



2005

3301.0

BIRTHS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 17 OCT 2006

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
List of tables and graphs	3

CHAPTERS

1 Main features	7
2 Summary of findings	9
3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births	22
4 Recent changes in Australia's fertility	28
5 Delayed birth registrations in Australia	35

DETAILED TABLES

6 Fertility tables	42
7 Births tables	52
8 Confinements tables	57
9 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births tables	70

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory Notes	79
Appendix 1 Differences between collections	84
Appendix 2 Characteristics available	87
Appendix 3 Feature articles list	88
Appendix 4 Estimated resident population	89
Appendix 5 Experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	90
Glossary	91
Bibliography	95

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Olivia Agius on Canberra (02) 6252 5862.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION	This publication brings together statistics and indicators for births in Australia.																																																						
DATA IN THIS PUBLICATION	This publication contains birth registration data for live births, except where otherwise stated. Populations used in the calculation of rates for 2005 are the revised estimated resident population by age and sex at 30 June 2005. Unless otherwise stated, state or territory relates to the state or territory of usual residence.																																																						
ROUNDING	In commentary based on the statistics in this publication, it is recommended that the relevant statistics be rounded. All data are affected by errors in reporting and processing. Birth registration data are also affected by delays in registration. No reliance should be placed on statistics with small values. Where necessary, tables have had small values suppressed or randomised to protect confidentiality.																																																						
SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES	<p>The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:</p> <table><tr><td>ABS</td><td>Australian Bureau of Statistics</td></tr><tr><td>ACT</td><td>Australian Capital Territory</td></tr><tr><td>AIHW</td><td>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</td></tr><tr><td>ASFR</td><td>age-specific fertility rate</td></tr><tr><td>ASGC</td><td>Australian Standard Geographical Classification</td></tr><tr><td>Aust.</td><td>Australia</td></tr><tr><td>Bal</td><td>balance</td></tr><tr><td>ERP</td><td>estimated resident population</td></tr><tr><td>LGA</td><td>Local Government Area</td></tr><tr><td>NMDS</td><td>National Minimum Dataset</td></tr><tr><td>no.</td><td>number</td></tr><tr><td>np</td><td>not available for publication but included in totals where applicable</td></tr><tr><td>NSW</td><td>New South Wales</td></tr><tr><td>NT</td><td>Northern Territory</td></tr><tr><td>p</td><td>preliminary</td></tr><tr><td>Qld</td><td>Queensland</td></tr><tr><td>r</td><td>revised</td></tr><tr><td>SA</td><td>South Australia</td></tr><tr><td>SD</td><td>Statistical Division</td></tr><tr><td>SEIFA</td><td>Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas</td></tr><tr><td>SLA</td><td>Statistical Local Area</td></tr><tr><td>SSD</td><td>Statistical Subdivision</td></tr><tr><td>Tas.</td><td>Tasmania</td></tr><tr><td>TFR</td><td>total fertility rate</td></tr><tr><td>Vic.</td><td>Victoria</td></tr><tr><td>WA</td><td>Western Australia</td></tr><tr><td>–</td><td>nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)</td></tr></table>	ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	ACT	Australian Capital Territory	AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	ASFR	age-specific fertility rate	ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification	Aust.	Australia	Bal	balance	ERP	estimated resident population	LGA	Local Government Area	NMDS	National Minimum Dataset	no.	number	np	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable	NSW	New South Wales	NT	Northern Territory	p	preliminary	Qld	Queensland	r	revised	SA	South Australia	SD	Statistical Division	SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas	SLA	Statistical Local Area	SSD	Statistical Subdivision	Tas.	Tasmania	TFR	total fertility rate	Vic.	Victoria	WA	Western Australia	–	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
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Peter Harper
Acting Australian Statistician

LIST OF TABLES AND GRAPHS

page

CHAPTER 2—SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

2.1	Total fertility rate, Australia, 1925–2005 (graph)	10
2.2	Age-specific fertility rates, Selected age groups, 1925–2005 (graph)	11
2.3	Registered births, 1905–2005 (graph)	12
2.4	Exnuptial births, Proportion of all births, 1905–2005 (graph)	12
2.5	Paternity-not-acknowledged births, Proportion of all births, 1985–2005 (graph)	13
2.6	Median age of mothers, 1925–2005 (graph)	13
2.7	Births to teenage mothers, States and territories, 2004 and 2005	15
2.8	Births registered, States and territories, 2004 and 2005	16
2.9	Components of population change by year, 1985–2005	17
2.10	Actual and projected births and deaths, 1951–2051 (graph)	18
2.11	International total fertility rates, 1960–65 to 2000–05	19
2.12	Summary, Australia, Selected years	20
2.13	Summary, States and territories, 2005	21

CHAPTER 3—ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS

3.1	Total fertility rates, 1961–2005 (graph)	23
3.2	Total fertility rates, Indigenous women and all women, States and territories, 2005 (graph)	23
3.3	Age-specific fertility rates, Indigenous women and all women, 2005 (graph)	24
3.4	Age-specific fertility rates, Indigenous women, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Australia, 2005 (graph)	24
3.5	Age-specific fertility rates, Indigenous women, Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and Australia, 2005 (graph)	25
3.6	Indigenous fertility rates, Selected countries	27

CHAPTER 4—RECENT CHANGES IN AUSTRALIA'S FERTILITY

4.1	Estimated Resident Population, Women aged 15–49 years, 1995, 2000 and 2005 (graph)	29
4.2	Total fertility rate, Australia, 1995–2005 (graph)	29
4.3	Number of observed and expected births, 1995–2005	31
4.4	Difference between observed and expected births, 1995–2005 (graph)	31
4.5	Female population, Financial year of birth, 1956–2005 (graph)	32
4.6	Women in reproductive ages, Projected annual growth rates, 2005–2055 (graph)	33

CHAPTER 5—DELAYED BIRTH REGISTRATIONS IN AUSTRALIA

5.1	Registered births that occurred in the year of registration, 1995–2005 (graph)	37
5.2	Registered births that occurred in the year of registration, Selected years	37
5.3	Length of delay in birth registration, Australia, Selected years	38
5.4	Length of delay in birth registration, States and territories, 1995, 2004 and 2005	39
5.5	Average length of birth registration delay, States and territories, Selected years	40
5.6	Births registered in 2005 that occurred in 2004 or earlier years	41

CHAPTER 6—FERTILITY TABLES

6.1	Age-specific fertility rates and total fertility rates, 1921–2005	43
6.2	Age-specific fertility rates, States and territories, 2005	45
6.3	Contribution of age-specific fertility rates to total fertility rate, States and territories, 2005	45
6.4	Total fertility rates, States and territories, Selected years	46
6.5	Net reproduction rates, States and territories, Selected years	46
6.6	Regional patterns of fertility, Statistical Divisions	47
6.7	Fertility, Selected countries of birth	49
6.8	Completed fertility, Year of birth of woman, 1910–2005	51

CHAPTER 7—BIRTHS TABLES

7.1	Births registered, Nuptiality, States and territories, Selected years	53
7.2	Births registered, Sex of child, States and territories, Selected years	54
7.3	Births registered, Nuptiality and age of parents, 2005	55
7.4	Births registered, Month of birth, Selected years	56

CHAPTER 8—CONFINEMENTS TABLES

8.1	Confinements, Age of parents, Nuptiality, 2005	58
8.2	Confinements, Age of mother, States and territories, 2005	59
8.3	Confinements, Median age of parents, Nuptiality, Selected years	59
8.4	Confinements, Median age of parents, Nuptiality, States and territories, 2005	60
8.5	Confinements, Median age of mother, States and territories, Selected years	60
8.6	Nuptial confinements, Age of mother, Selected years	61
8.7	Exnuptial confinements, Age of mother, Selected years	62
8.8	Confinements, Plurality, Selected years	63
8.9	Confinements resulting in a multiple birth, States and territories, Selected years	63
8.10	Confinements, Plurality, Nuptiality, Selected years	64
8.11	Nuptial confinements, Previous children, Duration of current marriage, 2005	64

CHAPTER 8—CONFINEMENTS TABLES *continued*

8.12	Nuptial first confinements, Duration of current marriage, Selected years	65
8.13	Nuptial first confinements, Age of mother, Selected years	65
8.14	Country of birth of mother, Summary, 2005	66
8.15	Country of birth of father, Summary, 2005	68

CHAPTER 9—ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS TABLES

9.1	Indigenous births, Implied coverage, 2001–2005	70
9.2	Indigenous registered births, Australia, 2005	71
9.3	Indigenous registered births, New South Wales, 2005	72
9.4	Indigenous registered births, Victoria, 2005	73
9.5	Indigenous registered births, Queensland, 2005	74
9.6	Indigenous registered births, South Australia, 2005	75
9.7	Indigenous registered births, Western Australia, 2005	76
9.8	Indigenous registered births, Tasmania, 2005	77
9.9	Indigenous registered births, Northern Territory, 2005	78

EXPLANATORY NOTES

E1	Year of occurrence of births registered in 2005	79
E2	Births, State or territory of usual residence of mother and state or territory of registration, 2005	80
E3	Births, Babies born in Australia to non-resident mothers, 2005	80

APPENDIXES

A1.1	Live births, Type of collection, 1993–2003 (graph)	84
A1.2	Confinements, Difference between collections by age of mother, 2003	85
A1.3	Live births, Type of collection by state/territory, 2003	86
A1.4	Live births to Indigenous mothers, Type of collection, 1997–2003 (graph)	86
A4.1	Estimated resident population, 30 June 2005	89
A5.1	Experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, 30 June 2005 (low series)	90

ADDITIONAL TABLES AVAILABLE ON AUSSTATS

BIRTHS, AUSTRALIA (CAT. NO. 3301.0)	
Births, Summary, States and territories, 1995–2005	Table 1
Births, Summary, Statistical Divisions, 2000–2005	Table 2
Births, Summary, Statistical Local Areas, 2000–2005	Table 3
Births, Summary, Local Government Areas, 2000–2005	Table 4

ADDITIONAL TABLES AVAILABLE ON AUSSTATS *continued*

AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL POPULATION STATISTICS (CAT. NO. 3105.0.65.001)

Population and components of change, States and territories, Year ended 30 June, 1971 onwards Table 3

Births registered by sex, States and territories, 1824 onwards Table 36

Median age of mother, All confinements, Australia, 1921 onwards Table 37

Median age of mother, First nuptial confinement, Australia, 1975 onwards . . . Table 38

Age-specific fertility rates and total fertility rates, Australia, 1921 onwards . . . Table 39

Age-specific fertility rates and total fertility rates, states and territories, 1947 onwards Table 40

Net reproduction rates, States and territories, 1930 onwards Table 41

Crude birth rates, States and territories, 1860 onwards Table 42

INCREASE IN FERTILITY

- Australia's total fertility rate (TFR) in 2005 was 1.81 babies per woman, higher than in 2004 (1.77) and the highest since 1995 (1.82). The TFR in 2005 was 0.08 babies per woman higher than the lowest TFR recorded in 2001 (1.73).
- The increase in the TFR was largely due to births to women aged 30 to 39 years. Women aged 30–34 years experienced the highest fertility of all age groups for the sixth consecutive year, increasing from 114.4 babies per 1,000 women in 2004 to 117.5 babies per 1,000 women in 2005. This was the highest rate recorded for women aged 30–34 years since 1964.
- Fertility of women aged 35–39 years increased from 57.4 babies per 1,000 women in 2004 to 60.6 babies per 1,000 women in 2005, the highest rate since 1962. The fertility of women aged 35–39 years was above that of women aged 20–24 years for the second consecutive year.
- Fertility of women aged 25–29 years increased slightly from 102.5 babies per 1,000 women in 2004 to 103.0 babies per 1,000 women in 2005. Women aged 25–29 years continued to record the second highest fertility of all age groups.
- Fertility of women aged 40–44 years in 2005 was the highest since 1971.
- At the national level, fertility of women aged 20–24 years and teenage fertility (women aged under 20 years) continued to decline, although in some states and territories teenage fertility has increased. See Chapter 2 — Summary of Findings, page 15 for more detail.

BIRTHS INCREASE

- In 2005 there were 259,800 births registered in Australia, 5,500 (2.2%) more than in 2004, and the highest since 1993 (260,200). This also represented an increase of 13,400 births from the low number of births registered in 2001 (246,400 births).
- This estimate of the number of births for 2005 is different to the number of births as a component of population growth for 2005 (265,000) reported by the ABS in the March quarter 2006 issue of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). See Chapter 2 — Summary of Findings, page 9 for more detail.

MEDIAN AGE OF PARENTS

- The median age of all mothers who gave birth in 2005 was 30.7 years, 3.4 years older than mothers in 1985 (27.3 years).
- The median age of all fathers in 2005 was 32.9 years, 2.8 years older than fathers in 1985 (30.1 years).

NUPTIALITY

- In 2005, 68% of births were to parents in a registered marriage, compared to 85% in 1985.
- While births to parents outside of a registered marriage are increasing, the proportion of births where the father has not acknowledged the birth (by not signing the birth registration form) has decreased from 5% in 1985 to 3% in 2005.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

- All states and territories recorded increases in their TFRs between 2004 and 2005, with Tasmania reaching replacement level fertility (2.1 babies per woman) in 2005.
- In 2005, women aged 30–34 years recorded the highest fertility of all age groups in all states and territories with the exception of Tasmania and the Northern Territory, where women aged 25–29 years recorded the highest level of fertility.
- The number of births registered in 2005 was higher than in 2004 for all states and territories, with Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria recording the largest numeric increases and Tasmania recording the largest percentage increase. New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria recorded the lowest percentage increases in the number of births registered between 2004 and 2005.
- While the median age of mothers has been increasing in each state and territory in recent years, in 2005 the median age of mothers declined in South Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory compared to 2004.

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS AND FERTILITY

- There were 12,100 births registered in Australia during 2005 (5% of all births) where at least one parent was identified as Indigenous.
- Indigenous women had a higher TFR in 2005 (2.06 babies per woman) than all women (1.81 babies per woman).
- Higher fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2005, women under 30 years of age accounted for three-quarters of the Indigenous total fertility rate, compared to less than half of the fertility rate for all women in Australia.
- In 2005, of the 450 births to teenage mothers (women aged under 20 years) in the Northern Territory, 79% (360 births) were births where at least one parent was identified as Indigenous.

NEW TIME SERIES OF STATE AND TERRITORY BIRTHS AND FERTILITY DATA

Time series of births and fertility data for the states and territories, Statistical Divisions, Statistical Local Areas and Local Government Areas are now available in spreadsheet format from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au/>>. For more information see paragraph 22 of the Explanatory Notes.

INTRODUCTION

During 2005 there were 259,800 births registered in Australia, born to 255,500 mothers. This was 5,500 (2.2%) more births than the number registered during 2004 and the highest number since 1993, when 260,200 births were registered.

Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

On 21 September 2006 the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released the March quarter 2006 issue of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0), publishing an estimate of 265,000 births for the calendar year 2005 (see also table 2.9). For the purpose of population estimation, this is the preliminary number of births estimated to have *occurred* in 2005, based on a combination of revised quarter of birth occurrence data (for the March and June quarters) and quarter of registration data (for the September and December quarters). Preliminary quarterly estimates of births for population estimates are initially based on quarter of birth registration until sufficient late registrations are accumulated for a financial year to revise these estimates to quarter of occurrence basis.

The number of births *registered* in 2005 (259,800) excludes births that occurred in 2005 but were not registered in 2005, and includes births that were registered in 2005 but which occurred in previous years. Of the 259,800 births registered in 2005, 89% (231,200) were births that occurred in 2005, while the remaining 11% occurred in 2004 and earlier. See Chapter 5 — Delayed birth registrations in Australia for more information.

For further information about the estimation of births as a component of population growth see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

TRENDS IN NATIONAL FERTILITY

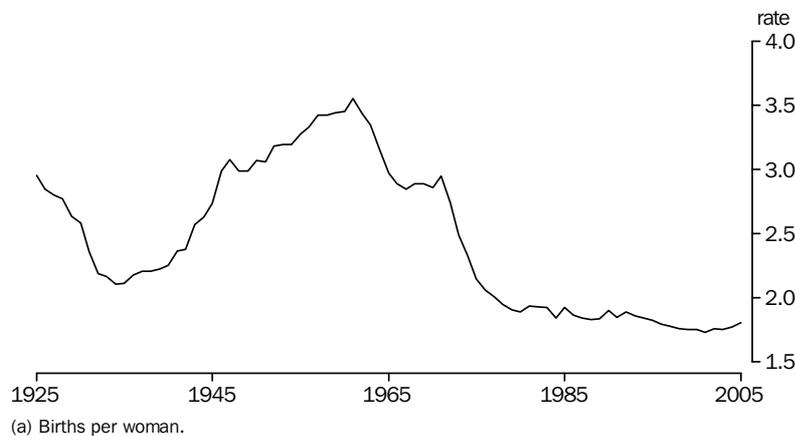
The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the average number of babies that a woman could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime, assuming current age-specific fertility rates apply. In 2005 Australia's TFR was 1.81 babies per woman, higher than the 2004 figure of 1.77 and the highest since 1995 (1.82).

Having reached a TFR of 3.1 during the early 1920s, Australian fertility was relatively low during the Great Depression of the 1930s, falling to 2.1 babies per woman in 1934. In 1961, at the height of the 'baby boom', it peaked at 3.5 babies per woman. Since then fertility has declined, falling sharply during the early 1960s as the oral contraceptive pill became available, before leveling at around 2.9 babies per woman in the years 1966–1971. The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in late 1971, in a ruling by Justice Levine in the case of *R v Wall et al.*, had a substantial impact on women's ability to control their fertility. Subsequently, a fall in births to young women contributed to a further decrease in the TFR and an increase in the median age of mothers (Carmichael 1998). The TFR reached replacement level (2.1) in 1976, and continued to fall as increasing numbers of women chose to delay or forego having children. The TFR then stabilised somewhat during the 1980s, before resuming a more

TRENDS IN NATIONAL FERTILITY *continued*

gradual decline during the 1990s. The TFR reached a low of 1.73 babies per woman in 2001 and has slowly increased to 1.81 babies per woman in 2005.

2.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE (a), Australia



Age-specific fertility

In 2005 women aged 30–34 years experienced the highest fertility of all age groups for the sixth year in a row, with a rate of 117.5 babies per 1,000 women, followed by women aged 25–29 years with a rate of 103.0 babies per 1,000 women. Women aged 35–39 years and 20–24 years experienced fertility rates of 60.6 and 52.9 babies per 1,000 women respectively.

With some fluctuations, there has been a fairly stable distribution of fertility across age groups since 1921, with each age group peaking and troughing together, although the peaks have been more pronounced in some age groups than in others. Women aged 25–29 years had the highest fertility for most of this period, followed by women aged 20–24 years. However, women aged 30–34 years have experienced increasing fertility since the mid-1970s and now have the highest fertility, having overtaken 20–24 year olds in 1987 and 25–29 year olds in 2000. In 2002, women aged 30–34 years and 35–39 years reattained the fertility rates experienced in 1965 and 1966 respectively, at the end of the baby boom. In 2004, women aged 35–39 years recorded the third highest fertility rate for the first time, overtaking women aged 20–24 years, with this trend continuing in 2005.

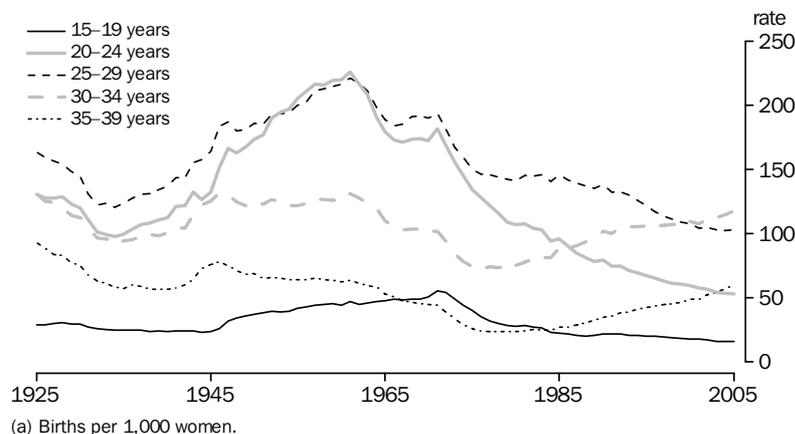
Declines in fertility rates have occurred amongst younger women over the period 1980 to 2005. Women aged 20–24 years experienced the greatest decrease, with fertility halving over the period (from 107.0 babies per 1,000 women in 1980 to 52.9 babies per 1,000 women in 2005). The fertility of women aged 25–29 years decreased by 27% (from 141.0 to 103.0), while teenage fertility (women aged 15–19 years) decreased by 42% (from 27.6 in 1980 to 16.0 in 2005). The teenage fertility rate in 2005 was slightly lower than the 2004 rate of 16.3 babies per 1,000 women.

Fertility rates for the older age groups increased between 1980 and 2005. The fertility rate for women aged 30–34 years increased by 56% (from 75.1 babies per 1,000 women in 1980 to 117.5 babies per 1,000 women in 2005) while the rate for women aged 35–39 years more than doubled (from 23.7 to 60.6). The fertility of women aged 40–44 years also more than doubled over this period, from 4.4 babies per 1,000 women to 10.9 babies, as the trend towards older motherhood continued. However, the fertility rates of

Age-specific fertility
continued

women in each age group above 30–34 years have not yet attained the highest levels observed in the baby boom (1946–1965), nor the rates observed in the 1920s.

2.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a), Selected age groups



Replacement fertility

Since 1976 Australia has experienced fertility rates below replacement level. That is, the average number of babies born to a woman throughout her reproductive life (the TFR) has been insufficient to replace herself and her partner. Although the TFR required for replacement is currently around 2.1 babies per woman, this number is not constant. Because the level of fertility required for replacement is dependent on the number of women who survive to reproductive ages, replacement fertility has declined in parallel with falls in female mortality. In 1921, when mortality rates were high, replacement fertility was 2.4 babies per woman. By 1954, it had fallen to 2.1, and in 1996 replacement fertility was 2.08. Even if female mortality declined to zero for women up to the end of their reproductive lives, the replacement level would still be 2.05 (1.05 male and 1.0 female babies) — considerably higher than the 2005 TFR of 1.81 babies per woman.

INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

For 2005 it was estimated that the TFR for Indigenous women was 2.06 babies per woman, compared to 1.81 for all women. The TFR for Indigenous women was derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2005 and the projected population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females (low series) for 2005 (see Appendix 5).

Indigenous women in the Northern Territory had the highest TFR of any state or territory in 2005, at 2.47 babies per woman. For all women in the Northern Territory the TFR was 2.29. For further information see Chapter 3 — Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births.

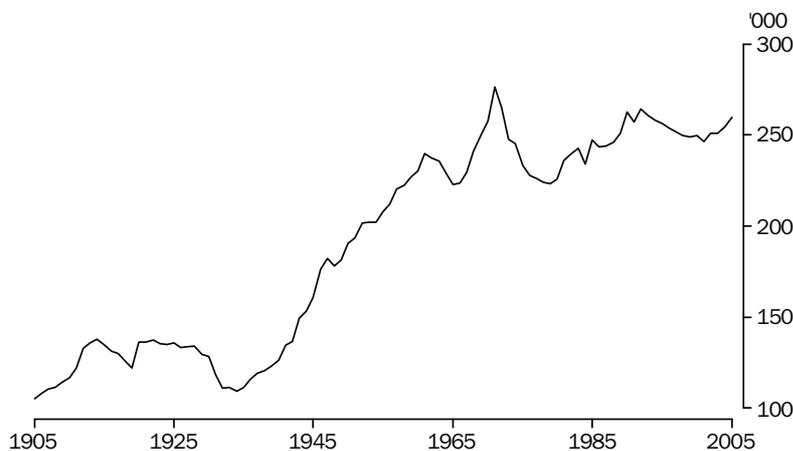
BIRTHS

For most of the first half of the last century the number of births registered in Australia each year remained under 140,000, with a trough occurring in the early 1930s during the Great Depression. The number of births then increased rapidly, reaching a peak of 276,400 in 1971, fell sharply during the remainder of the 1970s, then increased from the early 1980s to reach another peak in 1992 of 264,200 births. Following 1992 the number of births registered each year decreased until 2000, when there was a small increase of 770 births. In 2001 the number of births decreased to 246,600. Since then the number of

BIRTHS *continued*

births has gradually increased each year, reaching 259,800 births in 2005 (an increase of 2.2% on the previous year).

2.3 REGISTERED BIRTHS



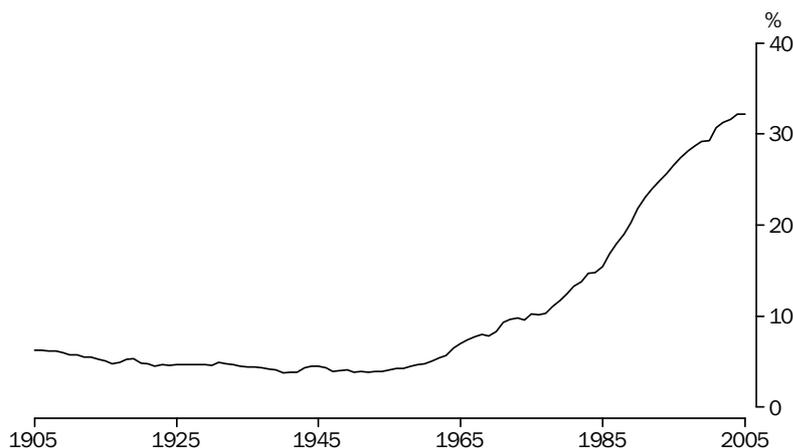
Sex ratio

Just over half (51%) of all births registered in 2005 were male babies, with the sex ratio at birth being 105.6 male babies for every 100 female babies.

NUPTIAL AND EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS

In 2005, 68% of births were to mothers who were married (marriage in this publication refers to a registered marriage unless otherwise indicated). Exnuptial births accounted for the remaining 32% of births, although many of these births may have been to mothers in de facto relationships. The proportion of exnuptial births has been increasing since the 1950s, and has risen sharply over the last two decades.

