



2005-06

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HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 15 DEC 2006

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INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Afroza Rahman on Canberra (02) 6252 6365.

NOTES

INTRODUCTION	This publication presents results compiled from household use of information technology (HUIT) data collected from two different surveys conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) for 2005-06 and the 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (CPCLA) Survey.
ABOUT HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (HUIT) DATA	Data on HUIT was previously collected by the ABS in the Population Survey Monitor (1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000), Survey of Education, Training and Information Technology (2001), General Social Survey (2002), National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey (2002), Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (2003), the CPCLA Surveys (2000 and 2003) and the MPHS 2004-05.
ABOUT THE 2005-06 MPHS	The MPHS, conducted as a supplement to the Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) included a HUIT module in 2005-06. The survey collected information from 16,212 randomly selected private dwelling households across Australia. In the survey, one randomly selected person per household was asked about their household's access to, and their own use of, computers and the Internet.
ABOUT THE 2006 CPCLA	This survey was conducted in April 2006 as part of the ABS Monthly Population Survey. The survey collected information about the activities of 8,682 children aged 5 to 14 years living in selected households across Australia.
HISTORICAL COMPARISONS	Due to the difference in the scope of previous surveys, some person level data on household use of information technology are not comparable across surveys for all years. For example, the HUIT data for 2003 were obtained from the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC), and person level data from this survey only relate to persons with a disability aged 15 years or over, and are thus not comparable with results from MPHS 2005-06. SDAC data are comparable at the household level.
EFFECTS OF ROUNDING	Where estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.
MORE INFORMATION ON ABS INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) STATISTICS	Information about ABS activities in the field of ICT statistics is available free from the ABS website. Details of other ABS publications relating to the production and use of ICT in Australia can be found in paragraph 61 of the Explanatory Notes.
COMMENTS	The ABS welcomes comments and suggestions from users regarding future surveys of IT use by households and individuals. These comments should be addressed to the Director, Innovation and Technology National Statistics Centre, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Locked bag 10 Belconnen, ACT, 2616.

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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ABBREVIATIONS

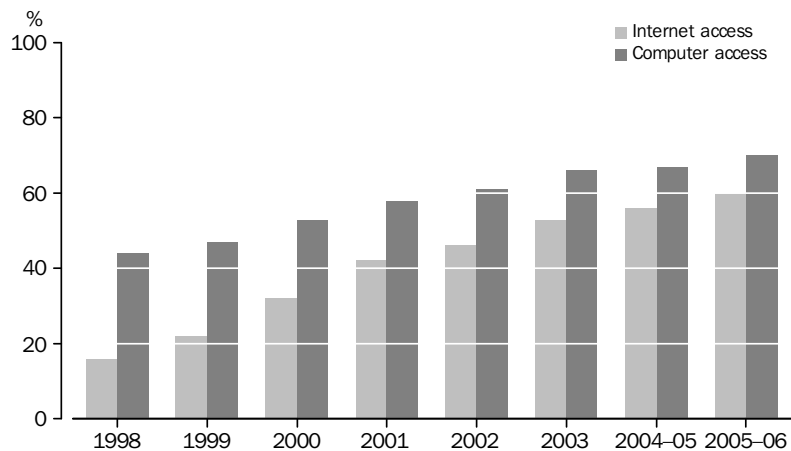
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADSL	asymmetric digital subscriber line
ARIA	Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
CD	Collection District
CPCLA	Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey
CURF	confidentialised unit record file
DHAC	Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
DSL	digital subscriber line
EU	European Union
GIS	geographic information system
GISCA	National Centre for Social Applications of GIS, University of Adelaide
GSS	General Social Survey
HES	Household Expenditure Survey
HUIT	Household Use of Information Technology
ICT	information and communication technology
IT	information technology
kbps	kilobits per second
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MB	megabyte
MPHS	Multi-Purpose Household Survey
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PSTN	public switched telephone network
RA	Remoteness Area
RSE	relative standard error
SDAC	Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers
SDSL	symmetric digital subscriber line
SE	standard error
TAFE	Technical and Further Education

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a summary of findings from the 2005-06 Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) and 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities survey (CPCLA).

The 2005-06 Multi-Purpose Household Survey indicated that in 2005-06, 60% of Australian households had home Internet access and 70% of households had access to a computer. Over the years from 1998 to 2005-06, households access to home Internet in Australia experienced considerable growth, increasing 44 percentage points. During this period, access to computers increased by 26 percentage points to 70%. Of the 3.2 million households without home Internet access, the main reasons for not having home Internet access were "No use for the Internet" (24%), "Lack of interest in Internet" (23%) and "Costs are too high" (19%).

HOUSEHOLD HOME COMPUTER OR INTERNET ACCESS—1998 to 2005-06



Home was reported as the most common site of Internet access, representing 57% of the people aged 15 years or over. Of the 9.1 million accessing the Internet at home, 65% indicated personal or private purposes as the main purpose of Internet access, followed by work related purposes (18%).

In 2005-06 the number of households with broadband Internet connection almost doubled from previous year to 2.3 million households. Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) was the dominant technology being used by 83% of households with broadband access.

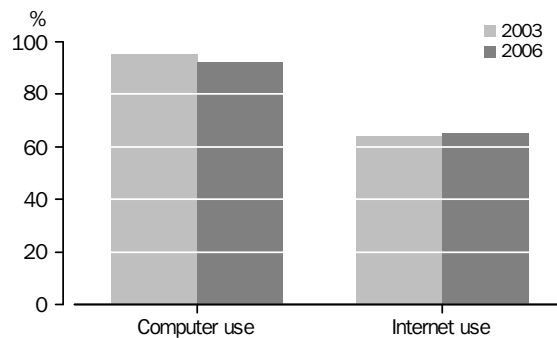
The 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities survey indicated that of the 2.7 million children aged 5 to 14 years, 92% used a computer and 65% used the Internet at any site. While a higher proportion of children tend to use a computer at school compared to other sites, home was reported as the most common site of Internet use. Using computer or Internet for school or educational activities was the dominant activity. Of the 1.3 million children accessing the Internet for school or educational

INTRODUCTION

continued

activities or leisure, the most popular Internet sites accessed related to "Technology and science" (39%), followed by "Music" (34%). During 2006, broadband Internet connection was the most common form of Internet connection used by children at home, representing 65% of children accessing the Internet from this location.

USE OF COMPUTER OR INTERNET BY CHILDREN AT ANY SITE—2003 and 2006



CHAPTER 2

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH COMPUTERS OR INTERNET ACCESS

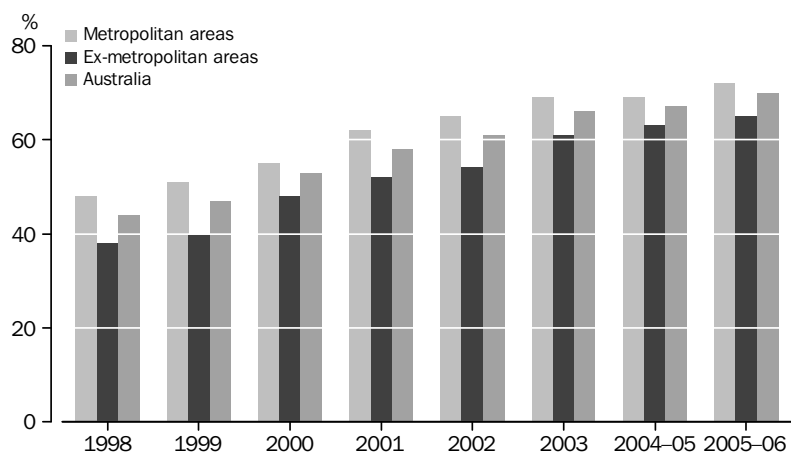
ABOUT THE DATA

Data presented in this chapter were collected from the Population Survey Monitor (1998, 1999 and 2000), the Survey of Education, Training and Information Technology (2001), the General Social Survey (2002), the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (2003) and the Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) 2004-05 and 2005-06.

CHANGES IN HOME COMPUTER ACCESS

The percentage of Australian households with access to a computer at home has continued to increase, registering an increase of 3 percentage points from 2004-05 to 70% in 2005-06. As with previous years, the percentage of households with home computer access continues to be higher for households with children under 15 years of age, households in the Australian Capital Territory, households in the highest income quintile and households in metropolitan areas and major cities of Australia.

HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO A COMPUTER AT HOME, By region—1998 to 2005-06

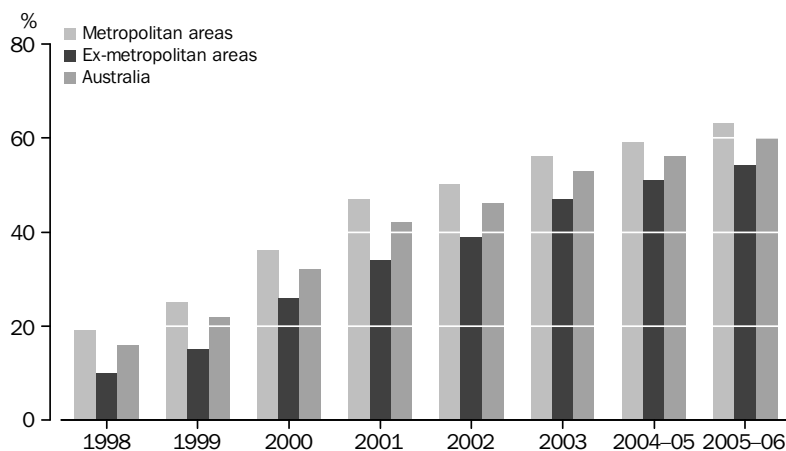


CHANGES IN HOME INTERNET ACCESS

The percentage of households with home Internet continues to increase and has almost quadrupled between 1998 (16%) and 2005-06 (60%). In 2005-06, the percentage of households with home Internet access increased by 4 percentage points from 2004-05. The characteristics of households with higher levels of home Internet access are similar to those with computer access at home.

CHANGES IN HOME INTERNET ACCESS
continued

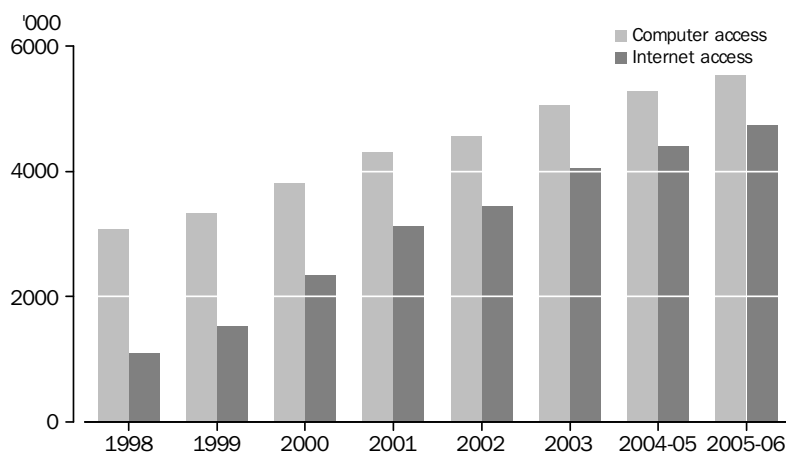
HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT HOME, By region—1998 to 2005–06



COMPARISON OF HOME COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS

The ratio of Australian households with access to the Internet at home as a proportion of those with access to a computer has increased steadily. In 1998, only a third of the households with computer access had access to the Internet. In 2005-06, this stands at 86%, reflecting a robust growth in take-up of the Internet during this period from 1.1 million households in 1998 to 4.7 million in 2005-06.

HOUSEHOLD HOME COMPUTER OR INTERNET ACCESS—1998 TO 2005–06



2.1 HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO A HOME COMPUTER, selected characteristics by period—1998 to 2005–06

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004-05	2005-06
<i>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS ('000)</i>								
Households								
Without children under 15	1 730	1 932	2 255	2 636	2 842	3 179	3 388	3 614
With children under 15	1 354	1 404	1 548	1 675	1 714	1 860	1 878	1 913
State or territory								
New South Wales	1 023	1 079	1 244	1 435	1 528	1 653	1 723	1 822
Victoria	791	867	987	1 108	1 144	1 278	1 306	1 361
Queensland	562	585	680	776	822	957	1 026	1 092
South Australia	246	272	299	346	355	390	409	429
Western Australia	300	352	397	427	479	512	545	560
Tasmania	66	75	84	96	98	111	119	121
Northern Territory(a)	20	27	28	28	34	np	38	41
Australian Capital Territory	75	79	84	94	96	99	99	101
Region								
Metropolitan areas	2 126	2 302	2 543	2 928	3 091	3 349	3 455	3 655
Ex-metropolitan areas	958	1 035	1 260	1 383	1 465	1 689	1 810	1 872
Total	3 083	3 337	3 803	4 311	4 556	5 038	5 266	5 527

PROPORTION OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS (%)

Households								
Without children under 15	36	39	44	51	53	58	60	63
With children under 15	63	65	71	77	79	85	84	87
State or territory								
New South Wales	44	45	52	59	61	65	67	69
Victoria	46	50	56	61	62	68	68	69
Queensland	43	44	50	55	57	65	67	72
South Australia	41	45	49	56	58	62	64	67
Western Australia	44	50	55	58	63	67	69	71
Tasmania	36	40	45	50	51	57	61	60
Northern Territory(a)	42	55	54	52	62	np	71	70
Australian Capital Territory	64	66	70	77	78	80	79	82
Region								
Metropolitan areas	48	51	55	62	65	69	69	72
Ex-metropolitan areas	38	40	48	52	54	61	63	65
Total	44	47	53	58	61	66	67	70

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

(a) Northern Territory estimates for 2003 are included in the totals and other classifications but cannot be shown separately.

2.2

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO A HOME COMPUTER, by additional characteristics—2005–06

	<i>Total no. of all households</i>	<i>Households with access to home computer</i>
	'000	%
Equivalised household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	4 159	59
\$40,000–\$79,999	1 959	83
\$80,000–\$119,999	385	92
\$120,000 or over	167	90
Could not be determined	1 274	72
Household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	2 793	47
\$40,000–79,999	1 966	79
\$80,000–119,999	1 111	88
\$120,000 or over	801	95
Could not be determined	1 274	72
Equivalised household income quintiles(b)		
Lowest quintile	1 334	44
Second quintile	1 334	56
Third quintile	1 335	76
Fourth quintile	1 334	82
Highest quintile	1 334	87
Remoteness area		
Major cities of Australia	5 258	71
Inner regional Australia	1 728	67
Outer regional Australia	844	64
Remote Australia	116	64
Total	7 945	70

(a) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

2.3 HOUSEHOLDS WITH HOME INTERNET ACCESS, selected characteristics by period—1998 to 2005–06

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004-05	2005-06
<i>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS ('000)</i>								
Households								
Without children under 15	657	905	1 408	1 936	2 153	2 537	2 772	3 048
With children under 15	441	633	932	1 178	1 292	1 502	1 621	1 683
State or territory								
New South Wales	414	514	776	1 088	1 196	1 365	1 455	1 570
Victoria	255	394	603	780	852	1 019	1 085	1 161
Queensland	194	269	416	563	602	757	861	937
South Australia	75	117	177	229	261	300	323	356
Western Australia	101	155	245	300	366	406	456	484
Tasmania	19	34	48	59	67	78	94	99
Northern Territory(a)	8	14	18	21	26	np	34	35
Australian Capital Territory	32	41	56	73	74	82	84	89
Region								
Metropolitan areas	834	1 151	1 665	2 206	2 398	2 737	2 940	3 182
Ex-metropolitan areas	264	387	676	908	1 047	1 303	1 452	1 548
Total	1 098	1 538	2 340	3 114	3 445	4 039	4 393	4 730
<i>PROPORTION OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS (%)</i>								
Households								
Without children under 15	14	18	28	37	40	47	49	53
With children under 15	20	29	43	54	59	68	72	76
State or territory								
New South Wales	18	22	32	45	48	54	56	60
Victoria	15	23	34	43	46	54	57	59
Queensland	15	20	31	40	42	52	56	61
South Australia	12	19	29	37	43	48	50	56
Western Australia	15	22	34	41	48	53	58	62
Tasmania	10	18	25	31	35	41	48	49
Northern Territory(a)	16	30	35	38	48	np	61	60
Australian Capital Territory	27	34	46	60	60	66	67	72
Region								
Metropolitan areas	19	25	36	47	50	56	59	63
Ex-metropolitan areas	10	15	26	34	39	47	51	54
Total	16	22	32	42	46	53	56	60

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

(a) Northern Territory estimates for 2003 are included in totals and other classifications but can not be shown separately.

