

DEMOGRAPHY

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

According to manuscript notes made by Captain Lonsdale, the first enumeration of the population was taken by an officer from Sydney named George Stewart on 25 May 1836, less than one year after the date of the arrival of John Batman (29 May 1835). This was the first official census in Victoria, which was at that time known as the Port Phillip District, and it disclosed that the population totalled 142 males and 35 females of European origin.

At the census taken in 1838 it was ascertained that the number of inhabitants had increased to 3,511. The population of Victoria continued to rise and by the census of 1851 the population had reached 77,345 persons.

The discovery of gold in 1851 gave considerable impetus to the growth of population in Victoria. The intercensal increase in the decade 1851 to 1861 was 596.4 per cent, which is noteworthy when compared with a 31.3 per cent increase in the twelve years from 1954 to 1966, and 12.2 per cent in the ten years from 1971 to 1981.

The 1850s and the 1950s represented the two outstanding periods of gain from migration into Victoria.

Natural increase was the major cause of population growth in Victoria in the 1860s, 1870s, and 1880s. An extended period of emigration from Victoria, mainly to Western Australia following discoveries of gold, was experienced between 1892 and 1907. In each of the years 1896, 1902, and 1903, the net loss from migration exceeded the gain from natural increase, and a fall in total population was recorded. A steady increase in population was maintained from 1905 to 1927, excluding the years 1915 and 1916 when falls were recorded. These falls reflected embarkations on overseas war service, which were taken into account in population estimates during the First World War. By 1927 the population had reached 1,741,832 persons.

The Great Depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s was accompanied by a slowing down in the rate of population increase due to both losses from migration and a drop in the rate of natural increase. The population at the end of 1938 was 1,871,099 persons. The population increased by a further 144,088 persons during the Second World War years.

Following the Second World War, and coinciding with the generally increased level of migration, natural increase maintained a higher level than during the marked economic depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s, but did not attain the yet higher levels characteristic of the earlier years of settlement.

There have been significant changes in Victoria's population trends in recent years. The birth rate declined from 1971 to 1979, and the crude birth rate for 1979 was the lowest ever recorded since the system of compulsory registration of births was introduced in 1853. However, a gradual increase in births has been seen from 1980 to 1983. As well, there has been a generally lower level of immigration since the early 1960s. The estimated resident population of Victoria at 30 June 1983 was 4,037,600 persons.

Historical statistics examining elements of Victoria's population can be found on pages 695-7 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1984. An historical perspective of Victoria's demographic development can be found on pages 131-3 of the same edition.

POPULATION ESTIMATES

New population estimates series

This section presents population estimates of States, Territories, statistical divisions, local

government areas, and statistical districts. For dates from 30 June 1971 onwards, the estimated resident population is the new official population estimates series compiled according to the place of usual residence of the population. Estimates for the years 1971 to 1981 are final, while figures for 1982 and 1983 are preliminary and subject to revision once final 1986 census results become available.

An explanation of the new conceptual basis for population estimates is given in the ABS Information Paper entitled *Population Estimates: An Outline of the New Conceptual Basis of ABS Population Estimates* (3216.0).

The figures at census date 1981 were arrived at by: (1) tabulating census counts (actual location basis) to obtain counts on the basis of usual residence (census counts, place of usual residence); (2) adjusting the census counts, place of usual residence, for census under-enumeration; and (3) adding to the adjusted census counts, place of usual residence, the number of Australian residents estimated to have been temporarily overseas at the time of the census.

For intercensal years, the estimated resident population for each local government area (at 30 June) is calculated using a linear regression model. In this method a mathematical relationship is established between changes in population and changes in other variables known as predictor variables over the period between the two most recent censuses for which the required data are available (i.e. 1976 and 1981). This relationship is then used to estimate the change in population of each local government area since the date of the last census, based on the change in the predictor variables since that date. The predictor variables used are occupied dwellings, births, deaths, child endowment, and school enrolments.

Other indicators of resident population movement have also been used to supplement the estimates from the regression model when preparing the published estimates. These include the numbers of persons resident in migrant hostels and prisons. In areas outside the Melbourne Statistical Division, additional factors such as changes in the number of persons in construction camps and caravan parks, have also been considered.

Population in the States and Territories

The following four tables show the area, estimated resident population, population density, and proportion of population in each State and Territory for 1983, and details of the estimated resident population, population growth rates, and natural increase for each State and Territory for the six years ending 1983:

AREA, ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, AND POPULATION DENSITY OF STATES AND TERRITORIES, 30 JUNE 1983

State or Territory	Area	Estimated resident population (a)	Persons per square kilometre	Percentage of population in each State or Territory
	sq. km			per cent
New South Wales	801,600	5,360,367	6.69	34.86
Victoria	227,600	4,037,598	17.74	26.25
Queensland	1,727,200	2,471,623	1.43	16.07
South Australia	984,000	1,341,522	1.36	8.72
Western Australia	2,525,500	1,364,455	0.54	8.87
Tasmania	67,800	432,615	6.38	2.81
Northern Territory	1,346,200	133,876	0.10	0.87
Australian Capital Territory	2,400	236,590	98.58	1.54
Australia	7,682,300	15,378,646	2.00	100.00

(a) Preliminary estimate subject to revision after the final 1986 census results become available.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF STATES AND TERRITORIES ('000)

State or Territory	Estimated resident population at 30 June -					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982 (a)	1983 (a)
New South Wales	5,053.8	5,111.1	5,171.5	5,234.9	5,307.9	5,360.4
Victoria	3,863.8	3,886.4	3,914.3	3,946.9	3,994.1	4,037.6
Queensland	2,172.0	2,214.8	2,265.9	2,345.2	2,419.6	2,471.6
South Australia	1,296.2	1,301.1	1,308.4	1,318.8	1,328.7	1,341.5

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF STATES AND TERRITORIES — *continued*
(^{'000})

State or Territory	Estimated resident population at 30 June —					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982 (a)	1983 (a)
Western Australia	1,227.9	1,246.6	1,269.1	1,300.1	1,336.9	1,364.5
Tasmania	417.6	420.8	423.6	427.2	429.8	432.6
Northern Territory	110.0	114.1	118.2	122.6	129.4	133.9
Australian Capital Territory	218.0	220.8	224.3	227.6	231.9	236.6
Australia	14,359.3	14,515.7	14,695.4	14,923.3	15,178.4	15,378.6

(a) Preliminary estimate subject to revision after the final 1986 census results become available.

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF POPULATION INCREASE
(per cent)

State or Territory	Year ended 30 June —					
	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982 (a)	1983 (a)
New South Wales	1.04	1.13	1.18	1.23	1.40	0.99
Victoria	0.69	0.59	0.72	0.83	1.20	1.09
Queensland	1.98	1.97	2.31	3.50	3.17	2.15
South Australia	0.78	0.38	0.56	0.79	0.76	0.96
Western Australia	1.95	1.53	1.80	2.44	2.83	2.06
Tasmania	0.63	0.75	0.67	0.86	0.59	0.67
Northern Territory	5.81	3.79	3.59	3.70	5.56	3.44
Australian Capital Territory	2.01	1.29	1.58	1.47	1.91	2.01
Australia	1.18	1.09	1.24	1.55	1.71	1.32

(a) Preliminary estimate subject to revision after the final 1986 census results become available.

NATURAL INCREASE (a)

Year ended 30 June —	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	38,069	30,021	18,701	9,196	13,313	3,452	1,988	3,560	118,300
1979	37,694	28,483	18,231	8,655	12,744	3,629	2,161	3,458	115,055
1980	39,060	28,843	18,892	8,781	12,276	3,461	2,271	3,426	117,010
1981	41,001	28,960	20,350	9,154	12,932	3,618	2,078	3,398	121,491
1982	40,917	30,346	22,088	9,182	14,145	3,769	2,370	3,261	126,078
1983	42,937	29,488	23,840	9,121	14,422	3,622	2,426	3,168	129,024

(a) Excess of live births (according to mother's State of usual residence) over deaths (according to the deceased's State of usual residence).

Population in statistical divisions and local government areas

In the *Victorian Year Book* 1976, the grouping of local government areas into statistical divisions was varied from that used in previous editions and thus commenced a new series. Victoria is now divided into twelve statistical divisions (instead of the ten previously used). (See pages 150–2 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1980.) With the exception of the Melbourne and East Central Divisions, these correspond to the regional boundaries adopted for planning purposes by the Victorian Government in May 1974. The Melbourne Statistical Division has not been altered and remains the same as the area used since 1966 (see pages 203–4).

The following table shows the area at 30 June 1983 and estimated population for each of the local government areas and statistical divisions in Victoria at 30 June 1981, 1982, and 1983. The estimates have been rounded to the nearest 100 persons in the Melbourne Statistical Division, and to the nearest 10 persons in the rest of Victoria. Population data for 1981, 1982, and 1983 in the table are on a 30 June 1983 boundary basis. For purposes of comparison, where applicable, 1981 and 1982 population figures have been amended to reflect any changes in boundaries. For details of boundary changes see footnote (d).

**AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS AND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA**

Statistical division and local government area (a)	Area at 30 June 1983 (b) (square kilometres)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983
MELBOURNE STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Altona (C)	40.19	32,000	32,400	32,800
Berwick (C)	119.70	37,300	39,000	41,400
Box Hill (C)	21.49	49,400	49,100	49,000
Brighton (C)	13.68	35,200	35,000	35,000
Broadmeadows (C)	64.79	106,600	107,400	108,100
Brunswick (C)	10.67	45,900	45,300	44,900
Bulla (S)	422.20	18,800	20,100	21,900
Camberwell (C)	35.14	89,900	89,700	90,000
Caulfield (C)	21.98	72,800	72,700	73,200
Chelsea (C)	12.23	27,100	27,400	27,600
Coburg (C)	18.71	56,900	56,400	56,200
Collingwood (C)	4.78	15,600	15,300	15,100
Cranbourne (S) (part) (C)	397.00	31,900	33,500	35,500
Croydon (C)	33.72	37,300	38,300	38,800
Dandenong (C)	36.26	56,300	57,300	58,200
Diamond Valley (S)	85.31	51,900	53,300	54,400
Doncaster and Templestowe (C)	89.40	93,800	96,100	97,900
Eltham (S)	277.20	36,000	37,200	38,200
Essendon (C)	22.24	58,500	58,200	58,200
Fitzroy (C)	3.66	19,100	18,500	18,300
Flinders (S)	323.70	27,000	28,000	29,000
Footscray (C)	17.97	51,200	51,300	51,700
Frankston (C) (d)	70.66	81,700	82,800	84,100
Hastings (S)	290.10	18,000	18,600	19,400
Hawthorn (C)	9.76	31,800	31,700	31,600
Healesville (S) (part) (c)	280.70	8,000	8,200	8,500
Heidelberg (C)	32.38	66,500	66,000	65,700
Keilor (C)	98.38	84,300	86,600	88,400
Kew (C)	14.55	29,700	29,800	30,000
Knox (C)	110.10	91,600	94,400	97,300
Lillydale (S)	397.60	64,000	66,200	68,500
Malvern (C)	15.92	45,000	44,800	44,700
Melbourne (C)	31.42	59,100	58,800	57,600
Melton (S)	450.40	21,100	22,000	23,200
Moorabbin (C)	51.20	101,600	101,500	101,400
Mordialloc (C)	12.19	28,900	28,800	28,700
Mornington (S)	90.65	24,600	25,300	26,100
Northcote (C)	17.11	52,800	52,200	51,600
Nunawading (C)	41.58	100,300	101,100	101,100
Oakleigh (C)	30.30	57,400	58,100	58,400
Pakenham (S) (part) (c)	162.50	5,400	5,600	6,000
Port Melbourne (C)	10.64	8,900	8,800	8,700
Prahran (C)	9.55	46,900	46,300	45,600
Preston (C) (d)	37.02	86,800	86,400	86,000
Richmond (C)	6.12	25,100	24,900	24,800
Ringwood (C)	22.76	40,000	40,800	41,200
St Kilda (C)	8.57	50,700	50,500	50,500
Sandringham (C)	14.97	32,700	32,600	32,700
Sherbrooke (S)	193.00	31,100	31,800	32,400
South Melbourne (C)	8.91	20,000	19,600	19,700
Springvale (C)	97.60	82,300	83,500	85,000
Sunshine (C)	80.03	97,100	98,400	98,500
Waverley (C)	58.57	126,500	128,300	129,400
Werribee (S)	668.20	41,800	43,500	45,200
Whittlesea (S) (d)	598.30	67,500	70,300	73,000
Williamstown (C)	14.50	26,400	26,100	25,300
Total division	6,109.00	2,806,300	2,835,800	2,865,700

**AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS AND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA — *continued***

Statistical division and local government area (a)	Area at 30 June 1983 (b) (square kilometres)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983
BARWON STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Bannockburn (S)	705.30	3,070	3,230	3,310
Barrabool (S)	593.50	5,960	6,220	5,900
Bellarine (S)	331.50	31,380	32,060	32,930
Colac (C)	10.88	10,090	10,130	10,190
Colac (S)	1,458.00	6,350	6,420	6,500
Corio (S)	699.30	52,650	53,580	54,060
Geelong (C)	13.44	14,980	14,670	14,530
Geelong West (C)	5.26	15,390	15,280	15,170
Leigh (S)	980.10	1,320	1,280	1,360
Newtown (C)	5.99	10,510	10,470	10,450
Otway (S)	1,910.00	3,820	3,800	3,780
Queenscliffe (B)	8.49	3,200	3,210	3,250
South Barwon (C)	165.30	36,800	37,230	37,750
Winchelsea (S)	1,284.00	4,030	3,970	3,860
Total division	8,171.00	199,530	201,550	203,040
SOUTH WESTERN STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Belfast (S)	518.00	1,560	1,550	1,540
Camperdown (T)	14.53	3,710	3,670	3,670
Dundas (S)	3,464.00	3,620	3,640	3,650
Glenelg (S)	3,582.00	4,590	4,550	4,500
Hamilton (C)	21.65	9,900	9,930	10,090
Hampden (S)	2,621.00	7,760	7,760	7,650
Heytesbury (S)	1,515.00	7,950	7,960	7,950
Koroit (B)	23.05	1,500	1,490	1,570
Minhamite (S)	1,365.00	2,220	2,210	2,120
Mortlake (S)	2,137.00	3,610	3,600	3,600
Mount Rouse (S)	1,419.00	2,580	2,540	2,530
Port Fairy (B)	23.00	2,400	2,390	2,380
Portland (T)	34.11	9,630	10,370	10,150
Portland (S)	3,681.00	7,050	7,180	7,210
Wannon (S)	1,977.00	3,300	3,250	3,230
Warrnambool (C)	34.43	22,070	22,410	22,690
Warrnambool (S)	1,582.00	6,750	6,850	6,750
Not incorporated — Lady Julia Percy Island and Tower Hill Lake Reserve	6.30	—	—	—
Total division	24,018.00	100,170	101,350	101,280
CENTRAL HIGHLANDS STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Ararat (C)	19.06	8,500	8,560	8,740
Ararat (S)	3,657.00	4,320	4,340	4,330
Avoca (S)	1,124.00	2,180	2,180	2,190
Bacchus Marsh (S)	566.20	7,810	8,260	8,380
Ballaarat (C)	34.39	36,700	36,440	36,550
Ballan (S)	919.40	2,620	2,670	2,750
Ballarat (S)	476.60	19,270	19,240	19,700
Bungaree (S)	227.90	3,800	3,860	3,910
Buninyong (S)	777.90	8,360	8,540	8,810
Creswick (S)	551.70	4,080	4,110	4,140
Daylesford and Glenlyon (S)	609.30	4,450	4,450	4,560
Grenville (S)	844.30	4,440	4,610	4,830
Lexton (S)	821.00	1,220	1,220	1,220
Ripon (S)	1,531.00	3,230	3,290	3,320
Sebastopol (B)	7.07	6,600	6,710	6,810
Talbot and Clunes (S)	533.50	1,700	1,810	1,810
Total division	12,700.00	119,280	120,290	122,050

AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS AND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA — *continued*

Statistical division and local government area (a)	Area at 30 June 1983 (b) (square kilometres)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983
WIMMERA STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Arapiles (S)	1,989.00	1,880	1,850	1,830
Birchip (S) (d)	1,469.00	1,490	1,450	1,420
Dimboola (S)	4,918.00	4,820	4,790	4,770
Donald (S) (d)	1,448.00	2,650	2,670	2,660
Dunmunkle (S)	1,546.00	3,230	3,180	3,150
Horsham (C)	24.03	12,420	12,660	12,660
Kaniva (S)	3,085.00	1,940	1,890	1,890
Karkarooc (S)	3,719.00	3,260	3,250	3,200
Kowree (S)	5,387.00	4,150	4,120	4,090
Lowan (S)	2,683.00	3,350	3,310	3,300
Stawell (T)	24.09	6,340	6,400	6,440
Stawell (S)	2,615.00	2,250	2,250	2,250
Warracknabeal (S)	1,839.00	4,090	4,090	4,030
Wimmera (S)	2,613.00	2,920	2,910	2,900
Total division	33,359.00	54,780	54,820	54,590
NORTHERN MALLEE STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Kerang (B)	22.87	4,260	4,290	4,320
Kerang (S)	3,254.00	4,520	4,560	4,560
Mildura (C)	28.76	15,740	16,290	16,920
Mildura (S)	10,540.00	19,070	19,360	19,460
Swan Hill (C)	13.65	8,610	8,860	9,110
Swan Hill (S)	6,555.00	12,590	12,590	12,650
Walpeup (S)	10,795.00	3,700	3,700	3,700
Wycheproof (S) (d)	4,115.00	3,900	3,840	3,780
Total division	35,324.00	72,400	73,490	74,500
LODDON-CAMPASPE STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Bendigo (C)	32.50	32,820	32,810	32,880
Bet Bet (S)	928.20	1,750	1,810	1,870
Castlemaine (C)	23.31	6,830	6,800	6,810
Charlton (S)	1,176.00	2,130	2,130	2,120
Cohuna (S)	497.30	4,760	4,790	4,770
Eaglehawk (B)	14.50	7,610	7,620	8,030
East Loddon (S)	1,194.00	1,510	1,500	1,490
Echuca (C)	26.06	8,210	8,240	8,290
Gisborne (S)	278.20	7,380	7,680	6,990
Gordon (S)	2,079.00	2,990	3,000	2,970
Huntly (S)	878.00	3,130	3,340	3,320
Kara Kara (S)	2,293.00	1,100	1,100	1,100
Korong (S)	2,384.00	3,080	3,080	3,090
Kyneton (S)	725.20	7,010	7,110	7,270
Mclvor (S)	1,453.00	2,210	2,230	2,300
Maldon (S)	559.40	2,300	2,320	2,420
Marong (S)	1,489.00	10,150	10,420	10,850
Maryborough (C)	23.31	8,120	8,220	8,290
Metcalf (S)	590.50	2,280	2,230	2,320
Newham and Woodend (S)	246.00	3,530	3,670	3,810
Newstead (S)	409.20	2,050	2,110	2,210
Pyalong (S)	603.50	580	560	560
Rochester (S)	1,934.00	7,580	7,630	7,720
Romsey (S)	619.00	4,710	5,010	5,170
St Arnaud (T)	25.41	2,830	2,810	2,830
Strathfieldsaye (S)	619.00	12,780	13,180	13,510
Tullaroop (S)	637.10	1,690	1,780	1,780
Total division	21,738.00	151,100	153,180	154,770

AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS AND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA — *continued*