2.4 EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS, Proportion of all births



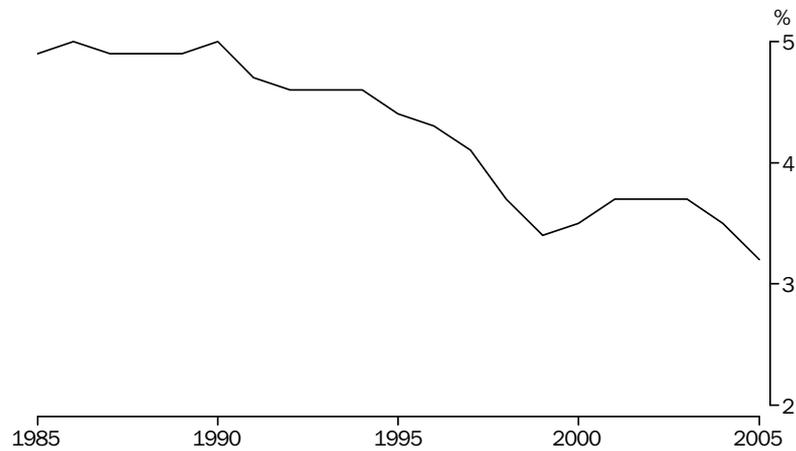
Acknowledgment of paternity

With exnuptial births comes the possibility that the father may not acknowledge the birth (that is, the father has not signed the birth registration statement). However, while the number of exnuptial births has increased greatly over the past twenty years, the proportion of these births in which paternity was not acknowledged has decreased. In 1985 around 32% of all exnuptial births were paternity-not-acknowledged, but by 2005

Acknowledgment of paternity continued

this proportion had decreased to 10%. In terms of all births, paternity-not-acknowledged births have decreased from 5% of all births in 1985 to 3% in 2005.

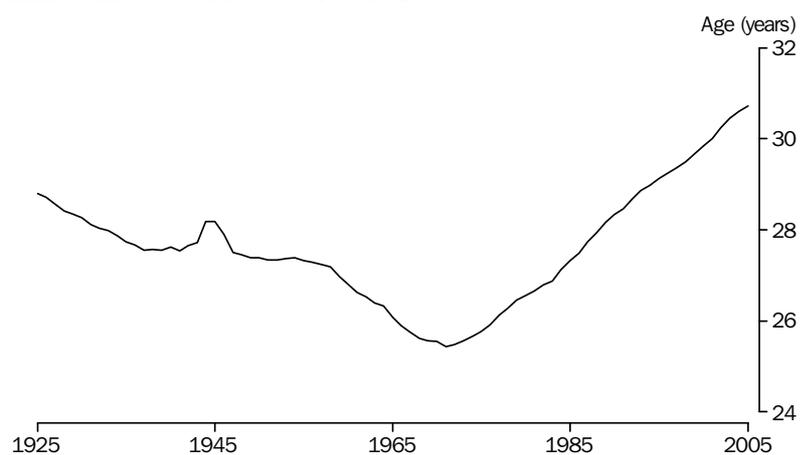
2.5 PATERNITY-NOT-ACKNOWLEDGED BIRTHS, Proportion of all births



Age of parents at confinement

In 2005 the median age of all mothers giving birth was 30.7 years. Women who registered an exnuptial birth in 2005 had a median age of 27.0 years, almost five years younger than women who registered a nuptial birth (31.7 years). In 2005 the median age of women who gave birth outside a registered marriage where paternity was not acknowledged (25.1 years) was lower than the median age of women where paternity was acknowledged (27.2 years). The median age of mothers registering the first child of their current marriage was 30.5 years.

2.6 MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHERS



Prior to the 1930s the median age of mothers giving birth had been in decline. During the 1930s the median age stabilised, then rose briefly at the end of the Second World War, with an equally sharp decline immediately following the war. The median age of mothers fell substantially over the following three decades, reaching a low of 25.4 years in 1971. The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in 1971 was associated with a substantial fall in births to young women and an increase in the median age of

<i>Age of parents at confinement continued</i>	<p>mothers from 1972. Since then the median age of mothers has consistently increased, reaching 30.7 years in 2005, the highest on record.</p> <p>As age-specific fertility rates indicate, the median age of mothers is affected by current trends towards delayed partnering and childbearing, and repartnering and subsequent family formation following separation or divorce.</p> <p>The median age of all fathers in 2005 was 32.9 years, continuing the upward trend of the past two decades. Between 1985 and 2005 the median age of married fathers increased by over three years, from 30.4 years to 33.7 years, while the median age of unmarried fathers who acknowledged the birth of their child also increased, from 26.5 years to 29.8 years.</p>
<p>CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH</p>	<p>The number of confinements resulting in a multiple birth has continued to increase since the 1970s. In 2005 the number was 4,200, 58% more than the number recorded in 1985 and 1% (40 confinements) more than in 2004.</p>
<p>NUMBER OF PREVIOUS BIRTHS</p>	<p>In registering births, all states and territories collect information on the number of previous children of the <i>current</i> relationship. However, only some states and territories collect information on <i>all</i> children born to a mother. Consequently, in this publication data relating to previous births is provided for nuptial births only, and refers to previous children of the current relationship.</p> <p>Previous children of the current relationship data overestimates the number of first order births and underestimates the number of second and higher order births. This issue is increasingly important because of increasing numbers of exnuptial births, and because of relationship and marriage dissolution and subsequent repartnering. However, consistent true birth order data for all of Australia is not currently available in the birth registrations collection.</p> <p>The number of nuptial confinements where there were two or more previous births has declined steadily over the past two decades, from 25% of nuptial confinements in 1985 to 21% in 2005.</p>
<p>STATE AND TERRITORY</p> <p><i>Time series of state and territory births and fertility data</i></p>	<p>Time series of births and fertility data for the states and territories, Statistical Divisions, Statistical Local Areas and Local Government Areas (on <i>Australian Standard Geographic Classification, 2005</i>, cat. no. 1216.0, geographical boundaries) are now available in spreadsheet format from the ABS web site <http://www.abs.gov.au/>. For more information see paragraph 22 of the Explanatory Notes.</p>
<i>Total fertility rate</i>	<p>The TFR in 2005 varied substantially between the states and territories, from 1.65 babies per woman in the Australian Capital Territory to 2.29 in the Northern Territory. Between 2004 and 2005 all states and territories recorded an increase in their TFR, with Tasmania reaching replacement level fertility (2.1 babies per woman) in 2005. The Northern Territory (2.29), Tasmania (2.10), Western Australia (1.86) and Queensland (1.85) all recorded TFRs higher than the national level of 1.81, while New South Wales (1.81) recorded the same as the national level. South Australia (1.79), Victoria (1.72) and the Australian Capital Territory (1.65) recorded lower levels of fertility.</p>

Age-specific fertility

In 2005 women aged 30–34 years recorded the highest fertility of all the age groups in all states and territories with the exception of Tasmania and the Northern Territory, where women aged 25–29 years recorded the highest level of fertility. Between 2004 and 2005, all states and territories except the Northern Territory recorded increases in fertility of women aged 30–34 years. Tasmania recorded the largest increase, with the age-specific fertility rate of women aged 30–34 years increasing from 105.1 babies per 1,000 women in 2004 to 119.7 in 2005.

Younger mothers

In 2005 most states and territories recorded low levels of fertility among women aged 15–19 years and 20–24 years, with the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria recording the lowest rates. The Northern Territory recorded the highest levels of fertility for these age groups.

In 2005 teenage fertility was highest in the Northern Territory (64.1 babies per 1,000 women) and Tasmania (26.6), and lowest in the Australian Capital Territory (9.5), Victoria (10.1) and New South Wales (13.5). Between 2004 and 2005 teenage fertility increased in South Australia (up 37.6%), the Australian Capital Territory (up 17.0%), the Northern Territory (up 10.8%), Tasmania (up 7.2%) and Western Australia (up 4.5%). Teenage fertility decreased in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria.

2.7 BIRTHS TO TEENAGE MOTHERS—2004 and 2005

	BIRTHS			AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (a)		
	2004	2005	Change	2004	2005	Change
	no.	no.	%	no.	no.	%
New South Wales	3 310	2 974	-10.2	15.1	13.5	-10.5
Victoria	1 713	1 641	-4.2	10.6	10.1	-4.7
Queensland	2 883	2 764	-4.1	21.7	20.5	-5.8
South Australia	686	943	37.5	13.8	18.9	37.6
Western Australia	1 371	1 446	5.5	19.7	20.6	4.5
Tasmania	397	418	5.3	24.8	26.6	7.2
Northern Territory	402	448	11.4	57.8	64.1	10.8
Australian Capital Territory	94	109	16.0	8.1	9.5	17.0
Australia (b)	10 857	10 744	-1.0	16.3	16.0	-1.7

(a) Births per 1,000 women aged 15–19 years. Includes births to women aged less than 15 years.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

Births

The three most populous states accounted for over three-quarters (78%) of births registered in 2005: 86,600 in New South Wales (33% of all births), 63,300 in Victoria (24% of all births) and 51,700 in Queensland (20% of all births). These proportions reflect the proportions of the Australian female population in reproductive ages living in these states.

Between 2004 and 2005 all states and territories recorded increases in registered births. Queensland and Western Australia recorded the largest increases (up 1,700 and 960 births respectively) followed by Victoria (up 870). The smallest increase was recorded in the Australian Capital Territory, up 30, followed by the Northern Territory with an

Births continued

increase of 110 births. Tasmania recorded the largest percentage increase in the number of registered births (9% more births compared to 2004), while the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales recorded the lowest percentage increases (both 0.8% more births compared to 2004).

2.8 BIRTHS REGISTERED—2004 and 2005

	2004	2005	Change, 2004 to 2005	
	no.	no.	no.	%
New South Wales	85 894	86 589	695	0.8
Victoria	62 417	63 287	870	1.4
Queensland	49 940	51 661	1 721	3.4
South Australia	17 140	17 800	660	3.9
Western Australia	25 295	26 253	958	3.8
Tasmania	5 809	6 308	499	8.6
Northern Territory	3 551	3 659	108	3.0
Australian Capital Territory	4 174	4 206	32	0.8
Australia(a)	254 246	259 791	5 545	2.2

(a) Includes Other Territories.

Median age of parents at confinement

Of the states and territories, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory had the oldest mothers giving birth in 2005, with median ages of 31.5 years and 31.4 years respectively. The Northern Territory and Tasmania had the youngest mothers, with median ages of 27.9 years and 29.4 years respectively. The national median age of all mothers giving birth in 2005 was 30.7 years.

While the median age of mothers has been increasing in each state and territory in recent years, in 2005 the median age of mothers declined in South Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory compared with 2004.

The Northern Territory and Tasmania also had the youngest fathers in 2005, with median ages of 31.6 years and 32.0 years respectively, while Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory had the oldest fathers, with median ages of 33.5 years and 33.4 years respectively.

Nuptiality

In 2005, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest proportion of births to parents in a registered marriage (73% each), followed by New South Wales (72%).

The highest proportions of births to women who were not in a registered marriage were recorded in the Northern Territory (63%) and Tasmania (48%), with these regions also recording the highest proportions of births where paternity was not acknowledged (21% and 8% respectively).

BIRTHS AS A COMPONENT OF POPULATION GROWTH

Births form an important component of population growth. Currently just over a quarter of a million births occur in Australia annually. This is roughly twice the number of deaths, resulting in natural increase of around 125,000 people each year. Since 1976 Australian fertility has been below replacement level; that is, below the number of births required

BIRTHS AS A COMPONENT
OF POPULATION GROWTH
continued

to replace a woman and her partner (currently around 2.1). On current fertility rates, each woman can expect, on average, to have 1.81 babies over her lifetime. Despite this, natural increase is still positive because of the relatively young age structure of Australia's population. While the number of births per woman is low, there are enough women currently in childbearing ages to keep the total number of births relatively high. Conversely, there are relatively few people at older ages, resulting in a relatively low number of deaths per year. As the population ages, the difference between numbers of births and deaths will decrease. Based on Series B of the most recent ABS population projections (*Population Projections, Australia, 2004 to 2101*, cat. no. 3222.0), the number of births is projected to fall below the number of deaths in 2044; that is, natural increase is projected to fall below zero in 2044.

2.9 COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE BY YEAR (a)

	Births(b)	Deaths(b)	Natural increase	Net overseas migration	Population at end of period	Population increase(c)	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
1985	242.9	116.8	126.1	89.3	15 900.6	223.3	1.4
1986	243.4	115.0	128.4	110.7	16 138.8	238.2	1.5
1987	244.0	117.3	126.6	136.1	16 394.6	255.9	1.6
1988	246.2	119.9	126.3	172.8	16 687.1	292.4	1.8
1989	250.9	124.2	126.6	129.5	16 936.7	249.6	1.5
1990	262.6	120.1	142.6	97.1	17 169.8	233.0	1.4
1991	259.1	119.7	139.4	81.7	17 387.0	217.3	1.3
1992	262.1	122.9	139.2	51.4	17 581.3	194.3	1.1
1993	258.6	120.8	137.8	34.8	17 760.0	178.7	1.0
1994	258.4	127.0	131.4	55.5	17 951.5	191.5	1.1
1995	254.9	125.1	129.8	106.9	18 196.1	244.6	1.4
1996	252.9	128.2	124.7	97.4	18 420.3	224.3	1.2
1997	251.1	128.8	122.3	72.4	18 609.1	188.8	1.0
1998	248.3	127.4	120.8	88.8	18 814.3	205.2	1.1
1999	250.2	128.2	122.0	104.2	19 038.3	224.1	1.2
2000	249.2	128.8	120.4	111.4	19 272.6	234.3	1.2
2001	246.6	128.8	117.8	136.1	19 529.3	256.6	1.3
2002	248.1	133.0	115.1	110.5	19 754.8	225.6	1.2
2003	249.3	131.8	117.6	110.1	19 982.5	227.7	1.2
2004	249.9	132.4	117.5	106.4	20 206.4	223.9	1.1
2005	p265.0	p131.1	p133.9	p135.9	p20 476.2	p269.8	p1.3

p preliminary figure or series subject to revision

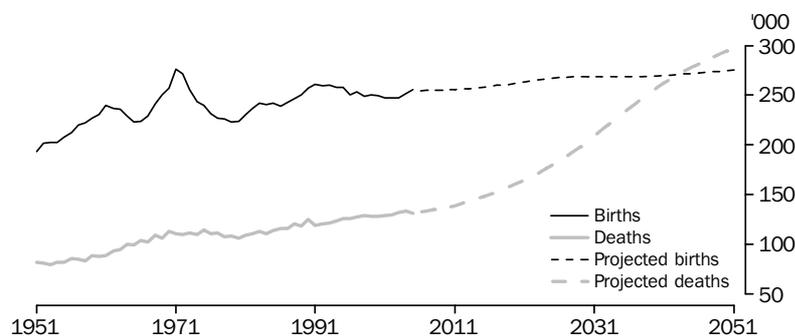
(a) Calendar year.

(b) For 2004 and earlier years, births and deaths in this table are based on year of occurrence, for population estimation purposes. For 2005, a combination of data based on quarter of birth (for the March and June quarters) and quarter of registration (for the September and December quarters) is used, as only incomplete year of occurrence data for 2005 are currently available. Numbers of births in this table may therefore differ from data elsewhere in this publication.

(c) Population increase will not necessarily equal the sum of natural increase and net overseas migration due to the inclusion of intercensal discrepancy. See Glossary for more information.

BIRTHS AS A COMPONENT
OF POPULATION GROWTH
continued

2.10 ACTUAL AND PROJECTED BIRTHS AND DEATHS (a)—Year ended 30 June



(a) Year of occurrence.

Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics, 2006 (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001)
Australian Demographic Statistics, March Quarter 2006 (cat. no. 3101.0)
Population Projections, Australia, 2004 to 2101 (cat. no. 3222.0) (Series B)

INTERNATIONAL FERTILITY

According to the United Nations, the projected world average TFR for 2000–05 is 2.7 babies per woman, declining from the relatively constant 5.0 births per woman that existed until the late 1960s. However, TFRs for individual countries vary considerably. There are many factors that can influence a country's fertility rate, such as differences in social and economic development and contraceptive prevalence. In general, developing countries have higher fertility rates while developed countries have lower rates.

Australia's TFR for 2005 of 1.81 babies per woman is well below the world's average, although compared to other developed countries it is among the middle ranked nations. According to United Nations projections, in 2000–05 the lowest fertility for developed countries will be in European countries such as Spain, Italy, Greece and Germany (each with a projected fertility rate of 1.3). Hong Kong's projected fertility rate of 0.9 is one of the lowest in the world. Middle Eastern and African countries have the highest fertility rates, with Niger (7.9), Afghanistan (7.5) and Uganda (7.1) some of the highest. East Timor also has a high fertility rate, of 7.8 babies per woman.

Projected fertility rates for the United States of America and New Zealand (both 2.0) are higher than Australia, rates for the United Kingdom (1.7) and Canada (1.5) are lower, while Japan's projected TFR of 1.3 for 2000–05 is considerably lower than Australia's.

2.11 INTERNATIONAL TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, 1960–65 to 2000–05

	1960–65	1965–70	1970–75	1975–80	1980–85	1985–90	1990–95	1995–2000	2000–05(a)
Australia	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8
Canada	3.6	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5
China	5.7	6.1	4.9	3.3	2.6	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.7
France	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9
Germany	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Greece	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Hong Kong	5.3	4.0	2.9	2.3	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9
India	5.8	5.7	5.4	4.8	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.5	3.1
Indonesia	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.8
Italy	2.5	2.5	2.3	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3
Japan	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Korea, Republic of	5.6	4.7	4.3	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.8
Malaysia	6.7	5.9	5.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9
New Zealand	4.0	3.4	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
Niger	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.9
Papua New Guinea	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.1
Singapore	4.9	3.5	2.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.4
Somalia	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.4
Spain	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3
Sweden	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.6
United Kingdom	2.8	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7
United States of America	3.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0
Viet Nam	7.3	7.3	6.7	5.9	4.5	4.0	3.3	2.5	2.3
Yemen	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.3	7.8	7.3	6.2
World	5.0	4.9	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.7

(a) Projected 2000–05 total fertility rates use the medium variant.

Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision, <<http://esa.un.org/unpp>>.

2.12 SUMMARY, Australia—Selected years

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
FERTILITY									
Age-specific fertility rates(a)									
15–19 years(b)	22.8	22.1	20.4	17.7	17.7	17.4	16.3	16.3	16.0
20–24 years	95.8	79.4	67.1	59.2	58.0	56.5	54.5	53.4	52.9
25–29 years	146.0	137.9	121.7	107.9	104.4	104.7	102.9	102.5	103.0
30–34 years	89.0	101.7	106.0	109.5	107.9	111.3	112.5	114.4	117.5
35–39 years	26.9	34.7	42.3	48.7	49.0	52.2	54.3	57.4	60.6
40–44 years	4.5	5.5	7.2	8.7	9.2	9.7	10.0	10.6	10.9
45–49 years(c)	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total fertility rate(d)	1.923	1.902	1.822	1.756	1.729	1.759	1.754	1.774	1.806
Net reproduction rate(e)	0.920	0.908	0.875	0.844	0.833	0.848	0.842	0.853	0.865
BIRTHS									
Total births	247 348	262 648	256 190	249 636	246 394	250 988	251 161	254 246	259 791
Males	126 813	135 194	131 432	128 190	126 298	128 623	129 193	130 600	133 428
Females	120 535	127 454	124 758	121 446	120 096	122 365	121 968	123 646	126 363
Sex ratio	105.2	106.1	105.3	105.6	105.2	105.1	105.9	105.6	105.6
Indigenous births registered(f)	903	2 497	6 640	10 895	11 405	11 488	11 740	12 006	12 078
Nuptial births (%)	84.5	78.1	73.4	70.8	69.3	68.7	68.4	67.8	67.8
Exnuptial births (%)	15.5	21.9	26.6	29.2	30.7	31.3	31.6	32.2	32.2
Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged (%)	4.9	5.0	4.4	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.2
Crude birth rate	15.7	15.4	14.2	13.0	12.7	12.8	12.6	12.7	12.8
CONFINEMENTS									
Total confinements	244 672	259 435	252 708	245 697	242 340	246 821	247 089	250 045	255 481
Nuptial	206 739	202 585	185 378	173 571	167 572	169 385	168 777	169 312	172 894
First nuptial	82 860	84 228	75 606	74 648	70 861	71 691	72 164	72 808	74 159
Exnuptial	37 933	56 850	67 330	72 126	74 768	77 436	78 312	80 733	82 587
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	25 879	43 825	56 071	63 634	65 710	68 179	69 055	72 002	74 340
Median age of mother (years)									
All confinements	27.3	28.3	29.1	29.8	30.0	30.2	30.5	30.6	30.7
Nuptial	27.8	29.0	30.1	30.8	31.0	31.2	31.4	31.6	31.7
First nuptial	26.3	27.6	28.6	29.5	29.8	30.1	30.3	30.4	30.5
Exnuptial	23.1	24.0	24.9	26.1	26.2	26.5	26.7	26.9	27.0
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	23.6	24.5	25.2	26.4	26.5	26.7	26.9	27.1	27.2
Median age of father (years)									
All fathers where age is known	30.1	30.9	31.7	32.2	32.3	32.5	32.6	32.8	32.9
Nuptial	30.4	31.4	32.5	33.1	33.2	33.3	33.5	33.6	33.7
First nuptial	28.7	29.8	30.9	31.6	31.8	32.0	32.2	32.4	32.5
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	26.5	27.3	27.8	28.9	29.0	29.3	29.6	29.7	29.8
Median duration of marriage (years)									
Nuptial	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
First nuptial	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4
Previous confinements of the current relationship(g)									
0	82 860	84 228	75 606	74 648	70 861	71 691	72 164	72 808	74 159
1	73 114	68 301	66 175	61 807	61 076	62 069	61 693	61 484	62 809
2	34 774	34 026	30 252	25 592	24 785	25 575	25 200	25 275	25 394
3	11 246	11 179	9 200	7 832	7 259	6 829	6 585	6 524	7 101
4	2 867	3 089	2 504	2 205	2 110	1 916	1 835	1 879	2 038
5 and over	1 877	1 761	1 641	1 487	1 481	1 305	1 300	1 342	1 393
Average number of confinements of the current relationship(g)	1.96	1.95	1.94	1.89	1.89	1.88	1.87	1.87	1.87

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(d) Births per woman.

(e) Daughters surviving to reproductive age per woman.

(f) Due to changes in coverage of Indigenous births, care should be taken when interpreting change in the number of Indigenous births over time.

(g) Nuptial confinements only.

2.13 SUMMARY, State and territories—2005

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust. (a)
FERTILITY									
Age-specific fertility rates(b)									
15–19 years(c)	13.5	10.1	20.5	18.9	20.6	26.6	64.1	9.5	16.0
20–24 years	51.7	39.9	63.7	55.2	58.0	81.1	108.3	33.7	52.9
25–29 years	102.7	93.4	110.1	110.0	105.9	128.8	121.0	85.0	103.0
30–34 years	118.6	122.4	110.9	112.9	117.8	119.7	96.8	122.6	117.5
35–39 years	63.1	66.4	53.7	51.0	58.5	52.6	57.6	67.4	60.6
40–44 years	11.5	11.9	9.5	9.1	10.4	8.5	10.3	12.1	10.9
45–49 years(d)	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5
Total fertility rate(e)	1.808	1.722	1.846	1.793	1.860	2.101	2.293	1.652	1.806
Net reproduction rate(f)	0.865	0.830	0.879	0.863	0.887	1.013	1.070	0.800	0.865
BIRTHS									
Total births	86 589	63 287	51 661	17 800	26 253	6 308	3 659	4 206	259 791
Males	44 542	32 309	26 702	9 092	13 525	3 230	1 889	2 127	133 428
Females	42 047	30 978	24 959	8 708	12 728	3 078	1 770	2 079	126 363
Sex ratio	105.9	104.3	107.0	104.4	106.3	104.9	106.7	102.3	105.6
Indigenous births registered(g)	3 139	802	3 657	718	1 763	415	1 485	98	12 078
Nuptial births (%)	72.1	72.9	61.8	63.4	63.2	51.5	36.7	72.7	67.8
Exnuptial births (%)	27.9	27.1	38.2	36.6	36.8	48.5	63.3	27.3	32.2
Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged (%)	2.9	1.8	3.5	3.4	3.7	8.0	20.9	2.5	3.2
Crude birth rate	12.8	12.6	13.0	11.5	13.1	13.0	18.0	12.9	12.8
CONFINEMENTS									
Total confinements	85 172	62 169	50 812	17 514	25 818	6 217	3 613	4 138	255 481
Nuptial	61 377	45 279	31 325	11 081	16 287	3 193	1 325	3 004	172 894
First nuptial	25 951	20 508	12 761	4 842	6 872	1 289	602	1 326	74 159
Exnuptial	23 795	16 890	19 487	6 433	9 531	3 024	2 288	1 134	82 587
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	21 341	15 779	17 712	5 843	8 581	2 520	1 530	1 029	74 340
Median age of mother (years)									
All confinements	30.9	31.5	29.9	30.1	30.4	29.4	27.9	31.4	30.7
Nuptial	31.6	32.1	31.3	31.3	31.7	31.2	31.1	31.9	31.7
First nuptial	30.4	31.0	30.1	30.1	30.6	30.2	30.2	30.9	30.5
Exnuptial	27.3	28.6	26.1	26.4	26.4	25.6	25.2	28.7	27.0
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	27.4	28.6	26.3	26.7	26.6	25.8	26.5	28.8	27.2
Median age of father (years)									
All fathers where age is known	33.1	33.5	32.2	32.6	32.8	32.0	31.6	33.4	32.9
Nuptial	33.8	34.0	33.3	33.5	33.9	33.5	33.5	33.9	33.7
First nuptial	32.4	32.8	32.0	32.3	32.6	32.5	32.5	32.7	32.5
Exnuptial paternity acknowledged	30.1	30.9	28.9	29.6	29.4	28.6	29.4	31.1	29.8
Median duration of marriage (years)									
Nuptial	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.7	4.3	4.4
First nuptial	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.4
Previous confinements of the current relationship(h)									
0	25 951	20 508	12 761	4 842	6 872	1 289	602	1 326	74 159
1	22 351	15 918	11 520	4 190	6 028	1 204	441	1 152	62 809
2	9 250	6 417	4 757	1 492	2 396	491	196	390	25 394
3	2 632	1 659	1 462	402	655	142	58	91	7 101
4	749	451	462	85	207	39	17	24	2 038
5 and over	444	326	363	70	129	28	11	21	1 393
Average number of confinements of the current relationship(h)	1.89	1.83	1.94	1.82	1.88	1.92	1.86	1.81	1.87

(a) Includes Other Territories.

(b) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(e) Births per woman.

(f) Daughters surviving to reproductive age per woman.

(g) Coverage of Indigenous births varies between states and territories. See Chapter 3 and table 9.1.

(h) Nuptial confinements only.

INTRODUCTION

Birth registrations classify a birth as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin (Indigenous) where at least one parent identified as being of Indigenous origin. Indigenous fertility, on the other hand, refers to births to Indigenous mothers. This chapter reports on the numbers and characteristics of Indigenous births and fertility in each state and territory, where the quality of Indigenous birth registrations data is regarded as satisfactory for analysis. Data for the Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories (comprising Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay territory) are not analysed separately because of small numbers and poor coverage, but are included in figures for total Australia.