2.4

HOUSEHOLDS WITH HOME INTERNET ACCESS, by additional characteristics—2005–06

	<i>Total no. of all households</i>	<i>Households with access to the Internet at home</i>
	'000	%
Equivalised household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	4 159	48
\$40,000–\$79,999	1 959	75
\$80,000–\$119,999	385	85
\$120,000 or over	167	85
Could not be determined	1 274	64
Household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	2 793	35
\$40,000–\$79,999	1 966	67
\$80,000–\$119,999	1 111	80
\$120,000 or over	801	90
Could not be determined	1 274	64
Equivalised household income quintiles (b)		
Lowest quintile	1 334	33
Second quintile	1 334	43
Third quintile	1 335	65
Fourth quintile	1 334	72
Highest quintile	1 334	81
Remoteness area		
Major cities of Australia	5 258	62
Inner regional Australia	1 728	56
Outer regional Australia	844	52
Remote Australia	116	^ 53
Total	7 945	60

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

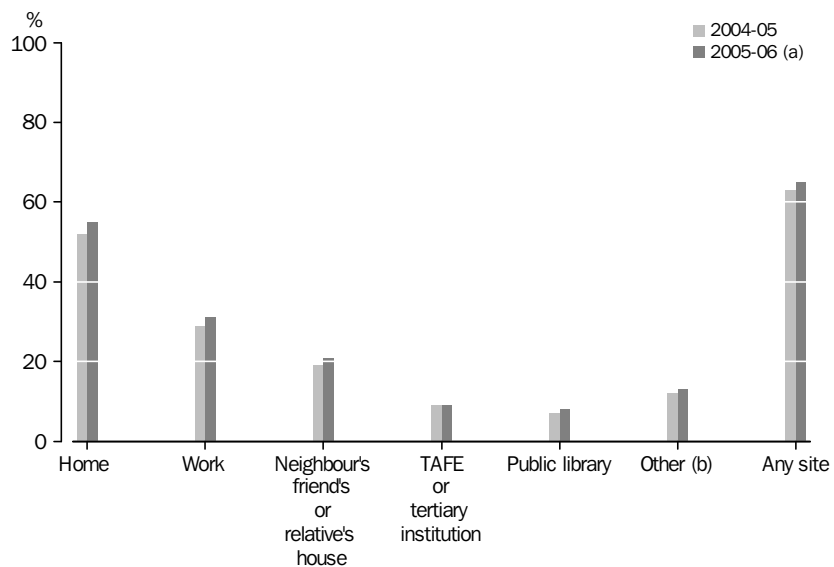
ABOUT THE DATA

The scope of MPHS 2005-06 has expanded to include people aged 15 years and over. For MPHS 2004-05 the scope was restricted to people 18 years and over. Therefore, person level data for the whole population between 2004-05 and 2005-06 are not comparable. The data used in the commentary of this chapter have been adjusted to exclude the 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.

LOCATION OF INTERNET USE

During 2005-06, 66% of people aged 15 years or over accessed the Internet from any site in the previous 12 months. Home was the most popular site of Internet access for 57% of the people aged 15 years or over. Work (31%) and neighbour's or friend's or relative's house (21%) reported to be the next most common accessed sites for the Internet, both registered a 2 percentage points increase from the previous year.

INTERNET USE, by site—2004–05 and 2005–06



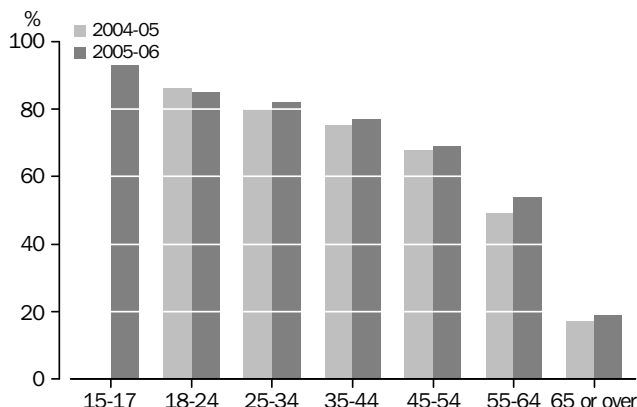
(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.
 (b) Includes government agency/department shopfront, Internet Cyber cafe, shopping mall, airport or similar.

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNET USERS

Use of the Internet at any site was significantly higher than average for younger people in the age group 15 to 17, household members in the top two quintiles of household income, people with higher levels of educational attainment and the employed. In contrast, older people, people in the lowest and second lowest household income quintiles and the unemployed registered significantly lower than average levels of Internet access.

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNET USERS
continued

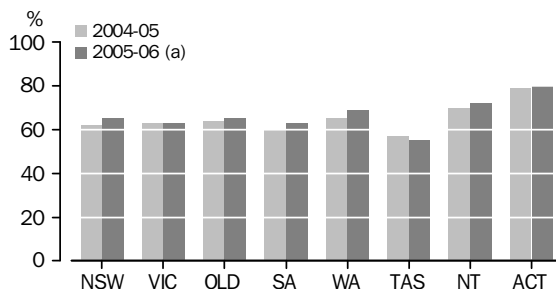
USE OF INTERNET AT ANY SITE, by age group—2004-05 and 2005-06



GEOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNET USERS

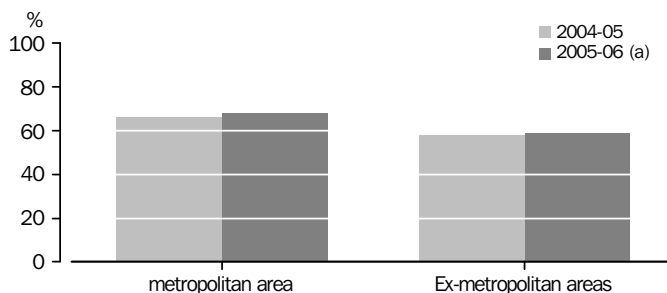
The Australian Capital Territory continues to host a significantly higher proportion of Internet users (81%). Metropolitan areas continue to register higher levels of Internet use, but the gap with ex-metropolitan users has narrowed.

PROPORTION OF INTERNET USE AT ANY SITE, by state and territory—2004-05 and 2005-06



(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes

INTERNET USE AT ANY SITE, by metropolitan and ex-metropolitan areas—2004-05 and 2005-06



(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.

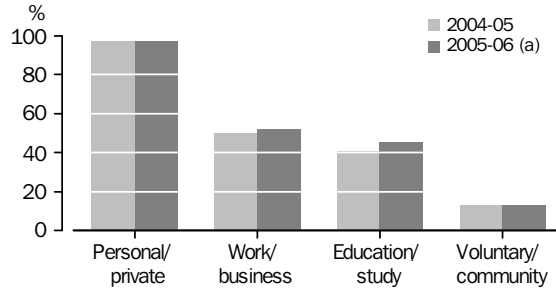
PURPOSE OF INTERNET USE

In 2005-06, personal or private related purpose continued to dominate as the most common purpose of Internet use at home across all age groups, representing 97% of 9.1 million people using the Internet at home. Work or business related purposes was the next most common response (49%), followed by educational or study purposes (48%) and voluntary or community purposes (12%). While the use of Internet for personal and voluntary purposes remained unchanged from 2004-05, the proportion of people using

PURPOSE OF INTERNET USE *continued*

Internet for study and work related purposes registered an increase by 4 and 2 percentage points respectively.

INTERNET USE AT HOME, by purpose—2004–05 and 2005–06

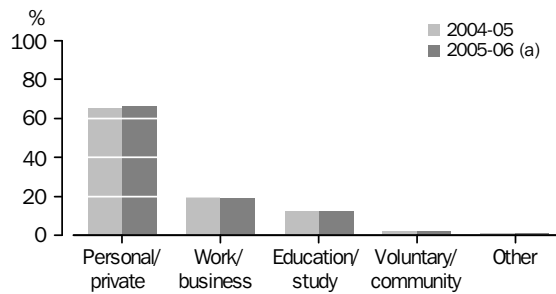


(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.

MAIN PURPOSE OF INTERNET USE AT HOME

In 2005-06 of the 9.1 million people accessing the Internet from home, 65% reported personal or private purposes to be the main purpose of Internet access, followed by work related purpose(18%). A significantly higher proportion of income earners in the highest income quintile (27%) and people with higher levels of educational attainment (28%) reported work related purposes as the main purpose of Internet use at home.

MAIN PURPOSE OF INTERNET USE AT HOME—2004–05 AND 2005–06



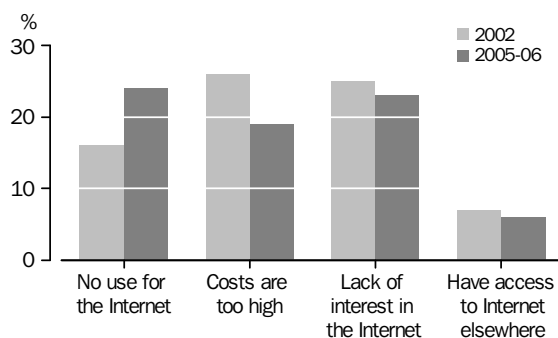
(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.

MAIN REASON WHY HOUSEHOLDS WERE WITHOUT HOME INTERNET ACCESS

The number of Australian households without access to home Internet decreased by 20% from 2002 to 3.2 million households in 2005-06. The main reasons for not having home Internet access were reported to be "No use for the Internet" (24%), followed by "Lack of Interest in Internet" (23%) and "Costs are too high" (19%). The survey results from 2002 identified "Costs too high" (26%) as the main reason for not having Internet access. A relatively high proportion (35%) of households with children under 15 without access to the Internet regard costs as the main inhibitor of Internet access.

MAIN REASON WHY HOUSEHOLDS WERE WITHOUT HOME INTERNET ACCESS *continued*

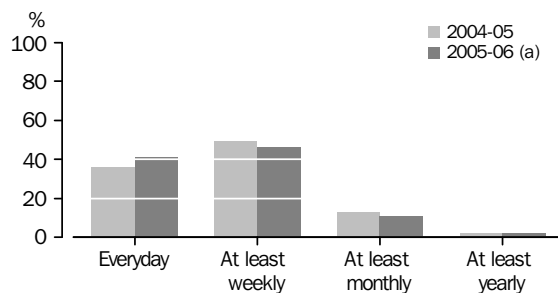
MAIN REASON FOR NOT HAVING INTERNET ACCESS, by selected reasons—2002 and 2005-06



FREQUENCY OF INTERNET USE AT HOME

In comparison to the previous year, in 2005-06, a higher proportion of people used the Internet every day. During 2005-06, people belonging to 15-17 years age group also used the Internet more on a daily basis compared to other age groups.

FREQUENCY OF INTERNET USE, 2004-05 and 2005-06



(a) Excludes 15 to 17 years age group for comparative purposes.

3.1 USE OF THE INTERNET, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2005–06

	No. of persons aged 15 years or over	Home	Work	Neighbour's or friend's or relative's house	Public library	TAFE or tertiary institution	Other (b)	Any site
	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)								
15–17	818	80	*4	55	22	19	28	93
18–24	1 938	68	28	46	16	35	20	85
25–34	2 779	66	45	36	10	10	18	82
35–44	2 960	67	40	20	8	6	13	77
45–54	2 780	63	40	14	^6	^5	14	69
55–64	2 217	48	25	10	5	^3	11	54
65 or over	2 516	18	^3	^4	^2	*1	^2	19
Sex								
Male	7 889	58	31	23	7	9	15	67
Female	8 119	55	28	22	9	10	12	65
Personal income								
\$0–\$39,999(c)	9 829	50	17	22	9	11	11	59
\$40,000–\$79,999	3 450	70	54	27	8	7	18	83
\$80,000–\$119,999	703	80	73	^30	^7	^10	29	91
\$120,000 or over	326	86	78	^31	*5	*7	^34	93
Could not be determined	1 700	53	27	13	^6	^6	11	60
Equivalent household income quintiles(d)								
Lowest quintile	2 139	34	8	16	9	^9	8	44
Second quintile	2 570	38	10	16	^7	8	^8	46
Third quintile	2 820	59	25	23	8	9	10	68
Fourth quintile	2 796	68	43	27	9	9	15	80
Highest quintile	2 750	77	60	32	8	10	23	89
Labour force status(e)								
Employed	10 006	67	44	27	8	10	16	79
Not employed	6 002	39	5	16	9	9	9	45
Indigenous status								
Non Indigenous	15 864	57	30	23	8	10	14	66
Indigenous	145	^31	^20	^32	*16	*11	*17	^64
Country of birth(f)								
Born in Australia	11 539	58	31	25	8	10	14	68
Born overseas								
Born in main English-speaking countries	1 715	62	33	22	11	^6	17	69
Born in other countries	2 754	48	21	13	7	11	9	55
Level of highest educational attainment(g)								
Bachelor degree and above	2 962	81	63	33	13	15	26	91
Advanced diploma or diploma	1 205	72	46	26	^11	^11	17	83
Certificate	2 438	54	28	19	6	^7	10	65
Year 12 and below	9 157	48	17	20	7	9	10	56

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

(b) Includes government agency/department/shopfront, Internet/cyber cafe, shopping mall, airport or similar.

(c) Includes those persons with income less than zero.

(d) Excludes those persons where household income could not be determined.

(e) Labour force status in the week before the survey.

(f) Excludes persons whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(g) Excludes those who had no educational attendance/attainment and where level could not be determined.

3.1 USE OF THE INTERNET, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2005–06 *continued*

	No. of persons aged 15 years or over	Home	Work	Neighbour's or friend's or relative's house	Public library	TAFE or tertiary institution	Other (b)	Any site
	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
State or territory								
New South Wales	5 365	57	30	23	8	10	13	66
Victoria	4 028	55	28	22	8	11	12	64
Queensland	3 084	57	29	23	8	8	14	67
South Australia	1 225	54	27	23	9	^ 9	13	65
Western Australia	1 561	60	34	24	8	10	15	70
Tasmania	382	48	23	16	^ 8	^ 9	^ 15	57
Northern Territory	111	56	36	^ 20	* 8	^ 10	^ 21	72
Australian Capital Territory	253	68	43	35	^ 12	^ 15	26	81
Remoteness area								
Major cities of Australia	10 729	59	32	24	9	11	14	68
Inner regional Australia	3 394	52	25	19	7	^ 7	12	62
Outer regional Australia	1 666	50	25	21	^ 7	^ 7	12	59
Remote Australia	219	^ 54	^ 30	^ 24	* 5	* 2	^ 15	^ 64
Region								
Metropolitan areas	10 386	59	32	24	9	11	15	69
Ex-metropolitan areas	5 622	51	24	20	7	7	12	61
Total	16 009	57	29	23	8	10	14	66

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

(b) Includes government agency/department/shopfront, Internet/cyber cafe, shopping mall, airport or similar.

3.2 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME, selected characteristics, by purpose(a)—2005–06

	<i>No. of persons aged 15 years or over who used the Internet at home</i>	<i>Personal or private purposes</i>	<i>Work or business related purposes</i>	<i>Education or study purposes</i>	<i>Voluntary or community purposes</i>	<i>Other purposes</i>
	'000	%	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)						
15–17	657	96	^ 10	88	^ 4	* 8
18–24	1 324	98	37	69	^ 8	^ 11
25–34	1 840	97	56	45	9	11
35–44	1 991	98	59	44	14	9
45–54	1 739	96	61	42	14	^ 9
55–64	1 054	96	52	32	^ 17	^ 10
65 or over	450	96	^ 20	25	^ 18	^ 11
Sex						
Male	4 591	97	54	48	11	11
Female	4 465	97	45	48	13	9
Personal income						
\$0–\$39,999(b)	4 890	97	36	51	11	10
\$40,000–\$79,999	2 412	97	62	43	12	9
\$80,000–\$119,999	566	98	80	52	^ 16	^ 12
\$120,000 or over	282	94	84	52	^ 18	^ 11
could not be determined	906	97	56	42	^ 13	^ 9
Equivalent household income quintiles(c)						
Lowest quintile	736	96	29	53	11	^ 11
Second quintile	980	96	33	48	^ 10	^ 9
Third quintile	1 653	97	46	45	12	^ 11
Fourth quintile	1 910	98	50	45	10	9
Highest quintile	2 127	97	65	49	15	10
Labour force status(d)						
Employed	6 724	97	60	47	12	9
Not employed	2 331	97	17	51	12	^ 11
Indigenous status						
Non Indigenous	9 012	97	49	48	12	10
Indigenous	^ 44	^ 98	* 35	* 50	* 13	** 8
Country of birth(e)						
Born in Australia	6 667	97	50	48	12	10
Born overseas						
Born in main English-speaking countries	1 063	98	54	45	15	^ 10
Born in other countries	1 325	97	42	52	^ 7	^ 10
Level of highest educational attainment(f)						
Bachelor degree and above	2 397	97	69	56	18	11
Advanced diploma or diploma	873	97	61	51	14	^ 11
Certificate	1 325	97	50	40	^ 11	10
Year 12 and below	4 358	97	36	46	8	9

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) More than one purpose may be nominated.

(b) Includes those persons with income less than zero.

(c) Excludes those persons whose household income could not be determined.

(d) Labour force status in week before the survey.

(e) Excludes persons whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(f) Excludes those who had no educational attendance/attainment and where level could not be determined.

