

RURAL AUSTRALIA



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Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CATALOGUE NO. 2507.0

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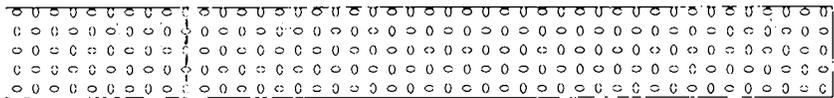
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FOREWORD

Australia's eleventh national census was taken on 30 June 1986. An important aspect of the census is that it can be used to examine the characteristics of people living in different geographic settings such as the local suburban areas, cities or, the focus of this report, the rural areas of Australia.

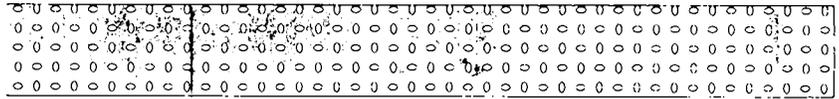
The ABS defines rural areas in accordance with international definitions. They do not include the many middle sized towns providing focal points for the economic and cultural life of people living in the surrounding areas. It should also be noted that in a country the size of Australia with its diverse climatic and physical environments, the characteristics of the rural population vary considerably from one region to another. In a report of this size it is not possible to examine the extent of this diversity. Despite this, there are basic differences between lifestyles in rural and urban areas and it is with these differences that this report is largely concerned.

The report is divided into three main sections. The first examines the growth, distribution and demographic characteristics (including birthplace and religion) of the people living in rural areas. The second section examines their educational and work experiences and their incomes, and highlights some of the major changes that have occurred between 1976 and 1986. The third section examines the living arrangements of people in rural areas; the types of households and families most commonly found, the types of dwellings most commonly occupied and some information on housing costs.

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Australian Statistician

February 1992



DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Rural population defined

People who were counted in the 1986 Census were classified as living in rural or urban areas on the basis of the number of people living in the settlement, town or city in which they lived.

... rural localities

People who lived in small towns which had a population of between 200 and 999 people were classified as living in rural localities (holiday resorts were treated differently - see rural locality in the Glossary). An example is the town of Berrima in NSW, at the 1986 Census its population numbered 645 people so it was considered to be a rural locality. Population centres with more than 99,999 people were classified as major urban centres and included all the State capital cities except Darwin. Smaller centres with populations greater than 999 people were classified as other urban centres.

... other rural areas

People who could not be classified as living in major urban centres, other urban centres or rural localities were classified as living in other rural areas. Although some people who lived in other rural areas did have remote or isolated homes, the classification does not imply remoteness.

Rural and urban areas

Throughout this report the term rural areas represents the combination of rural localities and other rural areas. Urban areas are the combination of major urban and other urban centres.

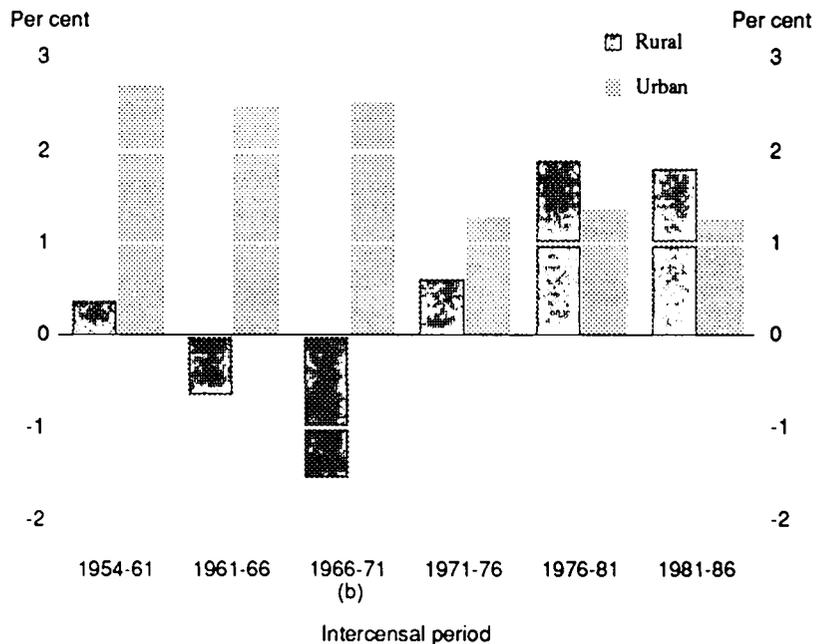
One-seventh of Australia's people lived in rural areas

At the 1986 Census, 2.3 million people were counted in rural areas. This represented 15 per cent of all people counted in Australia, a proportion which is low compared to most other countries. Australia has long been recognised as having a highly urbanised society and, although differences in the definition of rural areas restrict international comparison, information from other developed countries with similar definitions confirm this. For example, in 1986 the proportion of Canada's people living in rural areas was 23 per cent (see *UN Demography Yearbook, 1989*).