Statistical division and local government area (a)	Area at 30 June 1983 (b) (square kilometres)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983
GOULBURN STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Alexandra (S)	1,895.00	4,410	4,490	4,560
Benalla (C)	17.76	8,570	8,660	8,750
Benalla (S)	2,322.00	4,290	4,450	4,500
Broadford (S)	576.30	2,490	2,580	2,600
Cobram (S)	440.30	6,410	6,580	6,560
Deakin (S)	960.90	6,090	6,130	6,160
Euroa (S)	1,412.00	4,330	4,380	4,430
Goulburn (S)	1,031.00	2,160	2,170	2,200
Kilmore (S)	508.90	4,860	4,990	5,120
Kyabram (T)	20.85	5,670	5,780	5,780
Mansfield (S)	3,915.00	4,460	4,580	4,740
Nathalia (S)	1,238.00	3,290	3,310	3,350
Numurkah (S)	722.60	6,160	6,280	6,370
Rodney (S)	1,028.00	14,760	15,110	15,210
Seymour (S)	949.60	11,390	11,450	11,620
Shepparton (C)	26.71	24,570	25,060	25,420
Shepparton (S)	924.80	7,400	7,640	7,750
Tungamah (S)	1,142.00	2,900	2,880	2,860
Violet Town (S)	935.00	1,330	1,340	1,380
Waranga (S)	1,645.00	4,390	4,450	4,490
Yea (S)	1,393.00	3,600	3,670	3,790
Total division	23,105.00	133,540	135,980	137,640
NORTH EASTERN STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Beechworth (S)	771.60	4,650	4,660	4,740
Bright (S)	3,100.00	5,410	5,540	5,760
Chiltern (S)	497.50	2,030	2,100	2,080
Myrtleford (S)	712.20	4,300	4,300	4,270
Oxley (S)	2,792.00	5,030	5,030	5,060
Rutherglen (S)	530.90	2,860	2,920	2,930
Tallangatta (S) (e)	4,150.00	3,920	3,890	3,870
Upper Murray (S)	2,458.00	2,590	2,590	2,570
Wangaratta (C)	25.53	16,630	16,670	16,710
Wangaratta (S)	918.30	2,560	2,600	2,680
Wodonga (Rural City)	347.10	19,540	20,400	21,810
Yackandandah (S)	1,111.00	3,600	3,670	3,780
Yarrawonga (S)	629.50	4,580	4,720	4,830
Total division	18,044.00	77,680	79,090	81,090
EAST GIPPSLAND STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Avon (S)	2,529.00	3,610	3,840	3,920
Bairnsdale (T)	27.19	9,800	9,920	10,040
Bairnsdale (S)	2,278.00	5,420	5,420	5,700
Maffra (S)	4,172.00	9,180	9,310	9,480
Omeo (S)	5,649.00	1,610	1,620	1,600
Orbost (S)	9,590.00	6,190	6,240	6,290
Sale (C)	29.78	13,170	13,520	13,820
Tambo (S) (f)	3,512.00	7,260	7,600	7,920
Not incorporated — Bass Strait Islands and part Gippsland Lakes (f)	312.80	—	—	—
Total division	28,100.00	56,240	57,470	58,770

AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREAS AND STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA — *continued*

Statistical division and local government area (a)	Area at 30 June 1983 (b) (square kilometres)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983
CENTRAL GIPPSLAND STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Alberton (S)	1,870.00	6,000	6,100	6,160
Buln Buln (S)	1,259.00	9,450	9,700	9,900
Korumburra (S)	613.80	6,870	6,910	7,010
Mirboo (S)	253.80	2,170	2,240	2,330
Moe (C)	24.08	17,220	17,720	18,220
Morwell (S)	669.00	26,190	27,080	27,700
Narracan (S) (e)	2,317.00	10,980	11,680	11,320
Rosedale (S)	2,273.00	6,490	6,720	6,940
South Gippsland (S)	1,432.00	5,980	6,120	6,270
Traralgon (C) (d) (e)	22.37	18,490	19,120	19,460
Traralgon (S) (d)	464.60	3,270	3,470	3,740
Warragul (S)	352.20	11,280	11,510	11,740
Woorayl (S)	1,246.00	10,370	10,540	10,680
Yallourn Works Area	26.90	50	20	—
Total division	12,823.00	134,830	138,930	141,470
EAST CENTRAL STATISTICAL DIVISION				
Bass (S) (d)	521.60	3,390	3,360	3,440
Cranbourne (S) (part) (c)	345.30	4,010	4,110	4,100
Healesville (S) (part) (c)	619.70	1,670	1,720	1,730
Pakenham (S) (part) (c)	725.30	13,100	13,650	13,610
Phillip Island (S)	101.00	3,070	3,190	3,290
Upper Yarra (S)	1,585.00	10,500	10,500	10,750
Wonthaggi (B)	57.11	5,370	5,550	5,710
Not incorporated — French Island	154.00	70	70	70
Total division	4,109.00	41,070	42,150	42,700
STATE SUMMARY				
Melbourne	6,109.00	2,806,300	2,835,800	2,865,700
Barwon	8,171.00	199,530	201,550	203,040
South Western	24,018.00	100,170	101,350	101,280
Central Highlands	12,700.00	119,280	120,290	122,050
Wimmera	33,359.00	54,780	54,820	54,590
Northern Mallee	35,324.00	72,400	73,490	74,500
Loddon—Campaspe	21,738.00	151,100	153,180	154,770
Goulburn	23,105.00	133,540	135,980	137,640
North Eastern	18,044.00	77,680	79,090	81,090
East Gippsland	28,100.00	56,240	57,470	58,770
Central Gippsland	12,823.00	134,830	138,930	141,470
East Central	4,109.00	41,070	42,150	42,700
Total Victoria	227,600.00	3,946,900	3,994,100	4,037,600

(a) The designation of City (C), Town (T), Borough (B), or Shire (S) shown against the name of each local government area indicates its status at 30 June 1983.

(b) Areas below 100 square kilometres have been calculated to two decimal places, areas from 100 to 999 square kilometres to one decimal place, and areas of 1,000 or more square kilometres to the nearest whole number. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

(c) The Shires of Pakenham, Cranbourne, and Healesville are partly in the Melbourne Statistical Division and partly in the East Central Statistical Division.

(d) The following table shows changes which have occurred in local government areas between 30 June 1981 and 30 June 1983:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CHANGES, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1981
to 30 JUNE 1983

Local government area	Nature of change in area or status	Net change in area (square kilometres)	Estimated net change in population	Date of change
Birchip (S)	Gained from Wycheproof (S)	+0.02	—	1.10.82
Cranbourne (S) (MSD)	Lost to Frankston (C)	-0.30	—	1.10.82
Donald (S)	Lost to Dunmunkle (S)	-0.08	—	1.10.82
Frankston (C)	Gained from Cranbourne (S)	+0.30	—	1.10.82
Preston (C)	Lost to Whittlesea (S)	-0.01	—	1.10.81
Traralgon (C)	Gained from Traralgon (S)	+2.10	—	1.10.81
Traralgon (C)	Gained from Traralgon (S)	+0.26	+10	1.10.82
Traralgon (S)	Lost to Traralgon (C)	-2.10	—	1.10.81
Traralgon (S)	Lost to Traralgon (C)	-0.26	-10	1.10.82
Whittlesea (S)	Gained from Preston (C)	+0.01	—	1.10.81
Wycheproof (S)	Lost to Birchip (S)	-0.02	—	1.10.82

(e) Population levels in the following local government areas have been affected by major construction projects in the vicinity: Narracan Shire (Thomson River Dam); Tallangatta Shire (Dartmouth Dam); Traralgon City (Loy Yang Power Station); and Portland (Alcoa).

(f) Part of Gippsland Lakes is included in Tambo Shire.

The following table shows the distribution of population, and the population density of each statistical division:

AREA AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION IN STATISTICAL DIVISIONS, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE 1983

Statistical division	Area (square kilometres)	Percentage of Victoria's area	Estimated resident population	Percentage of Victoria's population	Persons per square kilometre
Melbourne	6,109	2.68	2,865,700	71.0	468.9
Barwon	8,171	3.59	203,040	5.0	24.8
South Western	24,018	10.55	101,280	2.5	4.2
Central Highlands	12,700	5.58	122,050	3.0	9.6
Wimmera	33,359	14.66	54,590	1.4	1.6
Northern Mallee	35,324	15.52	74,500	1.8	2.1
Loddon-Campaspe	21,738	9.55	154,770	3.8	7.1
Goulburn	23,105	10.15	137,640	3.4	6.0
North Eastern	18,044	7.93	81,090	2.0	4.5
East Gippsland	28,100	12.35	58,770	1.5	2.1
Central Gippsland	12,823	5.63	141,470	3.5	11.0
East Central	4,109	1.81	42,700	1.1	10.4
Total	227,600	100.00	4,037,600	100.0	17.7

Melbourne Statistical Division and the statistical districts of Victoria

Around each State capital city and other urban centres with a population of at least 25,000 persons, a fixed outer boundary has been drawn. This boundary was devised, after consultation with planners, to contain the anticipated development of the urban centre and associated smaller urban centres for a period of at least 20 years. The boundary circumscribes an area which is now, or is expected to be, socially and economically orientated towards the urban centre. These areas are designated statistical divisions in the case of the State capital cities, and statistical districts in the case of other urban centres. The fixed boundaries delimit areas which, for general statistical purposes, are free from the problems imposed for some purposes by the moving boundaries of urban centres. Further information can be found on pages 173-5 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1981.

In Victoria, apart from the Melbourne Statistical Division, the statistical districts devised on the above basis are Albury-Wodonga, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Shepparton-Mooroopna. A statistical district boundary has also been defined around urban Morwell because of special circumstances in this area. Estimates of the resident population in these statistical districts at 30 June 1981, 1982, and 1983 are shown in the following table:

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION IN STATISTICAL DISTRICTS, VICTORIA

Statistical district	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1981	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1982 (a)	Estimated resident population at 30 June 1983 (a)
Albury-Wodonga	73,760	74,740	77,970
Ballarat	73,750	73,890	74,990
Bendigo	60,370	61,120	62,260
Geelong	141,970	143,000	143,920
Morwell	16,970	17,610	18,030
Shepparton-Mooroopna	36,060	37,010	37,530

(a) Preliminary estimates subject to revision after the 1986 census results become available.

Population of Melbourne Statistical Division and the remainder of Victoria

The concept of the present Melbourne Statistical Division, that is, a fixed outer boundary defined to contain the anticipated urban development of the city (and associated urban centres) for a period of at least 20 years, has been used for statistical purposes since the 1966 census. To provide a time series of data for a comparable area, estimates of the population in this area as defined for the 1966 census were derived from each earlier census back to 1901.