3.2 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME, selected characteristics, by purpose(a)—2005–06 *continued*

	No. of persons aged 15 years or over who used the Internet at home	Purpose				
		Personal or private purposes	Work or business related purposes	Education or study purposes	Voluntary or community purposes	Other purposes
	'000	%	%	%	%	%
State or territory						
New South Wales	3 054	96	49	50	12	9
Victoria	2 221	97	48	48	12	11
Queensland	1 765	97	50	46	10	10
South Australia	661	98	49	48	^ 13	^ 9
Western Australia	935	96	53	47	12	^ 10
Tasmania	184	98	46	44	^ 11	^ 12
Northern Territory	63	95	^ 49	^ 54	*16	*7
Australian Capital Territory	173	98	51	51	^ 16	^ 8
Remoteness area						
Major cities of Australia	6 323	97	50	49	12	10
Inner regional Australia	1 781	97	47	47	12	^ 8
Outer regional Australia	834	95	51	44	^ 12	^ 14
Remote Australia	^ 118	^ 92	^ 60	^ 40	*14	*7
Region						
Metropolitan areas	6 162	97	50	50	12	10
Ex-metropolitan areas	2 894	96	48	45	12	10
Total	9 056	97	49	48	12	10

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one purpose may be nominated.

3.3 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME , selected characteristics, by main purpose—2005–06

	No of persons aged 15 years or over who used the Internet at home		Personal or private purposes	Work or business related purposes	Education or study related purposes	Voluntary or community purposes	Other purposes	Don't know
	'000	%						
Age group (years)								
15–17	657	60	—	38	—	**1	*1	
18–24	1 324	65	^ 5	28	—	*1	**1	
25–34	1 840	68	18	11	*1	*2	—	
35–44	1 991	66	23	^ 8	^ 1	^ 1	*1	
45–54	1 739	61	26	^ 9	^ 2	*1	—	
55–64	1 054	65	24	^ 6	^ 2	*2	**1	
65 or over	450	76	^ 11	^ 4	*6	*2	**1	
Sex								
Male	4 591	65	21	10	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	
Female	4 465	65	15	17	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	
Personal income								
\$0–\$39,999(a)	4 890	68	10	19	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	
\$40,000–\$79,999	2 412	67	22	8	^ 2	^ 1	—	
\$80,000–\$119,999	566	53	38	^ 7	**1	np	np	
\$120,000 or over	282	48	^ 46	*3	**1	np	np	
Could not be determined	906	60	25	^ 9	*2	*2	*2	
Equivalent household income quintiles(b)								
Lowest quintile	736	63	^ 11	21	*1	*3	*2	
Second quintile	980	68	10	^ 18	*1	*2	—	
Third quintile	1 653	69	15	13	*2	*1	—	
Fourth quintile	1 910	68	18	10	*2	*1	*1	
Highest quintile	2 127	62	27	9	^ 1	^ 1	—	
Labour force status(c)								
Employed	6 724	63	23	11	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	
Not employed	2 331	72	^ 3	19	^ 2	^ 2	*1	
Indigenous								
Non Indigenous	9 012	65	18	13	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	
Indigenous	^ 44	^ 65	*9	*26	—	—	—	
Country of birth(d)								
Born in Australia	6 667	65	18	13	^ 2	^ 1	^ 1	
Born overseas								
Born in main English-speaking countries	1 063	70	19	^ 8	*1	*1	*1	
Born in other countries	1 325	64	^ 15	^ 18	*1	*2	*1	
Level of highest educational attainment(e)								
Bachelor degree and above	2 397	57	28	11	^ 2	*1	*1	
Advanced diploma or diploma	873	59	25	^ 13	*2	*1	**1	
Certificate	1 325	69	19	9	*1	^ 2	—	
Year 12 and below	4 358	70	11	16	^ 1	^ 1	^ 1	

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) Includes those persons with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those persons whose household income could not be determined.

(c) Labour force status in the week before the survey.

(d) Excludes persons whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(e) Excludes those who had no educational attendance/attainment and where level could not be determined.

3.3 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME , selected characteristics, by main purpose—2005–06 *continued*

	<i>No of persons aged 15 years or over who used the Internet at home</i>							<i>Don't know</i>
	<i>'000</i>	<i>Personal or private purposes</i>	<i>Work or business related purposes</i>	<i>Education or study related purposes</i>	<i>Voluntary or community purposes</i>	<i>Other purposes</i>	<i>%</i>	
		<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	
State or territory								
New South Wales	3 054	64	19	14	^1	*1	*1	
Victoria	2 221	65	17	14	^2	^1	*1	
Queensland	1 765	67	17	12	*1	^2	*1	
South Australia	661	66	18	^14	np	^1	np	
Western Australia	935	65	19	^12	*1	*2	—	
Tasmania	184	68	^14	^12	*2	*2	**2	
Northern Territory	63	^66	^14	^17	np	—	np	
Australian Capital Territory	173	68	^17	^13	*1	—	**1	
Remoteness area								
Major cities of Australia	6 323	65	18	14	^1	^1	^1	
Inner regional Australia	1 781	66	18	12	^2	^1	*1	
Outer regional Australia	834	64	^19	^12	np	*2	np	
Remote Australia	^118	^64	^25	*10	np	—	np	
Region								
Metropolitan areas	6 162	65	18	14	^1	^1	^1	
Ex-metropolitan areas	2 894	67	18	11	^2	^1	*1	
Total	9 056	65	18	13	^1	^1	^1	

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3.4 MAIN REASON FOR NOT HAVING ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT HOME, by selected characteristics—2005–06

	<i>Household does not have access to the Internet at home(a)</i>	<i>No use for the Internet</i>	<i>Lack of interest in Internet</i>	<i>Costs are too high</i>	<i>Lack of confidence/skills with computer or Internet</i>
	'000	%	%	%	%
Households					
Without children under 15	2 683	26	25	16	9
With children under 15	525	13	^ 13	35	^ 4
Equivalised household income					
\$0–\$39,999(b)	2 177	25	24	22	9
\$40,000–\$79,999	492	19	^ 18	17	^ 4
\$80,000–\$119,999	^ 59	*22	^ 18	*8	np
\$120,000 or over	^ 25	*23	**6	*11	np
Could not be determined	455	26	25	^ 12	^ 8
Household income					
\$0–\$39,999(b)	1 803	25	25	21	10
\$40,000–\$79,999	653	22	20	21	^ 5
\$80,000–\$119,999	219	^ 19	^ 18	^ 15	np
\$120,000 or over	78	^ 20	^ 16	^ 10	np
Could not be determined	455	26	25	^ 12	^ 8
Equivalised household income quintiles(c)					
Lowest quintile	898	25	24	22	10
Second quintile	765	26	25	22	11
Third quintile	470	24	23	21	^ 5
Fourth quintile	368	20	19	18	^ 5
Highest quintile	252	^ 20	^ 17	^ 12	*2
State or territory					
New South Wales	1 065	26	21	17	^ 9
Victoria	812	24	23	18	8
Queensland	587	23	24	22	^ 7
South Australia	285	21	27	22	^ 7
Western Australia	301	21	27	18	^ 6
Tasmania	101	22	29	20	^ 8
Northern Territory	^ 23	*22	*17	^ 25	*5
Australian Capital Territory	35	^ 23	^ 13	^ 24	*6
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	1 991	24	23	20	8
Inner regional Australia	761	25	24	18	^ 8
Outer regional Australia	402	^ 22	25	17	^ 10
Remote Australia	^ 54	*25	^ 25	^ 20	*7
Region					
Metropolitan areas	1 873	24	22	20	7
Ex-metropolitan areas	1 335	24	25	18	9
Total	3 208	24	23	19	8

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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(a) Excludes households where the respondent does not know about Internet connection.

(b) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(c) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

3.4 MAIN REASON FOR NOT HAVING ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT HOME, by selected characteristics—2005–06 *continued*

	Have access to Internet elsewhere	Insufficient capacity/Need to upgrade computer	Poor opinion of Internet	Concern that children may access inappropriate sites	Privacy concerns
	%	%	%	%	%
Households					
Without children under 15	6	^3	^1	—	^1
With children under 15	^5	^6	*2	^3	—
Equivalent household income					
\$0–\$39,999(a)	3	^3	^1	^1	^1
\$40,000–\$79,999	15	^5	*1	—	*1
\$80,000–\$119,999	^21	**4	np	—	np
\$120,000 or over	*37	np	np	—	np
Could not be determined	^6	np	*1	—	*1
Household income					
\$0–\$39,999(a)	^2	^2	^1	—	^1
\$40,000–\$79,999	^10	^4	^2	*1	*1
\$80,000–\$119,999	^14	^6	np	*1	np
\$120,000 or over	^23	*7	np	—	np
Could not be determined	^6	*3	*1	—	*1
Equivalent household income quintiles(b)					
Lowest quintile	^2	^2	*1	—	*1
Second quintile	^2	^2	^1	*1	*1
Third quintile	^6	^5	*1	*1	*1
Fourth quintile	12	^5	*1	**1	*1
Highest quintile	^22	*4	**1	—	**1
State or territory					
New South Wales	^5	^3	^1	—	—
Victoria	^5	^4	*1	*1	*1
Queensland	^6	^3	*1	**1	*1
South Australia	^6	*2	*1	*1	**1
Western Australia	^6	^3	*2	np	*1
Tasmania	^7	*1	^2	np	np
Northern Territory	*12	**4	np	—	—
Australian Capital Territory	^11	*7	np	np	—
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	6	^3	^1	^1	^1
Inner regional Australia	^4	np	np	*1	^1
Outer regional Australia	^5	^4	*2	**1	np
Remote Australia	*7	np	np	—	np
Region					
Metropolitan areas	7	^3	^1	^1	^1
Ex-metropolitan areas	^4	^3	^1	*1	^1
Total	6	3	^1	^1	^1

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— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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(a) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

3.4 MAIN REASON FOR NOT HAVING ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AT HOME, by selected characteristics—2005–06 *continued*

	<i>Other reason</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
	%	%
Households		
Without children under 15	12	^ 2
With children under 15	19	* 2
Equivalised household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	11	^ 1
\$40,000–\$79,999	^ 18	* 1
\$80,000–\$119,999	* 22	np
\$120,000 or over	* 11	np
Could not be determined	15	^ 3
Household income		
\$0–\$39,999(a)	10	^ 1
\$40,000–\$79,999	14	* 1
\$80,000–\$119,999	^ 22	* 2
\$120,000 or over	^ 18	* * 2
Could not be determined	15	^ 3
Equivalised household income quintiles(b)		
Lowest quintile	12	^ 2
Second quintile	^ 8	* 1
Third quintile	^ 12	* 2
Fourth quintile	^ 18	* 1
Highest quintile	^ 20	* 2
State or territory		
New South Wales	14	^ 2
Victoria	13	^ 3
Queensland	11	^ 1
South Australia	12	* 1
Western Australia	15	np
Tasmania	^ 8	* 1
Northern Territory	* 13	np
Australian Capital Territory	^ 13	np
Remoteness area		
Major cities of Australia	13	^ 2
Inner regional Australia	14	* 1
Outer regional Australia	^ 11	np
Remote Australia	* 13	np
Region		
Metropolitan areas	13	^ 2
Ex-metropolitan areas	12	^ 1
Total	13	^ 2

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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

(a) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

3.5 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME , selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2005-06

	Everyday	At least weekly	At least monthly	At least yearly
	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)				
15-17	54	40	np	np
18-24	52	41	np	np
25-34	42	48	9	*1
35-44	38	50	10	^2
45-54	37	47	12	^3
55-64	41	42	^15	*2
65 or over	39	44	^13	*4
Sex				
Male	47	43	9	^2
Female	38	49	12	^2
Personal income				
\$0-\$39,999(b)	44	44	10	^2
\$40,000-\$79,999	39	49	11	^2
\$80,000-\$119,999	43	48	np	np
\$120,000 or over	54	40	np	np
Could not be determined	38	48	^12	*2
Equivalised household income quintiles(c)				
Lowest quintile	47	43	^9	*1
Second quintile	45	44	^8	^3
Third quintile	38	48	12	*2
Fourth quintile	40	46	12	^2
Highest quintile	44	47	8	*1
Labour force status(d)				
Employed	40	48	10	^2
Not employed	49	39	10	^2
Indigenous status				
Non Indigenous	42	46	np	np
Indigenous	*25	^64	np	np
Country of birth(e)				
Born in Australia	40	48	11	^2
Born overseas				
Born in main English-speaking countries	50	41	^8	*1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	51	39	^9	*2
Level of highest educational attainment(f)				
Bachelor degree and above	48	44	7	^1
Advanced diploma or diploma	44	43	^11	*2
Certificate	35	48	^14	^2
Year 12 and below	40	47	11	^2

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

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

(a) Excludes don't know category.

(b) Includes those persons with income less than zero.

(c) Excludes those persons where household income could not be determined.

(d) Labour force status in the week before the survey.

(e) Excludes persons whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(f) Excludes those who had no educational attendance/attainment and where level could not be determined.

3.5 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME , selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2005-06 *continued*

	Everyday	At least weekly	At least monthly	At least yearly
	%	%	%	%
State or territory				
New South Wales	41	47	10	^2
Victoria	44	46	^9	^2
Queensland	45	44	^10	^2
South Australia	36	48	^14	*2
Western Australia	45	42	11	^1
Tasmania	36	55	np	np
Northern Territory	^41	^45	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	43	46	^9	**1
Remoteness area				
Major cities of Australia	45	44	np	^2
Inner regional Australia	37	50	11	np
Outer regional Australia	35	50	^13	*2
Remote Australia	^40	^41	^np	np
Region				
Metropolitan areas	45	44	9	^1
Ex-metropolitan areas	37	49	13	^2
Total	42	46	10	^2

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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

(a) Excludes don't know category.

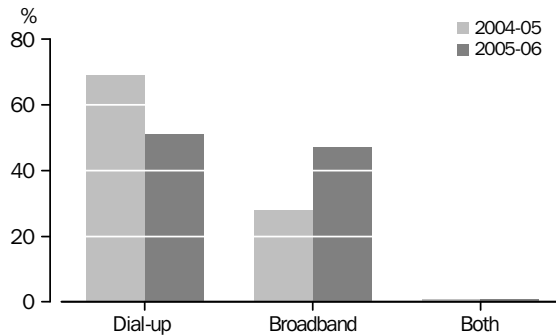
CHAPTER **4**

TYPE OF INTERNET CONNECTION AND TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY USED FOR BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS

TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD INTERNET CONNECTION

During 2005-06, the number of households with broadband access almost doubled from previous year to 2.3 million households. This represents 48% of those households with Internet access having broadband. The proportion of households with dial-up Internet access decreased from previous year to 51% during this period.

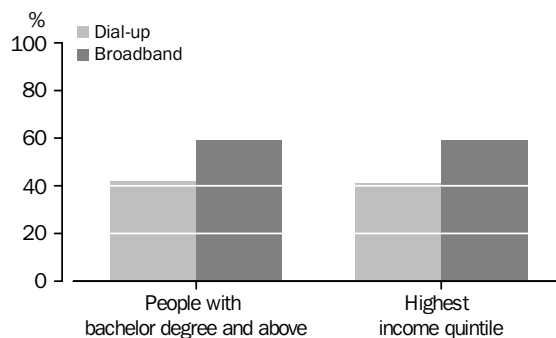
TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD INTERNET CONNECTION—2004-05 AND 2005-06



TYPE OF PERSONAL INTERNET ACCESS

At the personal level, the majority of people (52%) accessing the Internet at home used a broadband connection. Higher income earners, people with higher levels of educational attainment and younger people (15 to 24 years) registered relatively higher levels of broadband access.

DIAL-UP OR BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION, by selected characteristics—2005-06



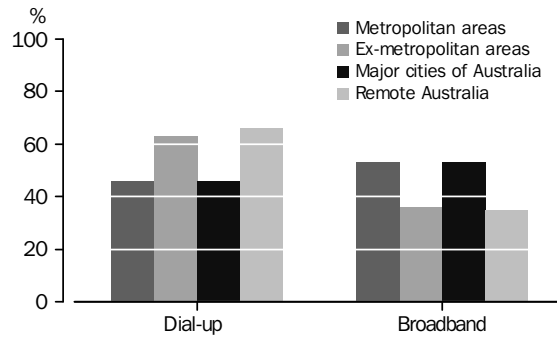
BROADBAND ACCESS BY STATE/TERRITORY AND REGION

The Australian Capital Territory continued to register the highest proportion of households with broadband Internet connection (55% of the households with Internet connection), while Tasmania recorded the lowest proportion of broadband connection(35%). Both household and personal access to broadband was more

BROADBAND ACCESS BY STATE/TERRITORY AND REGION *continued*

prevalent in metropolitan areas and major cities of Australia compared to ex-metropolitan areas and remote Australia.