Implied coverage of Indigenous births

Some Indigenous births are not identified as such when they are registered. Implied coverage of Indigenous births, presented in table 9.1, is calculated to provide an estimate of the extent to which Indigenous births in each state and territory are identified as Indigenous. It is defined as the ratio of the number of Indigenous births registered for the period 2001–2005 to the corresponding number of projected Indigenous births obtained from the low series of *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0).

The implied coverage of Indigenous births in Australia for the period 2001–2005 was 95%. Coverage for the states and territories ranged from 76% in the Australian Capital Territory to 108% in the Northern Territory. The figure of 108% implies that in the Northern Territory, more Indigenous births were registered in the period 2001–2005 than were projected for the same period.

TRENDS IN INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

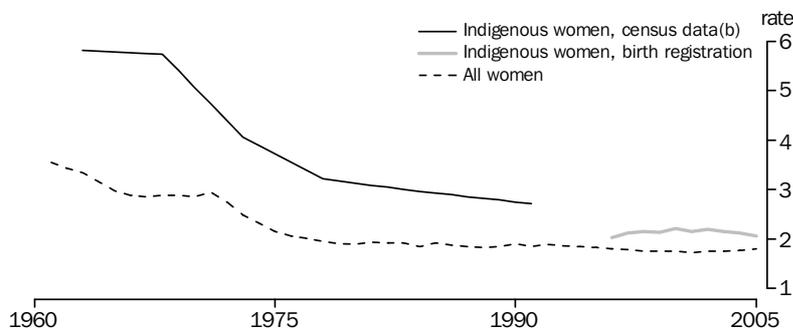
In the early 1960s, the total fertility rate of Indigenous women (5.8 babies per woman) was around two-thirds higher than the rate recorded for all women in Australia (3.5 babies). Since then, fertility levels of both Indigenous and all women have declined substantially, with the largest decreases being recorded during the 1970s. While the fertility of all women began a decline in the 1960s, the fertility levels of Indigenous women remained relatively stable during the 1960s, to be followed by a sharp decline during the 1970s. Fertility of Indigenous women declined to a low of 2.0 babies per woman in 1996, however, the lower implied coverage of Indigenous births in that year (at around 80%) may distort analysis. In 2005 the TFR for Indigenous women was 2.06 babies per woman, compared with 1.81 babies for all women. As coverage of Indigenous births for the period 2001–2005 is estimated at 95% (see table 9.1), the true difference between fertility for the two populations may be slightly understated.

TRENDS IN INDIGENOUS FERTILITY *continued*

Graph 3.1 presents total fertility rates for Indigenous and all women for the period 1961 to 2005. Due to the poor quality of historical Indigenous birth registration data, fertility rates of Indigenous women up to 1996 were derived using data collected in the Australian censuses (Gray, 1997). With improvements in coverage from 1996, birth registrations data has been used from 1996 onwards.

The 2005 TFR for Indigenous women was derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2005 and the projected 2005 population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females obtained from the low series of *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0).

3.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES (a)



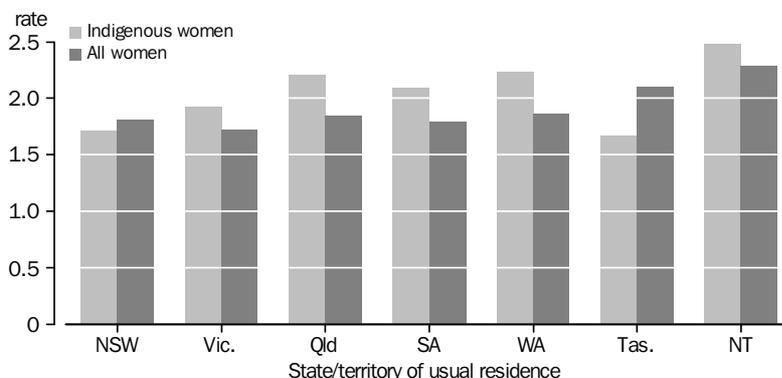
(a) Births per woman.
 (b) Five-year TFRs (from 1961–66 to 1981–86) and ten-year TFR (1986–96) plotted against the middle year of the period.

Source: Gray (1997).

STATE VARIATIONS IN FERTILITY

Indigenous TFRs vary between the states and territories. The Northern Territory (2.5 babies per woman) recorded the highest fertility in 2005 followed by Western Australia and Queensland (each 2.2), South Australia (2.1), Victoria (1.9) and New South Wales and Tasmania (each 1.7).

3.2 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES (a)(b)—2005

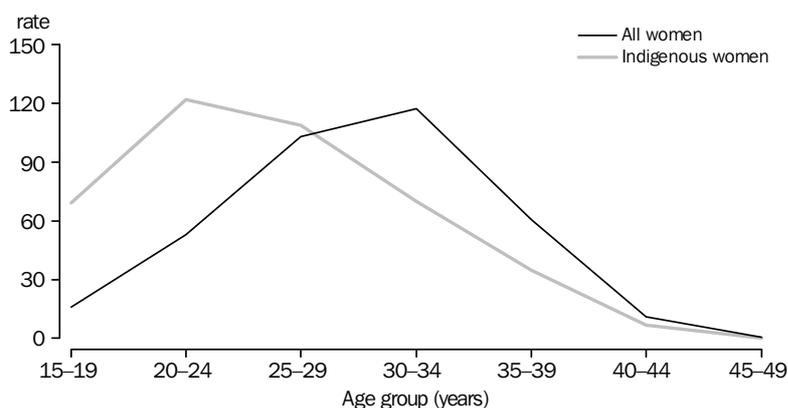


(a) Births per woman.
 (b) ACT not included due to small numbers of Indigenous births.

Age-specific fertility

High fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2005, three-quarters of the total fertility of Indigenous women was accounted for by women under 30 years of age, compared to less than half of the fertility for all women.

3.3 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (a)—2005

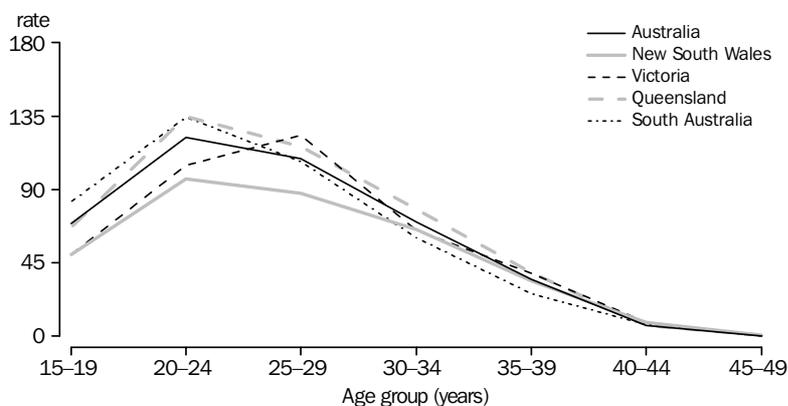


(a) Births per 1,000 women.

For Indigenous women, the peak age group for births in 2005 was the 20–24 year age group (with 122 babies per 1,000 women), followed by women aged 25–29 years (109 babies). In contrast, the peak age group for all women was 30–34 years (118 babies).

In 2005 the teenage fertility rate of Indigenous women (69 babies per 1,000 women) was more than four times the fertility rate of all teenage women (16 babies), while fertility of Indigenous women aged 20–24 years (122 babies) was more than twice the fertility of all women in this age group (53 babies). Conversely, fertility of Indigenous women aged 30 years and over was lower than that of all women.

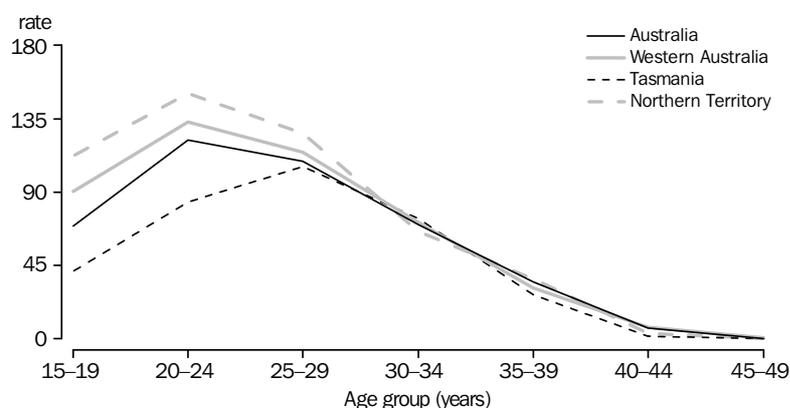
3.4 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (a), Indigenous women, Selected states/territories — 2005



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

Age-specific fertility
continued

3.5 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (a), Indigenous women, Selected states/territories — 2005



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

In general, Indigenous women in the Northern Territory experienced higher age-specific fertility than Indigenous women in other states and territories, with rates for women aged 15–19 years (112 babies per 1,000 women), 20–24 years (151 babies) and 25–29 years (126 babies) the highest of all the states and territories. For Indigenous women aged 30–34 years, the Northern Territory's fertility rate (66 babies per 1,000 women) was the fourth highest, after Queensland (78 babies), Tasmania (74 babies) and Western Australia (72 babies).

Indigenous teenage
fertility rates for the
states and territories

In 2005, of the 450 births to teenage mothers (women aged under 20 years) in the Northern Territory, 79% (360 births) were births where at least one parent was identified as Indigenous.

In 2005, 17% of births to teenage women were to women who were Indigenous. Further, births to teenage Indigenous women accounted for 21% of all births to Indigenous women. By comparison, births to all teenage women accounted for 4% of all births.

In 2005, the teenage fertility rate of Indigenous women living in the Northern Territory was 112 babies per 1,000 women, seven times the rate of all teenage women in Australia (16 babies). Western Australian Indigenous teenagers experienced the second highest fertility rate of the states and territories (90 babies), followed by South Australia (83 babies) and Queensland (67 babies). Teenage fertility rates for Indigenous women were lowest in Tasmania (41 babies per 1,000 women) and Victoria and New South Wales (50 babies per 1,000 women each).

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

There were 12,100 births registered in Australia during 2005 where at least one parent was of Indigenous origin, accounting for 5% of total births. Queensland and New South Wales, the two most populous states in terms of Indigenous population, registered the highest number of Indigenous births (3,700 and 3,100 births respectively), followed by Western Australia and the Northern Territory (1,800 and 1,500 births respectively). It is important to consider the issue of coverage of Indigenous births (table 9.1) when using these figures.

Indigenous status of parents

In 2005 around one-third (30%) of Indigenous births occurred where both parents were Indigenous, while 41% of Indigenous births occurred where only the mother was Indigenous (including births where paternity was not acknowledged and those where the father's Indigenous status was unknown). The remaining 29% of Indigenous births occurred where the father was Indigenous and the mother was non-Indigenous (including births where the mother's Indigenous status was not stated).

Median age of parents

Overall, Indigenous women have children at younger ages than all women. In 2005 the median age of Indigenous mothers was 24.5 years, six years lower than the median age of all mothers (30.7 years). Of the states and territories, Indigenous mothers living in the Northern Territory (23.6 years) and South Australia (23.4 years) had the lowest median ages, followed by Indigenous mothers in Western Australia (23.7 years) and Queensland (24.9 years).

Irrespective of Indigenous status, fathers of Indigenous births (with a median age of 28.0 years) were younger than all fathers (32.9 years). Western Australia recorded the lowest median age of fathers of Indigenous births (27.0 years) in 2005, followed by South Australia (27.4 years).

Nuptiality

In 2005, 86% of births to Indigenous women were exnuptial births, that is, births to women who were not in a registered or tribal marriage, compared to 32% of all births. Exnuptial births where the father did not sign the birth registration statement (that is, paternity-not-acknowledged) accounted for 18% of births to Indigenous mothers, compared to 3% of all births.

At the state and territory level the highest proportions of exnuptial Indigenous births were recorded in the Northern Territory where 96% of all Indigenous births were exnuptial, and in Western Australia (88%). In the Northern Territory, nearly half of all Indigenous births (45%) were exnuptial births in which paternity was not acknowledged.

BIRTH WEIGHT

Birth weight is a key indicator of the relative health status of babies. A comparison of the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers with all babies shows that Indigenous babies are generally smaller. According to the Perinatal Data Collection (AIHW, 2005) the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers in 2003 was 3,160 grams, 220 grams lower than the national average for all babies (3,380 grams). The average birth weight of babies to Indigenous mothers varied across the states and territories, ranging from 3,100 grams in the Northern Territory to 3,200 grams in both Queensland and New South Wales.

Babies are defined as being of low birth weight if their birth weight is less than 2,500 grams. In 2003, 13% of babies to Indigenous mothers were of low birth weight, more than twice the rate of babies of non-Indigenous mothers (6%).

**INTERNATIONAL
INDIGENOUS FERTILITY**

In 2005 the TFR for Australian Indigenous mothers (2.06) was lower than that for New Zealand Maori women (2.6 babies per woman). In 2004, the latest year for which American Indian fertility rates are available, the TFR for Australian Indigenous women was 0.4 babies per woman higher than that of American Indian women.

INTERNATIONAL
INDIGENOUS FERTILITY
continued

The differences are reflected in age-specific fertility rates for the different populations, with Maori women having higher rates than Australian Indigenous women and American Indian women in all age groups except 15–19 years.

3.6 INDIGENOUS FERTILITY RATES, Selected countries

	NEW ZEALAND MAORI WOMEN		AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS WOMEN	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Age-specific fertility rates(a)				
15–19 years(b)	52.5	66.6	70.9	69.2
20–24 years	109.7	146.6	127.7	121.9
25–29 years	92.8	135.3	108.9	108.9
30–34 years	58.0	104.0	72.4	69.8
35–39 years	26.8	54.2	34.4	34.8
40–44 years	6.0	13.5	7.9	6.5
45–49 years(c)	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total fertility rate(d)	1.734	2.603	2.113	2.057

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years for Australian Indigenous women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(d) Births per woman. Includes births to women aged 10–14 years for American Indian and New Zealand Maori women.

Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centre for Health Statistics, <<http://www.cdc.gov>> for American Indian data. Statistics New Zealand <<http://www.stats.govt.nz>> for New Zealand Maori data.

INTRODUCTION

Increases in the number of births registered in Australia in recent years have generated much interest and discussion about fertility in Australia. Some commentators have speculated whether this is the beginning of a change to Australia's low and historically declining fertility level. There has been discussion about whether this is due to changes in the population of women of reproductive ages, or to an increase in fertility rates.

This article investigates the effect of the number of women in reproductive ages, their age-structure and fertility rates on the number of births over the past ten years by using three scenarios designed to isolate the impact of each factor. Conclusions about which factor(s) have contributed to recent increases in the number of births are then drawn based on this analysis.

RECENT TRENDS IN
FEMALE POPULATION SIZE
AND AGE-STRUCTURE

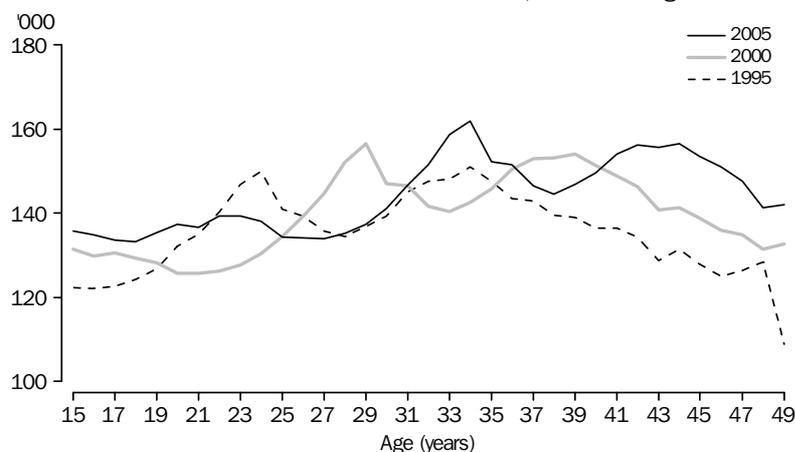
The number of women aged 15–49 years (women in reproductive ages) has increased from 4.7 million in 1995 to 5.1 million in 2005, representing an average increase of 0.6% each year. The population in this age group can increase due to overseas migration as well as the net effect of ageing (whereby more women turn 15 each year, thus entering the 15–49 year age group, than turn 50 each year, thus exiting this age group). Migration is the main source of growth. In 2005, net overseas migration contributed 40,900 women to the 15–49 year age group. Mortality will remove a small number of women in this age range.

The population of women aged 15–49 years is ageing over time. In 1995, 42% of women in reproductive ages were aged 15–29 years (women approaching their peak fertility years) and 42% were aged 35–49 years (women passing their peak fertility years). In 2005, 40% were aged 15–29 years and 45% were aged 35–49 years.

Women born in around 1971, the daughters of people born in the early years of the post war 'baby boom', form a prominent wave in the population of women moving through their peak fertility years (graph 4.1). These women were aged 24 years in 1995, 29 years in 2000, and 34 years in 2005.

RECENT TRENDS IN
FEMALE POPULATION SIZE
AND AGE-STRUCTURE
continued

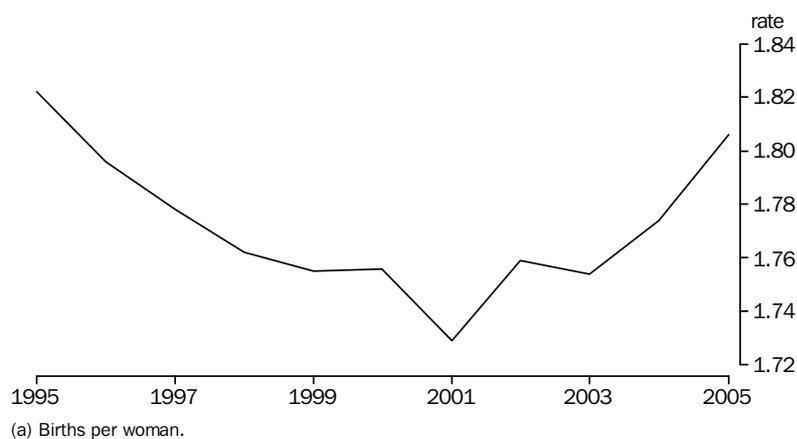
4.1 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Women aged 15–49 years



RECENT TRENDS IN
FERTILITY

Over the past ten years the total fertility rate gradually declined from 1.82 babies per woman in 1995 to 1.73 in 2001, before gradually increasing to 1.81 in 2005. Over this period the trend towards motherhood at older ages has continued, with peak age-specific fertility increasing from 29.1 years in 1995 to 30.7 years in 2005.

4.2 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), Australia



BIRTHS AS A FUNCTION OF POPULATION AND FERTILITY

Female population size, age-structure and fertility rates are interacting factors that contribute to the number of births each year. Age-specific fertility rates are calculated as the number of births to women of a given age divided by the population of women of the same age. This equation can be rearranged such that the number of births to women of a given age equals the age-specific fertility rate multiplied by the population of women of the same age.

That is, for any year, the number of births to mothers aged 'a' years $B(a)$ can be expressed as follows:

$$B(a) = ASFR(a) \times N(a)$$

where $ASFR(a)$ is the age-specific fertility rate for age 'a', and $N(a)$ is the number of women aged 'a' years.

$N(a)$ can also be expressed as the product of the number of women (N) of reproductive ages, and the proportion of women of reproductive ages who are aged 'a' years $P(a)$.

Hence

$$B(a) = ASFR(a) \times P(a) \times N$$

Summing over all 'a' within the reproductive age range (that is, from 15–49 years) gives the following expression for the total number of births in any year:

$$B = \text{Sum} [ASFR(a) \times P(a) \times N]$$

Using this expression, the factors of population size, age-structure and fertility can be manipulated to illustrate how different scenarios of population and fertility can lead to different outcomes for the number of births. More specifically, the impact of these factors on the number of births can be revealed by holding each of them constant, one at a time. In essence, holding a factor constant suppresses its effect on the number of births. The expected number of births derived from such a scenario reveals what would happen to the number of births if changes in that factor were absent.

ISOLATING FACTORS INFLUENCING THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS

Three scenarios were formulated to reveal the effect of female population size, age-structure and fertility on the number of births:

- Scenario 1 gives the "expected" number of births for each year for 1995 to 2005 that would have resulted if the size of the female population of reproductive ages throughout this period were held constant at the 1995 level. This was achieved by applying the 1995 female population size to the female age-structure for each year 1995–2005 to obtain a pseudo female population, by age, for each of these years. Age-specific fertility rates were then applied to these pseudo populations to obtain the expected number of births for each year.
- Scenario 2 gives the expected number of births if the age-structure of the female population were held constant at 1995 levels. This was achieved by applying the 1995 female age-structure to the female populations for 1995–2005 to obtain pseudo populations for each of these years. Age-specific fertility rates were then applied to these pseudo populations to obtain the expected number of births for each year.
- Scenario 3 gives the expected number of births if fertility were held constant at 1995 levels. The expected number of births were obtained by applying 1995 age-specific fertility rates to the female populations for each year 1995–2005.

4.3 NUMBER OF OBSERVED AND EXPECTED BIRTHS

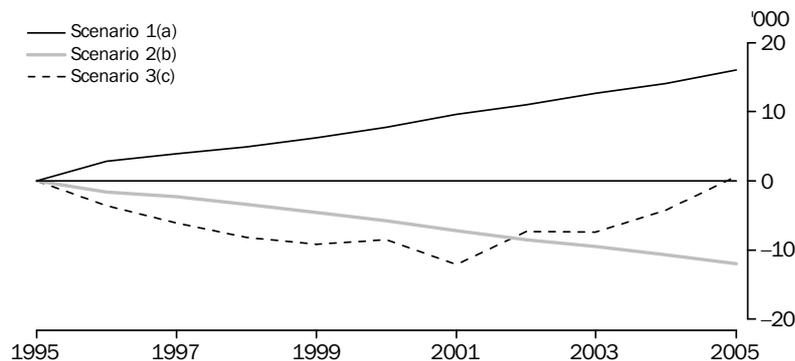
	EXPECTED BIRTHS				DIFFERENCE (OBSERVED MINUS EXPECTED)		
	Observed births	Scenario 1: Population size constant	Scenario 2: Age-structure constant	Scenario 3: Fertility constant	Scenario 1: Population size constant	Scenario 2: Age-structure constant	Scenario 3: Fertility constant
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
1995	256 190	256 190	256 190	256 190	..	..	..
1996	253 834	251 013	255 495	257 420	2 821	-1 661	-3 586
1997	251 842	247 965	254 089	257 950	3 877	-2 247	-6 108
1998	249 616	244 757	252 985	257 846	4 859	-3 369	-8 230
1999	248 870	242 655	253 478	257 995	6 215	-4 608	-9 125
2000	249 636	241 864	255 465	258 162	7 772	-5 829	-8 526
2001	246 394	236 851	253 585	258 519	9 543	-7 191	-12 125
2002	250 988	239 939	259 446	258 265	11 049	-8 458	-7 277
2003	251 161	238 526	260 682	258 620	12 635	-9 521	-7 459
2004	254 246	240 199	264 981	258 529	14 047	-10 735	-4 283
2005	259 791	243 812	271 781	259 131	15 979	-11 990	660

.. not applicable

ISOLATING FACTORS
INFLUENCING THE
NUMBER OF BIRTHS
continued

The impact of a given factor (population size, age-structure or fertility) on the number of births is revealed by the difference between the observed (or actual) number of births and the expected number of births derived from that scenario. A higher number of expected births implies that the number of observed births would have been higher without the presence of changes in that factor. In this case the factor is having a negative impact on the actual number of births. Conversely, a lower number of expected births implies that the number of observed births would have been lower without the presence of changes in that factor. In this case, the factor is having a positive impact on the number of births.

4.4 DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OBSERVED AND EXPECTED BIRTHS



(a) Female population at 30 June 1995 held constant.
 (b) Age distribution of the female population at 30 June 1995 held constant.
 (c) Age-specific fertility rates for 1995 held constant.

THE EFFECT OF FEMALE POPULATION SIZE, AGE-STRUCTURE AND FERTILITY ON THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS

The first scenario illustrates that over the past ten years, the increase in population of women in reproductive ages has had an increasingly positive impact on the number of births. This constant population size scenario leads to a consistently lower number of expected births compared to observed births, implying that without a growing female population in reproductive ages, the number of births would have been lower (graph 4.4).

The second scenario illustrates that the ageing of the population of women in reproductive ages over the past ten years has had an increasingly negative impact on the number of births. This scenario leads to a consistently higher number of expected births compared to observed births, implying that without a changing age-structure (that is, if the age-structure had remained at 1995 levels), the number of births would have been higher.

The third scenario illustrates that over the past ten years, changes in fertility had an increasingly negative impact on the number of births until the turn of the century. However, from 2002 onwards the negative impact reduced in influence. The expected number of births increasingly began to approach the observed number of births implying that fertility was returning to levels similar to that of 1995. By 2005, the expected number of births was lower than the observed number of births. Although the age-specific fertility rate schedules in 1995 and 2005 differ, fertility rates had increased sufficiently over the few years to 2005 so as to eliminate the negative impact lower fertility rates have had on the number of births during each of the preceding years.

CONCLUSION

Over the past ten years population growth had a positive impact on the number of births, while ageing of the female population had a negative impact. Declining fertility had an increasingly negative impact on the number of births until 2001. Between 2002 and 2004, fertility gradually improved, but not to the levels required to have a positive impact on the number of births. The improvement in fertility rates over the few years to 2005 was substantial enough to eliminate the impact of declining fertility rates in the late 1990s.

4.5 FEMALE POPULATION (a), Financial year of birth



(a) Estimated resident population at 30 June 2005.

CONCLUSION *continued*

In considering the results, it is worth noting possible future changes to the size and age structure of the female population in reproductive ages. The number of births in Australia declined rapidly from the peak in the early 1970s and stabilised in the 1980s and 1990s and this has largely determined the age structure of Australia's female population (graph 4.5). Accordingly, the speed at which the population of women in reproductive ages grows over the next 15 years is projected to slow (graph 4.6), with the annual rate of growth decreasing to a low point of only 0.02% in 2021, when the large cohort of women born in 1971 move into their 50s.

However, focussing on the number of women aged 25–34 years, who have the highest fertility of all age groups, there are greater changes in projected annual growth rates. As women born in the early 1970s are now in their mid 30s, the number of women aged 25–34 years is projected to initially decline and then start to increase before declining again by 2025. Increased fertility rates in future years will become even more important for sustaining the number of births each year to compensate for the slowing growth in the population of women in reproductive ages. Whilst increasing the population through net overseas migration may also increase the population of women in reproductive ages, it is past fertility rates of the Australian population which impact most on the number of women in reproductive years in the future.

