Australian Bureau of Statistics

2002 **3301.0**

BIRTHS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 18 NOV 2003

CONTENTS

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, or Matthew Montgomery on Canberra (02) 6252 6487.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication brings together statistics and indicators for births in Australia.

DATA IN THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains birth registration data for live births, except where otherwise stated. Populations used in the calculation of rates for 2002 are the preliminary estimated resident population at 30 June 2002. Unless otherwise stated, state or territory relates to state or territory of usual residence.

Due to a delay in birth registrations in December 2000 brought about by system, processing and legislative changes affecting the Tasmania birth registration form, the number of births registered and the total fertility rate for Tasmania for 2001 appear high when compared with 2000 data.

ROUNDING

In commentary based on the statistics in this publication, it is recommended that the relevant statistics be rounded. All data are affected by errors in reporting and processing. Birth registration data are also affected by delays in registration. These data have had small values suppressed to protect confidentiality. No reliance should be placed on statistics with small values.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aust.	Australia
Bal	Balance
ERP	estimated resident population
n.f.d.	not further defined
no.	number
NOM	net overseas migration
np	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
p	preliminary
Qld	Queensland
r	revised
SA	South Australia
SD	Statistical Division
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SLA	Statistical Local Area
Tas.	Tasmania
TFR	Total fertility rate
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia
. .	not applicable
—	nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

R.W. Edwards
Acting Australian Statistician

LIST OF TABLES AND GRAPHS

Page

Page

CHAPTER 6—FERTILITY TABLES

CHAPTER 7—BIRTHS TABLES

CHAPTER 8—CONFINEMENTS TABLES

Page

CHAPTER 9—ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS TABLES

EXPLANATORY NOTES

APPENDIXES

ADDITIONAL TABLES AVAILABLE ON AUSSTATS

Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001)

CHAPTER 1 MAIN FEATURES

FERTILITY RATE STEADY

- Australia's total fertility rate (TFR) in 2002 was 1.75 babies per woman, slightly higher than the TFR in 2001 of 1.73. Over the past five years the TFR has been relatively stable, varying between 1.73 and 1.76 since 1998.
- Women aged 30–34 years experienced the highest fertility of all age groups for the third consecutive year, with a rate of 111 babies per 1,000 women, while women aged 25–29 years experienced the second highest fertility (104 babies per 1,000 women).
- Fertility of 20–24 year old women continued to decline during 2002. Over the past two decades fertility for this age group has almost halved, from 104 babies per 1,000 women in 1982 to 56 babies per 1,000 women in 2002. Fertility of women aged 25–29 years has also fallen considerably, from 145 babies per 1,000 women in 1982 to 104 babies per 1,000 women in 2002.
- Of the states and territories, the Northern Territory recorded the highest TFR in 2002 (2.28 babies per woman) while the Australian Capital Terrritory recorded the lowest (1.59).
- Australia's total fertility rate remains lower than that of the United States of America (2.1) and New Zealand (2.0), and higher than that of the United Kingdom (1.6), Canada (1.5), Japan (1.3) and many European countries such as Germany (1.4), Greece (1.3), Spain (1.2) and Italy (1.2).

BIRTHS INCREASE

- In 2002 there were 251,000 births registered in Australia. This was 1.9% (4,600 births) higher than the number registered in 2001 (246,400), and the highest since 1997.
- Of the states and territories, Victoria recorded the largest increase in births in 2002 (up 2,900 over the number registered in 2001) followed by New South Wales (up 2,000). South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland also recorded more births in 2002 than 2001, while there were fewer births in Tasmania, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS AND FERTILITY

- There were 11,500 births registered in Australia during 2002 (5% of all births registered) where at least one parent identified as Indigenous.
- Notwithstanding coverage issues affecting Indigenous births, Indigenous women have a higher TFR (2.19 babies per woman in 2002) than all women (1.75 babies).
- Women in the Northern Territory experienced the highest TFR of the states and territories, at 2.28 babies per woman, while Indigenous women in the Northern Territory experienced even higher fertility (2.77 babies per woman).
- High fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2002, women under 30 years of age accounted for almost three-quarters of the Indigenous total fertility rate, compared to half of the fertility rate for all women in Australia.

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS AND FERTILITY *continued*

- For Indigenous women, the peak age group for births is the 20–24 year age group (132 babies per 1,000 women), followed by women aged 25–29 years (113 babies).
- The median age of Indigenous women who registered a birth during 2002 was 24.6 years, more than five years younger than the median age of all women who registered a birth in 2002 (30.2 years).

PROJECTED FERTILITY

- Fertility has a steady and pronounced impact on population growth. Assuming future net overseas migration of 100,000 people per year and life expectancy increasing to 84.2 years for males and 87.7 years for females by 2051, a change in the future total fertility rate of just 0.1 births per woman would result in Australia's population being almost one million larger or smaller by 2051, and more than two million larger or smaller by 2101.
- Under a high fertility scenario (a TFR of 1.8 babies per woman), the population of Australia would grow to 28.1 million by 2051 and to 31.4 million by 2101.
- If fertility were to remain constant at the 2001 level of 1.7 babies per woman, Australia's population would reach 27.3 million by 2051 and 28.8 million by 2101.
- Under a medium fertility assumption (1.6), Australia's population would reach 26.4 million by 2051, peak at 26.7 million in 2069 and slowly decline to 26.4 million in 2101.
- If the TFR fell further, to 1.4 babies per woman by 2011 (low scenario), Australia's population would peak at 24.8 million in 2051 before declining to 22.1 million by 2101.
- In contrast, if fertility were to increase to replacement level (2.1 babies per woman), Australia's population would increase to 30.8 million by 2051, to 40.4 million by 2101, and would continue to grow beyond 2101. For more information see the Special Article, Projected Fertility, on page 24.

ECHOES OF THE BABY BOOM

- The number of babies born in any given year is the product of two factors—the number of women of reproductive age in the population, and their fertility behaviour. Australia's post-war baby boom illustrates the generational effect of fertility.
- The first peak of the baby boom occurred in 1947 (182,400 births), when Australia's TFR exceeded three babies per woman for the first time in twenty years.
- Almost 25 years later, in 1971, when the median age of mothers giving birth was 25 years, Australia's largest ever cohort was born (276,400 births). This was the first echo of the baby boom (that is, those who were born in 1971 were the children of the first boomers).
- A second echo of the baby boom, if it were to exist, might have been expected to occur around 2001, when the age of the large 1971 cohort coincided with the median age of mothers (that is, 30 years of age).
- The numbers of births in recent years, however, shows no such effect, suggesting that in order for this to occur, age and cohort effects must take place within a social and economic context which is also conducive to high fertility. For more information see the Special Article, Echoes of the Baby Boom, on page 32.

CHAPTER 2 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

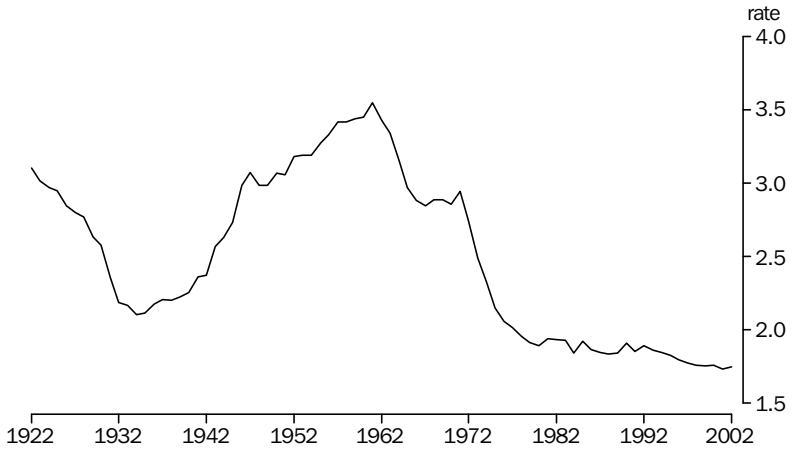
During 2002 there were 251,000 births registered in Australia, from 246,800 mothers (confinements). This was 4,600 more (1.9%) than the number registered during 2001 (246,400) and the highest number since 1997, when 251,800 births were registered.

TRENDS IN NATIONAL FERTILITY

The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the average number of babies that a woman could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime. In 2002 Australia's TFR was 1.75 babies per woman, up slightly from 1.73 in 2001 though lower than the rates recorded in 1992 (1.89) and 1982 (1.94).

Having reached a TFR of 3.1 during the early 1920s, Australian fertility was relatively low during the Great Depression of the 1930s, falling to 2.1 babies per woman in 1934. In 1961, at the height of the 'baby boom', it peaked at 3.5 babies per woman. Since then, fertility has declined, falling sharply during the early 1960s as the oral contraceptive pill became available, before hovering at around 2.9 babies per woman in the years 1966–1971. The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in late 1971, in a ruling by Justice Levine in the case of *R v Wall et al.,* had a substantial impact on women's ability to control their fertility. Subsequently a fall in births to young women contributed to a further decrease in the TFR and an increase in the median age of mothers (Carmichael, 1998). The TFR reached replacement level (2.1) in 1976. Fertility subsequently continued to fall as increasing numbers of women chose to delay or forego having children. The TFR then stabilised somewhat during the 1980s, before resuming a more gradual decline during the 1990s. Since 1998 the TFR has been relatively stable, varying between 1.73 to 1.76 babies per woman.

2.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a)



(a) Births per woman.

Age-specific fertility

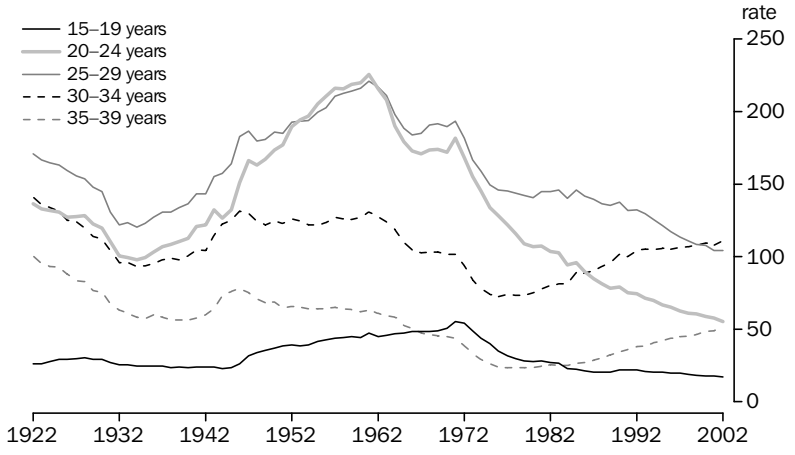
In 2002 women aged 30–34 years experienced the highest fertility for the third year in a row, with a rate of 111.2 babies per 1,000 women, followed by women aged 25–29 years with a rate of 104.2 babies per 1,000 women. Women aged 20–24 years and 35–39 years experienced fertility rates of 55.5 and 52.2 babies per 1,000 women respectively.

With some fluctuations, there has been a fairly stable distribution of fertility across age groups since 1921, with each age group peaking and troughing together, although the peaks have been more pronounced in some age groups than in others. Women aged 25–29 years had the highest fertility for most of this period, followed by women aged 20–24 years. However, women aged 30–34 years have experienced increasing fertility since the mid-1970s and now have the highest fertility, having overtaken 20–24 year olds in 1987 and 25–29 year olds in 2000. In 2002, women aged 30–34 years and 35–39 years reattained the fertility rates experienced in 1964 and 1965 respectively, at the end of the baby boom. Women aged 35–39 years have the fourth highest fertility rate, as they did prior to 1967, having overtaken 15–19 year olds in 1984.

Declines in fertility rates have occurred amongst younger women over the period 1982 to 2002. The 20–24 year age group experienced the greatest decrease, with fertility almost halving (down 47%) over the period, while teenage fertility decreased by 38% and fertility of women aged 25–29 years by 28%.

Fertility rates for the older age groups increased over the two decades to 2002. The fertility rate for women aged 30–34 years increased by 38% (from 80.6 babies per 1,000 women in 1982 to 111.2 babies per 1,000 women in 2002) while the rate for women aged 35–39 years more than doubled (from 25.6 to 52.2). The fertility of women aged 40 years and over also doubled over this period, as the trend towards older motherhood continued, with the rate for women aged 40–44 years increasing by over 5% in each of the past two years.

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



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

Replacement fertility

Since 1976, Australia has experienced fertility rates below replacement level. That is, the average number of babies born to a woman throughout her reproductive life (the TFR) has been insufficient to replace herself and her partner. Although the TFR required for replacement is currently around 2.1 babies per woman, this number is not constant. Because the level of fertility required for replacement is dependent on the number of women who survive to reproductive ages, replacement fertility has declined in parallel with falls in female mortality. In 1921, when mortality rates were high, replacement fertility was 2.4 babies per woman. By 1954, it had fallen to 2.1, and in 1996 replacement fertility was 2.08. Even if female mortality declined to zero for women up to the end of their reproductive lives, the replacement level would still be 2.05 (1.05 male and 1.0 female babies)—considerably higher than the 2002 TFR of 1.75 babies per woman.

STATE AND TERRITORY

Fertility

The TFR in 2002 varied substantially across the states and territories, from 1.59 babies per woman in the Australian Capital Territory to 2.28 in the Northern Territory. New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory all recorded TFRs higher than the national level of 1.75, while Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory recorded rates less than the national level. Over the past twenty years the TFR for each state and territory has generally trended downwards.

The low fertility rates for 2002 in the Australian Capital Territory (1.59) and Victoria (1.68) are related to low first birth fertility (see *Births, Australia, 2000*, cat. no. 3301.0, p. 39) and higher median ages of mothers at the birth of their children in each of these states and territories.

Younger mothers

In 2002 most states and territories recorded low levels of fertility among women aged 15–19 years and 20–24 years, with the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria recording the lowest rates. In contrast, the Northern Territory recorded the highest levels of fertility for these age groups. The teenage fertility rate (that is, for women aged 15–19 years) in the Northern Territory was 63.8 babies per 1,000 women, over five times higher than the teenage fertility rate for Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory (both 11.2 babies per 1,000 women). Tasmania's teenage fertility rate of 28.3 babies per 1,000 women was also relatively high.

Median age of parents at confinement

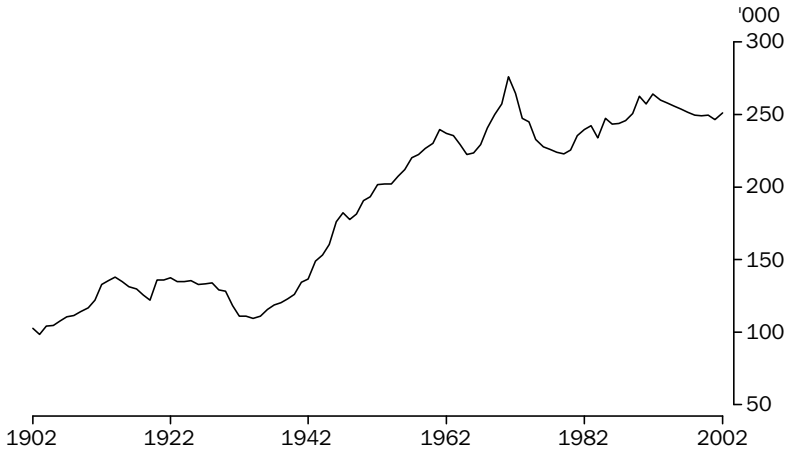
Of the states and territories, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory had the oldest mothers giving birth in 2002, with median ages of 31.0 years and 30.7 years respectively, followed by South Australia with 30.4 years. The Northern Territory and Tasmania had the youngest mothers, with median ages of 28.1 years and 28.9 years respectively.

Tasmania and the Northern Territory also had the youngest fathers in 2002, with median ages of 31.3 years and 31.6 years respectively, while Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory had the oldest fathers, with median ages of 33.0 years and 32.8 years respectively.

BIRTHS

For most of the first half of last century the number of births registered in Australia each year remained under 140,000, with a trough occurring in the early 1930s during the Great Depression. The number of births then increased, reaching a peak of 276,400 in 1971, fell sharply during the remainder of the 1970s, then increased from the early 1980s to reach another peak in 1992 of 264,200 births. Following 1992 the number of births registered each year decreased, until 2000 when there was an increase of 770 births on the previous year due to increasing numbers of women moving into childbearing age groups. In the past two years the number of births has fluctuated, with 246,400 registered in 2001 and 251,000 in 2002.

2.3 REGISTERED BIRTHS



Just over half (51%) of all births registered in 2002 were male babies, with the overall sex ratio at birth being 105.1 male babies for every 100 female babies.

State and territory

The three most populous states accounted for over three-quarters of births registered in 2002: 86,600 in New South Wales (34% of all births), 61,500 in Victoria (24% of all births) and 47,800 in Queensland (19% of all births). These proportions reflect the proportions of the Australian female population in reproductive ages living in these states.

Victoria recorded the largest increase in births (up 2,900 over the number registered in 2001) followed by New South Wales (up 2,000). South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland also recorded more births in 2002 than 2001, while Tasmania, Western Australia and the Northern Territory each recorded decreases in births compared to 2001.

NUPTIAL AND EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS

In 2002, 69% of births were to mothers who were married (marriage in this publication refers to a registered marriage unless otherwise indicated). Exnuptial births accounted for the remaining 31% of births, although many of these births may have been to mothers in de facto marriages. The proportion of exnuptial births has been increasing since the 1950s, and has risen sharply over the last two decades.

Acknowledgement of paternity

With exnuptial births comes the possibility that the father may not acknowledge the birth (that is, the father has not signed the birth certificate). However, while the number of exnuptial births has increased greatly over the past twenty years, the proportion of these births being paternity-not-acknowledged has decreased. In 1982 around 38% of all exnuptial births were paternity-not-acknowledged, but by 2002 this proportion had decreased to 12%. In terms of total births, paternity-not-acknowledged births have decreased from 5.2% of all births in 1982 to 3.7% in 2002.

Age of parents at confinement

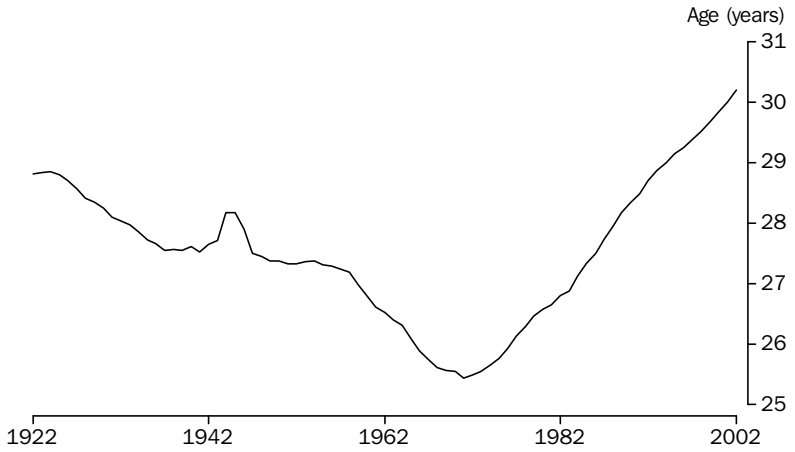
In 2002, the median age of all mothers was 30.2 years and the median age of fathers was 32.5 years. Women who registered an exnuptial birth in 2002 were approximately five years younger (26.5 years) than women who registered a nuptial birth (31.2 years). Meanwhile, the median age of mothers registering the first child of their current marriage was 30.1 years. In 2002, the median age of women who gave birth outside a registered marriage where paternity was not acknowledged (24.9 years) was lower than the median age of women where paternity was acknowledged (26.7 years).

Median age of parents over time

Prior to the 1930s the median age of mothers giving birth had been in decline. During the 1930s the median age stabilised, then rose briefly at the end of the Second World War, with an equally sharp decline immediately following the war. The median age of mothers fell substantially over the following three decades, reaching a low of 25.4 years in 1971. The reinterpretation of abortion law in New South Wales in 1971 was associated with a substantial fall in births to young women and an increase in the median age of mothers from 1972. Since then the median age of mothers has consistently increased, reaching 30.2 years in 2002, the highest on record.

As age-specific fertility rates indicate, the median age of mothers is affected by current trends towards delayed partnering and childbearing, and following divorce, repartnering and subsequent family formation.

2.4 MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHERS



Median age of parents over time *continued*

The median age of all fathers in 2002 was 32.5 years, continuing the upward trend of the past two decades. Between 1982 and 2002, the median age of married fathers increased by 3.4 years from 29.9 years to 33.3 years. The median age of unmarried fathers who acknowledged the birth of their child also increased, from 26.1 years in 1982 to 29.3 years in 2002.

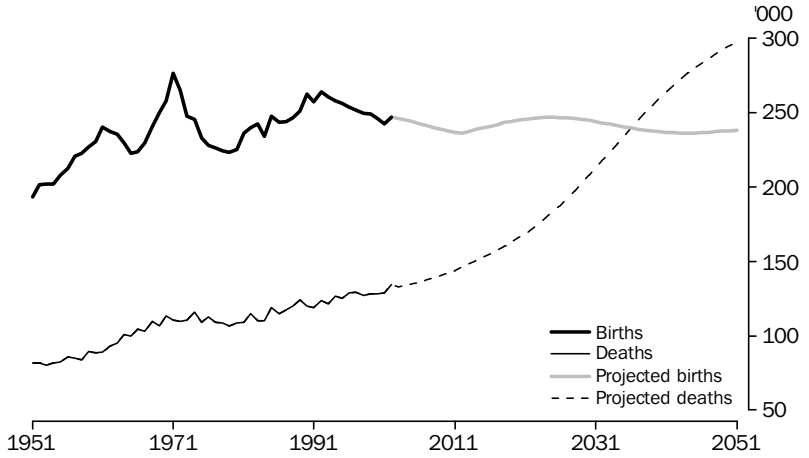
CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH

The number of confinements resulting in a multiple birth has continued to increase since the 1970s. In 2002 the number was 4,200, 68% more than the number recorded in 1982, 21% more than in 1992 and 3% more than in 2001. For a discussion of reasons for this increase see *Births, Australia, 2000*, cat. no. 3301.0, p. 35.

BIRTHS AS A COMPONENT OF POPULATION GROWTH

Births form an important component of population growth. Currently around a quarter of a million births occur in Australia annually. This is roughly twice the number of deaths, resulting in natural increase of around 120,000 people each year. Since 1976, Australian fertility has been below replacement level; that is, below the number of births required to replace a woman and her partner (currently 2.1). On current fertility rates, each woman can expect, on average, to have 1.75 babies over her lifetime. Despite this, natural increase is still positive because of the relatively young age structure of Australia's population. While the number of births per woman is low, there are enough women currently in childbearing ages to keep the total number of births relatively high. Conversely, there are relatively few people at older ages, resulting in a relatively low number of deaths per year. As the population ages, the difference between numbers of births and deaths will decrease, and, assuming a TFR of 1.6 babies per woman, a net overseas migration figure of 100,000 persons annually, and declining improvements in life expectancy, the number of births is projected to fall below the number of deaths in 2036; that is, natural increase is projected to fall below zero in 2036.

2.5 ACTUAL AND PROJECTED(a) BIRTHS AND DEATHS



(a) *Projections source: Population Projections, Australia, 2002–2101* (cat. no. 3222.0) (series B).

2.6 COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

Period(a)	Live births(b) '000	Deaths(b) '000	Natural increase '000	Net overseas migration '000	Population at end of period '000	Population increase(c) '000	Population increase(c) %
1982	239.9	114.8	125.1	102.7	15 288.9	234.8	1.6
1983	242.6	110.1	132.5	55.0	15 483.5	194.6	1.3
1984	238.5	111.9	126.6	59.8	15 677.3	193.8	1.3
1985	242.9	116.8	126.1	89.3	15 900.6	223.3	1.4
1986	243.4	115.0	128.4	110.7	16 138.8	238.2	1.5
1987	244.0	117.3	126.6	136.1	16 394.6	255.9	1.6
1988	246.2	119.9	126.3	172.8	16 687.1	292.4	1.8
1989	250.9	124.2	126.6	129.5	16 936.7	249.6	1.5
1990	262.6	120.1	142.6	97.1	17 169.8	233.0	1.4
1991	259.1	119.7	139.4	81.7	17 387.0	217.3	1.3
1992	262.1	122.9	139.2	51.4	17 581.3	194.3	1.1
1993	258.6	120.8	137.8	34.8	17 760.0	178.7	1.0
1994	258.4	127.0	131.4	55.5	17 951.5	191.5	1.1
1995	254.9	125.1	129.8	106.9	18 196.1	244.6	1.4
1996	252.9	128.2	124.7	97.4	18 420.3	224.3	1.2
1997r	251.1	128.8	122.3	72.4	18 609.1	188.8	1.0
1998r	248.3	127.4	120.8	88.8	18 814.3	205.2	1.1
1999r	250.2	128.2	122.0	104.2	19 038.3	224.1	1.2
2000r	249.2	128.8	120.4	111.4	19 272.6	234.3	1.2
2001r	245.5	129.7	115.7	140.3	19 531.5	258.8	1.3
2002p	250.2	134.2	116.1	139.0	19 786.6	255.1	1.3

(a) Calendar years.