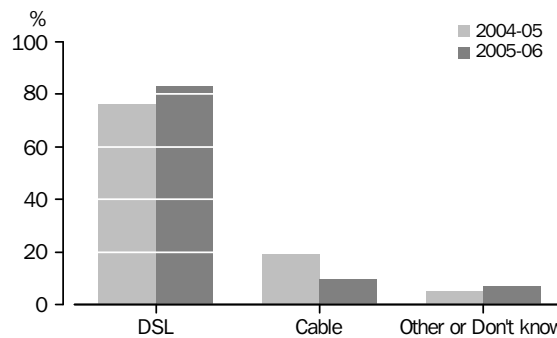
DIAL-UP OR BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS, by region and remoteness area—2005–06



TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY USED FOR HOUSEHOLD BROADBAND CONNECTION

In 2005-06, the dominant type of technology that households used for broadband connection to the Internet was Digital Subscriber Line (DSL). Of the 2.3 million households with broadband Internet connection, 83% had digital subscriber line, representing an increase of 7 percentage points from the previous year. During the same period there was a decline of 9 percentage points in the proportion of households with broadband using cable connections.

BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS, by type of technology—2004–05 and 2005–06



4.1 HOUSEHOLD INTERNET CONNECTION, selected characteristics, by type of access — 2005–06

	No. of households accessing the Internet at home	Dial-up	Broadband	Both	Don't know
	'000	%	%	%	%
Households					
Without children under 15	3 048	52	46	^ 1	^ 2
With children under 15	1 683	49	49	^ 1	^ 1
Equivalent household income					
\$0–\$39,999(a)	1 980	56	41	^ 1	^ 2
\$40,000–\$79,999	1 468	49	50	* 1	^ 1
\$80,000–\$119,999	326	41	58	np	np
\$120,000 or over	142	^ 33	66	** 1	—
Could not be determined	815	47	48	* 1	^ 4
Household income					
\$0–\$39,999(a)	990	60	38	—	^ 2
\$40,000–\$79,999	1 311	56	43	—	* 1
\$80,000–\$119,999	892	48	50	* 1	* 1
\$120,000 or over	722	38	61	* 1	** 1
Could not be determined	815	47	48	* 1	^ 4
Equivalent household income quintiles(b)					
Lowest quintile	436	59	38	** 1	^ 2
Second quintile	568	58	39	—	* 2
Third quintile	864	54	44	* 1	* 1
Fourth quintile	966	51	48	* 1	* 1
Highest quintile	1 082	44	55	* 1	—
State or territory					
New South Wales	1 570	51	47	* 1	^ 2
Victoria	1 161	47	50	* 1	^ 2
Queensland	937	50	47	* 1	^ 1
South Australia	356	62	36	—	* 1
Western Australia	484	50	48	—	* 1
Tasmania	99	64	34	* 1	** 1
Northern Territory	35	^ 58	^ 42	—	—
Australian Capital Territory	89	44	55	** 1	** 1
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	3 262	45	52	^ 1	2
Inner regional Australia	964	61	37	* 1	^ 1
Outer regional Australia	442	68	30	np	np
Remote Australia	^ 62	^ 64	^ 33	np	np
Region					
Metropolitan areas	3 182	45	53	^ 1	2
Ex-metropolitan areas	1 548	63	35	* 1	^ 2
Total	4 730	51	47	^ 1	2

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution
 * estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
 ** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
 np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
 (a) Includes those households with income less than zero.
 (b) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

4.2 PERSONAL USE OF THE INTERNET, selected characteristics, by type of access —2005–06

	No. of persons aged 15 years or over accessing the Internet at home				
	'000	Dial-up %	Broadband %	Both %	Don't know %
Age group (years)					
15–17	657	44	55	np	np
18–24	1 324	39	59	**1	*1
25–34	1 840	47	52	*1	—
35–44	1 991	49	50	*1	—
45–54	1 739	45	54	*1	**1
55–64	1 054	53	45	*1	*1
65 and over	450	60	38	np	np
Sex					
Male	4 591	44	55	^ 1	—
Female	4 465	51	48	*1	^ 1
Personal income					
\$0–\$39,999(a)	4 890	49	50	*1	*1
\$40,000–\$79,999	2 412	46	53	*1	—
\$80,000–\$119,999	566	40	59	**1	—
\$120,000 or over	282	^ 28	70	**1	—
Could not be determined	906	50	47	*1	*2
Equivalent household income quintiles(b)					
Lowest quintile	736	57	41	**1	**1
Second quintile	980	55	44	np	np
Third quintile	1 653	50	49	*1	—
Fourth quintile	1 910	47	52	*1	np
Highest quintile	2 127	41	59	*1	—
Labour force status(c)					
Employed	6 724	46	53	^ 1	^ 1
Not employed	2 331	51	48	*1	*1
Indigenous status					
Non indigenous	9 012	47	52	np	np
Indigenous	^ 44	^ 61	*35	np	np
Country of birth(d)					
Born in Australia	6 667	49	50	^ 1	—
Born overseas					
Born in main English-speaking countries	1 063	41	57	—	**1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	1 326	42	56	**1	*1
Level of highest educational attainment(e)					
Bachelor degree and above	2 397	41	58	*1	—
Advanced diploma or diploma	873	49	49	np	np
Certificate	1 325	50	49	—	*1
Year 12 and below	4 358	49	49	—	^ 1

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) Includes those persons with income less than zero.

(b) Excludes those persons where household income could not be determined.

(c) Labour force status in the week before the survey.

(d) Excludes persons whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(e) Excludes those persons who had no educational attendance/attainment and where level was not determined.

4.2 PERSONAL USE OF THE INTERNET, selected characteristics, by type of access

—2005–06 *continued*

	No. of persons aged 15 years or over accessing the Internet at home	Dial-up	Broadband	Both	Don't know
	'000	%	%	%	%
State or territory					
New South Wales	3 054	47	52	—	*1
Victoria	2 221	44	54	*1	*1
Queensland	1 765	46	52	*1	*1
South Australia	661	59	40	—	**1
Western Australia	935	46	52	**1	*1
Tasmania	184	63	37	**1	—
Northern Territory	63	^ 59	^ 41	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	173	42	56	np	np
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	6 323	41	58	^ 1	^ 1
Inner regional Australia	1 781	59	39	*1	*1
Outer regional Australia	834	67	32	np	np
Remote Australia	^ 118	^ 62	^ 36	np	np
Region					
Metropolitan areas	6 162	41	58	^ 1	^ 1
Ex-metropolitan areas	2 894	61	37	*1	*1
Total	9 056	47	51	^ 1	^ 1

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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4.3 HOUSEHOLD INTERNET ACCESS, selected characteristics, by type of broadband access—2005–06

	No. of households with broadband access	Digital Subscriber Line	Cable	Other/Don't know (a)
	'000	%	%	%
Households				
Without children under 15	1 416	83	10	7
With children under 15	835	82	11	^ 7
Equivalent household income				
\$0–\$39,999(b)	829	83	10	^ 7
\$40,000–\$79,999	738	85	10	^ 5
\$80,000–\$119,999	192	84	*10	^ 6
\$120,000 or over	95	81	*13	*6
Could not be determined	397	78	^ 12	^ 11
Household income				
\$0–\$39,999(b)	377	84	^ 10	^ 6
\$40,000–\$79,999	574	83	^ 10	^ 7
\$80,000–\$119,999	458	86	^ 9	^ 5
\$120,000 or over	446	83	^ 11	^ 6
Could not be determined	397	78	^ 12	^ 11
Equivalent household income quintiles(c)				
Lowest quintile	169	85	^ 8	^ 7
Second quintile	225	81	^ 12	^ 8
Third quintile	388	85	^ 9	^ 6
Fourth quintile	470	83	11	^ 6
Highest quintile	601	85	^ 10	^ 5
State or territory				
New South Wales	746	82	^ 10	^ 8
Victoria	591	79	15	^ 6
Queensland	452	84	^ 11	^ 6
South Australia	128	86	^ 6	^ 8
Western Australia	236	90	*4	^ 6
Tasmania	35	95	—	*5
Northern Territory	^ 15	^ 92	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	49	82	^ 9	^ 8
Remoteness area				
Major cities of Australia	1 736	81	13	6
Inner regional Australia	358	91	*2	^ 7
Outer regional Australia	135	86	*2	^ 12
Remote Australia	^ 22	^ 95	np	np
Region				
Metropolitan areas	1 696	81	13	7
Ex-metropolitan areas	555	90	^ 2	^ 8
Total	2 251	83	10	7

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) Includes satellite and microwave.

(b) Includes those households with income less than zero.

(c) Excludes those households where income could not be determined.

CHAPTER **5**

USE OF COMPUTERS OR THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN

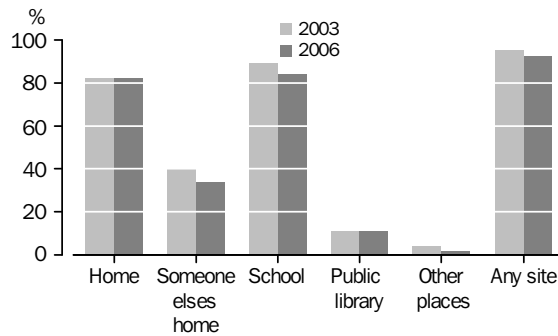
ABOUT THE DATA

Data presented in this chapter were collected in the 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities survey (CPCLA). The data relate to the children aged 5 to 14 years who live in private dwellings.

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE

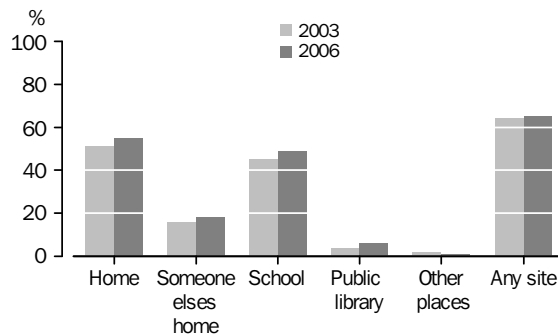
In 2006, of the 2.7 million children aged 5 to 14 years, 92% of children had used a computer whilst 65% accessed the Internet at any site. School was reported to be the most common site of computer access, followed by home, someone else's home and a public library. In comparison to 2003, while the percentage of computer usage at home remained unchanged at 82%, use of computers at school and someone else's home registered a decline across all age groups.

USE OF THE COMPUTER BY CHILDREN, by site–2003 and 2006



Unlike children's use of a computer, during 2006 children were most likely to use the Internet at home, followed by school, someone else's home and a public library. In comparison to the previous survey, during 2006 children's use of the Internet from all sites increased across all age groups.

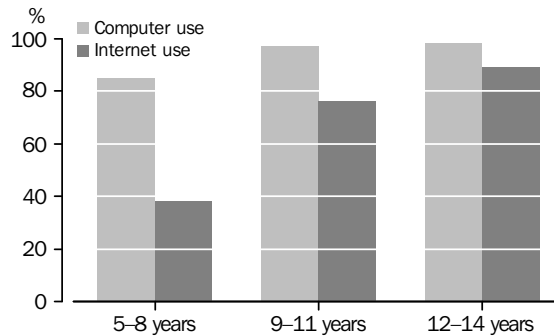
USE OF THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN, by site–2003 and 2006



COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE *continued*

During 2006, both computer and Internet usage from every site increased with age, with 12 to 14 years registering the highest proportion of Internet and computer usage. Computer and Internet usage appears to have a positive correlation with the employment status of parent(s), with children having unemployed parent(s) registering significantly lower proportions of computer and Internet usage. Children from the Australian Capital Territory registered the highest proportions of computer (97%) and Internet (73%) use at any site.

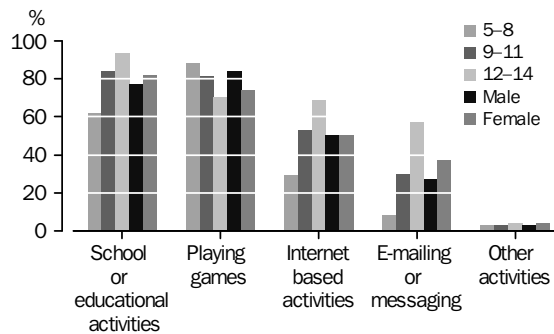
USE OF COMPUTERS OR THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN AT ANY SITE, by age group—2006



COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACTIVITIES AT HOME

Of the 2.2 million children using a computer at home in 2006, school or educational activities (79%) and playing games (79%) were the most common activities. A significantly higher proportion of male children and children belonging to younger age groups (5 to 8 years) used a computer for playing games. Use of computers for educational activities was reported by a significantly higher proportion of older children (12 to 14 years) and female children. Use of computers for Internet based activities and for e-mailing or messaging was reported for a significantly higher proportion of older children in the 12 to 14 years age group.

USE OF COMPUTER AT HOME BY CHILDREN, by activity, by age and gender—2006

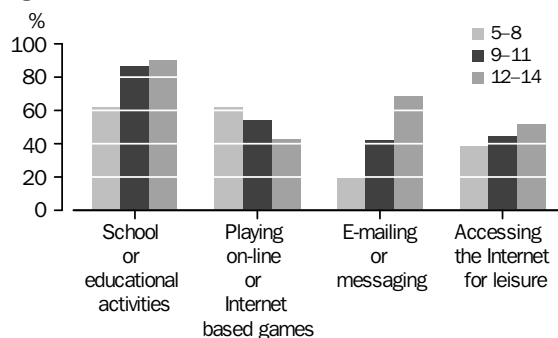


Internet is predominantly used by children for school or educational activities (82%). Other most significant uses of the Internet by children are playing on line games (51%) followed by e-mailing (48%). As with computers, the activities for which children used the Internet varied across age groups and gender. While a higher proportion of older children in the 12 to 14 years age group used the Internet for school or educational activities, e-mailing or messaging, accessing the Internet for leisure, downloading music from Internet sites, using chat rooms and other activities (including downloading mobile

COMPUTER AND INTERNET
ACTIVITIES AT HOME
continued

ring tones and purchasing using the Internet), a higher percentage of younger children in the 5 to 11 years age group used the Internet for playing on-line or Internet based games. A higher proportion of females used the Internet for School or educational activities or e-mailing and messaging compared to males.

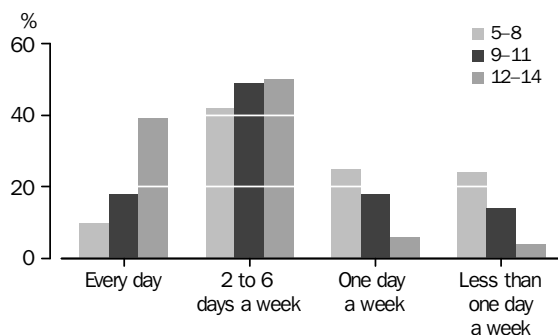
USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected activities by age –2006



FREQUENCY OF
COMPUTER AND INTERNET
USE AT HOME

In 2006, nearly half of the children who used a computer or the Internet at home did so 2 to 6 days a week and a quarter did so everyday. Frequency of use increases with age of children and is highest for 12 to 14 years age group.

USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, by frequency, by age –2006

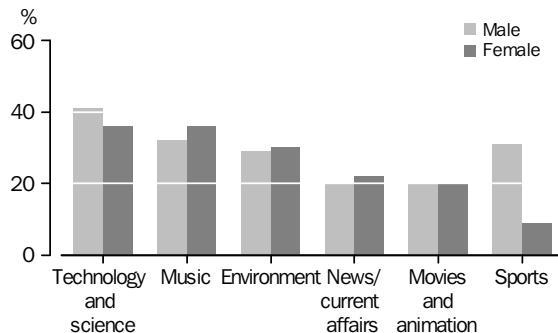


TYPE OF INTERNET SITES
ACCESSED

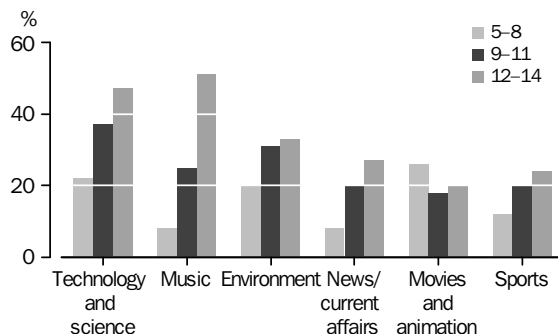
Of the 1.3 million children accessing the Internet for school or educational activities or leisure, the most popular site accessed related to "Technology and science" (39%) followed by "Music" (34%), "Environment" (30%), "News/current affairs" (21%), "Movies and animation" (20%) and "Sports" (20%). With the exception of "Movies and animation" sites, access to sites increased with age, with a significantly higher proportion of older children in the 12 to 14 years age group accessing "Technology and science", "Music" "Sport" and "News/current affairs" sites. A very small proportion of females (9%) accessed "Sports" sites in comparison with male children (31%).

