- substantial development costs for the ABS;
- complexity and high cost of coding visitors to the CD of their usual residence;
- the treatment of Australians temporarily overseas on Census night;
- persons with no usual residence, and whole families or households absent from their usual residence on Census night; and
- ways of maintaining comparability between Censuses.

The 1996 Census will be conducted on an actual location basis with adequate provision for a range of usual residence based data. Users are invited to comment on any need for additional family or household usual residence based data for 1996, or on the need to move to a usual residence based Census for Censuses after 1996.

External Territories

It is planned to include the Territories of Cocos (Keeling) and Christmas Islands in the 1996 Census and for the results for those Territories to be included in the counts for Australia.

Classifications

Most classifications proposed to be used will be similar to those used in the 1991 Census. The ABS intends to seek comments from users during 1994 on classifications proposed for the 1996 Census. Users wishing to be consulted on the classifications and who have not already been approached by ABS should advise the relevant contact officer listed in Appendix 1.

Preliminary data

1996 Census preliminary data will be released at least as quickly as it was in the 1991 Census. We will be looking at ways of doing better. Increasing the range of products containing preliminary data from the 1996 Census will be considered following the unexpected high demand for preliminary data from the 1991 Census.

Investigations of output products

The ABS intends to undertake a review of output products and services from the 1991 Census as a later phase in the client consultation process. These later consultations will include an opportunity for clients to suggest new products from the 1996 Census.

Other investigative work planned includes:

- methods of electronic dissemination, particularly using data transmission facilities;
- a better method of storing and accessing Census data to facilitate more rapid and more efficient tabulation;
- ways of including other ABS data in standard products; and
- output mapping needs for the 1996 Census.

Evaluation

An integral step in the conduct of the Census is an evaluation aimed at providing a measure of the extent of underenumeration. For this purpose a survey will be conducted soon after Census night. In addition, evaluation studies will be conducted to assist users of Census data with information about data quality and to provide feedback for improvements to be made for the following Census.

6. TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 1996 CENSUS

This chapter contains assessments of the following topics which ABS considers should be included in the 1996 Census:

- Name
- Household address on Census night
- Age and Sex
- Relationship (family structure)
- Usual residence at Census time
- Internal migration
- Birthplace
- Birthplace of parents
- Year of arrival
- Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander origin
- Language use/proficiency
- Religion
- Attendance at an educational institution
- Education qualifications
- Age left school
- Income (including family income)
- Labour force status
- Occupation
- Industry
- Hours worked
- Journey to work (destination zone coding)
- Mode of travel to work
- Number of bedrooms
- Rent
- Housing loan repayments
- Private dwelling (classification)
- Non-private dwelling and caravan park (classification)

NAME**Historical background**

Names have been requested in all previous Censuses.

1991 Census question

Name of each person *including visitors* who spent the night of Tuesday, 6 August 1991 in this household:

- Record details for all adults, children, babies and *visitors*.
- Include any person who returned on Wednesday 7 August 1991, without having been counted elsewhere.
- Enter the householder or any adult household member as 'Person 1' and if present, the spouse or partner as 'Person 2'.

Christian or given name

Surname

Justification

Names are essential to the conduct of an accurate Census. The inclusion of names on Census forms reduces the incidence of inaccurate responses and non-completion of forms. The Australian Law Reform Commission, in its 1979 report on Privacy and the Census, found that an anonymous Census would result in an unacceptable level of non-response and an equally unacceptable bias in responses.

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

Names are essential for the conduct of the post-enumeration survey which measures the level of underenumeration in the Census. These estimates are an important component of revisions to estimated resident populations for each of the States and local government areas.

Assessment

Names are essential for the conduct of an accurate Census.

The inclusion of names in the Census does raise privacy concerns but the confidentiality of data provided is carefully guarded. Names of persons are not kept on computer files and no identifiable information about an individual is made available to any other person, government agency or private organisation. (See also Chapter 3 on confidentiality and privacy.)

HOUSEHOLD ADDRESS ON CENSUS NIGHT

Historical background

Census counts classified by statistical areas where persons spent Census night are available from every national Census.

1991 Census question

**At what address did this household spend Census Night,
*Tuesday, 6 August 1991?***

Street no. and name

Suburb or rural locality

City or town

Postcode

Justification

The majority of Census output is available on a place of enumeration basis for individual collection districts or aggregations thereof. Household address on Census night is used to confirm the geographic code allocated to the household. It is also needed to derive the geographic code of place of usual residence.

Household address on Census night is also essential for the conduct of the post-enumeration survey which measures the level of underenumeration in the Census. Estimates of underenumeration in the Census are an important component of revisions to estimated resident populations for each of the States and local government areas.

There is also considerable demand for Census data at postcode level. Before the 1991 Census, the postcodes used with Census data were always formed by aggregating whole collection districts (CDs). For the 1991 Census, data are available both on this (CD derived) basis and according to postcodes provided by respondents. Postcodes for place of enumeration data are collected through this question.

Assessment

Household address on Census night is essential for the conduct of an accurate Census. Confidentiality of the data provided is carefully guarded and the information is not kept on computer files. No identifiable information about an individual is made available to any other person, government agency or private organisation.

SEX and AGE

Historical background

The topics of sex and age have been included in every Australian Census since 1911.

1991 Census questions

Sex

• Mark one box for each person, for example (–)

() Male

() Female

Mark each person's age last birthday.

• If age is less than one year, mark box (0).

• Mark one box for each person. For example, for a person aged 31 years:

Example

Years:

(0) (10) (20) (30) (40) (50) (60) (70) (80)

(1) (11) (21) (31) (41) (51) (61) (71) (81)

(2) (12) (22) (32) (42) (52) (62) (72) (82)

(3) (13) (23) (33) (43) (53) (63) (73) (83)

(4) (14) (24) (34) (44) (54) (64) (74) (84)

(5) (15) (25) (35) (45) (55) (65) (75) (85)

(6) (16) (26) (36) (46) (56) (66) (76) (86)

(7) (17) (27) (37) (47) (57) (67) (77) (87)

(8) (18) (28) (38) (48) (58) (68) (78) (88)

(9) (19) (29) (39) (49) (59) (69) (79) (89)

() 90 years or more - please specify

Years:

(0) (10) (20) (30) (40) (50) (60) (70) (80)

(1) (11) (21) (31) (41) (51) (61) (71) (81)

(2) (12) (22) (32) (42) (52) (62) (72) (82)

(3) (13) (23) (33) (43) (53) (63) (73) (83)

(4) (14) (24) (34) (44) (54) (64) (74) (84)

(5) (15) (25) (35) (45) (55) (65) (75) (85)

(6) (16) (26) (36) (46) (56) (66) (76) (86)

(7) (17) (27) (37) (47) (57) (67) (77) (87)

(8) (18) (28) (38) (48) (58) (68) (78) (88)

(9) (19) (29) (39) (49) (59) (69) (79) (89)

() 90 years or more - please specify

User requirements

Sex and age counts are essential for the production of accurate population estimates. Users require counts by single year age and sex for small geographic areas and small groups of the population as a basic input to many planning and policy development activities. The sex and age variables are also widely used with other characteristics of the population in cross-classified tables.

Assessment

The topics sex and age are essential items for the production of accurate State population estimates, a major objective of the Census, and for sub-State population estimates. They are valuable items in their own right for planning and policy development and data on sex and age are essential for virtually all demographic studies.

RELATIONSHIP (FAMILY STRUCTURE)

Historical background

Information on relationships between persons in a household is obtained by defining type of household and family groups within households. A question on relationship has been included in all Australian Censuses.

Several improvements to Census data on families and households were made for recent Censuses:

- the inclusion of a question on usual residents temporarily absent allowed family members temporarily absent on Census night to be included in the coding of family and household structures. This helped overcome the problem created by absent spouses in previous Censuses which led to a net overstatement of the number of single-parent families and an understatement of the number of families with both parents normally resident in a household;
- a change in the question on relationships within a household made it possible to produce statistics on de facto living arrangements and children in blended families;
- in 1986, statistics were produced for the first time on the family structure of persons residing in caravans, mobile homes or other structures in caravan parks; and
- in 1991, the usefulness of family and household data from the Census was further enhanced by improved coding procedures.

The concepts of household head and family head are no longer recognised by the Census. Since 1986, householders have been instructed to complete the household form with the householder or any adult household member as 'Person 1' and, if present, the spouse/partner as 'Person 2'. Family structures were created with reference to Persons 1 and 2. Outputs no longer contain tables with the variables household and family head.

1991 Census questions

Persons staying in non-private dwellings on Census night were asked only to mark whether hotel guest, patient, staff member etc. Persons staying in private dwellings were asked the following questions. (No response required for Person 1.)

