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Information Paper

Census of Population and Housing

Nature and Content

Australia

2006

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Housing**

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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PREFACE

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The purpose of this publication is to outline the nature and content of the 2006 Census. The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* requires that the '...census shall be taken in the year 1981 and in every fifth year thereafter...'. The ABS is preparing to undertake the next Census on Tuesday 8 August 2006.

The Census is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and one of the most important. The aims of the Census are to accurately measure the number and certain key characteristics of people in Australia on Census Night and the dwellings in which they live; and to provide timely, high quality and relevant data for small geographic areas and small population groups, to complement the rich but broad level data provided by ABS surveys.

This publication describes the procedures for the 2006 Census and the topics that will be included. The procedures have been determined after evaluation of the 2001 Census data and processes as well as extensive public consultation. Topic related changes from the 2001 Census include the introduction of questions on need for assistance, unpaid work and dwelling Internet connection. A question on the number of children ever born will once again be asked, in line with the 10 year cycle for this question. The publication also describes modifications to the labour force questions and revised approaches to collection and coding of age, industry and tenure type related questions. A new experimental level of geographic output called Meshblocks will be trialed in 2006.

Information about the full range of ABS data can be found in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). Further information about 2006 Census products and services will be published closer to the 2006 Census date.

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSCQ	Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications
AC	automatic coding
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
AQF	Australian Qualifications Framework
ASAC	Australian Statistics Advisory Council
ASCCEG	Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification
CAC	computer assisted coding
CD	Collection District
CDEP	Community Development Employment Projects
DPC	data processing centre
ICR	intelligent character recognition
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

OBJECTIVE OF THE CENSUS

Australia's fifteenth national Census of Population and Housing will be held on 8 August 2006. The first Census was held in 1911 and since 1961 a Census has been taken every 5 years, a frequency which is specified in the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

The objective of the Census is to accurately measure the number and key characteristics of people in Australia on Census Night, and the dwellings in which they live. This provides a reliable basis for the estimation of the population of each of the states, territories and local government areas primarily for electoral purposes and the distribution of government funds. It also provides the characteristics of the population and its housing within small geographic areas and for small population groups. This supports the planning, administration, policy development and evaluation activities of governments and other users.

Under Australia's Constitution the 'number of members (in the House of Representatives) chosen in the several States shall be in proportion to the respective numbers of their people'. Population estimates based on the Census are used to determine the number of seats allocated to each state in the House of Representatives. Population estimates are also used in the allocation of Goods and Services Tax revenue by the Commonwealth to the states and the territories. For 2004–05, the total Goods and Services Tax pool was estimated at \$34.46 billion. Population estimates based on the Census are key elements in the criteria used by the Commonwealth Grants Commission in recommending the appropriate distribution of these funds.

The Census also provides important information on the characteristics of the population. While this is valuable in its own right it is also possible to relate one characteristic with other characteristics so any relationships that exist between them can be identified. For example, relationships between the localities in which people born overseas were living at Census date, their employment status, the main occupations and industries they worked in, and their educational qualifications can be studied. As another example, those planning transport facilities can study the main traffic flows within a city and the methods people use to get to work, relating these data to average income levels and the availability of motor vehicles to households.

While some information on some characteristics is available from other sources, only a Census can provide information on a standard basis for the country as a whole and for small geographic areas and small population groups.

USER CONSULTATION

In July 2003, the ABS published the *Information Paper Census of Population and Housing: ABS Views on Content and Procedures 2006* (cat. no. 2007.0). Its availability was widely advertised in the media. The paper was available on request and was placed on the ABS web site. As well as outlining the broad nature of plans for the taking of the

USER CONSULTATION
continued

Census, the paper summarised topic proposals for the next Census under three categories:

- topics to be included in the 2006 Census
- topics under review
- topics to be excluded from the 2006 Census.

A SUMMARY OF THE
ISSUES ON WHICH THE
ABS SOUGHT ADVICE

While comment was welcome on any aspect of the 2006 Census, the main issues on which the ABS sought advice were as follows:

- whether those topics on which the ABS was seeking further views from users should be included or excluded
- whether there were any other topics which should be included in the 2006 Census and, if so, which topic(s) should be deleted to maintain provider load at about the 2001 Census level
- the arrangements for confidentiality and privacy.

The views of users were obtained through almost 300 written submissions received on topics and a range of consultation meetings with major users. An additional 700 submissions were received on the retention of name-identified Census information. In the light of these consultations draft recommendations on the content of the 2006 Census were discussed by the Australian Statistics Advisory Council (ASAC) in November 2003 and, following further consultation and testing on some topics, at a meeting in May 2004.

The final recommendations on the 2006 Census content have been approved by the Government.

KEY GOALS FOR THE
2006 CENSUS

The ABS has a number of key goals for the 2006 Census. These are to:

- ensure the relevance of data to users and providers
- maintain provider load at a similar level to the 2001 Census
- revise field procedures to incorporate Internet return of Census forms, and the cost effective collection of forms in difficult to enumerate areas
- improve the timeliness of the release of 2006 Census data compared with 2001 Census data
- maintain at least the same high level of data accuracy as achieved for the 2001 Census
- reduce the per capita cost of conducting the Census
- maintain Census privacy and the public perception of privacy.

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 2.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Regulations associated with the taking of the Census have been tabled in Parliament at the same time as the release of this Information Paper. Final testing of Census form design, field procedures and processing systems was undertaken during 2004/2005 followed by a Census dress rehearsal held during August 2005. Consultation on the output program, including methods of dissemination, commenced in 2004 and will continue in the lead up to the 2006 Census.

GENERAL ISSUES

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

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

- (a) Temporary staff recruited for collection and processing of the Census as well as permanent staff having access to completed Census forms are officers of the ABS. 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 about Census data. Section 19 of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905* forbids past or present ABS officers from divulging information collected under this Act, either directly or indirectly, under penalty of a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, or both.
- (b) In large urban areas procedures will be established to avoid Collectors working in the districts in which they live, to minimise the possibility of collecting information from people they know personally. However, in other areas, where fewer applications are expected for Census Collector positions and travel involves significant costs, it is more likely Collectors will be recruited who might know some householders. If a Collector does know a householder they will be instructed to offer the householder an envelope in which to seal the completed form.
- (c) Householders will be advised 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. In addition, any individual member of a household (including a visitor) can request a separate form and envelope in which to record their own details. Census Collectors will be required to pass all envelopes unopened to their Area Supervisor who will then conduct quality assurance. People not in private dwellings generally receive separate forms and envelopes. People who are not satisfied with these arrangements will be able to send a completed form to the ABS by mail. Householders will also have the option to complete an Internet version of the Census form.

GENERAL ISSUES

continued

- (d) The ABS has used the strongest encryption technology that current Internet browsers will support to ensure that Census information will be delivered securely. All possible measures to protect the integrity of the eCensus site have been taken. Each householder who submits a form using the Internet will be issued with a receipt number.
- (e) An information booklet explaining the reasons for including the topics in the Census will be delivered to each household along with the Census form. The booklet will also be available online.
- (f) 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 prearranged location.
- (g) Completed Census forms will be transferred from the field to the Census processing centre under secure arrangements. Forms submitted electronically will be transferred securely. Full-time security personnel will be employed to prevent any unauthorised access to the processing centre.
- (h) Comprehensive security arrangements will be implemented on the ABS computer system, including the use of regularly changed passwords, access control and audit trails.
- (i) The ABS will not retain name and address information once Census processing is completed. The only exception is if a person explicitly agrees to have their name-identified responses retained by the National Archives of Australia for release in 99 years time.
- (j) In accordance with the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, no results will be released in a way which would enable particular individuals or households to be identified. In past Censuses, the ABS has made slight random adjustments to the tabulated data and this will continue for the 2006 Census.

RETENTION OF NAME IDENTIFIED DATA

In Australian Censuses prior to 2001, forms and other name-identified records have been destroyed once the statistical data required for the purposes of the Census have been extracted.

Following recommendations from the House of Representatives Standing Committee, the Government decided that for the 2001 Census all people be given the option of having their name-identified responses retained for 99 years. After 99 years, the name-identified data will be made public for future generations. Some 53% of the population chose to have their individual responses from the 2001 Census retained and these are now with the National Archives of Australia. This option will again be included in the 2006 Census and will be a permanent feature of future Censuses.

In order to ensure that the current high levels of public confidence and cooperation in the Census are maintained, and to respect the wishes of those who do not want their information retained for future release, information will only be kept for those persons who explicitly give their consent. For privacy reasons the name-identified information will not be available for any purpose, including by a court or tribunal, within a 99 year closed access period.

RETENTION OF NAME
IDENTIFIED DATA
continued

If a person does not explicitly agree to their name-identified Census information being retained, their name and address information will be destroyed once statistical processing has been completed.

After this information has been transferred to the National Archives of Australia and statistical processing is completed, the ABS will destroy all name-identified Census information it holds, including the computer images and paper forms. As in the past, the paper forms will be pulped for recycling.

TYPE OF QUESTION

60 Does each person in this household agree to his/her name and address and other information on this form being kept by the National Archives of Australia and then made publicly available after 99 years?

- Answering this question is **OPTIONAL**.
- A person's name-identified information will not be kept where a person does not agree or the answer is left blank.
- See page 17 of the Census Guide for more information.
- Remember to mark box like this:

PLEASE CHECK WITH EACH PERSON BEFORE ANSWERING – LEAVE BLANK FOR THOSE PERSONS WHOSE VIEWS ARE NOT KNOWN TO YOU

Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4	Person 5	Person 6
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, agrees
<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree	<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree	<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree	<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree	<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree	<input type="checkbox"/> No, does not agree

CHAPTER 3

COLLECTION OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES

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

CENSUS DATE

The 2006 Census will be held on Tuesday 8 August 2006.