TYPE OF INTERNET SITES
ACCESSED *continued*

USE OF INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected Internet sites accessed, by sex—2006



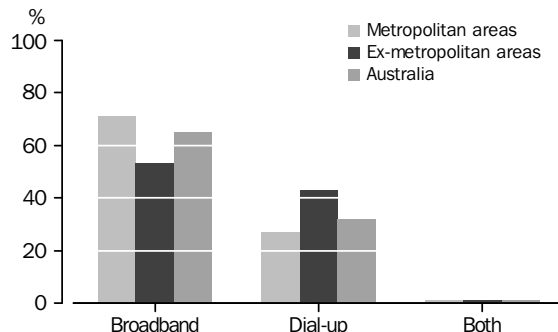
USE OF INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected Internet sites accessed by age group—2006



USE OF INTERNET BY
TYPE OF ACCESS

The 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities survey included a question on the type of Internet connection used by households. During 2006, of the 1.5 million children accessing the Internet at home, 65% used a broadband connection, while 33% used a dial-up connection. The use of a broadband or dial-up connection also varied across socio-demographic and geographic characteristics, with a higher proportion of children from couple families and metropolitan areas using a broadband connection. Among states and territories, the Australian Capital Territory with 76% of the children having broadband access, recorded the highest level of broadband connectivity.

USE OF INTERNET BY CHILDREN, by type of Internet access, by region—2006



5.1 USE OF COMPUTERS BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2006 ..

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years	Home	School	Someone else's home	Public library	Other places	Computer used at any site
	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)							
5–8	1 035	73	71	23	5	^ 2	85
9–11	808	86	90	37	12	^ 2	97
12–14	822	90	93	46	17	^ 3	98
Sex							
Male	1 367	81	83	36	11	^ 3	92
Female	1 298	83	84	33	11	^ 2	93
Country of birth(b)							
Born in Australia	2 463	82	84	35	11	2	93
Born overseas							
Born in main English-speaking countries	92	86	84	^ 35	^ 13	*3	93
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	109	79	77	^ 17	^ 16	*2	88
Family type							
One-parent families	537	70	84	42	13	^ 3	92
Couple families	2 128	85	84	32	10	^ 2	93
Birthplace of parents(c)							
One-parent families							
Parent born in Australia	411	70	85	43	^ 12	^ 3	92
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 48	^ 78	^ 83	^ 52	*19	**2	^ 95
Parent born in other countries	^ 64	^ 71	^ 79	^ 26	^ 17	np	^ 87
Couple families							
Both parents born in Australia	1 306	87	86	36	9	^ 2	94
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	95	87	90	^ 38	^ 15	**3	95
Both parents born in other countries	280	76	72	16	^ 13	*1	84
Other(d)	425	85	84	32	12	^ 3	93
Employment status of parents(e)							
One-parent families							
Parent employed	291	81	87	51	^ 15	*3	95
Parent not employed	246	59	80	^ 31	^ 12	*2	88
Couple families							
Both parents employed	1 537	88	86	35	11	^ 3	94
One parent employed	416	83	78	26	^ 10	^ 2	90
Neither parent employed	158	68	76	^ 24	^ 10	np	85
State or territory							
New South Wales	886	81	82	33	12	^ 3	91
Victoria	648	81	83	34	9	^ 2	92
Queensland	543	83	83	34	12	^ 2	93
South Australia	192	86	89	39	^ 14	*2	95
Western Australia	265	81	85	37	^ 10	^ 3	93
Tasmania	66	82	88	36	^ 7	*2	94
Northern Territory	23	82	80	^ 35	*15	*5	95
Australian Capital Territory	42	92	87	39	^ 10	**1	97

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

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

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

(b) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.1 USE OF COMPUTERS BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2006

continued

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years	Home	School	Someone else's home	Public library	Other places	Computer used at any site
		'000	%	%	%	%	%
Remoteness area							
Major cities of Australia	1 697	82	83	34	11	^ 2	92
Inner regional Australia	625	83	85	37	^ 10	^ 2	94
Outer regional Australia	297	80	85	32	^ 10	^ 3	93
Remote Australia	^ 45	^ 81	^ 82	^ 26	*14	*4	^ 91
Region							
Metropolitan areas	1 649	83	83	34	11	2	92
Ex-metropolitan areas	1 016	81	85	35	11	^ 3	93
Total	2 665	82	84	34	11	2	92

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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

5.2 USE OF A COMPUTER AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by selected activities(a)—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using a computer at home	School or educational activities	Playing games	Internet based activities	E-mailing or messaging	Other activities
	'000	%	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)						
5–8	754	62	88	29	8	^ 3
9–11	695	84	81	53	30	^ 3
12–14	742	93	70	69	57	^ 4
Sex						
Male	1 113	77	84	50	27	3
Female	1 078	82	74	50	37	4
Country of birth(b)						
Born in Australia	2 025	79	80	50	31	3
Born overseas						
Born in main English-speaking countries	79	85	83	60	^ 46	*3
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	86	86	72	^ 55	^ 33	*4
Family type						
One-parent families	378	76	81	46	30	^ 4
Couple families	1 812	80	79	51	32	3
Birthplace of parents(c)						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	288	76	83	47	31	^ 4
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 38	^ 77	^ 76	^ 48	^ 32	*7
Parent born in other countries	^ 45	^ 78	^ 77	^ 40	^ 26	np
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	1 138	79	79	49	30	^ 3
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	83	87	82	^ 65	^ 46	*3
Both parents born in other countries	214	82	76	51	^ 30	*2
Other(d)	363	80	79	55	36	^ 4
Employment status of parents(e)						
One parent families						
Parent employed	234	79	82	51	36	^ 4
Parent not employed	144	72	81	37	^ 21	*4
Couple families						
Both parents employed	1 352	81	79	54	34	3
One parent employed	344	73	80	42	25	4
Neither parent employed	108	81	80	47	34	^ 4
State or territory						
New South Wales	717	80	80	51	32	^ 3
Victoria	528	78	77	51	33	^ 3
Queensland	453	80	79	48	31	^ 3
South Australia	165	79	83	48	27	^ 3
Western Australia	215	81	80	54	34	^ 4
Tasmania	54	73	85	47	25	^ 5
Northern Territory	19	72	77	^ 48	^ 29	*5
Australian Capital Territory	38	79	80	55	35	*6

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

(a) More than one activity may be nominated.

(b) Excludes those children whose country of birth was not stated and /or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.2 USE OF A COMPUTER AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by selected activities(a)—2006 *continued*

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using a computer at home	School or educational activities	Playing games	Internet based activities	E-mailing or messaging	Other activities
	'000	%	%	%	%	%
Remoteness area						
Major cities of Australia	1 398	80	79	52	34	3
Inner regional Australia	519	79	80	48	29	^ 4
Outer regional Australia	237	77	82	44	27	^ 4
Remote Australia	^ 36	^ 75	^ 71	^ 46	*26	*6
Region						
Metropolitan areas	1 367	80	79	52	34	3
Ex-metropolitan areas	824	78	80	46	29	^ 4
Total	2 191	79	79	50	32	3

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one activity may be nominated.

5.3

USE OF A COMPUTER AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using a computer at home	Every day	2 - 6 days a week	One day a week	Less than one day a week
	'000	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)					
5-8	754	11	47	25	17
9-11	695	20	56	16	8
12-14	742	45	46	6	^2
Sex					
Male	1 113	26	49	16	9
Female	1 078	25	50	16	9
Country of birth(b)					
Born in Australia	2 025	25	50	16	10
Born overseas					
Born in main English-speaking Countries	79	^34	^46	^16	*4
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	86	^30	54	^13	*3
Family type					
One-parent families	378	25	48	15	^10
Couple families	1 812	25	50	16	9
Birth place of parents(c)					
One-Parent families					
Parent born in Australia	288	26	47	16	^11
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^38	^21	^52	^19	*6
Parent born in other countries	^45	^28	^52	*12	*5
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	1 138	24	49	17	10
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	83	^28	^49	^17	^5
Both parents born in other countries	214	^30	53	^12	^5
Other(d)	363	27	50	15	^9
Employment status of parents(e)					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	234	27	48	^14	^10
Parent not employed	144	^23	49	^18	^9
Couple families					
Both parents employed	1 352	27	50	15	8
One parent employed	344	20	48	19	^13
Neither parent employed	108	^27	55	^13	^4
State or territory					
New South Wales	717	25	50	16	^9
Victoria	528	27	49	15	9
Queensland	453	26	48	16	10
South Australia	165	24	48	18	^10
Western Australia	215	24	52	^16	^8
Tasmania	54	22	53	15	^11
Northern Territory	19	^20	^57	^13	*10
Australian Capital Territory	38	27	48	^13	^11

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes don't know category.

(b) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes those children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.3 USE OF A COMPUTER AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2006 *continued*

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using a computer at home	Every day	2 - 6 days a week	One day a week	Less than one day a week
	'000	%	%	%	%
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	1 398	27	49	15	8
Inner regional Australia	519	24	50	18	9
Outer regional Australia	237	[^] 22	49	[^] 15	[^] 13
Remote Australia	[^] 36	*19	[^] 56	*18	*8
Region					
Metropolitan areas	1 367	27	50	15	8
Ex-metropolitan areas	824	23	50	17	10
Total	2 191	25	50	16	9

[^] estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes don't know category.

5.4 USE OF THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years	Home	School	Someone else's home	Public library	Other places	Internet accessed at any site
	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%
Agr group (years)							
5–8	1 035	31	22	7	^ 2	*1	38
9–11	808	63	59	20	^ 6	^ 1	76
12–14	822	78	72	31	10	^ 2	89
Sex							
Male	1 367	55	49	19	5	^ 2	65
Female	1 298	56	48	18	^ 6	^ 1	65
Country of birth(b)							
Born in Australia	2 463	55	49	19	5	^ 1	65
Born overseas							
Born in main English-speaking countries	92	65	^ 50	^ 21	*7	**2	71
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	109	54	46	^ 9	^ 11	*1	62
Family type							
One-parent families	537	43	50	24	^ 7	*2	63
Couple families	2 128	58	48	17	5	^ 1	65
Birthplace of parents(c)							
One-parent families							
Parent born in Australia	411	44	53	25	^ 6	*2	65
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 48	^ 49	^ 48	^ 26	*9	np	^ 64
Parent born in other countries	^ 64	^ 40	^ 37	^ 14	*8	np	^ 53
Couple families							
Both parents born in Australia	1 306	59	50	18	^ 5	^ 1	67
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	95	71	57	^ 24	*7	**4	76
Both parents born in other countries	280	50	38	^ 8	^ 7	**1	54
Other(d)	425	61	48	19	^ 5	*1	66
Employment status of parents(e)							
One-parent families							
Parent employed	291	55	57	30	^ 8	*2	71
Parent not employed	246	29	42	^ 17	^ 5	*1	54
Couple families							
Both parents employed	1 537	63	51	18	5	^ 1	69
One parent employed	416	49	41	13	^ 5	*1	57
Neither parent employed	158	44	39	^ 16	^ 5	np	55
State or territory							
New South Wales	886	54	47	18	6	^ 1	64
Victoria	648	56	51	18	^ 5	^ 1	66
Queensland	543	56	48	19	^ 6	*1	66
South Australia	192	53	51	16	^ 6	*1	65
Western Australia	265	55	48	20	^ 4	*2	64
Tasmania	66	51	45	^ 15	*3	*2	61
Nothern Territory	23	^ 50	^ 45	^ 17	*6	**4	61
Australian Capital Territory	42	65	54	^ 19	*4	**1	73

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

(b) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and /or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.4 USE OF THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by site(a)—2006

continued

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years	Home	School	Someone else's home	Public library	Other places	Internet accessed at any site
	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%
Remoteness area							
Major cities of Australia	1 697	57	48	19	6	^ 1	66
Inner regional Australia	625	53	50	18	^ 5	*1	64
Outer regional Australia	297	49	47	^ 14	^ 6	*2	62
Remote Australia	^ 45	^ 48	^ 51	*14	*9	**3	^ 65
Region							
Metropolitan areas	1 649	58	48	19	6	^ 1	66
Ex-metropolitan areas	1 016	51	49	17	^ 6	^ 2	64
Total	2 665	55	49	18	6	^ 1	65

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) More than one site may be nominated.

5.5 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by selected activities(a)—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using the Internet at home	School or educational activities	Playing on-line or Internet-based games	E-mailing or messaging	Accessing the Internet for leisure
	'000	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)					
5 to 8	320	62	62	19	38
9 to 11	511	86	54	42	44
12 to 14	639	90	43	68	52
Sex					
Male	746	80	58	42	47
Female	725	85	44	55	45
Country of birth(b)					
Born in Australia	1 352	82	51	47	47
Born overseas					
Born in main English-speaking countries	60	84	^ 57	^ 67	43
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	59	89	^ 51	51	^ 36
Family type					
One-parent families	231	80	53	54	49
Couple families	1 240	83	51	47	45
Birthplace of parents(c)					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	180	80	52	53	49
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 24	^ 81	^ 54	^ 58	^ 60
Parent born in other countries	^ 25	^ 83	^ 61	^ 54	*37
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	766	83	49	45	46
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	68	85	^ 55	60	^ 47
Both parents born in other countries	140	85	49	^ 48	^ 36
Employment status of parents(d)					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	160	82	51	57	49
Parent not employed	71	76	^ 59	^ 46	^ 47
Couple families					
Both parents employed	964	84	50	47	47
One parent employed	202	76	53	43	43
Neither parent employed	70	82	^ 49	55	^ 38
State or territory					
New South Wales	480	84	51	48	46
Victoria	366	81	51	48	43
Queensland	306	83	51	48	47
South Australia	101	82	47	46	52
Western Australia	146	82	53	52	48
Tasmania	34	76	57	44	53
Northern Territory	^ 12	^ 85	^ 40	^ 50	*33
Australian Capital Territory	27	83	50	49	44
Region					
Metropolitan areas	948	83	52	50	46
Ex-metropolitan areas	523	82	49	45	47
Total	1 471	82	51	48	46

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one activity may be nominated.

(b) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated and whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(d) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.5 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by selected activities(a)—2006 *continued*

	<i>Downloading music from Internet sites</i>	<i>Using chat rooms</i>	<i>Other activities (b)</i>
	%	%	%
Age group (years)			
5 to 8	^ 3	*1	^ 2
9 to 11	15	9	^ 6
12 to 14	40	24	15
Sex			
Male	23	11	10
Female	23	17	7
Country of birth(c)			
Born in Australia	23	14	9
Born overseas			
Born in main English-speaking countries	^ 21	*14	*12
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	^ 22	^ 12	*8
Family type			
One-parent families	24	^ 16	^ 8
Couple families	23	13	9
Birthplace of parents(d)			
One-parent families			
Parent born in Australia	23	^ 16	^ 8
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	*24	*14	*11
Parent born in other countries	*31	*18	*7
Couple families			
Both parents born in Australia	23	12	8
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 20	*14	*13
Both parents born in other countries	^ 24	^ 17	^ 9
Employment status of parents(e)			
One-parent families			
Parent employed	24	^ 19	^ 8
Parent not employed	^ 24	^ 10	^ 9
Couple families			
Both parents employed	23	14	9
One parent employed	20	^ 8	^ 8
Neither parent employed	^ 29	^ 20	*10
State or territory			
New South Wales	24	13	^ 10
Victoria	22	14	^ 9
Queensland	23	13	^ 7
South Australia	25	^ 14	^ 9
Western Australia	^ 19	^ 15	^ 7
Tasmania	^ 25	^ 10	^ 10
Northern Territory	*22	**11	*20
Australian Capital Territory	^ 20	^ 11	^ 8
Region			
Metropolitan areas	23	14	9
Ex-metropolitan areas	24	12	9
Total	23	14	9

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) More than one activity may be nominated.

(b) Includes downloading mobile phone ring tones and purchasing using the Internet.

(c) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(d) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated and whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.6

USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by type of Internet sites accessed(a)—2006

	No. of children accessing the Internet for school or educational activities or leisure	Technology and science	Music	Environment	News / current affairs
	'000	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)					
5–8	238	22	^ 8	^ 20	^ 8
9–11	464	37	25	31	20
12–14	595	47	51	33	27
Sex					
Male	646	41	32	29	20
Female	651	36	36	30	22
Family type					
One-parent families	202	39	^ 36	27	^ 21
Couple families	1 095	39	34	30	21
Birthplace of parents(b)					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	156	40	^ 34	^ 27	^ 22
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 22	^ 38	^ 37	^ 35	*19
Parent born in other countries	^ 22	^ 33	*44	*23	*17
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	680	38	33	31	19
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	59	^ 42	^ 35	^ 35	^ 26
Both parents born in other countries	124	38	^ 34	^ 23	^ 22
Other(c)	225	42	36	32	24
Employment status of parents(d)					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	141	42	^ 36	^ 27	^ 21
Parent not employed	61	^ 32	^ 36	^ 28	^ 20
Couple families					
Both parents employed	862	40	33	31	21
One parent employed	169	^ 33	33	^ 26	^ 18
Neither parent employed	61	^ 44	^ 42	^ 31	^ 23
State or territory					
New South Wales	423	39	37	27	22
Victoria	316	35	31	30	21
Queensland	274	39	33	33	22
South Australia	91	40	34	32	^ 18
Western Australia	131	47	31	33	^ 21
Tasmania	29	^ 33	41	^ 18	^ 17
Northern Territory	^ 10	*32	*28	*19	*19
Australian Capital Territory	24	^ 34	32	^ 24	^ 13
Region					
Metropolitan areas	836	38	34	28	20
Ex-metropolitan areas	461	39	34	33	23
Total	1 297	39	34	30	21

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) More than one Internet access site may be nominated.