	PERSON 2	PERSON 3
What is each person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2 ?		
• Examples of other relationships: son-in-law, granddaughter, uncle, boarder.	<input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> De facto partner of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Stepchild of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Other relationship to Person 1 - please specify	<input type="checkbox"/> Child of both Person 1 and Person 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 1 only <input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 2 only <input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Other relationship to Person 1 - please specify
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Are there any persons who usually live in this household who were absent on the night of Tuesday, 6 August 1991?

No - please sign below

Yes - please complete one separate column for each person absent

Name of each person who usually lives in this household but was not here on the night of Tuesday, 6 August 1991?

Christian or given name

Surname

Sex

Mark one box for each person absent.

Male

Female

Age last birthday

0-14 years

15-24 years

25 years or more

What is each person's relationship to Person 1 (as listed on page 1)?

Husband or wife

De facto partner

Child

Unrelated flatmate/co-tenant

Other relationship

- please specify

What is each person's present marital status?

Never married

Married

Separated but not divorced

Divorced

Widowed

Is the person a full-time student ?

Yes, full-time

No

User requirements

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

Non-Census data available

Data on family structure are available from many ABS household surveys. However, because of restricted sample sizes, surveys do not provide reliable data for small areas and small groups of the population which are needed for many purposes.

Assessment

Data on households and families are of fundamental value in their own right and households and families are basic units for analysis of many other Census characteristics. Detailed data are available only from the Census and provide a benchmark for the analysis of changing family structures and characteristics over time.

Analysis of 1986 Census results indicate that the accuracy of coding of household and family structures has been much improved by the inclusion of the question on usual residents temporarily absent. The value of family statistics has been enhanced by the additional information collected on blended families and families in caravan parks.

For 1996, consideration is being given to the feasibility of extending the collection of family and household data to some types of non-private dwellings that frequently accommodate family groups.

USUAL RESIDENCE AT CENSUS TIME

Historical background

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

1991 Census questions

What is each person's usual address?

- 'Usual' address is that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more in 1991.
- For persons who now have no usual address, regard this dwelling as their usual address.
- For boarders at boarding school or college, give address of school or college.

- () The address shown on the front of this form
- () Elsewhere - please specify address

Street no. and name

Suburb or rural locality

City or town

Postcode

In which State or Territory is each person's usual address?

- State 'usually' lived in is the State in which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more in 1991.
- For persons who now have no usual State of residence, mark State now in.

- () NSW
- () Vic
- () Qld
- () SA
- () WA
- () Tas
- () NT
- () ACT
- () Elsewhere

User requirements

The most important use for data on place of usual residence at Census time is to obtain usual residence Census counts for the estimation of usual resident populations for States and local government areas. These population estimates are used in determining the number of seats in the House of Representatives allocated to each State, and the distribution of Commonwealth funds to the States, Territories and local government authorities.

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

Non-Census data available

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

Assessment

Data on usual residents are essential to the production of accurate State and local government population estimates, the primary objective of the Census.

A self-coded category will be added to allow respondents with a usual address that is overseas to mark a box rather than writing their full address as many did in the 1991 Census.

INTERNAL MIGRATION

Historical background

Since 1971 persons have been asked to state their usual residence five years ago to enable statistics on internal migration to be compiled. A further question on usual residence one year ago was included in the 1976, 1981 and 1986 Censuses. From 1976 to 1986, full addresses were requested and subsequently coded to statistical local areas or Census local government areas. Only a locality code, not the actual address, is stored on the computer files.

In 1991, respondents were asked for their State of usual residence one year ago and a full address for residence five years ago.

1991 Census questions

In which State or Territory was each person's usual address one year ago (at 6 August 1990)?

• If the person is less than one year old, leave blank.

- NSW
- Vic
- Qld
- SA
- WA
- Tas
- NT
- ACT
- Elsewhere

What was each person's usual address five years ago (at 6 August 1986)?

- If the person is less than five years old, leave blank.
- For persons who had no usual address on 6 August 1986, give the address at which they were then living.

- Same as in question... of this form
- Elsewhere - please specify address

Street no. and name

Suburb or rural locality

City or town

State

Postcode

User requirements

Data on a person's usual residence at some prior point in time (e.g. one or five years ago), when combined with detailed responses to the question on usual residence at Census time, provide information on the extent of internal migration of the population. Coupled with other questions on the form, the questions on usual residence provide information on characteristics of the migratory population as well as the non-migratory population. Such data are used in the production of intercensal and postcensal population estimates, all of which are compiled on the basis of usual residence. In addition, internal migration data is an important basis for projections of the population in particular areas.

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

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

Non-Census data available

Data on place of residence one year ago was collected in the Internal Migration Surveys between 1970 and 1987 but statistics were not available at small area level and survey results were not reliable for smaller States and Territories. The survey has now been discontinued. Some administrative by-product data such as from Medicare give regular statistics on the number of movements, but only very limited details are available on the characteristics of movers. Such data are also subject to changes in their coverage.

The Census is the only source of data on place of residence five years ago.

Assessment

Usual residence one year ago at the State level is required for the calculation of ratios for use in the postcensal estimation of interstate migration. These in turn are an essential component of population estimates.

Usual residence five years ago at State level only is required for analysis of internal migration and for revision of State population estimates for the immediate past intercensal period. Census data allow a direct measure of this component of population estimate revisions.

For the 1991 Census, data was obtained for usual residence one year ago at State/Territory level only and at the statistical local area level for usual residence five years ago. However, users have been concerned about the absence of data at statistical local area level for usual residence one year ago.

The ABS believes it is difficult to justify collecting data at statistical local area level for both usual residence one and five years ago. Usual residence one year ago data appear to have a higher priority for more users than usual residence five years ago.

For the 1996 Census, a self-coded category will be added to allow respondents to mark 'overseas' as their usual address one year ago rather than writing their full address as in the 1991 Census.

The 1996 Census will include a question requesting full address for place of usual residence one year ago and a question asking for State of usual residence five years ago.

BIRTHPLACE

Historical background

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

1991 Census question

Where was each person born?

- Australia. Now go to...
- England
- Scotland
- Italy
- Greece
- New Zealand
- The Netherlands
- Other - please specify

User requirements

Data on birthplace are critical in targeting settlement assistance to migrants. They are used for the examination of the need for, and the utilisation of, health, education and other social services for migrant groups, for labour force training and recruitment and for the formulation and monitoring of many other government policies and programs related to migrants. For these purposes the data is mostly required at a small area level and is often cross-classified with year of arrival data.

The inclusion of the birthplace topic in the Census will enable the ABS to maintain the accuracy of the estimated resident population by birthplace series.

Non-Census data available

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

Regular statistics on overseas arrivals and departures classified by birthplace are available from the processing of passenger cards required to be completed for each movement.

Assessment

Most of the important uses of country of birth information require detailed data for the large number of source countries of Australian migrants. Such data are also required for small areas. These needs cannot be met with acceptable quality from sample surveys nor overseas arrivals and departures statistics. The value of the data is greatly enhanced when cross-classified with data on period of residence in Australia which enables recent migrants to be distinguished from those who arrived some time ago. The data are widely used in planning and policy development.

BIRTHPLACE OF PARENTS

Historical background

A question on birthplace of parents was first asked in 1921, when the data were used to investigate the extent of the relationship between birthplace and race of persons born in Asia who were resident in Australia. The results showed that an appreciable proportion of persons born in Japan and other Asian countries, and a majority of those born in India, were of European parentage. No tabulations of birthplace of parents were released.

A question of birthplace of parents was not asked again until 1971 and has been asked in all subsequent Australian Censuses.

1991 Census questions

Where was each person's father born?

- Australia
- England
- Scotland
- Italy
- Greece
- New Zealand
- The Netherlands
- Other - please specify

Where was each person's mother born?

- Australia
- England
- Scotland
- Italy
- Greece
- New Zealand
- The Netherlands
- Other - please specify

User requirements

Data on birthplace of parents indicate the ethnic background of Australians and are used in planning the delivery of services to migrants and in access and equity reviews.

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

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

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

Non-Census data available

The only regular data on birthplace of parents published by the ABS are derived from birth and marriage registrations. Data on birthplace of parents has been occasionally obtained in ABS surveys.

Assessment

The questions on birthplace of parents provides objective data on ethnicity in general and on the second-generation population in particular. The data provides important background information to planning decisions including those relating to access and equity.

YEAR OF ARRIVAL

Historical background

A question on date of first arrival in Australia or number of completed years of residence in Australia, has been asked of overseas born residents in all Australian Censuses since 1911.

1991 Census question

When did the person first arrive in Australia?

- Before 1971
- 1971-1975
- 1976-1980
- 1981-1985
- 1986-1987
- 1988-1989
- 1990-1991

User requirements

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

- for the separate identification of recent compared with 'older' migrant groups, with the former generally requiring more services; and
- in analysis of various aspects of migrant participation in the labour force.

The data are generally required at a small area level.