SCOPE

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

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

The Territories of Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island will be included in the 2006 Census. Following the enactment of the *Territories Law Reform Act 1992*, the results for these Territories were included in the counts for Australia for the first time in 1996.

People will be counted where they are on Census Night. This Census count is then referred to as one conducted on an actual location or place of enumeration basis (often referred to as a defacto Census). See also Chapter 5.

MAPPING

A Collector will be responsible for the taking of the Census in a clearly bounded local area, known as a Collection District (CD). There were 37,209 CDs covering Australia in 2001 without overlap or omission and it is expected that the number will grow to about 39,000 CDs for 2006. The design and mapping of these areas is a most important preliminary task to the Census as they represent both the basic unit of collection and the building block for larger geographic units for Census dissemination purposes. While some changes to CDs are necessary over time to allow for population growth and changes in administrative boundaries, CDs are as far as possible designed in such a way as to allow comparison of information over time.

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

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND ASSISTANCE

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 the cooperation of the public and the high quality of the responses to the Census by informing the public of the usefulness of the statistics obtained and the confidentiality of the information provided. Provisions will be made for those who may, for language or other reasons, have difficulty in completing the form and these will also be made known and advertised in the public awareness campaign.

An information booklet will be delivered with the 2006 Census form to each household. Answers to commonly asked questions about the Census will be provided as well as information on the purpose of the Census. The Collector will also answer any queries and arrange for collection of the completed Census form. This information will also be available from the ABS web site.

A telephone inquiry service will be available to answer questions about the Census. The Census Inquiry Service will also include TTY facilities for the hard of hearing. In addition, there will be a telephone interpreter service to assist people who have difficulty with the English language to complete their Census forms. A helpline for those with vision impairments will also be available.

DELIVERY AND COLLECTION OF CENSUS FORMS

Most of the temporary field staff recruited will be Area Supervisors and Collectors. An Area Supervisor will be responsible for about 11 Collectors who will each be responsible for the delivery and collection of Census forms from an average of about 400 dwellings. However, the number of dwellings covered varies depending on whether the area is urban or rural. In addition, Special Collectors will be recruited where necessary to undertake Census duties in large non-private dwellings (such as hospitals and hotels).

The Census will be conducted by a Collector drop off/pick up method. That is, Census Collectors will deliver forms to each dwelling before Census Night and then return and pick up the forms after Census Night.

eCENSUS

For the first time, an electronic Census form is being offered on line. This option will be widely advertised and details will be available from Census Collectors.

ENUMERATION OF INDIGENOUS, HOMELESS AND ETHNIC PEOPLE

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

NON COOPERATION

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

KEY GOAL

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

PROCESSING OUTLINE

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

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

Data capture: the forms will be scanned and a reconciliation process conducted to ensure that all forms have been captured. Much of the data will be captured directly from responses on the forms and coded automatically. Other data will require online coding for responses which cannot be automatically captured or coded.

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

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

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

CHAPTER 5

RESULTS/OUTPUT

POPULATION MEASURES

In past Censuses, the first data were released on an 'as enumerated' basis with adequate provision later on for a range of usual residence based data. For the 2006 Census, consideration is being given to releasing standard products based on where people usually live (place of usual residence), with provision for access to 'as enumerated' data.

CLASSIFICATIONS

Most classifications to be used in the 2006 Census will be similar to those used in the 2001 Census. Some new and revised classifications will be necessary to reflect changes in the Australian social environment and in consideration of new topics introduced to the Census. The ABS has undertaken a major review of the products and services from the 2001 Census as part of an overall review of that Census. This will serve as an input to the development of the 2006 Census Dissemination Strategy. A comprehensive consultation program was also undertaken to provide users with an opportunity to suggest improvements and to propose new products to meet emerging needs. Further information on significant classifications is available in the *Information Paper Census of Population and Housing: Proposed Products and Services* (cat. no. 2011.0) released in August 2005. Full details on classification changes will be included in the *2006 Census Dictionary* (cat. no. 2901.0).

DATA RELEASE

In recent Censuses, data have been released in two stages. This will again be the case for the 2006 Output Program. The aim will be to deliver the results of the Census earlier than previous Censuses. The Topic Release Schedule is shown in the Appendix.

INVESTIGATIONS OF OUTPUT PRODUCTS

The ABS has undertaken a major review of products and services from the 2001 Census in consultation with users. This included an opportunity for users to comment on suggested new products for incorporation into the development of output plans for the 2006 Census. A further round of consultations will be conducted in September 2006. In this round of consultations users will have the opportunity to comment on the content of the proposed Census output products.

Other investigative work includes:

- increasing the scope of dissemination methods using Internet applications
- increasing the level of analytical output from the Census.

EVALUATION

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

GEOGRAPHIC OUTPUTS

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

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

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

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

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

ADDING VALUE TO THE CENSUS

The Australian Census will be made more useful to future researchers with a decision to establish a Statistical Longitudinal Census Dataset based on a five per cent sample of the Census. The five per cent sample will be brought together from each successive Census, starting in 2006, using statistical matching. Past census data will not be included.

Additional datasets may be used in conjunction with the sample, for example, information from a disease register, where this is available within the ABS, might be used with the longitudinal information from the Census. The sample of records will be brought together using variables such as age or date of birth, sex, country of birth and geographic area. This process will not involve the ABS keeping name and address information for the Census, and in accordance with the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, no results will be released in a way which would enable particular individuals or households to be identified.

The first longitudinal view of the five per cent sample containing information from successive Censuses, will not be available until after the 2011 Census has been processed.

TOPICS INCLUDED TO MEET LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The primary purpose of the Census is to provide a reliable basis for the estimation of the population of each of the states, territories and local government areas for electoral purposes and the distribution of government funds.

The *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* requires the ABS to supply the Electoral Commissioner with the population statistics that are needed for the regular review of the number of seats each state is entitled to have in the House of Representatives. To meet this requirement the Statistician has to provide population data for each of the states and territories.

The *State Grants (General Purposes) Act 1994* requires the Statistician to supply reliable population estimates to the Commonwealth Grants Commission each year. State Grants Commissions have similar data needs at the level of individual local government areas.

The population estimates are dependent on the five-yearly Census and are calculated by adjusting the Census count for underenumeration, excluding visitors from overseas and adding in Australian residents who are overseas at the time of the Census. The population estimates are updated quarterly using a combination of other data sources and demographic techniques which have at their base Census data on the following topics:

- Sex
- Age
- Registered marital status
- Usual residence at Census time
- Internal migration

OTHER TOPICS INCLUDED

Because the Census covers all households, it can gather information about the characteristics of the population and its housing within small geographic areas and for small population groups to support the planning, administration, policy development and evaluation activities of governments and other users.

In addition to data on total population, the Commonwealth and State Grants Commissions use Census data from a wide range of other Census topics to assess state relativities of 'needs' and the ability to generate taxation and other revenue. In this respect, the Commissions are just some of the numerous clients, from both the public and private sectors, who make use of a range of Census data for decisions affecting the allocation of substantial resources.

However, a Census is not always the most appropriate means of obtaining statistical information about a community. Because a Census involves the whole community and requires a large infrastructure, Censuses are taken several years apart. Since 1961, Australia has taken a Census every five years. This is too long for many policy and planning purposes and often the data needed for most purposes are not needed for

OTHER TOPICS INCLUDED
continued

small population groups or small geographic areas. Furthermore, the Census in Australia is completed by the householder with little assistance. This limits the nature of the topics which can be covered and the questions which can be asked. Topics which require complex questions or question sequencing are not suitable for a Census as the responses obtained may not be reliable.

A set of criteria based on these principles is used to judge the suitability of topics for a Census. These are:

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

TOPIC IS OF MAJOR
NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Topics selected for a Census must have specific purposes which are of national importance. There must be a demonstrated need for the Census data for policy development, planning and program monitoring.

NEED FOR DATA FOR
SMALL GROUPS OF THE
POPULATION OR FOR
SMALL AREAS

Because the Census covers all households, it can produce accurate information at the small geographic area level or about small population groups. Information which is not required at this fine level of detail is more effectively obtained from sample surveys.

The ABS produces an extensive range of information from a variety of sample surveys. The comprehensive program of monthly population surveys generally provides data at the national, state and regional levels on a wide range of topics.

TOPIC IS SUITABLE FOR
INCLUSION IN THE
CENSUS

In the Census, information is collected by 'self-enumeration'. Each household is required to fill in the details specified on the Census form with relatively little assistance from the Census Collector. Self-enumeration, and the need to ensure that the large Census operation is conducted as efficiently and effectively as possible, impose certain constraints on the type of topics included in order to minimise the reporting burden on households and control Census costs.

Topics which require detailed explanation to ensure accurate answers are unlikely to be answered correctly. Research has shown that people often do not read the explanations which accompany questions. Questions which are controversial or which could cause adverse reactions may also not be answered correctly. These types of questions could also affect the quality of other responses. Information about these kinds of topics may be obtained better by interviewer based collection methods.

Taking these criteria into consideration, the Government has decided that the following topics will be included in the 2006 Census. The topics relating to persons are discussed in Chapter 7. Those relating to households and dwellings are discussed in Chapter 8.