Decline and revival of rural population

Following World War II and the implementation of soldier resettlement schemes there was a slight increase in the rural population. Subsequently, the proportion of Australia's population which resided in rural areas declined considerably, from 21 per cent in 1954 to 14 per cent in the 1970s. In 1971-76 there was a slight resurgence in the population growth rate of rural areas. This gained strength in 1976-86 when rural growth averaged 1.9 per cent a year compared to average urban growth of 1.3 per cent a year. The growth in rural areas was the result not only of natural increase (the difference between the number of births and deaths), but also of an increasing number of people moving from urban to rural areas. Such movers included commuters settling on the outer fringes of major cities and city people, particularly retirees, moving to coastal localities. For more information see *Population Growth and Distribution in Australia* (Cat. No. 2504.0).

FIGURE 1.1 AVERAGE ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH RATES IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS(a): INTERCENSAL PERIODS 1954-86



(a) Although changes in definition of urban and rural areas have occurred over the total period, figures have been revised so that growth rates between successive censuses use comparable figures. (b) Figures for 1966 exclude people described as full-blood Aborigines in NSW and Vic. and figures prior to 1966 exclude all full-blood Aboriginal people.

Source: *Census of the Commonwealth of Australia, 30 June 1961, Statisticians Report, Vol VIII (1954 and 1961), Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, Australia, Table 2 (Cat.No. 2443.0) (1966-1981), Table CSD001 (1986)*

Where they lived ... States and Territories

Three in four rural Australians lived in New South Wales (29 per cent), Queensland (24 per cent) or Victoria (22 per cent), reflecting these States' large regions amenable to agricultural development. In comparison to the urban population, rural people were highly represented in Queensland, Tasmania and the Northern Territory (over 20 per cent of the State/Territory population). About 12 per cent of people in New South Wales and Victoria lived in rural areas. The Australian Capital Territory had virtually no rural population.

Queensland experienced the greatest growth in rural population between 1976 and 1986, increasing by 35 per cent. In the Northern Territory the increase was 34 per cent and in New South Wales, 22 per cent. Contrary to the national trend, the proportion of population living in rural areas declined in Western Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 1.1 RURAL POPULATION: 1966-1986

	Number ('000)			Per cent of total population		
	1966	1976	1986	1966	1976	1986
NSW(a)	569.1	531.4	649.8	13.4	11.1	12.0
Vic.(a)	463.1	441.1	501.0	14.4	12.1	12.5
Qld	398.3	401.8	542.9	23.7	19.7	21.0
SA	192.5	186.4	205.6	17.5	15.0	15.3
WA	207.4	186.1	211.4	24.3	16.3	15.0
Tas.(a)	109.8	100.4	110.9	29.6	24.9	25.4
NT	26.7	32.1	42.9	45.6	33.0	27.7
ACT(a)	3.7	3.1	2.2	3.9	1.6	0.9
Australia(a)	1,970.6	1,882.4	2,266.9	17.0	13.9	14.5

(a) 1966 figures exclude people described as full-blood Aborigine in NSW, Vic, Tas. and ACT.

Source: *Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1981 - Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, Table 2 (Cat. No. 2435.0-2443.0), (1966 and 1976), CSD001 (1986)*

... close to capital cities

People living in rural areas were heavily concentrated near major capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth) although large numbers could also be found along the eastern seaboard of Australia, from southern New South Wales to far north Queensland. Regions with harsh climatic conditions, such as western Queensland and New South Wales, the Pilbara, the Kimberley and south-east Western Australia, had the smallest rural populations.

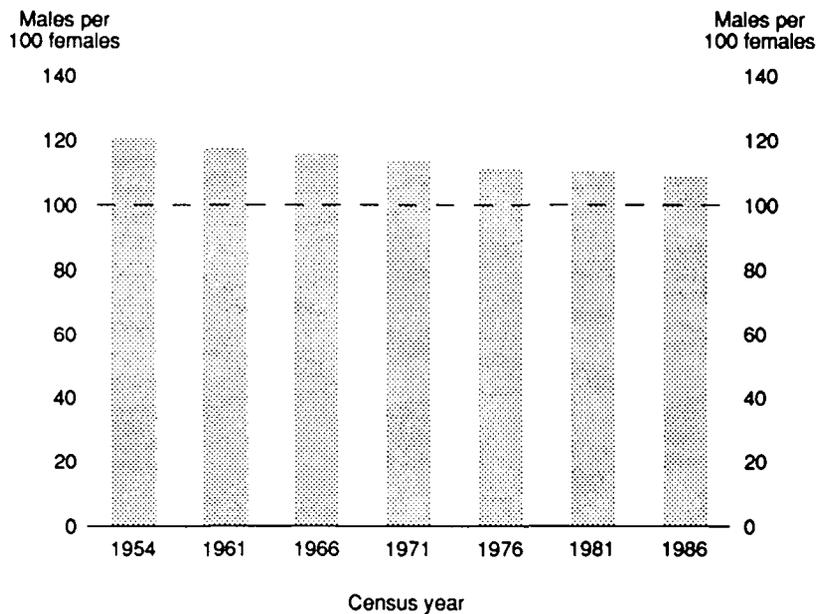
... small towns in remote areas

At the 1986 Census 423,000 people in Australia lived in rural localities, representing 19 per cent of the total rural population. Typically, people in remote rural areas (such as north Queensland, the Northern Territory and the Pilbara) were more likely to have lived in rural localities than people in rural areas living close to capital cities. Exceptions to this pattern were the hinterlands of Adelaide and Perth which both had high proportions of people in rural areas counted in rural localities.