(b) Births and deaths in this table are based on year of occurrence (which includes late registrations of births and deaths) for population estimation purposes and may differ from data elsewhere in this publication based on year of registration.

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

INTERNATIONAL FERTILITY

According to the United Nations, the projected world average TFR for 2000–2005 stands at 2.7 babies per woman, declining from the relatively constant five births per woman that existed until the late 1960s. However, TFRs for individual countries vary considerably. There are many factors that can influence a country's fertility rate, such as differences in social and economic development and contraceptive prevalence. In general, developing countries have higher fertility rates while developed countries have lower rates.

Australia's TFR for 2002 of 1.75 babies per woman is well below the world's average, although compared to other developed countries it is among the middle ranked nations. According to United Nations projections, in 2000–2005 the lowest fertility for developed countries will be in European countries such as Spain and Italy (each with a projected fertility rate of 1.2), Greece (1.3), and Germany (1.4). Hong Kong's projected fertility rate of 1.0 is one of the lowest in the world. Middle Eastern and African countries have the highest fertility rates, with Niger (8.0), Somalia (7.3) and Yemen (7.0) some of the highest.

INTERNATIONAL FERTILITY *continued*

Fertility rates for the United States of America (2.1) and New Zealand (2.0) are higher than Australia, rates for the United Kingdom (1.6) and Canada (1.5) are lower, while Japan's projected TFR of 1.3 for 2000–2005 is considerably lower than Australia's.

2.7 INTERNATIONAL TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, Selected years

	1950–55	*1955–60*	*1960–65*	*1965–70*	*1970–75*	*1975–80*	*1980–85*	*1985–90*	*1990–95*	*1995–2000*	*2000–05(a)*
Australia	3.2	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7
Canada	3.7	3.9	3.6	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5
China	6.2	5.6	5.7	6.1	4.9	3.3	2.6	2.5	1.9	1.8	1.8
France	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9
Germany	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4
Greece	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Hong Kong	4.4	4.7	5.3	4.0	2.9	2.3	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0
India	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.4	4.8	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.5	3.0
Indonesia	5.5	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.4
Italy	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2
Japan	2.8	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Korea, Republic of	5.4	6.3	5.6	4.7	4.3	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4
Malaysia	6.8	6.9	6.7	5.9	5.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9
New Zealand	3.7	4.1	4.0	3.4	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
Niger	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0
Papua New Guinea	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.1
Singapore	6.4	6.0	4.9	3.5	2.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.4
Somalia	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Spain	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2
Sweden	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.6
United Kingdom	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6
United States of America	3.5	3.7	3.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.1
Viet Nam	5.8	6.6	7.3	7.3	6.7	5.9	4.5	4.0	3.3	2.5	2.3
Yemen	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.3	7.8	7.3	7.0
World	**5.0**	**5.0**	**5.0**	**4.9**	**4.5**	**3.9**	**3.6**	**3.4**	**3.0**	**2.8**	**2.7**

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

Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, *World Population Prospects, The 2002 Revision,* <http://esa.un.org/unpp>.

INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

For 2002 it was estimated that Indigenous women will have at least 2.19 babies each, compared to 1.75 babies for all women. The TFR for Indigenous women was derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2002 and the projected 2002 population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females based on the 1996 census. It was estimated that the coverage of Indigenous births in 2002 was 95%, the same as in 2001.

Indigenous women in the Northern Territory had the highest fertility rate of any state or territory in 2002, at 2.78 babies per woman. For all women in the Northern Territory the TFR was 2.28. For further information see Chapter 3, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births, on page 18.

2.8 SUMMARY, Australia—Selected years

	1982	*1992*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
FERTILITY								
Age-specific fertility rate(a)								
15–19 years(b)	27.4	22.0	19.8	18.9	18.5	17.7	17.7	17.1
20–24 years	103.9	74.9	62.8	61.4	60.8	59.2	58.0	55.5
25–29 years	144.9	132.3	113.7	111.4	108.6	107.9	104.4	104.2
30–34 years	80.6	104.6	106.5	107.0	108.0	109.5	107.9	111.2
35–39 years	25.6	38.3	44.8	45.5	46.8	48.7	49.0	52.2
40–44 years	4.5	6.1	7.5	8.0	8.5	8.7	9.2	9.7
45–49 years(c)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	1.936	1.893	1.777	1.762	1.757	1.760	1.733	1.752
Net reproduction rate(d)	0.921	0.906	0.855	0.844	0.846	0.844	0.833	0.843
BIRTHS								
Total births	*239 903*	*264 151*	*251 842*	*249 616*	*248 870*	*249 636*	*246 394*	*250 988*
Males	123 254	135 601	129 179	128 016	127 357	128 190	126 298	128 623
Females	116 649	128 550	122 663	121 600	121 513	121 446	120 096	122 365
Sex ratio	105.7	105.5	105.3	105.3	104.8	105.6	105.2	105.1
Nuptial births (%)	86.3	76.0	71.9	71.3	70.8	70.8	69.3	68.7
Exnuptial births (%)	13.7	24.0	28.1	28.7	29.2	29.2	30.7	31.3
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	5.2	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.7
Crude birth rate	15.8	15.1	13.6	13.3	13.1	13.0	12.7	12.8
CONFINEMENTS								
Total confinements	*237 454*	*260 669*	*248 246*	*245 898*	*245 108*	*245 697*	*242 340*	*246 821*
Nuptial	204 775	198 002	178 279	175 162	173 263	173 571	167 572	169 385
First nuptial	83 300	80 821	73 356	72 276	72 828	74 648	70 861	71 691
Exnuptial	32 679	62 667	69 967	70 736	71 845	72 126	74 768	77 436
Paternity-acknowledged	20 248	50 774	59 793	61 616	63 402	63 634	65 710	68 179
Median age of mother (years)								
All confinements	26.8	28.7	29.4	29.5	29.7	29.8	30.0	30.2
Nuptial	27.3	29.5	30.4	30.5	30.6	30.8	31.0	31.2
First nuptial	25.5	28.0	29.0	29.1	29.3	29.5	29.8	30.1
Exnuptial	22.2	24.3	25.4	25.7	25.9	26.1	26.2	26.5
Paternity-acknowledged	22.9	24.6	25.6	25.9	26.1	26.4	26.5	26.7
Median age of father (years)								
All fathers, where age is known	29.7	31.2	32.0	32.0	32.1	32.2	32.3	32.5
Nuptial	29.9	31.8	32.8	32.9	33.0	33.1	33.2	33.3
First nuptial	28.0	30.3	31.3	31.3	31.5	31.6	31.8	32.0
Exnuptial paternity-acknowledged	26.1	27.4	28.1	28.4	28.5	28.9	29.0	29.3
Median duration of marriage (years)								
Nuptial	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
First nuptial	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6
Previous confinements of the current relationship								
0	103 491	122 722	114 296	114 550	116 649	119 069	116 022	117 928
1	69 988	75 807	77 540	76 952	76 137	75 266	75 546	77 564
2	34 683	34 391	31 945	31 271	30 661	29 554	28 920	30 138
3	11 640	11 046	9 783	9 538	8 949	9 056	8 545	8 074
4	3 199	2 999	2 749	2 734	2 595	2 564	2 521	2 333
5 and over	2 022	1 811	1 759	1 733	1 674	1 696	1 728	1 527
Average number of confinements of the current relationship	1.88	1.80	1.81	1.80	1.78	1.77	1.77	1.76

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

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

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

(d) Per woman.

2.9 SUMMARY, States and territories—2002

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
FERTILITY									
Age-specific fertility rate(a)									
15–19 years(b)	16.4	11.2	22.3	15.4	18.6	28.3	63.8	11.2	17.1
20–24 years	57.7	42.8	64.5	53.3	56.3	85.9	108.9	35.4	55.5
25–29 years	106.7	96.5	109.1	103.4	103.7	123.1	112.2	93.8	104.2
30–34 years	112.9	116.9	105.0	111.2	104.5	103.5	103.7	111.8	111.2
35–39 years	54.4	57.7	45.2	51.0	46.5	43.1	53.4	53.6	52.2
40–44 years	10.7	10.2	8.1	9.6	7.8	8.6	13.6	11.9	9.7
45–49 years(c)	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	1.796	1.679	1.773	1.723	1.688	1.964	2.281	1.591	1.752
Net reproduction rate(d)	0.865	0.804	0.853	0.832	0.813	0.971	1.074	0.778	0.843
BIRTHS									
Total births	*86 583*	*61 478*	*47 771*	*17 665*	*23 601*	*6 003*	*3 724*	*4 112*	*250 988*
Males	44 369	31 605	24 454	9 051	12 102	3 018	1 919	2 082	128 623
Females	42 214	29 873	23 317	8 614	11 499	2 985	1 805	2 030	122 365
Sex ratio	105.1	105.8	104.9	105.1	105.2	101.1	106.3	102.6	105.1
Indigenous births	3 339	601	3 349	679	1 481	431	1 539	66	11 488
Estimated coverage 1996 census-based (%)	94	88	96	102	90	89	107	63	95
Nuptial births (%)	72.0	73.8	63.4	65.6	64.9	53.2	38.0	73.2	68.7
Exnuptial births (%)	28.0	26.2	36.6	34.4	35.1	46.8	62.0	26.8	31.3
Paternity-not-acknowledged (%)	3.5	2.1	4.7	3.5	3.4	7.8	22.0	3.2	3.7
Crude birth rate	13.0	12.6	12.9	11.6	12.2	12.7	18.8	12.8	12.8
CONFINEMENTS									
Total confinements	*85 178*	*60 435*	*46 934*	*17 354*	*23 232*	*5 914*	*3 675*	*4 048*	*246 821*
Nuptial	61 213	44 546	29 680	11 362	15 059	3 134	1 390	2 956	169 385
First nuptial	26 251	19 235	12 044	4 846	6 180	1 275	563	1 284	71 691
Exnuptial	23 965	15 889	17 254	5 992	8 173	2 780	2 285	1 092	77 436
Paternity-acknowledged	20 972	14 647	15 025	5 384	7 388	2 318	1 477	963	68 179
Median age of mother (years)									
All confinements	30.3	31.0	29.5	30.4	29.9	28.9	28.1	30.7	30.2
Nuptial	31.0	31.6	30.8	31.6	31.1	30.7	31.3	31.4	31.2
First nuptial	29.9	30.5	29.7	30.4	30.1	29.6	30.1	30.4	30.1
Exnuptial	26.6	27.9	25.6	26.6	26.0	25.0	25.0	27.4	26.5
Paternity-acknowledged	26.8	28.0	25.8	26.7	26.2	25.1	26.2	27.6	26.7
Median age of father (years)									
All fathers, where age is known	32.6	33.0	31.7	32.6	32.2	31.3	31.6	32.8	32.5
Nuptial	33.4	33.6	32.8	33.6	33.3	32.8	33.6	33.5	33.3
First nuptial	31.9	32.3	31.5	32.4	32.0	31.5	32.3	32.2	32.0
Exnuptial paternity-acknowledged	29.3	30.3	28.4	29.7	28.9	28.4	29.0	29.7	29.3
Median duration of marriage (years)									
Nuptial	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.5
First nuptial	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.6
Previous confinements of the current relationship									
0	40 537	29 217	22 451	8 564	10 970	2 834	1 398	1 941	117 928
1	26 663	19 721	14 265	5 508	7 440	1 728	881	1 341	77 564
2	10 428	7 336	5 435	1 891	3 607	603	370	453	30 138
3	3 090	1 995	1 629	539	355	177	145	142	8 074
4	905	551	531	151	63	67	47	18	2 333
5 and over	562	373	394	93	12	43	26	24	1 527
Average number of confinements of the current relationship	1.77	1.76	1.77	1.72	1.71	1.73	1.83	1.74	1.76

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

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

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

(d) Per woman.

CHAPTER 3 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS

INTRODUCTION

Birth registrations classify a birth as Indigenous (Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or both) where at least one parent identified as being of Indigenous origin. Indigenous fertility, on the other hand, only refers to births where the mother identified as Indigenous. This chapter reports on the numbers and characteristics of Indigenous births and fertility in each state and territory, where the quality of Indigenous birth registrations data is regarded as satisfactory. Data for the Australian Capital Territory is not presented separately because of small numbers and poor coverage.

Estimated coverage of Indigenous births

Estimated coverage of Indigenous births, displayed in tables 2.9 and 9.9, is defined as the ratio of the number of Indigenous births registered in a particular year to the corresponding number of projected Indigenous births obtained from the low series of *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (cat. no. 3231.0).

On this basis, the estimated coverage of Indigenous births in Australia in 2002 was 95%. Coverage for the states and territories ranged from 63% in the Australian Capital Territory to 107% in the Northern Territory. As these estimates are based on 1996 census-based projections (that is, relatively old information) they should be treated with caution.

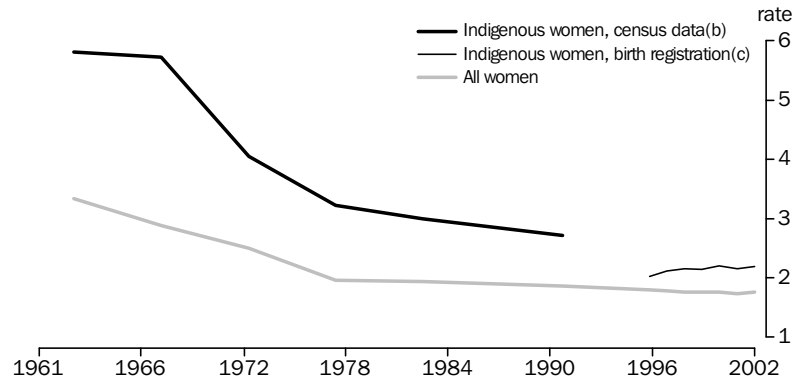
The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is currently producing a new set of projections of the Indigenous population using 2001 census data, expected to be released in 2004 in *Experimental Estimates and Projections of Indigenous Australians, 1991 to 2016* (cat. no. 3238.0). From this, projected Indigenous births for the years 2002 to 2016 will be available. Estimated coverage of Indigenous births for 2002 calculated from these births will therefore differ from those currently shown in tables 2.9 and 9.9.

TRENDS IN INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

In the early 1960s, the fertility of Indigenous women (5.8 babies per woman) was around two-thirds higher than the rate recorded for all women in Australia (3.5 babies). Since then, fertility levels of both Indigenous and all women have declined substantially, with the largest decreases being recorded during the 1970s. While the fertility of all women began a decline in the 1960s which continues today, the fertility levels of Indigenous women remained relatively stable during the 1960s, to be followed by a sharp decline during the 1970s. The fertility of Indigenous women declined to a low of 2.0 babies per woman in 1996, before increasing slightly. In 2002, Indigenous fertility was estimated at 2.19 babies per woman, compared to 1.75 babies for all women.

Due to the poor quality of historical Indigenous birth registration data, fertility rates of Indigenous women up to 1996 were derived using data collected in the censuses. With improvements in coverage from 1996, birth registrations data has been used for 1996 onwards.

3.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a)



(a) Births per woman.

(b) Five-year TFRs (from 1961–66 to 1981–86) and ten-year TFR (1986–96), published by A Gray using census data, plotted against the mid-point.

(c) Annual TFRs were calculated from birth registrations and 1996 census-based projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population (low series), except 2001 where final 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census were used.

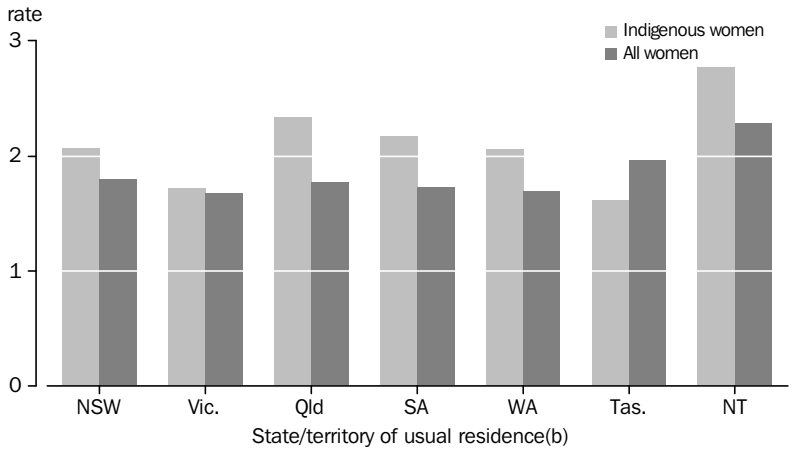
Source: Gray, A (1997), *The Explosion of Aboriginality: Components of Indigenous Population Growth 1991–96*, Discussion Paper no. 142/1997, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, Canberra; *Australian Demographic Trends, 1997* (cat. no. 3102.0); *Births, Australia,* various issues (cat. no. 3301.0).

STATE VARIATIONS IN FERTILITY

The 2002 TFR for Indigenous women is derived using the number of births registered to Indigenous mothers in 2002 and the projected 2002 population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females based on the 1996 census.

Indigenous TFRs vary across the states and territories. The highest Indigenous fertility in 2002 occurred in the Northern Territory (2.77 babies per woman), followed by Queensland (2.33), South Australia (2.17), New South Wales (2.07), Western Australia (2.06) and Victoria (1.72). Tasmania (1.62) was the only state in which the Indigenous TFR was lower than the TFR for all women. However, it is important to note that the low Indigenous TFRs recorded for Victoria and Tasmania may reflect the relatively poor coverage of Indigenous births in those states (88% and 89% respectively).

3.2 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a)



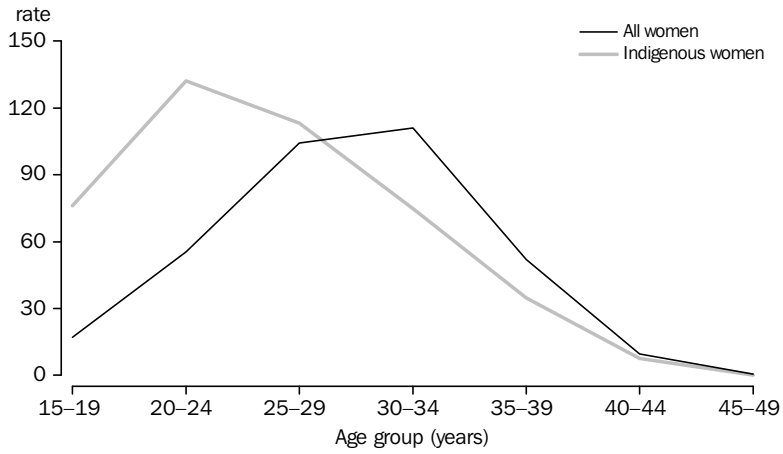
(a) Births per woman.

(b) Data for the Australian Capital Territory are not publishable.

Age-specific fertility

High fertility at younger ages contributes to the relatively high fertility of Indigenous women. In 2002, almost three-quarters of the total fertility of Indigenous women was accounted for by women under 30 years of age, compared to half of the fertility for all women.

3.3 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)

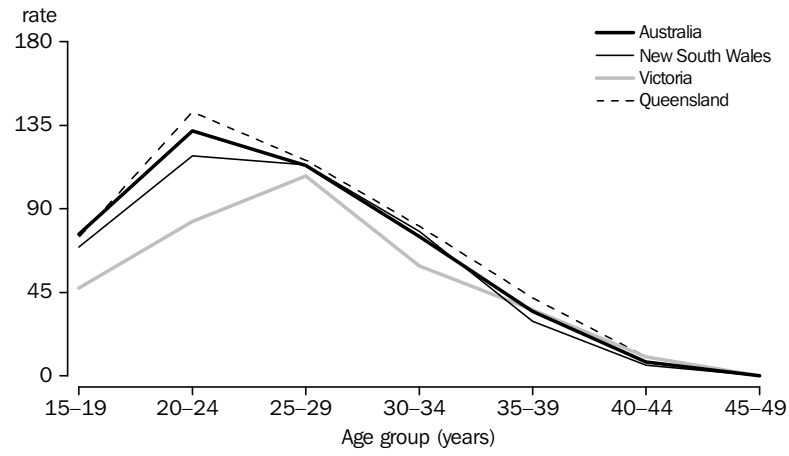


(a) Births per 1,000 women.

For Indigenous women, the peak age group for births is the 20–24 year age group (with 132 babies per 1,000 women), followed by those aged 25–29 years (113 babies). In contrast, the peak age group for all women is 30–34 years (111 babies).

In 2002 the teenage fertility rate of Indigenous women (76 babies per 1,000 women) was more than four times the fertility rate of all teenage women (17 babies), while fertility of Indigenous women aged 20–24 years (132 babies) was more than twice the fertility of all women (56 babies) in this age group. Conversely, fertility of Indigenous women aged 30 years and over was lower than that of all women.

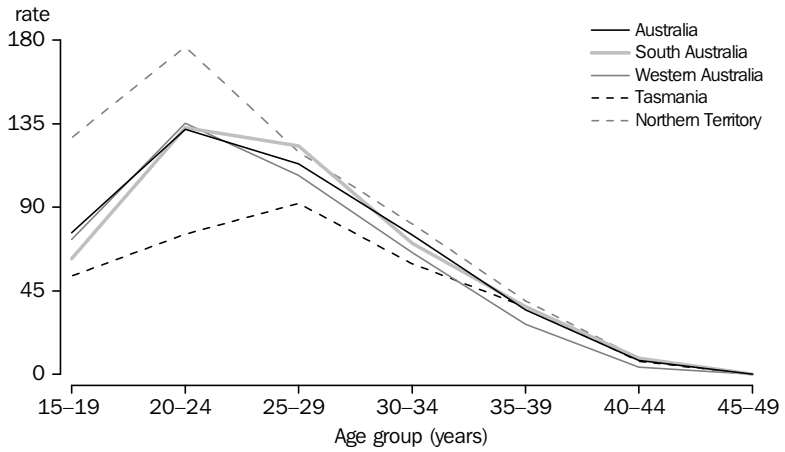
3.4 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a), Indigenous women—Selected states/territories



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

Age-specific fertility *continued*

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



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

In general, Indigenous women in the Northern Territory experienced higher age-specific fertility compared to Indigenous women in other states. Their rates for the 15–19 year, 20–24 year and 30–34 year age groups (128, 177 and 81 babies per 1,000 women respectively, compared to national Indigenous rates of 76, 132 and 75 respectively) were the highest of all the states and territories, and rates for the 25–29 year and 35–39 year age groups (120 and 40 respectively) were the second highest.

Indigenous teenage fertility rates for the states and territories

In 2002 the teenage fertility rate of Indigenous women living in the Northern Territory was 128 babies per 1,000 women, twice that of all teenage women in the Northern Territory (64 babies). Queensland Indigenous teenagers experienced the second highest fertility rate of the states and territories (75 babies), followed by Western Australia (73 babies).

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

There were 11,500 births registered in Australia during 2002 where at least one parent was of Indigenous origin, accounting for 5% of total births. Queensland and New South Wales, the two most populous states in terms of Indigenous population, registered the highest number of Indigenous births in 2002 (3,300 each), followed by the Northern Territory and Western Australia (1,500 each). Queensland has recorded the highest number of Indigenous births since 1996, with the improvement in coverage of Indigenous births in that year, except in 1999 when births in New South Wales outnumbered those in Queensland. However, it is important to keep in mind the issue of coverage of Indigenous births when dealing with these figures.

Median age of parents

Overall, Indigenous women tend to have children at younger ages than all women. In 2002, the median age of Indigenous mothers was 24.6 years, compared to 30.2 years for all women. Of the states and territories, Indigenous mothers living in the Northern Territory had the lowest median age (23.7 years), followed by Indigenous mothers in Western Australia (24.2 years).

Fathers of Indigenous births (with a median age of 27.9 years) were also younger than fathers of all births (32.5 years). Western Australia recorded the lowest median age of fathers of Indigenous births (27.5 years), followed by New South Wales (27.7 years).

Indigenous status of parents

In 2002, around one-third (30%) of Indigenous births occurred in which both parents were registered as being Indigenous, while 43% of Indigenous births occurred in which only the mother was registered as being Indigenous (including births where paternity was not acknowledged and those where the father's Indigenous status was unknown). The remaining 28% of Indigenous births involved only the father as being registered as Indigenous (including births where the mother's Indigenous status was not stated).

Of the states and territories, Western Australia (45%) and the Northern Territory (40%) had the highest proportions of Indigenous births where both parents were Indigenous, while Tasmania had the lowest (9%). The Northern Territory also had the lowest proportion of births (5%) where only the father was Indigenous.

Nuptiality

Indigenous births are predominantly exnuptial. In 2002, just over eight out of every ten Indigenous births registered in Australia were exnuptial (82%), compared to three out of every ten for all births (31%). Exnuptial Indigenous births in which paternity was acknowledged accounted for around two-thirds (66%) of all Indigenous births while births in which paternity was not acknowledged accounted for 16% of all Indigenous births.

At the state and territory level the highest proportions of exnuptial Indigenous births occurred in the Northern Territory (96%) and Western Australia (86%). In the Northern Territory, nearly half of all Indigenous births (46%) were paternity-not-acknowledged exnuptial births.