4.6 WOMEN IN REPRODUCTIVE AGES, Projected annual growth rates (a)



Source: Population Projections, Australia, 2004 to 2101 (cat. no. 3222.0), Series B

INTRODUCTION

ABS birth statistics are based on information provided by state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages on births registered in their jurisdictions. There is usually an interval between the occurrence and registration of a birth, referred to in this article as a registration delay. In addition there may be some births that are never registered. Recently, demographic commentators have expressed concern that under-registration of births appears to be increasing and is introducing uncertainty in fertility rates reported by the ABS (McDonald 2005).

This article provides information about the registration process, and explores the magnitude and length of registration delays at the national and state level over the past ten years. Births registered in 2005 that occurred in 2004 or earlier years are reviewed in terms of their demographic characteristics such as age, Indigenous status and country of birth of mother, and nuptiality (that is, the registered marital status of the parents at the time of birth of the child).

USE OF AUSTRALIAN
BIRTHS STATISTICS

Australian birth statistics are used to produce quarterly estimates of natural increase (the difference between births and deaths) as a component of population change in the calculation of population estimates, and in the analysis of fertility in Australia. Trends in fertility are also used in the development of assumptions on future levels of fertility for population projections.

The primary uses of Australian population estimates are in the determination of the number of seats in the House of Representatives for each state and territory, as well as in the distribution of Australian Government funds to state, territory and local governments. Population estimates are also used for a wide range of government, community and business decisions, both directly and indirectly, by contributing to a range of other economic and social indicators.

Birth statistics provide information on the numbers of births, including the demographic characteristics of women having children (for example, by age and geographic distribution), and when used in conjunction with population estimates, allow the measurement of fertility. Fertility analysis informs a range of government and community decisions, particularly within the areas of demographic planning, family formation, planning for various demographic groups, health and education services.

THE BIRTH REGISTRATION PROCESS

The collection of births statistics in Australia dates back to 1839, when the first civil registration of births (as well as deaths and marriages) was enforced in Tasmania. Collected initially for purely administrative reasons, over the years the data became a valuable source of statistical information.

The collection, processing, compilation and dissemination of births data is the joint responsibility of the various state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages and the ABS. The registries are responsible for administering the registration process, while the ABS is responsible for the aggregation and production of births statistics.

The process of birth registration is closely linked with the administration of hospitals and birth clinics, where an overwhelming majority of births in Australia take place. Registries supply Birth Registration Statements (also known as the Birth Registration Form or Birth Registration Application in some states) to hospitals and birth clinics for distribution to parents. Parents return their completed registration form to the relevant registry, usually by mail. ABS birth statistics are collated from the information collected from these forms.

In addition to the distribution of birth registration forms, hospitals and birth clinics notify the registries of the occurrence of births on a regular basis. Midwives and doctors are also required to report births which they deliver away from hospitals and birth clinics (including home births). Births that the registry is notified of and that are not registered within a prescribed time period are followed up by sending a reminder letter to the parent(s).

DELAYS IN THE REGISTRATION OF A BIRTH

Parents are provided with a birth registration form by a midwife or other health professional shortly after the birth of their child. There is a legislative requirement to register a birth within 60 days, with the onus on the parent(s) to submit a completed birth registration form to the relevant state or territory registry (that is, the state or territory in which the birth occurred). It is then the responsibility of the registry to process the registration form. A delay in registration may therefore be the result of either a delay by the parent(s) in returning their completed registration form, or a delay by the registry in processing the form.

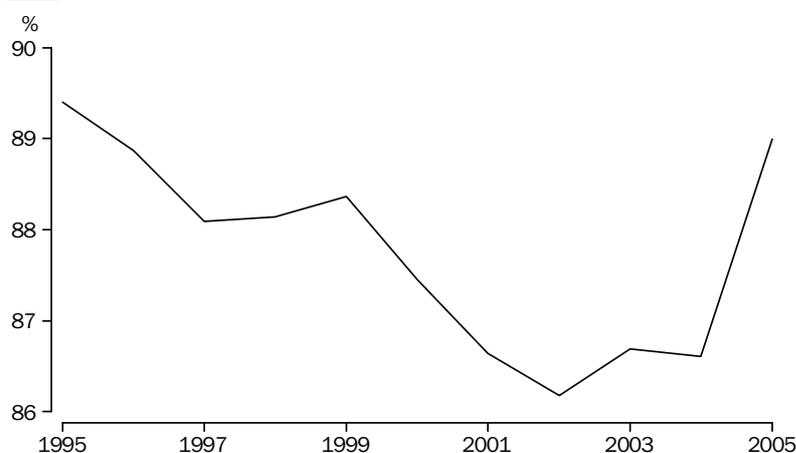
Delays in registering a birth by the parent(s) or the registry can arise for a variety of reasons. Despite the legislative requirement to register a child within 60 days of birth, the parent(s) may not return their form promptly. Delays in the processing of forms at the registry may be due to follow up activity due to missing information on the form, or periodic resource limitations.

BIRTHS THAT OCCURRED IN THE YEAR THEY WERE REGISTERED

Of the 259,800 births registered in 2005, 89.0% (231,200) occurred in 2005. The remaining 11.0% (28,600) occurred in 2004 or earlier years. Prior to 2005, the proportion of births that occurred in the year they were registered had been declining. In 1995, 89.4% of births registered in 1995 occurred in that year. By 2004 this proportion had declined to 86.6%. The increase in the proportion of births registered in 2005 that occurred in 2005 is largely attributable to recent changes to follow-up procedures introduced by the New South Wales Registry.

BIRTHS THAT OCCURRED
IN THE YEAR THEY WERE
REGISTERED *continued*

5.1 REGISTERED BIRTHS THAT OCCURRED IN THE YEAR OF REGISTRATION



Between 2004 and 2005 all states and territories experienced improvements in the timeliness of registrations. Prior to 2005, all states and territories except the Northern Territory and Tasmania had been experiencing decreases in the proportion of births registered in the same year as they occurred. Between 1995 and 2004, the proportion of births registered in the same year as they occurred decreased by 0.5 percentage points per year in Queensland (from 89.1% in 1995 to 84.7% in 2004), by 0.4 percentage points per year in Victoria, by 0.3 in New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia, and by 0.1 in the Australian Capital Territory.

5.2 REGISTERED BIRTHS THAT OCCURRED IN THE YEAR OF REGISTRATION

State/territory of registration	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	87.1	86.0	85.0	84.3	85.1	84.8	89.7
Victoria	91.4	89.6	88.4	87.6	88.2	88.3	89.6
Queensland	89.1	86.3	85.1	84.1	85.2	84.7	85.4
South Australia	91.9	89.4	90.0	89.3	90.1	89.3	90.9
Western Australia	90.2	87.4	88.7	87.9	86.1	87.7	88.9
Tasmania	90.6	85.8	84.0	93.5	93.9	93.4	94.3
Northern Territory	90.4	90.6	91.0	91.6	90.3	91.6	92.5
Australian Capital Territory	90.6	90.8	86.3	88.5	89.4	89.3	90.2
Australia	89.4	87.5	86.6	86.2	86.7	86.6	89.0

LENGTH OF DELAY IN
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS

The length of delay in registration can be calculated by comparing the year and month of registration of a birth with the year and month of occurrence of the birth. While more precise results would have been gained by comparing day of registration with day of birth, information relating to day of registration is not retained by the ABS.

LENGTH OF DELAY IN
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS
continued

The length of delays in registration have increased over time (table 5.3). The proportion of births registered up to one month after the occurrence of the birth decreased from 78.7% in 1995 to 74.7% in 2005. This declining proportion was somewhat offset by increasing proportions of births registered within two to 12 months. Delays of two to three months increased from 16.6% in 1995 to 18.2% in 2005, while delays of four to six months increased from 2.2% in 1995 to 3.0% in 2005.

The proportion of delayed registrations of four to five years, typically the age at which most children start school, increased from 0.2% in 1995 to 0.6% in 2004, then declining to 0.3% in 2005. Delays of greater than 10 years were increasing gradually over time, but returned to the 1995 levels in 2005.

5.3 LENGTH OF DELAY IN BIRTH REGISTRATION

	YEAR OF REGISTRATION						
	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<i>Delay in registration</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Up to one month after birth	78.7	69.9	71.9	70.7	70.7	70.5	74.7
2–3 months	16.6	22.3	19.8	20.8	20.6	20.4	18.2
4–6 months	2.2	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0
7–12 months	1.0	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.8
More than 1 year to 2 years	0.5	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.7
More than 2 years to 3 years	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3
More than 3 years to 4 years	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3
More than 4 years to 5 years	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.3
More than 5 years to 10 years	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.4
More than 10 years	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

At the national level, the decline in the proportion of registrations up to one month after the occurrence of a birth has been primarily driven by declines in Queensland (down from 76.9% of births in 1995 to 67.0% in 2005), Victoria (down from 82.5% in 1995 to 78.3% in 2005), and South Australia (down from 87.4% in 1995 to 82.5% in 2005). Queensland, Victoria and South Australia each reported an increased proportion of registrations two to twelve months after the birth between 1995 and 2005 (table 5.4).

Improvements made by the New South Wales Registry are supported by the increase in registrations up to one month after a birth. In 2005, the proportion of births registered up to one month after a birth (71.5%) was higher than the 2004 proportion (61.6%).

All states and territories, except the Northern Territory (and New South Wales in 2005) have recorded increasing proportions of registrations delayed between one and six years. Queensland increased from 1.0% in 1995 to 3.7% in 2005, Victoria increased from 0.2% in 1995 to 2.0% in 2005 and Western Australia from 1.1% to 2.7%.

LENGTH OF DELAY IN
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS
continued

5.4 LENGTH OF DELAY IN BIRTH REGISTRATION—1995, 2004 and 2005

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
<i>Delay in registration</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1995									
Up to 1 month after birth	74.3	82.5	76.9	87.4	81.6	86.3	63.3	77.4	78.7
2–3 months	19.0	14.2	18.4	10.8	13.9	10.9	30.4	19.9	16.6
4–6 months	2.4	2.3	2.3	0.9	2.0	0.9	4.3	2.7	2.2
7–12 months	1.4	0.6	1.2	0.2	1.1	0.8	1.6	0.1	1.0
More than 1 year to 6 years	2.1	0.2	1.0	0.3	1.1	0.9	0.3	—	1.1
More than 6 years	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	—	0.4
2004									
Up to 1 month after birth	61.6	77.9	64.4	82.7	77.5	95.7	72.2	79.4	70.5
2–3 months	26.8	14.3	25.3	13.1	13.6	0.5	26.9	17.7	20.4
4–6 months	4.1	2.6	3.5	1.5	2.9	0.1	0.7	1.4	3.1
7–12 months	2.3	2.3	1.9	0.6	2.0	—	—	0.5	1.9
More than 1 year to 6 years	4.0	2.5	4.2	1.2	3.2	1.5	0.1	0.8	3.2
More than 6 years	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.9	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.9
2005									
Up to 1 month after birth	71.5	78.3	67.0	82.5	79.5	96.1	77.0	81.6	74.7
2–3 months	21.9	14.8	23.0	13.2	12.5	0.4	22.4	15.5	18.2
4–6 months	3.6	2.7	3.6	1.5	2.6	—	0.5	1.5	3.0
7–12 months	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.7	1.7	—	—	0.4	1.8
More than 1 year to 6 years	0.8	2.0	3.7	1.1	2.7	1.3	—	0.8	1.9
More than 6 years	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.0	1.0	2.2	0.1	0.2	0.5

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

AVERAGE LENGTH OF
DELAY IN BIRTH
REGISTRATION

Table 5.5 shows the average length of delay (in months) in birth registrations for each state and territory. In order to reduce the effect of extremely late registrations on the calculation of these averages, delays of more than 72 months (that is, 6 years) were counted as delays of 72 months.

The average length of delay in registration for Australia increased over the period 1995 to 2004, from 1.8 months to 3.0 months respectively. Between 2004 and 2005 the delay decreased to an average of 2.2 months. In general, the states and territories have followed a similar trend. Between 2004 and 2005 New South Wales recorded the largest decrease in average delay, from 3.9 months to 1.8 months.

AVERAGE LENGTH OF
DELAY IN BIRTH
REGISTRATION*continued***5.5** AVERAGE LENGTH OF DELAY IN BIRTH REGISTRATION (a)

<i>State/territory of registration</i>	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	months	months	months	months	months	months	months
New South Wales	2.5	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.9	1.8
Victoria	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.0
Queensland	1.6	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.3
South Australia	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0
Western Australia	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.5
Tasmania	1.2	2.2	2.3	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.5
Northern Territory	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1
Australian Capital Territory	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.3
Australia	1.8	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.2

(a) In order to reduce the effect of very long delays in registration on the calculation of average registration delay length, delays of more than 72 months (that is, 6 years) have been counted as delays of 72 months.

CHARACTERISTICS OF
DELAYED REGISTRATIONS

Understanding the demographic characteristics of parents who are more likely to delay the registration of the birth of their child can assist with targeting follow-up activities and educational programs to improve the overall timeliness of birth registrations. This section explores delayed birth registrations through the characteristics of age, Indigenous status and country of birth of mother, and nuptiality. For the following analysis, delayed registrations are births that were registered in 2005 that occurred in 2004 or earlier years.

Nuptiality

Exnuptial births are more likely to be registered in the year(s) after the year of birth than nuptial births. Of all exnuptial births registered in 2005, 15.3% occurred in 2004 or earlier years, compared to 9.0% of all nuptial births (table 5.6). For exnuptial births where paternity was not acknowledged, registration is more likely to be delayed than for exnuptial births where paternity is acknowledged. Of all exnuptial births where paternity was not acknowledged in 2005, 23.1% occurred in 2004 or earlier years compared to 14.4% of exnuptial births where paternity was acknowledged.

Age of mother

Younger mothers are more likely to delay the registration of a birth than older mothers. Of all births registered in 2005, the proportion that occurred in 2004 or earlier years was highest for women aged 15–19 years (19.2%), followed by women aged 20–24 years (15.1%). Women aged 35–39 years and 30–34 years were most timely in registering the birth of their child with 9.3% and 9.4% of births registered in 2005 occurring in 2004 or earlier years respectively (table 5.6).

Indigenous status

A high proportion of Indigenous births are registered late. Of all Indigenous births registered in 2005, 22.2% occurred in 2004 or earlier years compared to 11.0% of all births (table 5.6).

Country of birth of mother

Overall, Australian-born and overseas-born mothers are similar in terms of the timeliness of registering the birth of their child. Of all births to overseas-born mothers, 10.5% occurred in 2004 or earlier years, compared to 11.1% of births to Australian-born mothers (table 5.6). However, variations do exist between different countries/regions of birth.

Country of birth of mother
continued

5.6 BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 2005 THAT OCCURRED IN 2004 OR EARLIER YEARS

	All births registered in 2005 no.	Births registered in 2005 that occurred in 2004 and earlier	
		no.	%
Nuptiality			
Nuptial	176 078	15 807	9.0
Exnuptial	83 713	12 780	15.3
Paternity acknowledged	75 353	10 847	14.4
Paternity not acknowledged	8 360	1 933	23.1
Age of mother			
15–19(a)	10 744	2 068	19.2
20–24	36 482	5 527	15.1
25–29	69 420	7 501	10.8
30–34	89 158	8 355	9.4
35–39	44 873	4 165	9.3
40–44	8 376	876	10.5
45–49(b)	358	40	11.2
Indigenous status			
Indigenous births	12 078	2 681	22.2
Country of birth of mother			
Australian-born	197 350	22 003	11.1
Overseas-born	62 336	6 538	10.5
Total	259 791	28 587	11.0

(a) Includes births to women aged less than 15 years.

(b) Includes births to women aged 50 years and over.

REFERENCES

McDonald P, 2005, 'Has the Australian fertility rate stopped falling?', *People and Place*, vol. 13, no. 3, pp. 1–5.

CHAPTER **6**

FERTILITY TABLES

6.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES

	AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)							Total fertility rate(b)
	15-19(c)	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49(d)	
1921	26.6	135.9	169.0	142.5	101.9	43.6	4.3	3.119
1922	26.2	136.4	170.8	141.1	100.9	41.9	3.9	3.106
1923	26.5	133.1	167.1	136.1	95.7	40.2	4.5	3.016
1924	27.9	132.2	164.7	134.2	93.3	38.1	4.0	2.972
1925	29.1	130.8	163.4	131.3	92.8	38.4	4.1	2.950
1926	29.2	127.4	159.4	125.4	88.2	36.2	3.8	2.848
1927	29.9	127.7	156.2	124.1	83.5	34.9	3.6	2.800
1928	30.6	128.5	153.9	120.2	82.8	33.6	3.9	2.768
1929	29.4	122.7	148.2	114.3	76.9	32.0	3.4	2.635
1930	29.3	120.2	144.9	112.2	75.6	30.9	3.1	2.581
1931	27.2	110.8	130.7	104.4	67.9	27.7	3.1	2.359
1932	25.9	101.0	122.2	96.3	63.2	25.8	2.9	2.187
1933	25.6	99.6	123.6	96.0	61.3	24.5	2.6	2.166
1934	24.6	97.9	120.7	93.3	58.4	24.1	2.3	2.107
1935	24.6	99.6	123.2	94.0	57.3	21.9	2.3	2.115
1936	24.9	103.5	127.5	95.5	60.3	21.6	2.2	2.178
1937	24.6	107.1	130.7	97.9	58.6	20.7	2.0	2.208
1938	23.8	108.4	130.9	99.2	56.3	20.2	2.1	2.205
1939	24.3	110.5	133.9	98.3	56.4	19.0	1.9	2.222
1940	23.6	112.5	136.8	100.5	56.6	19.4	1.7	2.256
1941	24.3	121.0	143.5	104.9	57.8	19.6	1.7	2.364
1942	24.0	121.8	143.6	104.2	60.0	19.6	1.7	2.375
1943	24.3	132.5	155.4	114.8	64.5	20.6	1.6	2.569
1944	22.9	126.7	157.3	122.5	72.9	22.1	1.6	2.630
1945	23.8	132.4	164.2	125.2	76.1	23.7	1.8	2.736
1946	26.1	151.1	183.2	131.7	78.3	24.6	2.1	2.986
1947	32.1	166.2	186.6	130.0	75.0	23.5	1.8	3.076
1948	34.2	163.0	179.8	124.6	71.2	22.5	1.7	2.985
1949	35.8	167.4	180.9	121.9	68.4	21.2	1.6	2.986
1950	37.0	173.5	186.0	124.6	68.8	21.8	1.6	3.067
1951	38.6	177.2	185.3	123.1	65.0	21.0	1.6	3.059
1952	39.3	189.7	192.7	126.1	66.1	20.5	1.7	3.181
1953	38.8	194.7	193.2	124.6	65.3	20.5	1.4	3.193
1954	39.2	197.1	194.0	121.8	64.4	20.2	1.5	3.191
1955	41.8	205.4	199.6	122.0	64.4	20.4	1.4	3.275
1956	43.0	210.9	203.0	123.5	64.2	19.7	1.6	3.330
1957	44.0	216.2	210.7	127.2	65.1	19.5	1.4	3.421
1958	44.6	215.9	212.9	126.4	64.3	18.5	1.5	3.421
1959	45.2	219.0	214.4	125.7	63.6	18.6	1.5	3.440
1960	44.3	220.1	216.3	127.5	62.3	18.4	1.3	3.451
1961	47.4	225.8	221.2	131.1	63.4	19.2	1.4	3.548
1962	44.7	216.0	216.7	127.7	61.4	18.4	1.2	3.431
1963	45.9	208.2	211.2	123.9	59.7	18.6	1.1	3.343
1964	47.0	190.5	198.1	119.1	58.4	16.5	1.2	3.154
1965	47.5	179.3	188.5	110.1	53.0	15.0	1.1	2.973
1966	48.9	173.1	183.9	105.1	50.6	14.2	1.1	2.885
1967	48.4	170.8	185.0	102.8	47.8	13.5	1.1	2.847
1968	48.9	173.6	190.8	103.3	46.7	12.9	1.0	2.886
1969	49.0	174.2	191.8	103.5	45.6	12.2	1.0	2.887
1970	50.9	172.0	189.6	101.8	44.9	11.7	0.8	2.859

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(b) Births per woman. From 1975 onwards, total fertility rates are calculated using single year of age of mother, and may differ from figures published prior to 2004.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

6.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES *continued*

	AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)							Total fertility rate(b)
	15-19(c)	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49(d)	
1971	55.5	181.9	193.5	101.8	44.2	11.3	0.8	2.945
1972	54.5	168.7	181.7	94.0	38.9	10.0	0.8	2.743
1973	49.1	155.4	166.9	84.2	33.6	8.4	0.6	2.491
1974	44.2	145.4	159.3	78.5	29.1	7.2	0.4	2.321
1975	40.1	133.9	149.6	74.1	26.0	6.1	0.4	2.148
1976	35.2	128.2	146.2	72.5	24.1	5.5	0.4	2.060
1977	32.1	122.0	145.7	74.1	23.9	5.0	0.3	2.007
1978	29.9	115.8	144.0	73.4	23.5	4.5	0.2	1.949
1979	28.5	109.1	142.5	73.9	23.6	4.6	0.3	1.907
1980	27.6	107.0	141.0	75.1	23.7	4.4	0.3	1.891
1981	28.2	107.5	145.2	77.6	24.5	4.5	0.3	1.935
1982	27.4	103.9	144.9	80.6	25.6	4.5	0.3	1.929
1983	26.6	102.7	145.9	81.5	25.0	4.3	0.2	1.924
1984	23.2	94.3	140.4	81.2	25.0	4.3	0.3	1.840
1985	22.8	95.8	146.0	89.0	26.9	4.5	0.2	1.923
1986	21.8	90.0	141.9	88.7	27.2	4.3	0.2	1.868
1987	20.6	85.0	139.6	90.6	28.9	4.8	0.3	1.845
1988	20.3	81.5	136.9	93.3	30.5	4.6	0.2	1.831
1989	20.6	78.4	135.4	96.1	32.6	5.0	0.2	1.838
1990	22.1	79.4	137.9	101.7	34.7	5.5	0.2	1.902
1991	22.1	75.0	132.0	100.2	36.0	5.5	0.2	1.849
1992	22.0	74.9	132.3	104.6	38.3	6.1	0.3	1.888
1993	20.9	71.3	129.8	105.4	38.9	6.3	0.2	1.859
1994	20.7	69.7	125.8	105.0	41.1	6.7	0.3	1.842
1995	20.4	67.1	121.7	106.0	42.3	7.2	0.3	1.822
1996	20.1	65.2	117.1	105.7	43.7	7.5	0.3	1.796
1997	19.8	62.8	113.7	106.5	44.8	7.5	0.3	1.778
1998	18.9	61.4	111.4	107.0	45.5	8.0	0.3	1.762
1999	18.5	60.8	108.6	108.0	46.8	8.5	0.3	1.755
2000	17.7	59.2	107.9	109.5	48.7	8.7	0.4	1.756
2001	17.7	58.0	104.4	107.9	49.0	9.2	0.4	1.729
2002	17.4	56.5	104.7	111.3	52.2	9.7	0.4	1.759
2003	16.3	54.5	102.9	112.5	54.3	10.0	0.5	1.754
2004	16.3	53.4	102.5	114.4	57.4	10.6	0.5	1.774
2005	16.0	52.9	103.0	117.5	60.6	10.9	0.5	1.806

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(b) Births per woman. From 1975 onwards, total fertility rates are calculated using single year of age of mother, and may differ from figures published prior to 2004.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

6.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
15–19(c)	13.5	10.1	20.5	18.9	20.6	26.6	64.1	9.5	16.0
20–24	51.7	39.9	63.7	55.2	58.0	81.1	108.3	33.7	52.9
25–29	102.7	93.4	110.1	110.0	105.9	128.8	121.0	85.0	103.0
30–34	118.6	122.4	110.9	112.9	117.8	119.7	96.8	122.6	117.5
35–39	63.1	66.4	53.7	51.0	58.5	52.6	57.6	67.4	60.6
40–44	11.5	11.9	9.5	9.1	10.4	8.5	10.3	12.1	10.9
45–49(d)	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5
Total fertility rate(e)	1.808	1.722	1.846	1.793	1.860	2.101	2.293	1.652	1.806

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(d) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

(e) Births per woman.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

6.3 CONTRIBUTION OF AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES TO TOTAL FERTILITY RATE

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
15–19(b)	3.7	2.9	5.5	5.3	5.5	6.3	14.0	2.9	4.4
20–24	14.3	11.6	17.3	15.4	15.6	19.3	23.6	10.2	14.6
25–29	28.4	27.1	29.8	30.7	28.5	30.6	26.4	25.7	28.5
30–34	32.8	35.5	30.0	31.5	31.7	28.5	21.1	37.1	32.5
35–39	17.5	19.3	14.6	14.2	15.7	12.5	12.6	20.4	16.8
40–44	3.2	3.5	2.6	2.5	2.8	2.0	2.3	3.7	3.0
45–49(c)	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Total fertility rate(d)	1.808	1.722	1.846	1.793	1.860	2.101	2.293	1.652	1.806

(a) Includes Other Territories.

(c) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(b) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(d) Births per woman.

6.4 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES (a)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (b)</i>
1985	2.002	1.831	1.949	1.773	1.939	2.010	2.311	1.795	1.923
1990	1.950	1.863	1.932	1.744	1.903	1.945	2.264	1.782	1.902
1995	1.864	1.750	1.826	1.758	1.855	1.894	2.349	1.682	1.822
2000	1.815	1.631	1.791	1.708	1.807	1.808	2.214	1.576	1.756
2001	1.762	1.610	1.795	1.677	1.726	2.079	2.297	1.519	1.729
2002	1.801	1.682	1.785	1.730	1.698	1.978	2.284	1.591	1.759
2003	1.796	1.666	1.776	1.722	1.741	1.898	2.376	1.603	1.754
2004	1.794	1.701	1.811	1.707	1.807	1.927	2.239	1.637	1.774
2005	1.808	1.722	1.846	1.793	1.860	2.101	2.293	1.652	1.806

(a) Births per woman.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

6.5 NET REPRODUCTION RATES (a)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (b)</i>
1985	0.957	0.879	0.927	0.846	0.934	0.976	1.096	0.846	0.920
1990	0.928	0.893	0.924	0.838	0.906	0.927	1.087	0.836	0.908
1995	0.899	0.842	0.874	0.840	0.888	0.909	1.095	0.799	0.875
2000	0.869	0.785	0.859	0.823	0.877	0.849	1.066	0.764	0.844
2001	0.845	0.779	0.867	0.820	0.830	0.975	1.073	0.743	0.833
2002	0.869	0.809	0.861	0.834	0.817	0.974	1.071	0.778	0.848
2003	0.860	0.804	0.854	0.822	0.838	0.902	1.108	0.769	0.842
2004	0.859	0.822	0.873	0.823	0.871	0.913	1.072	0.779	0.853
2005	0.865	0.830	0.879	0.863	0.887	1.013	1.070	0.800	0.865

(a) Daughters surviving to reproductive age per woman.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

Based on annual life tables calculated by the ABS.