Non-Census data available

Most ABS population surveys collect information on year of arrival for the overseas born population. Regular statistics on overseas arrivals are available from the processing of passenger cards required for each movement.

Assessment

Year of arrival is an important cross-classifier for analysing data on the overseas-born population. Survey data cannot provide the small area data needed and cross-classified tables on the many birthplace groups that are possible with Census results.

ABORIGINAL/TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ORIGIN

Historical background

In all Censuses prior to 1971 respondents were asked to state their race and, where race was mixed, to specify the proportions of each. In the 1971 and 1976 Censuses a question with response categories of European, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Other was included. Since 1981, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been separately identified. In remote areas, special interview forms were used to facilitate the enumeration of these groups.

Special measures have also been adopted to obtain as complete a coverage as possible of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. These included increased Census awareness activities, greater use of Aboriginal collectors and assistants, greater involvement of Aboriginal organisations, and better co-ordination of special field operations.

1991 Census question

Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

• For persons of mixed origin, indicate the one to which they consider themselves to belong.

- No
 Yes, Aboriginal
 Yes, Torres Strait Islander

User requirements

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

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

Non-Census data available

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

The ABS plans to conduct an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey in 1994 to provide statistical data on a wide range of topics at national and State level. In addition, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identifier will be included in relevant household surveys.

Assessment

In the absence of comprehensive and reliable data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from administrative systems, the Census is the only source of socio-demographic data on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations for small areas.

An alternative question like the 1986 Census ancestry question will not produce reliable data on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations because some of these people choose to simply

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

state their ancestry as Australian. It is considered essential to include a question of the same design as that used in recent Censuses in order to maintain comparability.

LANGUAGE USE/PROFICIENCY

Historical background

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

In 1981, a question was asked on proficiency in spoken English for those persons speaking a language other than English at home. In 1986 and 1991, two questions were asked: one on whether a language other than English is spoken at home, and if so what language; and the other dealing with proficiency in spoken English.

1991 Census questions

Does the person speak a language other than English *at home*?

- No, speaks only English.
Now go to ...
 Yes, Italian
 Yes, Greek
 Yes, Cantonese
 Yes, Mandarin
 Yes, German
 Yes, Arabic
 Yes, other - please specify

How well does the person speak *English*?

- Very well
 Well
 Not well
 Not at all

User requirements

Data on languages used are required:

- for the investigation and development of language services such as interpretation/translation and education;
- for the implementation of the national language policy; and
- as an indicator of 'active' ethnicity.

Data on proficiency in English are needed for:

- the development of English teaching programs;
- the development of multilingual information programs;

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

- the provision of interpretation/translation services; and
- the provision of migrant welfare services.

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

Non-Census data available

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

Assessment

Language use questions have importance in implementation of national and State policies on language. They are used for study of language acquisition and inter-generational language retention.

Users in all levels of Government and community groups require data on proficiency in English at small area level and for small groups for use in targeting both language services and welfare or community services aimed at migrants.

The Government's objectives in its access and equality policy require language use data to be available for monitoring and implementing associated programs.

RELIGION

Historical background

A question on a person's religion has been asked in all Australian Censuses. *The Census and Statistics Act 1905* specifies that response to this question is optional.

1991 Census question

What is each person's religious denomination?

- Answering this question is **OPTIONAL**.
- If no religion, mark last box.

- Catholic
- Anglican (Church of England)
- Uniting Church
- Presbyterian
- Greek Orthodox
- Baptist
- Lutheran
- Other-please specify

- No religion

User requirements

Data on religious affiliations of the population are required for the planning of all types of religion-related or religion-sponsored services, including:

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

In addition, the 1986 Population Census Ethnicity Committee in its April 1984 Report considered that information on a person's religion was, to some extent, useful as a surrogate measure of ethnicity.

Non-Census data available

Data on the religious affiliations of the population are not available from other sources but some data on religion are obtained from marriage registrations in the form of files used by marriage celebrants.

Assessment

Users have argued that religious organisations are the largest providers of services to the community outside those provided by Governments and the Census is the only source of data they can use for the effective and efficient planning of such services.

The data are widely used in the religious community, and by Government agencies which provide services which complement services provided by religious organisations.

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

There has been some concern that the religions in the self-coded list in the 1991 Census questions are all 'Christian' religions. However, only a small number of the most common response categories can be listed in the space available. The categories selected and their order were determined solely according to the frequency of responses in the 1986 Census.

The list of religions used in the 1996 Census will be based on counts from the 1991 Census.

ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Historical background

A variety of questions enabling the identification of full-time students has been included in all Censuses. Questions on type of educational institution being attended by students have also been asked in varying degrees of detail in a number of Censuses to enable comprehensive statistics to be produced on the characteristics of people attending various types of institutions.

1991 Census questions

<p>Is the person attending a school or any other educational institution?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include external or correspondence students. • For school students, mark second box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No. Now go to ... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, full-time student <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, part-time student
<p>What type of educational institution is the person attending?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include external or correspondence students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of other higher educational institutions: Institute of Technology, Institute of Advanced Education, Conservatorium of Music. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-school Infants/Primary school <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Government <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary school <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Government <input type="checkbox"/> Tertiary Institution <input type="checkbox"/> Technical and Further Education (TAFE) College <input type="checkbox"/> University, College of Advanced Education (CAE) or other higher educational institution <input type="checkbox"/> Other institution - please specify <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>

User requirements

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

Information on whether each person under 15 years or aged 15-20 years and a full-time student is used by ABS for identifying dependent family children in family coding.

The data enables education planners to compare the current participation levels of small groups in the population. It also assists in developing policies affecting the labour market.

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

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

Data on type of institution being attended further enhance analysis by providing data on the participation of different groups in the population in the various levels of education.

Non-Census data available

Data on attendance at schools, universities and technical and further education colleges are collected each year from administrative sources but limited socio-economic data are available from these sources.

Monthly labour force surveys ask people aged 15-20 years whether or not they are attending school. Data on school and tertiary attendance for persons aged 15-64 are also available from the annual ABS survey 'Transition from Education to Work'.

Assessment

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

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

Due to current and foreshadowed changes in vocational education it is possible that the question design used in 1991 may be inappropriate for 1996. However, it is far from clear whether user needs in 1996 will be substantially different and, if they are, whether those changed needs can be adequately met in the Census.

Due to structural changes in the higher education system, the term 'College of Advanced Education (CAE)' will be omitted from the relevant response category.

EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS

Historical background

An education question in which respondents reported their highest level of achievement was included in the 1911 Census. However, a question directly asking about education qualifications was not included until 1976 when respondents were asked to provide details of the qualification name and institution at which it was obtained. Since 1971, persons aged 15 or over have been asked whether they had obtained a qualification. If so, information on the name of the highest qualification obtained, the field of study, the institution from which it was granted, and the year obtained was collected to enable the coding of the highest qualification to a detailed classification incorporating both level and field of study.

1991 Census questions

Has the person obtained a trade certificate or any other educational qualification since leaving school?

- () No. **Now go to ...**
 () Still at primary or secondary school. **Now go to ...**
 () Still studying for first qualification. **Now go to ...**
 () Yes, trade certificate or ticket
 () Yes, other qualification.

What is the *highest* qualification that the person has obtained since leaving school?

- For example, Registered Nursing Certificate, Bricklaying Trade Certificate.

Full name of qualification

What was the main field of study for the person's *highest* qualification?

- For example, history, plumbing, primary school teaching.

Field of study

From which institution was the person's qualification obtained?

• If obtained overseas, also state country.

Name of institution

In which year did the person complete that qualification?

- () Before 1971
 () 1971-1975
 () 1976-1980
 () 1981-1985
 () 1986-1987
 () 1988-1989
 () 1990-1991

User requirements

Data on education qualifications are important for the assessment of the skill level of the labour force and are therefore valuable for the planning and implementation of labour force training programs. The Department of Employment, Education and Training uses the data also as a basis for the preparation of the 'Occupational Demand Schedule' for use by the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs in recruiting skilled migrants.

Some users require data on level of qualifications as a general indicator of education advantage in a socio-economic analysis of groups in the population.

For labour market analysis, level of qualification is of little use without knowledge about field of study. Field of study is required in considerable detail for studies of skill wastage or underutilisation, and for planning vocational education and training courses.

Data on year qualification obtained is vital in allowing an assessment of the rate at which qualified people move out of the occupations for which they were qualified, enter into other occupations or out of the labour force.

Non-Census data available

Educational institutions collect details of qualifications awarded each year.

Data on leavers from schools, universities and other educational institutions are collected in population surveys run periodically by the ABS. Information on level of qualification and broad field of study are collected in an ABS survey on Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment conducted every February. While these surveys all provide useful education data, the use of sampling means that detailed field of study data and small area data cannot be made available.

Assessment

The responses to name of institution are used only to assist in coding and were not included in output.

Questions on qualifications suffer from a fairly high level of non-response particularly by those without formal qualifications.