(b) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(c) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(d) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.6 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by type of Internet sites accessed(a)—2006 *continued*

	Movies and animation	Sports	Other (b)	Don't know
	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)				
5–8	26	^ 12	57	^ 6
9–11	18	20	54	^ 4
12–14	20	24	51	^ 5
Sex				
Male	20	31	50	^ 5
Female	20	9	56	^ 6
Family type				
One-parent families	^ 22	^ 19	53	^ 4
Couple families	20	20	53	^ 5
Birthplace of parents(c)				
One-parent families				
Parent born in Australia	^ 22	^ 18	54	^ 4
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 25	^ 25	^ 48	np
Parent born in other countries	*18	*16	^ 52	*12
Couple families				
Both parents born in Australia	20	20	54	^ 4
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 21	^ 28	^ 55	*4
Both parents born in other countries	^ 20	^ 16	46	^ 15
Other(d)	21	20	53	^ 3
Employment status of parents(e)				
One-parent families				
Parent employed	^ 20	^ 18	56	*4
Parent not employed	^ 25	^ 21	^ 46	*4
Couple families				
Both parents employed	20	20	54	^ 5
One parent employed	^ 20	^ 22	52	^ 7
Neither parent employed	^ 24	^ 14	^ 47	*7
State or territory				
New South Wales	21	^ 21	47	^ 6
Victoria	19	23	56	^ 7
Queensland	20	15	59	*3
South Australia	20	^ 20	52	*4
Western Australia	21	^ 20	51	^ 5
Tasmania	^ 23	^ 27	55	*3
Northern Territory	*17	*17	^ 55	**4
Australian Capital Territory	^ 21	^ 15	66	*3
Region				
Metropolitan areas	21	19	53	^ 6
Ex-metropolitan areas	19	21	52	^ 3
Total	20	20	53	5

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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

(a) More than one Internet access site may be nominated.

(b) Includes fictional literature, government and community organisations, education/research, games, children's entertainment.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.7

USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using the Internet at home	Every day	2 - 6 days a week	One day a week	Less than one day a week
Age group (years)					
5-8	320	^ 10	42	25	24
9-11	511	18	49	18	14
12-14	639	39	50	6	^ 4
Sex					
Male	746	24	47	15	13
Female	725	26	49	14	11
Country of birth(b)					
Born in Australia	1 352	25	48	15	12
Born overseas					
Born in main English-speaking countries	60	^ 30	^ 46	^ 13	*11
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	59	^ 30	^ 53	*12	*4
Family type					
One-parent families	231	27	47	13	^ 12
Couple families	1 240	25	48	15	12
Birthplace of parents(c)					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	180	27	46	^ 14	^ 13
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 24	^ 23	^ 47	^ 19	*10
Parent born in other countries	^ 25	*28	^ 56	*7	*8
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	766	23	47	16	13
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	68	^ 29	^ 47	^ 16	*8
Both parents born in other countries	140	^ 31	50	^ 11	*6
Other(d)	259	26	50	^ 12	^ 12
Employment status of parents(e)					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	160	^ 26	48	^ 13	^ 13
Parent not employed	71	^ 30	44	^ 15	^ 10
Couple families					
Both parents employed	964	26	48	15	11
One parent employed	202	20	47	^ 16	^ 17
Neither parent employed	70	^ 28	^ 54	^ 12	*6
State or territory					
New South Wales	480	27	47	14	12
Victoria	366	26	48	15	^ 11
Queensland	306	24	47	15	^ 13
South Australia	101	24	46	^ 16	^ 14
Western Australia	146	23	53	^ 13	^ 9
Tasmania	34	^ 20	49	^ 15	^ 16
Northern Territory	^ 12	^ 25	^ 44	*10	*21
Australian Capital Territory	27	^ 23	52	^ 11	^ 13

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes don't know category.

(b) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(c) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(d) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(e) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.7 USE OF THE INTERNET AT HOME BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by frequency(a)—2006 *continued*

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years using the Internet at home	Every day	2 - 6 days a week	One day a week	Less than one day a week
	'000	%	%	%	%
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	975	27	48	14	11
Inner regional Australia	330	22	49	[^] 15	[^] 13
Outer regional Australia	144	[^] 22	46	[^] 16	[^] 16
Remote Australia	[^] 22	*21	*46	*18	*15
Region					
Metropolitan areas	948	27	48	13	11
Ex-metropolitan areas	523	22	47	16	14
Total	1 471	25	48	14	12

[^] estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes don't know category.

5.8 USE OF THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by type of Internet access—2006

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years accessing the Internet at home	Dial-up only	Broadband only	Both (a)	Don't know (b)
	'000	%	%	%	%
Age group (years)					
5–8	320	28	69	*1	*2
9–11	511	34	63	*1	*2
12–14	639	33	64	^ 1	^ 2
Sex					
Male	746	32	65	^ 1	^ 2
Female	725	33	64	*1	^ 2
Country of birth(c)					
Born in Australia	1 352	33	64	^ 1	^ 2
Born overseas					
Born in main English-speaking countries	60	^ 28	^ 71	np	np
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	59	^ 26	^ 68	np	np
Family type					
One-parent families	231	40	56	**1	^ 4
Couple families	1 240	31	66	^ 1	^ 2
Birthplace of parents(d)					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	180	42	54	**1	^ 4
Parent born in other main English-speaking countries	^ 24	^ 33	^ 65	np	np
Parent born in other countries	^ 25	^ 34	^ 60	—	*6
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	766	34	64	*1	^ 2
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	68	^ 28	^ 71	np	np
Both parents born in other countries	140	^ 27	68	**1	*3
Other(e)	259	26	72	—	*2
Employment status of parents(f)					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	160	40	55	**1	*4
Parent not employed	71	^ 39	^ 56	—	*5
Couple families					
Both parents employed	964	30	67	^ 1	^ 1
One parent employed	202	^ 31	66	—	*3
Neither parent employed	70	^ 38	57	np	np

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) Children who could have accessed either dial-up or broadband or both.

(b) Includes households with no Internet connection but the children accessed the Internet at home using unspecified means.

(c) Excludes children whose country of birth was not stated and/or inadequately described.

(d) Excludes children whose birthplace of parents was not stated.

(e) Comprises children whose parents could not be categorised to the same birthplace.

(f) Excludes children whose employment status of parents was not stated.

5.8 USE OF THE INTERNET BY CHILDREN, selected characteristics, by type of Internet access—2006 *continued*

	No. of children aged 5 to 14 years accessing the Internet at home	Dial-up only	Broadband only	Both (a)	Don't know (b)
	'000	%	%	%	%
State or territory					
New South Wales	480	29	68	*1	*3
Victoria	366	29	68	*1	*2
Queensland	306	36	62	*1	*1
South Australia	101	45	52	**1	*2
Western Australia	146	35	63	—	*1
Tasmania	34	45	52	np	np
Northern Territory	^ 12	^ 44	^ 47	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	27	^ 22	76	np	np
Remoteness area					
Major cities of Australia	975	27	70	^ 1	^ 2
Inner regional Australia	330	41	56	*1	*2
Outer regional Australia	144	^ 47	49	**1	*3
Remote Australia	^ 22	^ 57	*39	—	**4
Region					
Metropolitan areas	948	27	71	^ 1	^ 2
Ex-metropolitan areas	523	43	53	*1	^ 3
Total	1 471	32	65	^ 1	^ 2

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) Children who could have accessed either dial-up or broadband or both.

(b) Includes households with no Internet connection but the children accessed the Internet at home using unspecified means.

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some international comparisons for household use of computer, Internet and broadband statistics between Australia and selected countries. While the data relating to Australia are taken from the 2004-05 and 2005-06 Multi-Purpose Household Survey and have been adjusted to reflect all households, all other data are provided courtesy of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) with reference periods mainly of 2004 and 2005. These data were originally published in the OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2005 and OECD key Information and Communication Technology (ICT) indicators (available at OECD website <www.oecd.org>). Although data published by the OECD in relation to households' access to a home computer, Internet and broadband are comparable to some degree, users should be aware of the differences in definitions, coverage and reference periods of the surveys covering these topics. For information on the survey scope and reference periods for international comparison data, please refer to paragraphs 51 to 57 of the Explanatory Notes.

HOUSEHOLD'S USE OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

In 2005, the percentage of households with access to a home computer ranged from 89.3% (Iceland) to 18.4% (Mexico) with Australia's level of computer use at home being towards the upper end of this range at 70.0%. During 2005, while Korea reported the highest penetration of household Internet access (92.7%), the percentage of Australian households with home Internet access was 60.0%.

HOUSEHOLD'S ACCESS TO BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION

Although table 6.2 presents comparative data on household use of broadband in 2004, in interpreting these statistics, users need to be aware of the differences in the reference period and definition of broadband adopted by respective countries. Among OECD countries, in 2004, the uptake of broadband Internet connections varied considerably across countries with Korea reporting the highest proportion of households with a broadband connection (85.7%) and Turkey recording the lowest at 0.2%. The proportion of Australian households with access to a broadband Internet connection was 16.3% for 2004-05. This figure has increased to 28.3% in 2005-06.

6.1 HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO A HOME COMPUTER AND THE INTERNET, Australia and selected countries–2005(a)

<i>Percentage of all households with access to home computer(b)</i>		<i>Percentage of all households with access to the Internet(c)(d)</i>	
Country	%	Country	%
Iceland	89.3	Korea	92.7
Denmark	83.8	Iceland	84.4
Japan	80.5	Netherlands	78.3
Sweden	79.7	Denmark	74.9
Korea	78.9	Switzerland	73.5
Netherlands	77.9	Sweden	72.5
Luxembourg	74.5	Luxembourg	64.6
Norway	74.2	Norway	64.0
Switzerland(e)	70.6	Germany	61.6
Australia	70.0	United Kingdom	60.2
United Kingdom	70.0	Australia	60.0
Germany	69.9	Canada(e)(f)	59.8
Canada(e)(f)	68.7	Japan	57.0
Finland	64.0	United States(g)	54.6
Austria	63.1	Finland	54.1
United States(g)	61.8	Belgium	50.2
Ireland	54.9	Ireland	47.2
Spain	54.6	Austria	46.7
France(e)	49.8	Italy	38.6
New Zealand(h)	47.0	New Zealand(h)	37.4
Slovak Republic	46.7	Spain	35.5
Italy	45.7	France(e)	33.6
Portugal	42.5	Portugal	31.5
Hungary	42.3	Poland	30.4
Poland	40.1	Slovak Republic	23.0
Greece	32.6	Hungary	22.1
Czech Republic	30.0	Greece	21.7
Mexico	18.4	Czech Republic	19.1
Turkey(e)	10.2	Mexico	9.0
Belgium	na	Turkey(e)	7.0

na not available

- (a) Australian data in this table are from the 2005-06 Multi-Purpose Household Survey and figures are rounded to the nearest whole number. All other data in this table have been provided courtesy of the OECD with reference period 2005 unless indicated.
- (b) Generally, data from the EU Community Survey on household use of ICT, which covers EU countries plus Iceland and Norway, relates to the first quarter of the reference year. For more information on the scope, reference period and source of each country please refer to paragraph 51 to 57 of the Explanatory Notes.
- (c) Internet access is via any device (desktop computer, portable computer, TV, mobile phones etc).
- (d) Generally data from the EU Community Survey on household use of ICT, which covers EU countries plus Iceland and Norway, relates to the first quarter of the reference year. For the Czech Republic, data relates to the fourth quarter of the reference year. For more information on the scope, reference period and source of each country please refer to Explanatory Notes 51 to 57.
- (e) Data relate to 2004.
- (f) In 2005, Household Internet Use Survey was replaced by the Canadian Internet Use Survey (CIUS). The CIUS results could not be used as the data are collected at the individual level as opposed to the household level. Data relating to 2005 is based on estimates from the Survey of Household Spending.
- (g) Data relate to 2003.
- (h) Data relate to July 2000 to June 2001.

6.2 HOUSEHOLDS WITH BROADBAND ACCESS, Australia and selected countries— 2004(a)(b)

*Percentage of all households
with broadband access*

<i>Country</i>	<i>%</i>
Korea	85.7
Iceland	45.4
Denmark	35.8
Canada(c)	35.8
Norway	30.0
Finland	21.3
United States(c)	19.9
Netherlands(c)	19.8
Germany	18.0
Australia	16.3
Luxembourg	16.3
Austria	15.9
United Kingdom	15.8
Spain	15.0
Portugal	12.3
Switzerland(c)	11.4
Poland	8.3
Hungary	5.8
Czech Republic	4.5
Ireland	2.9
Mexico	1.9
Greece	0.2
Turkey	0.2

- (a) Australian data in this table are from Multi-Purpose Household Survey 2004-05. However, the scope has been adjusted to reflect the percentage of all households with broadband access. ABS defines broadband as an 'always on' Internet connection with an access speed equal to or greater than 256kbps. Most other OECD countries define broadband in terms of technology (e.g. ADSL, cable etc).
- (b) Data for all other countries in this table have been provided courtesy of the OECD and relate to 2004 reference year, unless indicated. Please refer to paragraph 51 to 57 of the Explanatory Notes for more information about the reference period, scope and source for each country.
- (c) Data relate to 2003 reference year.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents results compiled from household use of information technology (HUIT) data collected from two different surveys conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) for 2005-06 and the 2006 Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (CPCLA) survey.

2 The MPHS, conducted each year throughout Australia from July to June as a supplement to the Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS), is designed to collect statistics for a number of small, self-contained topics. These include both labour topics and other social and economic topics. The topics collected in 2005-06 were:

- Household use of information technology
- Sports attendance
- Attendance at selected culture and leisure venues and events
- Participation in sport and physical activity
- Work related injuries

3 Data for other MPHS topics collected in 2005-06 will be released in separate publications.

4 The CPCLA survey, conducted throughout Australia in April 2006 and also a supplement to the Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS), was designed to collect information about children's use of information technology, and to identify characteristics of children who participated in organised sport and cultural activities and a range of other activities outside of school hours primarily for recreation and leisure.

5 This supplementary topic is made up of the following sub-topics:

- Home Computers;
- Computer & Internet Use;
- Participation in Organised Sports;
- Participation in Cultural Activities;
- Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events; and
- Participation in Recreational and Other Activities.

6 The statistics included in this publication from the CPCLA survey present information about access to and use of computers and the Internet by children aged 5 to 14 years in private households. Data for other CPCLA Survey topics collected in April 2006 will be released in a separate publication.

7 Data on household use of information technology has been previously collected by the ABS in the Population Survey Monitor (1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000), the Survey of Education, Training and Information Technology (2001), the General Social Survey (2002), the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey (2002), the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC - 2003), the CPCLA Survey (2000 and 2003), and the MPHS (2004-05). The MPHS will be the vehicle for collection of HUIT data for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 reference periods in the future.

8 The publication Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

HISTORICAL COMPARISONS

MPHS data

9 Due to the difference in the scope of previous surveys, household use of information technology (HUIT) data from the 2005-06 MPHS are not comparable with data from several of the surveys listed in paragraph 7. For example, the HUIT data for 2003 were obtained from the SDAC, where person level data only relates to those with a disability aged 15 years or over. Data are not comparable with results from MPHS which covers all persons 15 years or over. However, SDAC and MPHS data are comparable at the household level.

10 The 2002 HUIT data were obtained from the GSS using a face-to-face randomly selected person methodology. MPHS questions were asked using a telephone interview. The ABS has taken reasonable steps during the survey development process to ensure that this change in collection methodology does not affect the quality of the data, but a small impact for the more complex questions cannot be ruled out.

CPCLA data

11 The CPCLA survey was previously conducted in 2000 and 2003 as supplements to the Labour Force Survey. Computer assisted telephone interviewing was introduced during 2003 and while information was collected using a paper form for the majority of households in 2003, computer assisted interviewing was entirely used in the 2006 survey. These changes in the methodology and the questionnaire are not expected to impact on the comparability of the data between the three surveys.

12 Some changes were made to the survey's content between 2000 and 2003. In 2000, detailed data was collected for a maximum of six children per household, and selected demographic data for up to three more. In 2003 and 2006, detailed data was collected for a maximum of three children, per household, and selected demographic data was collected for up to ten more.