The table below shows that as early as 1921, the population of the Melbourne Statistical Division exceeded the population of the remainder of Victoria. The percentage of the Victorian population enumerated in the Melbourne Statistical Division has risen steadily over time except for two periods: the immediate post-war period 1947 to 1954, and the recent period 1971 to 1976.

POPULATION OF VICTORIA, MELBOURNE STATISTICAL DIVISION, AND THE REMAINDER OF VICTORIA

Census year	Victoria	Melbourne Statistical Division		Remainder of Victoria	
		Number	Percentage of Victoria	Number	Percentage of Victoria
1901	1,201,070	535,008	44.54	666,062	55.46
1911	1,315,551	643,027	48.88	672,524	51.12
1921	1,531,280	863,692	56.40	667,588	43.60
1933	1,820,261	1,094,269	60.12	725,992	39.88
1947	2,054,701	1,341,382	65.28	713,319	34.72
1954	2,452,341	1,589,185	64.80	863,156	35.20
1961	2,930,113	1,984,815	67.74	945,298	32.26
1966	3,220,217	2,230,793	69.27	989,424	30.73
1971(a)	3,601,352	2,575,000	71.50	1,026,352	28.50
1976(a)	3,810,426	2,723,700	71.48	1,086,726	28.52
1981(a)	3,946,900	2,806,300	71.10	1,140,600	28.90

(a) The population figures for 1971, 1976, and 1981 are part of the new population series (see pages 195-6). The figures for earlier years are 'as recorded' census counts.

Further references: 1976 Census Field System, *Victorian Year Book 1979*, pp. 178-6; Urban centres, 1981, pp. 173-5

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

Census results

The processing of the 1981 census followed a similar format to those prior to 1976. At the end of enumeration, all Australian census forms were transported to a central processing centre (in Melbourne in 1981) where they went through preliminary processing so that the basic demographic information could be quickly compiled. All forms were then processed State by State through a more detailed system and finally they were destroyed after tabulations were verified in Canberra.

The processing of the 1976 census was different in that it was divided into two stages: preliminary processing in each State capital city, Darwin, and Canberra; and detailed main processing in Sydney and Canberra. The preliminary processing stage commenced almost immediately after census day but the main processing was deferred until July 1977 as part of the general Commonwealth Government policy of reducing expenditure in the 1976-77 year.

As a further means of reducing expenditure the main processing stage processed a 50 per cent random sample of the census returns rather than every schedule collected. Hence, with the exception of data for those population characteristics extracted at the preliminary processing stage, i.e. sex, age, marital status, and birthplace group, all 1976 census data were subject to a sampling error. However, the sampling error was so small in percentage terms as to be negligible for most purposes.

It should be recognised that in processing census data for 15.5 million persons and 4.8 million dwellings there are innumerable possibilities for error. As in other areas of statistics, much of the effort of statisticians is directed to devising procedures which prevent most errors from occurring or which detect and eliminate those which do occur. Despite such efforts, it is impracticable to eliminate every inaccuracy but special steps such as editing and quality control procedures are taken to measure and control the level of such inaccuracy. Thus, while some minor errors and discrepancies may be evident in the census tables it is unlikely that they would have any practical significance in the interpretation of the data. Further information can be found on pages 173-5 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1981.

IMMIGRATION

Policy

General

Under present policy, immigration intakes are planned in the light of existing economic and social conditions, both in Australia and overseas, with priority being given to family reunion, resettlement of refugees, and meeting shortages in specified occupational categories. Increasing emphasis is being placed on the welfare of settlers already in Australia.

Australia's immigration policy is based on its national and economic security; the capacity to provide employment, housing, education, and social services; the welfare and integration of all its citizens; the preservation of the democratic system and balanced development of the nation; the preservation and development of a culturally diversified but socially cohesive Australian society free of racial tensions, and offering security, well-being, and equality of opportunity to all those living here; the concept that entry into Australia should be selective but not discriminatory; and the sympathetic consideration of persons who, for political and other reasons, would face danger to life and freedom upon return to their country of origin.

Applicants for immigration to Australia are considered in one of the following categories: family migration; labour shortage; business migration; independent migration; special eligibility; and refugees.

All applicants for migration must satisfy the standard requirements of health and character. Applicants within the skilled and business migration category and some applicants within the family migration category are required to satisfy a points assessment which takes account of such factors as occupational skills, arranged employment, age, education, employment record, and economic prospects. Selection also includes a settlement assessment which does not involve points but is a general assessment of whether applicants' personal qualities and family circumstances will enable them to settle well.

Population and immigration

The monitoring of demographic trends and the assessment of their implications for the future are crucial elements in the development of an appropriate national population strategy. The Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs established the National Population Council in June 1984 to advise him on policy matters within his portfolio. The Council supersedes the now disbanded Australian Council on Population and Ethnic Affairs. The Council has been split into three Committees: Immigration, Population, and Work Force Planning; Migration and International Law, and Refugee Matters; and Ethnic Affairs and Settlement. The deliberation of the Council will ensure that the Commonwealth Government is kept fully informed of issues relevant to the development of Australian multicultural society, including the relationship between population growth, immigration intake, and the economy.

Ethnic affairs

The Ethnic Affairs Branch of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs is responsible for interviewing the migrants in the community in relation to health, welfare, education, housing, employment, communication, the law, and other matters affecting their settlement. This includes the administration of the Migrant Resource Centres. The Grant-in-Aid Scheme (GIA) which funds

community organisations seeking social welfare workers to assist migrants, and the Migrant Project Subsidy Scheme (MPSS) which provides once only funding to migrant groups.

The Branch provides the Minister with policy advice on ethnic community organisations and structures, on aspects of the ethnic media, and on the development of a co-ordinated national policy on languages.

The Branch has a Migrant Women's Desk which provides policy advice on all matters of concern to migrant women and stimulates government agencies to take account of migrant women's needs.

The Branch is also responsible for the compilation and publication of the *Directory of Ethnic Community Organisations in Australia*.

Citizenship

Legislation

The *Nationality and Citizenship Act* 1948 commenced on Australia Day (26 January) 1949 and repealed all previous Commonwealth legislation on this subject. The most significant effect of the Act was the creation for the first time of the status of 'Australian citizen'. In this respect the Act was complementary to the citizenship legislation passed or about to be passed by other countries of the British Commonwealth. All Australian citizens, and the citizens of other countries of the British Commonwealth, were declared to be British subjects. The legislation is now described as the *Australian Citizenship Act* 1948. Australian citizenship was automatically acquired from 26 January 1949 by persons who were British subjects at that date and who either:

- (1) were born in Australia or New Guinea;
- (2) were naturalised in Australia;
- (3) had been ordinarily resident in Australia during the five years immediately preceding 26 January 1949;
- (4) were born outside Australia of fathers to whom (1) or (2) above applied (provided the persons concerned had entered Australia without being placed under any immigration restriction); or
- (5) were women who had been married to men who became Australian citizens under the above headings (provided that the women concerned had entered Australia before 26 January 1949 without being placed under any immigration restriction).

For the purposes of the Act, 'Australia' includes all the Territories of Australia.

Acquisition of Australian citizenship

Australian citizenship may be acquired under the provisions of the *Australian Citizenship Act* 1948 either:

- (1) By birth in Australia;
- (2) By descent by birth abroad subject to registration of the birth at an Australian consulate abroad or the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs in Australia;
- (3) By grant to persons resident in Australia who make application under the conditions prescribed in the Act. Since 1949, there has been no provision in the Australian Citizenship Act for settlers (regardless of their nationality or length of residence) to acquire Australian citizenship without making application.

The Australian Citizenship Act provides that any settler who has lived in Australia for 2½ years may apply for citizenship, but must have lived in Australia for three years before citizenship may be granted. Applying after 2½ years can save time. All are required to attend a ceremony and take an oath or make an affirmation of allegiance. There are several exceptions to the requirement of three years residence:

- (1) The husband, wife, widow, or widower of an Australian citizen may apply for citizenship at any time after arriving in Australia, providing the intention is to settle here permanently;
- (2) A married settler may apply for citizenship at the same time as his wife or her husband, provided the spouse has lived here for the required 2½ years;
- (3) The Minister may approve in special cases the granting of citizenship to persons under 21 years of age. (Persons under 18 years of age require the consent of their responsible parent);
- (4) Children under 16 years of age. (They normally become citizens when their parents become citizens and their names are included in the certificate of their responsible parent. If they wish, they may obtain separate documentary evidence of their citizenship from the Regional Director of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs in their State or Territory.); and
- (5) persons who serve in the permanent defence forces of Australia may be granted citizenship after

completing three months service, or, if discharged earlier on medical grounds attributable to service, immediately on discharge.

Status of married women

The Australian Citizenship Act recognises the independence of married women. Australian citizenship is not lost by marriage to a national of another country, nor do women automatically acquire Australian citizenship upon marriage to an Australian citizen. However, special provisions for acquiring Australian citizenship apply to women who are wives of Australian citizens.