There are also coding problems with 'field of study' responses, particularly for overseas qualifications, qualifications obtained some time ago and where inadequate descriptions are provided by respondents.

Despite some problems with the data, qualifications information from the Census is very important given policy changes occurring in the area of education and training.

AGE LEFT SCHOOL

Historical background

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

1991 Census question

How old was the person when he or she left school?

- For persons who are primary or secondary school students, mark first box. Still at primary or secondary school
- For persons who did not go to school, mark second box. Did not go to school
- 14 years or younger
- 15 years
- 16 years
- 17 years
- 18 years
- 19 years or older

User requirements

Data on age left school are used as a surrogate for the highest level of schooling attained and are primarily required for:

- assessing the likely usefulness of extension courses or other educational programs; and
- an indicator of disadvantage because it shows the level of education reached by persons with no post-school qualifications.

Non-Census data available

Statistics on age left school and highest grade attended are collected annually as a supplement to the Labour Force Survey. The next survey on 'Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment' will be conducted in February 1993.

Administrative data provide detailed information on age participation rates at school for contemporary students, and the age at which students leave school.

Assessment

From time to time, some users request the inclusion of a question on highest level of schooling, rather than age left school, because 'age left school' was not considered an adequate approximation of educational attainment at school. However, testing has shown that changes in education systems over time and differences in school systems and grading terminology between States (and overseas) continue to make a question on highest level of schooling unsuitable for a Census.

There is some concern that interpretation of the words 'school' and 'schooling' is changing amongst respondents and some rewording of the question may need to be tested.

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

This topic is an important adjunct to qualifications data for people without post-school qualifications, as well as an important indicator of educational need or disadvantage. Information on 'age left school' is particularly important because of the extent of change occurring in education participation and in labour market adjustment.

INCOME (INCLUDING FAMILY INCOME)

Historical background

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

1991 Census question

What is the gross income (including pensions and allowances) that the person usually receives each week from all sources?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count all income including: family allowance family allowance supplement pensions unemployment benefits student allowance maintenance (child support) worker's compensation superannuation wages salary overtime dividends rents received business or farm income (less expenses of operation) interest received. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not deduct: tax superannuation health insurance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> () Less than \$58 per week (Less than \$3,001 per year) () \$58 to \$96 per week (\$3,001 to \$5,000 per year) () \$97 to \$154 per week (\$5,001 to \$8,000 per year) () \$155 to \$230 per week (\$8,001 to \$12,000 per year) () \$231 to \$308 per week (\$12,001 to \$16,000 per year) () \$309 to \$385 per week (\$16,001 to \$20,000 per year) () \$386 to \$481 per week (\$20,001 to \$25,000 per year) () \$482 to \$577 per week (\$25,001 to \$30,000 per year) () \$578 to \$673 per week (\$30,001 to \$35,000 per year) () \$674 to \$769 per week (\$35,001 to \$40,000 per year) () \$770 to \$961 per week (\$40,001 to \$50,000 per year) () \$962 to \$1,154 per week (\$50,001 to \$60,000 per year) () \$1,155 to \$1,346 per week (\$60,001 to \$70,000 per year) () More than \$1,346 per week (More than \$70,000 per year) |
|---|---|--|

Income categories will be adjusted to allow for the effect of inflation since the 1991 Census.

User requirements

Information on the income levels of various small groups of the population and the geographic distribution is used in public and private sector planning activities. In particular it helps identify the location of the disadvantaged for the planning of social services. Broad income is a useful indicator of socio-economic status and hence is extensively used, cross-classified with other Census variables.

Non-Census data available

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

Assessment

Testing of the topic has shown that there is a general tendency among respondents to understate their income. In particular social welfare payments (e.g. family allowances) and investment income such as rent and interest are often omitted. Similarly, pensioners sometimes state that they receive no income as they do not regard their pension as income.

Family income is currently calculated for members present on Census night. Data on income of family members who are temporarily absent are not included because of the collection and processing difficulties involved. There are also problems associated with the derivation of family income from incomes of individuals which are reported in ranges.

In spite of a non-response rate higher than most other Census questions, and a clear tendency for income to be understated, the income topic is sufficiently important as a data item in its own right and as a cross-classifier for inclusion in the Census. The Census enables data on income for small areas and small groups of the population to be produced to supplement the detailed data available from regular surveys for large groups and areas.

Arguments have been put for the inclusion of separate categories for 'nil income' and 'negative income'. A 'nil income' category will be provided. Before a category for 'negative income' can be included, it will require thorough testing to ensure that it is clearly understood and does not have an adverse effect on data quality for the population at large.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

Historical background

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

For the 1986 and 1991 Censuses, the concepts used in the labour force questions were made more consistent with those used in ABS labour force surveys. A person was classified as unemployed if he or she actively looked for work in the last four weeks. They were also classified as to whether they were looking for full-time work or part-time work. Unpaid workers in a family business who worked at least one hour in the reference week were included in the labour force, whereas the previous cut-off was 15 hours.

1991 Census questions

Last week, did the person have a full-time or part-time job of any kind?

- Yes, worked for payment or profit. **Now go to...**
- Yes, but absent on holidays, on sick leave, on strike or temporarily stood down. **Now go to...**
- Yes, unpaid work in a family business. **Now go to...**
- Yes, other unpaid work
- No, did not have job

Did the person actively look for work at any time in the last 4 weeks?

- Actively looking for work means checking or being registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work.

- No, did not look for work. **Now go to...**
- Yes, looked for full-time work. **Now go to...**
- Yes, looked for part-time work. **Now go to...**

In the main job held last week, was the person:

- Mark one box only.
- If the person had more than one job last week then 'main job' refers to the job in which the person usually works the most hours.

- A wage or salary earner?
- Conducting own business but not employing others?
- Conducting own business and employing others?
- A helper not receiving wages or salary?

User requirements

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

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

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

To further improve comparability of Census data and data from the Labour Force Survey and to align Census data with international standards and concepts (promulgated by the International Labour Office), an additional question on a person's availability to start work is being tested for the 1996 Census.

Non-Census data available

ABS Monthly Labour Force Surveys provide data on labour force status of persons for States and a number of regions within States.

Assessment

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

For 1996, a question about availability to start work will also be asked in order that counts of unemployed persons in the Census will be more comparable to data collected in monthly labour force surveys.

OCCUPATION

Historical background

A variety of questions on occupation has been included in all previous Censuses.

Occupation data were coded using the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) for the first time in 1986. An additional question on the main tasks or duties that a person usually performs in his or her job was also included to assist in the coding of occupations at the unit group level. These steps have considerably improved the quality of occupation data because ASCO is a classification which reflects modern occupations, the distribution of employed persons is spread more evenly throughout major groups and implementation has reduced significantly the number of occupations coded to 'not classifiable'.

1991 Census questions

For persons aged 15 years or more and employed.

In the main job held *last week*, what was the person's occupation?

- Give full title.
- For example, Accounts Clerk, Civil Engineering Draftsman, Fast Foods Cook, Floor Tiler, Extruding Machine Operator.
- For public servants, state official designation as well as occupation.
- For armed services personnel, state rank as well as occupation.

Occupation

What are the main tasks that the person *himself/herself* usually performs in that occupation?

- Describe as fully as possible.
- For example, recording accounts, preparing drawings for dam construction, cooking hamburgers and chips, fixing cork tiles, operating plastic extruding machine.

Tasks or duties

User requirements

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

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

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

Non-Census data available

A question on occupation is included each quarter in ABS labour force surveys. Information is also available from ABS special supplementary surveys and professional registration boards.

Assessment

There are many important needs for occupation data at small area level and/or for finely classified occupations. Regular data on ASCO unit group occupations are available from the ABS Labour Force Surveys but some survey data can be subject to quite high sampling variability. Data from surveys are not available for small geographic areas.

The Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) is currently being reviewed in light of developments in the labour market. The review may have some impact on question wording in the 1996 Census.

INDUSTRY

Historical background

A question on the industry of a person's employment has been included in one form or another in all Censuses. In recent Censuses, industry has been coded from the names and addresses of respondents' workplaces. Coding is assisted by the use of details of businesses on the central register of businesses maintained by the ABS. Use of the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) codes on the register of businesses provides for more accurate coding of industry and greater consistency of the data with that from other ABS collections based on the register.

Responses to industry questions are separately used to code to industry sector (ie private or government). A direct question on the kind of industry, business or service carried out at the workplace has also been asked to assist coding in cases where the name and address of the respondent's workplace cannot be located on the ABS central register of businesses. Names and addresses of workplace are also used for the coding of work destination zones used in journey to work studies (see Journey to work).

1991 Census questions

For persons aged 15 years or more and employed.

For the main job held *last week*, what was the employer's trading name?

- For self-employed persons, print name of business.
- For government employees, print full name of Department and Division, Branch or Section.
- For teachers, print name of school.

