



New  
Issue

## **1996 Census of Population and Housing**

# **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People**

**Australia**

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
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## PREFACE

This publication presents a range of detailed social and economic statistics about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, produced from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Similar publications are available for each State and Territory.

The aim of the publication is to provide information which will be useful to Indigenous organisations and communities, government agencies and policy makers providing services to Indigenous people. The publication will also be of interest to research agencies and the general public.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (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*.

W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND OTHER USAGES

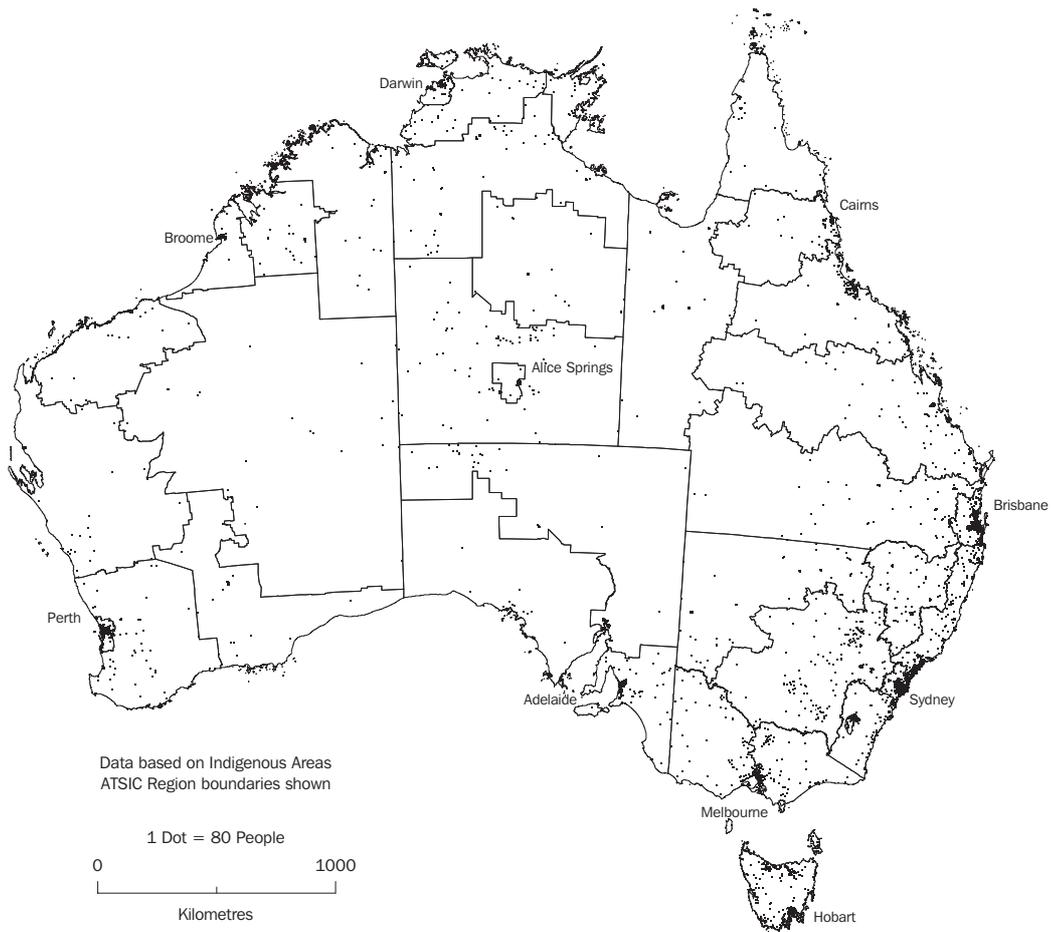
### ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
CD	Collection District
CDEP	Community Development Employment Projects
ERP	Estimated Resident Population

### SYMBOLS

n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.f.d.	not further defined

# INDIGENOUS POPULATION DISTRIBUTION



Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## CHAPTER 1

## POPULATION

### INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

This chapter presents a statistical summary of the Indigenous (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) population compared to the total population of Australia.

Apart from tables 1.1 and 1.2 and the age pyramids in this chapter, data in this publication are from the five-yearly Census of Population and Housing, the most recent being the 1996 Census which was conducted on 6 August 1996.

The category Indigenous covers people who responded affirmatively on the census form to the question 'Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?'. The total population includes Indigenous people, non-Indigenous people and persons who did not respond to the question ('Not stated').

Overseas visitors are excluded from all figures in this publication.

### POPULATION ESTIMATES AND CENSUS COUNTS

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes two types of data on the resident population in Australia: counts from the Census of Population and Housing and estimates of the population.

#### Estimated resident population

The estimated resident population (ERP) is the official estimate of the resident population at a particular date for a given area. It adjusts the census count (by place of usual residence) for people missed in the Census, interstate and overseas migration, and births and deaths. ERP figures are only available at State, Territory and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Region levels, and are not broken down to more detailed geographic levels or by socioeconomic characteristics (*Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0)).

#### Experimental estimates of the Indigenous population

The ABS also produces 'experimental' estimates of the Indigenous population. Estimates have been produced on an annual basis from 30 June 1991. The estimates are known as experimental in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and internal migration are not generally available in respect of the Indigenous population.

Estimates are derived using the census place of usual residence counts as a base and adjusting the figures, taking into account the following factors:

- persons recorded as Indigenous whose parents were born overseas;
- non-response to the census question on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin;
- net census undercount; and
- registered births.

Experimental  
estimates of the  
Indigenous population  
*continued*

These figures are further modified using life tables to provide annual time series data as at 30 June. The experimental estimates in this chapter are final estimates.

The estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population as at 30 June 1996 was 386,049, an increase of 40,668 from 30 June 1991. The average annual growth rate of the Indigenous population of Australia for the period 1991 to 1996 was 2.3%, higher than the rate for the total population of 1.2% (*Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0) and *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0)).

At 30 June 1996 Indigenous people comprised 2.1% of the total population of Australia.

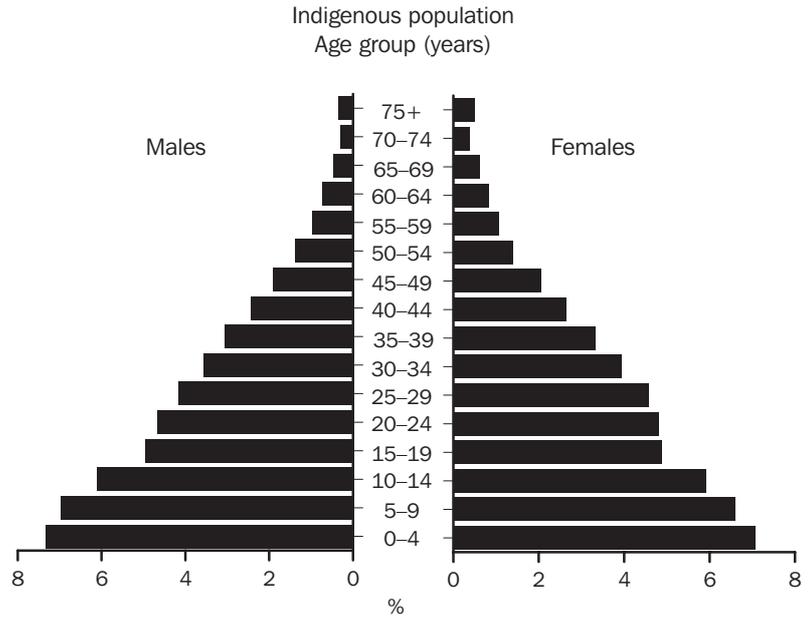
Over half of these Indigenous people resided in New South Wales (28.5%) and Queensland (27.2%). A further quarter lived in Western Australia (14.6%) and the Northern Territory (13.4%).

Overall, Indigenous people represented 3.2% or less of the total population in each State or Territory at 30 June 1996, except in the Northern Territory where representation was 28.5%.

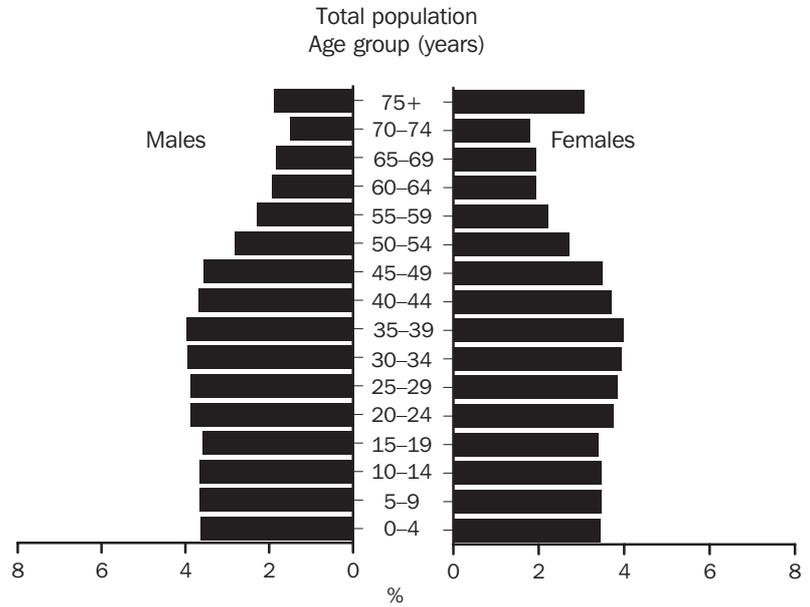
#### AGE DISTRIBUTION

The age structure of the Indigenous population differed from that of the total population. The Indigenous population had a higher proportion of people under the age of 15 years and a lower proportion of people over the age of 65. The proportion of the Indigenous population of Australia under 15 years of age was 40.0%, compared to 21.4% of the total population. Persons aged 65 and over comprised 2.6% of the Indigenous population and 12.0% of the total population. These figures reflect the relatively high fertility and, to a lesser extent, the high mortality of the Indigenous population (*Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0) and *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0)).

INDIGENOUS AND TOTAL ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION—30 JUNE 1996

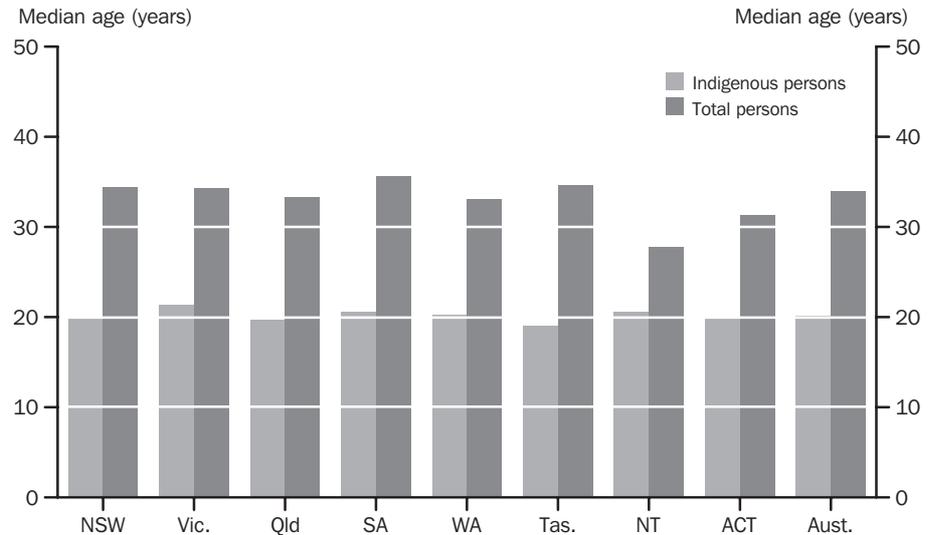


Source: *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0).



Source: *Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0).

Median age At 30 June 1996, the Indigenous population had a median age of 20.1 years which was much younger than that of the total population of 34.0 years. The median age of Indigenous males at 30 June 1996 was 19.3 and of Indigenous females 20.9. The median age for all males was 33.3 and for all females 34.7 (*Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0)). The median age disparity was generally similar for all States and Territories.



Source: *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0).

## CENSUS COUNTS

The Census is a snapshot of the population and its characteristics at a particular date.

Census counts are available either on the basis of where people were counted (enumerated) or where they usually live (usual residence). Enumerated data refer to where people were located on the night of the Census regardless of where they normally live, whereas usual residence involves counts of people at their normal place of residence (address at which a person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in the census year).

Data from the Census presented in this publication relate to where people usually live (place of usual residence) except where otherwise stated.

## CENSUS COUNTS AND ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Users need to be careful when using census characteristics and ERP figures together. The 1996 Census count of Indigenous people was 352,970 and the ERP was 386,049, some 9.4% higher. Users may wish to take this into account when interpreting census characteristics data.

Census data are not adjusted for under enumeration or other factors used to calculate ERP.

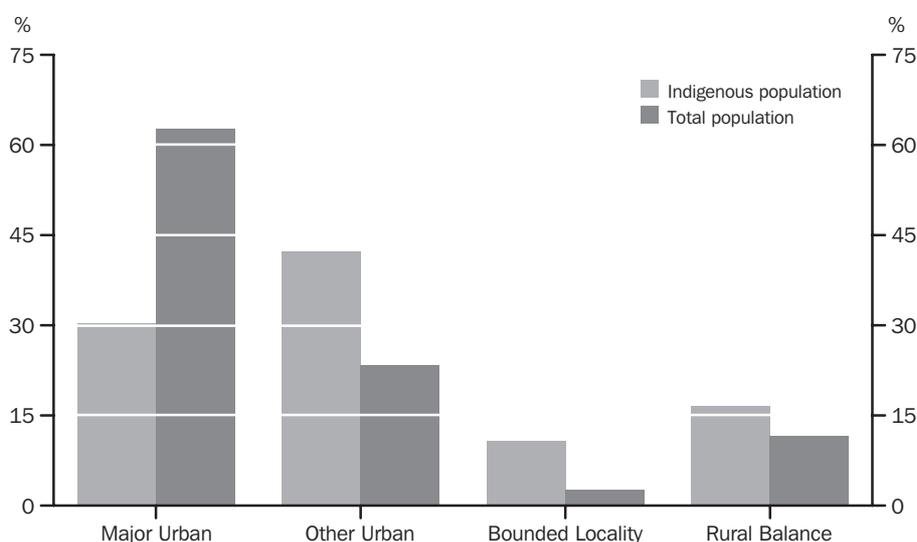
## INDIGENOUS ORIGIN

Between 1991 and 1996 the number of people who identified as being of Indigenous origin in the Census increased by 33% (from 265,371 to 352,970). As a proportion of the total Australian population, this represents an increase from 1.6% to 2.0%.

## LOCATION

The Indigenous population has a different geographic distribution compared to the total population. At the time of the 1996 Census, 30.3% of the Indigenous population lived in Major Urban areas and 42.3% in Other Urban areas compared to 62.7% and 23.3%, respectively, of the total population. A further 10.8% of the Indigenous population lived in Bounded Localities and 16.6% in the Rural Balance Section of State compared to 2.5% and 11.5%, respectively, of the total population. The geographic distribution of the Indigenous population and the total population also differed across the States and Territories.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, BY SECTION OF STATE



Source: Table 1.4

Between 1986 and 1996 the proportion of Indigenous people living in Major Urban areas in New South Wales increased from 36.3% to 40.0%, whereas the proportion of the total New South Wales population living in Major Urban areas remained the same (around 67%).

In Queensland, the proportion of Indigenous people in Major Urban areas increased from 18.1% in 1986 to 27.8% in 1996, whereas the total Queensland population in Major Urban areas increased more slowly, from 46.4% to 49.8%. There was an increase in the proportion of Indigenous people living in Other Urban areas from 18.1% in 1986 to 47.2% in 1996, while the proportion of the total Queensland population living in Other Urban areas decreased from 32.5% in 1986 to 30.9% in 1996.

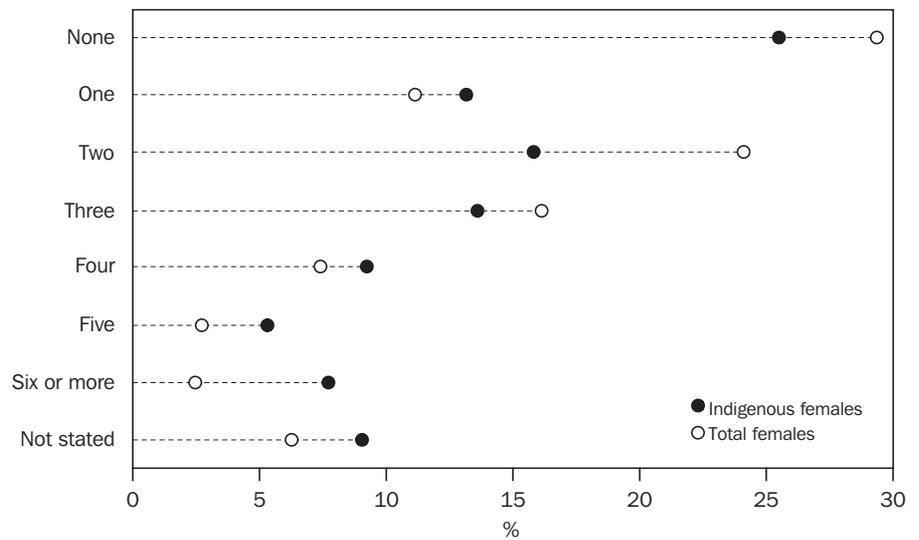
LOCATION *continued*

The Northern Territory recorded an increase in the proportion of Indigenous people living in Other Urban areas over the 10-year period (30.8% to 39.6%) and a decrease in the proportion living in Bounded Localities (38.2% to 27.5%). The proportion of the total Northern Territory population in Other Urban areas remained the same from 1986 to 1996 while the Bounded Locality area recorded a small decrease.

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

The proportions of Indigenous and total females aged 15 years and over in 1996 who reported they ever had children were similar (65.3% and 64.3%, respectively). However, Indigenous females tended to have more children than total females. For example, 13.2% of Indigenous females said they had five or more children compared to 5.3% of total females.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN



Source: Table 1.5

# 1.1

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION—30 JUNE 1996(a)

<i>State and Territory</i>	<i>Indigenous population(b)</i>	<i>Total Australian population</i>	<i>Proportion of total population in each State or Territory which is Indigenous</i>	<i>Proportion of Indigenous Australian population which is in each State or Territory</i>
	'000	'000	%	%
New South Wales	109.9	6 204.7	1.77	28.47
Victoria	22.6	4 560.2	0.49	5.85
Queensland	104.8	3 338.7	3.13	27.15
South Australia	22.1	1 474.3	1.49	5.71
Western Australia	56.2	1 765.3	3.18	14.55
Tasmania	15.3	474.4	3.22	3.96
Northern Territory	51.9	181.8	28.52	13.43
Australian Capital Territory	3.1	308.3	0.99	0.79
<b>Australia(c)</b>	<b>386.0</b>	<b>18 310.7</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>100.00</b>

(a) The ERPs have been rounded to the nearest 100 and as a result discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals.

(b) Experimental estimates.

(c) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

Source: *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996 (Cat. no. 3230.0); and Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997 (Cat. no. 3101.0).*

# 1.2

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX—30 JUNE 1996

Age group (years)	Males	Females	Persons
	no.	no.	no.
INDIGENOUS(a)			
0-4	28 263	27 318	55 581
5-9	26 884	25 479	52 363
10-14	23 577	22 868	46 445
15-19	19 141	18 873	38 014
20-24	18 049	18 588	36 637
25-29	16 106	17 635	33 741
30-34	13 749	15 210	28 959
35-39	11 777	12 881	24 658
40-44	9 404	10 218	19 622
45-49	7 406	7 912	15 318
50-54	5 289	5 451	10 740
55-59	3 695	4 131	7 826
60-64	2 794	3 233	6 027
65-69	1 871	2 400	4 271
70-74	1 112	1 463	2 575
75 and over	1 351	1 921	3 272
<b>Total</b>	<b>190 468</b>	<b>195 581</b>	<b>386 049</b>
TOTAL			
0-4	665 611	631 438	1 297 049
5-9	669 251	636 798	1 306 049
10-14	670 227	637 990	1 308 217
15-19	655 345	623 774	1 279 119
20-24	708 906	687 960	1 396 866
25-29	710 454	707 561	1 418 015
30-34	720 725	723 796	1 444 521
35-39	726 660	729 327	1 455 987
40-44	676 137	678 946	1 355 083
45-49	654 234	639 704	1 293 938
50-54	517 520	497 412	1 014 932
55-59	419 859	407 540	827 399
60-64	353 827	356 656	710 483
65-69	337 445	354 740	692 185
70-74	276 105	327 017	603 122
75 and over	345 749	562 000	907 749
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 108 055</b>	<b>9 202 659</b>	<b>18 310 714</b>

(a) Experimental estimates.

Source: *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0); and *Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0).

## 1.3 POPULATION, BY INDIGENOUS ORIGIN

	1986	1991	1996(a)
<i>Origin</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Aboriginal	206 068	238 510	314 120
Torres Strait Islander	21 525	26 861	28 744
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander(b)	n.a.	n.a.	10 106
<i>Total</i>	227 593	265 371	352 970
Non-Indigenous	15 048 395	15 975 730	16 874 456
Not stated	266 579	530 599	525 403
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 542 567</b>	<b>16 771 700</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Includes Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) New category in 1996 Census. Comprises persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

Source: Unpublished data, 1986, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

# 1.4

## INDIGENOUS AND TOTAL POPULATION(a), BY SECTION OF STATE

Section of State	1986		1991		1996	
	Indigenous no.	Total no.	Indigenous no.	Total no.	Indigenous no.	Total no.
<b>Major Urban</b>						
New South Wales	21 408	3 640 965	26 416	3 802 557	40 557	4 020 977
Victoria	5 977	2 762 977	7 465	2 879 135	10 091	2 975 009
Queensland	11 088	1 193 629	16 644	1 459 399	26 566	1 652 031
South Australia	5 690	914 570	6 682	954 676	9 056	973 991
Western Australia	8 947	890 932	10 223	1 013 460	14 957	1 087 437
Tasmania	1 351	126 868	1 838	126 865	2 843	125 667
Australian Capital Territory	1 047	246 104	1 569	274 770	2 867	294 983
<i>Total</i>	55 508	9 776 045	70 837	10 510 862	106 937	11 130 095
<b>Other Urban</b>						
New South Wales	27 348	1 087 022	30 990	1 194 575	44 925	1 275 971
Victoria	5 224	742 503	6 853	797 212	8 496	840 138
Queensland	28 778	836 048	30 451	877 749	45 098	1 023 474
South Australia	4 580	220 701	4 659	234 594	6 523	249 992
Western Australia	15 774	295 737	17 526	337 365	19 128	392 359
Tasmania	3 460	197 541	4 274	201 235	6 752	207 506
Northern Territory	10 699	110 037	13 812	116 880	18 341	137 502
<i>Total</i>	95 863	3 489 589	108 565	3 759 610	149 263	4 126 942
<b>Bounded Locality</b>						
New South Wales	3 075	109 916	3 898	144 355	5 624	134 269
Victoria	228	70 073	412	83 899	478	76 466
Queensland	11 013	103 505	11 975	116 695	10 846	102 724
South Australia	1 223	44 193	2 412	43 981	796	41 484
Western Australia	4 672	47 558	6 255	52 532	6 416	46 742
Tasmania	568	29 752	845	30 581	1 129	27 178
Northern Territory	13 274	16 899	10 482	13 710	12 724	17 126
Australian Capital Territory	0	284	0	306	3	321
<i>Total</i>	34 053	422 180	36 279	486 059	38 016	446 310
<b>Rural Balance</b>						
New South Wales	7 128	538 674	8 667	563 522	10 351	561 746
Victoria	1 159	430 199	1 998	471 862	2 404	461 783
Queensland	10 326	437 230	11 016	496 252	12 968	538 708
South Australia	2 774	161 103	2 467	163 100	4 059	156 530
Western Australia	8 363	163 098	7 750	174 687	10 256	183 592
Tasmania	1 333	80 999	1 920	92 723	3 139	97 630
Northern Territory	10 760	25 598	15 590	40 941	15 199	34 318
Australian Capital Territory	13	1 299	23	2 846	30	1 872
<i>Total</i>	41 856	1 838 200	49 431	2 005 933	58 406	2 036 179
<b>Total(b)</b>	<b>227 593</b>	<b>15 542 567</b>	<b>265 371</b>	<b>16 771 700</b>	<b>352 970</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes 'Migratory' and Jervis Bay Territory. 1996 totals also include Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Source: Unpublished data, 1986, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

# 1.5

## NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN(a)

Number of children ever born	Age (years) of mother				Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over	
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
1986					
Indigenous females					
None	12 091	2 433	846	1 237	16 607
One	4 734	2 408	790	965	8 897
Two	2 729	3 629	1 494	1 292	9 144
Three	1 174	3 343	1 906	1 361	7 784
Four	378	2 272	1 596	1 407	5 653
Five	101	1 202	1 255	1 261	3 819
Six or more	79	923	2 168	4 973	8 143
Not stated	5 535	1 803	1 275	2 025	10 638
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 821</b>	<b>18 013</b>	<b>11 330</b>	<b>14 521</b>	<b>70 685</b>
Total females					
None	910 031	369 108	111 382	268 806	1 659 327
One	96 968	214 073	98 653	247 578	657 272
Two	45 462	353 183	382 227	564 041	1 344 913
Three	10 276	170 436	265 281	484 285	930 278
Four	2 085	50 752	108 609	302 413	463 859
Five	492	11 520	33 031	149 661	194 704
Six or more	682	5 143	20 318	168 554	194 697
Not stated	203 984	87 193	71 934	225 468	588 579
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 269 979</b>	<b>1 261 405</b>	<b>1 091 437</b>	<b>2 410 808</b>	<b>6 033 629</b>
1996					
Indigenous females					
None	18 808	5 699	1 962	1 705	28 174
One	6 022	4 771	2 067	1 662	14 522
Two	3 368	6 454	4 386	3 262	17 470
Three	1 397	5 350	4 532	3 774	15 053
Four	427	3 191	3 249	3 373	10 240
Five	117	1 457	1 802	2 502	5 878
Six or more	80	1 040	1 831	5 645	8 596
Not stated	3 739	2 154	1 516	2 605	10 014
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 958</b>	<b>30 116</b>	<b>21 345</b>	<b>24 528</b>	<b>109 947</b>
Total females					
None	1 028 677	563 288	197 053	301 188	2 090 206
One	86 545	253 359	164 182	289 801	793 887
Two	34 730	312 642	496 892	869 806	1 714 070
Three	8 976	140 116	310 308	690 122	1 149 522
Four	2 078	42 576	113 257	371 338	529 249
Five	585	10 527	30 035	159 160	200 307
Six or more	603	4 747	15 874	152 366	173 590
Not stated	103 819	57 882	52 679	232 875	447 255
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 266 021</b>	<b>1 385 133</b>	<b>1 380 282</b>	<b>3 066 653</b>	<b>7 098 089</b>

(a) Information not collected in 1991.