TOPICS RELATING TO
PERSONS

Name
Sex and Age
Residential status (for people in non-private dwellings)
Registered marital status
Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander origin
Usual residence at Census time
Internal migration
Australian citizenship
Country of birth
Year of arrival in Australia
Country of birth of parents (Australia/Overseas)
Main language spoken at home/proficiency in spoken English
Ancestry
Religious affiliation
Need for assistance
Attendance at an educational institution
Highest year of schooling completed
Non-school qualifications
Number of children ever born
Income (individual)
Labour force status
Occupation
Government/non-government employer
Community Development Employment Projects participation
Workplace address
Industry
Hours worked
Mode of travel to work
Unpaid work

TOPICS RELATING TO
HOUSEHOLDS AND
DWELLINGS

Address on Census Night
Family relationship
Income (family and household income)
Number of motor vehicles garaged
Number of bedrooms
Tenure type
Rent/landlord type
Housing loan repayments
Dwelling Internet connection
Structure of private dwelling
Location of private dwelling
Non-private dwelling type

CHAPTER **7**

**PERSONAL TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
2006 CENSUS**

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Internal migration	21
Australian citizenship	23
Country of birth	24
Year of arrival in Australia	25
Country of birth of parents (Australia/Overseas)	26
Main language spoken at home/proficiency in spoken English	27
Ancestry	29
Religious affiliation	31
Need for assistance	32
Attendance at an educational institution	34
Highest year of schooling completed	36
Non-school qualifications	37
Number of children ever born	39
Income (individual)	40
Labour force status	42
Occupation	44
Government/non-government employer	45
Community Development Employment Projects participation	46
Workplace address	47
Industry	49
Hours worked	51
Mode of travel to work	52
Unpaid work	53

NAME

USER REQUIREMENTS

Names are essential for the conduct of a high quality post enumeration survey which is used to measure the level of under enumeration in the Census. These measures are an important component in the estimation of resident populations for each of the states, territories and local government areas as required by the *States Grants (General Purposes) Act 1994* and the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* and for determining the number of seats allocated to each state and territory in the House of Representatives

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

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

CONFIDENTIALITY

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

Prior to the 2001 Census names were not retained after processing of the data was completed. For the 2001 Census, name-identified Census information was provided to the National Archives of Australia to be preserved for release for future genealogical and other research after a closed access period of 99 years, but only where a person explicitly consented to their data being retained for this purpose.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Names have been requested in all previous Censuses.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>2 Name of each person <i>including visitors</i> who spent the night of Tuesday, 8 August 2006 in this dwelling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record details for all adults, children, babies and <i>visitors</i> present. • Include any person who usually lives in this dwelling who returned on Wednesday, 9 August 2006, without having been counted elsewhere. • <i>For all other cases of persons absent, please include them in Questions 52 and 53 ONLY.</i> 	<p>First or given name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Surname or family name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																				

SEX AND AGE

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

For the 2006 Census, date of birth will be asked in conjunction with age. Date of birth will be asked to improve the quality of the age data, with age also asked to cover situations where date of birth is not known.

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>3 Is the person male or female?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box for each person, like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>
<p>4 What is the person's date of birth (or age last birthday)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Day Month Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example for date of birth: <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="3"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="5"/> <input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="9"/> <input type="text" value="7"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> • If date of birth not known, give age last birthday. • Example for age last birthday: <input type="text" value="3"/> <input type="text" value="6"/> <input type="text"/> Years 	<p>Day Month Year</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>OR</p> <p>Age last birthday</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years</p>

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

RESIDENTIAL STATUS (FOR PEOPLE IN NON-PRIVATE DWELLINGS)

USER REQUIREMENTS

This topic differentiates people staying in non-private dwellings, either on a short term basis or as a resident, from live-in staff and their families.

Census data about people residing in non-private dwellings are important for the planning and delivery of many services.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Information about the residential status of people counted in non-private dwellings has been collected in all Censuses. Until 1996, the information was collected as part of the question about relationship to others in the dwelling. In 2001 this information was collected from a separate question asked of people in non-private dwellings.

In 2006, the information will again be collected from a separate question asked of people in non-private dwellings.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

The numbers of people in some types of non-private dwellings are available from the ABS Tourist Accommodation Survey and other administrative sources. The Census provides information on the characteristics of people in all non-private dwellings.

TYPE OF QUESTION

(PERSONAL FORM ONLY)

6 Residential status in this dwelling

- For a person staying in accommodation such as a hotel, hostel, hospital, staff or student quarters on the night of 8 August 2006, mark one of the following:

Residents in these premises

Guest ► **Go to 8**

Patient ► **Go to 8**

Inmate ► **Go to 8**

Resident ► **Go to 8**

Other ► **Go to 8**

Persons employed in these premises

Owner, proprietor or manager ► **Go to 8**

Staff (e.g. porter, cook, teacher, warden) ► **Go to 8**

Family of owner, proprietor, manager or staff ► **Go to 8**

Other ► **Go to 8**

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

REGISTERED MARITAL STATUS

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information from this topic is used by the ABS to maintain the accuracy of the estimated resident population by marital status. This series is the benchmark for the calculation of a range of rates and ratios used in socioeconomic studies.

Registered marital status data are used by demographers for population analysis. The data are also used more generally in association with information about actual living arrangements (social marital status) for a range of social research purposes.

Even though there is a trend to cohabit outside registered marriage, changes in registered marital status still reflect an important social transition. Most Australians still marry and many will get divorced and many of these will remarry. The decision to have children is often associated with a decision to register the marriage. Thus registered marriage continues to be useful in measuring social and attitudinal changes taking place in living arrangements.

Census data are crucial in preparing estimates of the resident population by registered marital status which in turn are essential in establishing rates of marriage and divorce. The Census is the only regular and reliable source of data on registered marital status to give a basis for these estimates.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>6 What is the person's present marital status?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Married' refers to registered marriages. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Never married <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated but not divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Married
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

ABORIGINAL/TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ORIGIN

USER REQUIREMENTS

The Census is the only comprehensive source of socio-demographic data on Australia's Indigenous peoples for small areas. The main purpose of this topic is to determine the number and distribution of people of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Data on the distribution and characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are important to commonwealth and state/territory authorities responsible for developing policies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in such fields as housing, health services, education, social security and special assistance programs at the small area level of demographic data. The Commonwealth Grants Commission requires accurate data on the Indigenous populations for use in the allocation of funds to the states and territories for services for these populations.

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Since 1976, measures have also been adopted to obtain as complete a coverage as possible of the Indigenous population. These include specific Census awareness activities, greater use of Indigenous staff, greater involvement of Indigenous organisations, and better coordination of the related field operations. In remote areas, interview forms have been used to facilitate the enumeration of these groups. These measures will be continued and improved for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

The ABS conducted a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey in 2002, which provided statistical data on a wide range of topics at national, state and territory level. The next National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey is scheduled to occur in 2008. A Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey will be conducted in Indigenous communities in 2006.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>7 Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes. 	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander</p>
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

USUAL RESIDENCE AT CENSUS TIME

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

The standard for usual residence is being reviewed.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>8 Where does the person usually live?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons who usually live in another country and who are visiting Australia for less than one year, mark 'Other country'. • For other persons, 'usually live' means that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in 2006. • For persons who now have no usual address, write 'NONE' in the 'Suburb/Locality' box. • For boarders at boarding school, write the address of the boarding school or college. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The address shown on the front of this form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Apartment/Flat/Unit number (if any)</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>Street number</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>Street name</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

INTERNAL MIGRATION

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Only a statistical local area code, not the actual address, is stored on the computer files.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>9 Where did the person usually live one year ago (at 8 August 2005)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the person is less than one year old, leave blank. • For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2005, give the address at which they were then living. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number</p> <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <p>Street name</p> <input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>
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<p>10 Where did the person usually live five years ago (at 8 August 2001)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the person is less than five years old, leave blank. • For persons who had no usual address on 8 August 2001, give the address at which they were then living. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Same as in question 9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Street number</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> </tr> </table> <p>Street name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> </tr> </table> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;"></td> </tr> </table> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>																														

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

It was proposed that the question on Australian citizenship be excluded from the 2006 Census and included again in the 2011 Census. After consultation with key users of the data, a decision was made to retain the question for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

11 Is the person an Australian citizen? • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Australian citizen <input type="checkbox"/> No
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

COUNTRY OF BIRTH

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

These needs cannot be met by data of an acceptable quality from sample surveys nor from overseas arrivals and departures statistics. The value of the data is greatly enhanced when cross-classified with data on period of residence in Australia, which allows recent migrants to be distinguished from those who arrived some time ago. The inclusion of the country of birth topic in the Census enables the ABS to maintain the accuracy of the estimated resident population by birthplace series.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>12 In which country was the person born?</p> <p>• Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Australia ► Go to 14</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> England</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Italy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Viet Nam</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Scotland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Greece</p> <p>Other – please specify</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>										

The list of response categories for this question is designed to reflect those countries which were reported most often at the previous Census.

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Survey data cannot provide the small area data needed, or data for the cross-classified tables on the many country of birth groups that are possible with Census results.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

For the 2001 Census the question asked overseas-born respondents to write in the actual year they arrived in Australia, thereby providing more detailed information than in previous Censuses. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>13 In what year did the person first arrive in Australia to live here for one year or more?</p> <p>• For example, for arrival in 1974 write: <input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="9"/> <input type="text" value="7"/> <input type="text" value="4"/> Year</p>	<p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Will be in Australia less than one year</p>
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF PARENTS (AUSTRALIA/OVERSEAS)

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

Country of birth of parents data are used:

- in planning the delivery of services to migrants
- in access and equity reviews
- in the allocation of resources/facilities that are made on a community basis
- to analyse the impact of migration flows from particular countries through to the second generation.