Business or trading name

Division, Branch or
Section (if any)

For the main job held *last week*, what was the employer's workplace address?

- For persons with no fixed place of work, provide address of depot or office.

Street no. and name

Suburb or rural locality

City or town

State

Postcode

What kind of industry, business or service is carried out *by the employer* at that address?

- Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more, for example, dairy farming, footwear manufacturing.

Industry, business or service of employer

Information on employer's name is used solely to determine the industry classification and is not kept in computer records. Address is also used in identifying a general location (e.g. Central Business District) for journey to work coding. Only the general location code is kept in computer records.

User requirements

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

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

Data on industry sector (i.e. whether establishment of employment is owned by one of the various levels of government or by the private sector) are used to assess the impact of government activity in small areas.

ABS has been asked to provide better sector statistics for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations, in particular the coding of members of those populations participating in the Community Development Employment Projects scheme. Means of achieving this will be researched as part of form and coding design.

Non-Census data available

The ABS Labour Force Survey each quarter asks employed persons for their industry of employment. Industry data at the ASIC group level are available quarterly from the Labour Force Survey, but some survey data can be subject to quite high sampling variability. Unemployed persons are asked each month their previous industry of employment. Personal characteristics of the employed and unemployed are collected each month from the Labour Force Survey.

The ABS undertakes a range of surveys of businesses collecting information on employment by industry. Only limited industry detail is available, and personal characteristics of workers are not collected. ABS economic censuses also provide industry data but personal characteristics of the employed are not collected.

Assessment

An alternative method of obtaining industry data using only information on kind of industry, business or service carried out at the workplace was proposed by ABS for the 1991 Census but rejected by some major users. The less costly and less accurate coding method was unacceptable

not only due to a lowering in quality of industry data but also because of concerns about comparability between successive population censuses and between Census data and that from other ABS sources. Coding from information obtained from ABS's central register of businesses needs to be retained.

For the 1996 Census, industry data will be coded according to ANZSIC (Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification) with a statistical link provided to enable users to compare the results with 1991 Census industry data.

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

HOURS WORKED

Historical background

A question relating to the number of hours worked by employed persons has been asked in each Census since 1966. The question in 1966 related to the total hours usually worked in the job held last week. The question was expanded in 1971 and 1976 to include the main job and other job(s) held last week. Because tests showed that the use of ranges for hours worked yielded more accurate answers, since 1981 respondents have been asked to indicate the appropriate ranges of hours worked in their main job only.

The number of response categories in the hours worked question was increased in the 1986 Census. The 1981 category of '35 hours or more' was split into four categories (35-39, 40, 41-48 and 49 or more). The categories are now comparable with those for published ABS labour force statistics.

1991 Census question

In the main job held *last week*, how many hours did the person work?

• Subtract any time off, add any overtime or extra time worked.

- None
- 1-15 hours
- 16-24 hours
- 25-34 hours
- 35-39 hours
- 40 hours
- 41-48 hours
- 49 hours or more

User requirements

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

Data on the extent of part-time employment are used in the study of changing work patterns and growth in leisure. Information on hours worked is needed to estimate child care needs.

Non-Census data available

As part of the Monthly Labour Force Survey, information is collected on the number of hours people work each week. Extensive information is also available from ABS employer based surveys but not for small population groups or for small geographic regions from either source.

Assessment

Census data on hours worked by employed persons are important for labour market analysis of small areas. The data are also important as a cross-classifier for labour force variables and for users to derive a classification of full-time/part-time work. Survey data are inadequate for analyses for small areas or for small groups of the population.

ABS will test a question which asks for hours worked in both the main job and all jobs. Collecting hours worked data for all jobs enables comparison of Census data with other sources.

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

JOURNEY TO WORK (DESTINATION ZONE CODING)

Historical background

Journey to work is a topic derived from coding of address of usual residence and address of place of work to obtain origins and destinations of travel to work. The questions which enable the derivation of journey to work have been included since the 1971 Census.

User requirements

The coding of addresses of place of work to destination zones allows Census data to be produced on journey to work patterns and on daytime populations of employed persons. Journey to work data are required by transport authorities for the analysis of travel patterns within major metropolitan areas, the modelling of fuel usage, the forecasting of public transport patronage and the analysis of catchment areas for transport routes. The data also assist policy makers in the planning of transport systems, industrial development and release of residential and industrial land.

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

Requests have been made for data on time taken to travel to work.

Non-Census data available

No ABS survey data are available on this topic for small areas. It is considered likely that information is readily available from transport operators on time taken to travel on public transport.

Assessment

Detailed data on the direction and magnitude of journeys are required for both transport and land use planning. Day time population figures are important for planners of facilities in employment centres. Journeys to and from work form the largest proportion of the total number of journeys and are concentrated in the peak periods which place the critical load on transport systems.

Collection of data on time taken to travel to work would require a new question. Given other data sources, the case for a new question is not strong enough.

Journey to work data will be produced at the statistical local area level. State transport authorities will be approached at a later stage to discuss arrangements for producing data for destination zones smaller than statistical local area.

MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK

Historical background

A question on mode of travel to work was asked for the first time in the 1976 Census. It has been repeated in all subsequent Censuses with slight modifications.

The response option for 'walked only' was included in 1986.

1991 Census question

For persons aged 15 years or more and employed.

How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 6 August 1991?

• If the person uses more than one method of travel to work, mark all relevant boxes.

- Train
- Bus
- Ferry or tram
- Taxi
- Car - as driver
- Car - as passenger
- Motorbike or motor scooter
- Bicycle
- Walked only
- Worked at home
- Other
- Did not go to work

User requirements

Users have indicated that data on mode of travel to work are fundamental to journey to work analysis and to transport planning in general.

Data are also used to:

- identify public transport customer groups;
- measure public transport patronage; and
- assist in energy conservation studies.

Non-Census data available

No ABS surveys provide this information. However, some information could be obtained from transport authority records such as details of bus/train fares.

Assessment

Mode of travel to work data are mainly used in conjunction with journey to work data for transport planning. For example, it helps identify public transport usage between a particular origin and destination and can be used for assessing car parking requirements at a particular destination.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS

Historical background

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

While the 1986 Census household form asked householders to indicate the numbers of various room types, only the number of bedrooms was entered into the computer record. A review of the processing budget resulted in the total number of rooms not being captured because of the high cost of deriving the total.

The 1991 Census collected data on the number of bedrooms only.

1991 Census question

How many bedrooms are there in this dwelling ?

- () None or 1 bedroom
- () 2 bedrooms
- () 3 bedrooms
- () 4 bedrooms
- () 5 bedrooms or more

User requirements

A question on number of rooms/bedrooms is required:

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

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

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

Non-Census data available

Data on number of bedrooms are available from the 1985-86 Income Survey, 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey, 1988 Survey of Housing and 1990 Survey on Income and Housing Costs and Amenities.

Assessment

Tests have found that the understanding of a question on number of rooms varies because:

- respondents incorrectly count rooms such as kitchens and bathrooms as 'other rooms';
- respondents have difficulty in recording the number of rooms they use for several purposes (e.g. bedroom/study), often double counting a room; and

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

- the concept is not usually relevant for tents and caravans and there is considerable incorrect inclusion of the communal bathrooms, toilets and laundries associated with these dwellings.

Housing authorities and other users of statistics have indicated that data of this kind are needed as a measure of overcrowding and of the adequacy of dwelling stock. While a small number of users would prefer a question on number of rooms, given the definitional problems and extra costs involved with such a question, data on number of bedrooms are acceptable. Data on number of bedrooms are required at small area level.

RENT**Historical background**

Weekly rent paid for each dwelling has been asked in every Australian Census since 1911. In 1947, householders were also asked to indicate whether the dwelling was rented furnished or unfurnished. Since 1971, in addition to stating the weekly rent and whether the dwelling was furnished or unfurnished, householders have been asked to indicate the type of landlord.

1991 Census questions

<p>Is this dwelling rented by you or any usual member of this household?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	
<p>To whom is rent paid?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ... Department of Housing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other government agency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>Is the dwelling owned (or being bought) by you or any usual member of this household?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, owned (paid off) Now go to...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, being bought</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, Now go to...</p>
<p>What is the weekly rent?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$48</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$48 - \$77</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$78 - \$107</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$108 - \$137</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$138 - \$167</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$168 - \$197</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$198 - \$227</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$228 - \$267</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$268 - \$307</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$308 - \$347</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$348 - \$397</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$398 - \$447</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$448 - \$497</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than \$497</p>	<p>If being bought: What monthly payment or average monthly payment is being made on the loan(s) for this dwelling?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$201</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$201 - \$300</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$301 - \$400</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$401 - \$475</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$476 - \$550</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$551 - \$625</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$626 - \$700</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$701 - \$775</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$776 - \$850</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$851 - \$925</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$926 - \$1,000</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,001 - \$1,200</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,201 - \$1,400</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1,400</p>
<p>Is the dwelling rented furnished or unfurnished?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Furnished</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unfurnished</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Now go to...</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Now go to...</p>

Weekly rental categories will be adjusted to allow for the effects of inflation since the 1991 Census.