Source: Unpublished data, 1986 and 1996 Censuses.



## CHAPTER 2

## FAMILIES

This chapter presents a statistical summary that compares Indigenous (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) families to Other families.

### FAMILY TYPE

An 'Indigenous family' is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as a family where the reference person for the family (normally the first person on the census form, and usually a parent) or spouse is recorded as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Families in all other instances, including those where the Indigenous status of the reference person or spouse was recorded as 'Not stated', are termed 'Other families'.

There were 4,655,919 families counted in Australia on census night, 6 August 1996, and of these, 88,366, or 1.9%, were classified as Indigenous families.

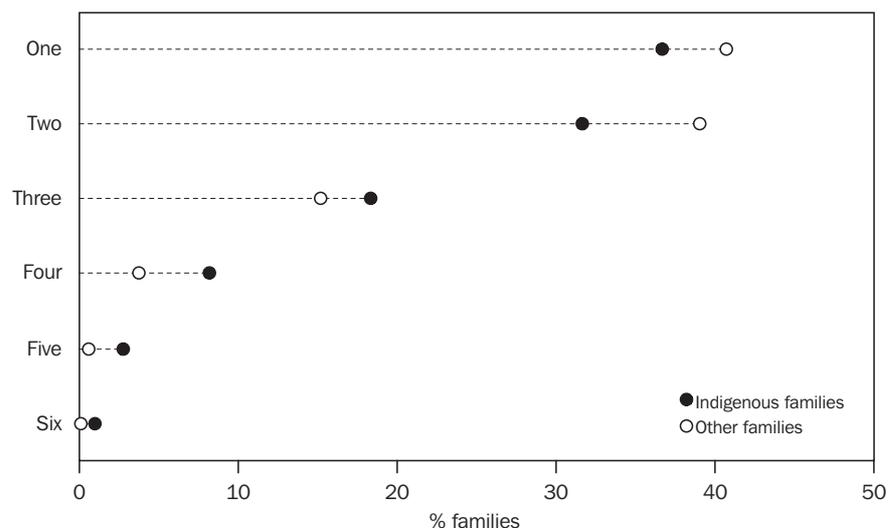
The proportion of couples with no children was lower for Indigenous families (18.4%) than for Other families (34.5%). However, the proportion of lone-parent families was much higher in the Indigenous population (29.6%) compared to Other families (14.2%).

### FAMILY SIZE

The average number of persons in Indigenous families (3.7) was slightly higher than for Other families (3.1) with similar differences between Indigenous and Other families across all family types.

Indigenous families tended to be larger than Other families overall, with 12.9% of Indigenous families having four or more children, compared to 4.7% of Other families. Among families with dependent children, 68.6% of Indigenous families had one or two children, compared to 80.0% of Other families.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 15 YEARS, BY FAMILY TYPE(a)



(a) Applicable to couple and lone-parent families with children under 15.  
Source: Table 2.3

EMPLOYED PERSONS PER  
FAMILY

Of the Indigenous families enumerated in Australia, 59.3% had at least one family member employed, compared to 74.3% of Other families. However, the proportion of Indigenous families with only one person employed was similar to that for Other families (28.8% compared to 27.7%, respectively).

Across all Sections of State, the proportion of Indigenous families with more than one family member in employment was consistently lower than for Other families, the difference between the two groups ranging from 8.5% in Bounded Localities to 17.6% in the Rural Balances.

FAMILY INCOME

Indigenous families in Australia had a lower median weekly family income (\$502) than Other families (\$736). The median income recorded by Indigenous families was lower than that of Other families in every Section of State.

Indigenous families recorded their highest median weekly family income in the Major Urban areas (\$573). Outside of Major Urban areas, the median family income of Indigenous families was highest in Other Urban sections (\$498), followed by the Rural Balance (\$450) and Bounded Locality (\$430) sections.

## 2.1 FAMILY TYPE(a)(b)

<i>Family type</i>	<i>Families</i> <i>no.</i>	<i>Average number</i> <i>of persons</i> <i>per family(c)</i> <i>no.</i>
INDIGENOUS FAMILIES		
Couple family		
With children under 15	32 769	4.6
With dependent students (15–24)	2 091	3.8
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	4 239	5.7
With non-dependent children	4 613	3.6
Without children	16 244	2.1
One-parent family		
With children under 15	19 984	3.5
With dependent students (15–24)	903	2.7
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	1 522	4.6
With non-dependent children	3 739	2.6
Other family(d)	2 260	2.5
<i>Total</i>	88 366	3.7
OTHER FAMILIES		
Couple family		
With children under 15	1 311 342	4.1
With dependent students (15–24)	267 903	3.9
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	270 854	5.0
With non-dependent children	415 130	3.4
Without children	1 573 638	2.0
One-parent family		
With children under 15	320 355	2.8
With dependent students (15–24)	70 808	2.6
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	46 760	3.8
With non-dependent children	208 799	2.2
Other family(d)	81 967	2.1
<i>Total</i>	4 567 553	3.1
TOTAL FAMILIES		
Couple family		
With children under 15	1 344 111	4.1
With dependent students (15–24)	269 994	3.9
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	275 093	5.0
With non-dependent children	419 743	3.4
Without children	1 589 882	2.0
One-parent family		
With children under 15	340 339	2.8
With dependent students (15–24)	71 711	2.6
With children under 15 and dependent students (15–24)	48 282	3.8
With non-dependent children	212 538	2.3
Other family(d)	84 227	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 655 919</b>	<b>3.1</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes up to three persons temporarily absent.

(c) Includes both Indigenous and other persons.

(d) Includes other related individuals residing in the household who do not form a couple or parent-child relationship.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 2.2 MEDIAN WEEKLY FAMILY INCOME(a)(b)

<i>Section of State</i>	<i>Indigenous families</i>	<i>Other families</i>	<i>Total families</i>
	\$	\$	\$
Major Urban	573	803	799
Other Urban	498	643	637
Bounded Locality	430	575	561
Rural Balance	450	657	651
<b>All Sections(c)</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>730</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Median family income is calculated excluding families where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and/or at least one family member was temporarily absent.

(c) Includes 'Migratory'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 2.3 NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 15(a)(b)(c)

<i>Number</i>	<i>Indigenous families</i>	<i>Other families</i>	<i>Total families</i>
	%	%	%
1	36.84	40.83	40.72
2	31.78	39.22	39.01
3	18.44	15.26	15.35
4	8.32	3.82	3.95
5	2.89	0.65	0.72
6	1.05	0.16	0.19
7	0.40	0.04	0.05
8	0.14	0.01	0.02
9	0.07	0.00	0.00
10 or more	0.08	0.00	0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>58 573</b>	<b>1 949 309</b>	<b>2 007 822</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Applicable to couple and one-parent families with children under 15.

(c) Includes up to three children temporarily absent.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 2.4

### EMPLOYED PERSONS(a)(b)

Number	Major Urban	Other Urban	Bounded Locality	Rural Balance	Total(c)
INDIGENOUS FAMILIES					
	%	%	%	%	%
0	38.68	43.43	40.45	37.82	40.75
1	28.22	29.51	28.83	28.07	28.80
2	27.66	22.82	22.58	26.59	24.93
3	4.31	3.22	5.31	5.02	4.05
4	1.01	0.82	1.97	1.49	1.10
5	0.12	0.15	0.50	0.56	0.24
6 or more	0.01	0.06	0.35	0.45	0.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>28 410</b>	<b>37 656</b>	<b>8 737</b>	<b>13 563</b>	<b>88 366</b>
OTHER FAMILIES					
	%	%	%	%	%
0	24.62	30.20	32.27	21.62	25.72
1	27.68	28.23	28.48	26.66	27.71
2	37.35	34.59	33.75	42.22	37.20
3	7.45	5.50	4.40	7.29	6.92
4	2.49	1.32	0.99	1.92	2.13
5	0.37	0.14	0.10	0.26	0.30
6 or more	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 899 916</b>	<b>1 033 377</b>	<b>108 647</b>	<b>525 613</b>	<b>4 567 553</b>
TOTAL FAMILIES					
	%	%	%	%	%
0	24.75	30.67	32.88	22.03	26.00
1	27.69	28.28	28.50	26.69	27.73
2	37.25	34.18	32.92	41.83	36.97
3	7.42	5.42	4.47	7.23	6.87
4	2.48	1.30	1.07	1.91	2.11
5	0.36	0.14	0.13	0.27	0.30
6 or more	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 928 326</b>	<b>1 071 033</b>	<b>117 384</b>	<b>539 176</b>	<b>4 655 919</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Excludes persons temporarily absent as labour force status was not recorded for these persons.

(c) Includes 'Migratory'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.



## CHAPTER 3

## HOUSEHOLDS AND DWELLINGS

This chapter presents a statistical summary of the characteristics of Indigenous households and Other households, including information on the dwellings occupied by these households.

### HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

The Census classifies all people living in private dwellings into families and households. A family is a group of related individuals living together and a household is a group of people who usually reside and eat together. Households are further classified into family and non-family households, the latter defined as group households and people living alone.

### INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS

To meet the Australian Bureau of Statistics definition of 'Indigenous household' the household must either comprise:

- an Indigenous reference person or spouse; or
- a lone person of Indigenous origin.

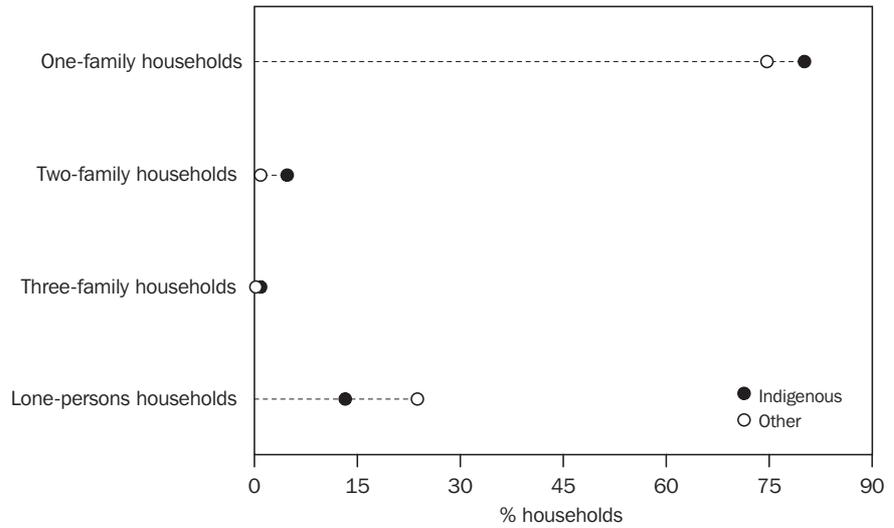
Any other households are classified as 'Other households'. This includes family households who do not have an Indigenous reference person or spouse but do have an Indigenous member, i.e. child, dependent student or other relative. There were 19,480 households of this latter type in 1996.

As the concept of Indigenous household does not extend to group households, for purposes of comparison, 'Other households' has been adjusted to exclude group households in the analysis and tables in this chapter, other than tables 3.1 and 3.2.

### HOUSEHOLD TYPE

At the time of the 1996 Census 80.3% of Indigenous households were one-family households, compared to 74.9% of Other households. Lone-person households were the second most common household type (13.4% for Indigenous households, compared to 24.0% for Other households). Indigenous households recorded a higher proportion of multi-families (two- or three-family households, 6.2%) than Other households (1.1%).

### HOUSEHOLD TYPE

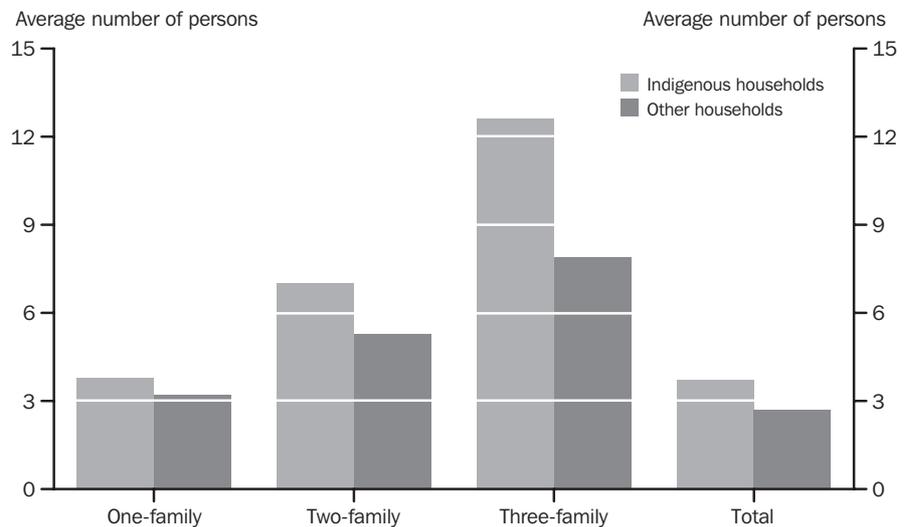


Source: Table 3.3

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD

In Australia, Indigenous households had an average of 3.7 persons per household compared to 2.7 for Other households. Indigenous households recorded a higher average number of persons across all household types, except for lone-person households. The highest average number of persons was recorded for Indigenous households with three families (12.6).

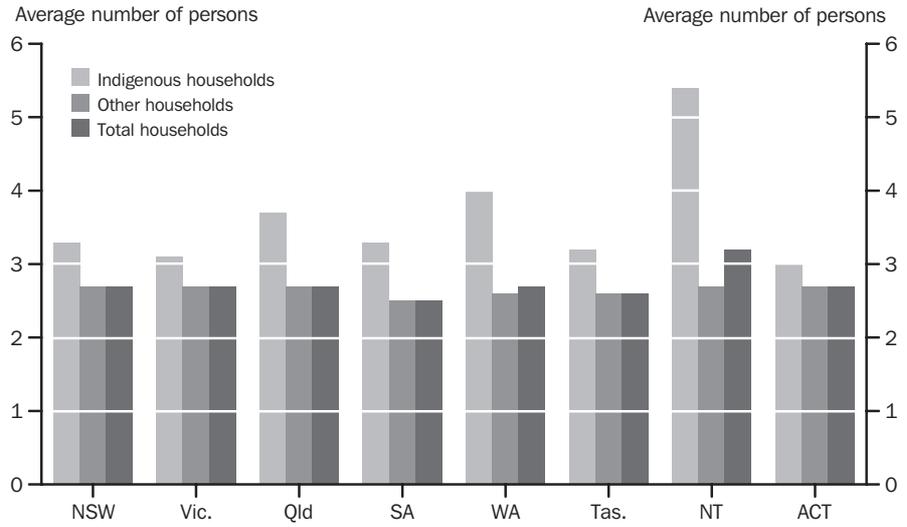
### HOUSEHOLD TYPE, BY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD



Source: Table 3.3

In all States and Territories Indigenous households had a higher average number of persons per household than Other households. For State and Territory comparisons refer to the suite of publications *Census of Population and Housing: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 1996* (Cat. nos 2034.1-8).

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD



Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER HOUSEHOLD

In Australia, at the time of the 1996 Census, the majority of Indigenous and Other households with children aged under 15 years had one or two children (65.5% and 79.8% respectively). Of Indigenous households with any children under 15, 19.3% had three children under this age compared to 15.4% of Other households, while 15.2% had four or more children under this age compared to 4.8% of Other households.

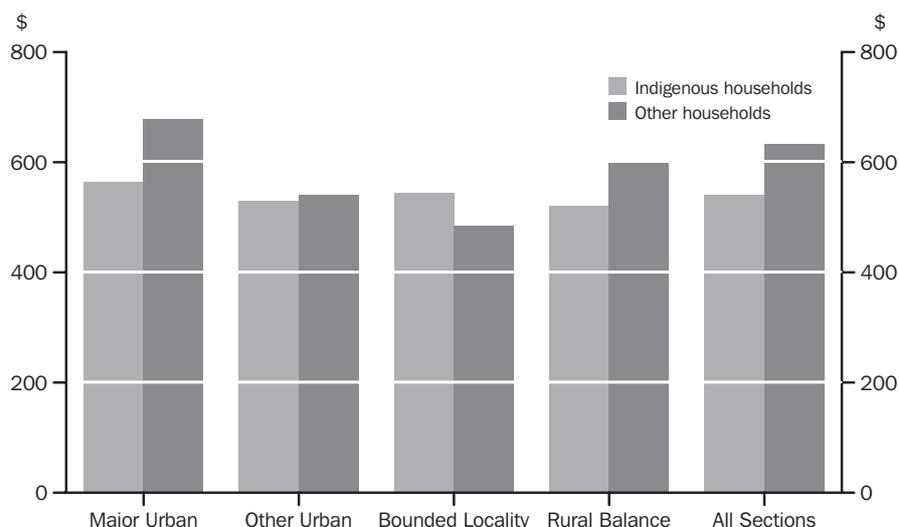
### HOUSEHOLD MEDIAN INCOME

Household income is obtained by aggregating the personal income reported by each member in the household. Care needs to be taken when interpreting these statistics, as Indigenous households had a higher average number of people (3.7) compared to Other households (2.7). Indigenous household income may therefore be distributed among more people compared to Other households.

The weekly median income for Indigenous households was \$540 which was 14.6% lower than for Other households (\$632).

Throughout most sections of Australia the median incomes of Indigenous households were lower than those for Other households, with the exception of Bounded Locality which recorded a slightly higher median income for Indigenous households (\$544) than for Other households (\$485).

MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME, BY SECTION OF STATE



Source: Table 3.8.

STRUCTURE OF OCCUPIED DWELLINGS

At the time of the 1996 Census the majority of dwellings occupied by Indigenous and Other households were separate houses (both 77.8%). Semi-detached houses comprised 6.8% of dwellings occupied by Indigenous households compared to 7.7% of Other households. About one in eleven Indigenous households (9.3%) occupied flats and apartments compared to 11.6% of Other households. In the Rural Balance 82.8% of Indigenous households lived in separate houses and 12.0% in other dwellings (caravans, cabins, improvised dwellings, tents, etc.), compared to 93.7% and 3.3% respectively, of Other households.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS

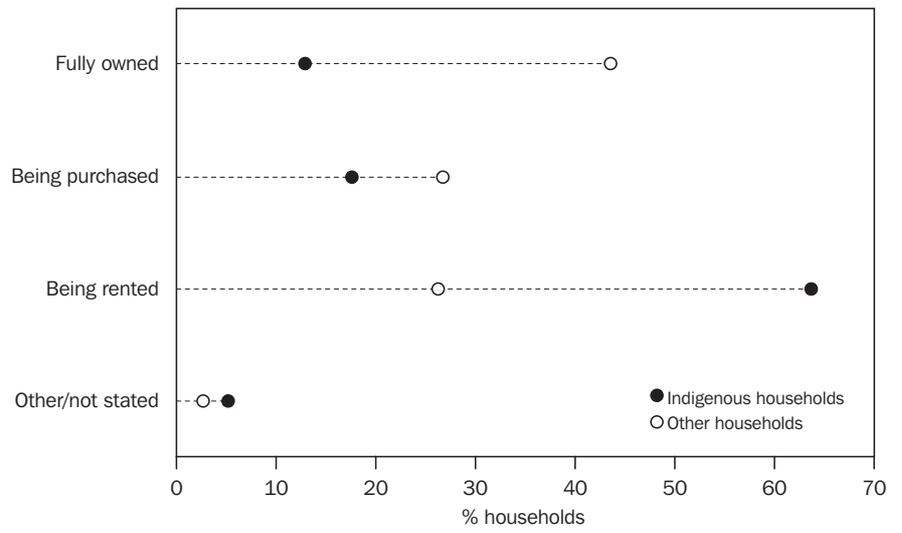
A bedsitter or house with no bedrooms is treated as equivalent to one bedroom.

Of those who responded to the question on the number of bedrooms in their dwelling, 7.2% of Indigenous households recorded having more than two persons per bedroom (or in a bedsitter) compared to 0.8% of Other households.

TENURE TYPE

Indigenous households had a lower proportion (30.8%) of home ownership (that is, owning or purchasing their own home) compared to Other households (70.7%). Of Indigenous households, 63.9% were renting their dwellings compared to 26.5% of Other households. Of the 63.9% of Indigenous households that were renting, 36.9% were renting from private landlords or real estate agents and 36.5% were renting from government agencies. A further 15.7% of Indigenous households were renting from community/cooperative housing organisations and the remaining 10.9% had an assortment of other rental options (including not stated and rent free).

TENURE TYPE



Source: Table 3.7

### 3.1 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION(a)(b)(c)

<i>Household type</i>	<i>All members Indigenous(d)</i>	<i>Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous members</i>	<i>All members non-Indigenous(e)(f)</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Family				
One-family	36 168	55 397	4 420 908	4 512 473
Two-family	3 284	2 181	62 667	68 132
Three-family	895	199	1 300	2 394
Non-family				
Lone-person	12 748	0	1 420 069	1 432 817
Group	917	5 993	259 092	266 002
<b>Total</b>	<b>54 012</b>	<b>63 770</b>	<b>6 164 036</b>	<b>6 281 817</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Excludes visitors to the household and persons temporarily absent as Indigenous origin was not recorded for these persons.

(c) Excludes visitors only households and other not classifiable households.

(d) Except in the case of group households these households are regarded as 'Indigenous households'.

(e) Includes 'Not stated'.

(f) Except in the case of group households these households are regarded as 'Other households'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.2 HOUSEHOLD TYPE, BY HOUSEHOLDS WITH BOTH INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS MEMBERS(a)(b)(c)

<i>Household type</i>	<i>Reference person or spouse Indigenous(d)</i>	<i>Other family member Indigenous(e)</i>	<i>Total households</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Family			
One-family	40 100	15 297	55 397
Two-family	1 558	623	2 181
Three-family	181	18	199
Non-family			
Group	2 451	3 542	5 993
<b>Total</b>	<b>44 290</b>	<b>19 480</b>	<b>63 770</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Excludes lone-person, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(c) Excludes visitors to the household and persons temporarily absent as Indigenous origin was not recorded for these persons.

(d) Except in the case of group households these households are regarded as 'Indigenous households'.

(e) Except in the case of group households these households are regarded as 'Other households'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.3

#### HOUSEHOLD TYPE, BY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD(a)(b)(c)(d)

<i>Household type</i>	<i>Households</i>		<i>Average number of persons per household(e)</i>
	<i>no.</i>		
INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS			
One-family	76 266		3.8
Two-family	4 842		7.0
Three-family	1 076		12.6
Lone-person	12 748		1.0
<i>Total</i>	94 932		3.7
OTHER HOUSEHOLDS			
One-family	4 436 207		3.2
Two-family	63 290		5.3
Three-family	1 317		7.9
Lone-person	1 420 069		1.0
<i>Total</i>	5 920 883		2.7
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS			
One-family	4 512 473		3.2
Two-family	68 132		5.5
Three-family	2 393		10.0
Lone-person	1 432 817		1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 015 815</b>		<b>2.7</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes up to three temporarily absent persons.

(c) Excludes visitors to the household.