BIRTH WEIGHT

Birth weight is a key indicator of the relative health status of babies. A comparison of the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers with all babies shows that Indigenous babies are generally smaller. According to the Perinatal Data Collection (AIHW, 2003), the average birth weight of babies of Indigenous mothers in 2000 was 3,166 grams, marginally higher than the 3,149 grams reported in 1999, and 198 grams lower than the national average for all babies (3,364 grams). The average birth weight of babies to Indigenous mothers varied across the states and territories, ranging from 2,990 grams in the Australian Capital Territory to 3,446 grams in Tasmania.

Babies are defined as being of low birthweight if their birthweight is less than 2,500 grams. In 2000, 14% of babies to Indigenous mothers were of low birthweight, twice that of babies of non-Indigenous mothers (7%).

INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS FERTILITY

Overall, fertility of Australian Indigenous women is lower than New Zealand Maori women and slightly higher than American Indian women. In 2002 the TFR for Australian Indigenous mothers (2.2 babies per woman) was lower than that for New Zealand Maori women (2.5), while in 2000, the latest year for which American Indian fertility rates are available, the TFR for Australian Indigenous women was 2.2 compared to 2.1 for American Indians.

In 2002, Australian Indigenous women experienced lower fertility than Maori women in all age groups except 15–19 years. Age-specific fertility rates for Indigenous Australians and American Indian women were relatively similar in 2000, with the main difference occurring in the 15–19 year age group (85 babies per 1,000 Australian Indigenous women compared to 68 babies per 1,000 American Indian women).

3.6 INDIGENOUS FERTILITY RATES, Selected countries

	American Indian women	*New Zealand Maori women(a)*	*Australian Indigenous women*	
	2000	2002	2000	2002
Age-specific fertility rates(b)				
15–19 years(c)	67.8	62.5	84.7	76.2
20–24 years	135.6	140.0	133.1	132.2
25–29 years	106.9	128.3	113.6	113.2
30–34 years	68.3	97.8	71.2	74.9
35–39 years	32.5	49.1	31.2	34.7
40–44 years	7.3	13.5	7.2	7.5
45–49 years(d)	0.4	0.8	0.4	—
Total fertility rate(e)	2.101	2.474	2.207	2.193

(a) Based on results of the New Zealand 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

(b) Births per 1,000 women.

(c) For Australian Indigenous women, includes births to mothers aged less than 15 years.

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

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

Sources: United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, *American Indian Health Facts* <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/indfacts.htm> for American Indian data. Statistics New Zealand, *Population monitor* <http://www.stats.govt.nz> for New Zealand Maori data.

CHAPTER 4 SPECIAL ARTICLE: PROJECTED FERTILITY ..

INTRODUCTION

The ABS publication *Population Projections, Australia, 2002–2101* (cat. no. 3222.0), released on 2 September 2003, contains projections of the population of Australia for the period 2002–2101 and projections of the states and territories and capital cities/balances of state for 2002–2051.

A combination of assumptions of future levels of fertility, mortality and migration were used to illustrate the possible size, structure and distribution of Australia's population into the next century, with three main series published in detail. This article describes the fertility assumptions used in the projections, how they were developed, and the effect of differing levels of fertility on Australia's future population. Note that 2002 data in this chapter are assumed and not observed.

FERTILITY ASSUMPTIONS

Summary

In order to produce population projections, assumptions for each year in the projection period were required for the total fertility rate (TFR), age-specific fertility rates, and sex ratio at birth. Three assumptions were proposed for Australia's future TFR: high (1.8 babies per woman); medium (1.6); and low (1.4). The trend towards older ages of mothers at birth of children was assumed to continue under all scenarios, while the sex ratio was assumed to be 105.5 male births per 100 female births.

Once determined for Australia, assumptions for these three aspects of fertility at lower geographic levels were derived from current differentials between Australia and each state/territory, and between each state/territory and its capital city/balance of state.

Assumed total fertility rates

Assumptions for population projections are formulated on the basis of past demographic trends, both in Australia and overseas. The three assumptions for Australia's future levels of fertility were therefore made in the context of recent trends in the TFR, especially those of the last decade (for a discussion of Australia's total fertility over the past 80 years see Chapter 2, Summary of Findings, page 8).

The high fertility scenario used in the projections assumed that the TFR will reach 1.8 babies per woman by 2011 and then remain constant, reflecting the fact that fertility has fluctuated between 1.7 and 1.9 babies per woman since the late 1970s and acknowledging the possibility that the TFR could stabilise in the middle of this range.

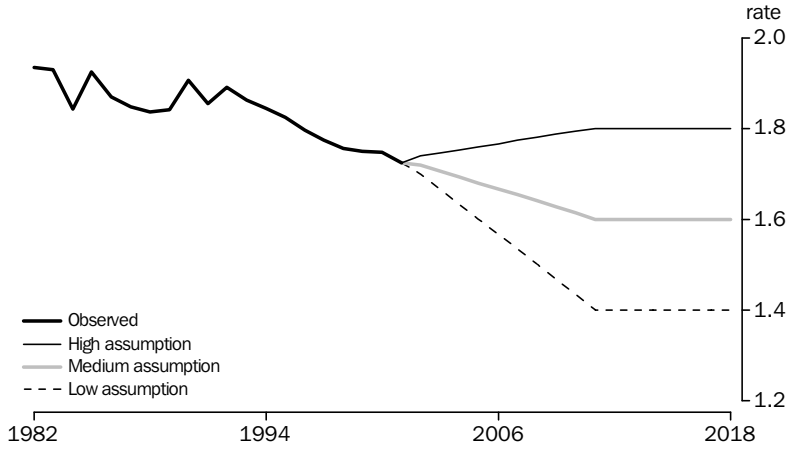
The medium and low fertility assumptions were based on the downward trend evident in Australia's TFR over the past ten years. These scenarios assumed a continuation of factors associated with declining fertility, such as delayed childbearing from increased participation of women in education and the labour force. Further delays in childbearing may result in smaller families and increasing childlessness, both of which would lower the TFR.

Assumed total fertility rates *continued*

The medium scenario assumed a gradual continuation of the downward trend in fertility, with the TFR reaching 1.6 babies per woman by 2011 and thereafter remaining constant. This assumption reflects a fertility level already reached in some parts of Australia: Victoria, for example, recorded a TFR of 1.6 in 2001.

Under the low fertility assumption, the TFR was projected to decline at a faster rate, reaching 1.4 babies per woman by 2011, then remaining constant. Fertility rates have reached such levels in many European countries, and recent projections indicate that this is considered a possibility in several others. Within Australia, fertility in the Australian Capital Territory may be approaching such a level, recording a TFR of 1.5 in both 1998 and 2001.

4.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), Australia—Observed and assumed



(a) Births per woman.

Trends in age-specific fertility rates

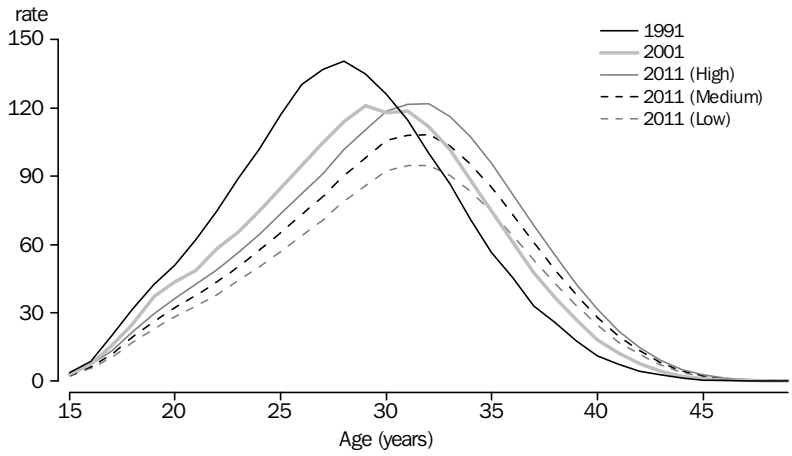
Population projections require assumptions about future age-specific fertility rates. These rates are applied to the projected female population in each year of the projection period in order to determine future numbers of births, and therefore the size of the future population.

Over the past 10 years, age-specific fertility rates for younger age groups (women below 30 years of age) have been declining while rates for women aged 30 years and over have increased, representing a gradual shift in fertility towards older ages. This trend was assumed to continue under all three fertility scenarios.

The impact of this trend is that the median age of all women at childbirth has risen from 28.5 years in 1991 to 30.0 years in 2001 and 30.2 years in 2002. Assuming this to continue, the median age was projected to increase to 30.7 years by 2011 for all three fertility scenarios, and remain constant for the rest of the projection period.

Trends in age-specific fertility rates *continued*

4.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a), Australia—Observed and assumed



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

Trends in the sex ratio

Projections require an assumed sex ratio at birth, in order that total projected births may be split into male and female births.

The sex ratio at birth (the ratio of male to female births, multiplied by 100) fluctuates around 105.5. It was 105.2 in 2001, 104.8 in 1999, and 105.9 in 1996. A constant ratio of 105.5 male births per 100 female births for the duration of the projection period was therefore used.

State variations in fertility

In recent years TFRs for Victoria, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory have been consistently lower than rates for Australia as a whole, while TFRs in the remaining states, and in the Northern Territory in particular, have been higher.

Fertility assumptions for the states and territories were derived from the national assumptions by applying historical differentials between each state/territory and Australia to the national assumption. It was assumed that the average state and territory fertility differentials for the years 1999–2001 will remain constant throughout the projection period.

State variations in fertility *continued*

4.3 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a) AND FERTILITY DIFFERENTIALS(b)

	TOTAL FERTILITY RATE 1999–2001(c)			ASSUMED DIFFERENTIAL		
	Capital city	*Balance of state*	*Total*	*Capital city*	*Balance of state*	*Total*
	rate	rate	rate	%	%	%
New South Wales	1.73	1.98	1.80	98.1	112.2	102.1
Victoria	1.56	1.88	1.63	90.7	109.1	94.6
Queensland	1.69	1.89	1.79	96.5	108.2	102.2
South Australia	1.58	2.05	1.70	92.4	120.0	99.3
Western Australia	1.67	2.14	1.78	94.6	121.3	100.6
Tasmania	1.82	2.00	1.92	107.3	118.1	113.0
Northern Territory	1.69	2.79	2.22	113.8	154.2	133.6
Australian Capital Territory	. .	. .	1.59	. .	. .	91.1
Australia(d)	**. .**	**. .**	**1.75**	**. .**	**. .**	**100.0**

(a) Births per woman.

(b) Fertility differentials show the relationship of the TFR for 1999–2001 for each state, capital city and balance of state to the Australian level. Some minor additional adjustments have been made to ensure projected births are consistent with recently observed levels.

(c) Average TFR over 1999, 2000 and 2001.

(d) Includes Other Territories.

Regional variations in fertility

TFRs in Australian capital cities are generally lower than TFRs for their respective states/territories, while TFRs for state balances are higher. Darwin's average TFR for 1999 to 2001 was 24% lower than the Northern Territory's overall TFR, while TFRs for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart were around 4%–7% lower than their respective state rates.

Fertility assumptions for the capital cities and state/territory balances were derived from assumptions for each state/territory by applying the average differentials between the region and its respective state/territory. It was assumed that the 1999–2001-based differentials between the capital city and balance within each state or territory will remain constant throughout the projection period.

Regional variations in fertility *continued*

4.4 ASSUMED TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a), Capital city/balance of state—from 2011

	HIGH ASSUMPTION.....			MEDIUM ASSUMPTION.....			LOW ASSUMPTION.....		
	Capital city	*Balance of state*	*Total*	*Capital city*	*Balance of state*	*Total*	*Capital city*	*Balance of state*	*Total*
	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate
New South Wales	1.77	2.02	1.84	1.57	1.79	1.63	1.37	1.57	1.43
Victoria	1.63	1.96	1.70	1.45	1.75	1.51	1.27	1.53	1.32
Queensland	1.74	1.95	1.84	1.54	1.73	1.64	1.35	1.52	1.43
South Australia	1.66	2.16	1.79	1.48	1.92	1.59	1.29	1.68	1.39
Western Australia	1.70	2.18	1.81	1.51	1.94	1.61	1.33	1.70	1.41
Tasmania	1.93	2.13	2.03	1.72	1.89	1.81	1.50	1.65	1.58
Northern Territory	2.05	2.77	2.41	1.82	2.47	2.14	1.59	2.16	1.87
Australian Capital Territory	. .	. .	1.64	. .	. .	1.46	. .	. .	1.28
Australia	**. .**	**. .**	**1.80**	**. .**	**. .**	**1.60**	**. .**	**. .**	**1.40**

(a) Births per woman.

International context

Fertility levels vary considerably between countries. International fertility rates provide a frame of reference for the three fertility assumptions made for Australia in the current set of population projections. A TFR of 1.8 babies per woman, as assumed under the high fertility scenario, equates to current fertility levels in countries such as China or Scandinavian countries such as Denmark and Norway. At 1.6, Australia's TFR would be comparable with current fertility levels in the United Kingdom, while the low fertility scenario (a TFR of 1.4) would bring Australian fertility in line with countries such as Singapore and Japan (1.4 and 1.3 respectively).

PROJECTED SIZE AND GROWTH OF THE AUSTRALIAN POPULATION BASED ON FERTILITY ASSUMPTIONS

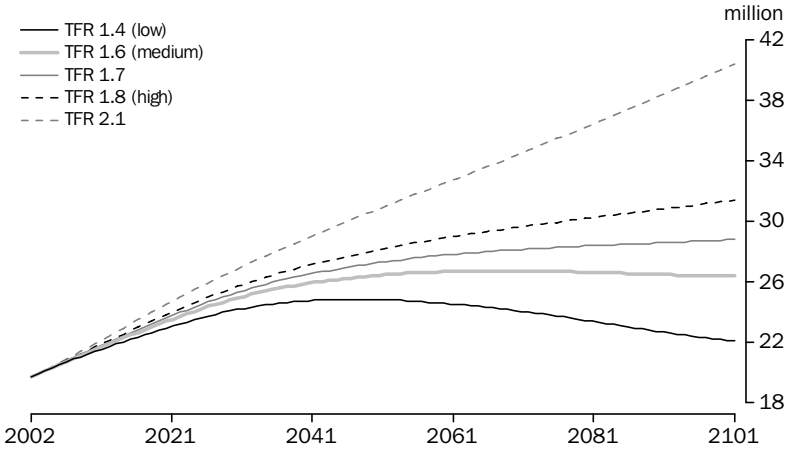
Future size of Australia's population

Fertility has a steady and pronounced impact on population growth. Holding mortality and net overseas migration (NOM) constant into the future at the levels specified under the medium projection series[1] used in *Population Projections, Australia, 2002–2101* (cat. no. 3222.0), while applying different TFRs, enables an assessment of this impact. A change in the assumed TFR of just 0.1 births per woman would result in Australia's population being almost one million larger or smaller by 2051, and more than two million larger or smaller by 2101.

[1] The medium series assumes life expectancy at birth of 84.2 years for males and 87.7 years for females by 2050–51, and NOM of 100,000 persons per year from 2005–06. For further information refer to *Population Projections, Australia, 2002–2101* (cat. no. 3222.0).

Future size of Australia's population *continued*

4.5 PROJECTED POPULATION—Varying fertility assumptions(a)



(a) Projections assume life expectancy at birth of 84.2 years for males and 87.7 years for females by 2050–51, and NOM of 100,000 persons per year from 2005–06.

If fertility were to remain constant at its 2001 level of 1.7 babies per woman, Australia's population would reach 27.3 million by 2051 and 28.8 million by 2101. Under the high fertility assumption (1.8), the number of births would be 294,500 in 2051 and 320,700 in 2101. The population of Australia would grow to 28.1 million by 2051 and to 31.4 million by 2101. In both cases the population would continue to grow beyond the projected period.

Using the medium fertility assumption (1.6), the number of births would be 238,100 in 2051 and 232,000 in 2101. Australia's population would reach 26.4 million by 2051, peaking at 26.7 million in 2069 and gradually declining to 26.4 million in 2101. If the TFR fell further, to 1.4 babies per woman by 2011 (that is, the low fertility assumption), the number of births would be 187,700 in 2051 and 164,000 in 2101, and Australia's population would peak at 24.8 million in 2051 before declining to 22.1 million by 2101.

Under each of these scenarios, fertility being below replacement level (2.1 babies per woman), the population will initially continue to grow while there are relatively large numbers of women of reproductive ages having children (and due to net overseas migration), but will eventually decline as Australia moves from a situation of natural increase (an excess of births over deaths) to a situation of natural decrease (an excess of deaths over births) where natural decrease outweighs growth due to net overseas migration. The population would peak within the projection period (in 2047 or 2069) if the TFR were to fall to 1.4 or 1.6 respectively, but beyond the projection period assuming a TFR of 1.8.

In contrast, if fertility were to increase to replacement level, Australia's population would increase to 30.8 million by 2051 and to 40.4 million by 2101, and would continue to grow beyond the projection period. Since each generation would replace itself, the population would eventually achieve stability in terms of both size and age structure.

Future size of Australia's population *continued*

4.6 OBSERVED AND PROJECTED POPULATION(a), Varying fertility assumptions, Australia—as at 30 June

	POPULATION					GROWTH RATE(b)		POPULATION AT 2051				
	2002	*2011*	*2021*	*2051*	*2101*	*2002–2011*	*2041–2051*	*Median age*	*Persons aged under 15 years*	*Persons aged 65 years and over*	*Peak population*	
TFR	million	million	million	million	million	%	%	years	%	%	year	million
1.0	19.7	21.1	22.0	21.8	15.3	0.8	–0.3	53.8	8.5	32.8	2035	22.7
1.1	19.7	21.2	22.3	22.5	16.8	0.8	–0.2	52.7	9.4	31.8	2037	23.1
1.2	19.7	21.2	22.5	23.3	18.4	0.9	–0.2	51.6	10.3	30.8	2039	23.6
1.3	19.7	21.3	22.7	24.0	20.2	0.9	–0.1	50.5	11.3	29.8	2042	24.2
1.4 (low)	19.7	21.4	22.9	24.8	22.1	0.9	—	49.3	12.2	28.9	2047	24.8
1.5	19.7	21.5	23.1	25.6	24.1	1.0	0.1	48.1	13.1	28.0	2055	25.6
1.6 (medium)	19.7	21.5	23.4	26.4	26.4	1.0	0.2	46.8	14.0	27.1	2069	26.7
1.7	19.7	21.6	23.6	27.3	28.8	1.0	0.3	45.6	15.0	26.2	(c)	(c)
1.8 (high)	19.7	21.7	23.8	28.1	31.4	1.1	0.4	44.3	15.9	25.4	(c)	(c)
1.9	19.7	21.7	24.0	29.0	34.2	1.1	0.5	43.1	16.8	24.7	(c)	(c)
2.0	19.7	21.8	24.3	29.9	37.2	1.2	0.6	41.9	17.7	23.9	(c)	(c)
2.1	19.7	21.9	24.5	30.8	40.4	1.2	0.7	40.8	18.6	23.2	(c)	(c)

(a) Projections assume life expectancy at birth of 84.2 years for males and 87.7 years for females by 2050–51, and NOM of 100,000 persons per year from 2005–06.

(b) Average annual growth rate.

(c) Population does not peak during the period 2002–2101.

Future age structure of Australia's population

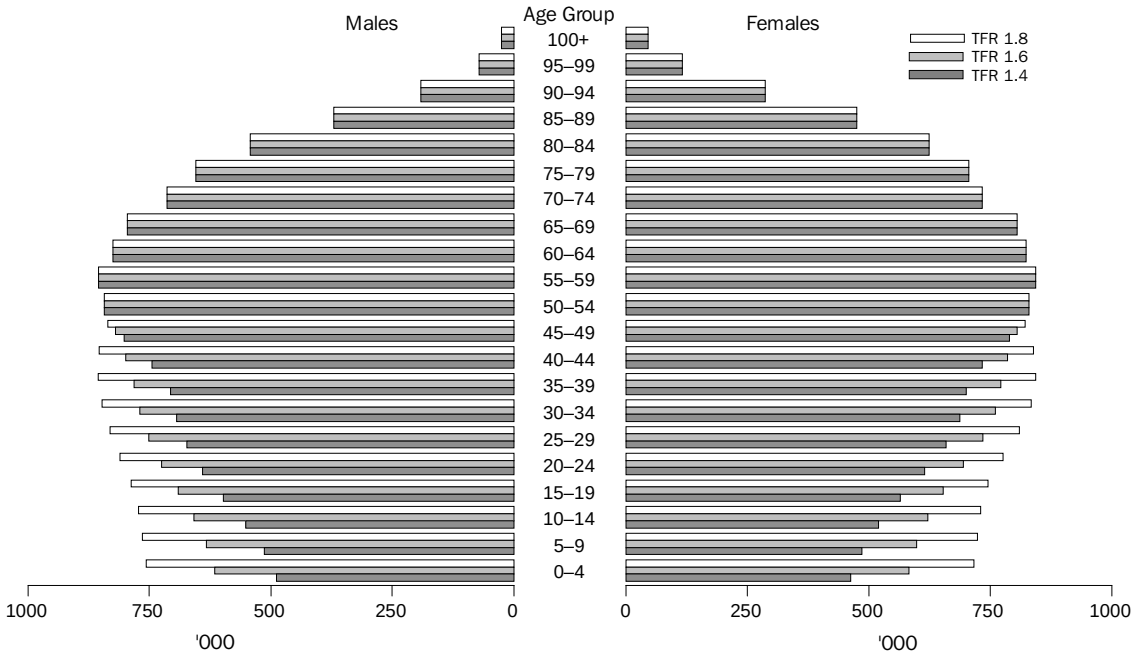
The level of fertility affects not only population size and growth, but also the age distribution of the population. The impact of fertility is most evident in the younger age groups of the population. Low levels of fertility mean fewer babies born each year and therefore proportionally fewer people in younger age groups, resulting in an older and 'top-heavy' population. Conversely, high levels of fertility enlarge these groups and result in a younger population. However, under each of the high, medium and low fertility scenarios population ageing will occur, due to the existing age structure of the population.

Two measures of the age distribution of a population are the median age and the proportion of the population aged under 15 years. At June 2002, the median age of the Australian population was 35.9 years. In 2051, the median age could range from 44.3 years to 49.3 years, under the high and low fertility assumptions respectively. If fertility remained at 1.7 babies per woman, by 2051 the median age would be 45.6 years. Replacement level fertility would result in a lower median age (40.8 years) in 2051.

At June 2002, 20% of the population was aged under 15 years. In 2051, this proportion could vary from 12% to 16% under the low and high fertility scenarios respectively, and should fertility remain at 1.7 babies per woman, 15% of the population would be aged under 15 years. With replacement level fertility, the proportion of the population aged under 15 years would be higher, at 19%.

Future age structure of Australia's population *continued*

4.7 PROJECTED AGE STRUCTURE(a), Varying fertility assumptions, Australia—2051



(a) Projections assume life expectancy at birth of 84.2 years for males and 87.7 years for females by 2050–51, and NOM of 100,000 persons per year from 2005–06.

Natural increase for the states and territories

Under the medium fertility assumption (a future TFR of 1.6) and medium levels of interstate migration, natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) over the next 50 years is projected to decline for all states and territories except the Northern Territory. For Tasmania and South Australia the number of deaths is first projected to exceed the number of births (natural decrease) by around 2024 and 2027, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia are projected to experience natural decrease approximately a decade later, between 2036 to 2038, and the Australian Capital Territory is projected to reach a state of natural decrease in 2049. The Northern Territory is projected to experience relatively stable levels of natural increase for the next 50 years, at around a level of 2,500 persons per year.

Further information about state and territory population projections, as well as capital city/balance of state projections, are available in *Population Projections, Australia, 2002–2101* (cat. no. 3222.0).

CHAPTER 5 SPECIAL ARTICLE: ECHOES OF THE BABY BOOM

INTRODUCTION

The number of babies born in any given year is the product of two demographic factors—the number of women of reproductive age in the population, and their fertility behaviour. Consequently, fertility has a marked generational effect. That is, the number of babies born in any given year will determine the number of reproductive-aged women in one generation's time, which will in turn affect the number of babies born when that generation of women enters its childbearing years, and so on. Australia's post-war baby boom set in motion just such a generational effect.

While a generation is difficult to quantify, such an effect may be studied using the birth cohort as a unit of analysis. A birth cohort is simply 'a group of people born in the same period' (Hagenaars 1990, p. 314)—a year, in the context of this article.