User requirements

Users have indicated that the rental question is important for housing policy planning in Australia, as it provides an objective assessment of the housing market and allows regional variations in housing ownership trends and conditions to be monitored and appropriate housing policies to be developed. In particular, rental information produced from the Census aids in the identification of housing needs and the extent to which specific groups (e.g. low income households, aged persons and Aboriginal people) have access to adequate housing.

Rent data from the Census are used by the ABS in calculating estimates of imputed rent for the National Accounts and checking the representativeness of dwelling samples used in the Consumer Price Index.

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

Data on rent, together with data on mortgage, are used to derive a nature of occupancy classification which classifies dwellings as either rented or owned or being purchased. The classification also subdivides the rented component between government and private landlords and whether rented as furnished or unfurnished.

Non-Census data available

Data on rent are available from:

- 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey;
- 1990 Income and Housing Survey; and
- 1992 Survey of Families in Australia.

The ABS is also considering undertaking a continuous Income and Housing Survey from July 1994.

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

Assessment

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

HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENTS

Historical background

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

1991 Census questions

<p>Is this dwelling rented by you or any usual member of this household?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	
<p>↓</p> <p>To whom is rent paid?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ... Department of Housing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other government agency</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>↓</p> <p>Is the dwelling owned (or being bought) by you or any usual member of this household?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, owned (paid off) Now go to...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, being bought</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, Now go to...</p>
<p>What is the weekly rent?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$48</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$48 - \$77</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$78 - \$107</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$108 - \$137</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$138 - \$167</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$168 - \$197</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$198 - \$227</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$228 - \$267</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$268 - \$307</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$308 - \$347</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$348 - \$397</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$398 - \$447</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$448 - \$497</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than \$497</p>	<p>↓</p> <p>If being bought: What monthly payment or average monthly payment is being made on the loan(s) for this dwelling?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$201</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$201 - \$300</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$301 - \$400</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$401 - \$475</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$476 - \$550</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$551 - \$625</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$626 - \$700</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$701 - \$775</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$776 - \$850</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$851 - \$925</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$926 - \$1,000</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,001 - \$1,200</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,201 - \$1,400</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than \$1,400</p>
<p>Is the dwelling rented furnished or unfurnished?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Furnished</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unfurnished</p> <p>Now go to...</p>	<p>Now go to...</p>

Monthly payment categories will be adjusted to allow for the effects of inflation since the 1991 Census.

User requirements

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

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

Data on housing loan repayments, together with data on rent, is used to derive a nature of occupancy classification which classifies dwellings as either rented, being purchased or owned.

Non-census data available

Data on housing loan repayments are available from:

- 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey;
- 1990 Income and Housing Survey; and
- 1992 Survey of Families in Australia.

The ABS is also considering undertaking a continuous Income and Housing Survey from 1994.

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

Assessment

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

The question may need to be modified from that used in the 1991 Census to cater adequately for different sorts of tenancy/financial arrangements, and to make the question(s) less confusing to respondents. Alternative question designs will be tested during 1996 form design.

The ownership question will also be changed to reflect joint ownership of dwellings.

PRIVATE DWELLING (CLASSIFICATION)

Historical background

A question on class of dwelling was asked in every Australian Census from 1911 through to 1966. In 1971, respondents were presented with a sketch to indicate which classification best described their dwelling. In 1976, both respondents and collectors had to provide details of structure, and since then Census collectors only have been asked to provide this information.

Caravans have been included as a response option since 1961. However, caravans in caravan parks were first enumerated with household forms in 1986 to enable statistics to be produced for the first time on the family structure of persons residing in caravan parks.

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

The 1991 Census collected some information on the number of storeys in flats, apartments and semi-detached houses.

1991 Census question (Answered by collector)

Dwelling Structure

<input type="checkbox"/> Separate house
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 storey <input type="checkbox"/> 2 or more storeys
Flat or apartment <input type="checkbox"/> In a 1 or 2 storey block <input type="checkbox"/> In a 3 storey block <input type="checkbox"/> In a 4 or more storey block <input type="checkbox"/> Attached to a house
<input type="checkbox"/> Caravan, tent, cabin etc. in caravan park <input type="checkbox"/> Caravan not in caravan park, houseboat etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Improvised home, campers out <input type="checkbox"/> House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.

User requirements

Users require data in terms of the types of private dwelling structure for the analysis of personal and household (including family) characteristics in relation to the physical structure that houses them and for providing the benchmark for regular estimates of the different types of housing available.

Since arrangements for the 1991 Census were completed, new initiatives in housing policy such as the National Housing Strategy have strengthened the need for detailed information about Australia's housing stock.

Topics to be included in the 1996 Census

The results are used:

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

Non-Census data available

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

Assessment

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

Users and collectors reported problems with the 1986 Census classification and a revision of the classification was introduced in 1991 which provided more detail and put Census data about dwelling structure on the same basis as population surveys and building statistics.

With the greater importance placed on data about the stock of dwellings there is a need for the Census to more accurately count the number of physical dwelling units, particularly at the small area level. For the 1996 Census, ABS will examine ways of achieving this through changes to collection procedures.

NON-PRIVATE DWELLING AND CARAVAN PARK (CLASSIFICATION)

Historical background

Non-private dwellings have been enumerated and classified in all Australian Censuses since Federation. In the 1986 and 1991 Censuses, caravan parks were enumerated using household forms rather than personal forms to enable statistics to be produced on families residing in caravan parks.

In the 1986 and 1991 Censuses there was some difficulty in developing a consistent treatment of self-contained dwellings within retirement villages and aged housing complexes.

Type of question

Information required for the classification of non-private dwellings is collected from persons-in-charge. A list of non-private dwellings is compiled prior to the Census based on those identified in the previous Census, those identified as part of ABS's population survey operations and from information provided by relevant government departments. This list is used to improve coverage of non-private dwellings.

User requirements

Information on non-private dwellings and caravan parks is required for:

- analysis of programs for the aged and disabled;
- policy analysis and policy formulation in the development and financing of projects in the areas of health, the aged, children and rehabilitation; and
- better planning of services for residents of caravan parks.

Non-Census data available

Government departments have information on government funded institutions although generally only limited details are available on the characteristics of residents.

Assessment

The classification of non-private dwellings is dependent on the perceptions of persons-in-charge and arrangements made for collecting data. As a result, information about non-private dwellings and persons in such dwellings is less accurate than that for private dwellings.

Nevertheless, Census data about persons residing in non-private dwellings is important for planning and delivery of many services.

× For 1996 it is proposed to extend family coding to cover families staying in hotels and motels and people living in self-contained units within retirement villages.

7. TOPICS ON WHICH THE ABS IS SEEKING FURTHER VIEWS FROM USERS

This chapter sets out assessments of a small number of topics about which the ABS wishes to obtain further information from users or potential users. Along with the assessments in each case is shown the current ABS view on whether the topic should be included in the 1996 Census or not. The topics are:

Issue
Disability
Marital status
Citizenship
Number of motor vehicles garaged

ISSUE (NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN)

Historical background

A question on the number of children ever born was asked in nearly all Australian Censuses up until and including 1986. The question was not included in the 1991 Census because it was not considered necessary to collect the data every five years.

1986 Census question

The 1986 Census question was asked of females aged 15 years or more.

For each female, how many babies has she ever had?

- Do not include still-births.
- If none, tick box ...

None
 Total
 Now living

User requirements

Data on fertility are required for investigations of fertility differentials between various socio-economic groups, including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations, and for predicting future fertility of subgroups for forming related policies.

Data on the number of children ever born and the number of surviving children can be used to estimate infant and childhood mortality of small groups of the population, including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.

Non-census data available

Information on the number of children ever born is available from the 1991 Family Survey but not for small groups of the population (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people). Registrations of births by all States and both Territories also provide extensive annual data but Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not always identified.

Assessment

Extensive data on fertility are available annually from the registration of births. However, registration data does not necessarily provide complete information for fertility measurement as some States and Territories only identify the number of children from the current marriage or relationship.

In the past there have been problems with fertility estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. Negotiations with most States and Territories to include identification of these groups in birth and death registrations are well advanced. Data from most State and Territory registrars and from some health authorities are available or are becoming available. These data, together with data from the relationship and age questions included in the census, should enable estimates to be made of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fertility.

The collection in the Census of data on the number of children ever born at ten yearly intervals appears to be justified.

During the 1986 Census, the exclusion of stillbirths from the question on how many babies were born to each woman caused distress to some parents of stillborn babies. Demographers specifically

Topics on which the ABS is seeking further views from users

need information on the number of live births. For 1996, the ABS will review question wording to try to take account of the sensitivity of this subject.