(d) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(e) Includes both Indigenous and other persons.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.4

#### NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 15 YEARS, BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE(a)(b)(c)

Number of children	One-family household	Two-family household	Three-family household	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.
INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS				
1	17 512	1 170	69	18 751
2	16 272	1 214	106	17 592
3	9 662	894	157	10 713
4	4 321	504	165	4 990
5	1 463	277	156	1 896
6	507	168	105	780
7	184	78	98	360
8	58	47	71	176
9	25	31	39	95
10 or more	27	24	73	124
<b>Total</b>	<b>50 031</b>	<b>4 407</b>	<b>1 039</b>	<b>55 477</b>
OTHER HOUSEHOLDS				
1	759 931	25 090	314	785 335
2	749 628	14 745	350	764 723
3	294 140	4 577	201	298 918
4	73 738	1 251	101	75 090
5	12 595	333	37	12 965
6	3 115	126	22	3 263
7	799	45	3	847
8	231	17	0	248
9	55	6	3	64
10 or more	30	0	3	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 894 262</b>	<b>46 190</b>	<b>1 034</b>	<b>1 941 486</b>
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS				
1	777 443	26 260	383	804 086
2	765 900	15 959	456	782 315
3	303 802	5 471	358	309 631
4	78 059	1 755	266	80 080
5	14 058	610	193	14 861
6	3 622	294	127	4 043
7	983	123	101	1 207
8	289	64	71	424
9	80	37	42	159
10 or more	57	24	76	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 944 293</b>	<b>50 597</b>	<b>2 073</b>	<b>1 996 963</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Applicable to couple and lone-parent families with children under 15.

(c) Includes up to three temporarily absent children.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.5

#### STRUCTURE OF DWELLING(a)(b)(c)(d)

Structure of dwelling	Major Urban		Other Urban		Bounded Locality	
	Households	Average number of persons per household	Households	Average number of persons per household	Households	Average number of persons per household
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS</b>						
Separate house	23 714	3.5	32 464	3.9	6 621	5.0
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	3 774	2.7	2 475	2.7	89	3.1
Flat, unit or apartment	4 632	1.9	3 879	2.2	192	2.4
Other dwelling						
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	321	2.2	621	2.1	89	2.0
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	18	1.6	273	3.9	399	5.8
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	123	2.4	155	2.7	37	2.9
Total	462	2.2	1 049	2.6	525	5.0
Not stated	630	3.1	763	4.0	310	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 211</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>40 629</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>7 739</b>	<b>4.9</b>
<b>OTHER HOUSEHOLDS</b>						
Separate house	2 756 838	2.9	1 132 158	2.8	130 558	2.6
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	366 114	2.0	81 321	1.8	2 415	1.9
Flat, unit or apartment	569 866	1.7	108 950	1.5	3 832	1.5
Other dwelling						
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	14 206	1.5	19 134	1.6	2 679	1.5
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	268	1.4	515	1.8	137	1.7
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	13 461	2.4	8 214	2.4	2 185	2.6
Total	27 935	2.0	27 863	1.8	5 001	2.0
Not stated	63 321	2.5	19 014	2.4	2 075	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 784 074</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1 369 305</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>143 881</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS</b>						
Separate house	2 780 552	3.0	1 164 622	2.8	137 179	2.8
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	369 888	2.1	83 796	1.8	2 504	1.9
Flat, unit or apartment	574 498	1.7	112 829	1.5	4 024	1.5
Other dwelling						
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	14 527	1.5	19 755	1.6	2 768	1.5
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	286	1.4	788	2.5	536	4.8
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	13 584	2.4	8 369	2.4	2 222	2.6
Total	28 397	2.0	28 912	1.8	5 526	2.3
Not stated	63 951	2.5	19 777	2.5	2 385	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 817 285</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1 409 934</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>151 620</b>	<b>2.7</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes up to three persons temporarily absent.

(c) Average number of persons per household includes both Indigenous and other persons.

(d) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

...continued

### 3.5

#### STRUCTURE OF DWELLING(a)(b)(c)(d)—continued

Structure of dwelling	Rural Balance		Total(e)	Average number of persons per household
	Households	Average number of persons per household		
	no.	no.	no.	no.
INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS				
Separate house	11 058	4.2	73 857	3.9
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	129	3.5	6 467	2.7
Flat, unit or apartment	89	2.4	8 792	2.0
Other dwelling				
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	471	2.3	1 502	2.1
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	1 114	4.8	1 804	4.9
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	23	1.8	338	2.6
Total	1 608	4.0	3 644	3.5
Not stated	476	4.6	2 179	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 352</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>94 932</b>	<b>3.7</b>
OTHER HOUSEHOLDS				
Separate house	584 234	3.0	4 603 788	2.9
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	4 551	2.4	454 401	2.0
Flat, unit or apartment	4 054	1.8	686 702	1.7
Other dwelling				
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	15 788	1.6	51 807	1.6
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	3 084	2.2	4 004	2.0
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	1 923	2.6	25 783	2.5
Total	20 795	1.8	81 594	1.9
Not stated	9 999	2.7	94 409	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>623 624</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>5 920 883</b>	<b>2.7</b>
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS				
Separate house	595 292	3.0	4 677 645	2.9
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc.	4 680	2.4	460 868	2.0
Flat, unit or apartment	4 143	1.8	695 494	1.7
Other dwelling				
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	16 259	1.7	53 309	1.6
Improvised home, tent, sleepers-out	4 198	2.9	5 808	2.9
House or flat attached to a shop, office etc.	1 946	2.6	26 121	2.5
Total	22 403	2.0	85 238	1.9
Not stated	10 475	2.8	96 588	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>636 976</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>6 015 815</b>	<b>2.7</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes up to three persons temporarily absent.

(c) Average number of persons per household includes both Indigenous and other persons.

(d) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(e) Includes 'Migratory'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.6 NUMBER OF BEDROOMS(a)(b)(c)(d)

Number of residents	None (includes bedsitters)	1 bedroom	2 bedrooms	3 bedrooms	4 bedrooms	5 or more bedrooms	Not stated	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS								
1	571	2 839	4 303	3 524	507	141	864	12 749
2	160	1 240	6 039	9 926	1 605	203	706	19 879
3	64	315	3 614	11 010	2 021	250	496	17 770
4	51	162	1 898	11 609	3 113	369	493	17 695
5	30	88	906	7 140	3 060	441	419	12 084
6	16	45	452	3 895	2 317	509	353	7 587
7	9	14	200	1 205	848	227	188	2 691
8	7	11	129	660	410	124	125	1 466
9	0	7	99	442	252	73	92	965
10	0	3	58	290	112	39	75	577
11	3	3	34	189	72	25	48	374
12 or more	6	6	88	528	207	73	184	1 092
<b>Total</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>4 723</b>	<b>17 826</b>	<b>50 419</b>	<b>14 531</b>	<b>2 471</b>	<b>4 050</b>	<b>94 932</b>
OTHER HOUSEHOLDS								
1	35 154	234 201	537 659	478 034	70 549	10 843	53 630	1 420 070
2	4 239	61 379	484 439	976 820	236 614	27 552	22 958	1 814 001
3	892	6 616	146 020	583 714	201 600	27 630	6 957	973 429
4	578	2 310	67 821	586 804	310 201	44 250	5 919	1 017 883
5	279	666	17 097	205 970	211 607	45 053	3 135	483 807
6	105	186	4 370	55 885	65 875	33 829	1 480	161 730
7	23	34	624	9 726	13 714	9 499	310	33 930
8	6	13	166	2 573	4 192	3 475	133	10 558
9	3	0	32	752	1 178	1 318	71	3 354
10	0	0	14	251	435	542	18	1 260
11	0	0	6	101	158	230	6	501
12 or more	0	0	0	67	112	186	9	374
<b>Total</b>	<b>41 281</b>	<b>305 409</b>	<b>1 258 251</b>	<b>2 900 695</b>	<b>1 116 233</b>	<b>204 403</b>	<b>94 612</b>	<b>5 920 883</b>
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS								
1	35 725	237 040	541 962	481 558	71 056	10 984	54 494	1 432 819
2	4 399	62 619	490 478	986 746	238 219	27 755	23 664	1 833 880
3	956	6 931	149 634	594 724	203 621	27 880	7 453	991 199
4	629	2 472	69 719	598 413	313 314	44 619	6 412	1 035 578
5	309	754	18 003	213 110	214 667	45 494	3 554	495 891
6	121	231	4 822	59 780	68 192	34 338	1 833	169 317
7	32	48	824	10 931	14 562	9 726	498	36 621
8	13	24	295	3 233	4 602	3 599	258	12 024
9	3	7	131	1 194	1 430	1 391	163	4 319
10	0	3	72	541	547	581	93	1 837
11	3	3	40	290	230	255	54	875
12 or more	6	6	88	595	319	259	193	1 466
<b>Total</b>	<b>42 192</b>	<b>310 132</b>	<b>1 276 077</b>	<b>2 951 114</b>	<b>1 130 764</b>	<b>206 874</b>	<b>98 662</b>	<b>6 015 815</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(c) Includes up to three temporarily absent persons.

(d) Number of persons resident includes both Indigenous and other persons.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

### 3.7 TENURE TYPE(a)(b)

Tenure type	Major Urban	Other Urban	Bounded Locality	Rural Balance	Total(c)
INDIGENOUS HOUSEHOLDS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Fully owned(d)	13.15	11.05	11.01	19.94	13.03
Being purchased(e)	21.89	16.32	10.23	16.62	17.81
Being rented(f)					
Private landlord, real estate agent	29.75	24.10	10.40	13.91	23.52
Government agency	26.80	29.12	12.75	2.89	23.29
Community/cooperative housing	1.98	8.79	35.08	19.26	10.03
Other/not stated/rent free	3.53	6.81	10.50	13.76	6.94
Total	62.06	68.81	68.73	49.82	63.78
Other/not stated	2.90	3.82	10.03	13.61	5.38
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Total	33 211	40 629	7 739	13 352	94 932
OTHER HOUSEHOLDS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Fully owned(d)	42.85	41.81	49.61	52.37	43.78
Being purchased(e)	27.15	26.45	25.65	26.64	26.90
Being rented(f)					
Private landlord, real estate agent	18.98	17.98	12.86	9.82	17.64
Government agency	5.60	6.10	1.76	0.24	5.06
Community/cooperative housing	0.35	0.50	0.51	0.07	0.36
Other/not stated/rent free	2.23	4.46	6.51	7.51	3.41
Total	27.16	29.05	21.63	17.64	26.46
Other/not stated	2.84	2.69	3.10	3.35	2.86
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Total	3 784 074	1 369 305	143 881	623 624	5 920 883
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Fully owned(d)	42.59	40.92	47.63	51.69	43.29
Being purchased(e)	27.10	26.16	24.86	26.43	26.75
Being rented(f)					
Private landlord, real estate agent	19.07	18.16	12.73	9.90	17.73
Government agency	5.79	6.77	2.32	0.29	5.35
Community/cooperative housing	0.36	0.74	2.29	0.47	0.51
Other/not stated/rent free	2.25	4.53	6.71	7.64	3.47
Total	27.47	30.20	24.05	18.31	27.05
Other/not stated	2.84	2.72	3.45	3.57	2.90
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 817 285</b>	<b>1 409 934</b>	<b>151 620</b>	<b>636 976</b>	<b>6 015 815</b>

(a) Place of enumeration

(b) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(c) Includes 'Migratory'.

(d) Includes 'Occupies under a life tenure scheme'.

(e) Includes 'Being occupied rent free'.

(f) Includes 'Being purchased under a rent/buy scheme'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 3.8

### MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME(a)(b)(c)

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<i>Section of State</i>	<i>Indigenous households</i>	<i>Other households</i>	<i>Total households(d)</i>
	\$	\$	\$
Major Urban	564	679	678
Other Urban	529	541	540
Bounded Locality	544	485	488
Rural Balance	520	603	601
<b>All Sections</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>630</b>

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(a) Place of enumeration

(b) Excludes group, visitors only and other not classifiable households.

(c) Median household income is calculated excluding households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state an income and/or at least one household member was temporarily absent.

(d) Includes 'Migratory'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

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## CHAPTER 4

## EMPLOYMENT

This chapter presents a statistical summary of the employment characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people compared to the employment characteristics of the total population in Australia, for persons aged 15 years and over.

### LABOUR FORCE STATUS

Among those for whom information was available at the time of the 1996 Census, 40.7% of the Indigenous population was employed compared to 56.2% of the total population.

A higher proportion of Indigenous males (48.1%) than Indigenous females (34.0%) was employed. This pattern also existed for the total population but the proportions employed were significantly higher (64.4% for males and 48.4% for females).

The Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportions of employed Indigenous males (56.3%) and females (52.2%), while the Northern Territory recorded the lowest (37.8% for males and 30.1% for females).

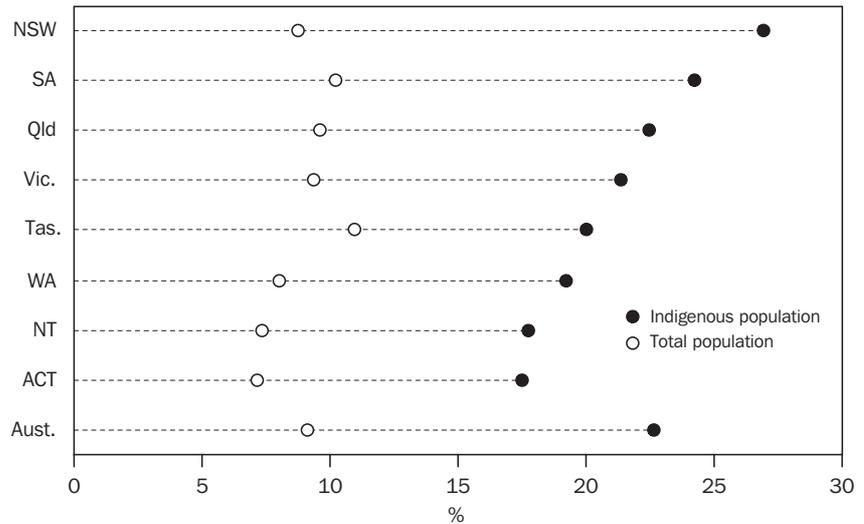
The unemployment rate was significantly higher for the Indigenous population (22.7%) than for the total population (9.2%).

Indigenous males experienced higher unemployment rates (24.6%) than Indigenous females (20.2%). The unemployment rate for the total male population (9.9%) was similarly higher than that for the total female population (8.3%).

At the time of the 1996 Census, New South Wales recorded the highest unemployment rate for Indigenous males (29.3%) and the Northern Territory the lowest rate (19.1%). New South Wales also recorded the highest unemployment rate for Indigenous females (24.0%) and the Australian Capital Territory the lowest rate (11.2%).

The unemployment rates for total males and females were highest in Tasmania (12.3% and 9.3% respectively), whilst the Northern Territory recorded the lowest for total males (7.8%) and the Australian Capital Territory the lowest for total females (6.4%).

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Source: Table 4.1

## PARTICIPATION RATES

Participation rates were higher for the total population of Australia than for the Indigenous population, for both males and females. The participation rate for Indigenous males was 63.8% and 71.4% for total males. The comparable figures for females were 42.6% and 52.8%.

## INDUSTRY

The non-government sector accounted for 52.9% of employed Indigenous people, while a further 27.6% were employed in the government sector and 14.9% in Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP). Of the total population, 79.6% were employed in the non-government sector, 17.8% in the government sector and 0.2% in CDEP.

Health and community services (19.6%), Government administration and defence (15.4%) and Education (8.0%) were the largest employers of Indigenous people in Australia. These were followed by Retail trade (7.6%), Manufacturing (7.1%) and Property and business services (6.1%).

In comparison, the largest employers of the total population were Retail trade (13.6%) and Manufacturing (12.6%), followed by Property and business services (9.8%), Health and community services (9.5%) and Education (7.1%).

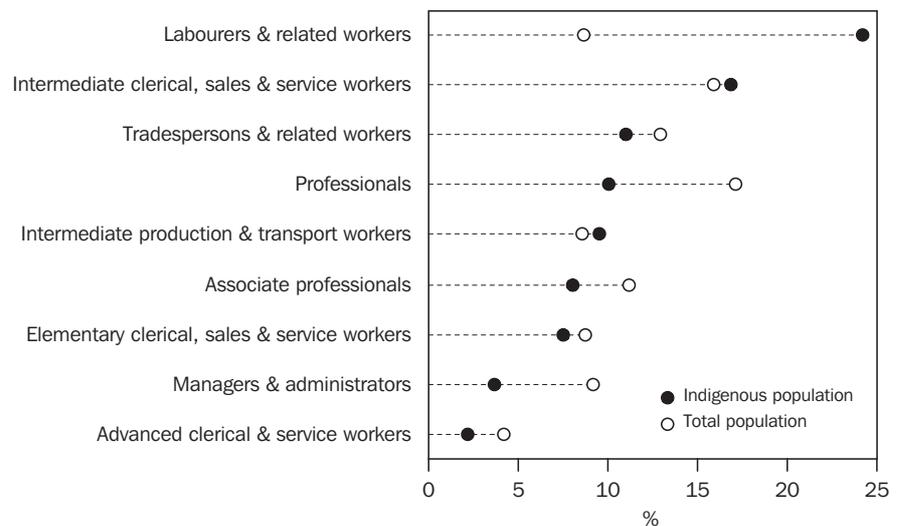
In New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, Health and community services were the main employers of Indigenous people (14.2%, 13.3%, 27.6% and 32.6% respectively). The main employer of Indigenous people in Queensland, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory was Government administration and defence (20.4%, 37.6% and 36.0% respectively).

Apart from the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory where the main employer of the total population was Government administration and defence, the largest employers of the total population in each of the states were the Retail trade and Manufacturing industries.

OCCUPATION

The most common occupation group for Indigenous people was Labourers and related workers (24.3%) followed by Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (17.0%) and Tradespersons and related workers (11.1%). In comparison, the most common group in the total population was Professionals (17.2%), followed by Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (16.0%) then Tradespersons and related workers (13.1%).

The Indigenous population had proportionally fewer people employed in Managerial and administrative positions (3.7%) and Advanced clerical and service workers (2.2%) than the total population (9.3% and 4.3% respectively).



Source: Table 4.6

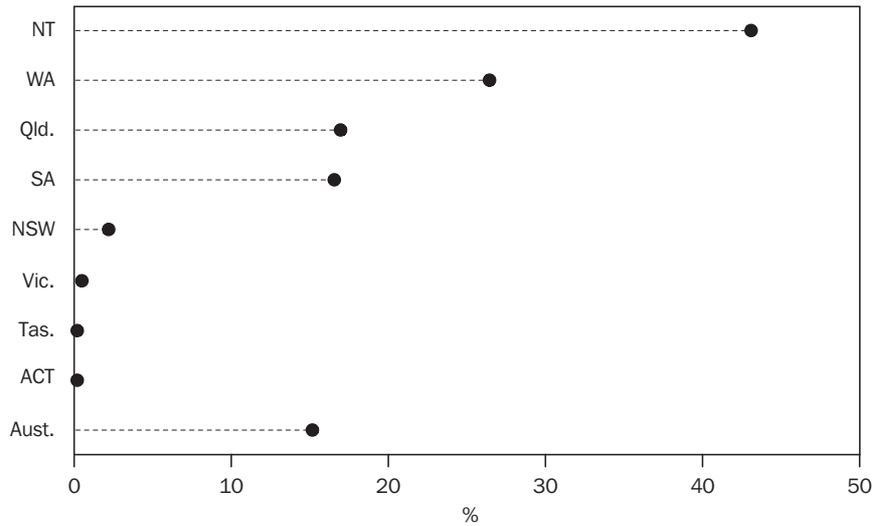
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS  
SCHEME

In the 1996 Census there were 12,259 Indigenous persons recorded as employed in the CDEP scheme. As noted earlier, this accounted for 14.9% of employed Indigenous persons. Employment in CDEP was more likely for Indigenous males (16.4%) than Indigenous females (12.9%).

The Northern Territory had the highest proportion of employed Indigenous people participating in CDEP (42.5%), followed by Western Australia (26.1%), Queensland (16.7%) and South Australia (16.4%).

Of the 12,259 Indigenous CDEP employees, 92.2% recorded not having a qualification, 2.0% reported having a qualification and 5.8% either inadequately described the qualification or did not state it at all.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS, CDEP EMPLOYED—INDIGENOUS PERSONS



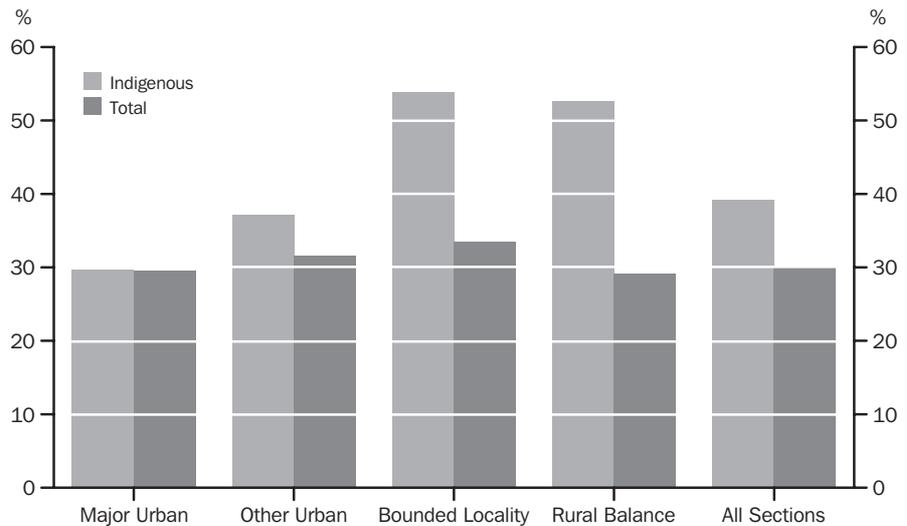
Source: Table: 4.1

## HOURS WORKED

There were significant differences in the pattern of full-time and part-time employment between the Indigenous and total populations. Of employed Indigenous people, 56.6% worked full-time (35 hours or more) compared to 67.8% for the total population. Approximately 40% of Indigenous people worked part-time compared to 30.0% of the total population.

In the Major Urban and Other Urban areas there were more Indigenous people working full-time than part-time. For the total population the number of persons employed in full-time work was above 63% in all Sections of State. At the time of the 1996 Census, the proportion of Indigenous people who recorded being employed part-time was between 29.7% and 53.9% in all Sections of State, whereas the proportion for the total population was around 30%.

PERSONS EMPLOYED PART-TIME, BY SECTION OF STATE



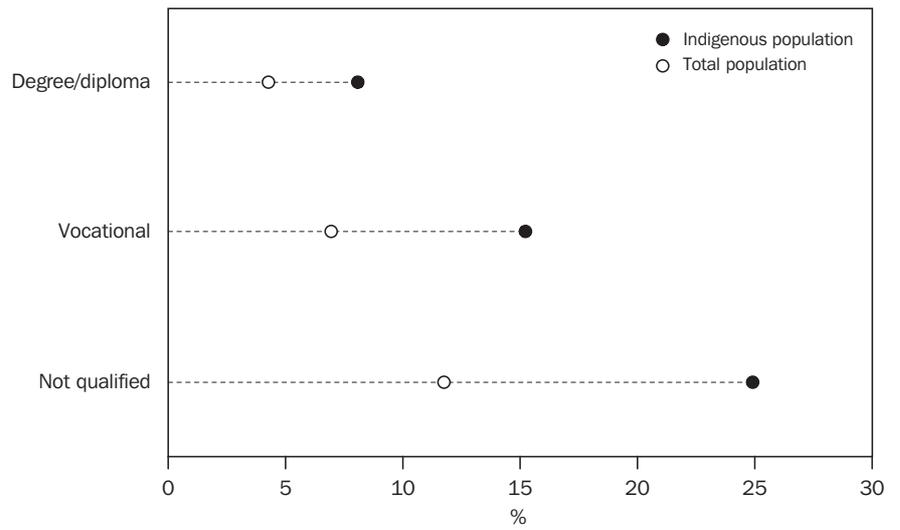
Source: Table 4.4

QUALIFICATIONS

The labour force participation rate among Indigenous people was higher for persons with qualifications (81.3%) than for those without qualifications (49.2%). The participation rate for Indigenous people with a qualification was also slightly higher than that of qualified people in the total population (80.4%). Among those in the labour force, Indigenous persons with a qualification had a higher rate of employment (87.6%) than those without a qualification (75.1%). This was also the case for the total population.