AUSTRALIA'S POST-WAR BABY BOOM

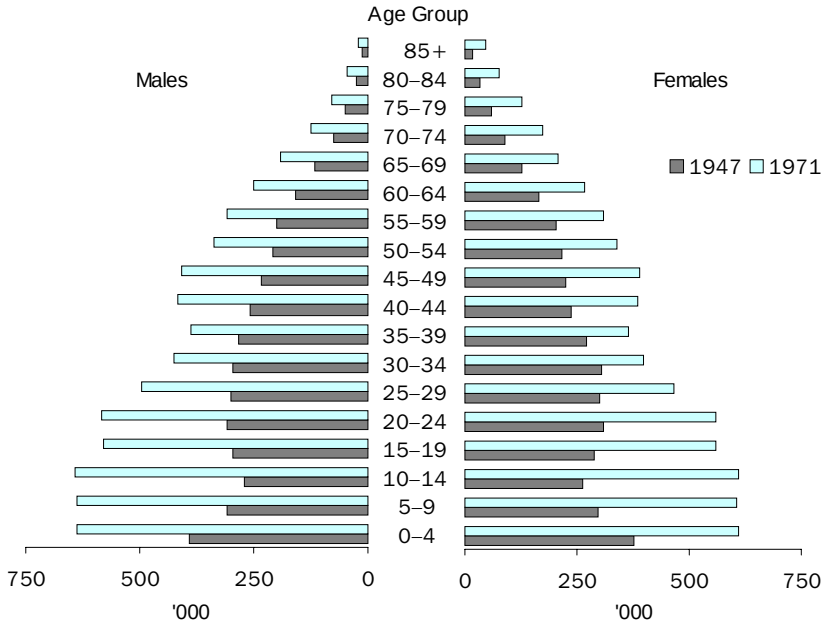
Baby boom refers to the dramatic increase in the fertility rates and the number of births between the end of World War II and the mid-1960s. In Australia, baby boomers are usually defined as those born in the years 1946 to 1965 inclusive. The first peak of the baby boom occurred in 1947, when, as fertility recovered from the effects of the Depression and World War II, the total fertility rate exceeded three babies per woman for the first time in over twenty years, resulting in 182,400 births.

THE FIRST ECHO

Almost twenty-five years later, in 1971, when the median age of mothers was 25 years, Australia's largest ever cohort was born (276,400 births). This was the first echo of the baby boom, produced as the large cohort of female babies born in 1947 reached the peak of their reproductive life. In other words, those who were born into the large 1971 cohort were the children of the first boomers. Both the baby boom and its echo may be identified in the age structure of Australian population in 1971. In both 1947 and 1971 those aged zero years made up the largest group in each of these populations.

THE FIRST ECHO *continued*

5.1 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Age and sex—1947 and 1971

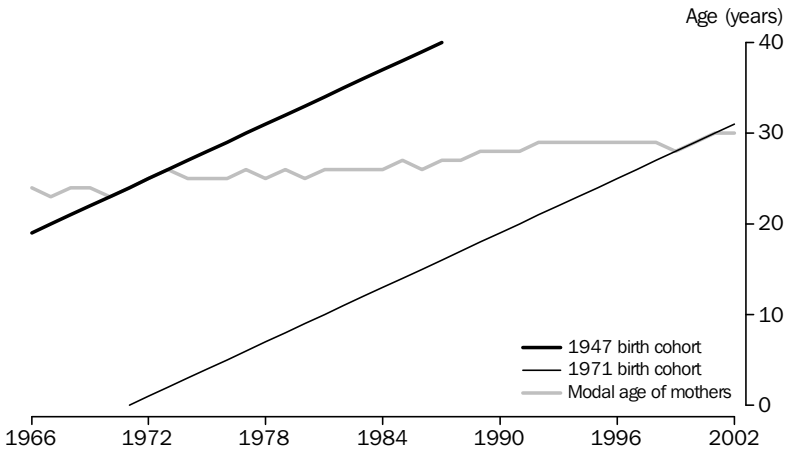


A SECOND ECHO ?

In 2001, the large 1971 birth cohort reached 30 years of age. Again, this large group was clearly evident in the age structure of the population. The median age of mothers, having risen steadily since 1971, also reached 30 years in 2001. Thus, if there were to be a second echo of the post-war baby boom, it might have been expected to occur at this point in time.

An intersection of age of mother and cohort was evident between 1999 and 2001, as the modal age of mothers (that is, the most common age of women giving birth) converged with the age of those born in 1971. This is similar to the intersection that occurred between 1970 and 1973, when for a time the modal age of mothers tracked the progress of the 1947 birth cohort through progressive ages.

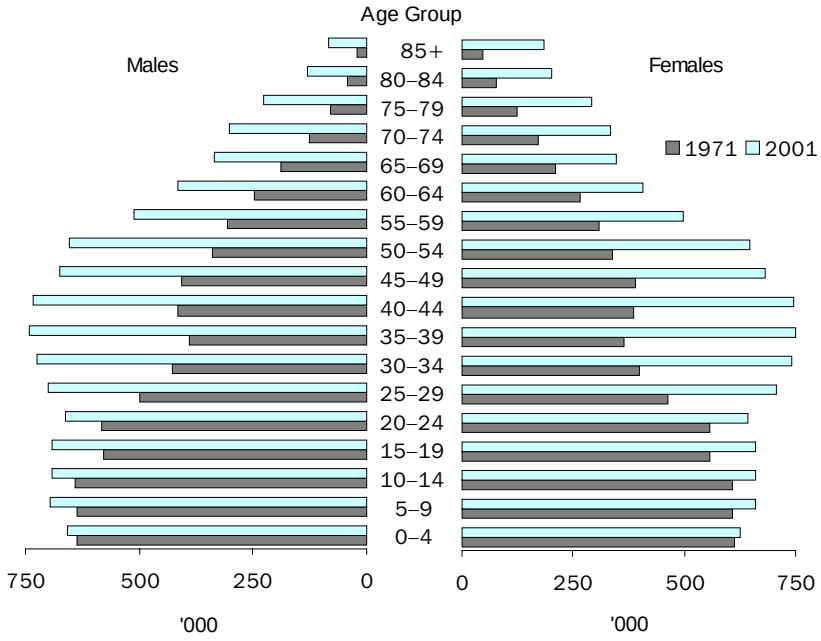
5.2 AGES OF 1947 AND 1971 BIRTH COHORTS AND MODAL AGE OF MOTHER



A SECOND ECHO ? *continued*

However, while the echo of the 1947 baby boom was clearly evident in the age structure of the Australian population in 1971, the 2001 age structure shows no such effect. This is also evident in the comparatively low TFR for 2001.

5.3 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Age and sex—1971 and 2001



An echo effect is also not evident in the number of births over time, although small increases in 2000 and again in 2002 were exceptions to the otherwise consistent decline recorded since 1992.

5.4 REGISTERED BIRTHS AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES—Selected years

Year	*Registered births* '000	*Total fertility* rate
1947	182.4	3.08
1971	276.4	2.95
1992	264.2	1.89
1993	260.2	1.86
1994	258.1	1.85
1995	256.2	1.83
1996	253.8	1.80
1997	251.8	1.78
1998	249.6	1.76
1999	248.9	1.76
2000	249.6	1.76
2001	246.4	1.73
2002	251.0	1.75

AGE, COHORT AND PERIOD EFFECTS

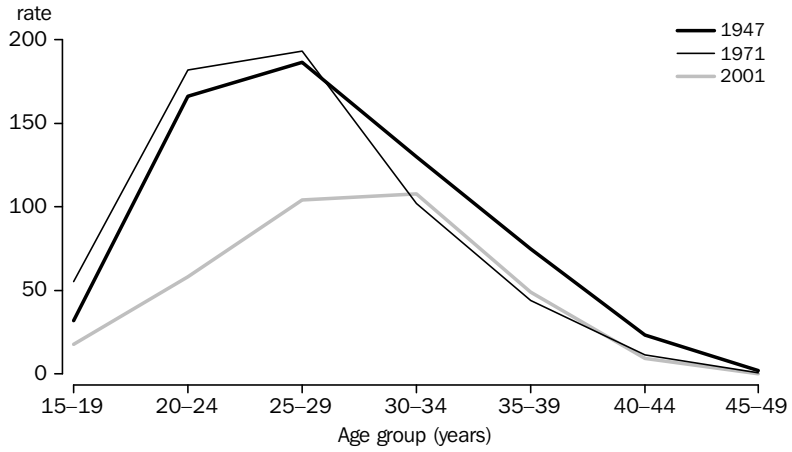
The convergence between age of mother and cohort that occurred in 1971 produced a particularly large cohort of babies born in this year. Despite a similar convergence around 2001, there is little evidence for a second echo of the baby boom.

The difference may be explained in terms of period effects. Just as the Australian baby boom may be explained with reference to post-war conditions, the 1971 echo also occurred within a social and economic environment conducive to high fertility. The 'male breadwinner model' of the family prevailed into the 1970s, as did the accompanying notion that women's primary roles were as carers and reproducers (McDonald 2000, p. 3). In such an environment, high fertility reflected women's confidence that their support was guaranteed by social and economic institutions (McDonald 2000, p. 4).

Social and economic conditions are now, around the time at which a second baby boom echo might have been anticipated, very different. Greater access to birth control and abortion, accompanied by changing laws and attitudes surrounding the role of women in society, have allowed women greater reproductive choice and greater freedom to pursue education and employment. As divorce has become more prevalent, women's sense of security as primarily a carer and reproducer has also diminished. This is reflected in increasing numbers of women participating in education and employment. Changing expectations regarding standards of living and family size have also affected fertility.

Partnering and childbearing are also occurring at later ages than in the past. For example, in 1947 and 1971 women aged 25–29 years experienced the highest fertility (187 and 194 births per 1,000 women respectively), but by 2001 women aged 30–34 years had the highest fertility (108 babies per women). This trend reduces opportunities to have children and limits the likelihood of larger families.

5.5 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)—Following the baby boom



(a) Births per 1,000 women.

CONCLUSION

While an intersection of age of mother and cohort is evident around 2001, a second baby boom echo is not. This suggests that in order for such an effect to appear, age and cohort effects must take place within a social and economic context which is also conducive to high fertility.

CHAPTER 6 FERTILITY TABLES

6.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a) AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(b)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)							
	15–19(c)	*20–24*	*25–29*	*30–34*	*35–39*	*40–44*	*45–49(d)*	*Total fertility rate*
1921	26.6	135.9	169.0	142.5	101.9	43.6	4.3	3.119
1922	26.2	136.4	170.8	141.1	100.9	41.9	3.9	3.106
1923	26.5	133.1	167.1	136.1	95.7	40.2	4.5	3.016
1924	27.9	132.2	164.7	134.2	93.3	38.1	4.0	2.972
1925	29.1	130.8	163.4	131.3	92.8	38.4	4.1	2.950
1926	29.2	127.4	159.4	125.4	88.2	36.2	3.8	2.848
1927	29.9	127.7	156.2	124.1	83.5	34.9	3.6	2.800
1928	30.6	128.5	153.9	120.2	82.8	33.6	3.9	2.768
1929	29.4	122.7	148.2	114.3	76.9	32.0	3.4	2.635
1930	29.3	120.2	144.9	112.2	75.6	30.9	3.1	2.581
1931	27.2	110.8	130.7	104.4	67.9	27.7	3.1	2.359
1932	25.9	101.0	122.2	96.3	63.2	25.8	2.9	2.187
1933	25.6	99.6	123.6	96.0	61.3	24.5	2.6	2.166
1934	24.6	97.9	120.7	93.3	58.4	24.1	2.3	2.107
1935	24.6	99.6	123.2	94.0	57.3	21.9	2.3	2.115
1936	24.9	103.5	127.5	95.5	60.3	21.6	2.2	2.178
1937	24.6	107.1	130.7	97.9	58.6	20.7	2.0	2.208
1938	23.8	108.4	130.9	99.2	56.3	20.2	2.1	2.205
1939	24.3	110.5	133.9	98.3	56.4	19.0	1.9	2.222
1940	23.6	112.5	136.8	100.5	56.6	19.4	1.7	2.256
1941	24.3	121.0	143.5	104.9	57.8	19.6	1.7	2.364
1942	24.0	121.8	143.6	104.2	60.0	19.6	1.7	2.375
1943	24.3	132.5	155.4	114.8	64.5	20.6	1.6	2.569
1944	22.9	126.7	157.3	122.5	72.9	22.1	1.6	2.630
1945	23.8	132.4	164.2	125.2	76.1	23.7	1.8	2.736
1946	26.1	151.1	183.2	131.7	78.3	24.6	2.1	2.986
1947	32.1	166.2	186.6	130.0	75.0	23.5	1.8	3.076
1948	34.2	163.0	179.8	124.6	71.2	22.5	1.7	2.985
1949	35.8	167.4	180.9	121.9	68.4	21.2	1.6	2.986
1950	37.0	173.5	186.0	124.6	68.8	21.8	1.6	3.067
1951	38.6	177.2	185.3	123.1	65.0	21.0	1.6	3.059
1952	39.3	189.7	192.7	126.1	66.1	20.5	1.7	3.181
1953	38.8	194.7	193.2	124.6	65.3	20.5	1.4	3.193
1954	39.2	197.1	194.0	121.8	64.4	20.2	1.5	3.191
1955	41.8	205.4	199.6	122.0	64.4	20.4	1.4	3.275
1956	43.0	210.9	203.0	123.5	64.2	19.7	1.6	3.330
1957	44.0	216.2	210.7	127.2	65.1	19.5	1.4	3.421
1958	44.6	215.9	212.9	126.4	64.3	18.5	1.5	3.421
1959	45.2	219.0	214.4	125.7	63.6	18.6	1.5	3.440
1960	44.3	220.1	216.3	127.5	62.3	18.4	1.3	3.451

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(b) Births per woman.

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

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

6.1 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a) AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(b) *continued*

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)							
	15–19(c)	*20–24*	*25–29*	*30–34*	*35–39*	*40–44*	*45–49(d)*	*Total fertility rate*
1961	47.4	225.8	221.2	131.1	63.4	19.2	1.4	3.548
1962	44.7	216.0	216.7	127.7	61.4	18.4	1.2	3.431
1963	45.9	208.2	211.2	123.9	59.7	18.6	1.1	3.343
1964	47.0	190.5	198.1	119.1	58.4	16.5	1.2	3.154
1965	47.5	179.3	188.5	110.1	53.0	15.0	1.1	2.973
1966	48.9	173.1	183.9	105.1	50.6	14.2	1.1	2.885
1967	48.4	170.8	185.0	102.8	47.8	13.5	1.1	2.847
1968	48.9	173.6	190.8	103.3	46.7	12.9	1.0	2.886
1969	49.0	174.2	191.8	103.5	45.6	12.2	1.0	2.887
1970	50.9	172.0	189.6	101.8	44.9	11.7	0.8	2.859
1971	55.5	181.9	193.5	101.8	44.2	11.3	0.8	2.945
1972	54.5	168.7	181.7	94.0	38.9	10.0	0.8	2.743
1973	49.1	155.4	166.9	84.2	33.6	8.4	0.6	2.491
1974	44.2	145.4	159.3	78.5	29.1	7.2	0.4	2.321
1975	40.1	133.9	149.6	74.1	26.0	6.1	0.4	2.151
1976	35.2	128.2	146.2	72.5	24.1	5.5	0.4	2.061
1977	32.1	122.0	145.7	74.1	23.9	5.0	0.3	2.016
1978	29.9	115.8	144.0	73.4	23.5	4.5	0.2	1.957
1979	28.5	109.1	142.5	73.9	23.6	4.6	0.3	1.913
1980	27.6	107.0	141.0	75.1	23.7	4.4	0.3	1.896
1981	28.2	107.5	145.2	77.6	24.5	4.5	0.3	1.939
1982	27.4	103.9	144.9	80.6	25.6	4.5	0.3	1.936
1983	26.6	102.7	145.9	81.5	25.0	4.3	0.2	1.931
1984	23.2	94.3	140.4	81.2	25.0	4.3	0.3	1.844
1985	22.8	95.8	146.0	89.0	26.9	4.5	0.2	1.926
1986	21.8	90.0	141.9	88.7	27.2	4.3	0.2	1.871
1987	20.6	85.0	139.6	90.6	28.9	4.8	0.3	1.849
1988	20.3	81.5	136.9	93.3	30.5	4.6	0.2	1.837
1989	20.6	78.4	135.4	96.1	32.6	5.0	0.2	1.842
1990	22.1	79.4	137.9	101.7	34.7	5.5	0.2	1.908
1991	22.1	75.0	132.0	100.2	36.0	5.5	0.2	1.855
1992	22.0	74.9	132.3	104.6	38.3	6.1	0.3	1.893
1993	20.9	71.3	129.8	105.4	38.9	6.3	0.2	1.864
1994	20.7	69.7	125.8	105.0	41.1	6.7	0.3	1.846
1995	20.4	67.1	121.7	106.0	42.3	7.2	0.3	1.825
1996	20.1	65.2	117.1	105.7	43.7	7.5	0.3	1.797
1997r	19.8	62.8	113.7	106.5	44.8	7.5	0.3	1.777
1998r	18.9	61.4	111.4	107.0	45.5	8.0	0.3	1.762
1999r	18.5	60.8	108.6	108.0	46.8	8.5	0.3	1.757
2000r	17.7	59.2	107.9	109.5	48.7	8.7	0.4	1.760
2001r	17.7	58.0	104.4	107.9	49.0	9.2	0.4	1.733
2002p	17.1	55.5	104.2	111.2	52.2	9.7	0.4	1.752

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(b) Births per woman.

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

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

6.2 AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES(a)

Age group (years)	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(b)*
15–19(c)	16.4	11.2	22.3	15.4	18.6	28.3	63.8	11.2	17.1
20–24	57.7	42.8	64.5	53.3	56.3	85.9	108.9	35.4	55.5
25–29	106.7	96.5	109.1	103.4	103.7	123.1	112.2	93.8	104.2
30–34	112.9	116.9	105.0	111.2	104.5	103.5	103.7	111.8	111.2
35–39	54.4	57.7	45.2	51.0	46.5	43.1	53.4	53.6	52.2
40–44	10.7	10.2	8.1	9.6	7.8	8.6	13.6	11.9	9.7
45–49(d)	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
Total fertility rate(e)	1.796	1.679	1.773	1.723	1.688	1.964	2.281	1.591	1.752

(a) Births per 1,000 women.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

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

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

(e) Births per woman.

6.3 TOTAL FERTILITY RATES(a)

Selected years	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(b)*
1982	1.966	1.847	2.068	1.766	1.960	2.006	2.321	1.885	1.936
1987	1.919	1.791	1.833	1.717	1.864	1.885	2.306	1.709	1.849
1992	1.974	1.818	1.929	1.703	1.876	1.946	2.383	1.721	1.893
1997	1.832	1.691	1.804	1.702	1.793	1.788	2.175	1.611	1.777
1998	1.801	1.684	1.798	1.703	1.780	1.814	2.200	1.541	1.762
1999	1.826	1.634	1.775	1.699	1.789	1.876	2.154	1.655	1.757
2000	1.819	1.637	1.793	1.710	1.809	1.805	2.212	1.580	1.760
2001	1.766	1.616	1.798	1.677	1.727	2.072	2.303	1.525	1.733
2002	1.796	1.679	1.773	1.723	1.688	1.964	2.281	1.591	1.752

(a) Births per woman.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

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

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(a)*
Age group (years)	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
15–19(b)	4.6	3.3	6.3	4.5	5.5	7.2	14.0	3.5	4.9
20–24	16.1	12.8	18.2	15.5	16.7	21.9	23.9	11.1	15.8
25–29	29.7	28.7	30.8	30.0	30.7	31.3	24.6	29.5	29.7
30–34	31.4	34.8	29.6	32.3	30.9	26.3	22.7	35.1	31.7
35–39	15.1	17.2	12.7	14.8	13.8	11.0	11.7	16.9	14.9
40–44	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.8	2.3	2.2	3.0	3.7	2.8
45–49(c)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total fertility rate(d)	1.796	1.679	1.773	1.723	1.688	1.964	2.281	1.591	1.752

(a) Includes Other Territories.

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

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

(d) Births per woman.

6.5 COMPLETED FERTILITY(a), Year of birth of woman

Year of birth	Average issue (no.)	Proportion based on projected births(b) (%)	Median age (all births) (years)
1907	2.297	—	28.3
1912	2.351	—	28.9
1917	2.508	—	28.7
1922	2.686	—	27.9
1927	2.884	—	27.4
1932	3.097	—	26.5
1937	2.923	—	25.6
1942	2.657	—	25.6
1947	2.398	—	25.5
1952	2.287	—	26.4
1957	2.220	—	27.5
1962	2.109	1.7	28.4
1967	2.033	14.2	29.2
1972	1.969	44.3	30.1
1977	1.896	75.1	30.6
1982	1.797	92.6	31.0
1987	1.754	99.9	31.1
1992	1.746	100.0	31.1

(a) Based on age-specific fertility rates derived from birth registrations. Cohorts which have not yet completed their fertility are assumed to experience a fertility rate dropping to 1.75 over 10 years, with an increasing age of motherhood.

(b) Proportion of the estimated average derived from projected fertility.

6.6 NET REPRODUCTION RATES(a)

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
1982	0.934	0.881	0.976	0.838	0.938	0.956	1.119	0.897	0.921
1987	0.920	0.855	0.871	0.819	0.887	0.902	1.089	0.823	0.883
1992	0.941	0.873	0.927	0.811	0.897	0.929	1.123	0.839	0.906
1997	0.882	0.810	0.870	0.823	0.856	0.858	1.043	0.789	0.855
1998	0.869	0.801	0.867	0.828	0.858	0.881	1.013	0.756	0.848
1999	0.878	0.785	0.851	0.821	0.865	0.915	1.031	0.816	0.846
2000	0.869	0.785	0.859	0.823	0.877	0.849	1.066	0.764	0.844
2001	0.845	0.779	0.867	0.820	0.830	0.975	1.072	0.743	0.833
2002	0.866	0.805	0.853	0.831	0.813	0.972	1.067	0.778	0.843

(a) Based on annual life tables calculated by the ABS. See Glossary for more information.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

6.7 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY

			SEIFA(a)			NUPTIALITY		
Statistical Division(c)	*Births* no.	*Total fertility(b)* rate	*Advantage/ Disadvantage* index	*Education/ Occupation* index	*Median age of mother* years	*Nuptial births* %	*Exnuptial paternity-acknowledged* %	*Exnuptial paternity-not-acknowledged* %
New South Wales								
Capital City								
Sydney	57 298	1.726	1 051	1 039	30.7	77.2	19.7	3.2
Balance of State								
Hunter	6 979	1.826	961	960	29.3	62.8	33.3	3.9
Illawarra	4 775	1.864	978	978	29.7	68.4	27.8	3.7
Richmond-Tweed	2 348	1.918	939	967	29.7	54.0	40.5	5.5
Mid-North Coast	2 753	2.002	923	948	28.9	53.6	41.4	5.0
Northern	2 324	2.036	946	958	28.3	60.3	36.0	3.7
North Western	1 612	2.210	940	945	28.3	57.0	38.3	4.7
Central West	2 198	2.030	954	953	28.8	63.5	32.5	4.0
South Eastern	2 119	1.903	979	984	29.7	61.1	35.2	3.7
Murrumbidgee	2 122	2.105	956	949	29.1	65.9	31.0	3.2
Murray	1 364	1.934	959	956	29.8	63.2	33.7	3.1
Far West	270	1.960	909	923	28.1	46.3	47.8	5.9
Total	28 865	1.935	955	961	29.2	61.6	34.3	4.1
Total(d)	*86 583*	*1.794*	*1 015*	*1 010*	*30.3*	*72.0*	*24.5*	*3.5*
Victoria								
Melbourne	45 421	1.582	1 032	1 026	31.4	76.7	21.3	2.1
Balance of State								
Barwon	3 074	1.751	975	976	30.4	69.0	29.0	2.0
Western Districts	1 167	1.971	956	961	29.6	69.6	29.2	1.2
Central Highlands	1 707	1.748	964	976	29.8	64.3	33.9	1.8
Wimmera	540	2.032	950	963	29.8	71.5	27.2	1.3
Mallee	1 196	2.110	937	943	29.1	64.0	33.4	2.6
Loddon	2 054	1.875	966	977	30.2	65.3	32.5	2.2
Goulburn	2 454	2.025	950	947	29.8	66.1	32.0	2.0
Ovens-Murray	1 110	1.882	972	980	29.8	66.0	32.3	1.7
East Gippsland	875	1.992	946	960	28.8	54.9	43.1	2.1
Gippsland	1 847	1.890	948	953	28.9	61.4	35.7	2.9
Total	16 024	1.889	959	965	29.8	65.5	32.5	2.0
Total(d)	*61 478*	*1.646*	*1 012*	*1 009*	*31.0*	*73.8*	*24.2*	*2.1*
Queensland								
Capital City								
Brisbane	22 321	1.703	1 015	1 010	30.0	67.5	28.6	3.9
Balance of State								
Moreton	8 324	1.658	972	979	29.9	61.4	34.3	4.3
Wide Bay-Burnett	2 710	2.089	904	923	28.3	56.7	35.6	7.7
Darling Downs	2 788	2.035	952	959	28.9	67.7	27.7	4.6
South West	410	2.246	946	939	29.5	61.7	34.6	3.7
Fitzroy	2 518	2.025	961	944	28.4	60.3	35.8	3.9
Central West	182	2.078	959	943	29.4	61.0	35.7	3.3
Mackay	1 919	1.900	956	933	29.0	63.1	33.0	3.9
Northern	2 734	1.926	977	967	28.7	60.6	33.0	6.3
Far North	3 154	1.947	968	971	29.0	50.3	41.8	7.9
North West	586	2.459	978	931	28.2	46.4	43.9	9.7
Total	25 325	1.881	959	960	29.1	59.8	34.8	5.4
Total(d)	*47 771*	*1.794*	*985*	*983*	*29.5*	*63.4*	*31.8*	*4.7*

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 2001 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 8 to 11 of the Explanatory Notes. SEIFA indexes are based on population weighted averages at the Census Collection District level.