See glossary for more information.

6.6 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY

	Total fertility rate(a)		SEIFA(b)		Median age of mother(c)	NUPTIALITY	
	Births no.	rate	Advantage/ Disadvantage index	Education/ Occupation index		Nuptial %	Exnuptial %
New South Wales							
Sydney	58 187	1.74	1 051	1 039	31.1	77.3	22.7
Balance of state							
Hunter	7 079	1.81	961	960	29.5	62.9	37.1
Illawarra	4 500	1.83	978	978	30.0	67.9	32.1
Richmond-Tweed	2 210	1.84	939	967	30.0	53.5	46.5
Mid-North Coast	2 733	1.93	923	948	29.1	56.5	43.5
Northern	2 157	2.01	946	958	28.5	57.6	42.4
North Western	1 439	2.12	940	945	28.5	56.1	43.9
Central West	2 169	2.02	954	953	28.9	60.7	39.3
South Eastern	2 212	1.96	979	984	30.0	61.3	38.7
Murrumbidgee	1 971	2.05	956	949	29.2	65.6	34.4
Murray	1 395	2.00	959	956	29.6	64.2	35.8
Far West	257	2.05	909	923	27.8	49.8	50.2
Total	28 122	1.91	955	961	29.4	61.4	38.6
Total(d)	86 589	1.80	1 015	1 010	30.6	72.1	27.9
Victoria							
Melbourne	47 539	1.64	1 032	1 026	31.7	76.2	23.8
Balance of state							
Barwon	3 115	1.79	975	976	30.7	65.9	34.1
Western District	1 166	2.06	956	961	30.1	68.0	32.0
Central Highlands	1 704	1.74	964	976	30.2	61.3	38.7
Wimmera	560	2.02	950	963	29.5	66.3	33.8
Mallee	1 145	2.03	937	943	29.1	62.3	37.7
Loddon	1 978	1.89	966	977	30.4	59.7	40.3
Goulburn	2 317	1.99	950	947	30.1	64.3	35.7
Ovens-Murray	1 113	1.96	972	980	30.0	65.0	35.0
East Gippsland	846	2.04	946	960	29.4	58.2	41.8
Gippsland	1 750	1.92	948	953	29.5	57.5	42.5
Total	15 694	1.90	959	965	30.1	62.9	37.1
Total(d)	63 287	1.69	1 012	1 009	31.3	72.9	27.1
Queensland							
Brisbane	24 631	1.75	1 015	1 010	30.3	65.9	34.1
Balance of state							
Moreton	9 243	1.68	972	979	30.4	62.9	37.1
Wide Bay-Burnett	2 941	2.05	904	923	28.0	51.2	48.8
Darling Downs	2 944	2.02	952	959	28.8	65.9	34.1
South West	409	2.14	946	939	28.8	61.1	38.9
Fitzroy	2 553	2.04	961	944	28.4	58.3	41.7
Central West	142	1.93	959	943	29.3	54.2	45.8
Mackay	2 070	2.04	956	933	28.8	58.1	41.9
Northern	2 753	1.78	977	967	28.5	55.7	44.3
Far North	3 347	1.95	968	971	29.2	47.9	52.1
North West	587	2.30	978	931	27.8	40.2	59.8
Total	26 989	1.87	959	960	29.2	58.0	42.0
Total(d)	51 661	1.81	985	983	29.8	61.8	38.2

(a) Births per woman. Average total fertility rate for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(b) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 2001 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 10 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. SEIFA indices are based on population weighted averages at the Census Collection District level.

(c) Average for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(d) Includes place of usual residence undefined, overseas and no fixed abode.

6.6 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY *continued*

			SEIFA(b)		NUPTIALITY		
	Births	Total fertility rate(a)	Advantage/Disadvantage	Education/Occupation	Median age of mother(c)	Nuptial	Exnuptial
		no.	rate	index	index	years	%
South Australia							
Adelaide	12 868	1.64	991	996	30.8	65.3	34.7
Balance of state							
Outer Adelaide	1 351	1.91	964	966	30.7	67.1	32.9
Yorke and Lower North	454	2.19	913	927	29.3	65.9	34.1
Murray Lands	809	2.18	904	901	28.7	55.3	44.7
South East	856	2.16	934	915	29.0	60.4	39.6
Eyre	421	2.09	935	939	28.8	54.6	45.4
Northern	1 039	2.15	922	921	28.0	46.1	53.9
Total(d)	4 930	2.08	933	931	29.3	58.4	41.6
Total(e)	17 800	1.73	976	978	30.5	63.4	36.6
Western Australia							
Perth	18 874	1.72	1 024	1 018	30.7	67.7	32.3
Balance of state							
South West	2 540	1.89	948	936	29.2	56.1	43.9
Lower Great Southern	701	2.29	948	964	29.1	55.5	44.5
Upper Great Southern	269	2.60	948	958	28.9	62.8	37.2
Midlands	672	2.24	943	944	29.4	57.7	42.3
South Eastern	892	2.24	986	939	28.6	50.0	50.0
Central	852	2.12	947	942	28.6	49.1	50.9
Pilbara	773	2.27	1 040	952	28.7	50.3	49.7
Kimberley	507	1.97	973	969	27.8	34.7	65.3
Total	7 206	2.07	961	945	28.9	52.7	47.3
Total(e)	26 253	1.80	1 007	999	30.2	63.2	36.8
Tasmania							
Greater Hobart	2 812	1.93	985	1 003	29.7	52.8	47.2
Balance of state							
Southern	429	2.33	899	919	29.1	41.7	58.3
Northern	1 654	1.88	938	951	29.2	56.4	43.6
Mersey-Lyell	1 362	2.04	907	915	28.2	46.5	53.5
Total	3 445	1.98	921	933	28.8	50.7	49.3
Total(e)	6 308	1.96	948	962	29.2	51.5	48.5
Northern Territory							
Darwin	1 847	2.08	1 045	1 023	29.7	51.5	48.5
Balance of state							
Northern Territory - Bal	1 807	2.51	985	978	26.2	21.6	78.4
Total(e)	3 659	2.30	1 018	1 003	28.1	36.7	63.3
Australian Capital Territory							
Canberra	4 190	1.63	1 122	1 113	31.4	72.7	27.3
Total(e)(f)	4 206	1.63	1 122	1 113	31.4	72.7	27.3
Australia(g)	259 791	1.77	1 005	1 001	30.6	67.8	32.2

(a) Births per woman. Average total fertility rate for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(b) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 2001 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 10 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. SEIFA indices are based on population weighted averages at the Census Collection District level.

(c) Average for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(d) Numbers of births and total fertility rates for 2003 and 2004 have been revised. See accompanying spreadsheet table 2.

(e) Includes place of usual residence undefined, overseas and no fixed abode.

(f) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Bal.

(g) Includes Other Territories.

6.7 FERTILITY, Selected countries of birth

Country of birth of mother	Average births(a)	Estimated resident female population(b)	AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(c)							Total fertility rate(d)
			15-19 years(e)	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years(f)	
no.	no.	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	
Oceania and Antarctica										
Australia	194 313	3 797 770	16.5	53.6	103.8	114.2	55.8	9.5	0.4	1.77
Fiji	1 091	20 667	16.3	69.7	109.4	95.1	48.7	11.5	0.9	1.76
New Zealand	7 120	135 962	28.4	69.5	97.5	97.6	57.1	11.2	0.8	1.81
Papua New Guinea	744	10 872	24.1	67.7	109.1	127.4	66.9	15.6	1.0	2.06
Other	1 384	13 165	40.0	158.3	220.8	187.0	117.1	34.0	2.5	3.80
<i>Total</i>	<i>204 654</i>	<i>3 978 436</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>54.4</i>	<i>103.9</i>	<i>113.8</i>	<i>56.1</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.78</i>
North-West Europe										
Austria	101	2 272	17.1	45.3	80.7	104.3	77.1	14.6	—	1.70
Denmark	116	2 268	—	27.1	76.2	133.9	67.5	16.3	0.9	1.61
France	284	5 073	7.1	30.7	110.4	134.2	63.8	11.7	0.8	1.79
Germany	742	15 467	10.7	45.1	82.8	129.0	73.5	14.0	0.8	1.78
Ireland	577	12 870	4.3	23.2	46.5	103.5	78.8	14.3	1.0	1.36
Netherlands	409	8 754	8.9	58.8	107.8	141.3	76.7	11.4	0.7	2.03
Switzerland	146	3 029	3.5	20.9	90.6	123.3	76.3	12.3	1.2	1.64
United Kingdom	8 992	225 189	10.5	45.1	91.9	118.7	61.2	11.0	0.4	1.69
Other	339	7 111	6.5	33.6	55.9	129.8	69.6	15.6	0.5	1.56
<i>Total</i>	<i>11 705</i>	<i>282 033</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>86.2</i>	<i>119.8</i>	<i>63.6</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.67</i>
Southern and Eastern Europe										
Bosnia and Herzegovina	396	8 912	8.4	69.0	153.0	104.4	42.5	5.4	0.5	1.92
Croatia	338	9 882	6.2	55.3	142.9	102.7	50.5	9.8	0.5	1.84
Cyprus	128	4 051	22.2	22.6	112.1	99.1	47.5	6.9	0.3	1.55
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	472	11 591	21.2	95.7	145.9	89.0	30.4	5.9	0.5	1.94
Greece	250	11 519	3.5	31.9	100.0	91.5	40.0	9.1	0.2	1.38
Hungary	87	2 533	—	32.6	69.6	100.3	53.1	6.5	—	1.31
Italy	409	17 366	3.8	24.1	90.6	135.3	53.3	9.3	0.5	1.58
Malta	115	5 022	4.6	65.8	128.5	116.8	42.0	6.4	0.1	1.82
Poland	398	11 894	3.7	32.1	74.2	106.7	45.7	8.0	0.1	1.35
Portugal	167	4 563	17.1	41.6	100.9	115.7	33.0	8.6	0.3	1.59
Romania	228	4 515	15.2	64.3	102.8	97.7	51.8	9.5	0.9	1.71
Russian Federation	278	6 062	4.0	40.7	89.3	94.9	51.3	13.3	1.3	1.47
Serbia and Montenegro	365	14 944	5.4	32.3	68.3	63.5	31.0	5.8	0.4	1.03
Spain	141	2 901	23.4	30.9	91.5	106.1	69.2	21.5	1.4	1.72
Other	547	9 799	6.3	58.0	107.6	117.0	55.3	13.8	0.8	1.79
<i>Total</i>	<i>4 321</i>	<i>125 554</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>102.4</i>	<i>100.3</i>	<i>44.2</i>	<i>8.7</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>1.57</i>
North Africa and the Middle East										
Egypt	299	6 393	8.3	57.8	186.4	121.8	64.9	13.1	0.6	2.26
Iran	314	7 036	4.1	31.0	99.9	117.0	58.0	13.0	1.2	1.62
Israel	153	1 960	3.5	40.4	129.9	180.4	99.7	17.9	—	2.36
Lebanon	2 245	25 921	91.9	206.7	212.8	137.3	66.2	14.4	0.9	3.65
Syria	260	2 732	58.8	219.3	202.0	150.7	76.3	21.8	0.7	3.65
Turkey	689	11 748	33.0	135.9	135.1	90.2	42.2	8.3	1.1	2.23
Other	2 145	20 634	23.5	132.3	209.5	181.2	94.4	24.3	2.9	3.34
<i>Total</i>	<i>6 104</i>	<i>76 424</i>	<i>34.0</i>	<i>137.7</i>	<i>185.7</i>	<i>138.8</i>	<i>67.9</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>2.90</i>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Average for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(b) Estimated resident female population aged 15-49 years, at 30 June 2004.

(c) Births per 1,000 women. Calculated using the average number of births for 2003, 2004 and 2005, and the 30 June 2004 estimated resident population.

(d) Births per woman.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(f) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

6.7 FERTILITY, Selected countries of birth *continued*

Country of birth of mother	Average births(a)	Estimated resident female population(b)	AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(c)							Total fertility rate(d)
			15-19 years(e)	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years(f)	
no.	no.	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	
South-East Asia										
Cambodia	711	10 158	24.2	96.3	148.6	121.7	54.7	14.5	0.8	2.30
Indonesia	1 086	24 255	5.2	18.2	75.7	107.5	56.0	12.6	0.5	1.38
Laos	228	3 914	56.6	60.7	121.1	111.0	46.0	11.5	0.5	2.04
Malaysia	1 158	33 456	2.6	11.0	44.1	115.6	64.2	11.6	0.7	1.25
Philippines	2 558	55 025	13.9	59.7	109.5	106.5	58.0	14.0	0.7	1.81
Singapore	482	14 909	2.7	10.2	34.9	94.7	61.0	11.1	1.0	1.08
Thailand	732	15 554	26.9	55.5	66.6	80.7	56.0	13.1	0.8	1.50
Viet Nam	4 511	67 482	16.8	72.7	120.5	121.3	67.0	14.0	0.9	2.07
Other	406	7 712	9.4	38.6	96.4	115.1	73.8	14.8	0.3	1.74
Total	11 871	232 465	12.1	43.7	90.7	111.5	61.7	13.4	0.8	1.67
North-East Asia										
China	2 994	62 048	2.7	27.1	97.9	111.4	71.3	17.9	0.8	1.65
Hong Kong	405	27 112	1.6	2.8	17.2	59.2	42.3	7.0	0.3	0.65
Japan	816	13 556	0.6	19.1	68.0	108.1	80.6	21.4	1.7	1.50
Korea, Republic of	791	17 728	2.4	12.0	80.0	117.0	54.7	7.9	—	1.37
Other	292	12 530	1.4	5.2	35.9	84.5	46.1	7.3	0.2	0.90
Total	5 299	132 974	2.1	13.5	63.0	103.1	65.5	14.6	0.6	1.31
Southern and Central Asia										
India	2 011	36 152	2.8	53.1	123.2	106.7	42.7	7.2	0.3	1.68
Pakistan	515	4 884	12.5	129.4	221.8	158.7	84.4	21.6	—	3.14
Sri Lanka	941	19 246	3.0	24.6	104.6	137.5	65.2	12.5	0.8	1.74
Other	924	11 066	10.6	100.5	171.0	147.0	63.2	14.1	0.3	2.53
Total	4 392	71 348	5.7	63.5	135.6	123.7	54.2	10.5	0.5	1.97
Americas										
Argentina	216	3 606	13.5	44.1	97.7	124.6	65.6	14.6	1.8	1.81
Canada	672	10 871	4.0	32.4	88.4	143.5	90.3	18.8	1.1	1.89
Caribbean	57	937	7.1	43.7	122.8	142.2	102.2	19.9	—	2.19
Central America	267	5 104	16.7	56.3	100.7	111.4	63.1	9.8	0.5	1.79
Chile	409	7 967	10.1	47.8	116.6	110.1	60.2	9.4	0.2	1.77
United States of America	1 027	17 755	6.5	40.2	101.3	137.6	91.0	24.3	0.8	2.01
Uruguay	122	2 492	15.6	57.1	105.4	104.2	50.2	11.5	—	1.72
Other	433	8 405	9.5	39.0	75.4	105.2	77.7	18.1	1.0	1.63
Total	3 203	57 137	8.8	42.8	95.8	125.1	78.6	17.9	0.8	1.85
Sub-Saharan Africa										
Kenya	116	2 666	2.0	14.9	66.7	125.2	90.0	16.0	1.2	1.58
Mauritius	194	5 181	13.3	43.0	85.2	108.0	59.6	11.6	0.3	1.60
South Africa	1 538	32 708	4.4	23.8	89.1	130.1	58.2	10.1	0.2	1.58
Zimbabwe	256	6 037	2.5	23.9	105.7	122.7	46.2	9.6	0.3	1.55
Other	1 130	11 931	22.3	90.4	170.4	186.9	104.5	24.6	2.9	3.01
Total	3 234	58 523	8.1	39.8	109.2	141.1	67.7	13.1	0.7	1.90
Total overseas-born	60 470	1 217 124	13.7	53.1	100.7	115.3	61.9	12.5	0.6	1.79
Total (g)	255 066	5 014 894	16.2	53.6	103.2	114.6	57.6	10.5	0.5	1.78

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Average for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

(b) Estimated resident female population aged 15-49 years, at 30 June 2004.

(c) Births per 1,000 women. Calculated using the average number of births for 2003, 2004 and 2005, and the 30 June 2004 estimated resident population.

(d) Births per woman.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(f) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(g) Includes country of birth of mother not stated.

6.8

COMPLETED FERTILITY(a), Year of birth of women

Year of birth	Average	Proportion	Median
	issue	based on projected births (b)	age
	no.	%	years
1910	2.3	—	28.8
1915	2.4	—	28.9
1920	2.6	—	28.2
1925	2.8	—	27.6
1930	3.0	—	26.9
1935	3.0	—	25.9
1940	2.8	—	25.6
1945	2.5	—	25.5
1950	2.3	—	25.9
1955	2.2	—	26.9
1960	2.2	0.1	27.9
1965	2.1	2.0	28.7
1970	2.0	15.4	29.7
1975	2.0	46.5	30.4
1980	2.0	76.9	31.1
1985	1.9	93.6	31.6
1990	1.8	99.8	32.1
1995	1.7	100.0	32.3
2000	1.7	100.0	32.4
2005	1.7	100.0	32.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

- (a) Based on age-specific fertility rates derived from birth registrations. Women who have not yet completed their fertility are assumed to experience a total fertility rate declining to 1.7 babies per woman by 2018, and then remaining constant (medium fertility assumption).
- (b) Proportion of the estimated average derived from projected fertility.

CHAPTER **7**

BIRTHS TABLES

7.1**BIRTHS REGISTERED, Nuptiality**

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (a)</i>
.....									
NUPTIAL									
1985	74 074	54 457	32 901	16 925	19 223	6 073	1 797	3 623	209 073
1990	71 280	55 220	33 471	15 326	19 379	5 282	1 677	3 606	205 241
1995	65 939	48 962	32 229	14 041	17 664	4 381	1 613	3 280	188 140
2000	63 797	45 075	31 244	12 045	16 561	3 393	1 450	3 028	176 625
2001	61 131	43 604	30 784	11 475	15 700	3 675	1 405	2 870	170 675
2002	62 321	45 353	30 294	11 595	15 325	3 192	1 414	3 011	172 550
2003	62 316	44 796	30 370	11 357	15 511	3 105	1 370	3 001	171 853
2004	61 399	45 708	31 044	11 042	15 868	3 118	1 267	3 013	172 481
2005	62 464	46 140	31 922	11 278	16 600	3 249	1 344	3 058	176 078
.....									
TOTAL EXNUPTIAL									
1985	13 712	7 098	7 536	2 865	3 886	1 176	1 518	484	38 275
1990	19 254	11 750	11 397	4 537	5 977	1 761	1 880	851	57 407
1995	21 910	13 629	14 255	5 295	7 475	2 189	2 153	1 135	68 050
2000	22 955	14 096	16 034	5 814	8 532	2 299	2 235	1 037	73 011
2001	23 447	15 022	16 894	5 806	8 302	2 755	2 417	1 068	75 719
2002	24 262	16 125	17 477	6 070	8 276	2 811	2 310	1 101	78 438
2003	24 028	16 262	17 972	6 086	8 762	2 647	2 420	1 127	79 308
2004	24 495	16 709	18 896	6 098	9 427	2 691	2 284	1 161	81 765
2005	24 125	17 147	19 739	6 522	9 653	3 059	2 315	1 148	83 713
.....									
EXNUPTIAL PATERNITY ACKNOWLEDGED									
1985	10 008	4 587	4 843	2 015	2 478	784	1 056	350	26 121
1990	15 150	9 406	8 222	3 591	4 598	1 413	1 237	640	44 257
1995	18 359	11 527	11 769	4 516	6 304	1 896	1 384	925	56 688
2000	20 070	13 092	13 937	5 227	7 716	2 050	1 397	899	64 396
2001	20 449	13 781	14 692	5 249	7 407	2 544	1 530	880	66 539
2002	21 227	14 863	15 214	5 457	7 477	2 344	1 490	971	69 048
2003	21 074	15 114	15 555	5 530	7 836	2 258	1 543	1 038	69 952
2004	21 612	15 520	16 939	5 543	8 457	2 297	1 484	1 059	72 915
2005	21 636	16 023	17 932	5 924	8 687	2 554	1 551	1 041	75 353
.....									
EXNUPTIAL PATERNITY NOT ACKNOWLEDGED									
1985	3 704	2 511	2 693	850	1 408	392	462	134	12 154
1990	4 104	2 344	3 175	946	1 379	348	643	211	13 150
1995	3 551	2 102	2 486	779	1 171	293	769	210	11 362
2000	2 885	1 004	2 097	587	816	249	838	138	8 615
2001	2 998	1 241	2 202	557	895	211	887	188	9 180
2002	3 035	1 262	2 263	613	799	467	820	130	9 390
2003	2 954	1 148	2 417	556	926	389	877	89	9 356
2004	2 883	1 189	1 957	555	970	394	800	102	8 850
2005	2 489	1 124	1 807	598	966	505	764	107	8 360

(a) Includes Other Territories.

7.2

BIRTHS REGISTERED, Sex of child

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (a)</i>
MALES									
1985	45 058	31 497	20 843	10 147	11 775	3 661	1 688	2 144	126 813
1990	46 752	34 357	23 082	10 170	13 082	3 620	1 798	2 333	135 194
1995	44 884	32 108	23 863	9 977	12 942	3 390	1 960	2 291	131 432
2000	44 705	30 326	24 291	9 164	12 763	2 985	1 862	2 074	128 190
2001	43 529	29 943	24 377	8 730	12 329	3 376	1 997	1 995	126 298
2002	44 369	31 605	24 454	9 051	12 102	3 018	1 919	2 082	128 623
2003	44 531	31 257	24 847	9 001	12 447	2 982	1 988	2 128	129 193
2004	44 339	31 925	25 586	8 793	12 968	3 022	1 801	2 156	130 600
2005	44 542	32 309	26 702	9 092	13 525	3 230	1 889	2 127	133 428
FEMALES									
1985	42 728	30 058	19 594	9 643	11 334	3 588	1 627	1 963	120 535
1990	43 782	32 613	21 786	9 693	12 274	3 423	1 759	2 124	127 454
1995	42 965	30 483	22 621	9 359	12 197	3 180	1 806	2 124	124 758
2000	42 047	28 845	22 987	8 695	12 330	2 707	1 823	1 991	121 446
2001	41 049	28 683	23 301	8 551	11 673	3 054	1 825	1 943	120 096
2002	42 214	29 873	23 317	8 614	11 499	2 985	1 805	2 030	122 365
2003	41 813	29 801	23 495	8 442	11 826	2 770	1 802	2 000	121 968
2004	41 555	30 492	24 354	8 347	12 327	2 787	1 750	2 018	123 646
2005	42 047	30 978	24 959	8 708	12 728	3 078	1 770	2 079	126 363
PERSONS									
1985	87 786	61 555	40 437	19 790	23 109	7 249	3 315	4 107	247 348
1990	90 534	66 970	44 868	19 863	25 356	7 043	3 557	4 457	262 648
1995	87 849	62 591	46 484	19 336	25 139	6 570	3 766	4 415	256 190
2000	86 752	59 171	47 278	17 859	25 093	5 692	3 685	4 065	249 636
2001	84 578	58 626	47 678	17 281	24 002	6 430	3 822	3 938	246 394
2002	86 583	61 478	47 771	17 665	23 601	6 003	3 724	4 112	250 988
2003	86 344	61 058	48 342	17 443	24 273	5 752	3 790	4 128	251 161
2004	85 894	62 417	49 940	17 140	25 295	5 809	3 551	4 174	254 246
2005	86 589	63 287	51 661	17 800	26 253	6 308	3 659	4 206	259 791

(a) Includes Other Territories.