13 There were also some changes to the data items. These are:

- In 2003, involvement in Internet activities and emailing was collected as a single response. In 2006, these activities were separately identified. Similarly, emailing and accessing chat rooms were combined in 2003 but separately collected in 2006.
- In 2003, the category 'Playing games' on a computer included Internet based activities such as downloading games information. In 2006, computer activities relating to playing games using the Internet have been included in the category 'Internet based activities'. In 2006, the Internet activity 'Playing games' has been relabelled 'Playing on-line or Internet based games'.
- In 2003, the category 'other' activities relating to computer usage included downloading information (e.g. music, pictures, recipes) from the Internet. In 2006, computer activities relating to the Internet have been included in the category 'Internet based activities'.
- In 2003, the category 'other' activities relating to Internet usage included downloading music. In 2006, downloading music has been included in the separate category 'Downloading music from Internet sites'.

DATA COLLECTION

MPHS

14 The MPHS is conducted as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). One third of the dwellings in the outgoing rotation group (one eighth of the sample is rotated out each month) are selected for the MPHS. In these dwellings, after LFS has been fully completed for each person in scope and coverage, a person (usual resident) aged 15 and over is selected at random (based on a computer algorithm) and asked the additional MPHS questions in a personal interview. Data are collected using Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire in a notebook computer during a telephone interview.

15 The sample was accumulated over a twelve month period (July 2005 to June 2006).

CPCLA

16 Information was collected through interviews conducted over a two week period during April 2006.

<i>CPCLA continued</i>	<p>17 Information was collected from any responsible adult in the household who was asked to respond on behalf of the children in the household. About 75% of the interviews were conducted by telephone with the remainder being face-to-face interviews.</p> <p>18 In each selected household, information relating to computer and Internet use was sought for a maximum of three children. In the households with four or more children aged 5–14 years, three children were randomly selected for the survey. For the additional children in these households, only selected demographic information was collected.</p>
SCOPE <i>LFS AND MPHS</i>	<p>19 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ members of the permanent defence forces ■ certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations ■ overseas residents in Australia ■ members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants). <p>20 For the MPHS in 2005-06 the following people are also excluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ people living in special dwellings such as hotels, university residences etc ■ students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with disabilities), and inmates of prisons ■ visitors to private dwellings ■ people living in very remote Indigenous communities. <p>21 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded persons living in very remote parts of Australia. The exclusion of these people is unlikely to impact on the estimates included in this publication.</p>
<i>CPCLA</i>	<p>22 The scope of the supplementary survey was all children aged 5–14 years who were usual residents of private dwellings except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ children in households where all persons aged 15 years and over were members of the Australian permanent defence forces ■ children of certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys ■ children of overseas residents in Australia ■ children of members of non-Australian defence forces stationed in Australia. <p>23 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded children living in very remote parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these children will only have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such children account for 29% of the total number of children in the population.</p>
COVERAGE	<p>24 In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.</p>
SAMPLE SIZE <i>MPHS</i>	<p>25 The initial sample for the 2005-06 MPHS was 18,846 private dwelling households. Of the 16,212 private dwelling households that remained in the survey after sample loss (for example, households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 14,219 or 88% fully responded to the MPHS.</p>
<i>CPCLA</i>	<p>26 In total, information was collected about the activities of 8,682 children living in the selected households.</p>

WEIGHTING, BENCHMARKING
AND ESTIMATION

27 Weighting is the process of adjusting results from a sample survey to infer results for the total in scope population. To do this, a 'weight' is allocated to each sample unit, which, for the MPHS and the CPCLA Survey can be either a person or a household. The weight is a value which indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit. The first step in calculating weights for each unit is to assign an initial weight, which is the inverse of the probability of being selected in the survey. The initial weights are then calibrated to align with independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights are calibrated against population benchmarks to ensure that the survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population rather than the distribution within the sample itself.

Benchmarking

28 The estimation process for these surveys ensures that estimates of persons calibrate exactly to independently produced population totals at broad levels. The known population totals, commonly referred to as 'benchmarks', are produced according to the scope of the survey. The same is true for estimates of households produced in this survey. However, in these cases the household benchmarks are actually estimates themselves and not strictly known population totals.

29 Since these surveys were last conducted, the process for producing household benchmarks has been refined. Whilst this process is still under review, it represents a significant improvement to the previous method and household benchmarks produced using the new method are considered sufficient quality for use in household survey estimation. In addition, measures of the variability in household benchmarks have been incorporated into household estimates for the first time. These changes may result in unexpected movements in total households (at some broad levels) due to revised benchmark methodology.

30 A paper describing these issues in detail is currently being developed and is due for release in early 2007 with catalogue number 3107.0.55.007

31 The surveys were benchmarked to the estimated civilian population aged 15 years and over living in private dwellings in each state and territory in non-sparsely settled areas.

Estimation

32 Survey estimates of counts of persons or households are obtained by summing the weights of persons or households with the characteristic of interest.

IMPUTATION FOR NON
RESPONSE

33 Certain data items such as estimates of income had significant non-response for 2005-06. The ABS has not applied any imputation methodology for estimation of values for non-responses.

INCOME LESS THAN ZERO

34 Some households reported negative income in the survey. This is possible if they incur losses in their unincorporated businesses or have negative returns from their investments. Studies of income and expenditure from the 1998-99 Household Expenditure Survey (HES) have shown that such households in the bottom income decile and with negative gross incomes tend to have expenditure levels that are comparable to those of households with higher income levels (and slightly above the average expenditures recorded for the fifth decile), indicating that these households have access to economic resources, such as wealth or that the instance of low or negative income is temporary, perhaps reflecting business or investment start up.

EQUIVALISED GROSS
HOUSEHOLD INCOME
QUINTILES

35 These are groupings of 20% of the total population when ranked in ascending order according to equivalised gross household income. The population used for this purpose includes all people living in private dwellings, including children and other persons under the age of 15 years. As the scope of this publication is restricted to only those persons aged 15 years and over, the distribution of this smaller population across the quintiles is not necessarily the same as it is for persons of all ages, i.e. the percentage of

EQUIVALISED GROSS
HOUSEHOLD INCOME
QUINTILES *continued*

persons aged 15 years and over in each of these quintiles may be larger or smaller than 20%.

36 Equivalence scales are used to adjust the actual incomes of households in a way that enables the analysis of the relative wellbeing of people living in households of different size and composition. For example, it would be expected that a household comprising two people would normally need more income than a lone person household if all the people in the two households are to enjoy the same material standards of living. Adopting a per capita analysis would address one aspect of household size difference, but would address neither compositional difference (i.e. the number of adults compared with the number of children) nor the economies derived from living together.

37 When household income is adjusted according to an equivalence scale, the equivalised income can be viewed as an indicator of the economic resources available to a standardised household. For a lone person household, it is equal to income received. For a household comprising more than one person, equivalised income is an indicator of the household income that would be required by a lone person household in order to enjoy the same level of economic wellbeing as the household in question.

38 The equivalence scale used in this publication was developed for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and is referred to as the "modified OECD" equivalence scale. It is widely accepted among Australian analysts of income distribution.

39 The scale allocates 1.0 point for the first adult (aged 15 years or older) in a household; 0.5 for each additional adult; and 0.3 for each child. Equivalised household income is derived by dividing total household income by the sum of the equivalence points allocated to household members. For example, if a household received combined gross income of \$2,100 per week and comprised two adults and two children (combined household equivalence points of 2.1), the equivalised gross household income for each household member would be calculated as \$1,000 per week.

40 For more information on the use of equivalence scales, see *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2003-04 (cat. no. 6523.0)*

REMOTENESS

41 Remoteness Areas (RA) are the spatial units that make up the ASGC Remoteness Classification. There are six classes of Remoteness Area in the Remoteness Structure; Major Cities of Australia, Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia, Very Remote Australia and Migratory. Remoteness Areas are aggregations of Collection Districts (CD) which share common characteristics of remoteness

42 The purpose of the RA structure is to classify Collection Districts (CD) which share common characteristics of remoteness into broad geographical regions called RAs. The remoteness structure includes all CDs thereby covering the whole of geographic Australia. Where relevant, statistics in this publication have been produced using the ASGC Remoteness Classification.

43 Remoteness is calculated using the road distance to the nearest Urban Centre in each of five classes based on population size. The Remoteness classification divides Australia into six RAs: Major Cities of Australia; Inner Regional Australia; Outer Regional Australia; Remote Australia; Very Remote Australia; and Migratory. The glossary accompanying this publication provides definitions of RAs used. For further information see *Statistical Geography: Volume 1 — Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2006 (cat. no. 1216.0)*.

44 The key element in producing the structure is the preparation of the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+) grid. ARIA+ scores are first calculated for each Urban Centre and are then interpolated to create a 1 km grid covering the whole of Australia. Each grid square carries a score of remoteness from an

RE MOTENESS *continued*

index of scores ranging from 0 (zero) through to 15. The data custodian of the grid remains the National Key Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information System (GISCA), Adelaide University, South Australia. ABS Remoteness Areas are created by averaging the ARIA+ scores within Census Collection Districts (CDs), then aggregating the CDs up into the 6 ABS Remoteness Area categories based on the averaged ARIA+ score.

45 RA categories are defined in the ASGC Remoteness Classification as follows:

- Major Cities of Australia: CDs with an average Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) index value of 0 to 0.2
- Inner Regional Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 2.4
- Outer Regional Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 2.4 and less than or equal to 5.92
- Remote Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 5.92 and less than or equal to 10.53
- Very Remote Australia: CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 10.53

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

46 The estimates provided in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling error.

Sampling error

47 Sampling error is the difference between the published estimates, derived from a sample of persons, and the value that would have been produced if all persons in scope of the survey had been included. For more information refer to the technical note.

Non-sampling error

48 Non-sampling error may occur in any collection, whether it is based on a sample or a full count such as a census. Sources of non-sample error include non-response, errors in reporting by respondents or recording of answers by interviewers, and errors in coding and processing data.

CONFIDENTIALISED UNIT RECORD FILE

49 Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURF) release confidentialised microdata from surveys, thereby facilitating interrogation and analysis of data. For all MPHS topics covered in the 2005-06 survey, an expanded CURF will be available in 2007. The expanded CURF for MPHS 2004-05 topics are available. For more information on expanded CURFs refer to ABS information paper Multi-Purpose Household Survey 2004-05, Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (Cat. no. 4100.0)

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

50 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of the MPHS and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

51 Tables 6.1 and 6.2 data for other countries have been provided courtesy of the OECD and were originally sourced from individual country reports to the OECD. With the exception of Australian data, all other data have been published in the *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2005- Towards a knowledge based economy* and the OECD Key ICT Indicators.

52 There are important differences in definitions, scope, coverage and reference periods for the international comparison data included for selected indicators in the above tables. Significant differences are:

Reference Period and scope

53 The metadata for OECD Countries' ICT Collections site available at <www.oecd.org/sti/ictmetadata> provides detailed information on the reference period and survey scope for each country.

54 Generally, data from the European Union (EU) Community Survey on Household Use of ICT, which covers EU countries as well as Norway and Iceland, relate to the first quarter of the reference year. Australian data from MPHS relate to the financial year.

*Reference Period and scope
continued*

55 In table 6.1, data for Korea are sourced from the Survey on the "Computer and Internet usage" conducted by the National Internet Development Agency of Korea and include Internet access via computer and mobile phone. The scope for Mexico includes persons aged 6 years or over. New Zealand information is based on households in private occupied dwellings with access to the Internet with visitor only dwellings such as hotels excluded. For Switzerland, figures refer to sample based on individuals and private data from the organisation of Arbtsgruppe fur Werbemedienforschung. Data for Turkey relate to households in urban areas only.

56 For table 6.2, generally data from the EU Community Survey on household use of ICT, which covers EU countries plus Iceland, Norway and Turkey, relate to the first quarter of the reference year. For the Czech Republic, data relate to the fourth quarter of the reference year. For Korea, data include broadband access modes such as xDSL, cable and other fixed and wireless broadband via computers and mobile phone access. For Luxembourg, data include wireless access. For Mexico, data relate to households with Internet access via cable, ADSL or fixed wireless. For Turkey, data relate to households in urban areas only.

Definition of Broadband

57 The ABS defines broadband as an 'always on' Internet connection with an access speed equal to or greater than 256 kbps. Most other OECD countries define broadband in terms of technology (e.g. ADSL, cable etc) rather than speed. However, Iceland only includes connections with a bandwidth equal to or greater than 2Mbps.

FUTURE SURVEYS

58 The ABS will conduct the MPHS again during the 2006-07 financial year. The topics included in the 2006-07 MPHS are:

- Education and household income (core)
- Household use of information technology
- Barriers and incentives to labour force participation
- Retirement and retirement intentions
- Family characteristics, transitions and history
- Adult learning

59 The ABS plans to conduct the CPCLA survey again in April 2009.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

61 Other ABS publications on the production and use of information and communication technologies and telecommunication goods and services in Australia are:

- *Business Use of Information Technology, 2004-05* (Cat. no. 8129.0)
- *Government Technology, Australia, 2002-03* (Cat. no. 8119.0)
- *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2004-05* (Cat. no. 8146.0)
- *Information and Communication Technology, Australia, 2004-05* (Cat. no. 8126.0)
- *Use of Information Technology on Farms, Australia, 2004-05* (Cat. no. 8150.0)
- *Internet Activity, Australia, June 2006* (Cat. no. 8153.0)
- *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, April 2006* (Cat. no. 4901.0)

62 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 website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily release advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON
REQUEST

63 As well as statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to Afroza Rahman, Canberra, (02) 6252 6365 or the National Information Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

1 As the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of households and persons, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all households and persons in Australia had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of households and persons was included. There are about 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the figure that would have been obtained if all households and persons had been included in the survey, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs.

2 Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

3 In the tables in this publication, only estimates (numbers and percentages) with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are annotated to indicate they are subject to higher SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of 10% to less than 25% are preceded by a ^, and estimates with RSEs of 25% to 50% are preceded by an asterix (*) to indicate that they should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (**) to indicate that they are considered too unreliable for general use.

4 To assist readers of this publication to ascertain the approximate levels of reliability of estimates throughout this publication, tables of SEs and RSEs for certain estimates of population counts for the data appear at the end of this Technical Note. These values do not give a precise measure of the SEs or RSEs for a particular estimate but will provide an indication of their magnitude.

USING STANDARD ERRORS FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES

5 An example of the use of SEs in relation to estimates is as follows.

6 From table 4.1, it is estimated that 4,730,000 households accessed the Internet using a home computer in 2005-06. This estimate has a SE around 39,000. This means there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been obtained from a complete census is within the range 4,691,000 to 4,769,000 households and about 19 chances in 20 that the true value is in the range 4,652,000 to 4,808,000 households.

7 Particular care should be taken when comparing figures over time. It is not correct to assume that an apparent difference between figures is actually significant. Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x - y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

8 The estimated increase in the number of households with home internet access from the previous year was 337,000 (from 4,393,000 in 2004-05 to 4,730,000 in 2005-06). The SE on the movement is around 55,000. There are 2 chances in 3 that the true value is within the range 282,000 to 392,000 households and 19 chances in 20 that the true value is in the range 227,000 to 447,000 households.

USING STANDARD ERRORS
FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES
continued

9 Improved modelling techniques have resulted in some differences between SEs for states and territories in 2005-06 with those from 2004-05. The ABS considers 2005-06 estimates for SEs to be more accurate.