PERSONS GRANTED AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP, VICTORIA

Country of former citizenship	1983	1956 to 1983	Country of former citizenship	1983	1956 to 1983
Argentina	232	1,353	Philippines	556	2,929
Austria	74	4,129	Poland	419	25,165
Chile	303	1,658	Portugal	221	1,048
China	233	3,248	Romania	136	1,304
Cyprus	402	5,165	Singapore	60	644
Czechoslovakia	140	4,467	South Africa	550	2,470
Egypt	66	4,623	Spain	127	2,343
Finland	25	1,015	Sri Lanka	157	3,617
France	136	2,155	Switzerland	53	1,450
Germany	355	20,880	Syria	53	967
Greece	1,764	80,873	Thailand	52	297
Hungary	85	10,472	Turkey	335	1,938
India	226	3,822	Uruguay	96	1,034
Israel	88	3,898	USA	42	820
Italy	2,243	85,217	UK and Colonies	5,871	49,502
Kampuchea	199	446	USSR	130	2,928
Laos	187	512	Vietnam	2,527	5,306
Lebanon	614	9,451	Yugoslavia	2,804	53,022
Malaysia	257	1,990	Stateless	1,939	9,757
Malta	707	4,730	Other	841	43,866
Mauritius	200	2,100			
Netherlands	292	28,982			
New Zealand	486	1,444	Total	26,283	493,037

Source: Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES BY STATE OF CLEARANCE

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
ARRIVALS									
1978	1,069,029	426,808	165,166	621	139,290	374	13,051	482	1,814,822
1979	1,243,143	495,828	188,123	710	162,300	40	14,245	417	2,104,807
1980	1,328,034	542,505	211,524	1,377	182,703	627	16,410	433	2,283,613
1981	1,299,751	537,219	243,676	907	215,409	9,989	23,461	391	2,330,803
1982	1,315,000	536,200	276,900	6,200	245,000	7,000	22,800	500	2,409,500
1983	1,245,900	502,500	267,700	41,300	229,600	7,700	21,600	700	2,317,100
DEPARTURES									
1978	1,056,855	396,631	157,435	1,154	136,438	19	13,340	608	1,762,480
1979	1,216,665	464,547	173,037	684	154,758	—	16,092	533	2,026,316
1980	1,281,986	501,158	194,885	1,384	170,894	478	17,396	374	2,168,555
1981	1,258,174	491,885	225,974	899	196,498	8,625	20,916	316	2,203,287
1982	1,289,500	497,500	247,600	6,100	229,900	7,100	22,500	500	2,300,700
1983	1,250,700	488,300	252,600	40,200	220,400	7,200	22,600	400	2,282,400

NOTE: This table indicates the State or Territory of clearance by customs and immigration authorities. Because numbers of passengers use interstate transport to commence or complete their journeys, the figures do not indicate the precise effect on the population of the States of movements to and from overseas countries.

Immigration into Victoria

Because of interstate movements, the effect of overseas migration on the population of a particular State can only be reliably measured at the time of a national Census of Population and Housing from information gathered on birthplace, nationality, and period of residence in Australia. A comparison of

the results of the 1981 census with those of the 1947 census shows clearly the contribution of immigration to Victoria's population growth.

Of the 1947 figure, 178,600 persons or 8.7 per cent of the population were recorded as being born overseas. By 1981, the overseas-born figure had reached 873,921 persons or 22.8 per cent of the population. Major birthplaces of the overseas born in 1981 were United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland 260,083, Italy 115,430, Greece 72,270, Yugoslavia 59,500, Germany 34,336, Netherlands 30,710, Malta 27,756, and Poland 22,736.

OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Year	Australia				Victoria				
	Permanent and long-term movement (a)		Short-term movement		Total	Short-term movement		Total	
	Settlers	Other	Australian residents returning or departing temporarily	Visitors		Permanent and long-term movement (a)	Australian residents returning or departing temporarily		Visitors
ARRIVALS									
1978	68,419	86,327	1,029,482	630,594	1,814,822	38,960	265,701	116,767	421,428
1979	72,236	94,891	1,144,335	793,345	2,104,807	40,628	295,977	140,297	476,902
1980	94,502	89,785	1,194,768	904,558	2,283,613	44,887	295,571	158,252	498,710
1981	118,735	93,954	1,181,387	936,727	2,330,803	49,319	285,023	164,472	498,814
1982	107,171	88,031	1,259,643	954,674	2,409,519	44,891	296,877	164,037	505,805
1983	78,390	75,180	1,219,630	943,900	2,317,100	38,070	291,370	163,760	493,200
DEPARTURES									
1978	24,961	78,162	1,062,234	597,123	1,762,480	23,967	275,134	103,763	402,864
1979	23,420	74,688	1,175,769	752,439	2,026,316	22,228	304,942	126,442	453,612
1980	20,843	70,019	1,203,603	874,090	2,168,555	21,115	300,441	147,614	469,170
1981	19,856	65,756	1,217,299	900,376	2,203,287	19,295	294,600	149,393	463,288
1982	22,493	69,848	1,286,900	921,459	2,300,700	20,212	305,576	151,749	477,537
1983	25,870	74,460	1,253,170	928,900	2,282,400	22,240	305,300	151,300	478,840

(a) 'Permanent and long-term movement' relates to persons arriving who state that they intend to reside in Australia permanently or for a period of one year or more, and to persons departing who state that they intend to reside abroad permanently or for a period of one year or more. From January 1974, new passenger cards and processing arrangements were introduced which have affected comparability in certain instances.

NOTE: This table shows overseas arrivals and departures for Australia and overseas arrivals and departures for which Victoria is the state of intended or last residence.

Ministry of Ethnic Affairs

The Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission was established under the *Ethnic Affairs Commission Act* 1982 which was proclaimed by the Governor in Council on 9 November 1982. The Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, established in 1976, became the Ministry for Ethnic Affairs on 23 December 1982, and became fully operational when the Ethnic Affairs Commission commenced operations on 15 March, 1983.

In December 1982, an inter-departmental committee recommended that Victoria cease its role in the processing of immigration applications, and that this function be the sole responsibility of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Victoria's role in immigration dates back to 1946 when a State Immigration Office was established to process immigration applications from the United Kingdom. Victoria worked in close co-operation with Commonwealth offices in both Canberra and London. This role ceased on 28 February 1983, after which time no new applications for immigration were accepted by the Victorian Ministry, and the processing of applications formally ceased on 30 June, 1983.

The objectives of the Ministry are:

- (1) to promote and facilitate the settlement of migrants in Victoria, and to co-ordinate measures conducive to the building of a socially cohesive society;
- (2) to promote and encourage the establishment of a community in which all ethnic groups will have full expression of identity;
- (3) to encourage a community awareness of the value of ethnic cultures;
- (4) to encourage migrants to accept Australian citizenship and to participate in the social, cultural, educational, political, and economic life of the Australian community and in such other activities as are conducive to good citizenship; and
- (5) to take such steps as are considered necessary to prevent or remove discrimination against persons

because of their ethnic background or characteristics, and to promote the welfare of migrants and their families within Victoria.

In addition, its creation was to a large extent directed to removing any areas of possible misunderstanding and to rationalise as far as possible, any degree of overlapping functions by government departments and agencies involved in the sensitive area of ethnic affairs.

The responsibilities of the Ethnic Affairs Commission fall under three main headings:

(1) *Community Education and Development*. This unit maintains a close liaison with ethnic groups, schools, community service organisations, and individuals to facilitate and provide financial and other assistance for projects which promote a socially cohesive society. Extensive research is undertaken to evaluate each project, be it social, welfare, cultural, or educational.

The unit also co-ordinates an on-going series of Cross-Cultural Awareness Courses for specific sectors of the community involved in working with migrants. These courses are designed to increase the awareness of the problems faced by migrants and to promote a better understanding of migrants within the community.

This unit's major programme is the development of a five-year Community Education Programme designed to educate the Australian community of the benefits of migration. Staff also present lectures to school groups, service, and ethnic organisations, and play a major role in seminars involving the ethnic communities.

(2) *Migrant Settlement Services*. This unit plans and implements various projects designed to assist newly arrived migrants to settle successfully in Victoria. The provision of information on many aspects of life in Australia and on services available in the community is one of the major activities of the unit. Several informative publications are periodically produced, the most notable being a guide to multi-cultural Melbourne entitled *Migrants' Melbourne*. This directory of services and organisations is published twice yearly and is available in ten community languages free of charge.

In addition to the collection, storage, and dissemination of information, the unit collates statistical data on a wide range of related subjects.

Other activities include membership of and project work for committees, and the preparation of major reports and submissions. The nature of the unit requires a close co-operation and liaison with ethnic community organisations and a wide range of voluntary, private, and government organisations in areas of industry, education, health, law, and the media. Interdepartmental working parties have been established in the main service providing areas of the Victorian Government. The unit is in constant contact with Commonwealth, State, and local authorities to ensure that no citizen is placed at a disadvantage because of a lack of understanding of the English language.

A translation unit has been established to assist Victorian Government departments and instrumentalities to translate information into Victoria's major need languages of Arabic, Croatian, Greek, Italian, Serbian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Other languages are covered by contract translators. This service is provided free of charge.

The Victoria Welcome Group administered by the unit is the volunteer arm of the Ministry. Its major function is to welcome newly arrived migrants to Victoria, assist them with any problems or needs, inform them of services and resources available in the community, and provide referral and follow-up service when necessary, thus facilitating earlier settlement into the community.

(3) *Community Relations and Liaison*. The principal role of this unit is of a conciliatory nature in cases which are referred to the Ministry, and which could be seen as discrimination by virtue of race or ethnic characteristics.

The unit consults with Victorian Government departments and agencies in the field of equal opportunity and community relations on cases and projects where assistance from the Ministry is requested, or where it is felt that expertise is warranted.

The unit also liaises with community organisations, involving close co-ordination with migrant groups and government agencies in ascertaining specific needs and in recommending appropriate action.

ABORIGINALS

In 1974, the *Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Act 1967* was repealed and the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs abolished. Overall responsibility for Aboriginal affairs was transferred to the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs under an agreement between the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments. The transfer became effective on 11 January 1975. Shortly after the transfer the Victorian Region was, for operational and administrative purposes, extended to include Tasmania, and is now known as the South-eastern Region.

The major functions of the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs are policy, planning, and co-ordination. The Department also provides grants to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal statutory and non-statutory organisations concerned with education, heritage and culture, recreation, legal aid, health, employment, business development, town management and public utilities, welfare, and housing. Commonwealth, Victorian, and local government authorities and non-government organisations are expected to provide direct services to Aboriginal citizens, as they do to other citizens. These bodies – not the Department of Aboriginal Affairs – provide housing, health, education, employment, legal representation, culture, recreation, and welfare programmes.

Special programmes are financed by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs through companies and statutory bodies such as the Aboriginal Development Commission, Aboriginal Hostels Limited, Aboriginal Arts and Crafts Pty Ltd, National Aboriginal Sports Foundation, and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs seek to encourage Aboriginal individuals, families, and organisations to use community services, and where needs are not being met, seek to achieve change in those services. Staff of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs maintain contact with community organisations to encourage executives and their personnel to provide services to Aboriginals as for other citizens, as well as ensuring that Aboriginal identity and special needs are understood and met.