Unemployment rates were also associated with the attainment of qualifications. Within the Indigenous population, persons holding a degree or diploma experienced the lowest unemployment rate of 8.1%, followed by 15.3% for those with vocational qualifications and 25.0% for those without qualifications. Although a similar pattern was evident in the total population, the actual unemployment rates of the Indigenous population were approximately double those of the total population in each instance.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION



Source: Table 4.7

# 4.1

## LABOUR FORCE STATUS, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
<i>Labour force status</i>	<i>no.</i>								
INDIGENOUS									
<b>Males</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	313	22	2 619	431	1 830	0	2 419	0	7 634
Other(c)	12 268	3 206	10 854	2 025	4 873	2 239	2 793	462	38 752
Total	12 581	3 228	13 473	2 456	6 703	2 239	5 212	462	46 386
Unemployed	5 209	979	4 170	920	1 847	636	1 234	139	15 147
Total labour force	17 790	4 207	17 643	3 376	8 550	2 875	6 446	601	61 533
Not in labour force	9 400	1 872	8 409	1 885	5 322	1 115	6 652	220	34 905
Not stated	1 659	313	888	685	839	53	731	14	5 183
Total	28 849	6 392	26 940	5 946	14 711	4 043	13 829	835	101 621
<b>Females</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	193	7	1 273	313	1 211	0	1 628	0	4 625
Other(c)	9 809	2 531	8 560	1 775	3 754	1 742	2 694	454	31 336
Total	10 002	2 538	9 833	2 088	4 965	1 742	4 322	454	35 961
Unemployed	3 156	594	2 587	538	946	368	837	57	9 086
Total labour force	13 158	3 132	12 420	2 626	5 911	2 110	5 159	511	45 047
Not in labour force	17 064	3 421	16 103	3 220	9 110	2 078	9 210	359	60 604
Not stated	1 015	210	1 019	571	729	62	685	9	4 302
Total	31 237	6 763	29 542	6 417	15 750	4 250	15 054	879	109 953
<b>Total Indigenous</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	506	29	3 892	744	3 041	0	4 047	0	12 259
Other(c)	22 077	5 737	19 414	3 800	8 627	3 981	5 487	916	70 088
Total	22 583	5 766	23 306	4 544	11 668	3 981	9 534	916	82 347
Unemployed	8 365	1 573	6 757	1 458	2 793	1 004	2 071	196	24 233
Total labour force	30 948	7 339	30 063	6 002	14 461	4 985	11 605	1 112	106 580
Not in labour force	26 464	5 293	24 512	5 105	14 432	3 193	15 862	579	95 509
Not stated	2 674	523	1 907	1 256	1 568	115	1 416	23	9 485
Total	60 086	13 155	56 482	12 363	30 461	8 293	28 883	1 714	211 574

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) CDEP scheme data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

(c) Includes all other employed persons.

...continued

# 4.1

## LABOUR FORCE STATUS, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER—continued

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
Labour force status	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
TOTAL									
<b>Males</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	313	22	2 625	431	1 833	0	2 422	0	7 646
Other(c)	1 433 289	1 059 568	785 753	331 959	429 222	102 572	41 555	79 633	4 264 405
Total	1 433 602	1 059 590	788 378	332 390	431 055	102 572	43 977	79 633	4 272 051
Unemployed	150 799	116 476	91 327	43 269	40 904	14 439	3 718	6 921	467 925
Total labour force	1 584 401	1 176 066	879 705	375 659	471 959	117 011	47 695	86 554	4 739 976
Not in labour force	660 379	477 198	331 325	169 480	165 056	54 256	14 461	24 987	1 897 314
Not stated	63 680	41 871	34 512	10 886	17 800	3 812	4 728	2 193	179 518
Total	2 308 460	1 695 135	1 245 542	556 025	654 815	175 079	66 884	113 734	6 816 808
<b>Females</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	196	7	1 273	313	1 214	0	1 628	0	4 630
Other(c)	1 129 519	838 362	614 409	264 568	328 434	80 397	32 387	71 076	3 359 638
Total	1 129 715	838 369	615 682	264 881	329 648	80 397	34 015	71 076	3 364 268
Unemployed	96 824	80 920	59 243	25 587	25 770	8 235	2 548	4 885	304 045
Total labour force	1 226 539	919 289	674 925	290 468	355 418	88 632	36 563	75 961	3 668 313
Not in labour force	1 130 077	833 824	575 096	286 235	296 481	92 896	21 222	40 657	3 276 867
Not stated	54 443	37 802	28 267	9 526	14 217	3 477	3 202	1 951	152 909
Total	2 411 059	1 790 915	1 278 288	586 229	666 116	185 005	60 987	118 569	7 098 089
<b>Persons</b>									
Employed									
CDEP(b)	509	29	3 898	744	3 047	0	4 050	0	12 276
Other(c)	2 562 808	1 897 930	1 400 162	596 527	757 656	182 969	73 942	150 709	7 624 043
Total	2 563 317	1 897 959	1 404 060	597 271	760 703	182 969	77 992	150 709	7 636 319
Unemployed	247 623	197 396	150 570	68 856	66 674	22 674	6 266	11 806	771 970
Total labour force	2 810 940	2 095 355	1 554 630	666 127	827 377	205 643	84 258	162 515	8 408 289
Not in labour force	1 790 456	1 311 022	906 421	455 715	461 537	147 152	35 683	65 644	5 174 181
Not stated	118 123	79 673	62 779	20 412	32 017	7 289	7 930	4 144	332 427
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 719 519</b>	<b>3 486 050</b>	<b>2 523 830</b>	<b>1 142 254</b>	<b>1 320 931</b>	<b>360 084</b>	<b>127 871</b>	<b>232 303</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

(c) Includes all other employed persons.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 4.2

### EMPLOYMENT SECTOR, EMPLOYED PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

Sector	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
INDIGENOUS									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Commonwealth government	8.38	9.87	7.08	10.06	6.84	5.70	5.83	45.96	7.98
State and Territory government	16.36	9.47	15.21	16.86	13.91	12.23	11.43	9.06	14.39
Local government	4.79	2.13	6.92	3.39	3.62	2.76	8.55	0.66	5.26
Private(b)	63.40	72.65	50.09	49.16	43.62	75.23	28.29	40.07	52.93
CDEP(c)	2.24	0.50	16.70	16.37	26.06	0.00	42.45	0.00	14.89
Not stated	4.83	5.38	4.00	4.16	5.95	4.07	3.45	4.26	4.55
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>22 583</i>	<i>5 766</i>	<i>23 306</i>	<i>4 544</i>	<i>11 668</i>	<i>3 981</i>	<i>9 534</i>	<i>916</i>	<i>82 347</i>
TOTAL									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Commonwealth government	4.20	4.19	3.96	4.52	3.58	4.46	9.30	34.33	4.77
State and Territory government	11.67	8.59	12.32	13.03	11.90	15.76	18.36	10.69	11.30
Local government	1.73	1.67	2.16	1.40	1.56	2.32	2.42	0.31	1.75
Private(b)	79.90	83.11	79.00	78.82	80.22	74.94	62.15	51.86	79.62
CDEP(c)	0.02	0.00	0.28	0.12	0.40	0.00	5.19	0.00	0.16
Not stated	2.48	2.43	2.29	2.11	2.34	2.52	2.58	2.81	2.40
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 563 315</b>	<b>1 897 959</b>	<b>1 404 062</b>	<b>597 271</b>	<b>760 701</b>	<b>182 969</b>	<b>77 993</b>	<b>150 709</b>	<b>7 636 319</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) 'Private' refers to the non-government employment sector.

(c) CDEP data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 4.3 HOURS WORKED, INDIGENOUS PERSONS(a)(b)

	<i>Major Urban</i>	<i>Other Urban</i>	<i>Bounded Locality</i>	<i>Rural Balance</i>	<i>Total(c)</i>
<i>Hours worked</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Employed CDEP(d)					
0–34 hours(e)	47	2 095	2 910	3 935	8 987
35 hours or more	20	553	1 001	1 139	2 713
Not stated	0	104	170	278	552
<i>Total</i>	67	2 752	4 081	5 352	12 259
Employed other(f)					
0–34 hours(e)	8 012	9 613	1 941	3 190	22 765
35 hours or more	18 014	17 706	2 574	5 508	43 876
Not stated	1 022	1 479	410	527	3 441
<i>Total</i>	27 048	28 798	4 925	9 225	70 088
<b>Total</b>					
0–34 hours(e)	8 059	11 708	4 851	7 125	31 752
35 hours or more	18 034	18 259	3 575	6 647	46 589
Not stated	1 022	1 583	580	805	3 993
<b>Total</b>	<b>27 118</b>	<b>31 552</b>	<b>9 008</b>	<b>14 582</b>	<b>82 347</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Number of hours worked in all jobs during the week prior to census night by persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Includes 'Migratory'.

(d) CDEP data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

(e) '0' hours may include persons who were absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down.

(f) Includes all other employed persons.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 4.4 HOURS WORKED, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)(b)

<i>Section of State</i>	<i>0-34 hours(c)</i>	<i>35 hours or more</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	%	%	%	%	no.
INDIGENOUS					
Major Urban	29.72	66.51	3.78	100.00	<b>27 118</b>
Other Urban	37.11	57.88	5.02	100.00	<b>31 552</b>
Bounded Locality	53.86	39.70	6.45	100.00	<b>9 008</b>
Rural Balance	48.89	45.61	5.52	100.00	<b>14 582</b>
All Sections(d)	38.57	56.59	4.86	100.00	<b>82 347</b>
TOTAL					
Major Urban	29.55	68.35	2.10	100.00	<b>4 943 741</b>
Other Urban	31.65	66.14	2.21	100.00	<b>1 612 624</b>
Bounded Locality	33.42	63.82	2.76	100.00	<b>163 469</b>
Rural Balance	28.59	68.60	2.81	100.00	<b>908 851</b>
All Sections(d)	29.94	67.84	2.22	100.00	<b>7 636 319</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Number of hours worked in all jobs during the week prior to census night.

(c) '0' hours may include persons who were absent on holidays, on paid leave, on strike or temporarily stood down.

(d) Includes 'Migratory'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

# 4.5

## INDUSTRY, EMPLOYED PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

<i>Industry</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
INDIGENOUS									
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	858	215	1 077	190	477	353	196	3	3 369
Mining	186	19	490	28	343	39	145	0	1 250
Manufacturing	2 062	764	1 560	313	469	528	90	17	5 806
Electricity, gas and water supply	227	30	108	15	57	10	18	3	468
Construction	1 337	311	1 188	133	536	271	211	37	4 027
Wholesale trade	846	220	475	89	190	161	71	19	2 071
Retail trade	2 233	585	1 611	261	573	586	350	62	6 264
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	1 080	212	897	122	224	164	138	66	2 906
Transport and storage	996	246	1 002	101	250	163	146	15	2 919
Communication services	514	264	438	132	200	56	49	14	1 667
Finance and insurance	362	89	150	31	65	70	28	10	805
Property and business services	1 757	410	1 371	274	634	207	273	62	4 988
Government administration and defence	2 050	409	4 747	354	905	269	3 583	331	12 653
Education	1 890	405	1 762	538	967	211	743	47	6 566
Health and community services	3 214	770	4 041	1 252	3 800	400	2 553	78	16 124
Cultural and recreational services	602	174	450	123	182	80	162	49	1 831
Personal and other services	1 112	298	833	290	987	169	288	45	4 022
Non-classifiable economic units	412	110	299	54	191	36	70	3	1 175
Not stated	845	235	807	244	618	208	420	58	3 435
<b>Total</b>	<b>22 583</b>	<b>5 766</b>	<b>23 306</b>	<b>4 544</b>	<b>11 668</b>	<b>3 981</b>	<b>9 534</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>82 347</b>
TOTAL									
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	92 552	74 179	72 229	33 526	37 187	12 108	2 001	543	324 330
Mining	21 633	5 626	22 279	3 556	28 377	1 871	2 718	98	86 261
Manufacturing	312 069	308 642	147 668	89 141	77 197	22 285	3 113	4 907	965 038
Electricity, gas and water supply	22 030	13 497	10 013	4 656	6 753	846	490	397	58 698
Construction	163 650	111 471	101 356	29 619	54 614	10 721	5 559	7 024	484 087
Wholesale trade	160 224	116 077	78 033	33 823	43 413	8 377	2 782	3 806	446 545
Retail trade	341 805	261 679	199 447	79 482	103 317	25 046	8 724	17 067	1 036 648
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	126 846	72 636	77 166	25 366	32 618	8 452	4 833	7 161	355 288
Transport and storage	121 521	73 799	69 078	21 839	30 425	7 022	3 737	4 606	332 077
Communication services	53 731	43 119	23 841	10 610	12 638	2 696	1 180	2 367	150 187
Finance and insurance	122 165	78 037	41 379	19 493	24 823	5 216	1 449	3 883	296 457
Property and business services	272 205	187 889	130 092	50 273	75 622	12 099	5 821	16 163	750 193
Government administration and defence	110 391	71 416	71 322	25 412	30 619	12 068	12 766	39 104	373 425
Education	173 548	132 070	101 441	43 724	55 548	14 469	5 842	13 311	540 063
Health and community services	238 938	176 610	129 917	67 665	71 396	20 009	8 617	11 959	725 178
Cultural and recreational services	59 929	44 841	32 915	12 887	16 313	4 763	2 311	4 959	179 052
Personal and other services	91 363	65 817	50 289	23 699	30 130	6 979	3 169	6 418	277 908
Non-classifiable economic units	33 890	29 464	19 572	5 491	11 629	1 524	860	700	103 143
Not stated	44 825	31 090	26 025	17 009	18 082	6 418	2 021	6 238	151 735
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 563 315</b>	<b>1 897 959</b>	<b>1 404 062</b>	<b>597 271</b>	<b>760 701</b>	<b>182 969</b>	<b>77 993</b>	<b>150 711</b>	<b>7 636 319</b>

(a) Excludes 'Unemployed Persons', 'Persons not in the labour force', 'Persons who did not state their labour force status' and 'Persons aged under 15 years'.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 4.6

### OCCUPATION, EMPLOYED PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Managers and administrators	3 063	709 925
Professionals	8 381	1 309 468
Technicians and associate professionals	6 711	861 170
Tradespersons and related workers	9 113	997 011
Advanced clerical and service workers	1 851	329 842
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	14 007	1 222 733
Intermediate production and transport workers	7 948	661 424
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	6 258	677 392
Labourers and related workers	20 036	667 250
Inadequately described	2 067	71 505
Not stated	2 912	128 594
<b>Total</b>	<b>82 347</b>	<b>7 636 319</b>

(a) Excludes 'Unemployed Persons', 'Persons not in the labour force', 'Persons who did not state their labour force status' and 'Persons aged under 15 years'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 4.7

### LABOUR FORCE STATUS, BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION—PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

Labour force status	Degree/ diploma(a)	Vocational(b)	Level of attainment inadequately described/ not stated	Not qualified(c)	Total
	%	%	%	%	%
INDIGENOUS					
In labour force					
Employed					
CDEP(d)	0.78	1.21	2.60	7.00	5.79
Other	74.97	66.38	23.27	29.68	33.13
Total	75.75	67.59	25.87	36.69	38.92
Unemployed	6.69	12.23	8.17	12.21	11.45
Total labour force	82.44	79.82	34.03	48.90	50.37
Not in labour force	17.20	19.56	40.35	49.67	45.14
Not stated	0.36	0.62	25.62	1.43	4.48
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Total	8 874	13 724	27 538	161 438	211 574
TOTAL					
	%	%	%	%	%
In labour force					
Employed					
CDEP(d)	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.14	0.09
Other	78.45	72.58	33.41	48.30	54.79
Total	78.45	72.59	33.45	48.44	54.88
Unemployed	3.57	5.46	3.76	6.49	5.55
Total labour force	82.03	78.06	37.22	54.93	60.43
Not in labour force	17.80	21.61	46.31	44.45	37.18
Not stated	0.17	0.33	16.47	0.61	2.39
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 297 405</b>	<b>1 881 744</b>	<b>1 655 627</b>	<b>8 080 121</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>

(a) Includes Higher degree, Postgraduate degree, Bachelor degree, Undergraduate diploma, Associate diploma.

(b) Includes skilled and basic qualification.

(c) Includes persons who have a qualification that is outside the scope of the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.

(d) CDEP data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## CHAPTER 5

## INCOME

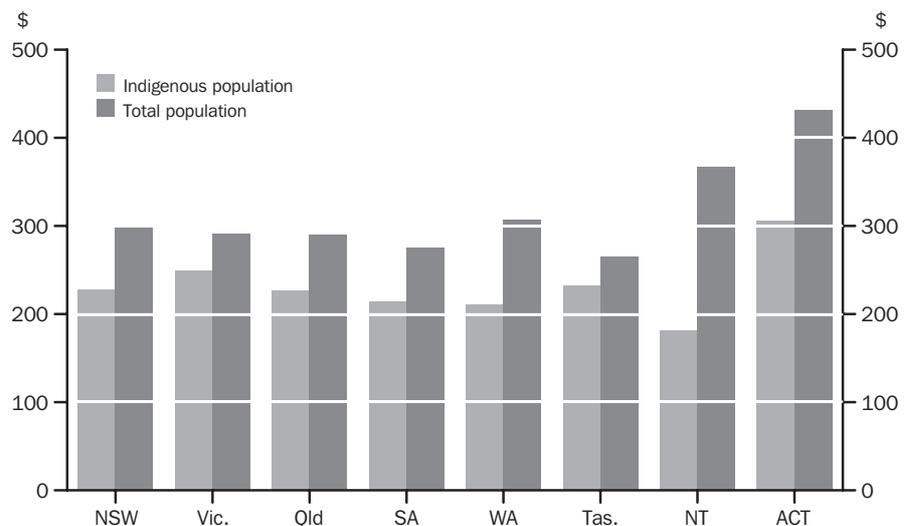
This chapter presents a statistical summary of the personal income characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia aged 15 years and over and provides a comparison with the income characteristics of the total population.

### PERSONAL INCOME

As at August 1996 the median weekly personal income of Indigenous people in Australia was \$218. Although this figure had increased by \$43 since the 1991 Census, it was still below the median weekly income recorded for the total population (\$294) in 1996. In the period between the 1991 and 1996 Censuses a greater increase in the median weekly income was recorded for the Indigenous population (\$43) than for the total population (\$20).

At the time of the 1996 Census the median weekly personal income of Indigenous people was lower than that of the total population in each State and Territory. The disparity was greatest in the Northern Territory (\$185), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (\$126), Western Australia (\$96) and New South Wales (\$70). Tasmania and Victoria recorded the lowest differences in median weekly income (\$32 and \$42 respectively).

MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER



Source: Table 5.1

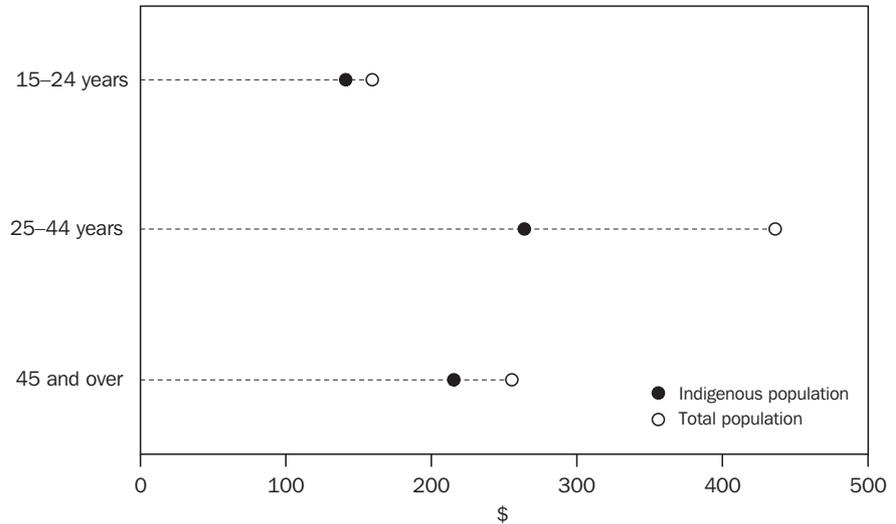
### AGE

In both the Indigenous and total populations, personal weekly median income varied significantly according to age. Peak median earnings of \$265 for Indigenous persons occurred in the 'prime working age' group 25–44 years. This was significantly more than the income of Indigenous persons in the 15–24 year age group (\$142) and those aged 45 years or more (\$217). It is important to note that the 15–24 year age group includes people still at school or undertaking further education in addition to recent school leavers.

AGE *continued*

For all age groups the median personal weekly income was lower for the Indigenous population than the total population. The median income for Indigenous persons aged 25–44 years was 39.4% lower than that for the same group in the total population. For people over 45 years the figure was 15.6% lower. In the 15–24 year age group the median income of the Indigenous population was 11.8% lower than that of the total population.

MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME, BY AGE



Source: Table 5.2

LOCATION

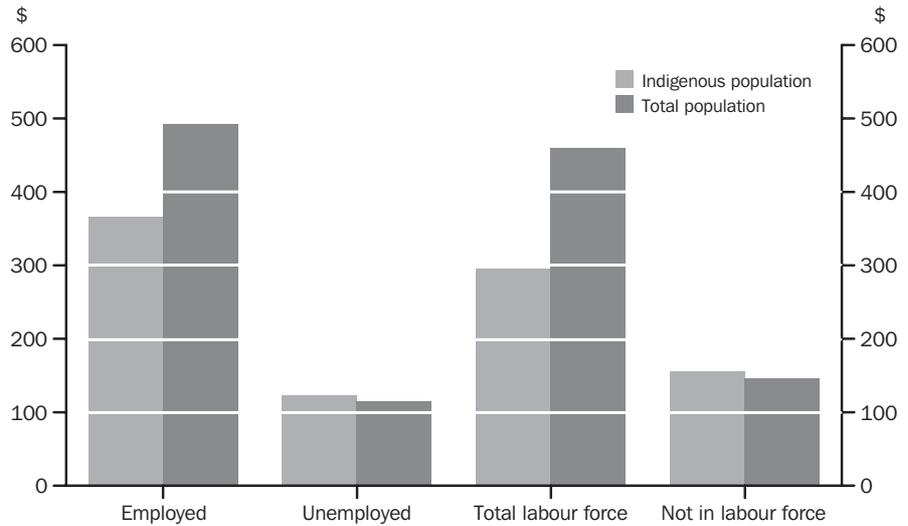
Indigenous persons in Major Urban areas had a weekly median individual income of \$250, which was higher than that of Indigenous persons living in other areas. Beyond the boundaries of Major Urban areas, Indigenous incomes were highest in Other Urban areas (\$223), followed by Rural Balance (\$185) and Bounded Localities (\$181).

Indigenous personal incomes were lower than the incomes of the total population, in all Sections of State. In Major Urban areas the weekly median income of the Indigenous population was 20.1% lower than that of the total population. In Other Urban areas, Bounded Locality and Rural Balance it was 18.3%, 27.3% and 33.5% lower, respectively.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

The median weekly personal income for employed Indigenous people in Australia was \$366. This was 25.6% lower than the income of the total employed population (\$492). The median weekly incomes of unemployed Indigenous persons and those Indigenous people not in the labour force were \$123 and \$155 respectively, slightly higher than the corresponding amounts of \$114 and \$146 recorded for the total population. Weekly income of the unemployed or those not in the labour force can be influenced by the number of dependent children, which was higher among Indigenous people (see chapter 2).

INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS

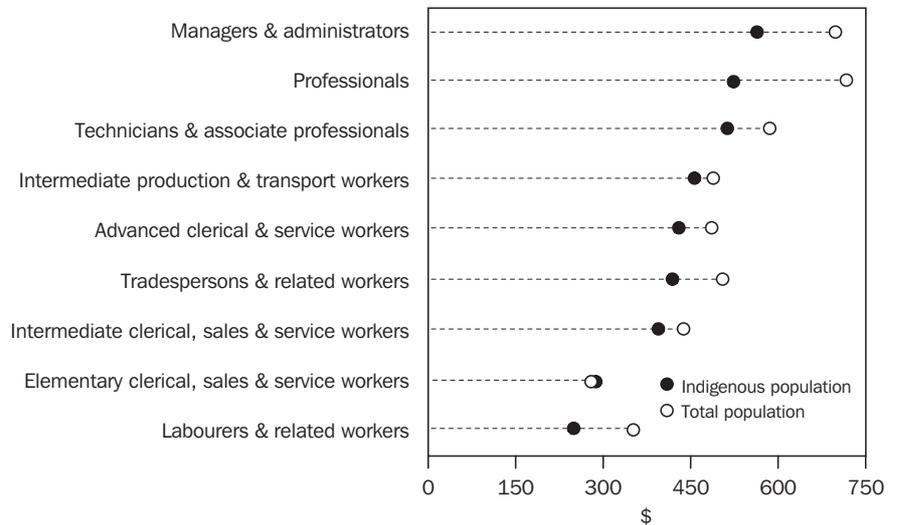


Source: Table 5.4

OCCUPATION

Within the Indigenous population, the highest median personal weekly income among those employed was recorded for Managers and administrators (\$556) and the lowest for Labourers and related workers (\$246). These weekly incomes were lower by 19.3% for Managers and administrators and 28.3% for Labourers and related workers when compared to those of the total population.

MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME, BY OCCUPATION

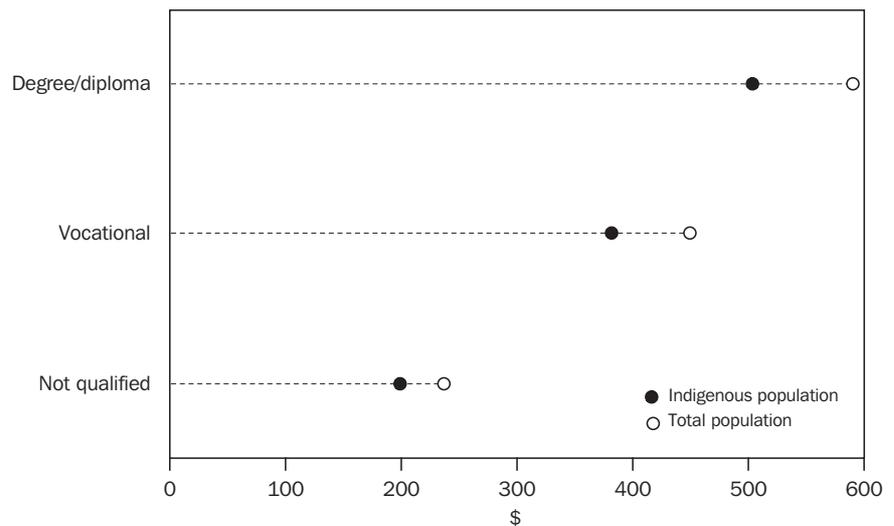


Source: Table 5.5

## QUALIFICATIONS

In both the Indigenous and total populations, persons with degrees had higher personal incomes than those with vocational training or who had no qualifications. The median weekly income of Indigenous persons with a degree was \$504 which was 14.6% lower than the median income of those with a degree in the total population. For persons with vocational qualifications, the median income (\$383) for Indigenous persons was 14.9% lower than that for the total population (\$450). Indigenous people without qualifications had a median weekly income of \$201, which was 15.5% lower than that recorded for the total population (\$238).

MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME, BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION



Source: Table 5.6

## 5.1

### INDIVIDUAL MEDIAN WEEKLY INCOME, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)(b)

	1991(c)		1996	
	Indigenous	Total	Indigenous	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
New South Wales	191	282	228	298
Victoria	213	276	249	291
Queensland	184	260	227	290
South Australia	174	254	214	275
Western Australia	155	271	211	307
Tasmania	215	246	233	265
Northern Territory	140	325	182	367
Australian Capital Territory	322	402	306	432
<b>Australia(d)</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>294</b>

(a) Gross income from all sources.

(b) Excludes 'Not stated'.

(c) 1991 classification did not allow for the separate identification of negative income or no income.

(d) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Source: Unpublished data, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

## 5.2

### INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY AGE—PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

	Age group (years)			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 and over	
INDIGENOUS				
	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	9 398	3 140	1 843	14 381
\$1-\$159	22 929	21 592	12 921	57 442
\$160-\$299	15 769	27 113	15 560	58 442
\$300-\$399	5 620	13 113	3 910	22 643
\$400-\$599	4 486	15 117	4 567	24 170
\$600-\$799	965	6 643	1 872	9 480
\$800-\$999	151	2 144	732	3 027
\$1 000 or more	291	1 642	793	2 726
Not stated	7 900	7 345	4 015	19 260
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 513</b>	<b>97 848</b>	<b>46 213</b>	<b>211 574</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	142	265	217	218
TOTAL				
	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	430 551	223 715	270 499	924 765
\$1-\$159	741 374	765 952	1 321 510	2 828 836
\$160-\$299	421 395	801 274	1 654 868	2 877 537
\$300-\$399	264 464	584 113	469 756	1 318 333
\$400-\$599	367 407	1 222 535	792 892	2 382 834
\$600-\$799	96 718	791 104	422 542	1 310 364
\$800-\$999	18 339	400 175	245 161	663 675
\$1 000 or more	11 981	410 161	322 365	744 507
Not stated	219 913	271 592	372 543	864 048
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 572 145</b>	<b>5 470 618</b>	<b>5 872 134</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	161	437	257	294

(a) Gross income from all sources.

(b) Excludes 'Not stated'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

# 5.3

## INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY SECTION OF STATE—PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)(b)

	<i>Major Urban</i>	<i>Other Urban</i>	<i>Bounded Locality</i>	<i>Rural Balance</i>	<i>Total(c)</i>
INDIGENOUS					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	4 332	5 685	1 623	2 739	14 379
\$1–\$159	15 280	22 946	7 696	11 504	57 444
\$160–\$299	15 880	23 967	7 529	11 045	58 439
\$300–\$399	7 551	10 245	1 962	2 876	22 642
\$400–\$599	9 871	10 112	1 478	2 688	24 172
\$600–\$799	4 223	3 777	453	983	9 480
\$800–\$999	1 444	1 099	119	354	3 024
\$1 000 or more	1 280	1 034	76	329	2 731
Not stated	4 960	8 062	2 254	3 981	19 260
<i>Total</i>	<b>64 821</b>	<b>86 927</b>	<b>23 190</b>	<b>36 499</b>	<b>211 574</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(d)	250	223	181	185	218
TOTAL					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	601 994	180 742	20 773	121 103	924 759
\$1–\$159	1 724 518	692 238	83 080	328 423	2 828 840
\$160–\$299	1 734 402	748 234	83 388	310 814	2 877 525
\$300–\$399	812 876	313 830	32 753	158 500	1 318 336
\$400–\$599	1 557 970	518 755	51 116	253 429	2 382 839
\$600–\$799	903 810	258 107	23 209	122 520	1 310 365
\$800–\$999	460 605	129 151	11 239	61 344	663 678
\$1 000 or more	543 591	120 966	9 431	68 847	744 507
Not stated	538 358	196 729	21 936	106 285	864 045
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 878 124</b>	<b>3 158 752</b>	<b>336 925</b>	<b>1 531 265</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(d)	313	273	249	278	294

- (a) Place of enumeration.
- (b) Gross income from all sources.
- (c) Includes 'Migratory'.
- (d) Excludes 'Not stated'.

Source: *Unpublished data, 1996 Census.*

## 5.4

### INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS—PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

	<i>Employed</i>			<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Total labour force</i>	<i>Not in labour force</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>CDEP(b)</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>					
INDIGENOUS								
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	42	614	656	1 730	2 386	11 787	209	14 382
\$1–\$159	5 075	6 464	11 539	12 668	24 207	32 512	727	57 446
\$160–\$299	5 441	13 143	18 584	6 910	25 494	32 137	812	58 443
\$300–\$399	975	13 036	14 011	1 170	15 181	7 212	246	22 639
\$400–\$599	447	20 834	21 281	415	21 696	2 358	119	24 173
\$600–\$799	62	8 828	8 890	72	8 962	485	30	9 477
\$800–\$999	6	2 850	2 856	16	2 872	147	9	3 028
\$1 000 or more	12	2 275	2 287	86	2 373	350	15	2 738
Not stated	205	2 043	2 248	1 164	3 412	8 520	7 324	19 256
<i>Total</i>	<i>12 259</i>	<i>70 088</i>	<i>82 347</i>	<i>24 233</i>	<i>106 580</i>	<i>95 509</i>	<i>9 485</i>	<i>211 574</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(c)	183	407	366	123	296	155	185	218
TOTAL								
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	42	72 355	72 397	98 809	171 206	745 522	8 038	924 766
\$1–\$159	5 078	640 760	645 838	382 418	1 028 256	1 784 844	15 737	2 828 837
\$160–\$299	5 447	1 021 138	1 026 585	193 819	1 220 404	1 642 747	14 384	2 877 535
\$300–\$399	978	1 004 566	1 005 544	33 567	1 039 111	274 482	4 737	1 318 330
\$400–\$599	450	2 148 650	2 149 100	22 484	2 171 584	206 545	4 708	2 382 837
\$600–\$799	62	1 238 111	1 238 173	6 421	1 244 594	64 443	1 317	1 310 354
\$800–\$999	6	637 274	637 280	2 320	639 600	23 611	464	663 675
\$1 000 or more	12	708 288	708 300	3 218	711 518	32 408	593	744 519
Not stated	205	152 902	153 107	28 910	182 017	399 570	282 452	864 039
<b>Total</b>	<b>12 276</b>	<b>7 624 043</b>	<b>7 636 319</b>	<b>771 970</b>	<b>8 408 289</b>	<b>5 174 181</b>	<b>332 427</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(c)	183	492	492	114	460	146	172	294

(a) Gross income from all sources.

(b) CDEP data were first collected in the 1996 Census. As a specific question was not asked to determine CDEP employment, these data should be interpreted cautiously, as their reliability is variable.

(c) Excludes 'Not stated'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

# 5.5

## INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY OCCUPATION—EMPLOYED PERSONS AGED 15 & OVER(a)

	<i>Managers and administrators</i>	<i>Professionals</i>	<i>Technicians and associate professionals</i>	<i>Tradespersons and related workers</i>	<i>Advanced clerical and service workers</i>
INDIGENOUS					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	61	47	63	42	8
\$1–\$159	199	539	294	621	128
\$160–\$299	348	1 098	763	1 982	317
\$300–\$399	356	982	935	1 635	378
\$400–\$599	665	2 441	2 369	2 857	707
\$600–\$799	533	1 913	1 493	1 113	197
\$800–\$999	354	760	416	330	55
\$1 000 or more	455	420	243	310	26
Not stated	90	177	129	225	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 061</b>	<b>8 377</b>	<b>6 705</b>	<b>9 115</b>	<b>1 849</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	556	517	504	411	422
TOTAL					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	20 757	4 894	9 675	5 309	2 716
\$1–\$159	34 574	44 110	36 419	37 097	18 799
\$160–\$299	63 872	83 844	78 139	134 012	45 349
\$300–\$399	54 160	82 403	83 685	140 189	46 716
\$400–\$599	125 193	259 356	242 124	351 653	123 777
\$600–\$799	108 183	321 555	196 908	188 438	61 476
\$800–\$999	85 038	248 725	100 914	67 081	15 056
\$1 000 or more	202 187	248 843	98 659	51 421	10 441
Not stated	15 960	15 731	14 649	21 809	5 515
<b>Total</b>	<b>709 925</b>	<b>1 309 468</b>	<b>861 169</b>	<b>997 010</b>	<b>329 844</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	689	707	577	497	478

(a) Gross income all sources.

(b) Excludes 'Not stated'.

...continued

# 5.5

## INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY OCCUPATION—EMPLOYED PERSONS AGED 15 & OVER(a)—continued

	<i>Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers</i>	<i>Intermediate production and transport workers</i>	<i>Elementary clerical, sales and service workers</i>	<i>Labourers and related workers</i>	<i>Not stated/ inadequately described</i>	<i>Total</i>
INDIGENOUS						
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	69	39	43	113	160	645
\$1–\$159	1 186	594	1 432	5 506	1 038	11 537
\$160–\$299	3 026	1 071	1 837	6 762	1 379	18 583
\$300–\$399	2 941	1 459	1 227	3 516	589	14 018
\$400–\$599	4 417	2 844	1 234	2 963	778	21 275
\$600–\$799	1 651	926	239	497	329	8 891
\$800–\$999	279	394	56	133	80	2 857
\$1 000 or more	152	411	37	105	132	2 291
Not stated	289	219	153	444	493	2 252
<i>Total</i>	<i>14 010</i>	<i>7 957</i>	<i>6 258</i>	<i>20 039</i>	<i>4 978</i>	<i>82 347</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	387	449	279	246	265	366
TOTAL						
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	5 852	3 113	5 672	5 487	8 913	72 388
\$1–\$159	111 630	39 720	190 386	106 074	27 018	645 827
\$160–\$299	217 324	65 313	160 941	149 327	28 459	1 026 580
\$300–\$399	204 493	111 747	107 972	150 594	23 590	1 005 549
\$400–\$599	422 350	251 875	143 911	184 963	43 892	2 149 094
\$600–\$799	165 443	95 651	38 346	37 900	24 277	1 238 177
\$800–\$999	45 941	41 639	10 368	11 553	10 971	637 286
\$1 000 or more	30 836	38 865	7 466	7 553	12 030	708 301
Not stated	18 865	13 514	12 342	13 791	20 945	153 121
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 222 735</b>	<b>661 435</b>	<b>677 395</b>	<b>667 250</b>	<b>200 098</b>	<b>7 636 319</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(b)	430	482	278	343	407	492

(a) Gross income all sources.

(b) Excludes 'Not stated'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 5.6

### INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME, BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION—PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

	Degree/ diploma	Vocational	Not qualified	Inadequately described/ not stated(b)	Total
INDIGENOUS					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	206	407	12 287	1 483	14 383
\$1–\$159	900	2 103	49 511	4 922	57 436
\$160–\$299	1 343	2 658	49 071	5 368	58 440
\$300–\$399	830	1 776	17 686	2 354	22 646
\$400–\$599	2 010	3 646	16 223	2 293	24 172
\$600–\$799	1 812	1 724	5 138	808	9 482
\$800–\$999	916	539	1 313	254	3 022
\$1 000 or more	652	461	1 369	245	2 727
Not stated	201	409	8 844	9 805	19 259
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 870</b>	<b>13 723</b>	<b>161 442</b>	<b>27 532</b>	<b>211 574</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(c)	504	383	201	224	218
TOTAL					
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Negative/nil income	81 508	55 119	690 578	97 560	924 765
\$1–\$159	220 317	247 549	2 067 088	293 871	2 828 825
\$160–\$299	256 321	297 994	2 003 482	319 741	2 877 538
\$300–\$399	163 980	192 426	837 555	124 377	1 318 338
\$400–\$599	427 239	497 138	1 268 158	190 302	2 382 837
\$600–\$799	411 324	299 163	515 587	84 294	1 310 368
\$800–\$999	307 322	129 895	191 392	35 067	663 676
\$1 000 or more	392 617	116 713	195 624	39 557	744 511
Not stated	36 773	45 747	310 658	470 864	864 042
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 297 401</b>	<b>1 881 744</b>	<b>8 080 122</b>	<b>1 655 633</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Median income(c)	590	450	238	247	294

(a) Gross income from all sources.

(b) Includes persons with a qualification outside the scope of the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.

(c) Excludes 'Not stated'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.



## CHAPTER 6

## EDUCATION

This chapter presents a statistical summary, derived from census data, of the educational qualifications of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people compared to the total population of Australia.

### ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

At the time of the 1996 Census 34.4% of the Indigenous population of Australia were attending an educational institution, compared to 25.5% of the total population. In analysing this difference, one needs to take into account the much younger age structure of the Indigenous population compared to the total population (see graphs on page 3). Over the period between the 1986 and 1996 Censuses, the proportion of the Indigenous population attending an educational institution increased from 33.0% to 34.4%, while that of the total population remained relatively stable at around 25%.

The proportion of the Indigenous population attending a tertiary institution almost doubled over the same 10-year period with 2.0% attending in 1986, increasing to 3.3% in 1991 and 4.1% in 1996.

The Australian Capital Territory recorded a 3.8% increase in the proportion of Indigenous people attending a tertiary institution over the 10-year period. Western Australia recorded a 2.9% increase followed by Queensland and Tasmania, both of which recorded a 2.0% increase.

### AGE LEFT SCHOOL

People aged 15 years or more were asked to indicate the age at which they had left school.

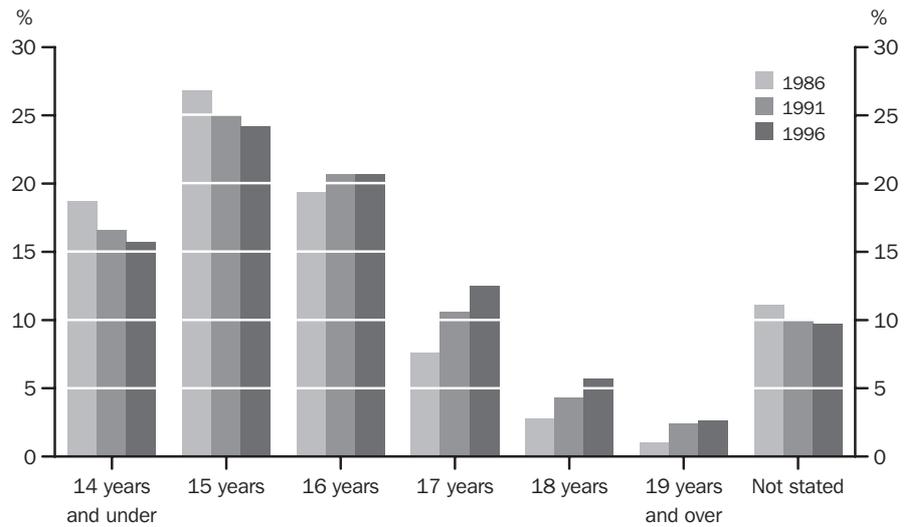
Between the 1986 and 1996 Censuses, changes in the age at which people left school were similar for both populations. Decreases were recorded in the percentage of people who had left school at ages 14 and under, and 15 and 16 years. Increases were recorded in the percentage that had left at ages 17 to 19 years and over.

In 1996, 15.7% of the Indigenous population had left school at 14 years or under compared to 18.7% in 1986. A similar decline was evident for the total population (13.7% in 1996 compared to 20.5% in 1986).

In 1996, approximately 45% of the Indigenous population had left school at 15 or 16 years of age, down from the 46.2% recorded in 1986. In comparison 38.8% of the total population had left school at 15 or 16 years, a decrease from the 43.1% recorded in 1986. The proportion of Indigenous people who had left school at 17 years and over increased to 20.8% in 1996 from 11.5% in 1986. This change was consistent with the general trend in the total population for the same period (an increase to 35.2% from 25.4%), although the rate of change for the Indigenous population was higher.

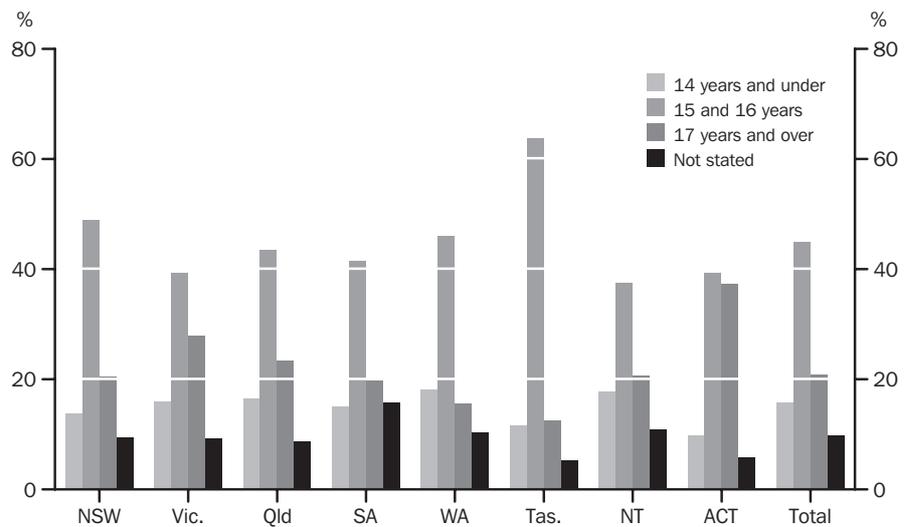
For the 10 year period 1986–96, Victoria recorded the highest increase in the proportion of its Indigenous population that had left school at 17 years or over (11.3 percentage points). This was followed by the Australian Capital Territory (11.2 percentage points) and Queensland (10.8 percentage points). In comparison, for the total population, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland recorded the highest increases over the same 10-year period (11.4, 10.6 and 10.1 percentage points respectively).

AGE LEFT SCHOOL, INDIGENOUS PERSONS



Source: Table 6.2

AGE LEFT SCHOOL, INDIGENOUS PERSONS—1996



Source: Table 6.2

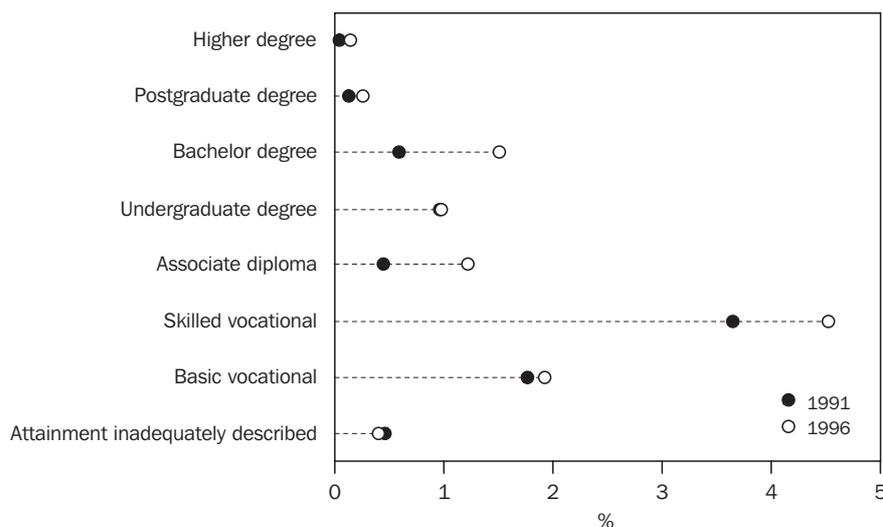
## LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT

Results from the 1996 Census indicated that among those who had left school, a significantly lower proportion of the Indigenous population had post secondary school qualifications (13.6%) compared to the total population (34.4%). This was despite an increase in the proportion of Indigenous persons with post secondary school qualifications from 10.6% in 1991 to 13.6% in 1996.

As at August 1996, 4.5% of the Indigenous population had skilled vocational qualifications and 1.9% had basic vocational qualifications. Of the total population 10.7% had skilled vocational qualifications and 2.9% had basic vocational qualifications.

Between 1991 and 1996, increases were recorded in the proportion of Indigenous people with Bachelor degrees, from 0.6% to 1.5%, and Associate diplomas, from 0.5% to 1.2%. Comparable figures for the total population were 5.7% to 7.7% (Bachelor degrees) and 1.3% to 2.6% (Associate diplomas) over the same period. At the time of the 1996 Census, the Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous people who recorded having attained a Bachelor degree or Associate diploma (8.2% and 3.1% respectively).

LEVEL OF ATTAINMENT, INDIGENOUS PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER

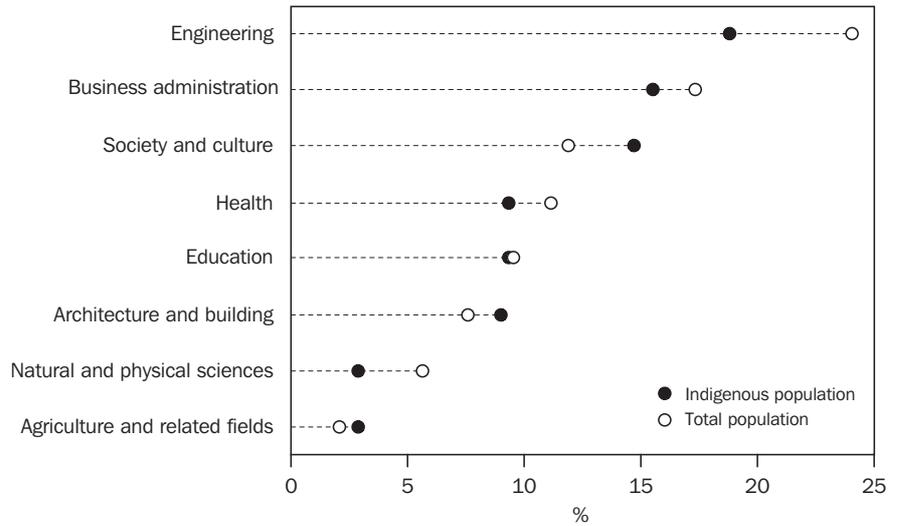


Source: Table 6.3

## FIELD OF ATTAINMENT

Of the 28,725 Indigenous people with post secondary school qualifications, most were achieved in the fields of Engineering (18.9%), Business and administration (15.6%) or Society and culture (14.8). A similar pattern was evident for the total population. A notable feature in the Northern Territory was the relatively high proportion of Indigenous people having a post secondary school qualification in the field of Education (16.5%).

FIELD OF ATTAINMENT



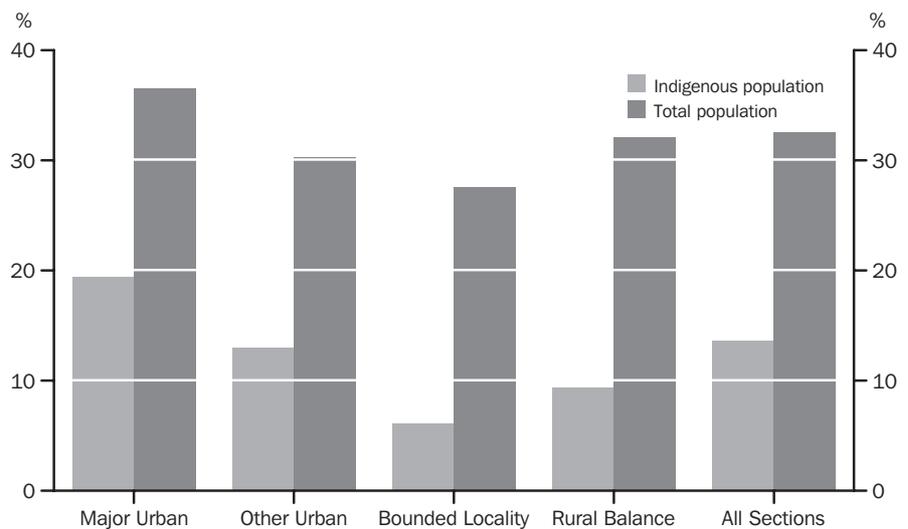
Source: Table 6.4

LOCATION

At the time of the 1996 Census a higher proportion of Indigenous people aged 15 years or more living in Major Urban or Other Urban Sections of State had post secondary school qualifications (19.4% and 13.0%, respectively) compared to those living in Bounded Localities (6.1%) and the Rural Balance (9.4%).