More men than women

Historically, men have outnumbered women by substantial margins in rural areas. For example, a ratio of 121 men for every 100 women was recorded at the 1954 Census. However, the proportion of men has steadily declined and in 1986 the ratio was 110 men per 100 women in rural areas compared to 97 men per 100 women in urban areas. During the same period there were improvements in the standard of living in rural areas, changes in the role of women in the labour force, and decreasing reliance on labour ensuing from increased mechanisation.

FIGURE 1.2 SEX RATIO IN RURAL AREAS, 1954-86



Source: *Census of the Commonwealth of Australia, 30 June 1954, Statistician's Report, Vol VIII, Table 8 (1954), Census of the Commonwealth of Australia, 30 June 1961, Statistician's Report, Vol VIII, Table 8 (1961), Summary Characteristics of Persons and Dwellings, Australia 1981, Table 2 (Cat. No. 2443.0) (1966-1981), CSD001 (1986)*

A younger age profile

On average, the population in rural areas was slightly younger than the population in urban areas with a median age of 30.5 years compared to 31.3 years. There were high proportions of children (aged 0-16 years) and 'middle aged' adults (aged 30-55 years), indicators of a relatively high proportion of 'traditional' families in rural areas (see Section 3).

TABLE 1.2 AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION

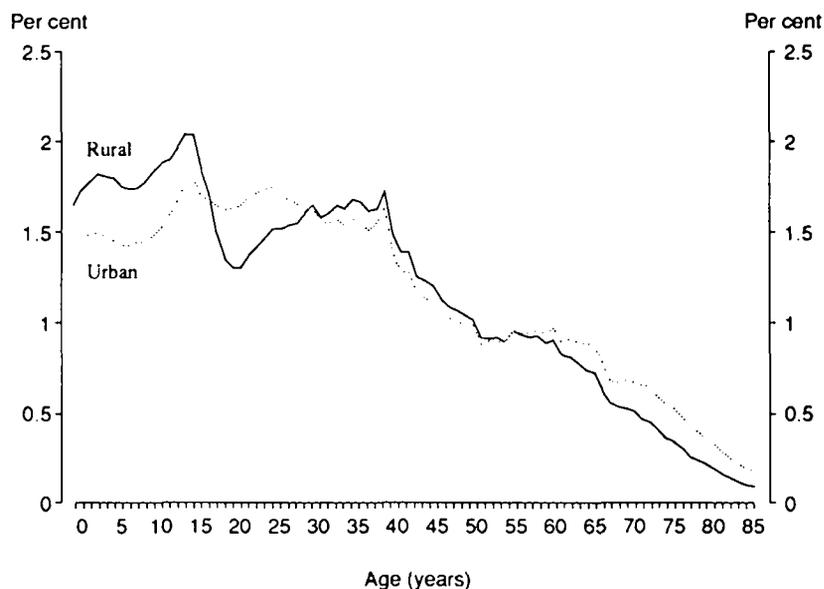
Age (years)	Rural			Urban	Sex ratio	
	Men	Women	Total		Rural	Urban
	— '000 —		— per cent —		males/100 females	
0-4	102.5	97.0	8.8	7.4	105.6	104.8
5-14	216.5	202.1	18.5	15.2	107.1	104.9
15-24	186.9	159.9	15.3	16.9	116.9	101.4
25-34	184.0	175.9	15.9	16.3	104.6	98.8
35-44	179.4	162.7	15.1	14.1	110.3	101.4
45-54	123.5	107.4	10.2	9.8	115.1	102.8
55-64	106.7	89.8	8.7	9.3	118.7	92.6
65-74	61.5	55.3	5.2	6.8	111.4	80.1
75 and over	25.7	30.1	2.5	4.3	85.2	55.7
Total	1,186.7	1,080.2	100.0	100.0	109.9	97.3

Source: CSD007

... few young adults and older people

There were also marked differences in the number of younger adults in rural and urban areas. People in their late teens and early twenties (the ages typically associated with leaving school and entering the labour force), were under-represented in rural areas. The situation was more evident in the number of rural women, with the ratio of males to females being substantially higher in the age group 15-24 years than for any other age group, and for the same age group in urban areas. The low numbers may indicate that many younger rural people move to urban areas in order to pursue work and further education opportunities. The under-representation of young women may also be attributable to the types of occupations available in rural areas and the high unemployment levels among them. As with younger people, migration to urban areas may explain the under-representation of elderly people in rural areas. For example, the proportion of people aged 75 years and over in rural areas was approximately half that of those in urban areas.