(b) Average total fertility rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

(c) 2002 Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) boundaries.

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

6.7 REGIONAL PATTERNS OF FERTILITY *continued*

			SEIFA(a)			NUPTIALITY		
Statistical Division(c)	*Births* no.	*Total fertility(b)* rate	*Advantage/ Disadvantage* index	*Education/ Occupation* index	*Median age of mother* years	*Nuptial births* %	*Exnuptial paternity-acknowledged* %	*Exnuptial paternity-not-acknowledged* %
South Australia								
Capital City								
Adelaide	12 744	1.617	991	996	30.8	67.3	29.4	3.3
Balance of State								
Outer Adelaide	1 258	1.877	964	966	30.8	70.3	27.7	2.0
Yorke and Lower North	476	2.180	913	927	30.0	67.4	29.0	3.6
Murray Lands	810	2.099	904	901	29.5	60.5	35.3	4.2
South East	884	2.085	934	915	29.2	63.6	33.5	2.9
Eyre	470	2.230	935	939	29.6	60.0	36.2	3.8
Northern	1 019	2.055	922	921	28.1	47.1	46.3	6.6
Total	4 917	2.048	933	931	29.6	61.4	34.8	3.8
Total(d)	*17 665*	*1.708*	*976*	*978*	*30.4*	*65.6*	*30.9*	*3.5*
Western Australia								
Capital City								
Perth	16 837	1.646	1 024	1 018	30.3	68.9	28.1	2.9
Balance of State								
South West	2 295	1.945	948	936	28.9	57.2	39.2	3.6
Lower Great Southern	624	2.114	948	964	28.8	58.7	36.1	5.3
Upper Great Southern	234	2.469	948	958	28.8	71.4	26.1	2.6
Midlands	727	2.250	943	944	29.3	61.1	35.2	3.7
South Eastern	890	2.190	986	939	28.4	53.1	43.0	3.8
Central	824	2.192	947	942	28.6	51.9	41.3	6.8
Pilbara	641	2.126	1 040	952	29.3	56.2	40.2	3.6
Kimberley	509	1.983	973	969	27.2	29.5	61.7	8.8
Total	6 744	2.077	961	945	28.8	54.9	40.6	4.5
Total(d)	*23 601*	*1.744*	*1 007*	*999*	*29.9*	*64.9*	*31.7*	*3.4*
Tasmania								
Capital City								
Greater Hobart	2 539	1.859	985	1 003	29.5	53.3	38.6	8.1
Balance of State								
Southern	474	2.428	899	919	29.0	42.8	50.2	7.0
Northern	1 636	1.912	938	951	28.6	57.4	35.0	7.6
Mersey-Lyell	1 334	2.073	907	915	28.2	51.9	41.0	7.1
Total	3 444	2.024	921	933	28.5	53.3	39.4	7.3
Total(d)	*6 003*	*1.951*	*948*	*962*	*28.9*	*53.2*	*39.0*	*7.8*
Northern Territory								
Capital City								
Darwin	1 787	1.806	1 045	1 023	29.6	52.7	38.2	9.1
Balance of State								
Northern Territory - Bal	1 930	2.721	985	978	26.4	24.3	41.7	34.0
Total(d)	*3 724*	*2.258*	*1 018*	*1 003*	*28.1*	*38.0*	*40.0*	*22.0*
Australian Capital Territory								
Capital City								
Canberra	4 093	1.549	1 122	1 113	30.7	73.3	23.6	3.1
Total(d)(e)	*4 112*	*1.565*	1 122	*1 113*	*30.7*	*73.2*	*23.6*	*3.2*
Australia(f)	**250 988**	**1.751**	**1 005**	**1 001**	**30.2**	**68.7**	**27.5**	**3.7**

(a) Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, 2001 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 8 to 11 of the Explanatory Notes. SEIFA indexes are based on population weighted averages at the Census Collection District level.

(b) Average total fertility rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

(c) 2002 ASGC boundaries.

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

(e) Includes Australian Capital Territory - Bal.

(f) Includes Other Territories.

6.8 FERTILITY, Selected countries of birth

Country of birth of mother	Average births(a)	Estimated resident female population(b)	AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(a) 15–19 years	20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years	45–49 years	Total fertility rate(a)
	no.	no.	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate	rate
Argentina	190	3 683	10.6	58.5	93.9	107.4	55.4	11.9	0.5	1.691
Australia (excl. Norfolk Island)	190 237	3 741 949	18.1	58.0	105.0	108.4	47.3	8.3	0.3	1.727
Austria	99	2 680	11.0	44.9	102.6	98.3	48.8	10.3	1.3	1.585
Burma (Myanmar)	160	3 328	7.3	39.7	85.7	113.8	66.3	15.7	1.0	1.647
Cambodia	729	9 728	20.7	109.8	150.7	129.1	58.1	14.6	0.8	2.419
Canada	593	10 616	4.8	33.9	84.9	123.0	78.3	17.8	0.2	1.715
Chile	439	8 356	15.9	67.3	115.0	108.2	48.6	8.2	0.5	1.818
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	3 227	52 675	1.8	43.8	133.9	134.3	76.3	21.5	1.2	2.064
Cyprus	181	4 745	14.5	52.8	115.1	97.6	52.5	5.6	—	1.690
Denmark	117	2 337	3.7	34.8	81.0	129.2	49.0	13.0	—	1.553
Egypt	327	6 917	4.7	107.0	203.5	129.9	56.3	10.1	0.3	2.559
Fiji	1 066	18 819	13.2	90.2	120.5	98.1	45.3	11.5	0.3	1.895
Former Yugoslav Republics(c)	1 676	47 419	7.4	76.4	120.2	83.7	33.2	5.3	0.2	1.632
France	281	5 163	4.6	26.4	98.3	125.6	57.9	14.6	0.9	1.641
Germany	736	17 121	5.4	39.1	95.8	110.4	64.1	9.9	0.3	1.625
Greece	348	15 153	4.5	42.8	96.6	87.4	40.3	6.4	0.2	1.391
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	492	28 140	1.1	2.9	27.9	76.5	44.5	7.1	0.2	0.801
India	1 509	28 104	4.3	59.6	127.4	108.7	44.5	8.3	0.7	1.768
Indonesia	967	19 721	3.9	26.0	121.0	131.5	59.9	14.0	0.7	1.785
Iran	254	6 327	1.7	37.9	87.2	91.5	61.8	10.5	0.7	1.457
Ireland	539	13 428	3.2	22.5	40.6	103.8	71.6	14.0	0.3	1.280
Israel	122	1 881	5.0	47.0	127.9	168.5	74.8	20.1	—	2.216
Italy	534	22 832	2.2	33.8	98.8	102.8	44.1	8.4	0.3	1.452
Japan	667	12 516	2.7	13.7	65.1	105.6	73.1	20.6	0.3	1.406
Korea, Republic of (South)	689	16 285	2.1	11.7	94.0	110.2	41.3	7.6	0.6	1.337
Laos	245	4 135	26.1	88.7	106.0	98.8	51.9	9.1	0.6	1.907
Lebanon	2 345	26 137	75.8	242.9	201.8	136.0	60.3	13.9	1.0	3.659
Malaysia	1 076	32 287	2.5	11.0	64.4	117.2	62.2	9.9	0.5	1.339
Malta	140	7 173	22.9	47.2	125.3	110.9	32.8	4.8	0.4	1.721
Mauritius	202	5 612	4.4	38.8	98.3	107.8	46.9	10.6	0.3	1.536
Netherlands	404	11 314	11.7	43.6	95.3	137.0	66.4	8.1	0.1	1.811
New Zealand	6 693	128 541	30.3	75.2	94.2	93.3	49.4	10.0	0.8	1.765
Papua New Guinea	751	11 069	19.3	64.1	111.8	118.8	60.0	13.3	0.3	1.938
Philippines	2 677	52 430	16.5	76.1	128.9	111.7	58.1	13.8	0.9	2.030
Poland	351	13 887	6.9	27.5	80.0	78.4	35.7	6.8	0.4	1.178
Portugal	188	5 083	10.4	56.9	119.2	89.2	35.4	6.7	—	1.589
Romania	207	4 200	14.3	66.3	116.3	88.2	46.5	11.5	—	1.716
Singapore	414	13 414	1.3	9.0	65.6	103.9	51.0	9.7	0.6	1.205
South Africa	1 191	27 229	4.7	30.3	86.3	118.6	51.0	7.9	0.3	1.496
Spain	140	3 117	13.3	35.8	91.9	109.2	55.9	8.5	0.5	1.575

(a) Average for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

(b) Estimated resident female population aged 15–49 years, at 30 June 2001.

(c) Former Yugoslav Republics consists of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Slovenia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Yugoslavia n.f.d..

6.8 FERTILITY, Selected countries of birth *continued*

			AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE(a)							
Country of birth of mother	*Average births(a)* no.	*Estimated resident female population(b)* no.	*15–19 years* rate	*20–24 years* rate	*25–29 years* rate	*30–34 years* rate	*35–39 years* rate	*40–44 years* rate	*45–49 years* rate	*Total fertility rate(a)* rate
Sri Lanka	899	17 790	4.0	31.6	123.6	136.2	62.9	9.8	0.3	1.842
Switzerland	156	2 998	5.6	27.9	81.8	135.4	65.6	11.5	1.4	1.646
Thailand	562	12 900	21.9	45.9	70.6	83.5	51.1	14.4	0.5	1.439
Turkey	751	11 319	47.5	163.3	132.8	89.4	39.3	8.9	0.7	2.410
Ukraine	148	2 610	4.9	81.5	134.0	93.0	55.9	7.8	1.0	1.890
United Kingdom	9 730	239 744	13.2	47.4	91.2	107.4	51.7	9.4	0.4	1.604
Uruguay	979	17 580	7.3	45.5	97.7	131.5	75.6	21.2	1.8	1.903
United States of America	163	2 798	28.1	71.1	115.0	102.7	65.8	12.3	0.6	1.978
Viet Nam	4 641	67 155	18.9	75.7	129.0	126.8	65.1	13.9	0.9	2.151
Total overseas born	*58 461*	*1 186 761*	*13.0*	*57.9*	*108.4*	*112.1*	*55.8*	*11.1*	*0.6*	*1.795*
Total(c)	**249 006**	**4 928 710**	**17.5**	**58.0**	**105.8**	**109.4**	**49.8**	**9.2**	**0.4**	**1.751**

(a) Average for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

(b) Estimated resident female population aged 15–49 years, at 30 June 2001.

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

CHAPTER 7 BIRTHS TABLES

7.1 BIRTHS REGISTERED

Selected years	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Other Territories*	***Aust.***
					MALES					
1982	43 096	30 702	20 957	9 916	11 401	3 616	1 456	2 110	. .	**123 254**
1987	44 035	31 605	20 293	9 896	12 044	3 483	1 819	2 090	. .	**125 265**
1992	47 710	33 691	23 600	9 957	12 879	3 595	1 913	2 256	. .	**135 601**
1997	44 647	31 248	24 024	9 383	12 810	3 098	1 812	2 132	25	**129 179**
1998	43 763	31 303	24 042	9 266	12 655	3 053	1 913	2 006	15	**128 016**
1999	44 438	30 101	23 919	9 184	12 686	3 056	1 823	2 129	21	**127 357**
2000	44 705	30 326	24 291	9 164	12 763	2 985	1 862	2 074	20	**128 190**
2001	43 529	29 943	24 377	8 730	12 329	3 376	1 997	1 995	22	**126 298**
2002	44 369	31 605	24 454	9 051	12 102	3 018	1 919	2 082	23	**128 623**
					FEMALES					
1982	40 812	29 174	19 642	9 283	10 860	3 423	1 458	1 997	. .	**116 649**
1987	42 058	29 902	19 072	9 339	11 288	3 307	1 710	2 018	. .	**118 694**
1992	44 875	32 075	22 640	9 354	12 194	3 392	1 829	2 191	. .	**128 550**
1997	42 509	29 484	22 941	8 979	11 966	2 909	1 776	2 076	23	**122 663**
1998	41 736	29 189	23 004	8 960	12 062	2 925	1 728	1 976	20	**121 600**
1999	42 346	28 774	22 584	8 774	12 163	2 976	1 753	2 124	19	**121 513**
2000	42 047	28 845	22 987	8 695	12 330	2 707	1 823	1 991	21	**121 446**
2001	41 049	28 683	23 301	8 551	11 673	3 054	1 825	1 943	17	**120 096**
2002	42 214	29 873	23 317	8 614	11 499	2 985	1 805	2 030	28	**122 365**
					PERSONS					
1982	83 908	59 876	40 599	19 199	22 261	7 039	2 914	4 107	. .	**239 903**
1987	86 093	61 507	39 365	19 235	23 332	6 790	3 529	4 108	. .	**243 959**
1992	92 585	65 766	46 240	19 311	25 073	6 987	3 742	4 447	. .	**264 151**
1997	87 156	60 732	46 965	18 362	24 776	6 007	3 588	4 208	48	**251 842**
1998	85 499	60 492	47 046	18 226	24 717	5 978	3 641	3 982	35	**249 616**
1999	86 784	58 875	46 503	17 958	24 849	6 032	3 576	4 253	40	**248 870**
2000	86 752	59 171	47 278	17 859	25 093	5 692	3 685	4 065	41	**249 636**
2001	84 578	58 626	47 678	17 281	24 002	6 430	3 822	3 938	39	**246 394**
2002	86 583	61 478	47 771	17 665	23 601	6 003	3 724	4 112	51	**250 988**

7.2 BIRTHS REGISTERED, Nuptiality

Selected years	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	***Aust.(a)***
NUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1982	72 101	53 737	33 833	16 677	18 939	5 964	2 000	3 694	**206 945**
1987	70 590	53 027	31 236	15 812	18 709	5 466	1 774	3 539	**200 153**
1992	71 173	53 175	33 343	14 477	18 400	5 003	1 674	3 538	**200 783**
1997	63 918	47 191	31 345	12 928	17 134	3 866	1 522	3 157	**181 104**
1998	62 751	46 391	31 215	12 689	16 861	3 661	1 517	2 931	**178 046**
1999	63 188	45 106	30 877	12 362	16 458	3 616	1 432	3 106	**176 179**
2000	63 797	45 075	31 244	12 045	16 561	3 393	1 450	3 028	**176 625**
2001	61 131	43 604	30 784	11 475	15 700	3 675	1 405	2 870	**170 675**
2002	62 321	45 353	30 294	11 595	15 325	3 192	1 414	3 011	**172 550**
TOTAL EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1982	11 807	6 139	6 766	2 522	3 322	1 075	914	413	**32 958**
1987	15 503	8 480	8 129	3 423	4 623	1 324	1 755	569	**43 806**
1992	21 412	12 591	12 897	4 834	6 673	1 984	2 068	909	**63 368**
1997	23 238	13 541	15 620	5 434	7 642	2 141	2 066	1 051	**70 738**
1998	22 748	14 101	15 831	5 537	7 856	2 317	2 124	1 051	**71 570**
1999	23 596	13 769	15 626	5 596	8 391	2 416	2 144	1 147	**72 691**
2000	22 955	14 096	16 034	5 814	8 532	2 299	2 235	1 037	**73 011**
2001	23 447	15 022	16 894	5 806	8 302	2 755	2 417	1 068	**75 719**
2002	24 262	16 125	17 477	6 070	8 276	2 811	2 310	1 101	**78 438**
PATERNITY-ACKNOWLEDGED EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1982	7 751	3 628	4 029	1 628	1 817	643	684	255	**20 435**
1987	11 727	6 316	5 454	2 542	3 283	994	1 236	420	**31 972**
1992	17 494	10 372	10 353	3 980	5 348	1 660	1 365	777	**51 349**
1997	19 958	11 853	13 145	4 787	6 490	1 876	1 423	916	**60 452**
1998	19 618	12 972	13 665	4 959	6 745	2 059	1 435	887	**62 345**
1999	20 722	12 843	13 486	5 026	7 500	2 143	1 439	979	**64 144**
2000	20 070	13 092	13 937	5 227	7 716	2 050	1 397	899	**64 396**
2001	20 449	13 781	14 692	5 249	7 407	2 544	1 530	880	**66 539**
2002	21 227	14 863	15 214	5 457	7 477	2 344	1 490	971	**69 048**
PATERNITY-NOT-ACKNOWLEDGED EXNUPTIAL BIRTHS									
1982	4 056	2 511	2 737	894	1 505	432	230	158	**12 523**
1987	3 776	2 164	2 675	881	1 340	330	519	149	**11 834**
1992	3 918	2 219	2 544	854	1 325	324	703	132	**12 019**
1997	3 280	1 688	2 475	647	1 152	265	643	135	**10 286**
1998	3 130	1 129	2 166	578	1 111	258	689	164	**9 225**
1999	2 874	926	2 140	570	891	273	705	168	**8 547**
2000	2 885	1 004	2 097	587	816	249	838	138	**8 615**
2001	2 998	1 241	2 202	557	895	211	887	188	**9 180**
2002	3 035	1 262	2 263	613	799	467	820	130	**9 390**

(a) Includes Other Territories.

7.3 BIRTHS REGISTERED, Nuptiality and age of parents

	MOTHERS				FATHERS		
Age of parent (years)	*Married*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged*	*Total*	*Married*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Total*
15 and under	3	227	153	383	—	52	52
16	8	737	245	990	np	np	174
17	39	1 536	418	1 993	5	473	478
18	215	2 556	516	3 287	29	1 086	1 115
19	676	3 575	601	4 852	105	1 784	1 889
20	1 088	3 898	627	5 613	245	2 405	2 650
21	1 813	4 152	571	6 536	521	2 808	3 329
22	2 617	3 912	511	7 040	1 000	3 128	4 128
23	3 844	3 783	482	8 109	1 601	3 268	4 869
24	5 094	3 949	441	9 484	2 590	3 460	6 050
25	6 524	3 714	416	10 654	3 836	3 621	7 457
26	8 581	3 526	399	12 506	5 160	3 721	8 881
27	10 556	3 577	424	14 557	6 835	3 778	10 613
28	12 286	3 461	400	16 147	8 657	3 687	12 344
29	14 116	3 474	366	17 956	10 721	3 809	14 530
30	15 340	3 384	347	19 071	13 115	3 752	16 867
31	15 525	3 110	298	18 933	13 810	3 517	17 327
32	14 124	2 758	292	17 174	13 519	3 143	16 662
33	12 759	2 476	242	15 477	12 988	2 804	15 792
34	11 060	2 131	206	13 397	11 954	2 417	14 371
35	9 314	1 929	220	11 463	10 900	2 375	13 275
36	7 391	1 671	179	9 241	9 734	2 086	11 820
37	5 930	1 431	164	7 525	8 574	1 832	10 406
38	4 626	1 142	127	5 895	7 323	1 659	8 982
39	3 328	1 039	130	4 497	6 397	1 459	7 856
40	2 314	702	93	3 109	5 095	1 293	6 388
41	1 430	522	66	2 018	4 141	1 032	5 173
42	865	293	42	1 200	3 151	819	3 970
43	482	175	34	691	2 340	655	2 995
44	251	79	14	344	1 856	565	2 421
45	115	39	11	165	1 418	479	1 897
46	62	np	np	78	1 024	351	1 375
47	22	np	np	30	797	297	1 094
48	np	np	—	10	609	232	841
49	6	3	—	9	493	180	673
50	7	—	—	7	373	151	524
51	—	np	—	np	290	109	399
52	np	—	—	np	228	112	340
53	—	—	—	—	200	81	281
54	np	—	—	np	173	72	245
55–59	np	—	—	np	417	172	589
60 and over	—	—	—	—	185	64	249
Not stated	125	64	352	541	np	np	227
Total	**172 550**	**69 048**	**9 390**	**250 988**	**172 550**	**69 048**	**241 598**

7.4 BIRTHS REGISTERED, Month of birth

	YEAR OF REGISTRATION				
Month of birth	*1987*	*1992*	*1997*	*2001*	*2002*
January	19 932	21 880	21 352	20 228	21 185
February	19 081	21 160	19 444	19 350	19 678
March	21 704	22 594	21 419	21 706	21 457
April	20 476	21 780	20 634	20 299	20 463
May	20 634	22 311	21 377	20 995	21 100
June	20 084	21 723	20 605	20 275	20 053
July	20 952	22 723	21 606	20 867	21 277
August	20 305	21 976	21 087	21 548	21 080
September	20 928	22 639	21 475	21 393	21 422
October	20 299	22 697	21 845	21 263	21 853
November	19 272	21 025	19 599	19 580	20 430
December	20 292	21 643	21 399	18 890	20 990
Total	**243 959**	**264 151**	**251 842**	**246 394**	**250 988**

CHAPTER 8 CONFINEMENTS TABLES

8.1 CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age group (years)	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(a)*
19 and under	3 614	1 818	2 896	782	1 285	446	453	128	11 423
20–24	12 506	7 116	8 141	2 503	3 707	1 150	810	463	36 406
25–29	24 798	16 573	14 038	4 839	6 759	1 628	954	1 131	70 735
30–34	28 227	22 425	14 534	5 879	7 527	1 570	930	1 381	82 490
35–39	13 199	10 537	6 148	2 757	3 345	686	423	632	37 734
40–44	2 680	1 877	1 126	553	581	149	100	146	7 213
45 and over	99	72	50	31	22	6	4	5	289
Total(b)	**85 178**	**60 435**	**46 934**	**17 354**	**23 232**	**5 914**	**3 675**	**4 048**	**246 821**

(a) Includes Other Territories.

(b) Includes age of mother not stated.

8.2 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of parents—Selected years

	MOTHERS				FATHERS		
Selected years	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged*	*Total*	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Total*
1982	27.3	22.9	21.1	26.8	29.9	26.1	29.7
1987	28.3	24.1	22.2	27.7	30.8	26.8	30.4
1992	29.5	24.6	22.9	28.7	31.8	27.4	31.2
1997	30.4	25.6	23.9	29.4	32.8	28.1	32.0
1998	30.5	25.9	23.9	29.5	32.9	28.4	32.0
1999	30.6	26.1	24.2	29.7	33.0	28.5	32.1
2000	30.8	26.4	24.4	29.8	33.1	28.9	32.2
2001	31.0	26.5	24.4	30.0	33.2	29.0	32.3
2002	31.2	26.7	24.8	30.2	33.3	29.3	32.5

8.3 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of parents—States and territories

	MOTHERS				FATHERS		
State/territory	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged*	*Total*	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Total*
New South Wales	31.0	26.8	25.6	30.3	33.4	29.3	32.6
Victoria	31.6	28.0	26.9	31.0	33.6	30.3	33.0
Queensland	30.8	25.8	23.8	29.5	32.8	28.4	31.7
South Australia	31.6	26.7	25.8	30.4	33.6	29.7	32.6
Western Australia	31.1	26.2	24.1	29.9	33.3	28.9	32.2
Tasmania	30.7	25.1	22.6	28.9	32.8	28.4	31.3
Northern Territory	31.3	26.2	23.1	28.1	33.6	29.0	31.6
Australian Capital Territory	31.4	27.6	24.6	30.7	33.5	29.7	32.8
Australia(a)	**31.2**	**26.7**	**24.8**	**30.2**	**33.3**	**29.3**	**32.5**

(a) Includes Other Territories.

8.4 CONFINEMENTS, Median age of mother—States and territories

Selected years	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(a)*
1982	26.9	27.3	26.3	26.5	26.6	25.8	25.5	28.1	26.8
1987	27.8	28.2	27.2	27.5	27.6	27.0	26.0	28.5	27.7
1992	28.7	29.2	28.2	28.7	28.5	28.0	26.3	28.9	28.7
1997	29.4	30.0	28.6	29.7	29.2	28.2	27.0	29.8	29.4
1998	29.5	30.2	28.8	29.8	29.3	28.6	27.4	29.9	29.5
1999	29.6	30.4	28.9	29.9	29.4	28.6	27.5	30.2	29.7
2000	29.8	30.5	29.1	30.1	29.6	28.7	27.7	30.2	29.8
2001	30.0	30.7	29.3	30.3	29.8	29.1	27.9	30.4	30.0
2002	30.3	31.0	29.5	30.4	29.9	28.9	28.1	30.7	30.2

(a) Includes Other Territories.