ABS recommendation for the 1996 Census

Include.

DISABILITY

Historical background

Questions relating to disabilities of respondents were included in the 1911, 1921 and 1933 Australian Censuses. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they were deaf, dumb or blind. A more general question on the effect of disabilities was asked in 1976.

1976 Census question

Is the person handicapped by a SERIOUS long-term illness or physical or mental condition?

- If yes, tick appropriate boxes for each person to show types of handicap.
- If not handicapped tick box 8.
- If no illnesses or conditions tick box 8.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| In his or her education | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| In getting or holding a job | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| In getting about alone | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
| In doing housework | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 |
| In sporting or recreational activities | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 |
| In acts of daily living, e.g. dressing, bathing | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 |
| In other ways | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 |
| Not handicapped | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 |

User requirements

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

Non-Census data available

A survey on Disability and Ageing was conducted in 1988 and another is planned for 1993.

The 1988 Survey of Disability and Ageing was comprehensive in scope and provides detailed information about disability in Australia and individual States. The survey asked a range of demographic questions similar to those asked in the Census, and as such provides a range of disability data cross-tabulated with age, sex, education, employment and household data. Although small-area data are not available, most other requests for disability data can be met by information from the survey.

The Time Use Survey conducted in 1992 also included a disability module.

Data are available from the Department of Social Security in relation to recipients of invalid pensions, sickness benefits, child disability allowance and mobility allowance. Data are available for postcode areas and social security regions for the first three types of recipient. However, not all persons with disabilities receive an invalid pension.

Topics on which the ABS is seeking further views from users

Assessment

Experience gained in the 1976 Census, when a question about disabilities was asked, indicated that the information elicited was unreliable and suggested that the best way to collect personal information of this type was by means of interview conducted by appropriately skilled ABS interviewers. The ABS used this means of data collection in the conduct of a survey of handicapped persons in Australia in 1981 and in the 1988 Disability and Ageing Survey.

A review of information on disabilities from Censuses in other countries has shown that the information so obtained is unreliable. It was found that many people were reluctant to consider themselves as disabled. Other countries' experience is that a Census question on disability identifies as disabled a large number of people who are not disabled while it fails to identify a proportion of people who are disabled.

The need for small area data on disabilities is recognised. However, information is required on the type and severity of handicaps which in turn requires a large number of questions. It is the judgement of ABS that the level and quality of responses to such questions in a Census would not adequately meet the need. As a result, the topic is not suitable for inclusion in the Census.

ABS recommendation for the 1996 Census

Exclude, unless users are able to demonstrate that:

- information subject to the high error rates encountered in other Censuses (both in Australia and overseas) is of useable quality; or
- there are particular groups of people with disabilities for which higher quality and valuable data can be collected.

MARITAL STATUS

Historical background

A question on marital status has been included in all previous Censuses.

1991 Census question

What is each person's present marital status?

- Never married
- Married
- Separated but not divorced
- Divorced
- Widowed

User requirements

Marital status is a basic demographic characteristic. It is important for the analysis of other social and economic topics included in the Census. Its use as a cross-classifier enhances the value of most other Census items.

Data from this topic are used by the ABS to maintain the accuracy of the estimated resident population by marital status series. This series is the benchmark for the calculation of many rates and ratios used in socio-economic studies.

Assessment

The major value of the topic is in its use as a cross-classifier to enhance the value of other Census items.

This question obtains information on the legal or 'registered' marital status of individuals. Increasingly this may not reflect the actual living arrangements of the individual which is the variable of most interest to socio-economic analysis. Legal, or 'registered' marital status is declining in importance as a characteristic for analysing family formation and family structure. Data from the relationship question can be used to separately identify 'registered' and 'de facto' married couples.

Also, there has been some concern expressed that the marital status categories used do not account for all types of living arrangements. Data about other living arrangements, such as de facto relationships, are collected by means of the relationship question.

ABS recommendation for the 1996 Census

Exclude.

CITIZENSHIP

Historical background

A question on nationality was first asked in 1921, when respondents were asked to indicate what national subject they were by means of birthplace, parentage or naturalisation. From 1933 to 1961 'nationality' was asked. In 1966 and 1971 the term 'nationality or citizenship' was used, and since 1976 the question has used the word 'citizenship'.

In 1986 and 1991, the question on citizenship was self-coding with only two response categories (Australia, Other).

1991 Census question

Is the person an Australian citizen?

- Yes, Australian citizen
 No

User requirements

Data on citizenship are used for targeting electoral roll maintenance and citizenship promotion activities and costing reciprocal social security agreements with overseas countries. The data are often cross-classified with birthplace, year of arrival and age data.

Non-Census data available

Benchmark information is available from the 1991 Census. This can be updated using:

- data on the country of citizenship of settler arrivals available from the processing of passenger cards completed for each movement into and out of Australia; and
- data on the number of migrants who become Australian citizens available from the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs.

Assessment

Data on citizenship is important for ensuring the effectiveness of electoral and citizenship promotion activities and in costing reciprocal social security agreements with overseas countries.

ABS recommendation for the 1996 Census

Exclude in view of the existence of alternate data sources.

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES GARAGED

Historical background

A question on number of vehicles was first asked in the 1966 Census. Since 1976, households have been asked to record the number of registered motor vehicles owned or used by members of the household garaged at or near their dwelling.

1991 Census question

How many registered motor vehicles owned or used by members of this household were garaged or parked at or near this dwelling on the night of Tuesday, 6 August 1991?

- Exclude motor bikes, motor scooters, tractors.
- Include company vehicles kept at home.

- None
- 1 motor vehicle
- 2 motor vehicles
- 3 motor vehicles
- 4 motor vehicles or more

User requirements

Information on number of vehicles garaged at a dwelling is required for:

- analysing and predicting car ownership patterns;
- indicating the availability of sources of transport other than public transport;
- input to development of transport policies and priorities, e.g. car parking requirements, traffic planning, traffic management and public transport provision; and
- providing a socio-economic profile of the population as well as the mobility of segments of the population.

Non-Census data available

Some aspects of the utilisation of motor vehicles are available every three years from the ABS Survey of Motor Vehicle Use. Data is available from the 1988-89 Household Expenditure Survey on vehicles associated with households. Data from motor vehicle registration records can provide some indication of the geographic distribution of motor vehicles (but cannot be cross-classified with other Census items).

Assessment

Users have emphasised that data on this topic have two main uses. One is as part of a journey to work 'package', with the topics of destination zone coding and mode of travel to work used by major transport planning authorities and local authorities. The second use is as a socio-economic indicator, for which it is frequently required on a small area basis.

The ABS has been asked to consider collecting data on the number of motor bikes and motor scooters garaged at each dwelling on Census Night. Simply including such vehicles in the count of vehicles garaged could jeopardise the usefulness of the data to current users. On the other hand, collection of separate data on motor bikes and motor scooters garaged is not considered justified.

Topics on which the ABS is seeking further views from users

While the data has market research value, its use for this purpose alone would not justify its inclusion in the Census. For transport planning purposes the data appears to have lower priority than that from other topics in the Census.

ABS recommendation for the 1996 Census

Exclude on the basis of its lower priority than other topics.

8. TOPICS TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE 1996 CENSUS

It is the ABS view that the topics assessed on the following pages should be excluded from the 1996 Census. The topics are:

- Reason dwelling unoccupied
- Usual major activity
- Ethnic origin
- Year first married
- Whether married more than once

REASON DWELLING UNOCCUPIED

This topic was included in Censuses between 1971 and 1986. The collector was asked to indicate, for unoccupied dwellings, the type of dwelling and the reason for the dwelling being unoccupied. Because of problems with data quality the topic was not included in the 1991 Census.

Information on unoccupied dwellings is required for assessing vacancy and occupancy rates, counting holiday homes and determining conditions of housing stock. The information also provides benchmark data for housing assessments, for checking the reliability of other statistical collections, and for determining trends and dwelling types in available housing accommodation.

Assessment

Users primarily require statistics of the number of unoccupied dwellings for dwelling stock estimates and this information will be available from the 1996 Census. Data on reason dwelling unoccupied are used to refine these estimates. However, in many cases the collector would not be aware of the reasons a dwelling was unoccupied. Given the continued existence of data quality problems, the topic should not be included in the 1996 Census.

USUAL MAJOR ACTIVITY

A question on usual major activity was included in all Censuses between 1947 and 1971. The question was then excluded because user requirements could not be adequately met by a single question and testing showed that the inclusion of a response category for home duties in the labour force status questions caused confusion for persons who work and also do some home duties.

The main use of data on usual major activity is to ascertain the extent of involvement in unpaid 'home duties' and voluntary work. There are no major requirements for such data to be available for small areas or small groups of the population.