For the total population, the proportion of people who had a post secondary school qualification ranged from 27.6% in Bounded Localities to 36.5% in Major Urban areas.

PERSONS WITH POST SECONDARY SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, BY SECTION OF STATE



Source: Table 6.5

# 6.1

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
<i>Educational institution</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1986									
Preschool(b)	1 739	389	1 800	529	1 282	164	1 052	27	6 992
Infants/primary(b)	9 687	1 828	10 347	2 333	6 055	1 192	5 866	185	37 520
Secondary(b)	6 063	1 222	5 713	1 100	2 698	796	2 167	98	19 878
Technical or further education(b)	1 214	219	467	336	524	141	233	30	3 169
University or other tertiary(b)	469	133	400	150	196	52	51	30	1 481
Other(b)	190	77	157	87	121	19	118	0	769
Institution not stated(c)	1 282	343	1 369	388	947	132	823	7	5 295
Not attending	34 836	7 513	36 916	8 243	22 485	3 992	19 986	627	134 670
Attendance not stated(d)	3 555	845	4 131	1 123	3 460	231	4 383	52	17 796
<b>Total</b>	<b>59 035</b>	<b>12 569</b>	<b>61 300</b>	<b>14 289</b>	<b>37 768</b>	<b>6 719</b>	<b>34 679</b>	<b>1 056</b>	<b>227 593</b>
TOTAL PERSONS 1986									
Preschool(b)	96 865	68 825	46 142	24 937	27 596	6 916	3 125	4 972	279 398
Infants/primary(b)	535 433	386 819	267 586	132 269	146 696	44 968	18 375	29 782	1 562 014
Secondary(b)	420 797	340 443	185 034	93 593	97 474	33 139	9 106	24 634	1 204 251
Technical or further education(b)	138 983	72 005	29 077	30 671	36 920	8 939	2 129	8 166	326 899
University or other tertiary(b)	107 680	91 734	47 016	26 796	27 990	8 147	1 659	12 480	323 512
Other(b)	25 018	25 347	12 821	8 437	8 594	2 560	893	1 708	85 404
Institution not stated(c)	65 538	65 784	34 674	17 765	18 959	6 187	2 548	2 906	214 379
Not attending	3 697 366	2 758 052	1 787 158	950 638	968 728	304 894	92 275	157 827	10 717 341
Attendance not stated(d)	292 444	228 995	130 741	62 941	69 869	23 022	13 280	7 716	829 043
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 380 124</b>	<b>4 038 004</b>	<b>2 540 249</b>	<b>1 348 047</b>	<b>1 402 826</b>	<b>438 772</b>	<b>143 390</b>	<b>250 192</b>	<b>15 542 567</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Includes persons whose full-time student status is not stated but institution is stated.

(c) Full-time/part-time student stated but institution not stated.

(d) Full-time/part-time student and institution not stated.

...continued

## 6.1 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED—*continued*

<i>Educational institution</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1991									
Preschool(b)	2 181	437	2 170	567	1 412	174	1 088	44	8 073
Infants/primary(b)	11 087	2 343	10 301	2 638	6 136	1 535	6 196	269	40 534
Secondary(b)	5 950	1 455	5 649	1 041	2 690	895	1 878	152	19 721
Technical or further education(b)	2 172	386	968	495	880	223	315	44	5 486
University or other tertiary(b)	948	327	828	316	411	172	212	87	3 308
Other(b)	373	119	423	120	202	62	271	15	1 585
Institution not stated(c)	2 713	683	3 471	798	2 043	262	2 461	41	12 481
Not attending	41 679	10 300	43 042	9 568	25 859	5 392	23 965	906	160 826
Attendance not stated(d)	2 890	651	3 220	684	2 211	197	3 471	25	13 355
<b>Total</b>	<b>69 993</b>	<b>16 701</b>	<b>70 072</b>	<b>16 227</b>	<b>41 844</b>	<b>8 912</b>	<b>39 857</b>	<b>1 583</b>	<b>265 371</b>
TOTAL PERSONS 1991									
Preschool(b)	96 673	62 515	46 713	20 380	32 100	5 511	3 103	4 600	271 611
Infants/primary(b)	537 647	388 031	292 090	141 844	163 921	46 463	19 422	29 524	1 619 031
Secondary(b)	405 484	324 087	192 540	84 323	100 471	30 599	8 792	24 697	1 171 025
Technical or further education(b)	184 232	90 450	47 443	35 692	48 495	9 979	2 780	9 156	428 248
University or other tertiary(b)	168 899	150 238	88 457	42 630	52 560	12 589	4 830	19 045	539 264
Other(b)	42 038	35 684	20 690	9 320	9 354	2 760	1 166	2 387	123 411
Institution not stated(c)	82 969	65 217	41 945	20 169	21 787	7 106	4 428	3 558	247 193
Not attending	3 975 624	3 015 609	2 053 907	1 014 368	1 099 803	326 270	105 010	180 359	11 771 452
Attendance not stated(d)	221 408	156 046	103 720	39 897	47 843	14 942	9 769	6 827	600 464
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 714 974</b>	<b>4 287 877</b>	<b>2 887 505</b>	<b>1 408 623</b>	<b>1 576 334</b>	<b>456 219</b>	<b>159 300</b>	<b>280 153</b>	<b>16 771 700</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Includes persons whose full-time student status is not stated but institution is stated.

(c) Full-time/part-time student stated but institution not stated.

(d) Full-time/part-time student and institution not stated.

...continued

## 6.1 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED—*continued*

<i>Educational institution</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1996									
Preschool(b)	2 571	495	2 463	492	1 399	217	846	71	8 557
Infants/primary(b)	18 144	3 499	16 271	3 676	8 885	2 564	7 779	493	61 332
Secondary(b)	8 858	1 759	7 318	1 242	3 372	1 470	2 839	262	27 147
Technical or further education(b)	3 033	617	1 784	741	1 675	449	474	82	8 859
University or other tertiary(b)	1 728	411	1 482	337	755	232	451	159	5 563
Other(b)	386	123	334	103	201	57	233	18	1 455
Institution not stated(c)	2 356	935	1 975	560	1 407	267	932	76	8 517
Not attending	60 061	12 686	59 737	11 153	30 367	8 353	29 488	1 616	213 589
Attendance not stated(d)	4 499	978	4 010	2 117	2 638	320	3 320	67	17 953
<b>Total</b>	<b>101 636</b>	<b>21 503</b>	<b>95 374</b>	<b>20 421</b>	<b>50 699</b>	<b>13 929</b>	<b>46 362</b>	<b>2 844</b>	<b>352 970</b>
TOTAL PERSONS 1996									
Preschool(b)	94 230	59 319	47 710	17 218	28 337	4 266	2 807	4 431	258 394
Infants/primary(b)	574 821	409 002	325 588	150 814	177 615	47 465	21 519	30 294	1 737 569
Secondary(b)	425 573	318 063	208 332	82 709	108 240	31 964	9 968	24 740	1 209 764
Technical or further education(b)	173 134	104 671	61 165	34 331	46 907	11 460	2 874	9 120	443 696
University or other tertiary(b)	198 941	171 109	113 367	47 153	61 093	12 629	6 421	21 574	632 330
Other(b)	37 132	28 684	15 141	6 846	8 381	2 031	856	1 976	101 057
Institution not stated(c)	51 680	39 162	24 871	11 005	15 483	3 969	1 976	2 045	150 256
Not attending	4 202 211	3 102 859	2 319 283	1 034 596	1 193 242	331 466	116 397	196 517	12 498 629
Attendance not stated(d)	248 484	181 326	131 906	52 521	66 651	19 296	12 524	8 339	721 136
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 006 206</b>	<b>4 414 195</b>	<b>3 247 363</b>	<b>1 437 193</b>	<b>1 705 949</b>	<b>464 546</b>	<b>175 342</b>	<b>299 036</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Includes persons whose full-time student status is not stated but institution is stated.

(c) Full-time/part-time student stated but institution not stated.

(d) Full-time/part-time student and institution not stated.

*Source: Unpublished data, 1986, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.*

## 6.2

### AGE LEFT SCHOOL, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

Age left school	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(b)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1986									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	6.66	6.21	6.88	5.28	4.30	6.79	4.95	5.29	5.95
Never attended school	1.22	1.60	3.11	7.05	12.46	0.72	18.20	0.62	6.56
14 years and under	17.17	21.52	21.80	18.24	19.96	17.36	14.17	13.53	18.72
15 years	34.02	25.65	27.93	25.39	25.82	32.45	13.40	26.59	26.77
16 years	22.61	19.73	18.57	20.49	16.63	31.88	15.63	22.40	19.43
17 years	7.05	10.47	8.56	9.34	6.06	4.66	6.99	13.53	7.58
18 years	3.10	4.53	2.80	2.86	1.66	1.41	3.15	10.73	2.84
19 years and over	0.56	1.55	1.18	0.68	0.65	0.77	1.95	1.87	1.03
Not stated	7.60	8.75	9.19	10.67	12.46	3.97	21.56	5.44	11.11
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>35 452</i>	<i>7 797</i>	<i>36 725</i>	<i>8 733</i>	<i>22 847</i>	<i>3 905</i>	<i>20 882</i>	<i>643</i>	<i>137 089</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1986									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	4.61	5.39	4.47	4.16	4.09	3.94	4.19	6.56	4.71
Never attended school	0.85	0.92	0.45	0.66	0.94	0.47	4.15	0.62	0.81
14 years and under	17.78	21.63	23.97	23.52	20.76	20.95	12.99	9.33	20.48
15 years	25.32	16.96	27.32	21.45	28.14	24.35	19.51	16.50	23.15
16 years	21.11	18.07	18.41	23.13	18.08	28.34	21.43	19.76	19.97
17 years	12.30	16.15	14.18	16.03	16.70	10.39	15.79	22.12	14.46
18 years	9.86	9.40	5.01	5.17	4.92	5.43	7.75	17.81	8.08
19 years and over	2.72	4.51	1.53	2.11	2.16	1.96	3.39	3.89	2.89
Not stated	5.46	6.98	4.66	3.77	4.20	4.16	10.80	3.42	5.44
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 139 647</b>	<b>3 118 010</b>	<b>1 921 275</b>	<b>1 052 513</b>	<b>1 061 716</b>	<b>332 200</b>	<b>101 136</b>	<b>184 597</b>	<b>11 911 549</b>

(a) In the 1986 and 1991 Censuses the question asked was 'How old was the person when he or she left school?'. In 1996 this was changed to 'How old was the person when he or she left primary or secondary school?'. ...continued

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

## 6.2

### AGE LEFT SCHOOL, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)—continued

Age left school	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(b)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	6.03	6.50	6.41	5.13	4.12	6.61	4.69	8.84	5.64
Never attended school	1.44	1.61	2.54	4.44	8.09	0.65	12.10	1.25	4.55
14 years and under	13.75	17.08	17.07	18.40	19.45	12.87	18.14	8.84	16.62
15 years	29.16	22.98	25.16	23.39	26.83	29.47	16.58	20.48	25.04
16 years	23.20	19.71	20.02	20.84	18.86	31.02	17.51	22.66	20.71
17 years	9.30	13.11	12.34	11.17	8.28	6.43	11.70	17.36	10.63
18 years	4.99	5.48	4.38	3.80	2.22	2.80	4.57	11.85	4.26
19 years and over	1.80	3.35	2.21	2.05	1.61	2.60	4.45	3.53	2.43
Not stated	10.32	10.19	9.87	10.77	10.53	7.56	10.26	5.20	10.13
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>42 155</i>	<i>10 269</i>	<i>42 027</i>	<i>9 885</i>	<i>24 825</i>	<i>5 223</i>	<i>24 175</i>	<i>962</i>	<i>159 636</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	4.64	5.24	4.61	4.14	4.15	4.08	4.16	6.49	4.71
Never attended school	1.05	1.14	0.53	0.79	0.84	0.40	3.09	0.48	0.94
14 years and under	12.79	15.95	17.64	17.63	15.57	15.33	11.58	6.87	15.06
15 years	22.37	15.25	25.08	20.02	26.05	23.05	18.86	13.69	20.99
16 years	20.07	16.96	18.34	22.82	18.12	27.53	20.99	17.53	19.20
17 years	13.83	17.43	16.95	17.86	18.59	10.96	18.14	22.55	16.18
18 years	11.66	10.66	5.92	5.62	5.39	6.17	8.50	19.32	9.28
19 years and over	5.38	8.76	3.20	4.00	4.68	4.52	5.91	7.74	5.72
Not stated	8.21	8.61	7.71	7.11	6.62	7.94	8.77	5.33	7.94
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 454 896</b>	<b>3 352 046</b>	<b>2 220 009</b>	<b>1 111 606</b>	<b>1 203 144</b>	<b>348 753</b>	<b>113 816</b>	<b>212 910</b>	<b>13 017 690</b>

(a) In the 1986 and 1991 Censuses the question asked was 'How old was the person when he or she left school?'. In 1996 this was changed to 'How old was the person when he or she left primary or secondary school?'. ...continued

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

## 6.2

### AGE LEFT SCHOOL, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)—continued

Age left school	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(b)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	6.47	6.42	6.50	5.40	4.82	6.66	5.30	7.70	6.03
Never attended school	0.94	1.20	1.66	2.46	5.20	0.42	8.20	0.47	2.82
14 years and under	13.85	15.97	16.43	15.09	18.04	11.52	17.66	9.57	15.74
15 years	26.49	20.50	24.08	21.08	26.63	31.17	18.46	18.73	24.20
16 years	22.42	18.77	19.28	20.29	19.39	32.50	18.90	20.54	20.70
17 years	11.20	15.43	15.64	12.86	11.17	7.33	10.28	20.01	12.53
18 years	7.29	8.62	5.50	4.83	2.79	3.26	5.03	13.65	5.69
19 years and over	1.93	3.82	2.18	2.16	1.64	1.93	5.38	3.68	2.57
Not stated	9.41	9.27	8.73	15.83	10.33	5.22	10.79	5.66	9.72
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>60 086</i>	<i>13 155</i>	<i>56 482</i>	<i>12 363</i>	<i>30 461</i>	<i>8 293</i>	<i>28 883</i>	<i>1 714</i>	<i>211 574</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Still at school	4.82	5.12	4.47	4.39	4.18	4.04	4.25	5.78	4.72
Never attended school	0.86	0.88	0.39	0.60	0.62	0.29	2.23	0.32	0.73
14 years and under	11.96	14.56	15.43	15.98	13.94	13.54	10.87	6.77	13.70
15 years	20.64	14.27	23.69	19.53	24.79	24.97	17.55	12.65	19.85
16 years	19.67	16.54	18.59	22.74	18.06	28.55	20.58	16.76	18.98
17 years	16.29	20.99	20.83	20.74	22.84	12.15	20.27	24.83	19.35
18 years	15.05	15.01	7.59	7.15	6.43	7.28	10.03	23.12	12.11
19 years and over	3.77	5.41	2.36	2.89	2.95	2.40	4.23	5.03	3.76
Not stated	6.93	7.23	6.64	5.97	6.17	6.78	9.98	4.73	6.79
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 719 517</b>	<b>3 486 050</b>	<b>2 523 832</b>	<b>1 142 254</b>	<b>1 320 929</b>	<b>360 084</b>	<b>127 872</b>	<b>232 303</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>

(a) In the 1986 and 1991 Censuses the question asked was 'How old was the person when he or she left school?'. In 1996 this was changed to 'How old was the person when he or she left primary or secondary school?'.  
 (b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Source: Unpublished data, 1986, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

## 6.3

### LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)

Level of qualification	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(b)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification									
Higher degrees	0.11	0.12	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.06
Postgraduate diploma	0.21	0.31	0.12	0.14	0.09	0.21	0.10	0.42	0.15
Bachelor degree	0.66	1.27	0.46	0.59	0.47	0.98	0.31	5.42	0.60
Undergraduate diploma	1.14	1.28	1.01	1.33	0.79	0.82	0.51	1.98	0.97
Associate diploma	0.65	0.52	0.47	0.81	0.15	0.54	0.24	1.67	0.46
Skilled vocational qualification	4.88	6.69	3.32	3.45	2.58	7.20	1.26	5.42	3.67
Basic vocational qualification	2.50	2.10	1.50	1.88	1.49	2.64	0.89	3.54	1.78
Level of attainment inadequately described	0.72	0.60	0.48	0.29	0.35	0.23	0.27	0.73	0.48
Level of attainment not stated	2.85	3.31	2.31	2.67	2.03	3.01	1.34	3.44	2.38
Total	13.70	16.19	9.71	11.25	7.98	15.80	4.91	22.60	10.56
Not qualified(c)	77.48	75.60	81.18	78.68	82.34	77.92	81.27	72.40	79.72
Not stated	8.82	8.21	9.11	10.07	9.69	6.28	13.81	5.00	9.72
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Total	42 155	10 269	42 027	9 885	24 825	5 223	24 175	962	159 635
TOTAL PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification									
Higher degrees	1.10	0.95	0.67	0.76	0.86	0.75	0.83	3.26	0.96
Postgraduate diploma	0.99	1.18	0.66	0.78	0.83	0.71	1.04	2.02	0.96
Bachelor degree	5.75	6.19	4.63	4.80	5.58	4.51	5.16	12.96	5.66
Undergraduate diploma	3.75	3.93	3.71	4.03	4.74	3.77	3.83	4.34	3.91
Associate diploma	1.49	1.25	1.20	1.21	1.00	1.22	1.28	1.79	1.31
Skilled vocational qualification	10.66	9.67	10.66	10.06	11.10	9.50	10.67	7.60	10.31
Basic vocational qualification	3.92	2.85	2.55	3.30	3.54	3.02	3.14	4.35	3.30
Level of attainment inadequately described	1.14	0.74	0.90	0.63	0.87	0.41	0.73	0.62	0.90
Level of attainment not stated	4.99	4.06	4.01	4.01	4.43	4.15	4.14	5.48	4.43
Total	33.78	30.81	28.98	29.58	32.96	28.05	30.81	42.42	31.73
Not qualified(c)	58.83	61.87	63.84	64.04	60.92	64.46	60.39	52.79	61.17
Not stated	7.39	7.31	7.17	6.38	6.11	7.49	8.80	4.79	7.10
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 454 896</b>	<b>3 352 046</b>	<b>2 220 009</b>	<b>1 111 606</b>	<b>1 203 144</b>	<b>348 753</b>	<b>113 816</b>	<b>212 910</b>	<b>13 017 690</b>

(a) Post-school educational qualification.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(c) Includes persons with a qualification outside the scope of Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.

...continued

## 6.3

### LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a)—continued

Level of qualification	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(b)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification									
Higher degrees	0.25	0.33	0.10	0.14	0.11	0.10	0.05	0.82	0.16
Postgraduate diploma	0.37	0.67	0.24	0.24	0.15	0.33	0.09	1.23	0.28
Bachelor degree	1.70	2.74	1.39	1.51	1.31	1.87	0.65	8.23	1.53
Undergraduate diploma	1.22	1.46	0.92	1.21	0.78	1.15	0.42	1.93	0.98
Associate diploma	1.53	1.89	1.22	1.23	0.81	1.33	0.72	3.09	1.24
Skilled vocational qualification	5.66	7.04	4.41	4.30	3.36	7.93	1.63	5.72	4.54
Basic vocational qualification	2.28	2.33	1.85	2.82	1.49	2.62	1.10	2.86	1.94
Level of attainment inadequately described	0.63	0.50	0.34	0.38	0.35	0.51	0.15	0.35	0.42
Level of attainment not stated	3.04	3.10	2.41	2.64	2.06	3.24	1.30	2.74	2.48
Total	16.68	20.07	12.87	14.47	10.42	19.06	6.10	26.95	13.58
Not qualified(c)	73.14	69.42	77.72	69.42	78.92	75.24	84.30	66.74	76.30
Not stated	10.18	10.51	9.41	16.11	10.66	5.69	9.60	6.30	10.12
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Total	60 086	13 155	56 482	12 363	30 461	8 293	28 883	1 714	211 574
TOTAL PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification									
Higher degrees	1.64	1.34	0.99	1.03	1.15	1.00	1.19	4.10	1.37
Postgraduate diploma	1.25	1.67	1.01	1.11	1.15	1.01	1.37	2.92	1.32
Bachelor degree	8.00	8.39	6.60	6.46	7.58	5.91	7.03	15.61	7.74
Undergraduate diploma	3.55	3.50	3.09	3.43	4.21	3.25	2.94	3.75	3.50
Associate diploma	2.99	2.62	2.27	2.20	1.99	2.01	2.45	3.54	2.59
Skilled vocational qualification	10.86	9.97	11.32	10.58	11.42	9.97	10.57	6.94	10.66
Basic vocational qualification	3.25	2.47	2.34	3.14	3.18	2.67	2.82	3.83	2.87
Level of attainment inadequately described	1.09	0.74	0.82	0.74	1.00	0.72	0.73	0.71	0.90
Level of attainment not stated	4.01	3.13	3.06	3.12	3.35	3.37	3.00	4.49	3.46
Total	36.65	33.83	31.49	31.81	35.03	29.92	32.10	45.88	34.40
Not qualified(c)	55.64	58.32	61.00	61.49	57.94	62.50	57.99	48.75	58.07
Not stated	7.71	7.85	7.50	6.70	7.03	7.58	9.91	5.37	7.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 719 517</b>	<b>3 486 050</b>	<b>2 523 832</b>	<b>1 142 254</b>	<b>1 320 929</b>	<b>360 084</b>	<b>127 872</b>	<b>232 303</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>

(a) Post-school educational qualification.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(c) Includes persons with a qualification outside the scope of Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.

Source: Unpublished data, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

## 6.4

### FIELD OF ATTAINMENT, PERSONS WITH A QUALIFICATION(a)

<i>Field of attainment</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Business and administration	17.81	10.34	14.75	12.50	15.96	13.21	13.78	16.89	15.23
Health	9.40	9.98	7.52	12.32	12.68	6.79	13.03	5.02	9.64
Education	7.10	5.89	10.07	9.44	7.42	5.33	16.89	5.02	8.46
Society and culture	10.75	11.67	10.58	17.18	13.18	7.39	13.28	27.40	11.75
Natural and physical sciences	1.77	3.37	1.42	1.35	1.06	2.18	2.18	6.39	1.84
Engineering	19.68	23.45	21.19	20.41	20.96	25.94	16.22	14.16	20.61
Architecture and building	11.41	11.30	10.29	7.91	8.48	16.85	7.14	9.13	10.51
Agriculture and related fields	2.41	2.89	1.74	2.70	2.47	3.03	1.76	2.28	2.3
Miscellaneous fields	10.52	11.06	12.30	8.09	7.83	13.33	6.97	8.68	10.4
Field of study inadequately described	4.19	4.63	3.85	1.44	3.48	1.21	3.87	2.28	3.69
Field of study not stated	4.97	5.41	6.30	6.65	6.46	4.73	4.87	2.74	5.57
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>5 777</i>	<i>1 663</i>	<i>4 082</i>	<i>1 112</i>	<i>1 980</i>	<i>825</i>	<i>1 190</i>	<i>219</i>	<i>16 862</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1991									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Business and administration	19.77	13.79	12.43	12.53	15.41	11.27	11.77	15.93	15.78
Health	10.65	12.59	12.45	14.21	12.22	13.95	11.93	9.69	11.92
Education	8.73	10.86	9.98	10.11	9.44	10.94	10.98	8.68	9.70
Society and culture	10.33	11.02	8.75	9.99	9.13	9.52	9.90	21.91	10.35
Natural and physical sciences	4.62	5.34	4.13	4.67	4.64	4.11	5.13	11.68	4.88
Engineering	25.60	25.55	27.77	28.11	27.28	25.17	28.29	15.47	26.08
Architecture and building	8.06	7.77	10.25	7.49	8.29	10.09	7.87	6.25	8.31
Agriculture and related fields	2.05	2.05	1.91	1.91	2.09	2.53	1.95	1.60	2.02
Miscellaneous fields	5.82	6.37	8.08	6.86	7.65	7.26	8.17	4.32	6.59
Field of study inadequately described	2.41	2.28	1.91	1.34	1.47	1.17	1.68	1.96	2.08
Field of study not stated	1.97	2.38	2.34	2.80	2.38	3.98	2.34	2.50	2.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 504 892</b>	<b>1 032 890</b>	<b>643 425</b>	<b>328 825</b>	<b>396 589</b>	<b>97 830</b>	<b>35 069</b>	<b>90 324</b>	<b>4 130 039</b>

(a) Post-school educational qualification.

(b) 1991 and 1996 figures for Australia include Jervis Bay Territory. Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands are included in the 1996 figures only.