7.3 BIRTHS REGISTERED, Nuptiality and age of parents

Age of parent (years)	MOTHER				FATHER		
	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial, paternity not acknowledged	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Total
15 and under	4	220	150	374	—	75	75
16	9	681	212	902	—	178	178
17	24	1 550	373	1 947	np	np	457
18	184	2 343	466	2 993	17	977	994
19	557	3 468	503	4 528	105	1 749	1 854
20	1 035	3 953	513	5 501	213	2 312	2 525
21	1 580	4 143	497	6 220	445	2 849	3 294
22	2 438	4 247	456	7 141	918	3 268	4 186
23	3 575	4 245	385	8 205	1 506	3 486	4 992
24	4 840	4 186	389	9 415	2 294	3 819	6 113
25	6 334	3 947	372	10 653	3 388	3 812	7 200
26	8 059	3 959	306	12 324	4 814	3 816	8 630
27	9 823	3 680	338	13 841	6 291	3 845	10 136
28	11 673	3 620	331	15 624	8 180	3 754	11 934
29	13 078	3 600	300	16 978	10 003	3 713	13 716
30	14 087	3 382	295	17 764	11 737	3 897	15 634
31	14 996	3 336	276	18 608	12 861	3 791	16 652
32	14 899	3 270	279	18 448	14 131	3 760	17 891
33	14 527	3 258	230	18 015	14 569	3 551	18 120
34	13 191	2 893	239	16 323	13 677	3 238	16 915
35	10 786	2 543	199	13 528	11 975	2 868	14 843
36	8 949	2 232	215	11 396	10 817	2 482	13 299
37	6 599	1 812	189	8 600	8 991	2 205	11 196
38	5 020	1 385	140	6 545	7 613	1 885	9 498
39	3 591	1 102	111	4 804	6 385	1 593	7 978
40	2 457	845	78	3 380	5 233	1 379	6 612
41	1 708	591	80	2 379	4 315	1 220	5 535
42	916	393	39	1 348	3 505	1 023	4 528
43	554	241	32	827	2 851	864	3 715
44	321	106	15	442	2 103	675	2 778
45	123	52	7	182	1 619	510	2 129
46	61	33	3	97	1 218	425	1 643
47	18	15	—	33	932	353	1 285
48	14	np	np	15	709	264	973
49	6	np	np	8	475	213	688
50	6	np	np	8	424	179	603
51	5	np	np	6	345	165	510
52	np	np	np	np	294	119	413
53	3	np	np	4	188	91	279
54	np	—	—	np	179	82	261
55–59	—	—	—	—	456	228	684
60 and over	—	—	—	—	np	np	300
Not stated	26	13	341	380	70	115	185
Total	176 078	75 353	8 360	259 791	176 078	75 353	251 431

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

7.4 BIRTHS REGISTERED, Month of birth

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
January	20 605	21 139	21 664	21 145	20 228	21 185	20 649	21 427	20 973
February	18 939	20 166	20 213	19 843	19 350	19 678	19 229	20 042	20 074
March	21 340	22 763	22 965	21 843	21 706	21 457	21 145	22 221	23 113
April	20 356	21 633	20 877	20 184	20 299	20 463	20 323	21 359	22 060
May	21 026	22 263	22 231	21 388	20 995	21 100	21 119	20 972	22 297
June	19 481	21 669	21 390	20 479	20 275	20 053	20 978	19 721	21 820
July	20 623	22 218	21 755	20 561	20 867	21 277	21 638	22 448	22 166
August	20 837	22 641	22 043	21 412	21 548	21 080	21 404	21 349	22 297
September	20 697	22 383	21 744	21 362	21 393	21 422	21 917	21 899	22 644
October	21 852	23 095	21 531	21 888	21 263	21 853	22 284	21 610	22 195
November	21 378	21 741	19 649	19 938	19 580	20 430	19 778	20 674	20 134
December	20 214	20 937	20 128	19 593	18 890	20 990	20 697	20 524	20 018
Total	247 348	262 648	256 190	249 636	246 394	250 988	251 161	254 246	259 791

CHAPTER **8**

CONFINEMENTS TABLES

8.1 CONFINEMENTS, Age of parents

Age of parent (years)	MOTHER				FATHER		
	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial, paternity not acknowledged	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Total
15 and under	4	219	150	373	—	73	73
16	9	680	210	899	—	178	178
17	24	1 537	368	1 929	np	np	455
18	183	2 325	461	2 969	17	973	990
19	556	3 444	499	4 499	104	1 734	1 838
20	1 027	3 916	508	5 451	209	2 290	2 499
21	1 568	4 100	493	6 161	445	2 819	3 264
22	2 416	4 207	449	7 072	915	3 243	4 158
23	3 536	4 200	381	8 117	1 489	3 440	4 929
24	4 774	4 133	386	9 293	2 265	3 772	6 037
25	6 245	3 889	367	10 501	3 344	3 762	7 106
26	7 938	3 891	304	12 133	4 757	3 765	8 522
27	9 682	3 643	333	13 658	6 206	3 796	10 002
28	11 485	3 562	327	15 374	8 055	3 716	11 771
29	12 872	3 557	298	16 727	9 839	3 679	13 518
30	13 859	3 339	292	17 490	11 538	3 845	15 383
31	14 744	3 287	273	18 304	12 653	3 744	16 397
32	14 628	3 209	273	18 110	13 892	3 703	17 595
33	14 227	3 197	226	17 650	14 320	3 491	17 811
34	12 914	2 844	237	15 995	13 420	3 189	16 609
35	10 530	2 485	192	13 207	11 741	2 817	14 558
36	8 745	2 187	206	11 138	10 602	2 443	13 045
37	6 454	1 775	180	8 409	8 786	2 171	10 957
38	4 892	1 360	138	6 390	7 464	1 854	9 318
39	3 512	1 091	110	4 713	6 244	1 565	7 809
40	2 404	826	77	3 307	5 127	1 351	6 478
41	1 672	585	77	2 334	4 227	1 190	5 417
42	895	388	37	1 320	3 419	1 008	4 427
43	541	241	31	813	2 794	848	3 642
44	308	103	14	425	2 054	665	2 719
45	121	51	7	179	1 583	503	2 086
46	60	33	3	96	1 193	420	1 613
47	17	15	—	32	906	345	1 251
48	11	np	np	12	686	258	944
49	5	np	np	7	465	206	671
50	5	np	np	6	417	176	593
51	3	np	np	4	336	163	499
52	—	np	np	np	286	116	402
53	np	np	np	4	184	90	274
54	np	—	—	np	172	81	253
55–59	—	—	—	—	447	223	670
60 and over	—	—	—	—	np	np	296
Not stated	24	13	339	376	65	112	177
Total	172 894	74 340	8 247	255 481	172 894	74 340	247 234

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

8.2**CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother**

<i>Age group (years)</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust. (a)</i>
19 and under	2 953	1 630	2 750	934	1 429	416	447	109	10 669
20–24	11 467	6 832	8 697	2 742	3 967	1 137	796	451	36 094
25–29	22 923	15 784	14 214	4 916	6 899	1 613	973	1 068	68 393
30–34	29 910	23 231	16 085	5 693	8 465	1 757	860	1 540	87 549
35–39	14 918	12 352	7 594	2 680	4 231	814	455	805	43 857
40–44	2 865	2 228	1 422	519	787	148	78	149	8 199
45 and over	131	98	48	25	27	6	4	5	344
Total (b)	85 172	62 169	50 812	17 514	25 818	6 217	3 613	4 138	255 481

(a) Includes Other Territories.

(b) Includes age of mother not stated.

8.3**CONFINEMENTS, Median age of parents(a)—Selected years**

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>MOTHER</i>				<i>FATHER</i>		
	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged</i>	<i>Exnuptial, paternity not acknowledged</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged</i>	<i>Total</i>
1985	27.8	23.6	21.9	27.3	30.4	26.5	30.1
1990	29.0	24.5	22.5	28.3	31.4	27.3	30.9
1995	30.1	25.2	23.2	29.1	32.5	27.8	31.7
2000	30.8	26.4	24.4	29.8	33.1	28.9	32.2
2001	31.0	26.5	24.4	30.0	33.2	29.0	32.3
2002	31.2	26.7	24.8	30.2	33.3	29.3	32.5
2003	31.4	26.9	24.8	30.5	33.5	29.6	32.6
2004	31.6	27.1	25.0	30.6	33.6	29.7	32.8
2005	31.7	27.2	25.1	30.7	33.7	29.8	32.9

(a) Excludes confinements where age of parent is not stated.

8.4 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of parents(a)—States and territories

State/territory	MOTHER				FATHER		
	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Exnuptial, paternity not acknowledged	Total	Nuptial	Exnuptial, paternity acknowledged	Total
New South Wales	31.6	27.4	26.1	30.9	33.8	30.1	33.1
Victoria	32.1	28.6	28.1	31.5	34.0	30.9	33.5
Queensland	31.3	26.3	24.7	29.9	33.3	28.9	32.2
South Australia	31.3	26.7	23.6	30.1	33.5	29.6	32.6
Western Australia	31.7	26.6	23.6	30.4	33.9	29.4	32.8
Tasmania	31.2	25.8	24.1	29.4	33.5	28.6	32.0
Northern Territory	31.1	26.5	23.0	27.9	33.5	29.4	31.6
Australian Capital Territory	31.9	28.8	27.0	31.4	33.9	31.1	33.4
Australia(b)	31.7	27.2	25.1	30.7	33.7	29.8	32.9

(a) Excludes confinements where age of parent is not stated.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

8.5 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of mother(a)—States and territories

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
1985	27.4	27.8	26.8	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.1	28.4	27.3
1990	28.4	28.8	27.9	28.1	28.2	27.8	26.5	28.8	28.3
1995	29.2	29.7	28.4	29.4	28.8	28.5	26.8	29.4	29.1
2000	29.8	30.5	29.1	30.1	29.6	28.7	27.7	30.2	29.8
2001	30.0	30.7	29.3	30.3	29.8	29.1	27.9	30.4	30.0
2002	30.3	31.0	29.5	30.4	29.9	28.9	28.1	30.7	30.2
2003	30.5	31.2	29.7	30.6	30.2	29.3	28.2	31.0	30.5
2004	30.6	31.3	29.8	30.8	30.2	29.2	28.3	31.6	30.6
2005	30.9	31.5	29.9	30.1	30.4	29.4	27.9	31.4	30.7

(a) Excludes confinements where age of mother is not stated.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

8.6

NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
15 and under	np	5	np	np	np	3	np	—	4
16	109	49	17	7	12	8	np	7	9
17	505	286	65	36	46	39	31	26	24
18	1 319	885	300	239	234	214	213	232	183
19	2 640	1 736	920	704	700	666	594	561	556
20	4 616	2 960	1 702	1 224	1 204	1 082	1 026	986	1 027
21	6 962	4 606	2 822	2 077	1 889	1 794	1 784	1 660	1 568
22	9 853	6 356	4 354	2 970	2 802	2 591	2 597	2 416	2 416
23	12 694	8 375	6 543	4 263	3 975	3 812	3 571	3 517	3 536
24	14 962	10 829	8 438	5 793	5 242	5 030	4 882	4 682	4 774
25	16 653	13 167	10 422	7 686	6 932	6 447	6 339	6 359	6 245
26	17 856	15 681	12 298	9 443	8 706	8 450	8 224	7 900	7 938
27	18 239	17 520	13 647	11 858	10 603	10 402	9 729	9 457	9 682
28	17 459	18 251	14 653	13 943	12 544	12 089	11 514	11 229	11 485
29	15 774	18 039	15 188	15 218	14 477	13 879	13 167	13 039	12 872
30	14 128	16 362	15 182	15 053	14 793	15 095	14 216	13 863	13 859
31	11 989	14 302	14 682	14 454	14 335	15 241	15 425	14 682	14 744
32	10 101	12 608	13 639	12 971	13 489	13 828	14 658	14 802	14 628
33	7 987	10 144	11 861	11 704	11 779	12 517	12 901	13 884	14 227
34	6 541	8 170	10 065	10 157	10 047	10 788	11 422	11 970	12 914
35	4 985	6 683	8 086	8 783	8 509	9 108	9 283	10 139	10 530
36	3 535	4 834	6 186	7 262	7 066	7 215	7 464	7 837	8 745
37	2 766	3 501	4 663	5 599	5 573	5 770	5 958	6 046	6 454
38	1 915	2 608	3 382	4 271	4 286	4 509	4 587	4 639	4 892
39	1 239	1 740	2 351	3 000	3 138	3 247	3 386	3 400	3 512
40	807	1 312	1 585	1 983	2 063	2 254	2 307	2 445	2 404
41	455	713	1 010	1 273	1 381	1 401	1 514	1 480	1 672
42	303	431	628	776	858	847	916	984	895
43	148	244	362	412	454	475	471	532	541
44	106	93	146	226	225	249	252	266	308
45	41	49	65	104	100	109	122	134	121
46	20	23	37	41	48	60	49	65	60
47	12	8	9	15	26	21	27	21	17
48	9	—	3	10	10	8	10	10	11
49	np	np	3	5	6	5	9	9	5
50 and over	—	np	np	8	13	10	8	17	12
Not stated	6	13	59	np	np	122	113	16	24
Total	206 739	202 585	185 378	173 571	167 572	169 385	168 777	169 312	172 894

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

8.7

EXNUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
15 and under	516	458	440	382	420	380	374	352	369
16	1 211	1 051	1 128	977	951	976	942	872	890
17	2 120	2 481	2 238	2 055	2 014	1 941	1 875	1 908	1 905
18	2 845	3 599	3 200	2 998	3 052	3 048	2 788	2 915	2 786
19	3 187	4 478	4 237	4 013	4 196	4 148	3 918	3 906	3 943
20	3 164	4 487	4 619	4 159	4 479	4 480	4 352	4 332	4 424
21	3 012	4 267	4 634	4 244	4 261	4 671	4 474	4 613	4 593
22	2 741	3 853	4 703	4 203	4 485	4 387	4 519	4 648	4 656
23	2 629	3 706	4 665	4 183	4 259	4 214	4 354	4 664	4 581
24	2 301	3 273	4 330	4 100	4 254	4 345	4 354	4 279	4 519
25	2 070	3 056	3 822	4 135	4 048	4 073	4 216	4 185	4 256
26	1 812	2 951	3 572	3 878	3 900	3 874	3 993	4 123	4 195
27	1 661	2 795	3 182	3 832	3 881	3 938	3 801	4 028	3 976
28	1 413	2 498	2 915	3 731	3 790	3 795	3 903	3 857	3 889
29	1 254	2 317	2 795	3 552	3 750	3 788	3 727	3 687	3 855
30	1 098	2 058	2 598	3 042	3 512	3 680	3 651	3 631	3 631
31	965	1 813	2 394	2 906	2 960	3 362	3 518	3 503	3 560
32	790	1 556	2 229	2 610	2 738	3 005	3 202	3 472	3 482
33	657	1 331	1 878	2 307	2 432	2 671	2 854	3 213	3 423
34	604	1 155	1 653	2 025	2 194	2 303	2 613	2 731	3 081
35	494	912	1 412	1 878	1 958	2 108	2 300	2 550	2 677
36	359	711	1 176	1 673	1 700	1 811	1 961	2 202	2 393
37	318	595	971	1 441	1 476	1 572	1 591	1 728	1 955
38	246	439	781	1 170	1 218	1 249	1 380	1 441	1 498
39	151	344	577	918	935	1 145	1 126	1 198	1 201
40	103	218	384	640	678	777	833	887	903
41	66	161	296	431	468	579	614	604	662
42	49	105	160	263	292	332	366	427	425
43	24	61	95	158	174	206	190	271	272
44	11	18	55	82	82	93	89	118	117
45	4	10	26	42	37	49	57	58	58
46	np	7	7	10	21	15	18	24	36
47	—	np	4	5	7	8	8	11	15
48	np	np	np	np	np	np	6	3	np
49	—	np	np	np	np	np	np	4	np
50 and over	—	—	—	3	3	np	np	3	6
Not stated	54	81	150	76	140	409	340	285	352
Total	37 933	56 850	67 330	72 126	74 768	77 436	78 312	80 733	82 587

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

8.8 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality

Selected years	Single		Twins	Triplets and higher order	Total multiple confinements		Total confinements
	no.	%			no.	no.		%	no.
1985	241 999	98.9	2 622	51	2 673	1.1	244 672
1990	256 267	98.8	3 074	94	3 168	1.2	259 435
1995	249 249	98.6	3 359	100	3 459	1.4	252 708
2000	241 795	98.4	3 800	102	3 902	1.6	245 697
2001	238 312	98.3	3 938	90	4 028	1.7	242 340
2002	242 668	98.3	4 070	83	4 153	1.7	246 821
2003	243 022	98.4	3 990	77	4 067	1.7	247 089
2004	245 861	98.3	4 105	79	4 184	1.7	250 045
2005	251 256	98.3	4 134	91	4 225	1.7	255 481

8.9 CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH, States and territories

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust. (a)
NUMBER									
1985	971	637	431	227	270	60	36	41	2 673
1990	1 095	825	523	271	317	67	37	33	3 168
1995	1 151	902	579	284	344	87	52	60	3 459
2000	1 397	939	719	269	396	86	44	52	3 902
2001	1 447	954	727	260	403	109	48	78	4 028
2002	1 405	1 042	817	312	373	91	50	63	4 153
2003	1 363	1 066	743	302	401	90	47	55	4 067
2004	1 314	1 118	843	273	400	108	41	87	4 184
2005	1 389	1 090	825	281	434	91	48	67	4 225
PER CENT OF TOTAL CONFINEMENTS									
1985	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.1
1990	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.2
1995	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
2000	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6
2001	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.7
2002	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7
2003	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.7
2004	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.2	2.1	1.7
2005	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.7

(a) Includes Other Territories.

8.10 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality—Nuptiality

Selected years	SINGLE			MULTIPLE			TOTAL		
	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Nuptial</i>	<i>Exnuptial</i>	<i>Total</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1985	83.5	15.4	98.9	1.0	0.1	1.1	84.5	15.5	100.0
1990	77.1	21.7	98.8	1.0	0.2	1.2	78.1	21.9	100.0
1995	72.3	26.4	98.6	1.1	0.3	1.4	73.4	26.6	100.0
2000	69.4	29.0	98.4	1.2	0.4	1.6	70.6	29.4	100.0
2001	67.9	30.5	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	69.1	30.9	100.0
2002	67.3	31.0	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	68.6	31.4	100.0
2003	67.1	31.3	98.4	1.2	0.4	1.6	68.3	31.7	100.0
2004	66.5	31.9	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	67.7	32.3	100.0
2005	66.5	31.9	98.3	1.2	0.4	1.7	67.7	32.3	100.0

8.11 NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Previous children—Duration of current marriage

Duration of marriage (years)	PREVIOUS CHILDREN OF THE CURRENT MARRIAGE(a)							Total
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more		
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	
Under 1	13 529	2 401	428	87	22	5	16 472	
1	18 037	3 715	560	95	25	12	22 444	
2	12 375	7 303	897	115	21	11	20 722	
3	8 863	9 604	1 324	170	34	10	20 005	
4	6 540	9 668	2 238	285	55	20	18 806	
5	4 739	8 231	3 123	490	63	24	16 670	
6	3 081	6 395	3 196	594	104	24	13 394	
7	2 119	4 494	3 108	725	145	40	10 631	
8	1 481	3 387	2 607	766	156	51	8 448	
9	1 070	2 418	2 072	744	159	62	6 525	
5–9 years	12 490	24 925	14 106	3 319	627	201	55 668	
10 and over	2 287	5 162	5 817	3 012	1 243	1 118	18 639	
Total	74 159	62 809	25 394	7 101	2 038	1 393	172 894	

(a) May include children of current relationship born before marriage of current partners.

8.12**NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS, Duration of current marriage**

DURATION OF CURRENT MARRIAGE (YEARS)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>Under one</i>	<i>One</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>Four</i>	<i>Five to nine</i>	<i>Ten and over</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Median duration(a)</i>
1985	17 140	18 913	13 996	10 617	7 404	12 649	1 997	82 860	2.4
1990	18 085	19 232	13 904	10 097	7 296	13 375	2 229	84 228	2.3
1995	13 342	17 405	13 113	9 556	6 740	13 301	2 149	75 606	2.5
2000	13 385	17 314	12 705	9 039	6 806	12 998	2 401	74 648	2.5
2001	12 248	16 884	12 018	8 789	6 098	12 406	2 418	70 861	2.5
2002	11 882	16 542	13 101	8 930	6 320	12 571	2 345	71 691	2.6
2003	12 457	16 500	12 636	9 299	6 453	12 465	2 354	72 164	2.6
2004	12 467	17 377	12 395	9 343	6 845	12 131	2 250	72 808	2.5
2005	13 529	18 037	12 375	8 863	6 540	12 490	2 287	74 159	2.4

(a) Excludes confinements where duration of marriage is not stated.

(b) Includes confinements where duration of marriage is not stated.

8.13**NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother**

AGE OF MOTHER (YEARS)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>19 and under</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-29</i>	<i>30-34</i>	<i>35-39</i>	<i>40 and over</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Median age(a)</i>
1985	3 628	27 747	34 457	13 204	3 372	447	82 860	26.3
1990	2 418	20 158	37 181	18 646	5 023	795	84 228	27.6
1995	1 039	13 934	31 689	21 296	6 539	1 090	75 606	28.6
2000	804	9 912	29 843	24 090	8 484	1 514	74 648	29.5
2001	818	8 949	26 869	24 153	8 467	1 602	70 861	29.8
2002	770	8 378	26 105	25 712	9 001	1 662	71 691	30.1
2003	708	8 296	25 384	26 799	9 184	1 740	72 164	30.3
2004	690	7 915	25 126	27 417	9 806	1 845	72 808	30.4
2005	653	7 966	25 197	28 101	10 369	1 864	74 159	30.5

(a) Excludes confinements where age of mother is not stated.

(b) Includes confinements where age of mother is not stated.

8.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER

Country of birth of mother	Total confinements no.	FATHER BORN IN(a)			NUPTIALITY		Total fertility rate(b)	Median age of mother(c)
		Australia %	Same country as mother %	Other country %	Nuptial %	Exnuptial %		
Oceania and Antarctica								
Australia	194 018	86.3	. .	13.7	64.1	35.9	1.77	30.4
Fiji	1 031	17.8	66.9	15.3	85.3	14.7	1.76	29.5
New Zealand	7 224	50.8	32.8	16.3	52.9	47.1	1.81	30.5
Papua New Guinea	665	73.1	9.3	17.6	69.8	30.2	2.06	32.4
Other	1 292	14.8	63.2	22.0	65.6	34.4	3.80	32.1
<i>Total</i>	204 230	84.2	1.9	13.9	63.9	36.1	1.78	30.4
North-West Europe								
Austria	97	60.4	4.2	35.4	78.4	21.6	1.70	33.4
Denmark	114	69.6	9.8	20.5	75.4	24.6	1.61	33.7
France	288	54.9	17.6	27.5	74.3	25.7	1.79	32.7
Germany	731	58.2	15.8	25.9	70.7	29.3	1.78	33.9
Ireland	601	51.2	21.1	27.8	79.0	21.0	1.36	33.6
Netherlands	392	65.8	16.5	17.7	76.5	23.5	2.03	32.6
Switzerland	144	59.6	12.8	27.7	77.1	22.9	1.64	33.8
United Kingdom	8 797	62.8	20.8	16.5	73.1	26.9	1.69	33.8
Other	368	68.3	6.9	24.8	69.0	31.0	1.56	32.8
<i>Total</i>	11 532	62.0	19.5	18.6	73.4	26.6	1.67	33.7
Southern and Eastern Europe								
Bosnia and Herzegovina	428	14.7	64.3	21.0	90.9	9.1	1.92	28.7
Croatia	294	37.9	34.5	27.6	79.9	20.1	1.84	32.2
Cyprus	111	64.9	17.1	18.0	95.5	4.5	1.55	33.5
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	423	45.0	44.0	11.0	90.3	9.7	1.94	29.0
Greece	210	74.2	15.3	10.5	86.7	13.3	1.38	33.9
Hungary	99	47.9	26.0	26.0	71.7	28.3	1.31	31.3
Italy	356	65.0	16.7	18.4	85.1	14.9	1.58	35.4
Malta	99	77.8	8.1	14.1	87.9	12.1	1.82	32.4
Poland	378	52.7	30.4	16.9	79.1	20.9	1.35	31.2
Portugal	179	47.8	25.3	27.0	81.0	19.0	1.59	30.2
Romania	236	16.7	62.8	20.5	88.6	11.4	1.71	31.0
Russian Federation	326	39.8	27.0	33.2	87.4	12.6	1.47	31.5
Serbia and Montenegro	360	38.1	37.3	24.6	84.7	15.3	1.03	32.1
Spain	129	52.0	9.6	38.4	72.1	27.9	1.72	33.6
Other	556	39.4	31.1	29.5	82.6	17.4	1.70	31.0
<i>Total</i>	4 184	43.7	34.0	22.3	84.8	15.2	1.57	31.6
North Africa and the Middle East								
Egypt	306	18.0	66.7	15.4	97.4	2.6	2.26	31.1
Iran	335	8.1	74.1	17.8	95.2	4.8	1.62	30.9
Israel	144	38.9	49.3	11.8	91.7	8.3	2.36	31.6
Lebanon	2 111	28.1	63.2	8.7	92.3	7.7	3.65	29.4
Syria	249	17.7	39.1	43.1	96.0	4.0	3.65	28.6
Turkey	653	25.1	67.4	7.5	93.9	6.1	2.23	30.7
Other	2 459	3.5	83.2	13.2	90.8	9.2	3.34	28.6
<i>Total</i>	6 257	16.5	70.9	12.6	92.4	7.6	2.90	29.4

. . not applicable

(b) Births per woman.

(a) Paternity-acknowledged births only. Excludes confinements where father's country of birth was not stated.

(c) Excludes confinements where age of mother is not stated.

8.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER *continued*

Country of birth of mother	Total confinements	FATHER BORN IN(a)			NUPTIALITY		Total fertility rate(b)	Median age of mother(c)
		Australia	Same country as mother	Other country	Nuptial	Exnuptial		
no.	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years	
South-East Asia								
Cambodia	687	8.6	70.5	20.8	73.9	26.1	2.30	29.6
Indonesia	1 135	28.5	45.8	25.7	95.2	4.8	1.38	30.5
Laos	227	16.7	52.1	31.2	68.3	31.7	2.04	31.4
Malaysia	1 174	36.6	31.0	32.4	90.4	9.6	1.25	32.5
Philippines	2 601	38.7	42.0	19.3	79.1	20.9	1.81	31.4
Singapore	542	41.8	19.8	38.4	89.7	10.3	1.08	32.8
Thailand	787	51.8	13.5	34.6	71.7	28.3	1.50	29.9
Viet Nam	4 234	7.6	80.7	11.7	70.5	29.5	2.07	31.2
Other	424	19.1	54.3	26.6	86.6	13.4	1.74	32.7
Total	11 811	25.0	53.8	21.2	78.4	21.6	1.67	31.3
North-East Asia								
China	3 099	9.8	75.5	14.7	89.0	11.0	1.65	33.2
Hong Kong	422	26.6	35.4	38.0	90.5	9.5	0.65	33.3
Japan	854	50.6	21.6	27.7	92.5	7.5	1.50	33.2
Korea, Republic of	837	13.1	72.0	14.8	93.4	6.6	1.37	31.7
Other	317	18.2	47.8	34.1	94.0	6.0	0.90	30.9
Total	5 529	18.4	61.9	19.7	90.6	9.4	1.31	32.8
Southern and Central Asia								
India	2 271	7.9	84.5	7.6	97.8	2.2	1.68	29.7
Pakistan	587	3.8	88.7	7.5	98.6	1.4	3.14	28.7
Sri Lanka	958	14.4	78.2	7.4	94.7	5.3	1.74	32.5
Other	1 149	3.7	88.4	8.0	95.0	5.0	2.53	29.0
Total	4 965	7.7	84.7	7.6	96.7	3.3	1.97	29.9
Americas								
Argentina	207	52.7	22.0	25.4	82.1	17.9	1.81	32.7
Canada	678	71.5	7.7	20.8	85.0	15.0	1.89	33.1
Caribbean	57	61.8	3.6	34.5	77.2	22.8	2.19	33.8
Central America	283	37.0	31.5	31.5	72.4	27.6	1.79	29.9
Chile	416	40.0	29.0	31.0	74.0	26.0	1.77	32.5
United States of America	1 069	65.3	14.8	19.9	85.3	14.7	2.01	33.0
Uruguay	121	50.4	20.7	28.9	74.4	25.6	1.72	33.6
Other	473	47.3	26.8	25.9	81.0	19.0	1.63	32.6
Total	3 304	57.1	18.7	24.2	81.4	18.6	1.85	32.7
Sub-Saharan Africa								
Kenya	141	36.2	33.3	30.4	84.4	15.6	1.58	32.3
Mauritius	199	44.2	28.1	27.6	83.4	16.6	1.60	32.2
South Africa	1 654	41.2	38.6	20.2	86.9	13.1	1.58	32.3
Zimbabwe	310	47.2	27.5	25.2	84.5	15.5	1.55	32.0
Other	1 262	11.6	70.4	18.0	73.9	26.1	3.01	30.7
Total	3 566	31.5	47.8	20.7	81.8	18.2	1.90	31.8
Total overseas-born	61 360	35.7	46.2	18.1	79.0	21.0	1.79	31.7
Total(d)	255 481	74.0	11.2	14.8	67.7	32.3	1.78	30.7

(a) Paternity-acknowledged births only. Excludes confinements where father's country of birth was not stated.