8.5 CONFINEMENTS, Age of parents

	MOTHERS				FATHERS		
Age of parent (years)	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged*	*Total*	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged*	*Total*
15 and under	3	227	153	383	—	52	52
16	8	733	243	984	np	np	173
17	39	1 526	415	1 980	5	469	474
18	214	2 538	510	3 262	28	1 078	1 106
19	666	3 553	595	4 814	104	1 774	1 878
20	1 082	3 861	619	5 562	242	2 386	2 628
21	1 794	4 107	564	6 465	517	2 783	3 300
22	2 591	3 878	509	6 978	992	3 093	4 085
23	3 812	3 737	477	8 026	1 581	3 239	4 820
24	5 030	3 908	437	9 375	2 557	3 419	5 976
25	6 447	3 663	410	10 520	3 781	3 587	7 368
26	8 450	3 479	395	12 324	5 088	3 669	8 757
27	10 402	3 521	417	14 340	6 744	3 733	10 477
28	12 089	3 404	391	15 884	8 521	3 637	12 158
29	13 879	3 428	360	17 667	10 569	3 743	14 312
30	15 095	3 338	342	18 775	12 896	3 707	16 603
31	15 241	3 069	293	18 603	13 582	3 470	17 052
32	13 828	2 716	289	16 833	13 302	3 102	16 404
33	12 517	2 435	236	15 188	12 743	2 766	15 509
34	10 788	2 099	204	13 091	11 740	2 379	14 119
35	9 108	1 895	213	11 216	10 654	2 330	12 984
36	7 215	1 638	173	9 026	9 521	2 056	11 577
37	5 770	1 413	159	7 342	8 377	1 804	10 181
38	4 509	1 124	125	5 758	7 176	1 635	8 811
39	3 247	1 020	125	4 392	6 266	1 443	7 709
40	2 254	688	89	3 031	4 975	1 277	6 252
41	1 401	515	64	1 980	4 034	1 013	5 047
42	847	290	42	1 179	3 084	806	3 890
43	475	172	34	681	2 294	642	2 936
44	249	79	14	342	1 816	557	2 373
45	109	38	11	158	1 386	474	1 860
46	60	np	np	75	1 000	349	1 349
47	21	np	np	29	783	295	1 078
48	np	np	—	9	594	227	821
49	np	np	—	7	482	177	659
50	5	—	—	5	358	150	508
51	—	np	—	np	283	109	392
52	np	—	—	np	223	109	332
53	—	—	—	—	193	81	274
54	np	—	—	np	168	71	239
55–59	np	—	—	np	405	168	573
60 and over	—	—	—	—	183	63	246
Not stated	122	63	346	531	np	np	222
Total	**169 385**	**68 179**	**9 257**	**246 821**	**169 385**	**68 179**	**237 564**

8.6 NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	*1982*	*1987*	*1992*	*1997*	*2001*	*2002*
15 and under	29	7	—	np	np	3
16	194	80	23	4	12	8
17	804	392	168	49	46	39
18	1 989	1 037	602	326	234	214
19	3 939	2 043	1 412	809	700	666
20	6 295	3 510	2 637	1 450	1 204	1 082
21	8 831	5 369	4 104	2 264	1 889	1 794
22	11 381	7 544	5 783	3 534	2 802	2 591
23	13 527	10 334	7 882	5 078	3 975	3 812
24	15 816	12 957	9 690	7 106	5 242	5 030
25	17 176	15 585	11 765	9 550	6 932	6 447
26	17 385	17 239	13 771	11 630	8 706	8 450
27	17 042	17 482	15 492	13 116	10 603	10 402
28	16 092	17 390	16 971	14 188	12 544	12 089
29	15 047	16 411	17 304	14 711	14 477	13 879
30	12 995	14 468	16 529	14 609	14 793	15 095
31	10 897	12 311	15 399	13 819	14 335	15 241
32	8 775	10 233	13 247	12 954	13 489	13 828
33	6 955	8 571	11 103	11 776	11 779	12 517
34	5 639	6 849	9 103	10 374	10 047	10 788
35	4 479	5 354	7 221	8 544	8 509	9 108
36	3 013	3 953	5 473	6 897	7 066	7 215
37	2 155	2 912	4 047	5 067	5 573	5 770
38	1 499	2 008	2 918	3 760	4 286	4 509
39	1 051	1 496	1 988	2 570	3 138	3 247
40	719	1 045	1 405	1 698	2 063	2 254
41	449	556	839	1 088	1 381	1 401
42	266	323	498	627	858	847
43	172	188	276	369	454	475
44	80	82	159	157	225	249
45	40	50	85	71	100	109
46	27	29	32	29	48	60
47	11	10	17	13	26	21
48	np	5	7	6	10	8
49	—	np	4	np	6	5
50 and over	—	np	4	4	13	10
Not stated	np	25	44	29	np	122
Total	**204 775**	**197 853**	**198 002**	**178 279**	**167 572**	**169 385**

8.7 EXNUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Age of mother

Age of mother (years)	*1982*	*1987*	*1992*	*1997*	*2001*	*2002*
15 and under	538	489	400	438	420	380
16	1 242	1 150	1 087	1 051	951	976
17	2 335	2 188	2 299	2 173	2 014	1 941
18	3 041	3 068	3 515	3 186	3 052	3 048
19	3 092	3 453	4 571	4 201	4 196	4 148
20	2 977	3 448	5 045	4 461	4 479	4 480
21	2 574	3 181	4 910	4 462	4 261	4 671
22	2 411	3 039	4 350	4 560	4 485	4 387
23	2 064	2 859	4 138	4 474	4 259	4 214
24	1 836	2 694	3 783	4 267	4 254	4 345
25	1 549	2 481	3 325	4 260	4 048	4 073
26	1 404	2 205	3 122	4 054	3 900	3 874
27	1 223	2 063	2 973	3 556	3 881	3 938
28	1 039	1 760	2 714	3 334	3 790	3 795
29	1 014	1 590	2 590	3 010	3 750	3 788
30	801	1 498	2 314	2 677	3 512	3 680
31	744	1 167	2 078	2 459	2 960	3 362
32	598	1 075	1 793	2 265	2 738	3 005
33	483	872	1 629	2 057	2 432	2 671
34	414	691	1 287	1 902	2 194	2 303
35	336	588	1 141	1 615	1 958	2 108
36	249	497	976	1 441	1 700	1 811
37	219	387	761	1 134	1 476	1 572
38	148	278	552	951	1 218	1 249
39	117	253	456	686	935	1 145
40	86	156	316	469	678	777
41	53	90	200	312	468	579
42	33	62	105	200	292	332
43	17	33	72	111	174	206
44	12	11	23	69	82	93
45	7	10	17	28	37	49
46	3	7	3	12	21	15
47	np	np	4	3	7	8
48	np	—	np	np	np	np
49	—	np	—	—	np	np
50 and over	np	—	—	np	3	np
Not stated	15	70	116	87	140	409
Total	**32 679**	**43 418**	**62 667**	**69 967**	**74 768**	**77 436**

8.8 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality

	Single		MULTIPLE CONFINEMENTS				Total
			Twins	Triplets and higher order	Total multiple confinements		
Selected years	no.	%	no.	no.	no.	%	no.
1982	234 978	99.0	2 443	33	2 476	1.0	237 454
1987	238 612	98.9	2 594	65	2 659	1.1	241 271
1992	257 242	98.7	3 315	112	3 427	1.3	260 669
1997	244 689	98.6	3 450	107	3 557	1.4	248 246
1998	242 208	98.5	3 592	98	3 690	1.5	245 898
1999	241 370	98.5	3 630	108	3 738	1.5	245 108
2000	241 795	98.4	3 800	102	3 902	1.6	245 697
2001	238 312	98.3	3 938	90	4 028	1.7	242 340
2002	242 668	98.3	4 070	83	4 153	1.7	246 821

8.9 CONFINEMENTS RESULTING IN A MULTIPLE BIRTH, States and territories

Selected years	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
				NUMBER					
1982	882	639	391	210	238	60	19	37	2 476
1987	962	663	417	199	282	64	38	34	2 659
1992	1 189	863	605	246	335	91	38	60	3 427
1997	1 178	916	676	261	367	74	35	48	3 557
1998	1 218	945	678	293	369	88	35	64	3 690
1999	1 288	979	617	288	355	99	46	65	3 738
2000	1 397	939	719	269	396	86	44	52	3 902
2001	1 447	954	727	260	403	109	48	78	4 028
2002	1 405	1 042	817	312	373	91	50	63	4 153
				PER CENT OF TOTAL CONFINEMENTS					
1982	1.06	1.08	0.97	1.11	1.08	0.86	0.66	0.91	1.04
1987	1.13	1.09	1.07	1.05	1.22	0.95	1.09	0.83	1.10
1992	1.30	1.33	1.33	1.29	1.35	1.32	1.03	1.37	1.31
1997	1.37	1.53	1.46	1.44	1.50	1.25	0.99	1.15	1.43
1998	1.45	1.59	1.46	1.63	1.52	1.49	0.97	1.63	1.50
1999	1.51	1.69	1.34	1.63	1.45	1.67	1.30	1.55	1.53
2000	1.64	1.61	1.54	1.53	1.60	1.53	1.21	1.30	1.59
2001	1.74	1.65	1.55	1.53	1.71	1.72	1.27	2.02	1.66
2002	1.65	1.72	1.74	1.80	1.61	1.54	1.36	1.56	1.68

(a) Includes Other Territories.

8.10 CONFINEMENTS, Plurality—Marital status

	SINGLE			MULTIPLE			TOTAL		
	Nuptial	*Exnuptial*	*Total*	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial*	*Total*	*Nuptial*	*Exnuptial*	*Total*
Selected years	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1982	85.3	13.6	99.0	0.9	0.1	1.0	86.2	13.8	100.0
1987	81.1	17.8	98.9	0.9	0.2	1.1	82.0	18.0	100.0
1992	74.9	23.8	98.7	1.0	0.3	1.3	76.0	24.0	100.0
1997	70.7	27.9	98.6	1.1	0.3	1.4	71.8	28.2	100.0
1998	70.1	28.4	98.5	1.2	0.3	1.5	71.2	28.8	100.0
1999	69.5	29.0	98.5	1.2	0.3	1.5	70.7	29.3	100.0
2000	69.4	29.0	98.4	1.2	0.4	1.6	70.6	29.4	100.0
2001	67.9	30.5	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	69.1	30.9	100.0
2002	67.3	31.0	98.3	1.3	0.4	1.7	68.6	31.4	100.0

8.11 NUPTIAL CONFINEMENTS, Previous children—Duration of current marriage

	PREVIOUS CHILDREN OF THE CURRENT MARRIAGE(a)						
	None	*One*	*Two*	*Three*	*Four*	*Five or more*	*Total*
Duration of marriage (years)	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
Under 1	11 882	1 881	349	62	13	7	14 194
1	16 542	3 595	579	82	25	11	20 834
2	13 101	7 092	907	142	25	15	21 282
3	8 930	9 743	1 355	171	39	13	20 251
4	6 320	9 206	2 146	244	46	16	17 978
5	4 541	7 790	2 832	388	67	19	15 637
6	3 147	6 262	3 068	537	77	27	13 118
7	2 223	4 944	3 082	647	105	39	11 040
8	1 581	3 503	2 648	744	162	57	8 695
9	1 079	2 567	2 288	679	179	57	6 849
10 and over	2 345	5 486	6 321	3 133	1 178	1 044	19 507
Total	**71 691**	**62 069**	**25 575**	**6 829**	**1 916**	**1 305**	**169 385**

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

8.12 NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS(a), Duration of current marriage

DURATION OF CURRENT MARRIAGE (YEARS)

Selected years	*Under one* no.	*One* no.	*Two* no.	*Three* no.	*Four* no.	*Five to nine* no.	*Ten and over* no.	*Total(b)* no.	*Median duration* years
1982	19 372	18 592	13 322	9 627	7 261	13 752	1 293	83 300	2.3
1987	16 053	18 420	13 587	10 029	7 252	12 757	2 126	80 241	2.4
1992	16 175	18 406	13 459	9 959	7 261	13 314	2 205	80 821	2.4
1997	12 805	16 919	12 573	9 257	6 646	12 902	2 254	73 356	2.6
1998	12 530	16 504	12 302	9 193	6 687	12 908	2 152	72 276	2.6
1999	13 067	16 578	12 293	9 199	6 702	12 773	2 216	72 828	2.6
2000	13 385	17 314	12 705	9 039	6 806	12 998	2 401	74 648	2.5
2001	12 248	16 884	12 018	8 789	6 098	12 406	2 418	70 861	2.5
2002	11 882	16 542	13 101	8 930	6 320	12 571	2 345	71 691	2.6

(a) Excludes confinements to relationships with exnuptial births.

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

8.13 NUPTIAL FIRST CONFINEMENTS(a), Age of mother

AGE OF MOTHER (YEARS)

Selected years	*19 and under* no.	*20–24* no.	*25–29* no.	*30–34* no.	*35–39* no.	*40 and over* no.	*Total(b)* no.	*Median age* years
1982	5 535	31 975	31 964	11 067	2 416	341	83 300	25.5
1987	2 836	23 087	35 285	14 510	3 935	579	80 241	26.8
1992	1 765	17 927	34 377	20 057	5 749	919	80 821	28.0
1997	970	11 483	30 663	21 720	7 296	1 211	73 356	29.0
1998	893	10 645	30 275	21 600	7 577	1 284	72 276	29.1
1999	866	10 139	29 872	22 577	7 956	1 413	72 828	29.3
2000	804	9 912	29 843	24 090	8 484	1 514	74 648	29.5
2001	818	8 949	26 869	24 153	8 467	1 602	70 861	29.8
2002	770	8 378	26 105	25 712	9 001	1 662	71 691	30.1

(a) Excludes confinements to relationships with exnuptial births.

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

8.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER, Summary

		FATHER BORN IN(a).....			NUPTIALITY.....				
Country of birth of mother	*Total confinements* no.	*Australia* %	*Same country as mother* %	*Other country* %	*Nuptial mothers* %	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged* %	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged* %	*Total fertility rate(b)* rate	*Median age of mothers* years
Oceania and Antarctica									
Australia (excludes Norfolk Island)	189 043	86.3	—	13.7	65.6	30.5	3.9	1.727	29.9
Fiji	1 042	17.4	67.5	15.1	84.0	13.5	2.5	1.895	29.1
New Zealand	6 725	52.9	32.1	15.0	55.5	39.5	5.0	1.765	30.1
Papua New Guinea	748	69.6	9.6	20.8	65.8	30.2	4.0	1.938	31.0
Other	1 449	12.7	68.3	19.1	69.8	25.0	5.2	3.913	30.9
Total	*199 007*	*84.2*	*2.0*	*13.8*	*65.4*	*30.7*	*3.9*	*1.735*	*29.9*
North-West Europe									
Austria	82	43.6	6.4	50.0	70.7	24.4	4.9	1.585	31.7
Denmark	120	67.8	11.9	20.3	76.7	21.7	—	1.553	32.9
France	279	55.6	15.5	28.9	79.9	19.4	1.1	1.641	33.0
Germany	718	62.1	11.5	26.4	76.9	21.6	1.5	1.625	33.5
Ireland	523	48.8	21.3	29.9	81.1	16.8	2.1	1.280	33.8
Netherlands	375	67.4	15.1	17.5	75.7	23.2	1.1	1.811	32.6
Switzerland	160	58.1	15.0	26.9	83.1	16.9	—	1.646	33.1
United Kingdom	9 117	65.6	22.8	11.6	73.9	24.3	1.8	1.604	33.4
Other	323	61.9	10.6	27.5	73.7	25.4	0.9	1.544	32.8
Total	*11 697*	*64.1*	*21.0*	*15.0*	*74.7*	*23.5*	*1.7*	*1.573*	*33.4*
Southern and Eastern Europe									
Bosnia and Herzegovina	359	8.4	71.2	20.4	88.3	11.4	0.8	1.849	30.0
Croatia	373	35.8	39.6	24.7	85.3	13.7	1.1	1.804	32.8
Cyprus	162	56.8	22.8	20.4	94.4	5.6	—	1.690	32.4
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	461	35.0	51.5	13.5	89.6	10.2	—	1.808	30.5
Greece	293	68.3	16.6	15.2	88.1	10.9	1.0	1.391	33.9
Hungary	78	47.3	24.3	28.4	73.1	21.8	5.1	1.144	30.2
Italy	440	67.8	15.2	17.0	84.3	14.5	1.1	1.452	34.6
Malta	128	66.4	16.8	16.8	80.5	17.2	2.3	1.721	32.0
Poland	362	44.0	41.5	14.5	80.1	17.1	2.8	1.178	30.5
Portugal	196	42.5	34.7	22.8	78.1	20.4	1.5	1.589	29.8
Romania	184	14.9	66.3	18.8	88.0	10.3	1.6	1.716	30.5
Russian Federation	225	38.2	30.9	30.9	89.8	8.0	2.2	1.624	30.7
Spain	140	66.7	7.2	26.1	82.1	16.4	2.1	1.575	32.2
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	406	30.1	48.3	21.6	86.7	12.3	1.0	1.226	31.7
Other	477	33.1	33.5	33.3	82.8	14.7	2.5	1.785	30.0
Total	*4 284*	*41.2*	*37.6*	*21.2*	*85.4*	*13.2*	*1.4*	*1.545*	*31.5*
North Africa and the Middle East									
Egypt	310	14.3	74.7	11.0	96.5	2.9	—	2.559	30.9
Iran	232	10.9	75.1	14.0	94.8	3.9	1.3	1.457	32.6
Israel	122	36.1	35.2	28.7	86.9	13.1	—	2.216	30.9
Lebanon	2 295	22.5	69.2	8.3	94.1	5.6	0.3	3.659	29.0
Syria	258	15.1	43.4	41.5	96.9	3.1	—	3.715	29.3
Turkey	741	16.4	76.1	7.5	92.7	6.6	0.7	2.410	30.1
Other	1 568	4.7	78.5	16.8	93.1	6.2	0.7	3.453	28.9
Total	*5 526*	*15.7*	*71.3*	*13.0*	*93.8*	*5.7*	*0.5*	*2.962*	*29.5*

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

(b) Average total fertility rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

8.14 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF MOTHER, Summary *continued*

		FATHER BORN IN(a).....			NUPTIALITY.....				
Country of birth of mother	*Total confinements* no.	*Australia* %	*Same country as mother* %	*Other country* %	*Nuptial mothers* %	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged* %	*Exnuptial paternity not acknowledged* %	*Total fertility rate(b)* rate	*Median age of mothers* years
South-East Asia									
Cambodia	666	5.5	71.2	23.3	74.2	18.6	7.2	2.419	29.5
Indonesia	975	28.0	50.3	21.7	92.8	5.8	1.3	1.785	30.1
Laos	223	10.4	60.7	28.9	68.2	26.5	5.4	1.907	30.6
Malaysia	1 058	35.1	32.2	32.8	90.4	8.6	1.0	1.339	32.4
Philippines	2 521	38.0	42.0	20.0	78.9	18.5	2.6	2.030	31.1
Singapore	430	48.0	16.7	35.3	87.2	11.6	1.2	1.205	32.0
Thailand	601	44.6	18.9	36.5	65.4	31.3	3.3	1.439	29.7
Viet Nam	4 433	4.9	86.1	9.0	71.9	18.1	10.0	2.151	30.2
Other	379	14.3	64.5	21.2	88.9	10.6	0.8	1.750	31.5
Total	*11 286*	*21.9*	*58.9*	*19.2*	*77.9*	*16.6*	*5.5*	*1.830*	*30.7*
North-East Asia									
China (excludes SARs & Taiwan Province)	3 017	7.3	77.4	15.3	88.1	10.0	1.8	2.064	33.3
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	483	20.7	40.9	38.4	89.9	8.3	1.9	0.801	33.9
Japan	703	49.1	23.8	27.1	91.9	8.0	—	1.406	32.8
Korea, Republic of (South)	658	11.8	79.8	8.4	92.9	6.4	0.8	1.337	30.9
Other	241	18.5	45.0	36.6	89.2	9.5	1.2	1.059	31.2
Total	*5 102*	*15.5*	*65.3*	*19.2*	*89.5*	*9.1*	*1.4*	*1.496*	*32.9*
Southern and Central Asia									
India	1 630	12.8	77.7	9.5	95.3	4.5	0.2	1.768	30.7
Pakistan	435	5.5	89.2	5.3	97.5	2.5	—	3.497	29.5
Sri Lanka	916	13.0	81.7	5.4	94.4	5.0	0.5	1.842	32.1
Other	742	3.3	88.8	8.0	93.8	5.7	0.5	2.375	29.4
Total	*3 723*	*10.1*	*82.2*	*7.7*	*95.0*	*4.6*	*0.3*	*2.021*	*30.8*
Americas									
Argentina	193	48.4	18.9	32.6	80.8	17.6	1.6	1.691	31.0
Canada	588	71.5	7.0	21.4	84.0	15.1	0.9	1.715	32.8
Caribbean	57	60.0	3.6	36.4	71.9	24.6	—	1.926	32.2
Central America	210	29.3	33.8	36.9	71.0	23.3	5.7	1.596	29.7
Chile	482	41.4	31.7	26.8	77.4	20.7	1.9	1.818	31.1
United States of America	950	62.0	16.2	21.7	85.5	13.3	1.3	1.903	32.9
Uruguay	164	51.6	16.1	32.3	73.2	25.0	1.8	1.978	31.9
Other	394	40.4	29.5	30.1	79.9	18.0	2.0	1.556	32.6
Total	*3 038*	*54.2*	*19.7*	*26.1*	*81.0*	*17.2*	*1.8*	*1.773*	*32.1*
Sub-Saharan Africa									
Kenya	87	46.5	24.4	29.1	81.6	17.2	—	1.431	32.8
Mauritius	190	41.3	30.2	28.6	82.6	16.8	—	1.536	33.0
South Africa	1 329	42.4	39.5	18.1	85.8	12.9	1.4	1.496	31.7
Zimbabwe	226	50.4	13.8	35.7	85.8	13.3	1.3	1.644	32.0
Other	913	12.7	64.2	23.0	76.2	20.4	3.4	2.793	30.5
Total	*2 745*	*33.4*	*44.3*	*22.3*	*82.3*	*15.8*	*1.9*	*1.794*	*31.5*
Total overseas-born	*57 365*	*36.2*	*46.7*	*17.1*	*79.0*	*18.3*	*2.7*	*1.795*	*31.5*
Total(c)	**246 821**	**74.5**	**11.0**	**14.5**	**68.6**	**27.6**	**3.8**	**1.751**	**30.2**

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

(b) Average total fertility rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

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

8.15 COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF FATHER(a), Summary

		MOTHER BORN IN(b).....			NUPTIALITY.....			
Country of birth of father	*Total confinements* no.	*Australia* %	*Same country as father* %	*Other country* %	*Nuptial fathers* %	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged* %	*Total paternity(c)* rate	*Median age of fathers* years
Oceania and Antarctica								
Australia (excludes Norfolk Island)	176 924	88.6	—	11.4	68.3	31.7	1.634	31.8
Fiji	1 038	22.7	66.1	11.2	81.8	18.2	2.084	32.4
New Zealand	7 005	57.2	29.2	13.6	59.2	40.8	1.707	32.4
Papua New Guinea	643	71.9	10.7	17.4	68.7	31.3	2.000	32.2
Other	1 711	24.2	54.8	21.0	67.8	32.2	4.674	33.0
Total	*187 321*	*86.4*	*2.0*	*11.6*	*68.0*	*32.0*	*1.647*	*31.9*
North-West Europe								
Austria	117	62.4	4.3	33.3	79.5	20.5	1.574	34.5
Denmark	124	63.7	11.3	25.0	80.6	19.4	1.775	35.1
France	337	59.1	12.8	28.2	79.5	20.5	1.770	35.0
Germany	747	61.6	10.8	27.6	81.1	18.9	1.559	35.6
Ireland	623	62.3	17.5	20.2	78.8	21.2	1.364	35.3
Netherlands	493	65.7	11.4	22.9	75.3	24.7	1.728	35.3
Switzerland	157	51.6	15.3	33.1	88.5	11.5	1.598	35.3
United Kingdom	11 584	69.5	17.6	12.9	76.4	23.6	1.577	35.6
Other	272	67.6	12.5	19.9	79.8	20.2	1.358	34.9
Total	*14 454*	*68.0*	*16.7*	*15.3*	*77.1*	*22.9*	*1.559*	*35.5*
Southern and Eastern Europe								
Bosnia and Herzegovina	415	20.0	61.4	18.6	88.7	11.3	2.064	33.3
Croatia	493	48.3	29.6	22.1	84.4	15.6	1.763	35.2
Cyprus	221	63.3	16.7	19.9	87.3	12.7	1.784	34.1
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	568	50.5	41.7	7.7	90.3	9.7	1.872	32.8
Greece	559	76.9	8.6	14.5	85.5	14.5	1.566	37.2
Hungary	68	42.6	26.5	30.9	86.8	13.2	1.219	36.1
Italy	886	75.7	7.4	16.8	85.1	14.9	1.556	37.4
Malta	177	66.7	11.9	21.5	80.8	19.2	1.536	36.0
Poland	309	33.3	47.2	19.4	81.6	18.4	1.082	33.3
Portugal	213	52.6	31.5	16.0	79.8	20.2	1.571	33.2
Romania	203	25.6	59.1	15.3	90.1	9.9	1.821	33.8
Russian Federation	122	16.4	55.7	27.9	84.4	15.6	1.337	33.3
Spain	129	62.8	7.8	29.5	79.8	20.2	1.478	34.6
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	533	38.6	36.4	25.0	81.8	18.2	1.251	35.3
Other	389	31.1	40.1	28.8	84.6	15.4	1.701	34.2
Total	*5 285*	*50.9*	*30.1*	*19.0*	*85.1*	*14.9*	*1.558*	*35.0*
North Africa and the Middle East								
Egypt	458	31.0	50.2	18.8	92.6	7.4	2.483	36.7
Iran	326	24.5	52.8	22.7	91.7	8.3	1.345	36.5
Israel	182	50.5	23.6	25.8	85.7	14.3	2.290	34.6
Lebanon	3 226	43.0	49.1	7.9	92.4	7.6	3.887	33.2
Syria	261	29.5	42.9	27.6	94.3	5.7	3.440	35.8
Turkey	938	30.8	59.7	9.5	89.8	10.2	2.424	33.2
Other	1 776	13.0	68.9	18.1	90.9	9.1	2.701	34.8
Total	*7 167*	*32.1*	*54.8*	*13.2*	*91.6*	*8.4*	*2.873*	*34.1*

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only.