Most users require detailed data for the large number of source countries and for small areas.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

An Ancestry Consultative Committee was established in June 2003 to review the ancestry and country of birth of parents questions for the 2006 Census. The outcome was a recommendation that these questions be asked in a format similar to that used for the 2001 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>14 Was the person's father born in Australia or overseas?</p> <p>• Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Australia</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Overseas</p>
<p>15 Was the person's mother born in Australia or overseas?</p> <p>• Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Australia</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Overseas</p>

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME/PROFICIENCY IN SPOKEN ENGLISH

USER REQUIREMENTS

Data on languages are required:

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

Data on proficiency in English are needed for:

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

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

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

Language, either alone or in combination with other characteristics, is a useful adjunct to other ethnicity related variables.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

A question on language has been asked since the 1986 Census. Response categories included in the question reflect the languages reported as most commonly spoken at home in the previous Census. Respondents are able to provide their language if it is not included in the list of response categories.

In the lead-up to the 2006 Census, the ABS considered re-formatting the language question to collect data on English and Other only, with Other being unspecified. An investigation on the modelling of language data was undertaken, using responses from related ethnicity questions from both 1996 and 2001 Censuses. The results showed sufficient quality outcomes for a range of languages at the statistical local area level.

However, the investigation also showed that some areas of the Language Classification would experience high levels of either over, or under, estimation of populations if modelling was relied upon for the derivation of language data. This was especially true for Indigenous languages. Consequently, the 2006 Census language question is to remain in the same format as that used in the 2001 Census.

Submissions supporting the retention of the language question in the same format as used in the 2001 Census were received from a broad cross section of the community.

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

The Census is the only source of data on proficiency in spoken English.

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>16 Does the person speak a language other than English <i>at home</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • If more than one language other than English, write the one that is spoken most often. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No, English only ► Go to 18 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Italian <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Greek <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Cantonese <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Arabic <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Vietnamese <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Mandarin Yes, other – please specify <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>																														
<p>17 How well does the person speak <i>English</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Very well <input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Not well <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all 																														

Response categories included in the language question reflect the languages most commonly spoken at home as reported in the 2001 Census, except for Mandarin. Mandarin has been included to cover the main Chinese dialects and avoid distortion due to speakers of Mandarin opting for Cantonese in the belief that it is the only Chinese dialect available.

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

ANCESTRY

USER REQUIREMENTS

A person's ancestry, in conjunction with their country of birth and information on whether their parents were born in Australia or overseas, provides a good indication of the ethnic background of first and second generation Australians. This is essential for the effective delivery of services to particular ethnic communities.

This question may also be useful in identifying the population of Australians of South Sea Islander descent. These people are the descendants of South Sea Islanders brought to Australia as indentured labour around the turn of the twentieth century and have been identified by legislation as a disadvantaged minority group.

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on each person's ancestry, (i.e. ethnic or cultural origin) was asked for the first time in the 1986 Census. This was the result of investigation by the 1986 Population Census Ethnicity Committee on the need for data on ethnicity other than language, country of birth or country of birth of parents. The question was designed to identify the respondent's origin rather than a subjective perception of their ethnic background. The aim of the question was to measure the ethnic composition of the population as a whole. Evaluation showed that it was not useful for this purpose as there was a high level of subjectivity and confusion about what the question meant, particularly for those people whose families had been in Australia for many generations. Very little use was made of the ancestry data from the 1986 Census and so ancestry was not included in either the 1991 or 1996 Censuses.

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

A question on ancestry was included in the 2001 Census. The restriction of the country of birth of parents question to the responses 'Australian' and 'Overseas' restricted the analysis of ancestry data. The responses to this question were coded to the new *Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ASCCEG)* (cat. no. 1249.0).

An Ancestry Consultative Committee was again established in June 2003 to review the ancestry and country of birth of parents questions for the 2006 Census. The outcome was a recommendation that these questions be asked in a format similar to that used for the 2001 Census.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>18 What is the person's ancestry?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide up to two ancestries only. • Examples of 'Other – please specify' are: GREEK, VIETNAMESE, HMONG, DUTCH, KURDISH, MAORI, LEBANESE, AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDER. • See page 7 of the Census Guide for more information. • Remember to mark boxes like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> German <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish <input type="checkbox"/> Australian <p>Other – please specify</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>																																								

Response categories included in the ancestry question reflect the ancestries most commonly reported in the 2001 Census, except for Australian. Australian has been moved to the bottom of the list of response options to encourage people to consider other ancestries they may have.

DATA RELEASE PLAN

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>19 What is the person's religion?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answering this question is OPTIONAL. Examples of 'Other - please specify' are: SALVATION ARMY, HINDUISM, JUDAISM, HUMANISM. If no religion, mark the 'No religion' box. Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Anglican (Church of England) <input type="checkbox"/> Uniting Church <input type="checkbox"/> Presbyterian <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Orthodox <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhism <input type="checkbox"/> Baptist <input type="checkbox"/> Islam <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran <p>Other – please specify</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No religion 																																

There has been some concern at the use of a self-coded list for this topic. The use of lists reduces the cost of coding and only a small number of the most common response categories can be provided in the space available. These are selected according to the frequency of responses reported in the previous Census.

DATA RELEASE PLAN

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

NEED FOR ASSISTANCE

USER REQUIREMENTS

This topic identifies people who report a need of assistance due to a 'profound or severe core activity limitation', and is based on similar criteria to the ABS Survey of Disability Ageing and Carers. This population is defined as people with a disability who need assistance in their day to day lives with any or all of the following core activities – self care, body movements or communication.

Data on people who need assistance due to a severe or profound disability are required for developing federal and state government policies and community-based programs, and for program and service delivery funding allocation.

Detailed data at the small area level and for small population groups are required for informed planning and funding of disability service delivery.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

The ABS established a Census Consultative Group on Disability in 1995 to seek user input and to identify user requirements for this data, research international practices and develop and test disability questions which might provide acceptable and accurate data. Disability questions were not included in the 1996 and 2001 Censuses as the questions developed proved unsuitable for a self-enumerated form.

An Advisory Group on Disability was again established in 2003 to develop a suitable question for the 2006 Census and review the concepts these questions were attempting to measure. As previous attempts had been unsuccessful in identifying a suitable way to reliably measure disability generally, the Advisory Group agreed that for the 2006 Census the questions on disability should be based around the concept of 'profound or severe core activity limitation' using similar criteria to the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers. Testing of the new questions has indicated that the data are of an acceptable quality for use as an indicator of the target population.

COMMENT

While this topic is based on the criteria used in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, the population measured will differ as a result of the different collection methodology used and collapsed question format. On this basis, data for this topic should be taken as an indication of the characteristics of people who report a need for assistance, not as the total population prevalence of people with a 'profound or severe core activity limitation' as represented in the survey data.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Surveys on disability were conducted by the ABS in 1981 and 1988. Surveys of Disability, Ageing and Carers were run in 1993, 1998 and 2003. These surveys were comprehensive in scope and provided detailed information about disability in Australia and individual states and territories. However, reliable small-area data are not available from the surveys.

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA *continued*

The 1997 Time Use Survey included some questions to identify people in the household with disabilities. The 1993/94 Household Expenditure Survey also included a module of questions to identify people with a disability or handicap in households. Since then the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey conducted in 1994 and several other ABS surveys have included a module of questions to identify long term conditions and disability. The most recent were the General Social Survey in 2002, and the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey is scheduled to again be conducted in 2008.

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>20 Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, self care activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: doing everyday activities such as eating, showering, dressing or toileting. • See page 9 of the Census Guide for more information. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>21 Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, body movement activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: getting out of bed, moving around at home or at places away from home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>22 Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, communication activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: understanding, or being understood by, others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>23 What are the reasons for the need for assistance or supervision shown in questions 20, 21 and 22?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark all applicable reasons. • Remember to mark boxes like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No need for help or supervision <input type="checkbox"/> Short-term health condition (lasting less than six months) <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term health condition (lasting six months or more) <input type="checkbox"/> Disability (lasting six months or more) <input type="checkbox"/> Old or young age <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty with English language <input type="checkbox"/> Other cause

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users require data on demographic, family, economic and social characteristics of people attending particular types of educational institutions. Information on whether a person is attending an educational institution has important uses for education and labour market planning.

Information on full-time students aged 15–24 years is used:

- for identifying dependent children in family coding
- by education planners to compare the current participation levels of small groups in the population
- to assist in developing policies affecting the labour market
- to develop policies affecting the labour market for young people in particular.

Data on the relationship between participation in education and labour market activities are 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 population groups which assists in planning the delivery of programs.

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

The Census provides a wider range of information on the characteristics of students than is currently available from statistics derived from administrative sources. This topic is considered to be of high priority by education planners at commonwealth, state and community level and is used as input into decisions on the allocation of funds for schools.

Significant changes are occurring in education participation and further changes are anticipated. Data from this question when cross-classified with other Census variables is very important in monitoring these changes as they occur.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Due to structural changes in the higher education system, some changes in terminology were made in 1996 for the type of educational institution question. Catholic and Other non-government primary and secondary schools were also separately identified. These changes were carried through to the 2001 Census and will also be included in 2006.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>24 Is the person attending a school or any other educational institution?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include pre-school and external or correspondence students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No ► Go to 26 <input type="radio"/> Yes, full-time student <input type="radio"/> Yes, part-time student
<p>25 What type of educational institution is the person attending?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • Include external or correspondence students. • Include secondary colleges and senior high schools under the 'Secondary school' category. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Pre-school Infants/Primary school <input type="radio"/> Government <input type="radio"/> Catholic <input type="radio"/> Other non-government Secondary school <input type="radio"/> Government <input type="radio"/> Catholic <input type="radio"/> Other non-government Tertiary institution <input type="radio"/> Technical or further educational institution (including TAFE Colleges) <input type="radio"/> University or other higher educational institution <input type="radio"/> Other educational institution

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOLING COMPLETED

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information on highest year of schooling completed is particularly important because of the extent of change occurring in education participation and the labour market. It is also an important indicator of educational need and disadvantage.