FIGURE 1.3 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION



Source: CSD007

Proportionally more married people

Across all adult age groups, for both men and women, rural areas had a greater representation of married people with a total of 61 per cent of rural men and 67 per cent of rural women being married, compared to 58 per cent of urban men and 56 per cent of urban women. Younger adults in rural areas were more likely to be married than their urban counterparts. Forty-three per cent of rural women and 17 per cent of rural men aged 20-24 years were married compared to 32 per cent of women and 15 per cent of men in urban areas.

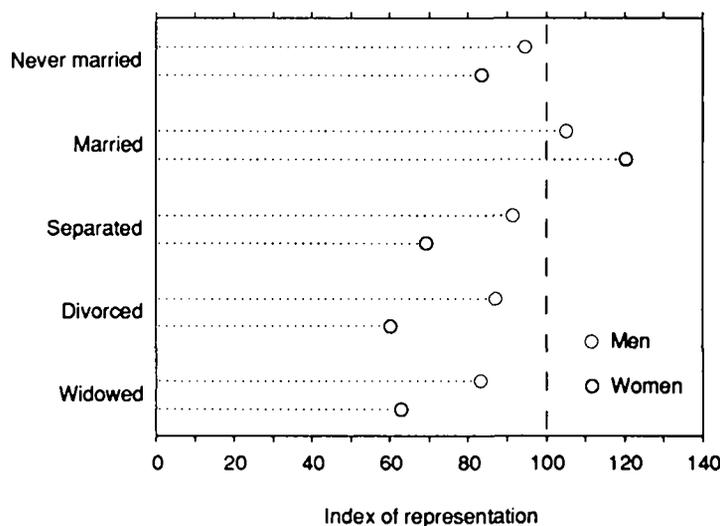
TABLE 1.3 PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE MARRIED: AGE BY SEX BY LOCATION (per cent)

Age (years)	Men		Women	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
15-19	0.6	0.4	3.0	2.1
20-24	17.5	15.0	43.3	31.5
25-34	64.4	58.7	79.3	68.2
35-44	81.5	78.0	87.4	78.0
45-54	82.3	80.8	86.6	77.8
55-64	80.3	80.2	79.7	69.6
65 and over	71.3	73.4	49.9	39.4
Total	61.0	58.1	66.9	55.7

Source: CSD008

In contrast to the high representation of married people in rural areas, there was low representation of divorced, separated and widowed people, especially women. This suggests a tendency for people (especially women) whose marriages have ended to migrate to urban areas. It is also possible that the stability of marriage in rural areas is such that family dissolution is less common. The low representation of widows is consistent with the low numbers of elderly people.

FIGURE 1.4 INDEX OF REPRESENTATION(a) OF MARITAL STATUS GROUPS AMONG PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN RURAL AREAS



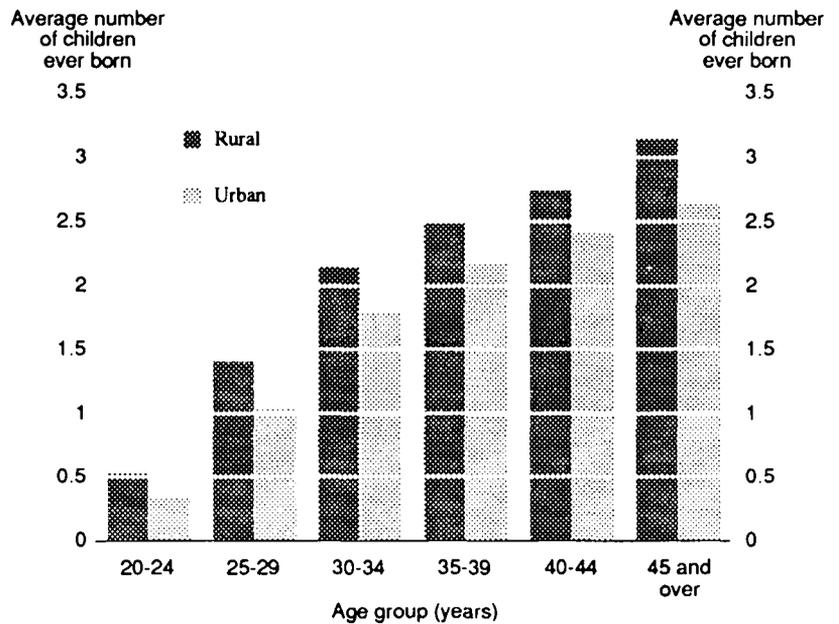
(a) An index value of 100 indicates that the proportion of people aged 15 years and over in rural areas was the same as that in urban areas. A value less than 100 indicates that the proportion in rural areas was lower than that in urban areas.