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

(c) Average total paternity rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate, births being summed over five-year age groups 15–19 years to 45–49 years. As paternity was not acknowledged in around 4% of births in 2002, the actual paternity rate is, on average, around 4% higher than the figures given in this table.

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

	MOTHER BORN IN(b).....			NUPTIALITY.....			
Country of birth of father	*Total confinements* no.	*Australia* %	*Same country as father* %	*Other country* %	*Nuptial fathers* %	*Exnuptial paternity acknowledged* %	*Total paternity(c)* rate	*Median age of fathers* years
South-East Asia								
Cambodia	627	5.9	70.2	23.9	77.8	22.2	2.289	33.0
Indonesia	688	14.8	70.3	14.8	93.3	6.7	1.817	32.7
Laos	221	9.5	57.9	32.6	68.3	31.7	1.785	34.1
Malaysia	938	32.9	35.9	31.1	90.1	9.9	1.388	34.7
Philippines	1 355	17.7	76.1	6.1	78.3	21.7	1.893	32.2
Singapore	373	47.2	19.0	33.8	85.5	14.5	1.223	33.4
Thailand	216	30.1	50.9	19.0	58.3	41.7	1.242	30.3
Viet Nam	3 979	3.7	86.4	9.9	78.8	21.2	1.939	34.0
Other	417	18.7	58.3	23.0	86.3	13.7	1.667	34.9
Total	*8 814*	*13.3*	*71.3*	*15.4*	*80.9*	*19.1*	*1.758*	*33.5*
North-East Asia								
China (excludes SARs & Taiwan Province)	2 646	2.1	86.7	11.2	89.9	10.1	1.906	37.3
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	500	17.8	38.8	43.4	90.6	9.4	0.925	36.0
Japan	261	26.1	64.0	10.0	95.0	5.0	1.313	34.9
Korea, Republic of (South)	563	1.8	92.5	5.7	95.2	4.8	1.485	32.9
Other	179	6.7	59.8	33.5	92.7	7.3	1.187	33.4
Total	*4 149*	*5.7*	*79.1*	*15.2*	*91.2*	*8.8*	*1.534*	*36.2*
Southern and Central Asia								
India	1 850	18.6	68.3	13.0	93.8	6.2	1.481	34.4
Pakistan	532	12.2	72.9	14.8	96.2	3.8	2.502	35.6
Sri Lanka	1 004	16.2	74.1	9.7	94.9	5.1	1.718	36.0
Other	788	6.9	83.1	10.0	92.1	7.9	1.853	35.5
Total	*4 174*	*15.0*	*73.1*	*11.9*	*94.1*	*5.9*	*1.682*	*35.1*
Americas								
Argentina	219	52.5	16.4	31.1	78.1	21.9	1.710	32.6
Canada	561	73.4	7.3	19.3	86.1	13.9	1.717	34.1
Caribbean	79	64.6	2.5	32.9	69.6	30.4	1.888	36.5
Central America	222	41.0	30.2	28.8	64.0	36.0	1.694	30.6
Chile	401	42.4	37.4	20.2	75.6	24.4	1.713	32.6
United States of America	1 145	65.7	13.3	21.0	84.8	15.2	2.115	34.7
Uruguay	167	56.9	15.6	27.5	75.4	24.6	1.864	33.6
Other	319	40.1	35.7	24.1	74.9	25.1	1.588	34.6
Total	*3 113*	*58.3*	*18.9*	*22.8*	*80.0*	*20.0*	*1.838*	*33.9*
Sub-Saharan Africa								
Kenya	124	50.0	16.9	33.1	83.9	16.1	1.804	36.2
Mauritius	212	50.9	26.9	22.2	81.6	18.4	1.556	36.5
South Africa	1 324	42.8	39.1	18.1	87.9	12.1	1.578	33.3
Zimbabwe	231	50.2	13.4	36.4	82.3	17.7	1.586	33.2
Other	1 090	27.9	51.9	20.2	76.1	23.9	2.850	35.0
Total	*2 981*	*38.8*	*40.0*	*21.2*	*82.5*	*17.5*	*1.878*	*34.3*
Total overseas-born	*60 534*	*41.2*	*43.0*	*15.7*	*80.3*	*19.7*	*1.755*	*34.5*
Total paternity acknowledged(d)	**237 564**	**76.5**	**11.0**	**12.5**	**71.3**	**28.7**	**1.677**	**32.5**

(a) Paternity-acknowledged confinements only.

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

(c) Average total paternity rate for 2000, 2001 and 2002. The total paternity rate is calculated in the same way as the total fertility rate, births being summed over five-year age groups 15–19 years to 45–49 years. As paternity was not acknowledged in around 4% of births in 2002, the actual paternity rate is, on average, around 4% higher than the figures given in this table.

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

CHAPTER 9

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER BIRTHS TABLES

9.1 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Australia(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*11 488*	*8 292*	*250 988*
Nuptial births	%	18.2	14.3	68.7
Exnuptial births	%	81.8	85.7	31.3
Paternity-acknowledged	%	65.8	63.7	27.5
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	15.9	22.1	3.7
Both parents Indigenous	%	29.6	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	42.6	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	27.8	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	2 275	1 761	11 505
20–24 years	no.	3 516	2 539	36 782
25–29 years	no.	2 872	2 039	71 820
30–34 years	no.	1 884	1 318	84 052
35–39 years	no.	783	523	38 621
40–44 years	no.	139	95	7 362
45 years and over	no.	np	—	305
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	76.2	17.1
20–24 years	rate	. .	132.2	55.5
25–29 years	rate	. .	113.2	104.2
30–34 years	rate	. .	74.9	111.2
35–39 years	rate	. .	34.7	52.2
40–44 years	rate	. .	7.5	9.7
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*2.193*	*1.752*
Total confinements	*no.*	*11 332*	*8 182*	*246 821*
Median age of mother	years	24.9	24.6	30.2
Median age of father	years	27.9	27.8	32.5

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Australia in 2002 has been estimated at 95% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (9%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.2 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—New South Wales(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*3 339*	*2 149*	*86 583*
Nuptial births	%	21.3	18.0	72.0
Exnuptial births	%	78.7	82.0	28.0
Paternity-acknowledged	%	68.9	66.8	24.5
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	9.8	15.3	3.5
Both parents Indigenous	%	20.7	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	43.7	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	35.6	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	649	448	3 643
20–24 years	no.	1 013	624	12 625
25–29 years	no.	871	551	25 164
30–34 years	no.	560	374	28 749
35–39 years	no.	203	123	13 505
40–44 years	no.	35	21	2 733
45 years and over	no.	—	—	104
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	69.4	16.4
20–24 years	rate	. .	118.8	57.7
25–29 years	rate	. .	113.6	106.7
30–34 years	rate	. .	77.8	112.9
35–39 years	rate	. .	29.5	54.4
40–44 years	rate	. .	5.8	10.7
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.5
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*2.074*	*1.796*
Total confinements	*no.*	*3 289*	*2 117*	*85 178*
Median age of mother	years	25.0	25.0	30.3
Median age of father	years	27.7	27.8	32.6

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in New South Wales in 2002 has been estimated at 94% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (32%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.3 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Victoria(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*601*	*344*	*61 478*
Nuptial births	%	22.5	20.6	73.8
Exnuptial births	%	77.5	79.4	26.2
Paternity-acknowledged	%	72.5	70.6	24.2
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	5.0	8.7	2.1
Both parents Indigenous	%	14.8	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	42.4	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	42.8	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	100	58	1 830
20–24 years	no.	151	82	7 192
25–29 years	no.	168	99	16 830
30–34 years	no.	113	62	22 838
35–39 years	no.	56	34	10 782
40–44 years	no.	11	8	1 911
45 years and over	no.	np	—	78
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	47.3	11.2
20–24 years	rate	. .	83.3	42.8
25–29 years	rate	. .	107.5	96.5
30–34 years	rate	. .	59.4	116.9
35–39 years	rate	. .	35.4	57.7
40–44 years	rate	. .	10.4	10.2
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.5
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*1.717*	*1.679*
Total confinements	*no.*	*596*	*341*	*60 435*
Median age of mother	years	26.7	26.7	31.0
Median age of father	years	29.1	29.5	33.0

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Victoria in 2002 has been estimated at 88% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.4 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Queensland(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*3 349*	*2 438*	*47 771*
Nuptial births	%	20.8	17.0	63.4
Exnuptial births	%	79.2	83.0	36.6
Paternity-acknowledged	%	64.6	63.0	31.8
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	14.6	20.0	4.7
Both parents Indigenous	%	31.6	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	41.2	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	27.2	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	630	478	2 915
20–24 years	no.	1 045	764	8 237
25–29 years	no.	819	590	14 273
30–34 years	no.	559	398	14 830
35–39 years	no.	247	173	6 306
40–44 years	no.	49	35	1 156
45 years and over	no.	—	—	53
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	74.6	22.3
20–24 years	rate	. .	142.2	64.5
25–29 years	rate	. .	116.3	109.1
30–34 years	rate	. .	80.8	105.0
35–39 years	rate	. .	42.1	45.2
40–44 years	rate	. .	10.2	8.1
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*2.332*	*1.773*
Total confinements	*no.*	*3 303*	*2 407*	*46 934*
Median age of mother	years	25.0	24.8	29.5
Median age of father	years	27.9	27.8	31.7

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Queensland in 2002 has been estimated at 96% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.5 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—South Australia(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*679*	*490*	*17 665*
Nuptial births	%	16.5	11.0	65.6
Exnuptial births	%	83.5	89.0	34.4
Paternity-acknowledged	%	70.5	71.0	30.9
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	13.0	18.0	3.5
Both parents Indigenous	%	32.1	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	40.1	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	27.8	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	112	88	786
20–24 years	no.	208	152	2 529
25–29 years	no.	174	129	4 914
30–34 years	no.	113	76	6 000
35–39 years	no.	57	34	2 827
40–44 years	no.	10	6	567
45 years and over	no.	—	—	32
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	62.6	15.4
20–24 years	rate	. .	133.0	53.3
25–29 years	rate	. .	123.1	103.4
30–34 years	rate	. .	70.6	111.2
35–39 years	rate	. .	36.3	51.0
40–44 years	rate	. .	8.8	9.6
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.6
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*2.172*	*1.723*
Total confinements	*no.*	*669*	*484*	*17 354*
Median age of mother	years	25.5	25.1	30.4
Median age of father	years	28.8	28.5	32.6

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in South Australia in 2002 has been estimated at 102% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.6 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Western Australia(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*1 481*	*1 138*	*23 601*
Nuptial births	%	14.4	11.9	64.9
Exnuptial births	%	85.6	88.1	35.1
Paternity-acknowledged	%	74.1	73.2	31.7
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	11.5	14.9	3.4
Both parents Indigenous	%	45.2	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	31.7	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	23.2	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	305	255	1 292
20–24 years	no.	466	368	3 744
25–29 years	no.	366	276	6 866
30–34 years	no.	242	170	7 654
35–39 years	no.	88	61	3 422
40–44 years	no.	13	7	592
45 years and over	no.	—	—	23
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	72.5	18.6
20–24 years	rate	. .	135.4	56.3
25–29 years	rate	. .	107.3	103.7
30–34 years	rate	. .	65.6	104.5
35–39 years	rate	. .	27.1	46.5
40–44 years	rate	. .	3.7	7.8
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.3
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	*. .*	*2.058*	*1.688*
Total confinements	*no.*	*1 461*	*1 122*	*23 232*
Median age of mother	years	24.6	24.2	29.9
Median age of father	years	27.5	27.2	32.2

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Western Australia in 2002 has been estimated at 90% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated (1%).

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.7 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Tasmania(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*431*	*237*	*6 003*
Nuptial births	%	30.6	29.1	53.2
Exnuptial births	%	69.4	70.9	46.8
Paternity-acknowledged	%	66.4	65.4	39.0
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	3.0	5.5	7.8
Both parents Indigenous	%	8.8	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	46.2	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	45.0	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	84	50	450
20–24 years	no.	122	65	1 160
25–29 years	no.	110	62	1 646
30–34 years	no.	73	37	1 608
35–39 years	no.	37	19	698
40–44 years	no.	5	4	153
45 years and over	no.	—	—	6
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	53.0	28.3
20–24 years	rate	. .	75.5	85.9
25–29 years	rate	. .	92.3	123.1
30–34 years	rate	. .	59.7	103.5
35–39 years	rate	. .	36.3	43.1
40–44 years	rate	. .	7.0	8.6
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.4
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*1.619*	*1.964*
Total confinements	*no.*	*425*	*233*	*5 914*
Median age of mother	years	25.3	25.1	28.9
Median age of father	years	28.0	28.6	31.3

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in Tasmania in 2002 has been estimated at 89% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated.

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.8 INDIGENOUS REGISTERED BIRTHS—Northern Territory(a)

		All Indigenous births	*Births to Indigenous mothers*	*All births*
Total births	*no.*	*1 539*	*1 456*	*3 724*
Nuptial births	%	4.5	3.1	38.0
Exnuptial births	%	95.5	96.9	62.0
Paternity-acknowledged	%	49.4	48.2	40.0
Paternity-not-acknowledged	%	46.1	48.7	22.0
Both parents Indigenous	%	40.2	. .	. .
Mother only(b)	%	54.5	. .	. .
Father only(c)	%	5.4	. .	. .
Age of mother				
19 years and under	no.	388	377	459
20–24 years	no.	492	474	818
25–29 years	no.	344	322	962
30–34 years	no.	207	191	948
35–39 years	no.	91	77	430
40–44 years	no.	16	14	102
45 years and over	no.	—	—	4
Age-specific fertility rates(d)				
15–19 years	rate	. .	127.8	63.8
20–24 years	rate	. .	176.7	108.9
25–29 years	rate	. .	119.8	112.2
30–34 years	rate	. .	81.4	103.7
35–39 years	rate	. .	39.7	53.4
40–44 years	rate	. .	8.9	13.6
45–49 years	rate	. .	—	0.6
Total fertility rate(d)	*rate*	. .	*2.771*	*2.281*
Total confinements	*no.*	*1 521*	*1 439*	*3 675*
Median age of mother	years	23.8	23.7	28.1
Median age of father	years	27.9	27.6	31.6

(a) Coverage of Indigenous births in the Northern Territory in 2002 has been estimated at 107% on 1996 census-based projections. See table 9.9.

(b) Includes paternity-not-acknowledged and origin of father not stated.

(c) Includes origin of mother not stated.

(d) Indigenous rates are derived from the 2002 experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 1996 census.

9.9 INDIGENOUS BIRTHS(a), Coverage

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
BIRTHS REGISTERED AS INDIGENOUS									
1991	50	508	9	593	33	190	1 257	58	2 698
1992	42	503	4	561	1 215	218	1 354	14	3 911
1993	1 278	493	31	519	1 535	264	1 359	43	5 523
1994	2 011	520	25	531	1 578	247	1 338	59	6 310
1995	2 345	542	29	554	1 492	267	1 354	52	6 640
1996	2 444	474	2 534	557	1 538	244	1 343	66	9 204
1997	2 813	457	3 038	591	1 474	310	1 259	53	9 999
1998	3 014	590	3 085	661	1 468	300	1 284	42	10 445
1999	3 052	521	2 974	640	1 558	339	1 419	75	10 580
2000	2 991	452	3 172	632	1 721	336	1 530	57	10 895
2001	3 112	522	3 337	612	1 597	468	1 688	67	11 405
2002	3 339	601	3 349	679	1 481	431	1 539	66	11 488
PROJECTED INDIGENOUS BIRTHS (1996 census-based experimental estimates and projections)									
1996(c)	3 392	669	3 224	626	1 564	432	1 411	90	11 409
1997(d)	3 428	679	3 266	635	1 587	445	1 426	93	11 559
1998(d)	3 448	680	3 312	639	1 597	450	1 436	96	11 162
1999(d)	3 471	680	3 357	644	1 609	458	1 442	98	11 763
2000(d)	3 498	679	3 401	650	1 618	466	1 444	100	11 860
2001(d)	3 527	679	3 447	658	1 634	475	1 446	103	11 972
2002(d)	3 568	680	3 493	665	1 653	482	1 445	105	12 094
ESTIMATED COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTHS(e) (1996 census-based) (%)									
1996	72	71	79	89	98	56	95	73	81
1997	82	67	93	93	93	70	88	57	87
1998	87	87	93	103	92	67	89	44	94
1999	88	77	89	99	97	74	98	77	90
2000	86	67	93	97	106	72	106	57	92
2001	88	77	97	93	98	99	117	65	95
2002	94	88	96	102	90	89	107	63	95

(a) See paragraphs 12 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes Other Territories from 1993.

(c) The ratio of the projected number of Indigenous births for 1997 obtained from 1996 census-based projections (low series) to the projected number of Indigenous births for 1997 obtained from 1991 census-based projections (medium series), applied to the projected number of Indigenous births for 1996 obtained from 1991 census-based projections (medium series).

(d) *Source*: *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 1996–2006* (cat. no. 3231.0). Low series.

(e) Defined as the ratio of births registered as Indigenous to projected Indigenous births.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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

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

YEAR OF OCCURRENCE OF BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 2002

	YEAR IN WHICH BIRTH OCCURRED						
State or territory of usual residence	*1996 and earlier*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	11.6	84.4
Victoria	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	10.4	87.7
Queensland	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.0	12.8	84.1
South Australia	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	8.9	89.2
Western Australia	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.7	9.9	88.1
Tasmania	1.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	3.5	93.5
Northern Territory	0.3	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	8.5	91.1
Australian Capital Territory	0.3	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	11.1	88.4
Australia	**0.8**	**0.4**	**0.4**	**0.5**	**0.8**	**10.9**	**86.2**

3 To protect confidentiality, cell values of less than three have been suppressed.

STATES AND TERRITORIES

4 In the main, statistics for states and territories have been compiled and presented in respect of the state or territory of usual residence of the mother. However, in the following table data have been presented on a state or territory of registration basis. Births which took place outside Australia are excluded from the statistics.

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

State or territory of usual residence	STATE OR TERRITORY OF REGISTRATION								
	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
New South Wales	84 328	983	467	40	20	np	np	735	86 583
Victoria	131	61 199	46	63	23	7	np	np	61 478
Queensland	543	44	47 125	15	18	11	8	7	47 771
South Australia	26	47	11	17 512	18	3	48	—	17 665
Western Australia	42	15	23	np	23 483	6	24	np	23 601
Tasmania	np	32	6	np	np	5 953	—	—	6 003
Northern Territory	32	np	33	30	17	—	3 598	np	3 724
Australian Capital Territory	75	6	7	4	np	np	—	4 018	4 112
Other Territories	np	np	—	—	40	—	—	—	51
Australia	**85 195**	**62 339**	**47 718**	**17 673**	**23 622**	**5 990**	**3 683**	**4 768**	**250 988**

5 In 2002 there were 511 births to women who usually lived overseas. These have been included in this publication with state or territory of usual residence classified according to the state or territory in which the birth was registered.

BIRTHS, Babies born in Australia to non-resident mothers

State or territory of registration	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
New South Wales	34	50	54	231	312	331	338
Victoria	22	23	13	8	17	19	22
Queensland	59	114	89	111	108	108	116
South Australia	10	19	11	15	8	8	4
Western Australia	9	12	8	16	21	24	16
Tasmania	12	np	4	13	7	6	4
Northern Territory	4	—	np	9	6	8	6
Australian Capital Territory	7	np	np	5	4	7	5
Australia	**157**	**223**	**184**	**408**	**483**	**511**	**511**

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

7 Prior to 1993 usual residence data for Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands were included with Off-Shore Areas and Migratory in Western Australia while usual residence data for Jervis Bay Territory were included with the Australian Capital Territory. In 2002 there were 51 births to mothers usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island or the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR AREAS (SEIFA), 2001

8 The ABS has developed summary measures, or indexes, derived from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing to measure different aspects of socio-economic conditions by geographic areas. Two of these indexes are included in table 6.7:

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

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

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

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

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

12 This publication includes data on the numbers of Indigenous births for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, and the Northern Territory. The data are regarded as being of sufficient quality to publish.

13 The populations used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates for 1996 to 2000, and for 2002, are obtained from *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (cat. no. 3231.0), based on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. The populations used to calculate Indigenous fertility rates for 2001 are the final 2001 experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population based on the 2001 census.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTH REGISTRATIONS

14 There are several data collection forms on which people are asked to state whether they are of Indigenous origin. Due to a number of factors, results collated from these forms are not always consistent. The likelihood that a person will identify, or be identified, as Indigenous on a specific form is known as their propensity to identify as Indigenous. Propensity to identify as Indigenous can be thought of as the proportion of the total, unknown, number of Indigenous people who identify as such on a specific form.

COVERAGE OF INDIGENOUS BIRTH REGISTRATIONS *continued*

15 Propensity to identify is determined by a range of factors, including the perception of how the information will be used, education programs about identifying as Indigenous, and emotional reaction to identifying as Indigenous.

16 Currently there are four estimates of annual numbers of Indigenous births. Each is based on a different collection, with a different propensity to identify as Indigenous:

- 1991 census-based population projections, covering the period 1991 to 2001. The number of Indigenous children in the 1991 census was used to estimate the fertility rate for 1991. Assuming this fertility rate to continue, and making other assumptions about mortality and interstate migration, the number of births in subsequent years was projected.
- 1996 census-based population projections, covering the period 1996 to 2006. There are two series of projections; a low series and a high series. The low series uses a very similar method to the 1991 census-based population projections, in that the number of births each year is estimated using the propensity to identify found in the 1996 census. The high series uses an alternative assumption of an increasing propensity to identify based on the change between 1991 and 1996 in propensity to identify.
- Birth registrations: this publication is based on the registration of births with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each state and territory.
- Perinatal Data Collection: this data is primarily about babies born in hospitals and their mothers.

17 Estimated coverage of Indigenous births in tables 2.9 and 9.9 is defined as the ratio of the number of Indigenous births registered in a particular year to the corresponding number of projected Indigenous births from the low series of *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (cat. no. 3231.0).

18 On this basis estimated coverage of Indigenous births in Australia in 2002 was 95%, and ranged from 63% in the Australian Capital Territory to 107% in the Northern Territory. As these estimates are based on 1996 census-based projections (that is, relatively old information) they should be treated with caution.

19 The ABS is currently producing a new set of projections of the Indigenous population using 2001 census data and expected to be released in 2004 in *Experimental Estimates and Projections of Indigenous Australians, 1991 to 2016* (cat. no. 3238.0). From this, new projected Indigenous births for the years 2002 to 2016 will be available.

20 Estimated coverage of Indigenous births for 2002 calculated from the new projected Indigenous births will differ from those currently shown in tables 2.9 and 9.9.

RELATED PRODUCTS

21 Other ABS products which may be of interest to users include:
AusStats—electronic data (see Explanatory Note 22)
Australian Demographic Statistics, cat. no. 3101.0—issued quarterly
Australian Demographic Trends, cat. no. 3102.0—issued irregularly
Causes of Death, Australia, cat. no. 3303.0—issued annually
Deaths, Australia, cat. no. 3302.0—issued annually
Demography—state and territory specific publications issued annually, cat. nos 3311.1–8
Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, cat. no. 3231.0—issued irregularly
Experimental Estimates and Projections of Indigenous Australians, 1991 to 2016, cat. no. 3238.0—expected to be released in 2004
Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods, Statistical Concepts Library, ABS web site <http://www.abs.gov.au>

22 AusStats is a web based information service which provides ABS full standard product range online. It also includes companion data in multidimensional datasets in SuperTABLE format, and time series spreadsheets. For a list of the related data available on AusStats see the List of Tables and Graphs on page 5.

23 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <http://www.abs.gov.au>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

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

APPENDIX 1 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COLLECTIONS .....