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>27 What is the highest year of primary or secondary school the person has <i>completed</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • For persons who returned after a break to complete their schooling, mark the highest year completed when they last left. • See page 10 of the Census Guide for more information about year equivalents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Year 12 or equivalent <input type="radio"/> Year 11 or equivalent <input type="radio"/> Year 10 or equivalent <input type="radio"/> Year 9 or equivalent <input type="radio"/> Year 8 or below <input type="radio"/> Did not go to school
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

Data on educational qualifications are important for the assessment of the skill level of the labour force and are therefore valuable for the planning and implementation of the labour force training programs. The data are used as a basis for the preparation of the 'Occupational Demand Schedule' for use by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs in recruiting skilled migrants.

The data are also used extensively in such areas as:

- labour force analysis, planning and policy formulation
- modelling employment projections
- assessment of performance of the education sector against government targets
- monitoring long term outcomes of school education and lifelong learning
- international comparisons and benchmarking
- equity assessment and provision of educational services
- studies of skill wastage or underutilisation
- Vocational Education Training policy formation and planning of courses
- assisting in determining education demand and educational programs
- matching educational investment with industry development
- analysing industry of employment of graduates against main field of highest educational attainment.

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Qualifications data in both the 1991 and 1996 Censuses were classified to the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ)* (cat. no. 1262.0).

Following developments in education and training and the introduction of the *Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)* (see the *Information Paper Measuring Learning in Australia - A Framework for Education and Training Statistics* cat. no. 4213.0), the ABSCQ was considered to be out-of-date and the *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)* (cat. no. 1272.0) was introduced.

For the 2001 Census, question wording, instructions and examples were modified to accommodate the AQF and the introduction of the ASCED.

For the 2006 Census, the year completed question will be reworded to ask if the qualification was obtained before 1998 or from 1998 onward, with 1998 being the year the AQF was introduced. The distinction between certificates awarded pre 1998 and from 1998 is also used to assist in coding some certificates to finer levels of the ASCED classification.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION *continued*

A question asking for the name of the institution where the person's highest non-school qualification was completed will not be asked in 2006. This data was used to assist in coding the person's highest non-school qualification and its removal is expected to have minimal impact on the quality of the coding.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

COMMENTS

Questions on qualifications generally have a fairly high level of non-response. However, analysis shows that this is mostly from those without qualifications and therefore the Census data remains useful to the users.

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>28 Has the person <i>completed</i> any educational qualification (including a trade certificate)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • See page 10 of the Census Guide for more information on the treatment of AQF or vocational certificates. 	<p><input type="radio"/> No ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, still studying for first qualification ► Go to 32</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, trade certificate/ apprenticeship</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, other qualification</p>																																																		
<p>29 What is the level of the <i>highest</i> qualification the person has <i>completed</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: TRADE CERTIFICATE, BACHELOR DEGREE, ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE II, ADVANCED DIPLOMA. 	<p>Level of qualification</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1075 1323 1422 1509"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																																																		
<p>30 What is the main field of study for the person's <i>highest</i> qualification <i>completed</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: PLUMBING, HISTORY, PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHING, HAIRDRESSING, GREENKEEPING. 	<p>Field of study</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1075 1583 1422 1769"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																																																		
<p>31 Did the person <i>complete</i> this qualification before 1998?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, before 1998</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, 1998 or later</p>																																																		

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

USER REQUIREMENTS

Data on number of children ever born are required for investigations of life time fertility levels and differentials across various population groups such as Indigenous Australians, migrants, people in different socioeconomic situations, and birth year cohorts of all Australian women.

Data on children ever born are the only source which measures life time childlessness among women.

In conjunction with other Census questions, these data will also be used for aged care and other social planning.

Number of children ever born data are also used in conjunction with birth registration statistics, to provide information to assist in forming family and child related policies, and for projecting future fertility as well as the size and structure of the Australian population.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on the number of children ever born was asked in nearly all Australian Censuses up until and including 1986. After the 1986 Census, it was determined that data on this topic were not needed every five years, and subsequently the question was not included in the 1991 and 2001 Censuses, but was asked in the 1996 Census.

Data is not output for females under 15 years due to the low prevalence of births occurring in this age range. This lower prevalence means that data for these age groups could not be released at the small area level.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Some information on the number of children ever born is available from past ABS Family Surveys (1992) and for the Indigenous women in the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey. The next National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey is scheduled to occur in 2008.

Both sources of information have limitations as they do not provide data for small areas, other population groups or single years of age groups.

Birth registration data provides some information on births in specific years, and potentially births to that mother from current or all relationships, but not the range of characteristics available from the Census.

TYPE OF QUESTION

32 For each female, how many babies has she ever given birth to?

- Include live births only.
- Exclude adopted, foster and step children.
- See page 11 of the Census Guide for more information.

Number of babies

None

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

INCOME (INDIVIDUAL)

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

While there is a tendency for incomes to be slightly understated in the Census, the distribution is largely consistent with that obtained from the ABS income surveys. Therefore, Census income data is useful as an indicator of relative advantage or disadvantage and economic well being for small areas and small population groups.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on income was first asked in the 1933 Census in an attempt to measure the effects of the Depression. It was re-introduced in 1976 and for all subsequent Censuses. Each person aged 15 years or older is asked to indicate the range within which their gross income from all sources lies. Statistics on personal, family and household income are produced from this question.

In 1996 and 2001, categories for nil and negative income were provided to overcome an apparent cause of non-response. To ensure that the 'nil income' category did not lead to biased results, the highest income categories were listed first. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

For the 2006 Census, the number of income response categories will be reduced. Ranges will be adjusted in line with rises in income since the 2001 Census and an additional range for higher incomes will be added.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

COMMENTS

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

Family and household income are derived from data on individual incomes of members of families and households. Only the incomes of people present on Census Night are included because of the collection and processing difficulties involved in accounting for people temporarily absent.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>33 What is the <i>total</i> of all wages/salaries, government benefits, pensions, allowances and other income the person <i>usually</i> receives?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARK ONE BOX ONLY. • Do not deduct: tax, superannuation contributions, health insurance, amounts salary sacrificed, or any other automatic deductions. • Include the following: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Pensions/Allowances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> family tax benefit parenting payment unemployment benefits Newstart allowance rent assistance pensions student allowances maintenance (child support) workers' compensation any other pensions/allowances </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Other income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interest dividends rents (exclude expenses of operation) business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation) income from superannuation any other income <p>Wages/salaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular overtime commissions and bonuses </td> </tr> </table> • Information from this question provides an indication of living standards in different areas. 	<p>Pensions/Allowances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> family tax benefit parenting payment unemployment benefits Newstart allowance rent assistance pensions student allowances maintenance (child support) workers' compensation any other pensions/allowances 	<p>Other income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interest dividends rents (exclude expenses of operation) business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation) income from superannuation any other income <p>Wages/salaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular overtime commissions and bonuses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 or more per week (\$104,000 or more per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,600 - \$1,999 per week (\$83,200 - \$103,999 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,300 - \$1,599 per week (\$67,600 - \$83,199 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 - \$1,299 per week (\$52,000 - \$67,599 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$800 - \$999 per week (\$41,600 - \$51,999 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$600 - \$799 per week (\$31,200 - \$41,599 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 - \$599 per week (\$20,800 - \$31,199 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 - \$399 per week (\$13,000 - \$20,799 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 - \$249 per week (\$7,800 - \$12,999 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 - \$149 per week (\$1 - \$7,799 per year) <input type="checkbox"/> Nil income <input type="checkbox"/> Negative income
<p>Pensions/Allowances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> family tax benefit parenting payment unemployment benefits Newstart allowance rent assistance pensions student allowances maintenance (child support) workers' compensation any other pensions/allowances 	<p>Other income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interest dividends rents (exclude expenses of operation) business/farm income (exclude expenses of operation) income from superannuation any other income <p>Wages/salaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular overtime commissions and bonuses 		

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

For 2006 the status of employment question will be changed to make it more consistent with the Labour Force Survey, and to provide more detail on people working in their own incorporated enterprise.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>34 <i>Last week, did the person have a full-time or part-time job of any kind?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • A 'job' means any type of work including casual, temporary, or part-time work, if it was for one hour or more. • See page 12 of the Census Guide for more information. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, worked for payment or profit <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike, or temporarily stood down <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, unpaid work in a family business ► Go to 38 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, other unpaid work ► Go to 46 <input type="checkbox"/> No, did not have a job ► Go to 46
<p>35 <i>In the main job held last week, was the person:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • For all persons conducting their own business, including those with their own incorporated (e.g. Pty Ltd) company, as well as sole traders, partnerships and contractors, mark the second box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Working for an employer? ► Go to 38 <input type="checkbox"/> Working in own business? ► Go to 36
<p>36 <i>Was the person's business:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • Incorporated means a limited liability company. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Unincorporated? <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated (e.g. Pty Ltd)?
<p>37 <i>Does the person's business employ people?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No, no employees <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 1 - 19 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 20 or more employees
<p>46 <i>Did the person actively look for work at any time in the last four weeks?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of actively looking for work include: being registered with Centrelink as a job seeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; or advertising for work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No, did not look for work ► Go to 48 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, looked for full-time work <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, looked for part-time work
<p>47 <i>If the person had found a job, could the person have started work last week?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, could have started work last week <input type="checkbox"/> No, already had a job to go to <input type="checkbox"/> No, temporarily ill or injured <input type="checkbox"/> No, other reason

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

OCCUPATION

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information about occupation for small areas or for finely classified occupations is needed for a wide range of social and economic policy and planning purposes. Detailed occupation data are needed for analysing current and potential imbalances in the supply and demand for labour with varying skills at the national, regional and local area levels. These analyses provide input to the development of policies and programs in the fields of education, training, immigration, industry and industrial relations, as well as monitoring changes taking place in specific occupational labour markets. The usefulness of data on occupation is considerably enhanced when analysed with detailed data on industry of employment and qualifications.