Source: CSD010

More children

Rural women tended to have had more children than those in urban areas. Allowing for differences in the age composition of women in rural and urban areas, the average number of children ever born to women in rural areas was 25 per cent higher than for women in major urban centres. A comparison of the number of births for women in each age group revealed a similar pattern.

FIGURE 1.5 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO WOMEN BY CURRENT AGE AND LOCATION



Source: *Fertility in Australia (Cat. No. 2514.0)*

The differences in age, sex and marital status between the rural and urban populations are indicative of a variety of factors operating over a long period of time. They include migration, levels of fertility and mortality and rates of marriage and marriage dissolution. Although it is difficult to isolate the importance of any one of these factors, the high numbers of married people with children and the low numbers of people, particularly women, who were separated or divorced recorded in rural areas further indicate a more traditional society in rural areas.

High proportion of Aboriginal people

There were 228,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people counted in the 1986 Census, and 76,000 (33 per cent) lived in rural areas. This was considerably higher than the proportion of the total population (15 per cent) living in rural areas. Aboriginal people represented 3 per cent of the total Australian rural population and 56 per cent of the rural population of the Northern Territory. For more detailed information on the Aboriginal population in rural areas see *Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People (Cat. No. 2503.3)*.

TABLE 1.4 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS BY STATE/TERRITORY

				As a percentage of -	
	Men	Women	Total	Total Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Rural population
	— '000 —			— per cent —	
NSW	5.3	4.9	10.2	17.3	1.6
Vic.	0.7	0.7	1.4	11.0	0.3
Qld	11.0	10.3	21.3	34.8	3.9
SA	2.0	2.0	4.0	28.0	1.9
WA	6.9	6.2	13.0	34.5	6.2
Tas.	1.0	0.9	1.9	28.3	1.7
NT	11.8	12.2	24.0	69.2	56.0
ACT	0.1	0.1	0.2	18.1	7.8
Australia	38.9	37.2	76.1	33.4	3.4

Source: *CSD003*

Few migrants

Although overseas migration has played a crucial role in Australia's population growth and in shaping its cultural life, the impact in rural areas has been less marked. In 1986 more than 1 in 5 people in Australia had been born overseas, but in rural areas the proportion was only a little more than 1 in 10. New migrants tend to settle in urban areas; only 1 in 20 of those who had arrived between 1981 and 1986 were counted in rural areas.

TABLE 1.5 OVERSEAS-BORN PEOPLE: PERIOD OF RESIDENCE AND SELECTED BIRTHPLACES BY LOCATION

<i>Period of residence/ Country of birth</i>	<i>Rural areas</i>			<i>Urban areas</i>
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	— '000 —			
<i>Period of residence</i>				
0-4 years	11.6	12.4	24.0	431.6
5 years and over	121.5	105.5	227.0	2,474.8
Total overseas born(a)	136.7	121.1	257.8	2,983.7
Total population	1,186.7	1,080.2	2,266.9	13,316.9
	— per cent —			
Per cent of total population	11.5	11.2	11.4	22.4
	— per cent of overseas-born —			
<i>Country of birth(b)</i>				
UK and Ireland	44.9	47.7	46.2	33.7
New Zealand	8.8	8.7	8.8	6.3
Italy	8.3	6.8	7.6	8.1
Netherlands	6.1	5.6	5.9	2.7
Germany	5.4	5.7	5.5	3.4
Yugoslavia	3.0	2.2	2.6	4.8
USA	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.2
Malta	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.7
Greece	1.3	1.2	1.3	4.5
Papua New Guinea	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.6

(a) Includes period of residence not stated. (b) Countries listed are those which accounted for at least 1 per cent of the overseas-born rural population.