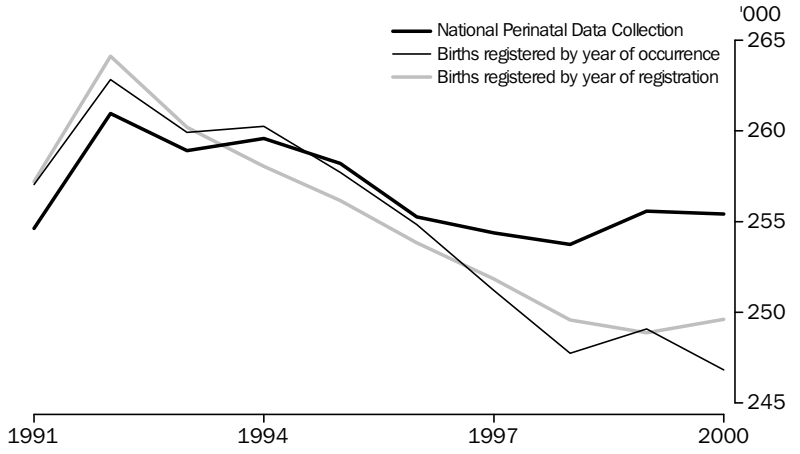
BIRTH REGISTRATIONS COMPARED TO THE PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION

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

As information from these two types of collection are from different sources, the statistics obtained vary. For example, the Perinatal Data Collection reported the occurrence of 255,400 live births in Australia in 2000 (the latest available data), 2.3% more than the 249,600 births registered in the same year.

The following graph shows the total number of live births in Australia by type of collection and recording basis from 1991 to 2000. Births from the Perinatal Data Collection are shown on a year of occurrence basis. Registered births are shown on a year of registration basis and on a year of occurrence basis, which includes births that occurred in a particular year but may have been registered up to and including the year 2002. Prior to 1994, the Perinatal Data Collection showed fewer births than births registered. Since then this position has reversed, with the gap between births reported in the Perinatal Data Collection and births registered widening until 1999 (when there were 2.7% more births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than births registered), indicating an increasing trend of parents delaying or failing to register the birth of their child. While difficult to explain, the change in pattern may be due to improvements in quality and coverage of the Perinatal Data Collection, combined with declining birth registrations. For birth registration data, the proportion of births occurring and being registered in the same year has declined from 90% in 1992 to 86% in 2002.

A1.1 LIVE BIRTHS, Type of collection



To avoid measuring any 'lag effect' the following analysis of the difference between the type of collections is made on live births between the Perinatal Data Collection and registrations on a year of registration basis.

AGE OF MOTHER

Age of mother is a factor which contributes to differences between the Perinatal Data Collection and birth registration data. For mothers aged 19 years and under, the number of births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection outnumbered births registered by 6.5% in 1996, increasing to 10.0% in 2000.

In 1996, the higher number of births recorded by the Perinatal Data Collection occurred to mothers in younger age groups, indicating that younger mothers (or their partners) may have been less likely to register their child's birth. However, over the past few years higher numbers of births recorded by the perinatal collection, compared to birth registrations, have occurred in older age groups, indicating that the older mothers are also perhaps becoming less likely to register the birth of their child. In 1996 the Perinatal Data Collection recorded more births than birth registrations data in all age groups up to and including 25–29 years, in 1997 more births were recorded in all age groups up to and including 30–34 years, in 1998 and 1999 in all age groups up to and including 35–39 years, and by 2000 more births were recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection in all age groups.

A1.2 LIVE BIRTHS, Difference between number of births recorded by Perinatal Data Collection and Birth Registrations(a)

	1996	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*
Age of mother	%	%	%	%	%
19 years & under	6.5	6.4	8.7	10.0	10.0
20–24 years	2.5	2.6	4.3	5.2	4.8
25–29 years	0.6	1.3	1.4	3.2	2.0
30–34 years	–0.4	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.1
35–39 years	–1.2	–1.0	0.5	0.8	0.9
40 years & over	–3.5	–1.4	–0.9	–0.9	0.9
Total	**0.6**	**1.0**	**1.7**	**2.7**	**2.3**

(a) Positive figures denote more births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than the Birth Registrations collection, while negative figures denote fewer births recorded.

STATE AND TERRITORY COMPARISONS

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

STATE AND TERRITORY COMPARISONS *continued*

In 2000, the Perinatal Data Collection recorded more births in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania, and marginally fewer births in South Australia and Western Australia. In the Northern Territory the higher number of births registered than were recorded by the Perinatal Data Collection was possibly due to higher numbers of home and remote clinic births not captured in the Perinatal Data Collection.

A1.3 LIVE BIRTHS, Type of collection—2000

Collection		*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*
Perinatal Data Collection	no.	87 327	62 148	48 955	17 766	25 023	5 849	3 641
Birth Registrations	no.	86 752	59 171	47 278	17 859	25 093	5 692	3 685
Difference(a)	%	0.7	5.0	3.5	–0.5	–0.3	2.8	–1.2

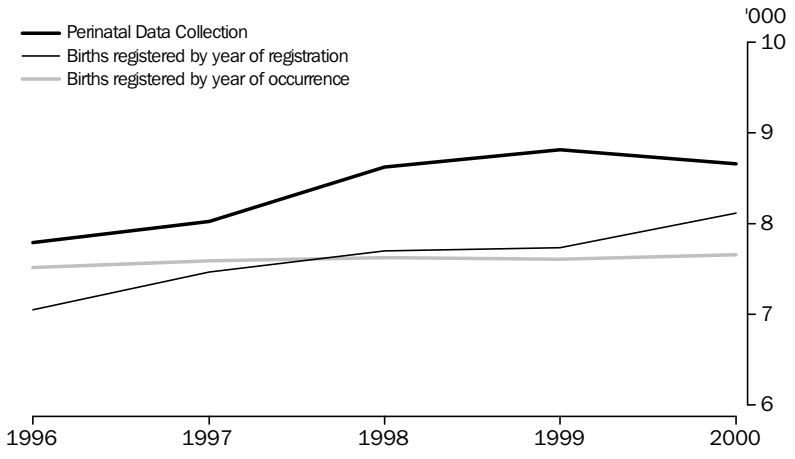
(a) Positive differences denote more births recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection than the Birth Registrations collection, while negative differences denote fewer births recorded.

BIRTHS TO INDIGENOUS MOTHERS

There are large differences between Indigenous data from the Perinatal Data Collection and Indigenous birth registrations data. In all years from 1996 to 2000 the number of births to Indigenous mothers as recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection exceeded registered births to Indigenous mothers. For 2000 there were 8,700 live births to Indigenous mothers recorded in the Perinatal Data Collection, 6.7% more than the number recorded by birth registrations (8,100).

It is important to recognise that data concerning Indigenous status is affected by identification issues. Differences between the Perinatal Data Collection and birth registrations data may in part be due to low coverage of registrations of Indigenous births (for example, the coverage of registered Indigenous births, where at least one parent identified as being of Indigenous origin, was estimated at 92% in 2000), however, failure to determine Indigenous status may also affect the Perinatal Data Collection. As a result, caution should be used when interpreting Indigenous births data from either source. Paragraphs 12 to 20 of the Explanatory Notes provide further information about coverage of Indigenous birth registrations.

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



APPENDIX 2 CHARACTERISTICS AVAILABLE

BIRTHS/CONFINEMENTS

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

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

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

A3.1 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, 30 June 2002p

STATE/TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE

Age group (years)	NSW '000	Vic. '000	Qld '000	SA '000	WA '000	Tas. '000	NT '000	ACT '000	Aust.(a) '000
FEMALES									
0–4	209.9	149.5	120.3	44.4	61.2	14.9	8.6	10.2	619.2
5–9	219.5	158.5	128.3	47.9	65.2	16.1	8.3	10.6	654.5
10–14	222.3	160.9	130.6	48.9	68.2	16.7	7.7	11.1	666.5
15–19	221.8	163.9	130.6	50.9	69.6	16.7	7.2	12.0	672.8
20–24	219.0	167.9	127.8	47.5	66.5	14.2	7.5	13.7	664.2
25–29	236.0	174.5	130.8	47.5	66.3	14.0	8.6	12.8	690.6
30–34	254.9	195.4	141.2	54.0	73.3	16.3	9.1	13.1	757.4
35–39	248.4	186.9	139.7	55.5	73.7	17.0	8.1	12.5	741.8
40–44	254.9	187.5	143.5	58.9	75.6	18.6	7.5	12.9	759.6
45–49	230.0	171.1	130.1	54.7	70.6	17.3	6.5	12.2	692.6
50–54	215.2	160.5	123.3	52.8	64.5	16.2	5.7	11.7	650.0
55–59	180.3	132.0	102.4	44.4	50.1	13.9	3.6	8.7	535.5
60–64	143.1	105.1	77.9	34.7	39.3	11.2	2.3	5.9	419.5
65–69	123.4	90.9	62.6	30.2	32.2	9.4	1.3	4.4	354.6
70–74	117.5	85.5	57.3	29.7	28.6	8.8	0.9	3.7	331.9
75–79	104.1	76.9	49.5	27.8	24.2	7.7	0.6	3.4	294.2
80–84	75.5	54.2	36.1	20.2	17.3	5.8	0.4	2.3	211.7
85+	67.8	50.2	32.0	18.5	16.7	5.2	0.3	1.9	192.6
Total	**3 343.4**	**2 471.4**	**1 864.1**	**768.5**	**963.0**	**239.9**	**94.3**	**163.1**	**9 909.0**
MALES									
0–4	221.4	157.0	127.1	46.2	64.1	15.8	9.1	10.4	651.3
5–9	231.2	167.2	136.1	50.4	69.0	17.0	8.8	11.1	690.9
10–14	233.5	167.9	137.1	51.8	71.7	17.4	8.5	11.5	699.6
15–19	232.5	169.7	136.4	53.3	73.1	17.3	7.6	12.6	702.7
20–24	226.1	171.1	129.2	50.0	69.5	14.5	8.4	13.8	682.6
25–29	234.6	173.5	127.8	49.5	67.4	13.5	9.2	12.9	688.4
30–34	250.6	188.5	136.1	55.1	73.9	15.5	9.4	12.7	742.0
35–39	249.7	182.1	134.2	55.9	73.3	16.0	8.8	12.0	732.2
40–44	254.0	184.1	139.6	58.2	75.3	18.1	8.2	12.1	749.7
45–49	229.2	166.8	127.7	53.6	69.8	16.9	7.1	11.3	682.6
50–54	217.1	156.4	124.6	51.6	66.3	16.2	6.6	11.1	650.0
55–59	185.8	132.2	106.5	44.1	53.6	14.1	4.7	8.7	549.8
60–64	144.7	104.9	81.9	34.1	40.7	11.4	3.3	5.9	427.0
65–69	119.2	85.9	63.3	28.7	31.3	9.1	1.7	4.2	343.5
70–74	106.4	76.8	54.0	26.4	26.7	8.1	1.2	3.4	303.0
75–79	81.8	59.3	41.1	21.5	19.9	6.2	0.7	2.6	233.2
80–84	48.8	34.7	24.6	12.9	11.2	3.5	0.3	1.5	137.5
85+	30.2	22.9	15.6	8.3	7.5	2.4	0.3	0.8	87.8
Total	**3 297.0**	**2 401.1**	**1 843.1**	**751.8**	**964.3**	**232.8**	**103.7**	**158.7**	**9 753.8**

(a) Includes Other Territories.

APPENDIX 4 EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTIONS OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION

A4.1 EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTIONS OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION(a)—30 June 2002 (low series)

STATE/TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE

Age group (years)	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA.*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.(b)*
				FEMALES					
0–4	8 247	1 624	8 194	1 576	3 802	1 110	3 393	231	28 179
5–9	8 099	1 547	8 048	1 587	3 717	1 014	3 190	217	27 424
10–14	7 434	1 461	7 445	1 437	3 920	941	3 162	202	26 015
15–19	6 482	1 229	6 411	1 420	3 519	943	2 953	205	23 165
20–24	5 272	987	5 371	1 155	2 721	861	2 684	185	19 245
25–29	4 867	924	5 071	1 059	2 575	672	2 690	180	18 046
30–34	4 827	1 046	4 923	1 087	2 592	620	2 349	181	17 636
35–39	4 186	962	4 112	945	2 252	523	1 943	167	15 095
40–44	3 662	774	3 419	687	1 907	569	1 581	132	12 736
45–49	2 849	578	2 738	547	1 469	407	1 342	101	10 038
50–54	2 186	408	2 071	412	1 009	324	994	45	7 456
55–59	1 552	256	1 363	296	712	172	747	25	5 127
60–64	1 095	203	981	199	463	133	495	17	3 589
65–69	718	154	672	149	371	89	417	8	2 579
70–74	511	125	488	108	278	56	234	8	1 812
75+	537	144	553	113	302	78	263	9	2 003
Total	**62 524**	**12 422**	**61 860**	**12 777**	**31 609**	**8 512**	**28 437**	**1 913**	**220 145**
				MALES					
0–4	8 630	1 735	8 546	1 557	4 056	1 156	3 656	276	29 614
5–9	8 197	1 688	8 119	1 577	3 934	1 068	3 627	201	28 417
10–14	7 764	1 472	7 655	1 646	4 062	1 031	3 475	187	27 303
15–19	6 994	1 304	6 573	1 349	3 376	995	3 066	242	23 908
20–24	5 464	1 104	5 483	1 004	2 882	803	2 674	177	19 611
25–29	4 548	1 042	4 830	942	2 543	561	2 739	192	17 403
30–34	4 225	996	4 375	896	2 340	518	2 543	141	16 047
35–39	3 531	811	3 729	730	2 063	506	1 923	113	13 413
40–44	3 111	677	3 043	656	1 708	521	1 436	125	11 287
45–49	2 660	514	2 413	542	1 307	415	1 173	54	9 084
50–54	1 983	409	1 753	365	944	327	784	39	6 609
55–59	1 432	313	1 214	267	634	208	656	17	4 747
60–64	1 007	201	747	191	432	117	411	5	3 117
65–69	628	108	576	117	264	91	273	9	2 069
70–74	377	83	330	79	216	49	176	7	1 317
75+	330	95	355	75	207	39	187	—	1 290
Total	**60 881**	**12 552**	**59 741**	**11 993**	**30 968**	**8 405**	**28 799**	**1 786**	**215 236**

(a) Based on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. See paragraphs 13 and 19 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes Other Territories.

APPENDIX 5 SPECIAL ARTICLES LIST

BIRTHS, AUSTRALIA (cat. no. 3301.0)

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

AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS (cat. no. 4102.0)

Adoptions, 1998 edition, p. 33
Age at first marriage, 1997 edition, p. 27
Caring for children after parents separate, 1999 edition, p. 42
Child care arrangements, 2001 edition, p. 41
Child care, 1994 edition, p. 47
Child care, 1998 edition, p. 38
Children in families, 1995 edition, p. 29
Cultural diversity within marriage, 2000 edition, p. 52
Families and work, 1997 edition, p. 30
Family planning, 1998 edition, p. 29
Family support, 1995 edition, p. 41
Living with parents, 1994 edition, p. 43
Lone fathers with dependent children, 1994 edition, p. 40
Looking after the children, 1999 edition, p. 39
Older mothers, 2001 edition, p. 55
One-parent families, 1997 edition, p. 34
People who live alone, 1996 edition, p. 33
People without partners, 2000 edition, p. 3
Principal carers and their caring roles, 1996 edition, p. 44
Remarriage trends of divorced people, 1999 edition, p. 45
Rural families, 1998 edition, p. 42
Trends in childlessness, 2002 edition, p. 37
Trends in de facto partnering, 1995 edition, p. 38
Trends in fertility, 1996 edition, p. 36
Trends in marriage and divorce, 1996 edition, p. 33
Young adults living in the parental home, 2000 edition, p. 39

GLOSSARY

Age-sex pyramid An age-sex pyramid is a bar chart graphically representing the age structure of the population, usually in five-year age groups, for males and females separately. The age structure of the population usually approximates the shape of a pyramid because mortality progressively reduces the number in each birth cohort as it ages. The age pyramid is useful to show the existence of unusually large or small cohorts, and in this way, not only conveys information about a country's past demographic history, but also a great deal about its demographic future.

Ageing of the population Ageing of the population is the consideration of the proportion of the population aged 65 years and over, and the way this proportion is continuing to increase, mostly due to persistent low fertility rates and declining mortality rates.

Age-specific fertility rates Age-specific fertility rates are the number of live births (occurred or registered) during the calendar year, according to the age of the mother, per 1,000 of the female estimated resident population of the same age at 30 June. For calculating these rates, births to mothers under 15 years are included in the 15–19 years age group, and births to mothers aged 50 years and over are included in the 45–49 years age group. Pro rata adjustment is made for births for which the age of the mother is not given.

Average annual growth rate The average annual growth rate, r, is calculated as a percentage using the formula:

$$\left[\left(\frac{P_n}{P_o}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right] \times 100$$

where P_0 is the population at the start of the period, P_n is the population at the end of the period and n is the length of the period between P_n and P_0 in years.

Average issue Average issue is the mean number of children ever born alive per woman. Average issue varies by age of woman and is influenced by extreme values of the number of children born. Any grouping of children ever born (e.g. 6 plus) should be given a 'mean' value (6.5 or any other value which must be specified) for the calculation of the average issue.

Baby boom Baby boom refers to the generation born between the end of World War II and the mid-1960s. Baby boomers are usually taken to be those born in the years 1946 to 1965 inclusive.

Balance of state or territory The aggregation of all Statistical Divisions (SD) within a state or territory other than its Capital City SD. See Major Statistical Region in *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Birth The delivery of a child, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, who, after being born, breathes or shows any evidence of life such as heartbeat.

Capital city Refers to the Capital City Statistical Divisions of states and territories as defined in the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Category jumping Category jumping is the term used to describe changes between intended and actual duration of stay of travellers to/from Australia, such that their classification as short-term or as long-term/permanent movers is different at arrival/departure from that after 12 months. Category jumping consists of two components—an Australian resident component and an overseas visitor component. The Australian resident component of category jumping for a reference quarter is estimated by comparing the number of residents departing short-term in that quarter with all residents who left in that quarter and return in the following 12 months, to obtain the net number of Australian residents who jump category. Similarly, the number of overseas visitors arriving short-term in a quarter is compared with all overseas visitors who arrived in that quarter and depart in the following 12 months, to obtain the net number of overseas visitors who jump category. Estimates of category jumping are derived by subtracting the Australian resident component from the overseas visitor component.

Completed fertility The completed fertility rate represents the average number of births a cohort of females have borne. It is obtained by summing the age-specific birth rates experienced by that cohort of females over their reproductive lives.

Confinement A pregnancy which results in at least one live birth.

Crude birth rate The crude birth rate is the number of live births registered during the calendar year per 1,000 estimated resident population at 30 June of that year. For years prior to 1992, the crude birth rate was based on the mean estimated resident population for the calendar year.

Estimated resident population (ERP) The official measure of the population of Australia is based on the concept of residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months.

Exnuptial birth An exnuptial birth is the birth of a child whose parents are not legally married to each other at the time of the child's birth.

Indigenous Persons who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Indigenous birth The birth of a live-born child where either the mother or the father was identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin on the birth registration form. Indigenous births in Indigenous population estimates/projections are those which result by applying assumed age-specific fertility rates to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers in reproductive ages.

Indigenous origin Persons who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Intercensal discrepancy Intercensal discrepancy is the difference between two estimates at 30 June of a census year population, the first based on the latest census and the second arrived at by updating the 30 June estimate of the previous census year with intercensal components of population change which take account of information available from the latest census. It is caused by errors in the start and/or finish population estimates and/or in estimates of births, deaths or migration in the intervening period which cannot be attributed to a particular source.

Marital status Two separate concepts of marital status are measured by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are registered marital status and social marital status.

Registered marital status refers to formally registered marriages and divorces. Registered marital status is a person's relationship status in terms of whether he or she has, or has had, a registered marriage with another person. Accordingly, people are classified as either 'never married', 'married', widowed' or 'divorced'.

Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married. Under social marital status, a person is classified as either 'married' or 'not married' with further disaggregation of 'married' to distinguish 'registered married' from 'de facto married' person.

Median age at childbearing The term refers to the age when approximately one-half of the females in a population have their children, either for a birth of particular birth order or for all births. It measures the age at childbearing within the female population, as distinct from the median age of mother at confinement which measures the median age of the females who gave birth in a particular year.

Median value For any distribution the median value (age, duration, interval) is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below the value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.

Mortality Death.

Multiple birth A multiple birth is a confinement which results in two or more issue, at least one of which is live-born.

Natural increase Excess of births over deaths.

Net overseas migration Net overseas migration is net permanent and long-term overseas migration plus an adjustment for the effect of category jumping.

Net population growth For Australia, net population growth is the sum of natural increase and net overseas migration. For the states and territories, net population growth also includes net interstate migration.

Net reproduction rate The net reproduction rate represents the average number of daughters that would be born to a group of females if they are subject to the fertility and mortality rates of a given year during their future life. It indicates the extent to which the population would reproduce itself. The net reproduction rate is obtained by multiplying the age-specific birth rates (for female births only) by the proportion of survivors at corresponding ages in a life table and adding the products.

Nuptial birth A nuptial birth is the birth of a child born of parents who are legally married at the time of the child's birth.

Nuptial first confinement A nuptial first confinement is the first confinement in the current marriage and therefore does not necessarily represent the woman's first ever confinement resulting in a live birth.

Nuptiality Nuptiality relates to the registered marital status of persons and the events such as marriages, divorces and widowhood. Confinements and births are identified as being nuptial where the father registered was married to the mother at the time of birth, or where the husband died during pregnancy. Confinements and children of Indigenous mothers considered to be tribally married are classified as nuptial. Other confinements, and the children resulting from them, are classified as exnuptial whether or not both parents were living together at the time of birth.

Part of state Part of state is used to refer to the remainder of a state outside the Capital City Statistical Division (SD). See also Balance of state or territory.

Paternity-acknowledged birth A paternity-acknowledged birth refers to an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.

Population growth For Australia, population growth is the sum of natural increase and net overseas migration. For states and territories, population growth also includes net interstate migration. After the census, intercensal population growth also includes an allowance for intercensal discrepancy.

Previous births Previous births refer to children born alive (who may or may not be living) to a mother prior to the registration of the current birth in the processing period. In some states, legitimised and legally adopted children may also be included.

Due to variation in data collection and processing methods across states and territories, different definitions of the concept of previous births have been applied.

All previous births of the mother includes all births prior to the current confinement, regardless of nuptiality and paternity.

Previous births of the current relationship where paternity was acknowledged includes all births prior to the current confinement where the current confinement relates to a nuptial birth, or an exnuptial birth where paternity was acknowledged.

Previous issue See Previous births.

Rate of population growth Population change over a period as a proportion (percentage) of the population at the beginning of the period.

Registered marital status Registered marital status refers to formally registered marriages for which the partners hold a marriage certificate. In this publication the distinction is between married parents (nuptial births) and unmarried parents (exnuptial births).

Replacement fertility Replacement level fertility is the number of babies a female would need to have over her reproductive life span to replace herself and her partner. Given the current mortality of females up to age 49 years, replacement fertility is estimated at 2.1 babies per female.

Sex ratio

The sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio is defined for total population, at birth, at death and among age groups by appropriately selecting the numerator and denominator of the ratio.

Social marital status

Social marital status is the consensual union status of a person with reference to another person in the household. In this publication data are only available from midwives' collection. The categories are married/de facto; single; and separated/divorced/widowed.

State or territory of registration

State or territory of registration refers to the state or territory in which the event was registered.

State or territory and Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence

State or territory and Statistical Local Area (SLA) of usual residence refers to the state or territory and SLA of usual residence of:

- the population (estimated resident population)
- the mother (birth collection)
- the deceased (death collection).

In the case of overseas movements, state or territory of usual residence refers to the state or territory regarded by the traveller as the one in which he/she lives or has lived. State or territory of intended residence is derived from the intended address given by settlers, and by Australian residents returning after a journey abroad. Particularly in the case of the former, this information does not necessarily relate to the state or territory in which the traveller will eventually establish a permanent residence.

Statistical Division (SD)

Statistical Divisions (SD) consist of one or more Statistical Subdivisions (SSD). The divisions are designed to be relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Further information concerning SDs is contained in *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Statistical Local Area (SLA)

Statistical Local Areas (SLA) are, in most cases, identical with, or have been formed from a division of, whole Local Government Areas (LGA). In other cases, they represent unincorporated areas. In aggregate, SLAs cover the whole of a state or territory without gaps or overlaps. In some cases legal LGAs overlap statistical subdivision boundaries and therefore comprise two or three SLAs (Part A, Part B and, if necessary, Part C). Further information concerning SLAs is contained in *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Statistical Subdivision (SSD)

Statistical Subdivisions (SSD) are of intermediate size, between Statistical Local Areas (SLA) and Statistical Division (SD). In aggregate, they cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between the inhabitants. In the non-urban areas an SSD is characterised by identifiable links between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. Further information concerning SSDs is contained in *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Total fertility rate The sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of children a female would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.

Usual residence Usual residence within Australia refers to that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in a given reference year.

Year of occurrence Data presented on year of occurrence basis relate to the date the event occurred.

Year of registration Data presented on year of registration basis relate to the date the event was registered.

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