Small area and regional data about the structure of the labour market are required for advising governments (at all levels) and their agencies responsible for delivering programs and providing services at a regional level. Occupation data are also used to provide measures of socioeconomic status at the small area level.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

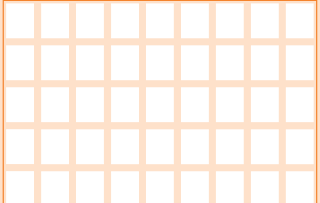
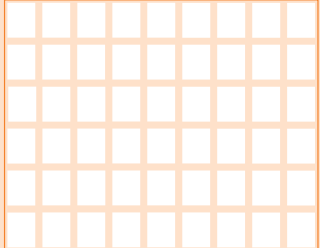
A variety of questions on occupation have been included in all previous Censuses. Occupation data were coded using *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)* for the first time in 1986. An additional question on the main tasks or duties that a person usually performs in his or her job was included to assist in the coding of occupations at the unit group level. *ASCO 2nd edition* (cat. no. 1220.0) was used for coding 2001 occupation data.

For the 2006 Census, occupation data will be coded using a revised classification – *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)*.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>38 In the main job held <i>last week</i>, what was the person's occupation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give full title. • For example: CHILDCARE AIDE, MATHS TEACHER, PASTRY COOK, TANNING MACHINE OPERATOR, APPRENTICE TOOLMAKER, SHEEP AND WHEAT FARMER. • For public servants, provide official designation and occupation. • For armed services personnel, provide rank and occupation. 	<p>Occupation</p> 
<p>39 What are the main tasks that the person usually performs in the occupation reported at Question 38?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give full details. • For example: LOOKING AFTER CHILDREN AT A DAY CARE CENTRE, TEACHING SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, MAKING CAKES AND PASTRIES, OPERATING LEATHER TANNING MACHINE, LEARNING TO MAKE AND REPAIR TOOLS AND DIES, RUNNING A SHEEP AND WHEAT FARM. • For managers, provide main activities managed. 	<p>Tasks or duties</p> 

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

GOVERNMENT/NON-GOVERNMENT EMPLOYER

USER REQUIREMENTS

Government/non-government employer (previously a component of Institutional sector) data are used in the analysis of employment by the various tiers of government and the private sector. Data are needed for both small geographic areas and for small population groups so that the relative importance of government sector activity can be assessed.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A question on institutional sector has been included in one form or another in all Censuses. The industry sector was coded from the name of the business. In the 1996 and 2001 Censuses, institutional sector was used in conjunction with other questions to code Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders participating in Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP).

For the 2006 Census, institutional sector will be divided into two separate topics: government/non-government employer and CDEP participation.

Government/non-government employer is obtained by use of the employer's business name. For information regarding CDEP participation, see next topic

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A range of labour force surveys and other ABS collections include data related to levels of government or private sector at the national, state and regional level.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>40 For the main job held <i>last week</i>, what was the employer's business name?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For self-employed persons, write name of business. • For teachers, write name of school. 	<p>Business name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>																																																												

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

WORKPLACE ADDRESS

USER REQUIREMENTS

The topic of workplace address was previously known as journey to work (destination zone coding). The coding of address of place of work to destination zones allows Census data to be produced on journey to work patterns and on daytime populations of employed people.

When cross-classified with usual address, journey to work data can be obtained, and are used by policy makers including transport authorities for:

- the analysis of travel patterns within major metropolitan areas particularly in relation to concentration in peak periods
- the modelling of fuel usage
- the forecasting of public transport patronage
- the analysis of catchment areas for transport routes
- transport planning including road usage, particularly in relation to direction and magnitude of journeys.

The data also assists policy makers in the planning of transport systems, industrial development and the release of residential and industrial land.

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

Workplace address data will be produced at the Statistical Local Area level. Users requiring Destination Zone level data will be required to order customised data.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The questions which enable the derivation of workplace address have been included since the 1971 Census.

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

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

For the 2006 Census, the question asking for the person's workplace address will be expanded to include building/property name.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

No data are available on this topic for small areas from other ABS sources. Some information is available from results of the 1997 ABS Time Use Survey (*How Australians Use Their Time* cat. no. 4153.0). The next Time Use Survey is scheduled to occur in 2006. State transport authorities collect survey data for their capital cities/metropolitan areas on a regular basis.

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>8 Where does the person usually live?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons who usually live in another country and who are visiting Australia for less than one year, mark 'Other country'. • For other persons, 'usually live' means that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in 2006. • For persons who now have no usual address, write 'NONE' in the 'Suburb/Locality' box. • For boarders at boarding school, write the address of the boarding school or college. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The address shown on the front of this form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in Australia – please specify address</p> <p>Apartment/Flat/Unit number (if any)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Street number</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Street name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other country</p>																																																																																										
<p>41 For the main job held <i>last week</i>, what was the person's workplace address?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons who usually worked from home, write the home address. • For persons with no fixed place of work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - if the person usually travels to a depot to start work, write the depot address; - otherwise write 'NONE' in 'Suburb/Locality' box. • This information is used to calculate daytime populations and to plan transport activities. 	<p>Street number</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Street name</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Suburb/Locality</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>State/Territory Postcode</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Building/Property name (if any)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																																																																																										

DATA RELEASE PLAN

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

INDUSTRY

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Although a substantial amount of information on employment by industry is available from other ABS Censuses and surveys, it is not available at the detailed level for most industries, for small areas or for cross classification with other employee characteristics (such as qualifications or occupation). Data on the geographic distribution of industry employment is needed to monitor changes and provide a basis for social and economic policy and planning.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Prior to the 2001 Census, industry was coded from the names and addresses of the workplaces of respondents' employers or, where no match was obtained, by using the person's response to a direct industry question. The business name matching used the industry codes of businesses on the Business Register maintained by the ABS. This method provided more consistency of the data with that from other ABS collections based on the register.

For the 2001 Census, a structured coding methodology was introduced and two questions were used in an attempt to elicit better information from respondents to allow for more reliable coding.

There are several changes to the topic for 2006, including:

- rewording the industry question to align industry responses more closely with ANZSIC classification principles
- Industry responses being dual coded, to both 1993 ANZSIC and the new 2006 ANZSIC.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>42 Which best describes the <i>industry or business</i> of the employer at the location where the person works?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box only. • Examples of 'Other – please specify' are: REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, FINANCE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesaling <input type="checkbox"/> Retailing (incl. Take-aways) <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Pubs, cafes and restaurants <input type="checkbox"/> Road freight transport <input type="checkbox"/> House construction <input type="checkbox"/> Health service <input type="checkbox"/> Community care service <p>Other – please specify</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1075 741 1422 875"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																																																		
<p>43 What are the <i>main goods produced or main services provided</i> by the employer's <i>business</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe as fully as possible, using two words or more. • For example: WHEAT AND SHEEP, BUS CHARTER, HEALTH INSURANCE, PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY SERVICE, HOUSE BUILDING, STEEL PIPES. 	<p>Goods produced/services provided</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1075 954 1422 1223"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																																																		

DATA RELEASE PLAN

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

HOURS WORKED

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information on hours worked, classified by industry and occupation, is required by labour market economists to analyse shifts in the labour force within small geographic regions and for small groups such as Indigenous people, migrants, sole parents and specific age groups. Survey data are inadequate for these analyses for small geographic regions or for small groups of the population.

The information is also important for users:

- as a cross-classifier for labour force variables
- to derive a classification of full-time and part-time work
- for the study of changing part-time employment, work patterns and growth in leisure
- to estimate child care needs.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

Since the 1996 Census, the question has referred to all jobs rather than being restricted to the main job, providing greater comparability with data from other sources.

For 2001, respondents were able to write in the actual number of hours worked, thereby providing more detailed information. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Information is collected on the number of hours worked as part of the ABS Monthly Labour Force Survey (*Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0). Information is also available from the Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours (*Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* cat. no. 6306.0) but not from any other employer surveys. However, none of these collections provide data for small population groups or small geographic areas.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>44 <i>Last week, how many hours did the person work in all jobs?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add any overtime or extra time worked and subtract any time off. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <input style="width: 30px; height: 30px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px; height: 30px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;" type="text"/> Hours worked </div> <div style="margin-top: 5px;"> <input type="radio"/> None </div>
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DATA RELEASE AVAILABLE

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK

USER REQUIREMENTS

Information about how people travel to work is mainly used in conjunction with usual address and workplace address data for transport planning in general. Data are also used to:

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A question on mode of travel to work was asked for the first time in the 1976 Census. It has been repeated in all subsequent Censuses with slight modifications. For the 2001 Census question, light rail and truck were included as response categories. These will again be included for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

No ABS surveys provide this information. Some information is available from public transport records and surveys undertaken by state transport authorities.

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>45 How did the person get to work on Tuesday, 8 August 2006?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the person used more than one method of travel to work, mark all methods used. • Remember to mark boxes like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Train <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> Ferry <input type="checkbox"/> Tram (including Light Rail) <input type="checkbox"/> Taxi <input type="checkbox"/> Car – as driver <input type="checkbox"/> Car – as passenger <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbike or motor scooter <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle <input type="checkbox"/> Walked only <input type="checkbox"/> Worked at home <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Did not go to work
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in Second Release – see the Appendix.

UNPAID WORK

USER REQUIREMENTS

Submissions have been made in the past for Census questions about activities outside those covered by labour force statistics (such as unpaid work in the home and unpaid voluntary activities) and to identify the status of people not in the labour force.