An effective means of obtaining data for most purposes is by way of a Time Use Survey. The first survey on time use was a Pilot Survey conducted in Sydney in 1987. A more comprehensive Time Use Survey was conducted in 1992 and further surveys are planned at five-yearly intervals.

Some data on the topic are also available from labour force surveys including 'Labour Force Experience' and 'Persons not in the Labour Force', both of which are conducted annually.

Assessment

Consideration has been given to the inclusion in the 1996 Census of a question on a person's usual activity in which the response categories could have included 'homemaking' and 'voluntary work'. However, it has been decided that the inclusion of such a question is not justified in its own right, in part because non-Census data on this topic are available. All known data requirements in this area can be met from the regular Time Use Surveys. There are no major requirements for such data to be available for small areas or small groups of the population. Also, there are doubts that an adequate question could be developed for a self-enumeration Census which would produce reliable data.

The inclusion of similar response categories as part of the labour force status topic has also been considered, but previous testing has indicated that there would be adverse effects on the data produced for labour force status if the categories were added to one of the questions.

ETHNIC ORIGIN

A question on each person's ancestry was asked for the first time in the 1986 Census.

In response to demands for better data on ethnicity of the population a committee was established to advise the ABS in respect to ethnicity data collected for the 1986 Census.

The Ethnicity Committee was unable to suggest a suitable question based on self-identification but recommended that a question on a person's ancestry be included in the 1986 Census. Tests conducted for the Committee indicated, however, that this question would not be without problems. Nevertheless, in view of the interest in ethnicity data, the ABS recommended that an ancestry question be included in the 1986 Census, and that it be subject to a full analysis of its adequacy and reliability to determine its suitability for inclusion in future Censuses. The question was not asked in the 1991 Census.

The requirements of users for data on people's ethnic origin can be classified into two broad categories: data based on a self-perceived identification concept; and data on an historical/ancestry origin concept. However, the distinction is not always clear in the mind of users and some users seek data on both concepts.

The main uses of data on ethnicity are:

- the planning of services directed at the special needs of ethnic groups in the areas of social welfare, health and education;
- the allocation of funds from government agencies to ethnic groups;
- the development of language policies;
- the measurement and assessment of the economic and social well-being of various ethnic groups; and
- as a description of society for studies of population.

Assessment

ABS concluded in its evaluation of the quality of results obtained from the 1986 Census ancestry question that the data was reasonably accurate (see *Census 86: Data Quality - Ancestry - Cat. No. 2603.0*).

The evaluation found that the ancestry question did not provide additional information about ethnic origin for the majority of non-English speaking ethnic groups. Although it was thought that the ancestry question might yield data on the ethnic origins of third and subsequent generations of Australians, this did not occur. Additional data yielded were less than expected because people whose ancestors migrated to Australia a long time ago were less likely to answer the ancestry question and more likely to state Australian ancestry if they did respond.

ABS believes the needs of most users interested in ethnic origins are better met by the data available from other Census questions on birthplace, parents' birthplace and language use. It is not considered justifiable to include an ancestry question in addition to those questions.

YEAR FIRST MARRIED (DURATION OF MARRIAGE)

A question related to the duration of a person's present marriage was included in all Censuses prior to the 1986 Census. In 1986, persons were asked to state the year in which they were first married. A question on duration of marriage was not included in 1991.

Data on duration of marriage are required for both fertility analysis and family studies, including analysis of trends in divorces. In particular, the number of married persons by duration of marriage provides the population base on which frequencies of births and divorces can be analysed.

Assessment

The usefulness of data on duration of marriage for fertility analysis is greatly reduced because of the increase in the incidence of births outside marriage. The increased incidence of remarriages and de facto living arrangements also reduces the usefulness of the data for family studies. The extension of the question to include duration of cohabitation would overcome some of these deficiencies. However, collecting information on cohabitation history is likely to be considered by respondents as intrusive and is therefore not suitable for a population Census.

Data on duration of marriage are not required for small groups of the population nor for small areas, so user needs can be better met by surveys.

WHETHER MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE

A question on whether married more than once was asked in the 1981 and 1986 Censuses but was not included in the 1991 Census.

Data on whether a person has been married more than once are used in fertility analysis and in the study of the family. In particular, the data allow the separate family and fertility analyses of those persons who have married once and of those who have remarried.

Assessment

Data from this question complement those from questions on relationship, number of children ever born, and duration of marriage, for use in studies of family and fertility analyses. However, as it is not proposed to include a question on duration of marriage in the 1996 Census, there would be little value in including a question on whether married more than once for family and fertility analysis.

The data could also be used to identify persons who have remarried and would allow the analysis of families formed by remarriages. However, some information on families formed by remarriages would be available from the Census 'relationship' question which allows the identification of 'blended' families.

Data are not required for small areas nor for small groups of the population.

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~~5 MAR 1996~~

~~9 JUN 1993~~

~~5 MAY 1994~~

~~29 NOV 1999~~

~~14 JAN 1994~~

~~19 JUN 2000~~

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Attachment 1

ABS POPULATION SURVEYS: 1986 - 1993

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Absences from Work								*
Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption (NT)					*			
Alternative Working Arrangements + Annual Leave	*							
Apprentices	*	*	*	*				
Beach Usage (SA)	*							
Bicycle Usage and Safety (WA)				*				
Bicycle Usage and Safety (NSW)			*					
Career Experience								*
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications + Childcare Arrangements								*
Community and Volunteer Work (SA)		*			*			*
Community Attitudes and Awareness of Emergency Services (TAS)			*	*				
Community Consumption and Non-Consumption of Arts/Culture Products and Services (WA)					*			
Community Participation in Energy Conservation (VIC)					*			
Conservation of Energy, Water and the Environment (WA)							*	
Consumer Credit (QLD)					*			
Consumers and Non-Consumers of Culture/Leisure Industry Products						*		
Crime and Safety								*
Crime Prevention (VIC, QLD)		*						
Crime Victims (WA)						*		
Disability, Ageing and Housing + Domestic Energy (SA)			*					*
Domestic Energy and Firewood Usage (TAS)		*						
Domestic Energy Usage (NSW)				*				
Domestic Heating and Fuelwood Usage (SA)				*				
Domestic Water Usage (NSW)		*						
Educational Attendance			*	*	*	*	*	*
Employment Benefits	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Employment in the Culture/Leisure Industry								*
Environmental Issues and Usage of National Parks	*						*	
Families in Australia + Family Formation	*						*	
Health (National Health Survey) + Health Insurance	*		*	*	*		*	
Home Based Employment				*				
Home Production of Fruit and Vegetables							*	
Home Safety Products (VIC)							*	
Household Expenditure and Income + Household Safety (NSW)			*				*	*
Housing Costs + Housing Preferences, Intentions and Attitudes (QLD)	*				*			
Housing Preferences and Intentions (WA)			*					
How Workers Get their Training + Income Distribution +	*				*			*
Infant Sleeping Positions							*	
Internal Migration	*	*						
Intra-State Travel by Queensland Households (QLD)				*				
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons	*		*		*	*	*	*
Job Training and Career Paths + Journey to School, Work and Shop (SA)				*				
Labour Force Experience	*	*	*	*	*	*		*
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants		*			*			*
Labour Mobility	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Library Usage (TAS)		*						
Multiple Jobholding		*				*		
Nature and Conditions of Part-Time Employment (TAS)					*			

Attachment 1

ABS POPULATION SURVEYS: 1986 - 1993 (continued)

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Non-Commercial Fishing (WA)		*						
NT Resident Profile (NT)		*						
Participation in Post-Secondary Education (NT)			*					
Participation in Sporting and Recreational Physical Activities in Urban NT (NT)						*		
Persons Not in the Labour Force	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Persons Retired from Full-Time Work	*			*			*	
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force			*			*		
Re-Entrants to the Labour Force		*			*			*
Rental Investors or Rental Tenants								*
Retirement Intentions	*			*			*	
Smoking (SA)		*						
Sports Participation (VIC)				*				
Student Finances						*		
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience	*				*		*	
Superannuation			*			*		*
Telephone Ownership / Connections	*					*		
Time Use +							*	
Trade Unions	*		*		*		*	
Transition from Education to Work	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type and Conditions of Part-Time Employment (NSW)						*		
Type and Conditions of Part-Time Employment (QLD)			*					
Type and Conditions of Part-Time Employment (SA)	*							
Type and Conditions of Part-Time Employment (VIC)			*					
Underemployed Workers			*			*		
Use of Domiciliary Support Services (VIC)	*							
Use of Legal Services (NSW)					*			
Use of Legal Services (QLD)	*							
Voluntary and Unpaid Workers (NSW)	*							
Water Usage (WA)	*							
Weekly Earnings of Employees	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Women's Employment Patterns (SA)							*	
Working Arrangements								*
Work Patterns of Women (VIC)						*		

+ Special Supplementary Surveys