(b) Births per woman.

(c) Excludes confinements where age of mother is not stated.

(d) Includes mother's country of birth not stated.

8.15 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF FATHER(a)

Country of birth of father	Total confinements	MOTHER BORN IN(b)			NUPTIALITY		Total paternity rate(c)	Median age of father(d)
		Australia	Same country as father	Other country	Nuptial	Exnuptial		
no.	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years	
Oceania and Antarctica								
Australia	182 822	88.3	. .	11.7	66.6	33.4	1.66	32.4
Fiji	1 051	23.1	64.4	12.5	83.0	17.0	1.92	32.5
New Zealand	7 809	57.5	29.2	13.3	56.4	43.6	1.69	32.7
Papua New Guinea	705	73.3	8.5	18.2	76.5	23.5	2.06	34.0
Other	1 651	28.2	46.3	25.5	63.1	36.9	4.31	33.9
<i>Total</i>	194 038	86.2	2.0	11.9	66.2	33.8	1.67	32.4
North-West Europe								
Austria	99	65.7	4.0	30.3	78.8	21.2	1.34	36.1
Denmark	107	70.1	10.3	19.6	75.7	24.3	1.60	36.1
France	332	57.8	15.1	27.1	75.3	24.7	1.62	35.5
Germany	730	58.4	15.5	26.2	74.7	25.3	1.56	36.3
Ireland	755	58.9	16.7	24.4	75.8	24.2	1.45	35.1
Netherlands	483	63.1	13.3	23.6	76.2	23.8	1.87	35.0
Switzerland	150	58.7	12.0	29.3	78.0	22.0	1.44	35.5
United Kingdom	11 496	66.3	15.6	18.1	75.6	24.4	1.60	36.2
Other	249	60.2	10.0	29.7	76.7	23.3	1.29	35.6
<i>Total</i>	14 401	65.0	15.3	19.7	75.6	24.4	1.58	36.1
Southern and Eastern Europe								
Bosnia and Herzegovina	432	19.2	63.0	17.8	89.6	10.4	2.10	32.8
Croatia	402	49.0	24.9	26.1	83.1	16.9	1.82	35.4
Cyprus	187	70.1	10.2	19.8	87.7	12.3	1.85	34.9
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	486	52.9	38.1	9.1	91.2	8.8	1.86	34.2
Greece	417	78.2	7.7	14.1	86.1	13.9	1.42	38.6
Hungary	78	38.5	32.1	29.5	80.8	19.2	1.33	34.0
Italy	737	74.5	8.0	17.5	80.1	19.9	1.61	38.3
Malta	152	70.4	5.3	24.3	78.3	21.7	1.59	36.2
Poland	310	43.5	36.5	20.0	81.9	18.1	1.27	33.5
Portugal	211	55.0	21.3	23.7	80.1	19.9	1.55	32.7
Romania	224	19.2	65.6	15.2	86.2	13.8	1.70	33.9
Russian Federation	149	19.5	58.4	22.1	83.9	16.1	1.15	34.6
Serbia and Montenegro	428	41.6	30.8	27.6	79.7	20.3	1.06	36.0
Spain	120	64.2	10.0	25.8	74.2	25.8	1.49	35.3
Other	448	31.5	37.7	30.8	82.6	17.4	1.61	33.6
<i>Total</i>	4 781	50.2	29.4	20.4	83.7	16.3	1.53	35.4
North Africa and the Middle East								
Egypt	457	34.8	44.6	20.6	93.2	6.8	2.33	37.3
Iran	380	16.6	64.7	18.7	93.4	6.6	1.44	37.6
Israel	232	48.3	30.6	21.1	89.7	10.3	2.37	34.0
Lebanon	3 131	50.1	42.3	7.6	91.4	8.6	3.80	33.6
Syria	259	34.0	37.5	28.6	93.8	6.2	3.35	35.0
Turkey	834	39.7	52.5	7.8	89.7	10.3	2.22	33.9
Other	2 731	11.5	73.5	15.0	89.8	10.2	3.01	35.2
<i>Total</i>	8 024	32.8	54.7	12.5	90.9	9.1	2.86	34.7

. . not applicable

(a) Paternity acknowledged confinements only.

(b) Excludes confinements where mother's country of birth was not stated.

(c) Births per man. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate.

(d) Excludes confinements where age of father is not stated.

8.15COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF FATHER(a) *continued*

Country of birth of father	Total confinements	MOTHER BORN IN(b)			NUPTIALITY		Total paternity rate(c)	Median age of father(d)
		Australia	Same country as father	Other country	Nuptial	Exnuptial		
no.	%	%	%	%	%	rate	years	
South-East Asia								
Cambodia	670	5.7	68.2	26.1	78.8	21.2	2.25	33.8
Indonesia	740	18.2	70.0	11.8	93.0	7.0	1.36	32.3
Laos	233	10.3	48.1	41.6	68.7	31.3	1.83	34.9
Malaysia	1 007	29.7	35.8	34.5	90.5	9.5	1.20	34.4
Philippines	1 505	20.6	70.4	9.0	78.1	21.9	1.66	32.3
Singapore	469	38.2	22.6	39.2	90.0	10.0	1.09	34.1
Thailand	247	32.0	41.7	26.3	61.1	38.9	1.14	29.8
Viet Nam	3 643	4.7	85.3	10.0	75.6	24.4	1.89	34.3
Other	418	21.1	54.3	24.6	84.9	15.1	1.57	35.9
Total	8 932	14.8	67.8	17.4	80.0	20.0	1.59	33.8
North-East Asia								
China	2 630	2.7	87.7	9.6	91.7	8.3	1.65	36.5
Hong Kong	465	21.5	32.0	46.5	90.1	9.9	0.74	34.9
Japan	277	19.1	66.4	14.4	94.2	5.8	1.23	34.3
Korea, Republic of	673	4.2	88.7	7.1	96.9	3.1	1.39	33.5
Other	224	5.4	67.0	27.7	94.6	5.4	0.93	31.3
Total	4 269	6.2	79.3	14.5	92.7	7.3	1.33	35.3
Southern and Central Asia								
India	2 529	13.1	75.7	11.2	96.6	3.4	1.45	33.4
Pakistan	683	10.4	76.0	13.6	97.7	2.3	2.61	34.6
Sri Lanka	1 041	17.0	71.3	11.7	95.4	4.6	1.60	35.9
Other	1 192	6.6	84.8	8.6	93.4	6.6	2.08	33.6
Total	5 445	12.1	76.9	11.0	95.8	4.2	1.69	34.0
Americas								
Argentina	195	53.3	23.1	23.6	77.9	22.1	1.61	33.3
Canada	657	70.5	7.9	21.6	84.6	15.4	1.87	34.6
Caribbean	74	73.0	2.7	24.3	68.9	31.1	2.37	34.5
Central America	254	41.3	33.9	24.8	69.3	30.7	1.67	31.8
Chile	433	46.2	27.3	26.6	72.7	27.3	1.80	33.9
United States of America	1 189	65.9	13.1	21.0	85.5	14.5	2.18	35.3
Uruguay	162	53.7	15.4	30.9	76.5	23.5	1.86	34.7
Other	396	43.4	31.6	25.0	80.3	19.7	1.63	34.0
Total	3 360	58.6	18.1	23.3	80.6	19.4	1.90	34.4
Sub-Saharan Africa								
Kenya	171	42.1	26.9	31.0	83.0	17.0	1.79	35.3
Mauritius	199	57.3	28.1	14.6	76.4	23.6	1.50	36.6
South Africa	1 662	44.9	38.1	17.0	86.1	13.9	1.58	33.9
Zimbabwe	354	46.6	23.7	29.7	83.6	16.4	1.68	33.5
Other	1 402	20.4	60.4	19.2	76.5	23.5	3.06	35.8
Total	3 788	36.5	44.0	19.5	81.7	18.3	1.93	34.6
Total overseas-born	64 216	40.0	43.1	16.9	79.7	20.3	1.72	34.6
Total(e)	255 481	76.4	10.9	12.7	67.7	29.1	1.69	32.9

(a) Paternity acknowledged confinements only.

(b) Excludes confinements where mother's country of birth was not stated.

(c) Births per man. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate.

(d) Excludes confinements where age of father is not stated.

(e) Includes country of birth of father not stated.

9.1 INDIGENOUS BIRTHS(a), Implied coverage—2001–2005

	<i>Births registered as Indigenous</i>	<i>Projected Indigenous births</i>	<i>Implied coverage of Indigenous births(b)</i>
	no.	no.	%
.....			
New South Wales	16 377	18 540	88.3
Victoria	3 366	3 643	92.4
Queensland	17 175	17 401	98.7
South Australia	3 240	3 321	97.6
Western Australia	8 247	8 868	93.0
Tasmania	2 047	2 287	89.5
Northern Territory	7 851	7 241	108.4
Australian Capital Territory	407	538	75.6
Australia(c)	58 717	61 864	94.9

-
- (a) See paragraphs 14–20 of the Explanatory Notes.
 - (b) Defined as the ratio of births registered to projected Indigenous births.
 - (c) Includes Other Territories.

9.2**INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Australia(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
Births (no.)			
Males	6 162	4 383	133 428
Females	5 916	4 172	126 363
<i>Total</i>	<i>12 078</i>	<i>8 555</i>	<i>259 791</i>
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	18.0	13.9	67.8
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	69.6	68.6	29.0
Paternity not acknowledged	12.4	17.5	3.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>82.0</i>	<i>86.1</i>	<i>32.2</i>
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	29.5	..	..
Mother only(b)	41.3	..	..
Father only(c)	29.2	..	..
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	2 370	1 829	10 744
20–24 years	3 682	2 665	36 482
25–29 years	2 905	1 999	69 420
30–34 years	2 048	1 352	89 158
35–39 years	901	603	44 873
40–44 years	162	100	8 376
45–49 years(e)	7	4	358
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	69.2	16.0
20–24 years	—	121.9	52.9
25–29 years	—	108.9	103.0
30–34 years	—	69.8	117.5
35–39 years	—	34.8	60.6
40–44 years	—	6.5	10.9
45–49 years(e)	—	0.3	0.5
Total fertility rate(f)	—	2.057	1.806
Total confinements (no.)	11 924	8 446	255 481
Median age of mother (years)	25.0	24.5	30.7
Median age of father (years)	28.0	27.6	32.9

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Australia for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 95% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (12%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (9%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (10%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.3 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, New South Wales(a)

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
.....			
Births (no.)			
Males	1 611	996	44 542
Females	1 528	960	42 047
Total	3 139	1 956	86 589
.....			
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	23.3	19.7	72.1
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	70.2	69.9	25.0
Paternity not acknowledged	6.5	10.4	2.9
Total	76.7	80.3	27.9
.....			
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	18.6	..	..
Mother only(b)	43.6	..	..
Father only(c)	37.8	..	..
.....			
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	577	391	2 974
20–24 years	902	573	11 591
25–29 years	749	431	23 255
30–34 years	588	353	30 442
35–39 years	260	167	15 252
40–44 years	58	38	2 932
45–49 years(e)	5	3	138
.....			
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	50.3	13.5
20–24 years	—	96.5	51.7
25–29 years	—	87.6	102.7
30–34 years	—	65.5	118.6
35–39 years	—	33.8	63.1
40–44 years	—	8.4	11.5
45–49 years(e)	—	0.8	0.6
.....			
Total fertility rate(f)	—	1.715	1.808
Total confinements (no.)	3 097	1 931	85 172
Median age of mother (years)	25.5	25.1	30.9
Median age of father (years)	28.4	28.2	33.1

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in New South Wales for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 88% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (6%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (31%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (34%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.4

INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Victoria(a)

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
Births (no.)			
Males	391	237	32 309
Females	411	247	30 978
<i>Total</i>	802	484	63 287
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	21.8	19.6	72.9
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	74.8	74.8	25.3
Paternity not acknowledged	3.4	5.6	1.8
<i>Total</i>	78.2	80.4	27.1
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	14.2	..	..
Mother only(b)	46.1	..	..
Father only(c)	39.7	..	..
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	130	85	1 641
20–24 years	225	138	6 914
25–29 years	217	139	16 030
30–34 years	146	75	23 670
35–39 years	74	42	12 636
40–44 years	9	4	2 282
45–49 years(e)	—	—	100
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	50.0	10.1
20–24 years	—	104.7	39.9
25–29 years	—	123.2	93.4
30–34 years	—	64.7	122.4
35–39 years	—	38.5	66.4
40–44 years	—	8.4	11.9
45–49 years(e)	—	—	0.6
Total fertility rate(f)	—	1.926	1.722
Total confinements (no.)	793	477	62 169
Median age of mother (years)	25.9	25.5	31.5
Median age of father (years)	28.3	28.0	33.5

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Victoria for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 92% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (3%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (3%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.5 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Queensland(a)

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
.....			
Births (no.)			
Males	1 876	1 332	26 702
Females	1 781	1 243	24 959
Total	3 657	2 575	51 661
.....			
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	19.7	15.5	61.8
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	72.5	73.4	34.7
Paternity not acknowledged	7.8	11.0	3.5
Total	80.3	84.5	38.2
.....			
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	34.4	..	..
Mother only(b)	36.0	..	..
Father only(c)	29.6	..	..
.....			
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	629	482	2 764
20–24 years	1 148	820	8 795
25–29 years	897	618	14 427
30–34 years	644	437	16 397
35–39 years	290	189	7 777
40–44 years	48	28	1 448
45–49 years(e)	—	—	51
.....			
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	66.7	20.5
20–24 years	—	134.8	63.7
25–29 years	—	116.5	110.1
30–34 years	—	78.0	110.9
35–39 years	—	39.2	53.7
40–44 years	—	6.7	9.5
45–49 years(e)	—	—	0.4
.....			
Total fertility rate(f)	—	2.210	1.846
.....			
Total confinements (no.)	3 615	2 544	50 812
Median age of mother (years)	25.3	24.9	29.9
Median age of father (years)	28.0	27.7	32.2

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Queensland for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 99% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (8%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (1%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.6**INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, South Australia(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
Births (no.)			
Males	361	249	9 092
Females	357	250	8 708
<i>Total</i>	<i>718</i>	<i>499</i>	<i>17 800</i>
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	16.6	11.8	63.4
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	71.6	71.1	33.3
Paternity not acknowledged	11.8	17.0	3.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>83.4</i>	<i>88.2</i>	<i>36.6</i>
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	31.8	..	..
Mother only(b)	37.7	..	..
Father only(c)	30.5	..	..
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	161	126	943
20–24 years	234	166	2 771
25–29 years	156	109	4 994
30–34 years	109	65	5 795
35–39 years	46	26	2 739
40–44 years	11	6	528
45–49 years(e)	—	—	25
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	82.7	18.9
20–24 years	—	134.4	55.2
25–29 years	—	107.3	110.0
30–34 years	—	60.3	112.9
35–39 years	—	26.2	51.0
40–44 years	—	6.9	9.1
45–49 years(e)	—	—	0.4
Total fertility rate(f)	—	2.089	1.793
Total confinements (no.)	705	489	17 514
Median age of mother (years)	24.0	23.4	30.1
Median age of father (years)	27.4	26.6	32.6

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in South Australia for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 98% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (6%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (1%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.7 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Western Australia(a)

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
.....			
Births (no.)			
Males	908	725	13 525
Females	855	653	12 728
Total	1 763	1 378	26 253
.....			
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	12.5	9.9	63.2
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	74.9	73.9	33.1
Paternity not acknowledged	12.6	16.1	3.7
Total	87.5	90.1	36.8
.....			
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	42.1	..	..
Mother only(b)	36.1	..	..
Father only(c)	21.8	..	..
.....			
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	425	350	1 446
20–24 years	555	433	4 001
25–29 years	399	306	7 006
30–34 years	262	192	8 610
35–39 years	101	80	4 343
40–44 years	20	16	804
45–49 years(e)	—	3	27
.....			
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	90.5	20.6
20–24 years	—	132.9	58.0
25–29 years	—	114.3	105.9
30–34 years	—	71.6	117.8
35–39 years	—	30.9	58.5
40–44 years	—	7.3	10.4
45–49 years(e)	—	0.6	0.4
.....			
Total fertility rate(f)	—	2.240	1.860
Total confinements (no.)	1 737	1 357	25 818
Median age of mother (years)	24.0	23.7	30.4
Median age of father (years)	27.0	26.6	32.8

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Western Australia for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 93% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (12%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (4%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (3%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.8**INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Tasmania(a)**

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
Births (no.)			
Males	196	117	3 230
Females	219	126	3 078
<i>Total</i>	415	243	6 308
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial	26.7	26.7	51.5
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	70.1	67.9	40.5
Paternity not acknowledged	3.1	5.3	8.0
<i>Total</i>	73.3	73.3	48.5
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	9.4	..	..
Mother only(b)	49.2	..	..
Father only(c)	41.4	..	..
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	78	44	418
20–24 years	117	74	1 147
25–29 years	113	64	1 637
30–34 years	77	44	1 798
35–39 years	25	16	827
40–44 years	5	3	149
45–49 years(e)	—	—	6
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	41.4	26.6
20–24 years	—	83.9	81.1
25–29 years	—	105.8	128.8
30–34 years	—	73.9	119.7
35–39 years	—	27.2	52.6
40–44 years	—	1.7	8.5
45–49 years(e)	—	—	0.3
Total fertility rate(f)	—	1.670	2.101
Total confinements (no.)	409	240	6 217
Median age of mother (years)	25.5	25.3	29.4
Median age of father (years)	27.7	28.0	32.0

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Tasmania for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 90% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (3%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (1%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (0%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

9.9 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS, Northern Territory(a)

	<i>All Indigenous births</i>	<i>Births to Indigenous mothers</i>	<i>All births</i>
.....			
Births (no.)			
Males	773	707	1 889
Females	712	659	1 770
Total	1 485	1 366	3 659
.....			
Nuptiality (%)			
Nuptial %	4.2	2.5	36.7
Exnuptial			
Paternity acknowledged	51.1	49.0	42.4
Paternity not acknowledged	44.6	48.5	20.9
Total	95.8	97.5	63.3
.....			
Indigenous parentage (%)			
Both parents Indigenous	38.8	..	..
Mother only(b)	53.2	..	..
Father only(c)	8.0	..	..
.....			
Age of mother (no.)			
15–19 years(d)	355	342	448
20–24 years	474	445	803
25–29 years	347	317	990
30–34 years	203	176	870
35–39 years	94	79	465
40–44 years	11	7	78
45–49 years(e)	3	—	5
.....			
Age-specific fertility rates			
15–19 years(d)	—	112.1	64.1
20–24 years	—	150.7	108.3
25–29 years	—	125.8	121.0
30–34 years	—	65.8	96.8
35–39 years	—	36.7	57.6
40–44 years	—	3.6	10.3
45–49 years(e)	—	—	0.7
.....			
Total fertility rate(f)	—	2.474	2.293
Total confinements (no.)	1 471	1 355	3 613
Median age of mother (years)	24.0	23.6	27.9
Median age of father (years)	28.2	27.7	31.6

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in the Northern Territory for 2001–2005 has been estimated at 108% on 2001 census-based projections. See table 9.1.

(b) Includes paternity not acknowledged (45%) and Indigenous status of father not stated (0%).

(c) Includes Indigenous status of mother not stated (0%).

(d) Includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

(e) Includes births to mothers aged 50 years and over.

(f) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2005 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 Registration of births is the responsibility of state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages and is based on the data provided on an information form completed by the parents of the child. This form is the basis of the data provided to the ABS, by the Registrars, for compilation into the aggregate statistics in this publication. Most data items are collected in all states and territories and therefore statistics at the national level are available for most characteristics. Some states, however, collect additional information.

2 In the main, statistics in this publication refer to births registered by state and territory Registrars during the calendar year shown. There is usually an interval between the occurrence and registration of a birth, and as a result of this delay some births occurring in one year are not registered until the following year or even later. This can be caused by either a delay by the parents in submitting a completed form to the registry, or a delay by the registry in processing the birth.

3 Hospitals and birth clinics notify state and territory registries of recent births on a regular basis. For those births known to a registry that are not registered within a prescribed time period, a reminder letter is sent to the parent(s) of the child to follow-up the birth registration. In 2005 the New South Wales Registry introduced improvements to follow-up procedures which may explain, for New South Wales, the relatively high proportion of births registered in 2005 that occurred in 2005 (89.7%), compared to the proportion of births registered in 2004 that occurred in 2004 (84.8%).

YEAR OF OCCURRENCE OF BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 2005

State or territory of registration	1999 and earlier						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	9.4	89.7
Victoria	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	8.7	89.6
Queensland	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.0	10.7	85.4
South Australia	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	7.3	90.9
Western Australia	1.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	8.4	88.9
Tasmania	2.4	0.9	0.1	—	—	2.3	94.3
Northern Territory	0.1	—	—	—	—	7.4	92.5
Australian Capital Territory	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.3	9.0	90.2
Australia(a)	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	9.0	89.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes Other Territories.

4 To protect confidentiality, small values are suppressed or randomised.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

5 As a result of an amendment made in 1992 to section 17(a) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901–1973 (Cwlth)* the Indian Ocean territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands have been included as part of geographic Australia, hence another category of the state and territory classification has been created. This category is known as 'Other Territories' and includes Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay Territory.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

continued

6 Prior to 1993 births to mothers usually resident in Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands were included with Off-Shore Areas and Migratory in Western Australia, while births to mothers usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory were included with the Australian Capital Territory. In 2005 there were 28 births to mothers usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

7 In the main, statistics for states and territories have been compiled and presented in respect of the state or territory of usual residence of the mother. However, in the following table data have been presented on a state or territory of registration basis. Births which took place outside Australia are excluded from the statistics. Births to mothers who were usual residents of Australia's Other Territories (Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Jervis Bay Territory) are registered in other Australian states.

BIRTHS, State or territory of usual residence of mother and state or territory of registration

State or territory of usual residence	STATE OR TERRITORY OF REGISTRATION								
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New South Wales	84 210	1 058	446	40	21	7	3	804	86 589
Victoria	115	63 013	51	67	17	14	3	8	63 287
Queensland	782	77	50 745	17	20	5	11	4	51 661
South Australia	30	42	17	17 648	14	—	47	—	17 800
Western Australia	36	13	16	18	26 144	—	25	—	26 253
Tasmania	24	30	6	4	5	6 238	3	—	6 308
Northern Territory	20	11	31	33	11	—	3 553	—	3 659
Australian Capital Territory	60	10	6	—	3	—	—	4 128	4 206
Australia(a)	85 282	64 256	51 318	17 827	26 255	6 266	3 642	4 945	259 791

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes Other Territories.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

continued

8 In 2005 there were 364 births to women who usually lived overseas. These have been included in this publication with state or territory of usual residence classified according to the state or territory in which the birth was registered.

BIRTHS, Babies born in Australia to non-resident mothers

State or territory of registration	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
New South Wales	231	312	331	338	398	380	281
Victoria	8	17	19	22	24	20	23
Queensland	111	108	108	116	92	61	38
South Australia	15	8	8	4	5	9	—
Western Australia	16	21	24	16	24	18	8
Tasmania	13	7	6	4	5	—	3
Northern Territory	9	6	8	6	5	3	5
Australian Capital Territory	5	4	7	5	4	—	7
Australia	408	483	511	511	557	491	364

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

SUB-STATE/TERRITORY

FERTILITY RATES

9 Age-specific and total fertility rates for sub-state/territory regions (for example, Statistical Divisions) presented in table 6.6 and the accompanying spreadsheet tables 2 to 4 are calculated as average rates over three years ending in the reference year. Rates for states, territories and Australia in all other tables are based on individual years of birth registration data.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES
FOR AREAS (SEIFA), 2001

10 The ABS has developed summary measures, or indexes, derived from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing to measure different aspects of socio-economic conditions by geographic areas. Two of these indexes are included in table 6.6:

- Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage; and
- Index of Education and Occupation.

11 The indexes have been constructed so that relatively advantaged areas have high index values. A higher score on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage indicates that an area has attributes such as a relatively high proportion of people with high incomes or a skilled workforce. It also means an area has a low proportion of people with low incomes and relatively few unskilled people in the workforce. Conversely, a low score indicates that an area has a higher proportion of individuals with low incomes, more employees in unskilled occupations, etc.; and a low proportion of people with high incomes or in skilled occupations.

12 The Index of Education and Occupation is designed to reflect the educational and occupational structure of areas. An area with a high score would have a high concentration of people with higher educational qualifications or undergoing further education, with a high percentage of people employed in skilled occupations. A low score indicates an area with concentrations of either people with low educational attainment, people employed in unskilled occupations, or the unemployed.

13 Further information can be found in the Information Paper: *Census of Population and Housing—Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, Australia, 2001* (cat. no. 2039.0).

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

14 This publication includes data on the numbers of Indigenous births for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. The data are regarded as being of sufficient quality to publish. Indigenous births for the Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories are included in the totals for Australia.

15 The populations used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates for 2005 are obtained from *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009* (cat. no. 3238.0), low series, based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. The populations used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates for 2001 are the final 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS

16 There are several data collection forms on which people are asked to state whether they are of Indigenous origin. Due to a number of factors, results collated from these forms are not always consistent. The way in which a person identifies, or is identified, as Indigenous on a specific form can change over time leading to unexpected changes in Indigenous statistics. Responses to Indigenous status questions can be influenced by a range of factors, including the perception of how information will be used, education programs about identifying as Indigenous, who completes the question on behalf of others, and emotional reaction to identifying as Indigenous.

17 The ABS has released experimental estimates and projections of the Indigenous population from 1991 to 2009 based on the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. These estimates are recommended for analysis of Indigenous demographic indicators instead of previous published estimates.

18 Currently there are four estimates of annual numbers of Indigenous births. Each is based on a different collection, assumptions and methods.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS*continued*

- 2001 census-based population estimates, covering the period 1991 to 2001. After deriving experimental Indigenous resident population as at 30 June 2001 from the 2001 census, estimates were survived back one year at a time to 30 June 1991 using a reverse survival technique based on experimental Indigenous life tables (see *Experimental Estimates and Projections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009*, cat. no. 3238.0 for further information).
- 2001 census-based population projections, covering the period 2002 to 2009. There are two series of projections; a low series and a high series. In the low series, the number of births each year is estimated using the propensity to identify found in the 2001 census. The high series uses an alternative assumption of an increasing propensity to identify based on the change between 1996 and 2001 in propensity to identify (see *Experimental Estimates and Projections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009*, cat. no. 3238.0 for further information).
- Birth registrations: this publication is based on the registration of births with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each state and territory.
- Perinatal Data Collection: this data is primarily about babies born in hospitals and their mothers (see Appendix 1 for more information).