Source: CSD011

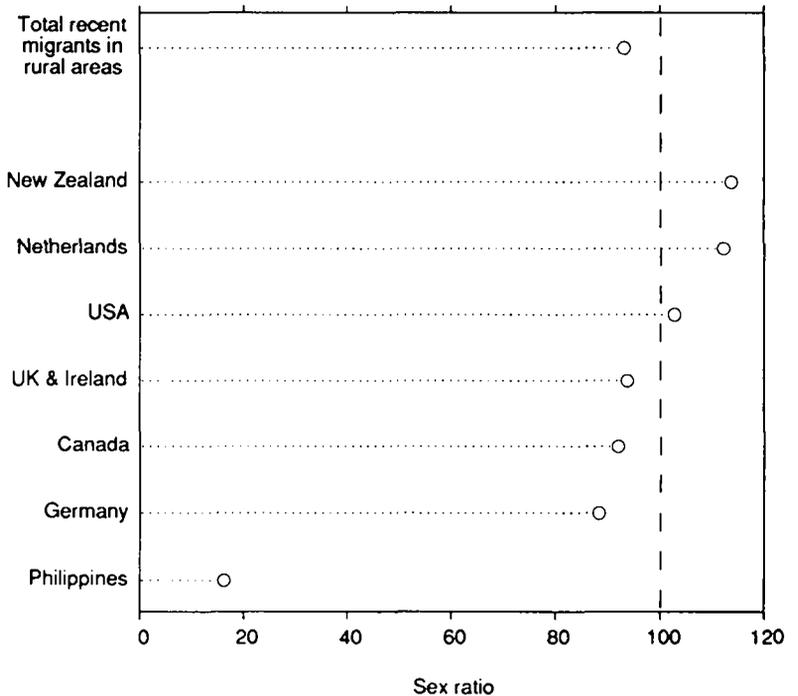
... mainly English speaking

The largest group of migrants in rural Australia came from English speaking countries, particularly the UK and Ireland and New Zealand. Compared to their proportion of the total overseas-born population (44 per cent), people born in English speaking countries were highly represented in rural areas (59 per cent). Among non-English speaking countries, people from Germany and the Netherlands were also more highly represented in rural areas than might have been expected from their representation in the total overseas-born population.

... higher proportion of women
in recent years

The sex ratio of the overseas-born population in rural areas (113 men to 100 women) was higher than that of the total overseas-born population (105 men to 100 women). However, of the migrants who arrived in Australia between 1981 and 1986, men were outnumbered by women (97 to 100) and of those who settled in rural areas, there were 93 men for every 100 women. Among the larger groups of recent migrants counted in rural areas the highest proportion of women occurred among people born in the Philippines. Although the number of recent Filipino migrants counted in rural areas was small (1,299) there was a ratio of 6 women to 1 Filipino man.

**FIGURE 1.7 SEX RATIO(a) OF RECENT(b) MIGRANTS IN RURAL AREAS:
SELECTED(c) COUNTRIES OF BIRTH**



(a) Males per 100 females (b) Migrants who arrived in Australia between June 1981 and June 1986
(c) Countries which contributed at least 2 per cent of the recently arrived overseas-born in rural areas.

Source: CSD011

Mainly Christians

About 73 per cent of both rural and urban people reported their religion at the 1986 Census as Christian. The most common denomination in rural areas was Anglican (26 per cent) followed by Catholic (21 per cent). This relative order was the reverse of that in urban areas where 27 per cent quoted Catholic and 24 per cent quoted Anglican. People reporting non-Christian religions accounted for less than 1 per cent of rural people but over 2 per cent of urban people. A slightly higher proportion of rural than urban people did not answer the optional religion question.

TABLE 1.7 PEOPLE: RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION BY LOCATION

<i>Religion</i>	<i>Rural</i>		<i>Urban</i>
	'000	— per cent —	
<i>Christian(a)</i>	1,647.6	72.7	73.0
Anglican	579.3	25.6	23.6
Catholic	477.1	21.0	26.9
Uniting	242.5	10.7	7.1
Presbyterian	97.2	4.3	3.5
Lutheran	55.8	2.5	1.1
Baptist	27.9	1.2	1.3
Other Christian	167.9	7.4	9.6
Non-Christian	19.0	0.8	2.2
No religion	283.5	12.5	12.7
Other response(b)	11.0	0.5	0.4
Religion not stated	305.8	13.5	11.7
Total	2,266.9	100.0	100.0

(a) Denominations listed are those which accounted for at least 1 per cent of the rural population.
(b) Includes non-theistic and inadequately described.

Source: CSD006

... men less likely to have attained post-school qualifications

The proportion of men in rural areas with post-school qualifications was less than that of men in urban areas. In comparison, there was little difference between women in rural and urban areas with similar proportions having post-school qualifications.

In rural areas, there were more women with diplomas (5 per cent) than with degrees (3 per cent) or trade certificates (2 per cent). As with urban men, rural men with trade certificates far outnumbered those with other qualifications.

TABLE 2.2 PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER: TYPE OF POST-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION BY SEX BY LOCATION

Type of post-school qualification	Men			Women		
	Rural locality	Other rural	Urban	Rural locality	Other rural	Urban
	— per cent —					
Degree	3.6	4.2	7.4	2.3	3.3	4.5
Diploma	2.7	3.1	3.6	4.2	5.2	4.1
Trade certificate	19.1	17.2	19.9	1.8	2.0	2.2
Other qualification	9.0	10.0	11.2	12.2	15.0	15.2
Not qualified	65.6	65.5	57.9	79.5	74.6	74.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —					
Total(a)	157.5	710.2	5,023.4	154.4	626.7	5,275.8

(a) Includes people who did not state their qualification.

Source: CSD031

Rural children at school

Children in rural areas accounted for 17 per cent of pre-school and infant/primary school students and 16 per cent of secondary school students. Children in rural areas were less likely to have been attending non-government schools than children in urban areas with non-government schools accounting for 16 per cent of rural primary school students compared to 25 per cent in urban areas. Corresponding figures for secondary school students were 23 per cent in rural areas and 31 per cent in urban areas. Rural students who attended boarding schools located in urban areas would have been counted as part of the urban population on census night.