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

A Consultative Committee on Unpaid Work was established in June 2003 to determine whether there was a need for a question on unpaid work in the 2006 Census. A need for data on unpaid work at the small area level was identified by the committee.

Questions on unpaid work will be included in the 2006 Census. Data on unpaid work will be output for all people aged 15 years or over. The unpaid work questions will provide information on unpaid domestic work, unpaid care, unpaid care of children and voluntary work.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Time Use Surveys are the key source of data on people's use of time, including activities such as unpaid work, and provide a wealth of information that could not be obtained through the Census, such as time taken on the range of unpaid work activities. The ABS conducted Time Use Surveys in 1992 and 1997, and plan to conduct the next survey in 2006.

Additional information has been collected in surveys on :

- Disability, Ageing and Carers (run in 1993, 1998 and 2003, with the next planned in 2009)
- Voluntary Work (run in 1995 and 2000)
- Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey (run in 1997)
- ABS State Supplementary Surveys.

Relevant publications include:

- *Australian National Accounts: Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account* (cat. no. 5256.0)
- *Occasional Paper: Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy* (cat. no. 5240.0)
- *General Social Survey, Summary Results, Australia* (cat. no. 4159.0).

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>48 In the <i>last week</i> did the person spend time doing unpaid domestic work for their household?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include all housework, food/drink preparation and cleanup, laundry, gardening, home maintenance and repairs, and household shopping and finance management. • See page 14 of the Census Guide for more information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No, did not do any unpaid domestic work in the last week <input type="radio"/> Yes, less than 5 hours <input type="radio"/> Yes, 5 to 14 hours <input type="radio"/> Yes, 15 to 29 hours <input type="radio"/> Yes, 30 hours or more
<p>49 In the <i>last two weeks</i> did the person spend time providing unpaid care, help or assistance to family members or others because of a disability, a long term illness or problems related to old age?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recipients of Carer Allowance or Carer Payment should state that they provided unpaid care. • Ad hoc help or assistance, such as shopping, should only be included if the person needs this sort of assistance because of his/her condition. • Do not include work done through a voluntary organisation or group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No, did not provide unpaid care, help or assistance <input type="radio"/> Yes, provided unpaid care, help or assistance
<p>50 In the <i>last two weeks</i> did the person spend time looking after a child, <i>without pay</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only include children who were less than 15 years of age. • Mark all applicable responses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes, looked after my own child <input type="radio"/> Yes, looked after a child other than my own
<p>51 In the <i>last twelve months</i> did the person spend any time doing voluntary work through an organisation or group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude anything you do as part of your paid employment or to qualify for a Government benefit. • Exclude working in a family business. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No, did not do voluntary work <input type="radio"/> Yes, did voluntary work

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

CHAPTER **8**

HOUSEHOLD AND DWELLING TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2006 CENSUS

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TOPICS INCLUDED

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ADDRESS ON CENSUS NIGHT

JUSTIFICATION

The majority of Census output is available on a place of enumeration basis (i.e. where people spent Census Night) for individual CDs or aggregations of them. These aggregations include local government areas, postal areas and suburbs (derived from CD). Household address on Census Night is used to confirm the geographic code allocated to the household.

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

Household address is the best way for Collectors to ensure that all forms they deliver are returned.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality of the information provided is carefully guarded. The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* requires that no identifiable information about an individual be made available to any other person, government agency or private organisation.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Census counts of where people spent Census Night, classified by statistical areas, are available from every national Census.

TYPE OF QUESTION

1 What is the address of this dwelling?
Please use **CAPITAL** letters only

Apartment/Flat/Unit number	Street number
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>
(if any)	
Street name (Examples: GRAHAM AVENUE, GEORGE STREET)	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>	
Suburb/Locality	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>	
State/Territory	Postcode
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>
Property/Building name (if any)	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value=""/>	

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

Census data provide a benchmark for the analysis of family and household structure and characteristics and allow for the monitoring of changes over time.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

For the 2001 Census, people staying in non-private dwellings did not have to answer the relationship in household question. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

5 What is the person's relationship to Person 1/Person 2?

- Examples of other relationships: SON-IN-LAW, GRAND-DAUGHTER, UNCLE, BOARDER.
- Remember to mark box like this:

Person 2 response	Person 3 response
<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 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify <input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	<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 Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify <input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

<p>52 Are there any persons who usually live in this dwelling who were <i>absent</i> on Census Night (Tuesday, 8 August 2006)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Usually live' means that address at which the person has lived, or intends to live, for a total of six months or more in 2006. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No, no-one absent ▶ Go to 54</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, someone absent ▶ Go to 53</p>		
<p>53 For each person <i>absent</i>, complete the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to mark boxes like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 			
<p>Name of each person who usually lives in this dwelling but was not here on the night of Tuesday, 8 August 2006.</p>	<p>First or given name</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>First or given name</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>First or given name</p> <input type="text"/>
	<p>Surname or family name</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>Surname or family name</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>Surname or family name</p> <input type="text"/>
<p>Is the person male or female?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark one box for each person absent 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>
<p>What is the person's date of birth (or age last birthday)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example for date of birth: Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> • If date of birth not known, give age last birthday. • Example for age last birthday: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years 	<p>Day Month Year</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<p>Day Month Year</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<p>Day Month Year</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	<p>OR</p> <p>Age last birthday</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years	<p>OR</p> <p>Age last birthday</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years	<p>OR</p> <p>Age last birthday</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years
<p>Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'Yes' boxes. 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander</p>
<p>Is the person a full-time student?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
<p>What is the person's relationship to Person 1/ Person 2?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of other relationships: SON-IN-LAW, GRAND-DAUGHTER, UNCLE, BOARDER. 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> De facto partner of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of both Person 1 and Person 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 1 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 2 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1</p> <p>Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify</p> <input type="text"/>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> De facto partner of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of both Person 1 and Person 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 1 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 2 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1</p> <p>Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify</p> <input type="text"/>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> De facto partner of Person 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of both Person 1 and Person 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 1 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child of Person 2 only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated flatmate or co-tenant of Person 1</p> <p>Other relationship to Person 1 – please specify</p> <input type="text"/>

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

INCOME (FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD)

More details on the definition of income are included in the section on personal topics.

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

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES GARAGED

USER REQUIREMENTS

This topic is a significant part of transport-related Census topics and together with workplace address and mode of travel to work, is used in transport modelling, town planning and market research. It also serves as a useful socioeconomic indicator, either by itself or when cross classified with other characteristics, to identify mobility and thus the ability to access services.

Data on the distribution of vehicles are important for indicating needs such as parking and public transport.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

For 2001, the question also included an option to record the number of motor bikes and motor scooters. In addition, respondents were able to write in the actual number of vehicles rather than mark a self coding box.

For the 2006 Census, data will be collected on the number of registered motor vehicles only. Motorbikes and motor scooters will be excluded.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

A range of statistics on motor vehicles is available from:

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>54 How many registered motor vehicles owned or used by residents of this dwelling were garaged or parked at or near this dwelling on Census Night (Tuesday, 8 August 2006)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include vans and company vehicles kept at home. • Exclude motorbikes and motor scooters. 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Motor vehicles</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS

USER REQUIREMENTS

The Census is the only comprehensive source of data on number of bedrooms at small area level and for small population groups.

Data on the number of bedrooms is required to provide an indication of:

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

For the 2001 Census, respondents were asked to write in the number of bedrooms in their dwellings rather than mark a response category. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on the number of bedrooms are available from:

- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items* (cat. no. 6535.0)
- *Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia* (cat. no. 4130.0.55.001).

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>55 How many bedrooms are there in this dwelling?</p> <p>• If the dwelling is a bedsitter, mark the 'None' box like this: <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Number of bedrooms</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

TENURE TYPE

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

The current standard for tenure type differentiates between owners with and without a mortgage rather than whether a dwelling is owned or being purchased. The new standard is reflected in the response categories being used for the 2006 Census question on tenure type.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on tenure type are available from:

- *Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia* (cat. no. 4130.0.55.001)
- *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia* (cat. no. 6523.0).

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>56 Is this dwelling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include owners of caravans, manufactured homes or houseboats regardless of whether or not the site is owned. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Owned outright? ► Go to 59 <input type="checkbox"/> Owned with a mortgage? ► Go to 58 <input type="checkbox"/> Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme? <input type="checkbox"/> Being rented? <input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied rent free? <input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied under a life tenure scheme? <input type="checkbox"/> Other?
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

RENT/LANDLORD TYPE

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

Users have indicated that the rental question is important for housing policy planning in Australia. In particular, rental information produced from the Census aids in the identification of housing needs and the extent to which specific groups (e.g. low income households, aged people and Indigenous people) have access to adequate housing.

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

For the 2006 Census, the order of questions has changed to ask the tenure type question before the housing loan repayments/rent and landlord type questions. Sequencing from the tenure type question directs only those respondents who indicate they either have a mortgage or are renting a dwelling to answer the housing loan repayments/rent and landlord type questions. All other respondents are sequenced past these questions.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on rent are available from:

- *Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia* (cat. no. 4130.0.55.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items* (cat. no. 6535.0)
- *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia* (cat. no. 6523.0).