...continued

## 6.4

### FIELD OF ATTAINMENT, PERSONS WITH A QUALIFICATION(a)—*continued*

<i>Field of attainment</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Business and administration	16.70	12.69	15.66	17.61	14.40	12.78	14.81	19.91	15.59
Health	9.58	9.58	8.11	9.67	11.59	7.59	12.03	6.49	9.43
Education	9.38	6.82	10.38	8.16	8.16	6.26	16.46	7.36	9.42
Society and culture	14.20	18.18	13.15	18.73	16.95	9.23	13.90	26.19	14.77
Natural and physical sciences	2.96	4.43	2.61	2.29	2.87	3.16	2.89	3.46	2.98
Engineering	18.44	19.96	19.44	16.88	20.10	22.77	15.61	11.26	18.87
Architecture and building	9.57	8.26	10.05	6.60	7.56	12.90	5.90	7.58	9.10
Agriculture and related fields	2.80	3.30	2.68	4.25	2.46	4.11	2.78	2.16	2.93
Miscellaneous fields	9.73	9.92	10.24	8.44	7.47	13.85	5.96	6.93	9.50
Field of study inadequately described	1.12	1.55	1.72	1.45	2.21	0.89	2.78	3.90	1.58
Field of study not stated	5.53	5.30	5.94	5.93	6.24	6.45	6.87	4.76	5.83
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>10 023</i>	<i>2 640</i>	<i>7 272</i>	<i>1 789</i>	<i>3 174</i>	<i>1 581</i>	<i>1 762</i>	<i>462</i>	<i>28 725</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1996									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Business and administration	20.94	15.97	14.50	14.26	16.83	12.45	13.59	17.51	17.41
Health	10.20	11.64	11.67	13.33	11.37	12.98	11.22	8.71	11.19
Education	8.87	10.48	9.90	10.02	9.36	10.89	10.90	8.32	9.62
Society and culture	12.13	12.74	10.28	11.22	10.76	11.16	11.30	22.53	11.97
Natural and physical sciences	5.62	6.34	4.72	5.19	5.46	4.65	5.79	12.18	5.73
Engineering	23.53	23.71	25.73	26.16	25.61	23.78	25.49	13.77	24.15
Architecture and building	7.37	7.14	9.62	6.57	7.43	9.35	7.48	5.49	7.64
Agriculture and related fields	2.13	2.21	2.11	2.19	2.22	3.06	2.33	1.61	2.17
Miscellaneous fields	5.57	6.00	7.85	7.03	7.38	7.19	7.65	4.06	6.36
Field of study inadequately described	1.18	1.20	1.05	1.04	1.02	0.96	1.22	2.17	1.15
Field of study not stated	2.46	2.57	2.57	2.99	2.56	3.52	3.03	3.63	2.61
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 729 722</b>	<b>1 179 360</b>	<b>794 854</b>	<b>363 355</b>	<b>462 737</b>	<b>107 740</b>	<b>41 046</b>	<b>106 587</b>	<b>4 786 035</b>

(a) Post-school educational qualification.

(b) 1991 and 1996 figures for Australia include Jervis Bay Territory. Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands are included in the 1996 figures only.

Source: *Unpublished data, 1991 and 1996 Censuses.*

## 6.5

### WHETHER HAS QUALIFICATION, PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER—BY SECTION OF STATE(a)

	<i>Major Urban</i>	<i>Other Urban</i>	<i>Bounded Locality</i>	<i>Rural Balance</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS 1996					
	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification(c)	19.39	12.98	6.12	9.35	13.58
No qualification(d)	71.71	76.52	84.75	78.64	76.30
Not stated(e)	8.90	10.50	9.13	12.00	10.12
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>64 821</i>	<i>86 930</i>	<i>23 187</i>	<i>36 502</i>	<i>211 574</i>
TOTAL PERSONS 1996					
	%	%	%	%	%
Has qualification(c)	36.50	30.26	27.64	32.11	34.40
No qualification(d)	56.06	61.70	64.45	60.89	58.07
Not stated(e)	7.44	8.04	7.91	7.00	7.54
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 878 124</b>	<b>3 158 758</b>	<b>336 921</b>	<b>1 531 269</b>	<b>13 914 897</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes 'Migratory'.

(c) Includes persons who were recorded as having at least one level of qualification, field of qualification or year of qualification.

(d) Includes persons with a qualification outside the scope of the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.

(e) Includes persons who did not state whether they had a qualification and did not state a level of qualification, field of qualification or year of qualification.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.



## CHAPTER 7

## RELIGION AND LANGUAGE

This chapter presents a statistical summary of the religions, and various religious denominations, reported by Indigenous people in Australia, and the languages they spoke at home. It also compares these figures with those for the total population.

### RELIGION

Around three quarters of both the Indigenous population and the total population reported having a religion. The highest percentage of Indigenous people reporting a religion was in the Northern Territory (82.4%), followed by Queensland (78.4%) and New South Wales (78.0%). The States with the lowest proportions of Indigenous people reporting a religion were Victoria (59.8%) and South Australia (54.7%).

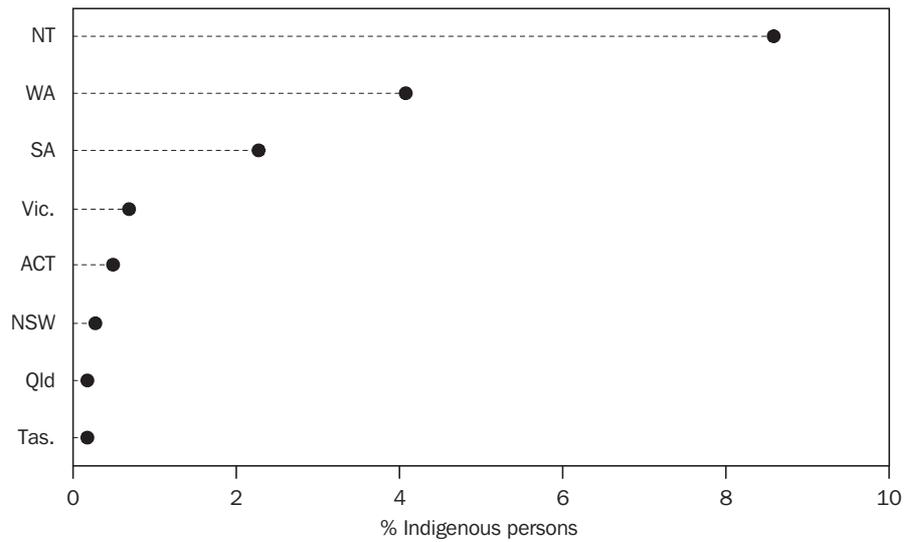
Christianity was the largest single religious grouping in the Indigenous population with 252,203 persons, or 71.5%, reporting it as their religion. In the total population, 70.9% said they were Christians. The proportion of Indigenous people who recorded a Christian denomination ranged from 81.4% in Bounded Localities to 66.1% in Rural Balances.

Within the Indigenous population, Anglicans (25.1%) and Western Catholics (23.6%) were the largest Christian denominations. Together with the Uniting, Baptist and Lutheran churches, they accounted for 61.5% of the Indigenous population.

Of the Indigenous people in Major Urban areas, 22.1% reported no religion, significantly more than in other Sections of State. Only 9.8% in Bounded Localities reported no religion. In the total population, 16.6% of people said they had no religion, with little variation across Section of State.

Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions were most prevalent in the Northern Territory and Western Australia where 8.6% and 4.1% of the Indigenous population, respectively, claimed affiliation. New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania all reported less than 1%. Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions were more likely to be reported by Indigenous people outside the Major Urban areas. For example, nationally, only 0.4% of those in Major Urban areas claimed affiliation to these religions, but in the Rural Balance areas the comparable figure was 7.5% and in the Bounded Localities it was 3.1%.

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS, INDIGENOUS PERSONS

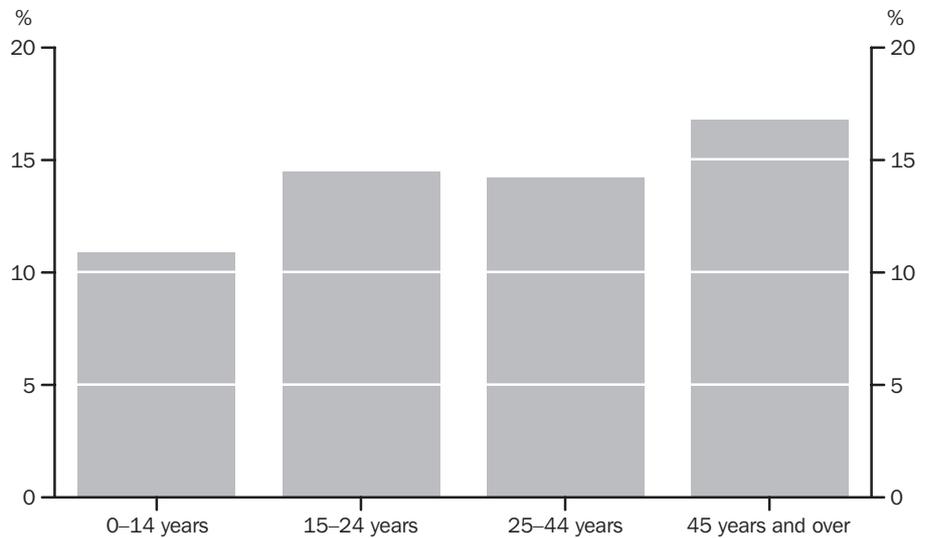


Source: Table 7.1

LANGUAGE

English was spoken at home by 83.9% of Australia's Indigenous population. This proportion was only slightly less than that reported for the total population (82.0%). While 13.3% of Indigenous people spoke an Indigenous language, 3.5% spoke a language which was neither English nor Indigenous.

SPEAKS AN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE, INDIGENOUS PERSONS—BY AGE



Source: Table 7.4

In the Indigenous population, English usage was highest in the 0-14 year age group where 82.3% reported that they spoke English at home. This proportion declined to 75.2% among people aged 45 years and over. The trend was reversed for the use of Indigenous languages, with 10.9% of 0-14 year olds speaking an Australian Indigenous language, compared to 16.8% of those 45 years and over.

LANGUAGE *continued*

Australian Indigenous languages were spoken more widely in Bounded Localities (38.7%) and the Rural Balance (32.1%) than they were in Other Urban areas (7.3%) and Major Urban areas (2.2%). Not unexpectedly, rural areas had significantly lower rates of English usage than were found among urban dwellers. For example, 90.9% of Indigenous people in Major Urban areas reported speaking English at home, whereas the figure was 53.3% in Bounded Localities and 56.9% for the Rural Balance.

Of Australian Indigenous languages, Arrente, from Central Australia, had the largest number of speakers (3,759). This was followed by Dhuwal–Dhuwala, from Eastern Arnhemland (3,600) and Warlpiri, also from Central Australia (2,628).

Although only recorded as being spoken at home by 2,148 people, Kriol is spoken as a *lingua franca* by people ranging in location from Western Queensland across the northern half of the Northern Territory to Western Australia.

PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH

At the time of the 1996 Census 89.5% of the total Indigenous population considered they spoke English well and 0.7% were reported as speaking an Indigenous language and not speaking English at all. Users should note that the proficiency in English question was self assessed. In addition, Indigenous persons speaking Aboriginal English were coded as speaking English only, despite the differences between Aboriginal English and standard Australian English.

In the Northern Territory, 73.5% of the Indigenous population reported speaking English well while 4.1% reported speaking an Indigenous language and not speaking English at all.

Of the total Indigenous population in the age group 45 years and over who recorded speaking an Indigenous language, 4.6% reported speaking English not well and 0.8% speaking English not at all. In the age groups 25–44 years and 15–24 years the proportions decreased (1.7% and 0.1%, and 2.0% and 0.2%, respectively).

## 7.1 RELIGION, BY STATE AND TERRITORY

Religion	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
INDIGENOUS PERSONS									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	0.31	0.67	0.24	2.31	4.12	0.16	8.60	0.49	2.06
Christianity	77.00	57.41	77.82	51.82	61.88	66.52	73.65	65.01	71.45
Other religions	0.74	1.77	0.35	0.52	0.49	0.41	0.18	1.41	0.57
No religion(b)	14.29	29.34	14.24	28.49	22.19	22.67	11.45	23.63	17.18
Not stated(c)	7.66	10.82	7.35	16.86	11.32	10.24	6.12	9.46	8.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>101 636</b>	<b>21 503</b>	<b>95 374</b>	<b>20 421</b>	<b>50 699</b>	<b>13 929</b>	<b>46 362</b>	<b>2 844</b>	<b>352 970</b>
TOTAL PERSONS									
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.12	0.00	2.28	0.00	0.04
Christianity	74.49	67.73	73.84	66.34	65.62	72.61	62.40	67.09	70.88
Other religions	4.57	4.49	1.45	1.72	2.70	0.79	1.92	3.39	3.43
No religion(b)	12.85	18.63	15.36	21.81	21.50	16.66	21.54	20.08	16.61
Not stated(c)	8.09	9.14	9.34	10.09	10.05	9.93	11.87	9.44	9.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 006 206</b>	<b>4 414 195</b>	<b>3 247 363</b>	<b>1 437 193</b>	<b>1 705 949</b>	<b>464 546</b>	<b>175 342</b>	<b>299 036</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Includes 'Agnosticism', 'Atheism', 'Humanism' and 'Rationalism'.

(c) Includes 'Religious belief n.f.d.' and 'Inadequately described'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 7.2 RELIGION, BY SECTION OF STATE(a)

	<i>Major Urban</i>	<i>Other Urban</i>	<i>Bounded Locality</i>	<i>Rural Balance</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	0.42	0.85	3.10	7.47	2.06
Christianity	67.32	73.95	81.36	66.20	71.45
Other religions	1.16	0.34	0.19	0.34	0.57
No religion(c)	22.08	16.81	9.82	13.92	17.18
Not stated(d)	9.03	8.04	5.52	12.07	8.74
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>106 937</i>	<i>149 269</i>	<i>38 032</i>	<i>58 591</i>	<i>352 970</i>
TOTAL PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	0.00	0.03	0.27	0.22	0.04
Christianity	69.54	73.90	73.72	71.43	70.88
Other religions	4.98	0.85	0.58	0.82	3.43
No religion(c)	16.73	16.12	16.06	17.02	16.61
Not stated(d)	8.74	9.09	9.38	10.51	9.04
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 130 096</b>	<b>4 128 837</b>	<b>446 949</b>	<b>2 036 936</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes 'Migratory'.

(c) Comprises 'Agnosticism', 'Atheism', 'Humanism' and 'Rationalism'.

(d) Includes 'Religious belief n.f.d.' and 'Inadequately described'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census

## 7.3

### MOST COMMON RELIGIONS

INDIGENOUS PERSONS	
	%
Anglican	25.10
Western Catholic (generally known as 'Roman Catholic')	23.58
No religion(a)	17.51
Uniting Church	6.50
Baptist	3.21
Lutheran	3.08
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	2.11
Presbyterian	1.99
Assemblies of God	1.40
Churches of Christ (Conference)	1.00
Seventh-day Adventist	0.98
Christian n.f.d.	0.88
Jehovah's Witnesses	0.82
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	0.80
Salvation Army	0.74
Pentecostal n.f.d.	0.68
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)	0.38
Independent Evangelical Churches	0.31
Religious belief n.f.d.	0.30
Christian Outreach Centres	0.25
Brethren	0.24
	no.
<i>Total Indigenous persons specifying 21 most common religions</i>	316 832
<b>Total Indigenous persons</b>	<b>352 970</b>

TOTAL PERSONS	
	%
Western Catholic (generally known as 'Roman Catholic')	27.68
Anglican	22.61
No religion(a)	16.95
Uniting Church	7.73
Presbyterian	3.84
Greek Orthodox	2.09
Baptist	1.71
Lutheran	1.45
Islam	1.16
Buddhism	1.16
Christian n.f.d.	1.05
Jehovah's Witnesses	0.48
Judaism	0.46
Pentecostal n.f.d.	0.44
Salvation Army	0.43
Churches of Christ (Conference)	0.41
Hinduism	0.39
Assemblies of God	0.36
Macedonian Orthodox	0.31
Seventh-day Adventist	0.30
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)	0.27
	no.
<i>Total persons specifying 21 most common religions</i>	15 756 994
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Comprises 'Agnosticism', 'Atheism', 'Humanism' and 'Rationalism'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 7.4 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME, BY AGE

Language spoken	Age group (years)				Total
	0-14	15-24	25-44	45 and over	
INDIGENOUS PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Indigenous languages	10.88	14.46	14.21	16.80	13.26
English	82.33	79.37	79.09	75.20	79.93
Other languages(a)	4.00	2.78	3.19	3.62	3.49
Not stated	2.79	3.39	3.51	4.38	3.31
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>141 398</i>	<i>67 513</i>	<i>97 848</i>	<i>46 213</i>	<i>352 970</i>
TOTAL PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Indigenous languages	0.41	0.39	0.26	0.14	0.27
English	84.97	81.25	81.53	80.96	82.04
Other languages(a)	12.22	15.58	15.64	15.06	14.70
Not stated	2.40	2.79	2.57	3.85	2.99
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 837 932</b>	<b>2 572 145</b>	<b>5 470 618</b>	<b>5 872 134</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Includes 'Inadequately described' and 'Non-verbal so described'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 7.5 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME, BY SECTION OF STATE(a)

<i>Language spoken at home</i>	<i>Major Urban</i>	<i>Other Urban</i>	<i>Bounded Locality</i>	<i>Rural Balance</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
INDIGENOUS PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Indigenous languages	2.17	7.34	38.65	32.14	13.26
English	90.95	87.88	53.25	56.91	79.93
Other languages(c)	4.24	2.02	5.27	4.72	3.49
Not stated	2.64	2.77	2.83	6.22	3.31
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<i>Total</i>	<i>106 937</i>	<i>149 266</i>	<i>38 032</i>	<i>58 591</i>	<i>352 970</i>
TOTAL PERSONS					
	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Indigenous languages	0.03	0.27	3.32	0.94	0.27
English	76.03	92.63	90.77	91.51	82.04
Other languages(c)	20.97	4.06	3.04	4.61	14.70
Not stated	2.98	3.04	2.87	2.95	2.99
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 130 093</b>	<b>4 128 837</b>	<b>446 949</b>	<b>2 036 936</b>	<b>17 752 829</b>

(a) Place of enumeration.

(b) Includes 'Migratory'.

(c) Includes 'Inadequately described' and 'Non-verbal so described'.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## 7.6

### MOST COMMONLY SPOKEN LANGUAGES(a)

INDIGENOUS PERSONS	
	%
English	83.92
Australian Indigenous languages n.f.d.	1.49
Arrente (Aranda)	1.12
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles n.f.d.	1.12
Dhuwal-Dhuwala	1.07
Inadequately described	0.80
Warlpiri	0.78
Northern Aboriginal n.e.c.	0.72
Kriol	0.64
Pitjantjatjara	0.61
Central Aboriginal n.e.c.	0.60
Tiwi	0.53
Torres Strait Creole (Broken)	0.49
Alyawarr (Alyawarra)	0.43
Murrinh-Patha	0.42
Kunwinjku (Gunwinggu)	0.41
Anmatyerr (Anmatyirra)	0.36
Anindilyakwa	0.36
Italian	0.35
Ngatjatjara	0.29
Kalaw Lagaw Ya	0.28

no.

*Total Indigenous persons speaking 20 most commonly reported languages* 325 426

**Total Indigenous persons speaking any language** **352 970**

#### TOTAL PERSONS

	%
English	85.08
Italian	2.19
Greek	1.58
Cantonese	1.18
Arabic (including Lebanese)	1.04
Vietnamese	0.85
German	0.58
Mandarin	0.54
Spanish	0.53
Macedonian	0.42
Tagalog (Filipino)	0.41
Croatian	0.40
Polish	0.37
Inadequately described	0.31
Turkish	0.27
Maltese	0.26
Netherlandic	0.24
French	0.23
Serbian	0.22
Hindi	0.20
Russian	0.19

no.

*Total persons speaking 20 most commonly reported languages* 16 619 868

**Total persons speaking any language** **17 752 829**

(a) English and the 20 most commonly reported classifications within each population group.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

# 7.7

## LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME AND PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH, INDIGENOUS PERSONS—BY AGE

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
<i>Proficiency in English</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
0–14 YEARS									
Speaks English only	39 361	7 567	33 673	6 517	16 445	5 508	6 243	1 052	116 419
Speaks Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language and speaks English									
Very well	198	59	687	277	749	5	1 432	11	3 418
Well	33	13	638	141	984	0	3 424	4	5 237
Not well	12	4	438	148	525	0	3 174	0	4 301
Not at all	6	0	155	55	118	0	1 469	0	1 803
Not stated proficiency(b)	22	3	79	20	227	0	269	3	623
Total	271	79	1 997	641	2 603	5	9 768	18	15 382
Speaks other language(c)	1 193	499	2 314	221	576	49	763	35	5 657
Not stated language(d)	725	203	908	679	614	73	705	27	3 938
<i>Total</i>	<i>41 550</i>	<i>8 348</i>	<i>38 892</i>	<i>8 058</i>	<i>20 238</i>	<i>5 635</i>	<i>17 479</i>	<i>1 132</i>	<i>141 396</i>
15–24 YEARS									
Speaks English only	17 625	3 531	15 735	2 965	7 519	2 672	2 949	551	53 587
Speaks Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language and speaks English									
Very well	120	39	646	179	643	0	1 856	13	3 496
Well	9	3	502	127	721	0	3 217	4	4 583
Not well	7	3	88	73	163	0	992	0	1 326
Not at all	0	0	3	3	7	0	92	0	105
Not stated proficiency(b)	14	0	39	10	85	0	102	0	250
Total	150	45	1 278	392	1 619	0	6 259	17	9 760
Speaks other language(c)	275	177	960	63	191	26	169	11	1 872
Not stated language(d)	647	123	425	400	290	26	365	15	2 291
<i>Total</i>	<i>18 697</i>	<i>3 876</i>	<i>18 398</i>	<i>3 820</i>	<i>9 619</i>	<i>2 724</i>	<i>9 742</i>	<i>594</i>	<i>67 510</i>
25–44 YEARS									
Speaks English only	25 932	5 419	22 050	4 484	10 837	3 700	4 094	814	77 384
Speaks Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language and speaks English									
Very well	237	69	1 138	375	1 187	8	2 739	22	5 775
Well	33	12	665	191	1 085	3	4 032	3	6 024
Not well	8	3	125	94	247	0	1 179	0	1 656
Not at all	0	0	7	5	13	0	76	0	101
Not stated proficiency(b)	14	3	46	27	139	0	122	0	351
Total	292	87	1 981	692	2 671	11	8 148	25	13 907
Speaks other language(c)	530	459	1 288	153	367	56	245	17	3 120
Not stated language(d)	921	224	585	639	499	44	507	17	3 436
<i>Total</i>	<i>27 675</i>	<i>6 189</i>	<i>25 904</i>	<i>5 968</i>	<i>14 374</i>	<i>3 811</i>	<i>12 994</i>	<i>873</i>	<i>97 847</i>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Comprises cases where language spoken at home was stated but proficiency in English was not stated.

(c) Includes 'Inadequately described'.

(d) Comprises cases where language spoken at home was not stated.

...continued

# 7.7

## LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME AND PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH, INDIGENOUS PERSONS—BY AGE—*continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total(a)
<i>Proficiency in English</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
45 YEARS AND OVER									
Speaks English only	12 813	2 720	9 623	1 904	4 199	1 696	1 549	222	34 755
Speaks Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language and speaks English									
Very well	97	24	555	129	499	3	920	9	2 236
Well	16	4	517	90	631	0	1 615	0	2 873
Not well	5	3	268	76	473	0	1 293	0	2 118
Not at all	0	0	13	9	93	0	249	0	364
Not stated proficiency(b)	6	0	27	5	84	0	49	0	171
<i>Total</i>	124	31	1 380	309	1 780	3	4 126	9	7 762
Speaks other language(c)	313	202	725	69	196	15	138	8	1 671
Not stated language(d)	463	138	452	293	293	41	334	7	2 021
<i>Total</i>	13 713	3 091	12 180	2 575	6 468	1 755	6 147	246	46 213
TOTAL									
Speaks English only	95 731	19 237	81 081	15 870	39 000	13 576	14 835	2 639	282 145
Speaks Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language and speaks English									
Very well	652	191	3 026	960	3 078	16	6 947	55	14 925
Well	91	32	2 322	549	3 421	3	12 288	11	18 717
Not well	32	13	919	391	1 408	0	6 638	0	9 401
Not at all	6	0	178	72	231	0	1 886	0	2 373
Not stated proficiency(b)	56	6	191	62	535	0	542	3	1 395
<i>Total</i>	837	242	6 636	2 034	8 673	19	28 301	69	46 811
Speaks other language(c)	2 311	1 337	5 287	506	1 330	146	1 315	71	12 320
Not stated language(d)	2 756	688	2 370	2 011	1 696	184	1 911	66	11 686
<b>Total</b>	<b>101 636</b>	<b>21 503</b>	<b>95 374</b>	<b>20 421</b>	<b>50 699</b>	<b>13 929</b>	<b>46 362</b>	<b>2 844</b>	<b>352 970</b>

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

(b) Comprises cases where language spoken at home was stated but proficiency in English was not stated.

(c) Includes 'Inadequately described'.