Aboriginals are increasingly participating in decision-making processes concerning their affairs. They have formed organisations in the Melbourne metropolitan area and country areas and receive grants from the Department to provide services in housing, employment, education, welfare, health, culture, recreation, and legal aid. The organisations are governed by Aboriginal committees. Aboriginals are employed by Commonwealth and State Government departments and local government authorities. Aboriginal opinions and aspirations are made known through consultations and conferences and specially established consultative committees. Aboriginal persons in Victoria elect two members to the National Aboriginal Conference to represent their interests.

In 1982, the Premier of Victoria took responsibility for Aboriginal affairs, and appointed the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet to assist him. An Aboriginal affairs unit staffed by Aboriginals, was established in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet to provide liaison between the Aboriginal community and the Victorian Government.

Since 1982, Aboriginal affairs policy has been based upon the principles of Aboriginal self-determination, self-management, land-rights, and the enhancement and protection of Aboriginal culture. Policies in all relevant portfolios have also reflected the need for Aboriginal people to be actively involved in all facets of Aboriginal affairs and to be provided with real opportunities for decision-making and training, as well as the facilitation and recognition of employment, appropriate service needs, and better community relations.

Progress in social, health, employment, housing, and education needs has, since 1982, involved the following:

- (1) land title granted to the Aborigines Advancement League for their community/education centre in Thornbury;
- (2) provision made for Aboriginal family structures in the Adoption Bill;
- (3) establishment of a Police/Aboriginal Liaison Committee to facilitate better community relations;
- (4) amendment to the Equal Opportunity Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race;
- (5) appointment of an Aboriginal conciliator to the Equal Opportunity Office;
- (6) employment of more Aboriginal health liaison officers and a statistics officer to collate and collect statistics needed for preventative health programmes;
- (7) establishment of two Aboriginal child care centres;
- (8) establishment of an Aboriginal Women's Alcoholic Rehabilitation Centre;
- (9) facilitation of employment projects for Aboriginal organisations through job creation schemes;
- (10) establishment of an Aboriginal Employment Development Committee to facilitate employment and training needs;
- (11) amendment to the Public Service Act to establish special entry provisions for Aboriginals to the Victorian Public Service;
- (12) appointment of an Aboriginal liaison officer with the Public Service Board to assist Aboriginal staff and facilitate career and employment opportunities through an affirmative action programme;
- (13) assistance to the Aboriginal Housing Board in orienting policy towards gradual transfer of control and administration of housing to local Aboriginal co-operatives;
- (14) extra funds for the Victorian Aboriginal Education Consultative Group; and the

(15) publication by Aboriginal Education Services of a booklet *Guide for Teachers of Aboriginal children in Victoria in Victorian Primary Schools*.

Apart from policies in these areas of need, Aboriginal people have advocated their particular need for recognition of their unique history and culture, and recognition of their unique contribution to our cultural heritage. The Victorian Government has responded to these issues by initiatives which acknowledge the contribution and recognition of Aboriginal culture, both present and past.

The recognition of Aboriginal history has been facilitated by the introduction of the Aboriginal Land Claims Bill and by a reference in 1983 to the Parliamentary Social Development Committee to inquire into the effects of the dispossession and dispersal of Aboriginal people. Due to responses received from both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities on the Aboriginal Land Claims Bill, the Victorian Government distributed an *Aboriginal Affairs Discussion Paper* in September 1984 for comment by 31 December 1984, with the intention of introducing an Aboriginal Affairs Bill into the Victorian Parliament in 1985.

The protection of Aboriginal heritage has involved amendment to the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act, and the establishment of a working party to draft an Aboriginal Heritage Act. This committee is to prepare a discussion paper for distribution leading to new legislation in 1985.

A major project has been initiated to restore the historic Condah Aboriginal Mission as a tourist project in western Victoria. This project will involve the historically accurate reconstruction of several of the mission buildings, the replanting of orchard trees and gardens, and cabin accommodation for tourists. It will also include the reconstruction of fish traps and stone houses unique to Victorian Aboriginal cultural heritage. The project has involved an important liaison between the Gournditch-jmara Aboriginal Council and the National Parks Service which ensures Aboriginal participation, decision-making, and employment on the project.

The Government's tourism strategy has also involved planning for an Aboriginal Cultural Interpretative Centre in the Grampians National Park. This project will involve local Aboriginal people in the planning, design, and content of this Centre as well as other matters of Aboriginal cultural concern in the park management.

VITAL STATISTICS

Legal provisions

The system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853. The statutory duties under the Registration Act are performed by the Government Statist, who has supervision over registration officers, registrars of marriages, and (relating to their registration duties) the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by the Government Statist or by an Assistant Government Statist or an authorised registration officer are *prima facie* evidence in the courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the Government Statist's Office in Melbourne there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1 July 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods as far back as 1837.

The various Acts relating to the registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria were consolidated in 1958.

In November 1959, a Bill was placed before the Victorian Parliament to reorganise the system of registration of births and deaths in Victoria. This new legislation, known as the *Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Act 1959*, which came into operation on 1 October 1960, was designed to allow registrations of births and deaths to be effected by post instead of through those persons who previously held office as Registrars of Births and Deaths. No alteration however was made to the system of registration of marriages. In 1961 the Commonwealth Parliament passed the *Marriage Act 1961*. A few minor provisions (relating mainly to certain extensions of the application of the prohibited degrees) came into operation on the date the Act received the Royal Assent (6 May 1961), and the remainder of the Act came into operation on 1 September 1963. On this date, the Act superseded the marriage laws of all the States, the two mainland Territories, and Norfolk Island.

Statistical summary

The principal vital statistics in Victoria from 1978 to 1983 are shown in the following table:

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, VICTORIA

Year	Number registered				Crude rates			
	Marriages	Live births	Deaths	Infant deaths (a)	Marriages (b)	Live births (b)	Deaths (b)	Infant deaths (c)
1978	27,178	58,861	29,096	616	7.03	15.23	7.53	10.5
1979	27,019	57,767	29,078	652	6.96	14.87	7.49	11.3
1980	27,724	58,206	29,374	592	7.09	14.88	7.51	10.2
1981	28,648	59,513	29,034	562	7.25	15.07	7.35	9.4
1982	28,851	59,983	30,611	641	7.23	15.02	7.67	10.7
1983	28,974	60,123	29,320	561	7.18	14.90	7.26	9.3

(a) Included in deaths. An infant death is the death of a live born child under one year of age.

(b) Number of events per 1,000 of estimated mean population.

(c) Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births.

Marriages

Marriages registered in Victoria in 1982 numbered 28,851, an increase of 203 on the number registered in 1981. Marriages registered in Victoria in 1983 numbered 28,974, an increase of 123 on the number registered in 1982. The crude marriage rate has dropped marginally for the period 1981 to 1983, though for 1983 it was recorded as the same as for 1977.

NUMBER OF MARRIAGES

Year	N.S.W.	Vic	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	35,904	27,178	15,431	9,800	9,404	3,148	576	1,517	102,958
1979	36,906	27,019	16,082	9,778	9,239	3,254	553	1,565	104,396
1980	38,965	27,724	17,157	10,064	9,594	3,433	661	1,642	109,240
1981	40,679	28,648	18,305	10,252	10,111	3,515	719	1,676	113,905
1982	41,955	28,851	18,928	10,936	10,455	3,576	818	1,756	117,275
1983	39,995	28,974	18,645	10,550	10,519	3,644	776	1,757	114,860

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES, VICTORIA, 1983

Ages of bridegrooms (a) (years)	Ages of brides (a) (years)												Total bridegrooms
	16 and under	17	18	19	20	21 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 and over	
18 and under	15	29	47	21	14	14	3	3	—	—	—	—	146
19	16	38	80	87	54	60	14	2	1	—	—	—	352
20	22	44	139	249	268	263	33	4	—	1	1	—	1,024
21 to 24	46	125	442	1,053	1,672	5,577	815	134	34	8	—	—	9,906
25 to 29	17	44	130	273	501	4,025	2,908	536	131	28	5	3	8,601
30 to 34	3	9	21	50	79	883	1,558	899	258	54	18	3	3,835
35 to 39	—	1	6	9	24	205	512	610	390	115	25	14	1,911
40 to 44	1	—	2	2	5	48	161	255	278	173	70	25	1,020
45 to 49	—	—	1	1	—	14	51	95	162	153	115	66	658
50 and over	—	—	—	—	3	9	30	72	130	193	241	843	1,521
Total brides	120	290	868	1,745	2,620	11,098	6,085	2,610	1,384	725	475	954	28,974

(a) The marriage of bridegrooms under 18 years of age and brides under 16 years of age is restricted by the provisions of the Commonwealth *Marriage Act* 1961-1973.

AVERAGE AGE AT MARRIAGE (a), VICTORIA

Year	Ages of bridegrooms (years)				Ages of brides (years)			
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	All bridegrooms	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	All brides
1978	24.0	58.8	35.9	25.3	21.7	52.6	32.4	22.8
1979	24.1	58.8	36.1	25.5	22.0	53.0	32.8	23.0
1980	24.3	59.1	35.6	25.6	22.1	53.1	32.8	23.1
1981	24.5	59.6	35.9	25.7	22.3	53.2	32.8	23.4
1982	24.7	60.4	36.1	26.0	22.6	51.4	33.2	23.8
1983	25.0	59.2	36.3	26.4	22.9	53.8	33.6	24.0

(a) Arithmetic median.

The age in relation to which approximately half the number of bachelors was younger, and approximately half was older (the median age), was 24.7 years in 1982 and 25.0 years in 1983. The

corresponding ages for spinsters were 22.6 years and 22.9 years. More bachelors were married at 23 years and spinsters at 21 years (the modal ages) than at any other age in 1982.

For tables showing the previous marital status of bridegrooms and brides marrying and the proportions by previous marital status, reference should be made to the Australian Bureau of Statistics publication *Marriages, Victoria* (3307.2).

For many years civil marriage ceremonies were performed at certain country centres and at the Office of the Government Statist in Melbourne. This situation changed during 1973 and 1974 with the appointment of a number of additional civil celebrants, the majority of whom operate in the Melbourne metropolitan area. These additional civil celebrants may marry couples at any location.