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>56 Is this dwelling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include owners of caravans, manufactured homes or houseboats regardless of whether or not the site is owned. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Owned outright? ► Go to 59 <input type="checkbox"/> Owned with a mortgage? ► Go to 58 <input type="checkbox"/> Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme? <input type="checkbox"/> Being rented? <input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied rent free? <input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied under a life tenure scheme? <input type="checkbox"/> Other?
<p>57 If this dwelling is being rented, who is it rented from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For all state/territory specific Government housing authorities, mark second box. Some examples of Government housing authorities are: NSW Department of Housing, Office of Housing (VIC), Department of Housing (QLD), South Australian Housing Trust, Homeswest (WA), Housing Tasmania, Territory Housing (NT), ACT Housing, Aboriginal Housing Authorities. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate agent <input type="checkbox"/> Government Housing Authority/Housing Department (Public Housing) <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Other relative not in this dwelling <input type="checkbox"/> Other person not in this dwelling <input type="checkbox"/> Residential park (including caravan parks and marinas) <input type="checkbox"/> Employer – Government (including Defence Housing Authority) <input type="checkbox"/> Employer – Private <input type="checkbox"/> Housing co-operative; Community or Church Group
<p>58 How much does your household pay for this dwelling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include rent and mortgage repayments and site fees if the dwelling is a caravan or manufactured home in a caravan park or manufactured home estate. • Exclude water rates, council rates, repairs, maintenance and other fees. • Do not include cents. • If no payments, please mark the 'Nil payments' box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<p>\$ <input type="text"/>, <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> per week</p> <p>OR</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/>, <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> per fortnight</p> <p>OR</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/>, <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> per month</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nil payments</p>

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

HOUSING LOAN REPAYMENTS

USER REQUIREMENTS

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 sub populations of specific interest.

Users require data on housing loan repayments classified by household characteristics to measure access to home ownership and to provide benchmark data for evaluation of housing needs, housing finance and housing demand. Housing loan repayment data are used in conjunction with income data as a means of assessing household and family disposable income. Regional and small area data are required.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

For the 2006 Census, the order of questions has changed to ask the tenure type question before the housing loan repayments/rent and landlord type questions. Sequencing from the tenure type question directs only those respondents who indicate they either have a mortgage or are renting a dwelling to answer the housing loan repayments/rent and landlord type questions.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Data on housing loan repayments are available from:

- *Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia* (cat. no. 4130.0.55.001)
- *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Detailed Expenditure Items* (cat. no. 6535.0)
- *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia* (cat. no. 6523.0).

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

TYPE OF QUESTIONS

<p>56 Is this dwelling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include owners of caravans, manufactured homes or houseboats regardless of whether or not the site is owned. • Remember to mark box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Owned outright? ► Go to 59</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Owned with a mortgage? ► Go to 58</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Being rented?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied rent free?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Being occupied under a life tenure scheme?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other?</p>
<p>58 How much does your household pay for this dwelling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include rent and mortgage repayments and site fees if the dwelling is a caravan or manufactured home in a caravan park or manufactured home estate. • Exclude water rates, council rates, repairs, maintenance and other fees. • Do not include cents. • If no payments, please mark the 'Nil payments' box like this: <input type="checkbox"/> 	<p>\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> per week</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> per fortnight</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> per month</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nil payments</p>

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

DWELLING INTERNET CONNECTION

USER REQUIREMENTS

There is a continuing requirement by commonwealth and state government bodies for data on the use of the Internet at small geographic area level and for small population groups in order to target a range of policies and programs. Another important issue is the accessibility (as opposed to use) of the Internet.

There are a number of access and equity issues associated with accessibility of the Internet and without the detailed information that is available from the Census, government programs are difficult to accurately target.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

For the 2001 Census, data on Internet use by individuals and Computer use by individuals were collected. These questions will not be asked for the 2006 Census.

For 2006, a question on Dwelling Internet connection will be asked. This question will focus on whether private dwellings have an Internet connection and the type of connection in the dwelling.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

<p>59 Can the Internet be accessed at this dwelling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include any Internet service regardless of whether or not paid for by the household. • If more than one type of connection in dwelling, mark the higher type. • Remember to mark box like this: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No Internet connection <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, broadband connection (including ADSL, Cable, Wireless and Satellite connections) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, dial-up connection (including analog modem and ISDN connections) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (include Internet access through mobile phones, etc)
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DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

STRUCTURE OF PRIVATE DWELLING

USER REQUIREMENTS

Users require data on dwelling structure, especially at the small area level, to determine urban form and density. Analysis of dwelling structure cross classified with other Census characteristics is an important indicator of social well being.

The data are also used for providing the benchmark for regular estimates of the different types of housing available.

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

Structure of private dwelling data are used:

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

Traditionally the Census has defined a dwelling as the space occupied by a household. Therefore, where a dwelling unit was shared by more than a single household, a Census form was supposed to be issued to each household. It was thought that this procedure might lead to an over-count of dwellings in the Census. However, studies in the lead up to the 1996 Census showed that Census Collectors were, in fact, treating each dwelling as a single household and the Census was not over-counting dwellings.

The question is answered by the Collector which contributes marginally to collection costs but requires no response by the public. For the 2006 Census, this question will be included in the Collector Record Book rather than on the back of the Census form.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

(ANSWERED BY COLLECTOR)

0	<input type="checkbox"/> Separate house <input type="checkbox"/> One or more storeys Semi-detached row or terrace house, townhouse, etc.	7	<input type="checkbox"/> Caravan, cabin, houseboat
1	<input type="checkbox"/> One storey	8	<input type="checkbox"/> Improvised home, tent, sleepers out
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Two or more storeys Flat, unit or apartment	9	<input type="checkbox"/> House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.
3	<input type="checkbox"/> In a 1 or 2 storey block		
4	<input type="checkbox"/> In a 3 storey block		
5	<input type="checkbox"/> In a 4 or more storey block		
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Attached to a house		

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

LOCATION OF PRIVATE DWELLING

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

A standard for location of private dwellings is under development.

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

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

TYPE OF QUESTION

(ANSWERED BY COLLECTOR)

- | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|
| 1 | () | Retirement Village |
| 2 | () | Caravan Park |
| 3 | () | Manufactured Home Estate |
| 4 | () | Marina |
| 5 | () | Other Location |

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

NON-PRIVATE DWELLING TYPE

USER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

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

For the 1996 and 2001 Censuses, self contained dwellings in retirement villages and dwellings in manufactured home estates were treated as private dwellings. This will again be the case for the 2006 Census.

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

AVAILABILITY OF NON-CENSUS DATA

Government departments have information on government-funded institutions.

However, generally only limited details are available on the characteristics of residents.

TYPE OF QUESTION
(ANSWERED BY COLLECTOR)

Instructions

- Before delivering the Census forms, please complete sections 1 and 2 below.
- On pages 2, 3 and 4, record the details of all persons spending Census Night, 8 August 2006, in this establishment into columns 2-6.
- After collecting completed Census forms, complete columns 6-8 for each person, as well as completing sections 3 & 4 on the back page.
- Completed forms remain confidential to the Australian Bureau of Statistics as required by the Census and Statistics Act.

1 Name of this establishment

Street number and name

Suburb, locality or town **Postcode**

2 Description of this establishment

- Remember to mark the box like this:
- If there is more than one type of non-private dwelling within this establishment, your Collector will issue separate Summary Forms.

- Hotel, motel, bed and breakfast
- Nurses' quarters
- Staff quarters
- Boarding house, private hotel
- Boarding school
- Residential college / hall of residence
- Public hospital (not psychiatric)
- Private hospital (not psychiatric)
- Psychiatric hospital or institution
- Hostel for the disabled
- Nursing home
- Accommodation for the retired or aged - not self-contained
- Hostel for the homeless, night shelter, refuge
- Childcare institution
- Corrective institution for children
- Other welfare institution
- Prison or corrective institution for adults
- Immigration detention centre
- Convent, monastery, etc.
- Youth / backpacker hostel
- Ski lodge
- Other, please specify

Comments about description of establishment:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

DATA RELEASE PLANS

To be included in First Release – see the Appendix.

CHAPTER **9**

**TOPICS TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE 2006
CENSUS**

CONTENTS

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TOPICS EXCLUDED

Use of personal computers and the Internet 72

USE OF PERSONAL COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

USER REQUIREMENTS

There is a continuing requirement by commonwealth and state government bodies for data on the use of the Internet at small geographic area level and for small population groups in order to target a range of policies and programs. Another important issue is the accessibility (as opposed to use) of the Internet.

There are a number of access and equity issues associated with accessibility of the Internet and without the detailed information that is available from the Census, government programs are difficult to accurately target.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

For the 2001 Census, data on Internet use by individuals and Computer use by individuals were collected. These questions will not be asked for the 2006 Census as user consultation on topics identified that the collection of data on dwelling Internet connection was of a higher priority.

For 2006, a question on Dwelling Internet connection will be asked. This question will focus on whether private dwellings have an Internet connection and the type of connection in the dwelling.

NON-CENSUS DATA AVAILABLE

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

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

APPENDIX 1

RELEASE STATUS OF TOPICS

RELEASE STATUS

As has been the case in previous Censuses the standard tables containing data from the 2006 Census will be released in a two stage process. First release data will be made available as soon as possible after the Census with a target date of June 2007. The second release data will follow five months later with a target date of November 2007.

FIRST RELEASE TOPICS

Sex
Age
Residential status (for people in non-private dwellings)
Registered marital status
Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander origin
Usual residence at Census time
Australian citizenship
Country of birth
Year of arrival in Australia
Country of birth of parents (Australia/Overseas)
Main language spoken at home/proficiency in spoken English
Ancestry
Religious affiliation
Need for assistance
Attendance at an educational institution
Highest year of schooling completed
Number of children ever born
Income (individual, family, household)
Unpaid work
Family relationship
Motor vehicles (number garaged)
Number of bedrooms
Tenure type
Rent
Landlord type
Housing loan repayments
Dwelling Internet connection
Structure of private dwelling
Location of private dwelling
Non-private dwelling type

SECOND RELEASE TOPICS

Internal migration (address of usual residence 1 year ago and 5 years ago)

Non-school qualifications

Labour force status

Occupation

Government/non-government employer

Community Development Employment Projects participation

Workplace address

Industry

Hours worked

Mode of travel to work

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