TABLE 2.3 ATTENDANCE AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BY LOCATION

Educational institution	Rural areas	Urban areas	Total(a)	Rural
				per cent of total
— '000 —				
Pre-school	46.2	233.6	279.8	16.5
<i>Infant/primary school</i>	<i>270.8</i>	<i>1,293.0</i>	<i>1,564.1</i>	<i>17.3</i>
Government	227.3	963.7	1,191.2	19.1
Non-government	43.6	329.3	372.9	11.7
<i>Secondary School</i>	<i>187.2</i>	<i>1,019.2</i>	<i>1,206.7</i>	<i>15.5</i>
Government	144.0	698.4	842.6	17.1
Non-government	43.2	320.8	364.1	11.9
<i>Tertiary institution</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>666.8</i>	<i>739.4</i>	<i>9.7</i>
TAFE	37.3	289.7	327.4	11.4
CAE	15.4	121.6	137.3	11.2
University	10.4	177.8	188.6	5.5
Other	8.4	77.6	86.2	9.7
Total(b)	607.0	3,396.5	4,005.5	15.2

(a) Includes people counted in offshore and migratory categories. (b) Includes people who did not state the type of educational institution attended.

Source: CX5179

Tertiary students

The proportion of tertiary students who lived in rural areas was low, reflecting the low number of tertiary institutions, particularly universities, located in rural areas. Students in rural areas accounted for 11 per cent of students undertaking courses at TAFE Colleges and Colleges of Advanced Education and 6 per cent of students undertaking courses at University.

High growth in rural labour force

In 1986, there were over 1 million people in the labour force in rural areas, representing 15 per cent of Australia's total labour force. Between 1976 and 1986 the labour force in rural areas increased at a much faster rate than the urban labour force with an average growth rate of 1.9 per cent a year compared to 1.7 per cent in urban areas. Although the growth of the labour force slowed in both areas between 1981 and 1986, rural areas still had slightly higher annual rates (1.6 per cent) than urban areas (1.4 per cent).

TABLE 2.4 LABOUR FORCE GROWTH AND PARTICIPATION BY LOCATION, 1976-1986

	People in the labour force			Labour force participation	
	Employed	Total	Unemployment rate	Men	Women
— '000 —					
— per cent —					
<i>Rural localities</i>					
1976	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1981	147.8	158.8	6.9	74.2	39.3
1986	149.6	170.4	12.2	71.4	40.4
<i>Other rural areas</i>					
1976	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1981	765.0	806.4	5.1	81.7	52.2
1986	794.4	877.0	9.4	79.7	52.8
<i>Total rural</i>					
1976	828.0	864.0	4.2	81.9	49.1
1981	912.8	965.2	5.4	80.3	49.6
1986	944.0	1,047.3	9.9	78.2	50.3
<i>Urban areas</i>					
1976	4,952.0	5,182.7	4.5	79.0	43.1
1981	5,373.1	5,718.3	6.0	76.9	45.0
1986	5,561.2	6,120.3	9.1	74.6	47.4

Source: Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1976, Summary Tables, Table 31. (Cat. No. 2417.0) and Cross Classified Tables, Table 178, (1976), CSD019 and CSD024 (1981), CSD037 (1986)