TABLES OF STANDARD
ERRORS AND RELATIVE
STANDARD ERRORS

STANDARD ERRORS OF HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATES—2005–06

Size of estimate	STANDARD ERROR								AUSTRALIA	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Standard error	Relative standard error
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	140	180	160	110	140	120	130	120	180	180
200	250	280	260	200	240	190	210	190	280	140
300	330	370	340	270	310	240	280	240	360	120
500	480	510	460	380	440	320	380	320	490	98
700	610	620	570	480	550	390	460	390	600	86
1,000	780	770	710	610	690	470	560	480	740	74
1,500	1 020	980	900	780	870	580	680	580	930	62
2,000	1 220	1 150	1 070	920	1 020	670	780	670	1 100	55
2,500	1 400	1 300	1 200	1 050	1 150	750	850	750	1 250	50
3,000	1 550	1 450	1 350	1 150	1 300	800	950	800	1 400	47
3,500	1 700	1 550	1 450	1 250	1 400	900	1 000	850	1 500	43
4,000	1 850	1 700	1 550	1 350	1 500	950	1 050	900	1 600	40
5,000	2 100	1 900	1 750	1 500	1 650	1 050	1 150	1 000	1 850	37
7,000	2 550	2 250	2 100	1 750	1 950	1 200	1 300	1 150	2 200	31
10,000	3 050	2 700	2 500	2 050	2 300	1 350	1 450	1 300	2 650	27
15,000	3 750	3 300	3 050	2 450	2 700	1 600	1 600	1 450	3 250	22
20,000	4 350	3 750	3 500	2 750	3 050	1 750	1 700	1 600	3 800	19
30,000	5 250	4 500	4 250	3 150	3 550	2 000	1 900	1 800	4 650	16
40,000	5 950	5 100	4 800	3 500	3 950	2 200	1 950	1 900	5 350	13
50,000	6 550	5 650	5 300	3 700	4 250	2 350	2 050	2 000	5 950	12
100,000	8 600	7 450	7 050	4 500	5 250	2 800	2 200	2 300	8 200	8
150,000	10 000	8 750	8 250	4 900	5 850	3 050	2 230	2 450	9 850	7
200,000	11 000	9 700	9 150	5 200	6 250	3 250	2 240	2 500	11 200	6
300,000	12 550	11 200	10 600	5 550	6 850	3 500	—	2 600	13 350	5
500,000	14 550	13 300	12 600	5 900	7 500	3 750	—	—	16 550	3
1,000,000	17 300	16 450	15 600	6 200	8 250	—	—	—	21 900	2
2,000,000	20 000	19 950	18 950	6 300	8 800	—	—	—	28 550	1
5,000,000	23 050	24 950	23 750	—	—	—	—	—	39 750	1
10,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50 300	1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATES WITH RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% TO 50%—2005–06

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Estimate with RSEs of 25%	15 158	11 595	10 104	7 068	8 495	3 515	4 332	3 392	11 312
Estimate with RSEs of 30%	10 472	8 088	6 990	4 981	6 041	2 505	3 205	2 451	7 704
Estimate with RSEs of 35%	7 549	5 912	5 069	3 643	4 470	1 860	2 454	1 840	5 528
Estimate with RSEs of 40%	5 615	4 473	3 807	2 738	3 408	1 424	1 926	1 420	4 124
Estimate with RSEs of 45%	4 278	3 477	2 938	2 100	2 657	1 117	1 541	1 120	3 170
Estimate with RSEs of 50%	3 322	2 761	2 317	1 636	2 110	892	1 252	899	2 496

STANDARD ERRORS OF PERSON ESTIMATES–2005–06

Size of estimate	STANDARD ERROR								AUSTRALIA	
	NSW	VIC	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Standard error	Relative standard error
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	210	210	230	120	150	120	130	140	170	170
200	360	350	380	230	270	210	230	240	290	145
300	490	460	500	310	370	290	320	320	390	130
500	700	650	690	470	540	420	470	450	560	112
700	880	820	860	600	690	530	600	550	710	101
1,000	1 120	1 030	1 080	780	890	670	760	690	910	91
1,500	1 470	1 340	1 380	1 030	1 170	870	980	870	1 190	79
2,000	1 770	1 600	1 640	1 250	1 400	1 030	1 150	1 020	1 440	72
2,500	2 050	1 850	1 850	1 450	1 600	1 200	1 300	1 150	1 650	66
3,000	2 300	2 050	2 100	1 600	1 800	1 300	1 450	1 250	1 850	62
3,500	2 500	2 250	2 250	1 800	2 000	1 450	1 550	1 350	2 050	59
4,000	2 700	2 400	2 450	1 900	2 150	1 550	1 650	1 450	2 250	56
5,000	3 100	2 750	2 800	2 200	2 450	1 750	1 850	1 600	2 550	51
7,000	3 800	3 350	3 350	2 650	2 900	2 050	2 150	1 900	3 150	45
10,000	4 650	4 050	4 050	3 200	3 500	2 450	2 500	2 200	3 900	39
15,000	5 800	5 050	5 000	3 950	4 300	3 000	2 900	2 600	4 900	33
20,000	6 750	5 850	5 800	4 550	4 950	3 400	3 150	2 850	5 750	29
30,000	8 350	7 200	7 150	5 500	5 900	4 050	3 550	3 300	7 200	24
40,000	9 650	8 300	8 200	6 200	6 650	4 500	3 850	3 600	8 400	21
50,000	10 750	9 200	9 150	6 800	7 300	4 900	4 000	3 850	9 400	19
100,000	14 900	12 650	12 550	8 800	9 400	6 250	4 550	4 600	13 300	13
150,000	17 900	15 100	15 050	10 100	10 700	7 050	4 750	5 000	16 150	11
200,000	20 250	17 050	17 000	11 000	11 650	7 650	4 850	5 300	18 450	9
300,000	23 950	20 050	20 150	12 300	13 050	8 500	—	5 650	22 100	7
500,000	29 300	24 400	24 650	13 900	14 700	9 550	—	—	27 500	6
1,000,000	37 750	31 250	32 050	15 900	16 850	—	—	—	36 350	4
2,000,000	47 550	39 200	40 850	17 550	18 550	—	—	—	47 100	2
5,000,000	62 400	51 200	54 850	—	—	—	—	—	64 250	1
10,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79 400	1
15,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89 000	1
20,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96 150	1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

PERSON ESTIMATES WITH RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% TO 50%–2005–06

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Estimate with RSEs of 25%	37 183	27 628	27 148	16 728	19 497	9 741	9 923	7 974	27 433
Estimate with RSEs of 30%	25 635	19 081	18 803	11 610	13 780	6 767	7 300	5 747	18 321
Estimate with RSEs of 35%	18 521	13 816	13 672	8 376	10 130	4 894	5 547	4 302	12 861
Estimate with RSEs of 40%	13 855	10 361	10 307	6 216	7 666	3 647	4 316	3 312	9 369
Estimate with RSEs of 45%	10 648	7 984	7 991	4 712	5 932	2 780	3 418	2 605	7 023
Estimate with RSEs of 50%	8 361	6 288	6 335	3 631	4 670	2 157	2 745	2 084	5 386

STANDARD ERRORS OF NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGED 5–14 YEARS ESTIMATE, 2006

Size of estimate	STANDARD ERROR								AUSTRALIA	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Standard error	Relative standard error
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
300	430.0	360.0	370.0	270.0	300.0	210.0	210.0	220.0	300.0	100.0
500	550.0	470.0	460.0	340.0	400.0	270.0	270.0	280.0	400.0	80.0
700	640.0	560.0	540.0	400.0	470.0	320.0	330.0	330.0	480.0	68.6
1000	760.0	670.0	640.0	470.0	560.0	370.0	390.0	390.0	580.0	58.0
1500	920.0	810.0	760.0	560.0	690.0	450.0	470.0	460.0	720.0	48.0
2000	1 050.0	940.0	870.0	640.0	790.0	510.0	540.0	520.0	840.0	42.0
2500	1 150.0	1 050.0	950.0	700.0	900.0	550.0	600.0	580.0	950.0	38.0
3000	1 250.0	1 150.0	1 050.0	750.0	950.0	600.0	650.0	620.0	1 050.0	35.0
3500	1 350.0	1 200.0	1 100.0	800.0	1 050.0	650.0	700.0	650.0	1 100.0	31.4
4000	1 450.0	1 300.0	1 200.0	850.0	1 100.0	700.0	750.0	700.0	1 200.0	30.0
5000	1 600.0	1 450.0	1 300.0	950.0	1 200.0	750.0	800.0	750.0	1 350.0	27.0
7000	1 900.0	1 700.0	1 550.0	1 100.0	1 400.0	850.0	900.0	900.0	1 600.0	22.9
10000	2 250.0	2 000.0	1 800.0	1 300.0	1 650.0	950.0	1 050.0	1 000.0	1 900.0	19.0
15000	2 700.0	2 350.0	2 200.0	1 550.0	1 950.0	1 100.0	1 200.0	1 200.0	2 350.0	15.7
20000	3 050.0	2 700.0	2 500.0	1 750.0	2 200.0	1 200.0	1 300.0	1 350.0	2 700.0	13.5
30000	3 700.0	3 200.0	3 000.0	2 050.0	2 650.0	1 350.0	1 500.0	1 550.0	3 250.0	10.8
40000	4 200.0	3 600.0	3 450.0	2 300.0	2 950.0	1 450.0	1 650.0	1 750.0	3 750.0	9.4
50000	4 650.0	3 950.0	3 800.0	2 550.0	3 250.0	1 550.0	—	1 900.0	4 150.0	8.3
100000	6 350.0	5 200.0	5 250.0	3 400.0	4 200.0	1 850.0	—	—	5 750.0	5.8
150000	7 600.0	6 100.0	6 300.0	4 000.0	4 900.0	—	—	—	6 950.0	4.6
200000	8 650.0	6 800.0	7 200.0	4 500.0	5 450.0	—	—	—	7 900.0	4.0
300000	10 350.0	7 900.0	8 700.0	—	6 300.0	—	—	—	9 450.0	3.2
500000	13 000.0	9 500.0	11 050.0	—	—	—	—	—	11 850.0	2.4
1000000	17 600.0	12 150.0	15 250.0	—	—	—	—	—	15 950.0	1.6
2000000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21 350.0	1.1
5000000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31 000.0	0.6
10000000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	..

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

TABLES OF STANDARD ERRORS AND RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

ESTIMATES WITH RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% TO 50%, NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGED 5–14 YEARS, 2006

Size of Estimates	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Estimate with RSEs of 25%	8 077	6 522	5 545	3 102	4 729	2 078	2 302	2 173	5 819
Estimate with RSEs of 30%	5 752	4 655	3 964	2 236	3 372	1 502	1 650	1 572	4 015
Estimate with RSEs of 35%	4 313	3 487	2 986	1 693	2 522	1 133	1 233	1 191	2 924
Estimate with RSEs of 40%	3 359	2 707	2 336	1 329	1 955	881	951	935	2 216
Estimate with RSEs of 45%	2 692	2 160	1 882	1 073	1 557	702	752	753	1 731
Estimate with RSEs of 50%	2 208	1 762	1 551	885	1 267	571	606	620	1 386

GLOSSARY

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia	Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) was developed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC) and the National Key Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information System (GISCA). ARIA measures the remoteness of a point based on the physical road distance to the nearest Urban Centre (ASGC 1996) in each of five size classes.
Age	This is the reported age of a person on the last birthday.
Analog/Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)	A telecommunications network operated by a carrier to provide services to the public.
ASGC Remoteness Structure.	The Remoteness structure is used for the production of standard ABS statistical outputs from Population Censuses and some ABS surveys. It is a structure describing Australia in terms of a measurement of remoteness. The Remoteness structure includes all Collection Districts (CDs) and therefore, in aggregate, it covers the whole of Australia. The purpose of the structure is to classify CDs which share common characteristics of remoteness into broad geographical regions called Remoteness Areas (RAs). There are six RAs in this structure.
Bit	Abbreviation for binary digit and describing the smallest unit of information handled by a computer. One bit expresses a 1 or a 0 in a binary numeral, or a true or false logical condition. See also Byte.
Broadband	Defined by the ABS as an 'always on' Internet connection with an access speed equal to or greater than 256 Kilobits per second (Kbps).
Byte	Abbreviation for binary term. A unit of data, today almost always consisting of 8 bits. A byte can represent a single character, such as a letter, a digit, or a punctuation mark. See also kilobit and kilobyte.
Cable	Describes those technologies including coaxial cable, fibre optic cable and hybrid fibre coaxial cable which are capable of transmitting data at speeds of up to 2 Gigabits per second (Gbps).
Child	A person of any age who is a natural, adopted, step, or foster son or daughter of a couple or lone parent, usually resident in the same household, and who does not have a child or partner of his/her own usually resident in the household.
Collection Districts	CDs are designed for use in census years for the collection and dissemination of Population Census data. In non-census years, CDs are undefined. In aggregate, CDs cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. The CD is the smallest spatial unit in the ASGC. CDs aggregate to form larger spatial units such as the Remoteness Areas in the Remoteness Structure. In Census years, the CD is the common denominator which integrates all classification structures in the ASGC. For the 2006 Census, 38,704 CDs were defined throughout Australia
Computer use	This refers to use of a computer in the 12 months prior to interview.
Couple families	For the purposes of this publication, a family consisting of two persons in a registered marriage or de facto relationship and at least one child aged 5–14 years who are usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals.
Dial-up connections	Connection to the Internet via modem and dial-up software utilising the public switched telecommunication network (PSTN).

Digital Subscriber Line	More properly referred to as ADSL as this covers several digital technologies (e.g. asymmetric DSL or ADSL and symmetric DSL or SDSL) for fast two-way data connections over the PSTN.
Employed	Employed persons are those who had a job or business, or who undertook work without pay in a family business, in the week prior to the survey for a minimum of one hour per week. Includes persons who were absent from a job or business. Includes Community Development Employment Program participants.
Equivalised Gross Household Income	Gross household income adjusted using an equivalence scale. For a lone person household it is equal to gross household income. For a household comprising more than one person, it is an indicator of the gross household income that would need to be received by a lone person household to enjoy the same level of economic well-being as the household in question.
Equivalised gross household income quintiles	These are groupings of 20% of the total population when ranked in ascending order according to equivalised gross household income. The population used for this purpose includes all people living in private dwellings, including children and other persons under the age of 15 years. As the scope of this publication is restricted to only those persons aged 15 years and over, the distribution of this smaller population across the quintiles is not necessarily the same as it is for persons of all ages, i.e. the percentage of persons aged 15 years and over in each of these quintiles may be larger or smaller than 20%.
Ex-metropolitan areas	Refers to areas outside the capital city statistical divisions.
Gbps	A data transfer speed measurement for high speed networks.
Household	A household consists of a person living alone, or two or more related or unrelated persons who live and eat together in private residential accommodation.
Indigenous	This refers to people who identified themselves, or were identified by another household member, as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Inner regional Australia	Inner Regional Australia is a category in the ASGC Remoteness Structure. Inner Regional Australia is defined as 'CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 2.4'. Inner Regional Australia includes towns such as Hobart, Launceston, Noosa and Tamworth.
Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)	A digital access technique for both voice and data. Digital alternative to an analog public switched telephone service and carries data or voltages consisting of discrete steps or levels, as opposed to continuously variable analog data. ISDN enables digital transmission over the PSTN.
Internet	A world-wide public computer network. Organisations and individuals can connect their computers to this network and exchange information across a country and/or across the world. The Internet provides access to a number of communication services including the World Wide Web and carries email, news, entertainment and data files.
Internet Access	Availability of lines, points, ports, and modem to subscribers to access the Internet.
Internet use	This refers to the use of the Internet in the 12 months prior to interview. It includes access via mobile phones, set-top boxes connected to either an analogue or digital television, and games machines.
Kbps	A measure of data transfer rate . A unit of data transfer that equates to 1000 bits per second.
Kilobit (Kb)	A data unit of 1,024 bits and generally abbreviated as kb or kbit. Data speeds are generally referred to in kilobits (kbps) rather than kilobytes.
Kilobyte (KB)	A data unit of 1,024 bytes and generally abbreviated as KB or Kbyte.

Major cities of Australia	Major Cities of Australia (not to be confused with Major Urban) is a category in the ASGC Remoteness Structure. Major Cities of Australia is defined as 'CDs with an average ARIA index value of 0 to 0.2'. The 'Major Cities of Australia' class includes most capital cities, as well as major urban areas such as Newcastle, Geelong and the Gold Coast.
Megabit (Mb)	A data unit of 1,048,576 bits, sometimes interpreted as 1 million bits. Faster data speeds are generally referred to in megabits rather than megabytes (hence Mbps).
Megabyte (MB)	A data unit of 1,048,576 bytes, sometimes interpreted as 1 million bytes.
Metropolitan	Metropolitan refers to capital city statistical divisions. These delimit an area which is stable for general statistical purposes. The boundary is defined to contain anticipated development of a city for a period of 20 years. The metropolitan area contains more than just the urban centre, and represents the city in the wider sense.
Non Dial-up connections	Refers to permanent and 'always on' connections to the Internet via a variety of technologies including Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), Digital Subscriber Lines (DSL), Cable, Wireless, Satellite, dedicated data service, frame relay, etc.
One parent families	For the purposes of this publication, a family consisting of a lone parent and at least one child aged 5–14 years usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals.
Other countries	The group comprises all countries except Australia and the other main English-speaking countries (the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand).
Other main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Outer regional Australia	Outer Regional Australia is a category in the ASGC Remoteness Structure. Outer Regional Australia is defined as 'CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 2.4 and less than or equal to 5.92'. Outer Regional Australia includes towns and cities such as Darwin, Whyalla, Cairns and Gunnedah.
Public library computers	Includes computers provided in the library for public access for library catalogue searches, Internet use and word processing.
Remote	Remote Australia is a category in the ASGC Remoteness Structure. Remote Australia is defined as 'CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 5.92 and less than or equal to 10.53. Examples of Remote Australia include Alice Springs, Mount Isa and Esperance.
Satellite	A satellite stationed in geosynchronous orbit that acts as a microwave relay station, receiving signals sent from a ground based station, amplifying them, and re-transmitting them on a different frequency to another ground-based station. Satellites can be used for high-speed transmission of computer data.
Someone else's home	Includes the homes of neighbours, friends and relatives.
Very remote	Very Remote Australia is a category in the ASGC Remoteness Structure. Very Remote is defined as 'CDs with an average ARIA index value greater than 10.53. Very Remote Australia represents much of central and western Australia and includes towns such as Tennant Creek, Longreach and Coober Pedy. This region is excluded from MPHS and CPCLA.

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ISSN 1329 4067

RRP \$32.00