CIVIL MARRIAGES, VICTORIA

Year	Total civil marriages		Performed in the Office of the Government Statist in Melbourne	
	Number	Percentage of total marriages	Number	Percentage of total civil marriages
1978	8,852	32.57	2,094	23.66
1979	9,221	34.13	1,999	21.68
1980	9,411	33.95	1,865	19.82
1981	10,190	35.57	1,866	18.31
1982	10,611	36.78	1,895	17.86
1983	10,809	37.30	1,736	16.06

RELIGIOUS AND CIVIL MARRIAGES (a), VICTORIA

Category of celebrant	1982		1983	
	Number	Proportion of total marriages	Number	Proportion of total marriages
Ministers of religion -				
Recognised denominations (b)				
Roman Catholic Church	6,710	23.26	6,729	23.22
Church of England in Australia	3,927	13.61	3,863	13.33
Uniting Church of Australia (c)	3,909	13.55	3,848	13.28
Orthodox Churches (c)	889	3.08	948	3.27
Churches of Christ in Australia (c)	454	1.57	456	1.57
Presbyterian Church of Australia (c)	442	1.53	369	1.27
The Baptist Union of Australia (c)	424	1.47	410	1.42
Lutheran Churches (c)	217	0.75	212	0.73
The Salvation Army	192	0.67	207	0.72
Jewry	191	0.66	166	0.57
Jehovah's Witnesses	84	0.29	74	0.26
Islam	81	0.28	86	0.30
Unitarians	79	0.27	88	0.30
Seventh Day Adventist Church	61	0.21	51	0.18
Other denominations	580	2.01	658	2.27
Total	18,240	63.22	18,165	62.70
Civil Officers	10,611	36.78	10,809	37.30
Total marriages	28,851	100.00	28,974	100.00

(a) Denominations where the number of marriages registered for the latest year was less than fifty have been grouped in the category 'other denominations'.

(b) Under authority of the Commonwealth *Marriage Act* 1961-1973.

(c) Includes churches grouped under this heading in the proclamation made under the Commonwealth *Marriage Act* 1961.

Divorces

The Commonwealth *Family Law Act* 1975 came into operation throughout Australia on 5 January 1976, repealing the previous Matrimonial Causes legislation which had been operative since 1 February 1961. The Family Court of Australia was established to administer Family Law, including applications for dissolution of marriage and nullity of marriage. Under this new Act, there is only one ground for a divorce - that of irretrievable breakdown of a marriage (i.e. irretrievable breakdown of a marriage is established under the law if the husband and wife have separated and have lived apart from each other for a continuous period of not less than twelve months immediately preceding the date of

the filing of the application for dissolution of marriage and there is no reasonable likelihood of reconciliation). The adoption of a single ground for dissolution of marriage (where fault is no longer taken into account) contrasts strongly with the previous Matrimonial Causes legislation which provided that a dissolution could be granted on one or more of fourteen grounds (e.g. adultery, desertion, cruelty, etc.). The Act provides that all applications for nullity of marriage shall be based on the ground that the marriage is void.

Successful applicants for decrees of dissolution of marriage are, in the first instance, awarded a decree nisi. A decree nisi becomes absolute at the expiration of a period of one month from the making of the decree unless it is rescinded, appealed against, or the court is not satisfied that proper arrangements have been made for the welfare of children of the marriage. Decrees nisi are not awarded in respect of proceedings for nullity of marriage.

At the commencement of the Family Law Act in January 1976, there was a significant number of pending applications for dissolution or nullity of marriage which had been submitted under the previous Matrimonial Causes legislation. Family Law legislation provided that such applications could be dealt with under either the new or the old legislation.

Statistics of divorce granted on an annual basis do not necessarily indicate precise trends in divorce rates as the figures may be affected from year to year by various administrative factors, for example, the occurrence of law vacations, and the availability of courts or judges (i.e. a rise in one year may be due wholly or in part to the clearing of a backlog of cases from an earlier period).

During 1982, 11,266 decrees of dissolution were granted, 6,671 had been applied for by the wife and 4,595 by the husband. During 1983, 10,663 divorces were granted, a decrease of 5.4 per cent from 1982 (11,266).

DIVORCES (DECREES GRANTED)

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978(a)	13,797	10,821	6,106	3,805	3,387	1,131	291	1,270	40,608
1979(a)	12,606	9,471	5,811	3,794	3,397	1,167	262	1,346	37,854
1980	13,449	9,207	6,219	4,203	3,073	1,285	298	1,524	39,258
1981	14,512	9,769	6,470	4,132	3,481	1,139	393	1,516	41,412
1982	14,378	11,266	6,770	4,526	3,842	1,391	369	1,546	44,088
1983	14,162	10,663	7,335	4,431	3,822	1,359	371	1,382	43,525

(a) Figures for 1979 and earlier years have been revised to show dissolutions only and to exclude nullities (which have not been collected since 1979).

DIVORCES, RELATIVE AGES OF PARTIES AT SEPARATION, VICTORIA, 1983

Ages of husbands (years)	Ages of wives (years)										Total husbands
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55 and over	Not stated	
Under 20	28	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	38
20-24	160	826	105	13	4	1	—	—	—	2	1,111
25-29	33	931	1,221	157	21	3	2	—	1	6	2,375
30-34	11	197	912	998	120	25	10	4	—	8	2,285
35-39	2	35	199	722	634	80	20	8	2	1	1,703
40-44	3	13	54	171	512	406	58	17	6	4	1,244
45-49	1	4	10	38	123	354	226	37	10	2	805
50-54	—	4	4	14	41	103	186	157	52	1	562
55 and over	—	3	4	8	18	31	59	136	236	5	500
Not stated	4	10	8	7	2	—	—	—	—	9	40
Total wives	242	2,031	2,518	2,128	1,475	1,003	561	359	307	39	10,663

DIVORCES, NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE, VICTORIA, 1983

Duration of marriage (years)	Number of children					Total dissolutions	Total children
	0	1	2	3	4 and over		
1	148	27	10	3	—	188	56
2	422	103	25	12	4	566	205
3	440	164	63	11	8	686	361
4	384	203	87	19	7	700	463
5	301	233	84	22	11	651	514
6	298	178	116	32	10	634	548
7	228	150	135	37	8	558	570
8	156	141	155	30	13	495	594
9	144	115	178	65	11	513	710
10	99	86	213	77	14	489	800
11	74	79	182	86	13	434	756
12	64	68	215	96	21	464	872
13	43	63	174	83	27	390	778
14	37	51	179	98	40	405	874
15-19	129	182	560	379	163	1,413	3,142
20-24	270	268	263	106	40	947	1,283
25-29	349	164	50	13	2	578	313
30 and over	500	43	8	—	1	552	63
Total dissolutions of marriage	4,086	2,318	2,697	1,169	393	10,663	..
Total children	—	2,318	5,394	3,507	1,683	..	12,902

NOTE. Children are those living and under 18 at the time of the petition. Includes children deemed to be children of the marriage in accordance with section 5 of the Commonwealth *Family Law Act* 1975.

Births

Live births registered in Victoria during 1983 numbered 60,123, compared with 59,983 for 1982.

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF REGISTRATION

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	77,773	58,861	34,465	18,558	20,611	6,788	2,692	4,433	224,181
1979	77,134	57,767	35,195	18,478	20,469	6,757	2,842	4,487	223,129
1980	79,455	58,206	34,972	18,499	20,607	6,735	2,587	4,466	225,527
1981	81,530	59,513	38,834	19,351	21,877	7,188	3,080	4,469	235,842
1982	83,489	59,983	40,540	19,294	22,236	7,002	2,880	4,479	239,903
1983	82,739	60,123	42,000	19,901	23,046	7,028	3,111	4,622	242,570

LIVE BIRTHS BY SEX, MASCULINITY, AND MEDIAN AGE OF FATHER AND MOTHER, VICTORIA

Year	Males	Females	Total	Masculinity (a)	Confinements median age		
					Nuptial		Ex-nuptial
					Father	Mother	Mother (b)
1978	30,202	28,659	58,861	105.38	29.5	27.0	21.7
1979	29,709	28,058	57,767	105.88	29.7	27.2	21.9
1980	29,848	28,358	58,206	105.25	29.8	27.3	22.2
1981	30,361	29,152	59,513	104.15	29.9	27.4	22.4
1982	30,762	29,221	59,983	105.27	30.1	27.6	22.6
1983	30,803	29,320	60,123	105.06	30.2	27.7	22.7

(a) Number of male births per 100 female births.

(b) Information is not available to allow the calculation of the average age of fathers of ex-nuptial children.

**NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS: AGE GROUP OF MOTHER AND PREVIOUS,
TOTAL, AND AVERAGE ISSUE, VICTORIA, 1983**

Age group of mother (years)	Number of married mothers with previous issue numbering -						Total married mothers	Total issue	Average issue
	0	1	2	3	4	5 and over			
Under 20	1,010	228	10	-	-	-	1,249	1,506	1.21
20-24	7,701	4,072	988	153	13	3	12,930	19,620	1.52
25-29	9,153	8,324	3,686	862	150	44	22,221	41,575	1.87
30-34	3,241	4,305	3,253	1,347	363	142	12,651	29,893	2.36
35-39	728	932	827	519	230	188	3,424	9,653	2.82
40 and over	92	84	82	57	44	94	453	1,675	3.70
Not stated	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	4	1.33
Total	21,927	17,946	8,846	2,938	800	471	52,931	103,926	1.96
Proportion of total married mothers	41.43	33.91	16.71	5.55	1.51	0.89	100.00

**NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS AND RELATIVE AGE GROUPS OF PARENTS,
VICTORIA, 1983**

Age group of father (years)	Age group of mother (years)							Total fathers
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 and over	Not stated	
Under 20	132	41	3	-	-	-	-	176
20-24	816	4,569	746	84	13	2	-	6,230
25-29	242	6,507	11,303	1,225	114	4	-	19,395
30-34	43	1,423	8,226	6,736	579	32	-	17,039
35-39	11	291	1,593	3,676	1,624	84	-	7,279
40-44	3	61	252	711	779	172	1	1,979
45 and over	2	28	87	217	313	157	-	804
Not stated	-	10	11	2	2	2	2	29
Total married mothers	1,249	12,930	22,221	12,651	3,424	453	3	52,931

**NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS, AGE GROUP OF MOTHER AND DURATION
OF MARRIAGE, VICTORIA, 1983**

Age group of mother (years)	Duration of marriage																		Total nuptial first confinements
	Months												Years						
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5 and over	Not stated	
Under 20	6	27	44	40	88	131	140	51	33	43	48	50	236	59	12	2	—	—	1,010
20-24	21	47	40	81	141	262	263	145	105	177	207	223	2,382	1,771	1,040	521	274	1	7,701
25-29	12	27	40	43	78	132	141	88	65	143	120	143	1,479	1,420	1,423	1,172	2,627	—	9,153
30-34	7	17	20	23	29	54	56	47	31	69	65	60	633	435	288	230	1,177	—	3,241
35 and over	3	10	4	8	9	11	14	18	14	16	32	26	197	95	71	55	237	—	820
Not stated	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total	50	128	148	195	345	590	614	349	248	448	472	502	4,928	3,780	2,834	1,980	4,315	1	21,927

MULTIPLE CONFINEMENTS (a), VICTORIA

Year	Cases of twins	Cases of triplets	Total multiple cases	Total con- finements	Multiple cases per 1,000 total confinements
1978	610	12	622	58,248	10.68
1979	573	5	578	57,202	10.10
1980	609	7	(b)617	57,584	10.71
1981	601	8	609	58,908	10.34
1982	631	7	638	59,346	10.75
1983	625	9	634	59,281	10.70

(a) Excludes confinements where the births were stillborn children only.

(b) Includes one case of quintuplets.

For the year 1983, mothers of twins were one in 95 of all mothers whose confinements were recorded, mothers of triplets were one in 6,500 and mothers of all multiple births were one in 94.

The following tables show details of ex-nuptial births in each State and Territory for the years 1978 to 1983 and the ages of mothers of ex-nuptial children in Victoria:

NUMBER OF EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	8,612	4,718	4,836	2,050	2,654	877	703	294	24,744
1979	9,036	5,033	5,128	2,098	2,783	934	780	318	26,110
1980	10,077	5,300	5,443	2,301	2,833	950	802	370	28,076
1981	10,898	5,615	6,373	2,492	3,300	1,063	1,049	410	31,200
1982	11,744	6,165	6,756	2,521	3,316	1,063	931	462	32,958
1983	12,381	6,433	7,554	2,789	3,642	1,104	1,252	491	35,646

EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS, PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	11.07	8.02	14.03	11.05	12.88	12.92	26.11	6.63	11.04
1979	11.71	8.71	14.57	11.35	13.60	13.82	27.45	7.09	11.70
1980	12.68	9.11	15.56	12.44	13.75	14.11	31.00	8.28	12.45
1981	13.37	9.43	16.41	12.88	15.08	14.79	34.06	9.17	13.23
1982	14.07	10.28	16.67	13.07	14.91	15.18	32.33	10.31	13.74
1983	14.96	10.70	17.99	14.01	15.80	15.71	40.24	10.62	14.70

AGES OF MOTHERS, EX-NUPTIAL
CONFINEMENTS, VICTORIA

Age of mother (years)	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
13	3	3	—	3	2	1
14	12	15	7	13	7	10
15	89	63	60	69	51	57
16	216	245	209	205	200	190
17	381	390	349	411	407	382
18	471	484	519	493	525	557
19	482	478	506	539	603	579
20	403	455	473	482	524	564
21-24	1,183	1,271	1,321	1,472	1,655	1,676
25-29	806	944	1,017	1,067	1,252	1,383
30-34	409	448	536	569	628	661
35-39	171	153	190	194	218	229
40-44	41	22	47	44	37	54
45 and over	—	2	3	—	1	2
Not stated	—	7	6	9	8	5
Total	4,667	4,980	5,243	5,570	6,118	6,350

ADOPTIONS AND LEGITIMATIONS,
VICTORIA

Year	Number of children	
	Adopted	Legitimated
	year ended 30 June (a)	year ended 31 December (b)
1978	951	407
1979	956	433
1980	914	423
1981	711	523
1982	753	451
1983	692	450

(a) Legal adoptions registered under the provisions of the Victorian *Adoption of Children Act 1964*.

(b) Legitimation registered. Under the provisions of the Commonwealth *Marriage Act 1961* which came into operation on 1 September 1963, a child whose parents were not married to each other at the time of its birth becomes legitimised on the subsequent marriage of its parents.

Deaths

By law, deaths occurring in Australia must be registered in the State in which they occur. The following statistics have been prepared from cause of death information supplied by medical practitioners and coroners for persons whose deaths were registered in the calendar years shown. Further information on causes of death may be found in Chapter 26 of this *Year Book*.

NUMBER OF DEATHS

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	40,394	29,096	16,619	9,763	7,794	3,311	536	912	108,425
1979	38,817	29,078	16,388	9,661	8,020	3,167	595	842	106,568
1980	40,283	29,374	16,496	9,580	8,166	3,393	510	892	108,694
1981	39,959	29,034	17,175	9,706	7,993	3,320	854	962	109,003
1982	42,352	30,611	18,149	10,457	8,187	3,432	573	1,010	114,771
1983	40,323	29,320	17,200	9,882	8,359	3,311	738	951	110,084

Infant deaths

The mortality of children under one year, in proportion to live births, has declined markedly in both Australia and Victoria. The infant death rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) in Victoria has fallen from 133 in 1885-1889 to 10 in 1978-1983. A significant part of the reduction in the rate in recent years has been due to fewer infants dying within the first four weeks of life.

NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	1,004	616	444	227	230	97	53	62	2,733
1979	878	652	380	166	247	95	64	52	2,534
1980	847	592	394	187	239	79	40	39	2,417
1981	809	562	425	157	193	86	70	45	2,347
1982	823	641	432	221	204	55	57	49	2,482
1983	805	561	426	189	177	74	52	43	2,327

INFANT DEATH RATES (a)

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1978	12.9	10.5	12.9	12.2	11.2	14.3	19.7	14.0	12.19
1979	11.4	11.3	10.8	9.0	12.1	14.1	22.5	11.6	11.36
1980	10.7	10.2	11.3	10.1	11.6	11.7	15.5	8.7	10.72
1981	9.9	9.4	10.9	8.1	8.8	12.0	22.7	10.1	9.95
1982	9.9	10.7	10.7	11.5	9.2	7.9	19.8	10.9	10.35
1983	9.7	9.3	10.1	9.5	7.7	10.6	16.8	9.4	9.6

(a) Number of deaths under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

Infant death rates have shown a decrease in each quinquennial period from 1885 onwards. In 1954, the rate fell below 20 per 1,000 live births for the first time in Victoria. In 1983, the rate was 9.7.

INFANT DEATH RATES BY
AGE, VICTORIA

Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births						
Year	Under one week	One week and under one month	One month and under three months	Three months and under six months	Six months and under twelve months	Total
1978	6.0	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.8	10.5
1979	5.8	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.1	11.3
1980	5.3	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.1	10.2
1981	4.9	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.9	9.4
1982	5.6	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.0	10.7
1983	4.9	0.9	1.3	1.0	0.9	9.1

INFANT DEATHS AT CERTAIN AGES, VICTORIA, 1983

Particulars	Under one week	One week and under one month	One month and under three months	Three months and under six months	Six months and under twelve months	Total under one year
Males –						
Number	152	20	42	34	29	277
Rate (a)	5.0	0.6	1.4	1.1	0.9	9.0
Percentage of total	54.9	7.2	15.2	12.3	10.4	100.0
Females –						
Number	141	37	36	25	27	266
Rate (a)	4.8	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.9	9.1
Percentage of total	53.0	13.9	13.5	9.4	10.4	100.0

(a) Number of deaths in each age group per 1,000 live births for each sex.

The rate for male infants is consistently higher than that for females, and in the period 1977 to 1983 exceeded the female rate by 25 per cent.

Perinatal deaths

In accordance with the recommendation of the Ninth Revision conference (1975) of the World Health Organisation (WHO) the statistical definition of a perinatal death was amended in 1979 to the following:

(1) *Stillbirths*. Any child born weighing at least 500 grams at delivery (or, when the birthweight is unavailable, a period of gestation of at least 22 weeks) which did not, at any time after being born, breathe or show any other sign of life.

(2) *Neonatal deaths*. The death of a live born child who had a birthweight of at least 500 grams (or when the birthweight is unavailable, a gestational period of at least 22 weeks) within 28 days of birth.

Statistics in the tables below relate to this revised definition.

PERINATAL DEATHS, VICTORIA

Year	Stillbirths	Neonatal deaths			Total perinatal deaths
		Under one week	One week but less than one month	Total neonatal deaths	
1978	510	328	72	400	910
1979	452	314	87	401	853
1980	447	284	75	359	806
1981	443	280	75	355	798
1982	490	316	90	406	896
1983	439	275	57	332	771

PERINATAL DEATH RATES (a), VICTORIA

Year	Stillbirths	Neonatal deaths			Total perinatal deaths
		Under one week	One week but less than one month	Total neonatal deaths	
1978	8.6	5.6	1.2	6.8	15.3
1979	7.8	5.4	1.5	6.9	14.7
1980	7.6	4.9	1.3	6.2	13.7
1981	7.4	4.7	1.3	6.0	13.3
1982	8.1	5.3	1.5	6.8	14.8
1983	7.3	4.6	0.9	5.5	12.6

(a) Number of stillbirths and perinatal deaths per 1,000 births (live and still) and number of neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births.

Cremations

There are four crematoria in Victoria – three in the Melbourne metropolitan area and one in Ballarat. The number of cremations in relation to total deaths from 1978 to 1983 is shown in the following table:

CREMATIONS AND DEATHS, VICTORIA

Year	Total cremations	Total deaths registered	Percentage of cremations to deaths registered
1978	11,644	29,096	40.02
1979	11,683	29,078	40.18
1980	11,805	29,374	40.19
1981	11,762	29,034	40.51
1982	12,234	30,611	39.97
1983	11,865	29,320	40.47

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