(d) Comprises cases where language spoken at home was not stated.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### DEFINITION OF INDIGENOUS

**1** The term Indigenous is used in this publication to refer to Australian Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders. According to the most widely adopted definition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, the Commonwealth working definition:

An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives. (Department of Aboriginal Affairs, 1981, p. 1)

Standard census question

**2** All Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Indigenous population figures are based on results from the ABS standard question. The 1995 standard, first used in the 1996 Census, is as follows:

**Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin ?**

No

Yes, Aboriginal

- For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin mark both 'Yes' boxes  Yes, Torres Strait Islander

**3** For more information on these issues, refer to *Population Distribution, Indigenous Australians, 1996* (Cat. no. 4705.0), and *Occasional Paper: Population Issues, Indigenous Australians, 1996* (Cat. no. 4708.0) (forthcoming).

### SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**4** The 1996 Census of Population and Housing was held on 6 August 1996.

**5** The Census aims to count every person who spent census night in Australia. This includes Australian residents in Antarctica and people in the Territories of Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island. The other Australian External Territories, Norfolk Island and minor islands such as Heard and McDonald Islands, are outside the scope of the Australian Census. The only group of people who spend census night in Australia but are excluded from the Census are foreign diplomats and their families.

**6** The Census includes people on vessels in or between Australian ports, on board long-distance trains, buses or aircraft and on oil or gas rigs off the Australian coast. People entering Australia before midnight on census night are counted while people leaving an Australian port for an overseas destination before midnight on census night are not. Visitors to Australia are included, regardless of how long they have been in the country or how long they plan to stay. However, for people who intend to be in Australia less than six months only basic demographic data are available. The Census includes people camping out and the homeless.

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

*continued*

**7** All private dwellings, except diplomatic dwellings, are included in the Census, whether occupied or unoccupied. Caravans in caravan parks, manufactured homes in manufactured home estates and self-care units in accommodation for the retired or aged are counted only if occupied. Occupied non-private dwellings (such as hospitals, prisons, hotels) are also included.

## POPULATION CONCEPTS

Place of enumeration counts

**8** Place of enumeration counts are based on where people stated they were located on census night, regardless of where they usually lived. They are the most readily obtained population figures from a census. No adjustments are made for temporary visitors, or for residents who are temporarily absent, or for incomplete or imperfect counting. Place of enumeration counts are only available for the day of the Census.

**9** Place of enumeration counts are the only population figures available for geographic areas based on Collection Districts (CD), the smallest geographic bounded area used in the Census. CDs usually contain about 200 dwellings in urban areas or a community group or group of outstations in remote areas.

Place of usual residence counts

**10** Place of usual residence counts are derived from place of enumeration counts after adjustments for temporary visitors based on answers to the census question about the '...address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six or more months in 1996'. Adjustments have also been made for residents who are temporarily absent (but counted elsewhere in Australia) but not for incomplete or imperfect counting. Usual residence counts are only available for the day of the Census and cannot be derived for all geographic areas. In particular, they are not available for CDs.

## DATA LIMITATIONS

**11** Census data are subject to a number of inaccuracies resulting from errors by respondents or mistakes in collection or processing. Whilst many of these are corrected by careful processing procedures, some still remain. The effect of the remaining errors is generally slight, although it may be more important for small groups in the population. The main kinds of error to keep in mind are as follows.

Partial non-response

**12** In some cases where an answer is not provided to a question an answer is imputed (often from other information on the form). In other cases a 'Not stated' code is allocated.

Processing error

**13** While such errors can occur in any processing system, quality management is used continuously to improve the quality of processed data, and to identify and correct data of unacceptable quality.

Random adjustment

**14** Table cells containing small values are randomly adjusted or suppressed to avoid releasing information about particular individuals, families, or households. The effects of these adjustments are statistically insignificant, but the sums of rows or columns may differ slightly from the totals indicated.

Respondent error **15** Because processing procedures cannot detect or repair all errors made by people in completing the forms, some remain in final data.

Undercount **16** Although the Census aims to count each person, there are some people who are missed and others are counted more than once. The Indigenous net undercount in 1996 was 7.1% for Australia.

OVERSEAS VISITORS **17** For the 1996 Census information for overseas visitors (who intended to be in Australia for less than six months) was restricted to age, sex and marital status. In this publication overseas visitors have been excluded.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS  
SCHEME **18** The Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme was developed in 1976 as a response to remote Aboriginal communities' requests for local employment to be created, with a particular focus on community development opportunities. The CDEP enables members of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities to exchange unemployment benefits for opportunities to undertake work and training in activities which are managed by a local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community organisation. In 1985 CDEP was expanded to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities living in urban areas. CDEP is funded and supported through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission which provides grants to participating community organisations to employ community members.

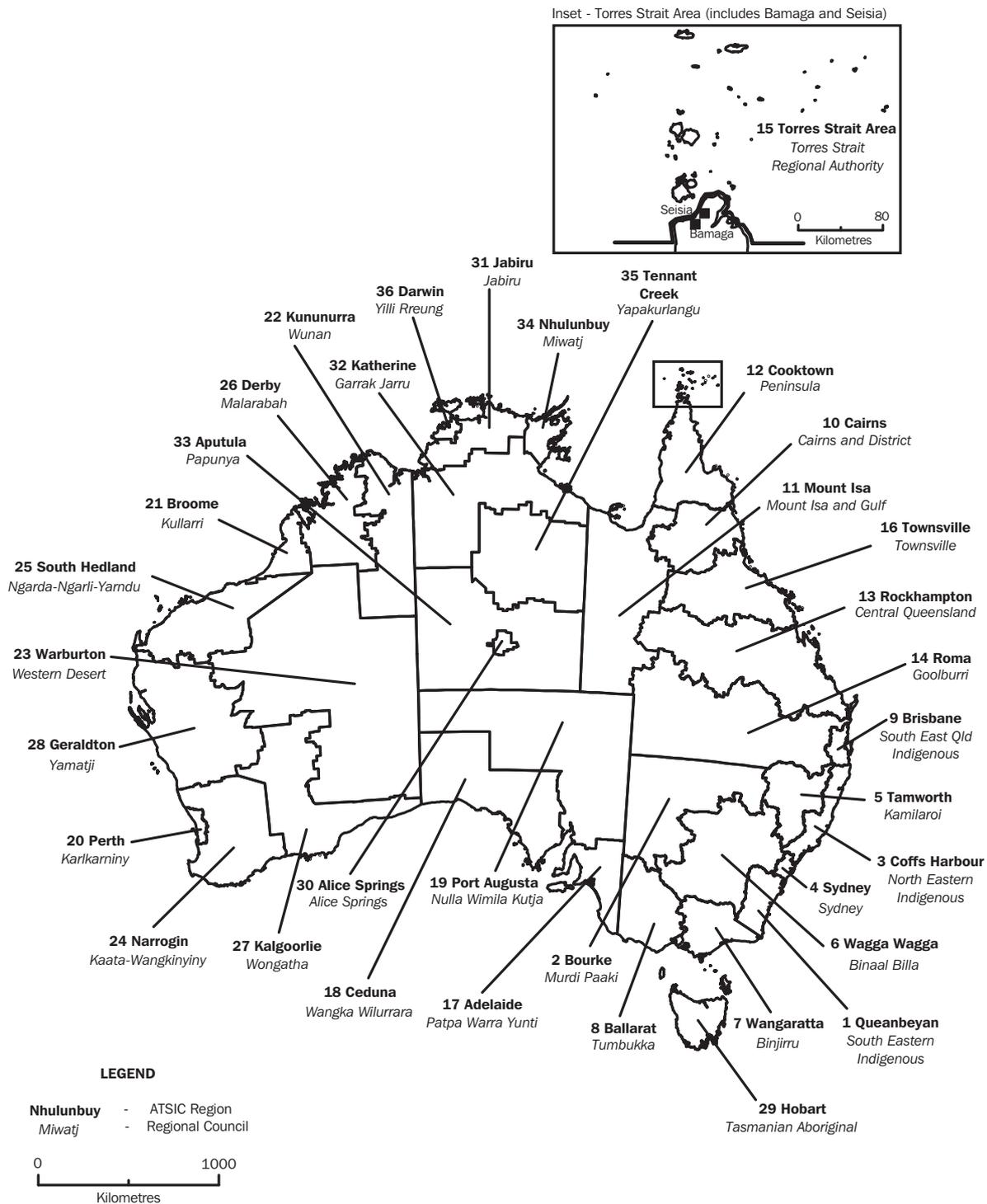
**19** CDEP participants are classified as employed in the labour force. The 1996 Census includes for the first time a separate category for CDEP participants as part of the industry sector classification.

CALCULATION OF  
PROPORTIONS AND  
TREATMENT OF 'NOT  
STATEDS' **20** When calculating the proportion of the population with a particular characteristic, 'Not stated' responses are included in the denominator. Users may wish to recalculate percentages, excluding 'Not stateds', whenever this is deemed preferable.

CALCULATION OF MEDIANS **21** A median is a measure of central tendency. It is a mid-value which divides a population distribution into two, with half the observations falling below it and half above it. Unlike averages (means), medians are not usually skewed by extreme observations.

**22** The categories 'Not stated', and 'Not applicable' are not included in the calculation of medians.

**APPENDIX** ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION REGIONS



Source: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, INDIGENOUS PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS—BY ATSIIC REGIONS

ATSIIC Region number		Persons						
		ERP, 30 June 1996(a)	1996 Census count(b)	Participation rate(c)	Unemployment rate(d)	Employment population ratio(e)	CDEP scheme employment(f)	Median weekly individual income(g)
		no.	no.	%	%	%	%	\$
1	Queanbeyan(h)	9 855	9 123	57.40	25.04	43.02	0.62	218
2	Bourke	7 951	7 344	48.62	27.81	35.10	8.77	187
3	Coffs Harbour	27 127	25 058	52.56	32.32	35.58	1.56	192
4	Sydney	37 117	34 286	59.15	20.39	47.09	0.37	252
5	Tamworth	11 595	10 711	48.92	33.19	32.68	8.35	185
6	Wagga Wagga	19 535	18 047	50.36	30.38	35.06	2.61	191
7	Wangaratta	10 938	10 395	59.45	19.82	47.67	0.67	246
8	Ballarat	11 660	11 079	56.99	22.96	43.91	0.32	217
9	Brisbane	30 325	27 635	57.93	25.13	43.37	0.10	234
10	Cairns	16 144	14 712	50.85	21.53	39.90	15.94	195
11	Mount Isa	7 306	6 658	51.46	19.75	41.30	21.41	192
12	Cooktown	6 184	5 635	63.71	3.26	61.63	73.51	170
13	Rockhampton	12 436	11 332	53.70	33.42	35.75	0.67	193
14	Roma	9 661	8 804	52.61	27.45	38.17	10.28	194
15	Torres Strait Area	6 654	6 064	58.38	9.48	52.84	39.94	195
16	Townsville	16 107	14 678	53.06	23.76	40.45	14.45	194
17	Adelaide	13 686	12 689	53.12	26.72	38.93	3.24	203
18	Ceduna	2 014	1 867	58.40	15.04	49.61	36.96	174
19	Port Augusta(i)	6 351	5 888	54.53	22.49	42.27	41.08	174
20	Perth(j)	19 765	17 998	48.28	27.54	34.98	0.37	206
21	Broome	3 760	3 423	56.47	10	50.82	48.77	175
22	Kununurra	4 887	4 088	59.97	7.61	55.41	53.99	179
23	Warburton	2 952	2 688	43.70	3.63	42.11	73.99	148
24	Narrogin	6 814	6 204	47.59	20.56	37.81	6.72	196
25	South Hedland	4 721	4 298	50.12	23.39	38.40	16.50	185
26	Derby	4 347	3 958	61.00	6.37	57.11	68.51	175
27	Kalgoorlie	3 462	3 152	44.86	21.71	35.12	7.86	191
28	Geraldton	5 497	5 006	46.26	24.58	34.89	11.37	192
29	Hobart	15 322	13 873	60.96	20.24	48.63	0.00	216
30	Alice Springs	4 986	4 449	44.03	16.04	36.97	10.50	182
31	Jabiru	8 685	7 746	42.41	19.59	34.10	61.39	168
32	Katherine	7 986	7 122	50.98	16.41	42.62	57.25	169
33	Aputula	8 427	7 518	31.38	21	24.79	57.25	154
34	Nhulunbuy	7 848	7 001	37.71	5.63	35.59	65.33	161
35	Tennant Creek	3 866	3 449	40.12	17.12	33.25	49.78	163
36	Darwin	10 078	8 992	48.36	23.19	37.14	2.77	214
<b>Indigenous Australian population</b>		<b>386 049</b>	<b>352 970</b>	<b>52.74</b>	<b>22.74</b>	<b>40.75</b>	<b>14.89</b>	<b>190</b>
Total Australian population		18 310 714	17 752 829	61.91	9.18	56.22	0.16	292

(a) Final ERP *Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1997* (Cat. no. 3101.0) and *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (Cat. no. 3230.0).

(b) Census count based on place of enumeration.

(c) The participation rate is the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate is calculated excluding persons who did not state their labour force status.

(d) The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

(e) The number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The employment/population ratio is calculated excluding persons who did not state their labour force status.

(f) CDEP scheme employed expressed as a percentage of the total employed. CDEP data were collected for the first time in 1996 and should be treated with caution as their reliability is variable.

(g) Excluding persons who did not state their income.

(h) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

(i) Data for this ATSIIC Region are of poor quality and should be treated with caution. Contact NCATSIS (ABS Darwin, telephone 08 8943 2148).

(j) Includes Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

...continued

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, INDIGENOUS PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS—BY ATSIIC REGIONS—continued

ATSIIC Region number	Persons					Households				
	Full-time school students, 15 year olds(a)	Full-time school students, 17 year olds(b)	Speaks Australian Indigenous language(c)	Speaks English not well or not at all(d)	House- holds(e)	Average number of persons per household(f)	Rented dwell- ings(g)	Median weekly house- hold income(h)	Average number of vehicles per house- hold(i)	
	%	%	%	%	no.	no.	%	\$	no.	
1	Queanbeyan(j)	69.43	38.96	1.64	14.57	2 846	3.2	63.70	540	1.1
2	Bourke	53.03	18.90	0.63	6.36	1 872	3.8	66.13	477	0.7
3	Coffs Harbour	73.79	35.89	0.96	8.63	7 793	3.3	61.53	484	1.0
4	Sydney	67.38	36.29	0.98	19.84	10 930	3.1	59.45	601	1.0
5	Tamworth	70.85	31.51	0.56	15.15	3 092	3.5	69.21	474	0.9
6	Wagga Wagga	65.37	37.98	0.43	11.70	5 387	3.4	65.05	468	1.0
7	Wangaratta	76.96	37.77	1.21	21.04	3 611	3.1	50.96	554	1.3
8	Ballarat	61.67	37.82	1.16	18.06	3 524	3.1	54.77	506	1.1
9	Brisbane	66.04	32.72	1.58	14.94	8 628	3.3	61.07	563	1.1
10	Cairns	69.3	33.63	6.34	11.82	3 592	3.9	73.89	574	0.8
11	Mount Isa	47.2	18.10	3.12	10.68	1 489	4.4	73.20	633	0.8
12	Cooktown	34.62	8.55	38.74	16.64	1 015	5.3	83.35	570	0.5
13	Rockhampton	69.29	29.44	1.10	11.21	3 178	3.6	68.57	526	1.0
14	Roma	60.66	24.57	0.94	13.56	2 483	3.6	69.23	493	1.0
15	Torres Strait Area	62.35	31.73	33.44	29.05	1 167	4.7	63.84	622	0.4
16	Townsville	67.6	31.88	4.38	12.49	3 692	3.9	73.70	575	0.9
17	Adelaide	71.43	29.13	6.05	13.51	3 923	3.1	65.03	482	1.1
18	Ceduna	46.15	15.15	11.89	27.39	442	4.1	76.02	498	1.0
19	Port Augusta(k)	37.04	15.12	18.22	26.11	1 121	4.0	77.61	450	0.9
20	Perth(l)	62.74	19.65	2.77	16.41	4 931	3.5	63.35	548	1.1
21	Broome	71.25	14.06	18.52	8.40	771	4.2	70.43	529	0.8
22	Kununurra	59.42	4.11	40.70	16.80	710	5.3	74.08	573	0.5
23	Warburton	24.49	5.45	78.79	28.84	410	6.1	83.41	560	0.7
24	Narrogin	60.67	10.48	1.40	15.64	1 661	3.8	68.51	523	1.2
25	South Hedland	58.21	12.33	26.45	8.82	1 009	4.1	73.54	648	0.9
26	Derby	49.21	11.82	46.24	26.81	736	5.1	82.07	553	0.6
27	Kalgoorlie	59.38	20.00	16.40	13.10	703	4.1	66.57	644	1.1
28	Geraldton	66.93	16.67	4.33	6.35	1 181	3.9	73.33	518	1.0
29	Hobart	84.35	15.53	0.17	19.51	5 032	3.2	42.37	539	1.5
30	Alice Springs	58.51	20.00	38.75	16.45	964	3.8	74.27	616	0.8
31	Jabiru	52.29	19.42	85.42	29.55	1 121	6.7	77.61	617	0.3
32	Katherine	44.85	8.78	52.23	24.16	1 123	5.9	69.10	568	0.6
33	Aputula	29.25	5.97	88.55	47.78	1 125	6.6	58.13	529	0.5
34	Nhulunbuy	44.37	17.14	89.13	29.58	841	8.3	66.35	730	0.4
35	Tennant Creek	42.03	15.25	58.97	24.67	581	5.7	59.55	539	0.6
36	Darwin	76.77	42.54	13.69	12.88	2 247	3.6	62.57	681	1.1
	<b>Indigenous Australian population</b>	<b>64.38</b>	<b>27.21</b>	<b>13.26</b>	<b>24.82</b>	<b>94 931</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>63.78</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	Total Australian population	86.12	58.40	0.27	19.65	6 015 815	2.7	27.05	630	1.4

(a) Number of full-time 15 year old school (infants/primary or secondary) students expressed as a percentage of all 15 year olds.

(b) Number of full-time 17 year old school (infants/primary or secondary) students expressed as a percentage of all 17 year olds.

(c) Number of Australian Indigenous language speakers expressed as a percentage of all persons.

(d) Percentage of all persons who speak a language other than English at home. Includes persons who did not state a language but did answer the English proficiency question. Excludes persons who did not answer both the language and English proficiency questions.

(e) See Glossary for definition of Indigenous household.

(f) Includes up to three persons temporarily absent from the households. Excludes visitors to the household.

(g) Includes being occupied rent free.

(h) Excluding households where at least one, but not all, members aged 15 years and over did not state an income and/or at least one member of the household was temporarily absent.

(i) Up to four vehicles could be recorded.

(j) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

(k) Data for this ATSIIC Region are of poor quality and should be treated with caution. Contact NCATSIS (ABS Darwin, telephone 08 8943 2148).

(l) Includes Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Source: Unpublished data, 1996 Census.

## GLOSSARY

General descriptions of terms and concepts used in this publication are provided below. Detailed definitions of classifications and concepts are available in *Census Dictionary, 1996* (Cat. no. 2901.0).

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Region** Is a legally prescribed area for the purpose of administration by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and for the election of members to that Commission. The ATSIC Region boundaries and the census statistics produced for these areas are Collection District derived. In general ATSIC regions and Collection District boundaries match.
- For the 1996 Census there were 36 ATSIC Regions which covered all of Australia. Generally ATSIC Regions do not cross State or Territory borders. However, there were a number of exceptions. The ATSIC Region of Queanbeyan incorporated part of New South Wales, all of Australian Capital Territory and the Territory of Jervis Bay. The Territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands were included in the ATSIC Region of Perth.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin** The question used in the 1996 Census was 'Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?'. Respondents could report Aboriginal origin, Torres Strait Islander origin, both origins or neither. Prior to the 1996 Census only one or the other Indigenous origin could be recorded.
- Bounded Locality** See definition under Section of State.
- Couple family** This is a family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. The family may include any number of dependants, non-dependants and/or other related individuals. As it is not necessary for a parent-child relationship to be formed, a couple family can consist of a couple without children.
- Dependent child** A dependent child is an individual who is either a child aged less than 15 years or a dependent student. To be regarded as a child the individual can have no partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the same household. A dependent child must be attached to a nominal parent with whom he/she usually resides. This parent must be over 15 years of age.

**Dwelling** A dwelling is a building or structure in which people live. This can be a building, such as a house; part of a building, such as a flat; or it can be a caravan or tent, humpy or park bench. Houses under construction, derelict houses, vacant tents, or converted garages are not counted in the Census.

There are private and non-private dwellings.

A *private dwelling* is normally a house, flat, part of a house, or even a room; but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above, shops or offices; an occupied caravan or unit in a caravan park or craft in a marina; an occupied dwelling in a manufactured home estate; an occupied self-care unit in accommodation for the retired or aged; a houseboat; or tent if it is standing on its own block of land. An occupied caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling. Private dwellings can be either occupied or unoccupied.

*Non-private dwellings* are those dwellings not included above, which provide a communal or transitory type of accommodation. These dwellings include hotels, motels, guest houses, prisons, religious and charitable institutions, defence establishments, hospitals and other communal dwellings. Only occupied non-private dwellings are included in the Census.

**Employed** Employed people are those aged 15 years or more who, during the week prior to census night, worked for payment or profit; who had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; were on strike or stood down temporarily; or worked as unpaid helpers in a family business.

**Family** A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Non-related persons living in the same household are not counted as family members (unless under 15 years of age).

**Family income** Family income is the sum of the personal incomes of each resident family member aged 15 years or more. Family income is not applicable to non-family households such as group households or lone-person households; or to people in non-private dwellings.

**Full-time/part-time employment** This variable is based on the number of hours worked in all jobs held by employed people during the week before the census night. It excludes any time off but includes any overtime or extra time worked.

*Part-time workers:* employed people who worked up to 34 hours; and

*Full-time workers:* employed people who worked 35 hours or more.

**Household** A household is defined as a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

In this publication, households are classified to three main types:

*Family household:* a household consisting of two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household.

A household can contain one or more families. Thus the number of families living in occupied private dwellings may be more than the number of family households.

*Lone-person household:* a person who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials in living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. He/she may live in a dwelling on his/her own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.

*Group household:* a household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all persons are aged 15 years or over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.

**Household income** Household income is the sum of the personal incomes of each resident aged 15 years or more present in the household. Persons who were temporarily absent on census night, or had nil or negative income, or did not state their income, do not contribute to household income. Although visitors' incomes are excluded in the calculation of household income, household income is still calculated for households that comprise only visitors, in order to collect data on household incomes in holiday resorts.

**Improvised dwellings** Includes shelter, sheds, tents occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis and not located in caravan parks.

**Income** People aged 15 years or more were asked to state their usual gross weekly income, which is the income before tax, superannuation, health insurance, or other deductions are made. Gross income includes family allowance, family allowance supplement, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, maintenance (child support), superannuation, wages, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest received, business or farm income (less operation expenses) and workers' compensation received.

**Indigenous family** An Indigenous family is one where either the reference person or spouse is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.

<b>Indigenous household</b>	An Indigenous household is a family household where any family in the household is defined as an Indigenous family or a lone-person household where the lone person is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
<b>Industry (of employment)</b>	This variable describes the industries in which employed people (aged 15 years and over) work, and is coded to the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993</i> (Cat. no. 1292.0).
<b>Labour force</b>	The labour force is made up of employed and unemployed people aged 15 years and over.
<b>Labour force status</b>	Labour force status identifies whether a person aged 15 years or over is employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.  <i>Employed:</i> includes those people who, during the week prior to census night, worked for payment or profit; who had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; were on strike or stood down temporarily; or worked as unpaid helpers in a family business.  <i>Unemployed:</i> includes people who, during the week prior to census night, did not have a job but were actively looking for work (either full-time or part-time) and were available to start work.  <i>Not in the labour force:</i> includes people aged 15 years or more who were not employed or unemployed as defined above. This category includes people who were retired, pensioners and people engaged in home duties.
<b>Major Urban</b>	See definition under Section of State.
<b>Migratory</b>	See definition under Section of State.
<b>Occupation</b>	This variable describes the main job held by employed people (aged 15 years and over) during the week prior to census night, and is coded using the <i>ASCO—Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997</i> (Cat. no. 1220.0).
<b>One-parent family</b>	A one-parent family consists of a lone parent with at least one child (regardless of age) who is usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other related individuals.
<b>Other Urban</b>	See definition under Section of State.
<b>Participation rate</b>	Number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate is calculated excluding persons who did not state their labour force status.
<b>Post-school qualifications</b>	In all censuses since 1966, people aged 15 years and over have been asked to describe their post-school qualifications. In 1996, these responses were coded according to the <i>ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ), 1993</i> (Cat. no. 1262.0).

**Reference person** The reference person is the person who is used as the basis for determining the familial and non-familial relationships within a household. It is usually the person who has identified himself/herself as person one on the Household Form.

**Rural Balance** See definition under Section of State.

**Section of State** The Section of State classification uses population counts from the Census to define Collection Districts as either urban or rural. Within States and Territories, each Section of State represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographical areas of a particular urban/rural type. The five categories are:

*Major Urban:* urban areas with population of 100,000 or more;

*Other Urban:* urban areas with populations of 1,000 to 99,999;

*Bounded Locality:* rural areas with population of 200 to 999;

*Rural Balance:* the remainder of the State or Territory; and

*Migratory:* areas composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory Collection Districts.

**Student** A student is an individual who attends a secondary or tertiary educational institution on a full/part-time basis.

**Unemployment rate** The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

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