19 Implied coverage of Indigenous births in table 9.1 is defined as the ratio of the number of Indigenous births registered in a particular year to the corresponding number of projected Indigenous births from the low series of *Experimental Estimates and Projections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009*, (cat. no. 3238.0). Due to the inherent volatility in the number of births registered annually, and the limitations of the assumptions used to derive estimated and projected births, over precise analysis of annual coverage is discouraged. Accordingly, coverage rates are presented as a five year average (2001–2005).

20 On this basis, implied coverage of Indigenous births in Australia for 2001–2005 was 95%, and ranged from 76% in the Australian Capital Territory to 108% in the Northern Territory.

RELATED PRODUCTS

- 21** Other ABS products which may be of interest to users include:
- Australian Demographic Statistics*, cat. no. 3101.0—issued quarterly
 - Australian Demographic Trends*, cat. no. 3102.0
 - Australian Historical Population Statistics*, cat. no. 3105.65.001
 - Causes of Death, Australia*, cat. no. 3303.0—issued annually
 - Deaths, Australia*, cat. no. 3302.0—issued annually
 - Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, *Statistical Concepts Library*, ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>
 - Experimental Estimates and Projections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009*, cat. no. 3238.0
 - Population Projections, Australia*, cat. no. 3222.0
- 22** Time series of births and fertility data for the states and territories, Statistical Divisions, Statistical Local Areas and Local Government Areas (on *Australian Standard Geographic Classification 2005*, cat. no. 1216.0, geographical boundaries) are now available in Microsoft Excel format on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>, by selecting Statistics, searching by catalogue number 3301.0 for *Births, Australia 2005*, and selecting the 'Details' tab.
- 23** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

.....

RELATED PRODUCTS *continued*

24 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, additional information is available from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> by accessing Themes/Demography.

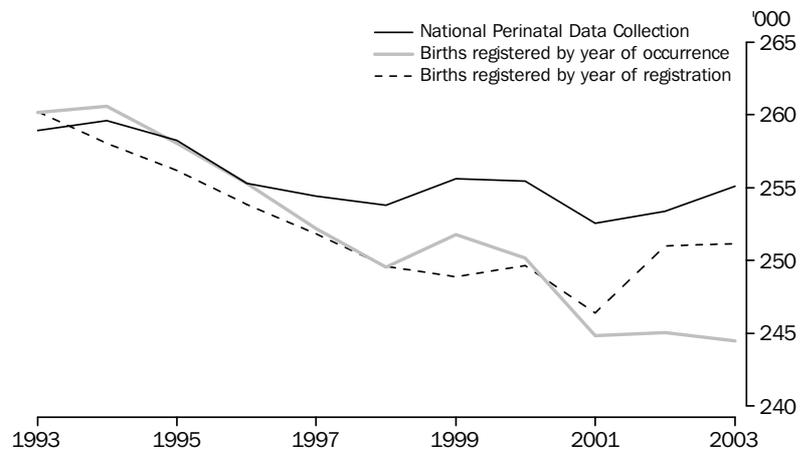
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS
COMPARED TO THE
PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION

Birth registration data in this publication are not the only births data available in Australia. The National Perinatal Statistics Unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) also collects birth data from midwives and other health professionals who attend births. This data is published annually in *Australia's Mothers and Babies*.

As information from these two types of collection are from different sources, the statistics obtained vary. For example, the Perinatal Data Collection reported the occurrence of 255,100 live births in Australia in 2003 (the latest available data), 1.6% more than the 251,200 births registered in the same year.

The following graph shows the total number of live births in Australia by type of collection and recording basis from 1993 to 2003. Births from the Perinatal Data Collection are shown on a year of occurrence basis. Registered births are shown on a year of registration basis and on a year of occurrence basis, which includes births that occurred in a particular year but may have been registered up to and including the year 2005. Prior to 1994, the Perinatal Data Collection showed fewer births than births registered. Since then this position has reversed, with the gap between births reported in the Perinatal Data Collection and births registered widening until 1999 (when there were 3% more births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than births registered). This figure has declined since 1999, to 1.6% in 2003. While difficult to explain, the change in pattern may be due to improvements in quality and coverage of the Perinatal Data Collection, particularly with the introduction of a perinatal National Minimum Dataset (NMDS) in 1997 which developed national standards for the collection of perinatal statistics. The trends also reflect changing propensities of parents to delay or fail to register the birth of a child. For birth registration data, the proportion of births occurring and being registered in the same year declined from 90% in 1993 and 1994 to a low of 86% in 2002, and has since risen to 89% in 2005.

A1.1 LIVE BIRTHS, Type of collection



BIRTH REGISTRATIONS
COMPARED TO THE
PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION

continued

The following analysis of the difference between the type of collections is made on live births between the Perinatal Data Collection on a year of occurrence basis and the Birth Registrations collection on a year of registration basis.

AGE OF MOTHER

Age of mother is a factor which contributes to differences between the Perinatal Data Collection and birth registration data. In 2003, a higher number of confinements were recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than in births registrations for mothers in all age groups. For mothers aged 19 years and under, the number of confinements recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection outnumbered births registered by 7.5% in 2003, declining with increasing age to one per cent for mothers aged 35–39 years.

A1.2 CONFINEMENTS, Difference between collections by age of mother—2003(a)

	PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION	BIRTH REGISTRATIONS	DIFFERENCE(b)
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	%
19 years and under	11 617	10 743	7.5
20–24 years	37 509	35 913	4.3
25–29 years	70 233	68 613	2.3
30–34 years	85 750	84 460	1.5
35–39 years	39 443	39 036	1.0
40 years and over	8 000	7 871	1.6
Total(c)	252 584	247 089	2.2

- (a) Year of occurrence for Perinatal Data Collection and year of registration for Birth Registrations collection.
- (b) Positive figures denote more confinements recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than the Birth Registrations collection.
- (c) Includes age of mother not stated.

STATE AND TERRITORY
COMPARISONS

While birth registrations data provides information on state/territory of registration or state/territory of usual residence of mother, the Perinatal Data Collection only provides data on the state/territory in which the birth took place (that is, the state/territory of occurrence). The following analysis therefore compares state/territory of usual residence from birth registrations to state/territory of occurrence from the Perinatal Data Collection. As a small number of births occur in a different state or territory to that of the mother's usual residence, there are some minor differences. For example, some women living in rural New South Wales close to the Australian Capital Territory have their babies in Canberra. As a consequence, the Australian Capital Territory has been excluded from the comparisons below.

In 2003, the Perinatal Data Collection recorded more births in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, while there were more births registered in New South Wales, Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

A1.3 LIVE BIRTHS, Type of collection by state/territory—2003(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	Total(b)
Perinatal Data Collection (no.)	85 891	63 018	50 059	17 710	24 497	5 482	3 621	255 099
Birth Registrations (no.)	86 344	61 058	48 342	17 443	24 273	5 752	3 790	251 161
Difference (%) (c)	-0.5	3.1	3.4	1.5	0.9	-4.9	-4.7	1.5

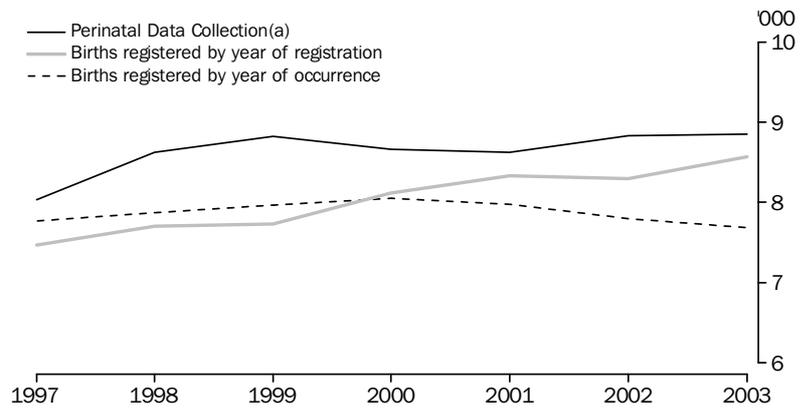
- (a) State and year of occurrence for Perinatal Data Collection, and state of usual residence and year of registration for Birth Registrations collection.
- (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories.
- (c) Positive figures denote more births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than the Birth Registrations collection.

BIRTHS TO INDIGENOUS MOTHERS

There are differences between Indigenous data from the Perinatal Data Collection and Indigenous birth registrations data. In all years from 1997 to 2003 the number of births to Indigenous mothers as recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection exceeded registered births to Indigenous mothers. For 2003 there were 8,900 live births to Indigenous mothers recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection, 300 more (3%) than the number recorded by birth registrations (8,600).

It is important to recognise that data concerning Indigenous status is affected by identification issues. Differences between the Perinatal Data Collection and birth registrations data may in part be due to low coverage of registrations of Indigenous births (for example, the coverage of registered Indigenous births, where at least one parent identified as being of Indigenous origin, was estimated at 95% for the period 2001–2005). However, failure to determine Indigenous status may also affect the Perinatal Data Collection. As a result, caution should be used when interpreting Indigenous births data from either source. Paragraphs 14 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes provide further information about coverage of Indigenous birth registrations.

A1.4 LIVE BIRTHS TO INDIGENOUS MOTHERS, Type of collection



APPENDIX 2

CHARACTERISTICS AVAILABLE

BIRTHS/CONFINEMENTS

- Registration year
- Registration month
- State/territory of registration
- Year/month/day of birth of child
- Sex of child
- Mother's age
- Father's age
- Indigenous status of child/mother/father
- State or territory of usual residence
- Statistical Division of usual residence
- Statistical Subdivision of usual residence
- Statistical Local Area of usual residence
- Country of birth of mother/father
- Nuptiality
- Plurality
- Previous children of the current relationship
- Duration of marriage
- Year of marriage
- Month of marriage
- Country of marriage
- Father's occupation

ESTIMATED RESIDENT
POPULATION

- Age
- Sex
- Country of birth
- Marital status
- State or territory of usual residence
- Statistical Division of usual residence
- Statistical Subdivision of usual residence
- Statistical Local Area of usual residence
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

APPENDIX 3

FEATURE ARTICLES LIST

BIRTHS, AUSTRALIA
(cat. no. 3301.0)

- A closer look at 2004 fertility rates, 2004 edition, p.25
- Birth order specific fertility rates in Australia, 1986–1999, 1999 edition, p. 33
- Birth order specific fertility rates, states and territories, 2000 edition, p. 39
- Childlessness, 1998 edition, p. 42
- Echoes of the baby boom, 2002 edition, p. 32
- Fertility by country of birth, 2001 edition, p. 24
- Fertility differentials, 2000 edition, p. 27
- Fertility rates and birth order, 1996 edition, p. 7
- Food and nutrient consumption during pregnancy, 1999 edition, p. 16
- Larger families, 1998 edition, p. 51
- Multiple births, 2000 edition, p. 35
- Older fathers, 2000 edition, p. 23
- Pregnancy in context, 1997 edition, p. 10
- Projected fertility, 2002 edition, p. 24
- Regional fertility differentials, 2001 edition, p. 32.
- Teenage fertility, 1999 edition, p. 28
- Total issue, 2001 edition, p. 39

AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS
(cat. no. 4102.0)

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fertility, 1994, p.18
- Adoptions, 1998, p. 33
- Balancing family and work, 2003, p. 40
- Echoes of the baby boom, 2004, p. 7
- Fertility futures, 2002, p.12
- Family planning, 1998, p. 29
- Father's work and family balance, 2006, p. 39
- Older mothers, 2001, p. 55
- Recent fertility trends, 2005, p. 23
- Trends in fertility, 1996, p. 36

A4.1 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, 30 June 2005

STATE OF TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust. (a)
MALES									
0-4	216 278	157 231	130 885	45 056	63 998	15 530	8 955	10 375	648 408
5-9	224 830	163 116	138 385	48 524	68 546	16 315	8 534	10 381	678 755
10-14	235 013	171 719	146 427	51 920	72 556	17 763	8 556	11 274	715 346
15-19	232 227	169 643	142 560	52 664	73 965	17 431	7 787	11 907	708 305
20-24	236 305	179 790	146 917	53 670	73 519	15 967	8 982	14 561	729 792
25-29	230 964	173 880	134 412	48 906	68 452	13 364	8 797	12 870	691 706
30-34	254 392	187 787	147 217	52 521	74 636	14 590	9 425	12 855	753 521
35-39	241 150	185 424	141 842	54 421	74 871	15 720	8 858	11 954	734 334
40-44	256 300	187 849	148 796	58 052	77 934	17 826	8 764	12 128	767 768
45-49	240 555	177 827	140 933	56 101	74 565	18 010	7 374	11 477	726 942
50-54	219 460	160 371	129 647	51 843	68 242	16 797	6 783	10 978	664 252
55-59	206 869	150 143	124 391	49 847	62 817	16 084	5 558	10 109	625 911
60-64	160 205	114 803	95 300	37 690	46 234	12 719	3 714	6 580	477 301
65-69	129 902	93 968	74 248	30 788	36 366	10 335	2 336	4 820	382 806
70-74	104 101	75 745	55 861	25 307	27 507	8 061	1 224	3 479	301 304
75-79	87 879	64 174	45 035	22 779	21 980	6 584	879	2 766	252 083
80-84	56 950	41 210	28 757	14 897	13 715	4 166	398	1 862	161 957
85 and over	35 285	25 663	18 298	9 340	8 568	2 483	281	1 018	100 947
Total	3 368 665	2 480 343	1 989 911	764 326	1 008 471	239 745	107 205	161 394	10 121 438
FEMALES									
0-4	203 319	149 987	124 112	43 126	60 636	14 632	8 558	9 858	614 367
5-9	213 268	154 788	131 259	46 318	65 028	15 629	8 007	10 158	644 571
10-14	222 725	163 286	138 779	49 230	69 178	16 803	7 941	10 597	678 685
15-19	220 179	162 445	135 020	49 799	70 124	16 557	6 990	11 538	672 774
20-24	224 204	173 377	138 065	50 197	69 053	14 905	7 418	13 524	690 799
25-29	226 552	171 640	130 985	45 418	66 223	13 406	8 184	12 720	675 196
30-34	256 599	193 472	147 898	51 325	73 133	15 842	8 986	12 830	760 169
35-39	241 592	190 296	144 742	53 740	74 290	16 575	8 073	12 294	741 694
40-44	255 156	191 125	151 817	58 037	77 424	18 533	7 545	12 554	772 316
45-49	242 042	181 375	142 387	57 212	74 713	18 297	6 826	12 415	735 378
50-54	220 960	165 568	130 030	53 245	68 522	17 183	5 984	11 606	673 196
55-59	204 349	153 012	121 563	50 728	60 212	16 247	4 524	10 274	620 956
60-64	157 612	114 825	91 661	38 111	44 308	12 518	2 835	6 757	468 669
65-69	133 051	98 300	72 228	32 633	36 428	10 500	1 654	5 032	389 856
70-74	113 968	84 269	58 106	28 239	29 627	8 673	1 063	3 879	327 840
75-79	106 075	78 399	52 113	27 685	25 789	7 749	719	3 409	301 944
80-84	84 093	61 689	40 501	22 558	19 635	6 290	484	2 704	237 955
85 and over	74 532	54 968	35 875	20 169	18 170	5 592	408	2 238	211 956
Total	3 400 276	2 542 821	1 987 141	777 770	1 002 493	245 931	96 199	164 387	10 218 321

(a) Includes Other Territories.

EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTIONS OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION

A5.1 EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTIONS OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION(a)—30 June 2005 (low series)

Age group (years)	STATE/TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE								
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
0-4	9 338	1 779	8 849	1 640	4 433	1 154	3 618	260	31 086
5-9	9 316	1 767	8 890	1 636	4 376	1 114	3 412	286	30 808
10-14	9 459	1 958	9 044	1 773	4 503	1 234	3 712	269	31 961
15-19	8 175	1 672	7 567	1 510	4 021	1 211	3 278	233	27 673
20-24	6 292	1 430	5 847	1 308	3 226	821	3 031	190	22 163
25-29	4 793	1 112	4 801	1 017	2 624	595	2 567	172	17 686
30-34	4 862	1 139	4 829	1 066	2 625	526	2 578	181	17 814
35-39	4 326	978	4 229	831	2 282	518	2 057	148	15 377
40-44	4 040	845	3 683	793	1 981	533	1 732	138	13 753
45-49	3 436	727	2 866	625	1 625	455	1 269	112	11 121
50-54	2 628	612	2 269	484	1 230	398	1 045	64	8 737
55-59	1 978	448	1 700	346	842	249	657	44	6 268
60-64	1 405	242	978	229	557	175	516	21	4 125
65-69	907	155	670	129	357	115	324	21	2 683
70-74	525	107	464	87	247	66	175	11	1 683
75 and over	387	91	439	100	288	41	215	7	1 570
Total	71 867	15 062	67 125	13 574	35 217	9 205	30 186	2 157	244 508
FEMALES									
0-4	8 771	1 764	8 436	1 625	4 273	1 070	3 378	257	29 584
5-9	8 821	1 750	8 630	1 598	4 145	1 060	3 362	291	29 671
10-14	8 766	1 882	8 545	1 695	4 147	1 179	3 314	232	29 777
15-19	7 768	1 702	7 224	1 527	3 868	1 063	3 051	232	26 444
20-24	5 939	1 321	6 085	1 238	3 258	882	2 953	190	21 876
25-29	4 919	1 131	5 308	1 018	2 678	605	2 519	173	18 361
30-34	5 392	1 162	5 608	1 081	2 683	595	2 676	178	19 390
35-39	4 945	1 093	4 823	993	2 587	589	2 150	158	17 344
40-44	4 499	954	4 150	867	2 188	579	1 935	150	15 330
45-49	3 576	746	3 245	730	1 717	489	1 384	120	12 016
50-54	2 764	574	2 568	517	1 411	372	1 142	62	9 414
55-59	2 189	417	1 791	376	950	220	732	41	6 720
60-64	1 365	296	1 230	280	615	156	611	22	4 579
65-69	956	166	859	183	478	129	389	16	3 178
70-74	642	149	476	136	331	60	272	12	2 081
75 and over	645	160	651	140	399	80	319	9	2 404
Total	71 957	15 267	69 629	14 004	35 728	9 128	30 187	2 143	248 169

(a) Based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 14 and 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

GLOSSARY

Age-sex pyramid	An age-sex pyramid is a bar chart graphically representing the age structure of the population, usually in five-year age groups, for males and females separately. The age structure of the population usually approximates the shape of a pyramid because mortality progressively reduces the number in each birth cohort as it ages. The age pyramid is useful to show the existence of unusually large or small cohorts, and in this way, not only conveys information about a country's past demographic history, but also a great deal about its demographic future.
Ageing of the population	Ageing of the population is the consideration of the proportion of the population aged 65 years and over, and the way this proportion is continuing to increase, mostly due to persistent low fertility rates and declining mortality rates.
Age-specific fertility rates	Age-specific fertility rates (ASFR) are the number of live births (occurred or registered) during the calendar year, according to the age of the mother, per 1,000 of the female estimated resident population of the same age at 30 June. For calculating these rates, births to mothers under 15 years are included in the 15–19 years age group, and births to mothers aged 50 years and over are included in the 45–49 years age group. Pro rata adjustment is made for births for which the age of the mother is not given.
Average annual growth rate	The average annual growth rate, r , is calculated as a percentage using the formula: $\left[\left(\frac{P_n}{P_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1 \right] \times 100$ <p>where P_0 is the population at the start of the period, P_n is the population at the end of the period and n is the length of the period between P_0 and P_n in years.</p>
Average issue	Average issue is the mean number of children ever born alive per woman. Average issue varies by age of woman and is influenced by extreme values of the number of children born. Any grouping of children ever born (e.g. 6 plus) should be given a 'mean' value (6.5 or any other value which must be specified) for the calculation of the average issue.
Baby boom	Baby boom refers to the generation born between the end of World War II and the mid-1960s. Baby boomers are usually taken to be those born in the years 1946 to 1965 inclusive.
Balance of state or territory	The aggregation of all Statistical Divisions (SD) within a state or territory other than its Capital City SD. See Major Statistical Region in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
Birth	The delivery of a child, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, who, after being born, breathes or shows any evidence of life such as heartbeat.
Capital city	Refers to the Capital City Statistical Divisions of states and territories as defined in the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
Completed fertility	The completed fertility rate represents the average number of births a cohort of females have borne. It is obtained by summing the age-specific birth rates experienced by that cohort of females over their reproductive lives.
Confinement	A pregnancy which results in at least one live birth.
Crude birth rate	The crude birth rate is the number of live births registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June of that year. For years prior to 1992, the crude birth rate was based on the mean estimated resident population for the calendar year.

Estimated resident population (ERP)	The official measure of the population of Australia is based on the concept of residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months.
Exnuptial birth	An exnuptial birth is the birth of a child whose parents are not legally married to each other at the time of the child's birth.
Indigenous	Persons who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Indigenous birth	The birth of a live-born child where either the mother or the father was identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin on the birth registration form.
Indigenous origin	Persons who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Intercensal discrepancy	Intercensal discrepancy is the difference between two estimates at 30 June of a census year population, the first based on the latest census and the second arrived at by updating the 30 June estimate of the previous census year with intercensal components of population change which take account of information available from the latest census. It is caused by errors in the start and/or finish population estimates and/or in estimates of births, deaths or migration in the intervening period which cannot be attributed to a particular source.
Marital status	Two separate concepts of marital status are measured by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are registered marital status and social marital status. Registered marital status refers to formally registered marriages and divorces. Registered marital status is a person's relationship status in terms of whether he or she has, or has had, a registered marriage with another person. Accordingly, people are classified as either 'never married', 'married', 'widowed' or 'divorced'. Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married. Under social marital status, a person is classified as either 'married' or 'not married' with further disaggregation of 'married' to distinguish 'registered married' from 'de facto married' person.
Median age at childbearing	The term refers to the age when approximately one-half of the females in a population have their children, either for a birth of particular birth order or for all births. It measures the age at childbearing within the female population, as distinct from the median age of mother at confinement which measures the median age of the females who gave birth in a particular year.
Median value	For any distribution the median value (age, duration, interval) is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below the value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.
Mortality	Death.
Multiple birth	A multiple birth is a confinement which results in two or more issue, at least one of which is live-born.
Natural increase	Excess of births over deaths.
Net overseas migration	Net overseas migration is net permanent and long-term overseas migration, plus an adjustment for the effect of differences in duration of stay or absence between initial stated intentions and actual behaviour.

Net population growth	For Australia, net population growth is the sum of natural increase and net overseas migration. For the states and territories, net population growth also includes net interstate migration.
Net reproduction rate	The net reproduction rate represents the average number of daughters that would be born to a group of females if they are subject to the fertility and mortality rates of a given year during their future life. It indicates the extent to which the population would reproduce itself. The net reproduction rate is obtained by multiplying the age-specific birth rates (for female births only) by the proportion of survivors at corresponding ages in a life table and adding the products.
Nuptial birth	A nuptial birth is the birth of a child born of parents who are legally married at the time of the child's birth.
Nuptial first confinement	A nuptial first confinement is the first confinement in the current marriage and therefore does not necessarily represent the woman's first ever confinement resulting in a live birth.
Nuptiality	Nuptiality relates to the registered marital status of persons and the events such as marriages, divorces and widowhood. Confinements and births are identified as being nuptial where the father registered was married to the mother at the time of birth, or where the husband died during pregnancy. Confinements and children of Indigenous mothers considered to be tribally married are classified as nuptial. Other confinements, and the children resulting from them, are classified as exnuptial whether or not both parents were living together at the time of birth.
Part of state	Part of state is used to refer to the remainder of a state outside the Capital City Statistical Division (SD). See also Balance of state or territory.
Paternity acknowledged birth	A paternity-acknowledged birth refers to an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.
Population growth	For Australia, population growth is the sum of natural increase and net overseas migration. For states and territories, population growth also includes net interstate migration. After the census, intercensal population growth also includes an allowance for intercensal discrepancy.
Previous births	<p>Previous births refer to children born alive (who may or may not be living) to a mother prior to the registration of the current birth in the processing period. In some states, legitimised and legally adopted children may also be included.</p> <p>Due to variation in data collection and processing methods across states and territories, different definitions of the concept of previous births have been applied.</p> <p>All previous births of the mother includes all births prior to the current confinement, regardless of nuptiality and paternity.</p> <p>Previous births of the current relationship where paternity was acknowledged includes all births prior to the current confinement where the current confinement relates to a nuptial birth, or an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.</p>
Previous issue	See Previous births.
Rate of population growth	Population change over a period as a proportion (percentage) of the population at the beginning of the period.
Registered marital status	Registered marital status refers to formally registered marriages for which the partners hold a marriage certificate. In this publication the distinction is between married parents (nuptial births) and unmarried parents (exnuptial births).
Replacement fertility	Replacement level fertility is the number of babies a female would need to have over her reproductive life span to replace herself and her partner. Given the current mortality of females up to age 49 years, replacement fertility is estimated at around 2.1 babies per female.

Sex ratio	The sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio is defined for total population, at birth, at death and among age groups by appropriately selecting the numerator and denominator of the ratio.
Social marital status	Social marital status is the consensual union status of a person with reference to another person in the household. In this publication data are only available from midwives' collection. The categories are married/de facto; single; and separated/divorced/widowed.
State or territory of registration	State or territory of registration refers to the state or territory in which the event was registered.
State or territory and Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence	<p>State or territory and Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence refers to the state or territory and SLA of usual residence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the population (estimated resident population) ■ the mother (birth collection) ■ the deceased (death collection). <p>In the case of overseas movements, state or territory of usual residence refers to the state or territory regarded by the traveller as the one in which he/she lives or has lived. State or territory of intended residence is derived from the intended address given by settlers, and by Australian residents returning after a journey abroad. Particularly in the case of the former, this information does not necessarily relate to the state or territory in which the traveller will eventually establish a permanent residence.</p>
Statistical Division (SD)	Statistical Divisions (SD) consist of one or more Statistical Subdivisions (SSD). The divisions are designed to be relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Further information concerning SDs is contained in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
Statistical Local Area (SLA)	Statistical Local Areas (SLA) are, in most cases, identical with, or have been formed from a division of, whole Local Government Areas (LGA). In other cases, they represent unincorporated areas. In aggregate, SLAs cover the whole of a state or territory without gaps or overlaps. In some cases legal LGAs overlap statistical subdivision boundaries and therefore comprise two or three SLAs (Part A, Part B and, if necessary, Part C). Further information concerning SLAs is contained in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
Statistical Subdivision (SSD)	In aggregate, Statistical Subdivisions (SSD) cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between the inhabitants. In the non-urban areas an SSD is characterised by identifiable links between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Further information concerning SSDs is contained in <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
Total fertility rate	The sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of children a female would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.
Usual residence	Usual residence within Australia refers to that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in a given reference year.
Year of occurrence	Data presented on year of occurrence basis relate to the date the event occurred.
Year of registration	Data presented on year of registration basis relate to the date the event was registered.

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