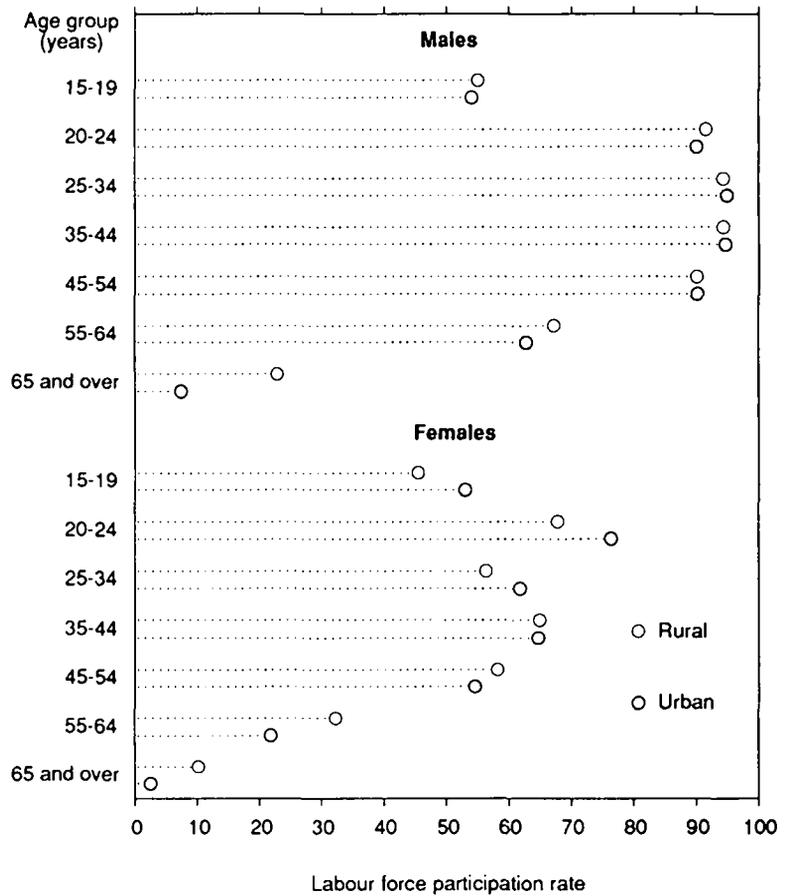
... and high labour force participation

... but low growth in women's labour force participation

Men and women aged 15 years and over were more likely to have been in the labour force if they lived in rural areas than if they lived in urban centres. This difference is attributable in part to the different age structures in rural and urban areas. For example, youth (aged 15-24 years) and the elderly (aged 65 years or more), who generally had low labour force participation rates, were both under-represented in rural areas. On the other hand, Aboriginal people, another group with low labour force participation rates, were over-represented in rural areas. In the prime working ages of 25-54 years the labour force participation rates of men in rural and urban areas were similar.

A major factor in the growth of the Australian labour force has been the increased participation of women, but it is in the urban areas rather than the rural areas that this increase has occurred. Between 1976 and 1986 the labour force participation rate of women in rural areas, already high in 1976 at 49 per cent, increased by only one percentage point. In urban areas it increased by 4 percentage points (43 per cent to 47 per cent). Over the same period, the labour force participation rate of men declined, particularly in urban areas.

FIGURE 2.1 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY SEX AND LOCATION



Source: CSD037

Low participation of young rural women, high participation of older rural women

Young women (aged 15-34 years) in rural areas recorded lower labour force participation rates than young women in urban areas; perhaps reflecting both fewer job opportunities available to young women in rural areas (evidenced by the higher levels of unemployment) and a greater likelihood of women in rural areas to start families at earlier ages. Like older men in rural areas, older women in rural areas had participation rates substantially higher than their urban counterparts.

Slow employment growth

Through the late 1970s and early 1980s employment growth in both rural and urban areas did not keep pace with the overall growth in the labour force. This was most pronounced between 1981 and 1986 when the number of employed people in urban areas increased by less than 4 per cent, half the increase in the size of the urban labour force. In rural areas the increase in employment was even lower, especially in rural localities where there was an employment growth of 1 per cent compared to the 9 per cent increase in the size of the rural labour force. The difference between the increase in the size of the labour force and in total employment resulted in high rates of unemployment, especially in rural localities.

Agriculture the major employer

The economic base of rural areas differs considerably between regions and localities but, generally, can be characterised as having substantial numbers employed in agriculture and support service industries. In 1986, 294,000 people (34 per cent of employed men and 27 per cent of employed women) in rural areas were employed in the agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing industries. Of these, 95 per cent were employed in agriculture with the next largest sub-division, forestry and logging, accounting for only 2 per cent of workers. Employment in agriculture was more significant in other rural areas (35 per cent) than in rural localities (10 per cent) where employment in community services, predominantly in the fields of health and education (18 per cent), and wholesale/retail trade (17 per cent), was high.

TABLE 2.5 EMPLOYED PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS: INDUSTRY BY LOCATION

Industry	Rural areas			Per cent change in employment 1981-1986	Per cent of national employment in rural areas
	Rural localities	Other rural	Total rural		
	— '000 —			— per cent —	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	15.6	278.3	293.9	- 5.4	80.7
Community services	26.6	101.8	128.3	31.8	11.4
Wholesale/retail trade	26.3	98.9	125.1	24.4	10.2
Manufacturing	16.3	68.1	84.4	4.3	8.6
Utilities(a)	15.8	49.7	65.5	13.1	10.8
Construction	10.9	49.3	60.2	13.6	14.1
Recreation and personal services	10.7	36.6	47.3	30.3	12.0
Finance, property and defence	7.9	37.1	44.9	39.1	6.8
Public administration and defence	9.2	34.2	43.4	17.8	11.1
Mining	5.0	11.1	16.1	- 8.7	17.7
Total	149.6	794.4	944.0	3.4	14.5

(a) Includes people employed in the electricity, gas and water industry and the transport, storage and communication industry.

Source: CSD024 (1981), CSD042 (1986)

... but agricultural jobs declining, service industry jobs increasing

Despite an increase in the total number of people employed in rural areas over the last decade, employment in agriculture, in both absolute and relative terms, has fallen. The number of people employed in agriculture declined by almost 34,000 between 1976 and 1981 and a further 16,700 between 1981 and 1986. The proportion of people in rural areas employed in agriculture declined from 42 per cent in 1976, to 34 per cent in 1981 and to 31 per cent in 1986. The decline in agricultural employment in the five years between 1981 and 1986 was more than offset by the growth in community services and wholesale/retail trade (additional employment of 31,000 and 24,500 respectively). Rapid employment growth also occurred in finance, property and business services and recreation and personal services where the numbers of employed people increased by 39 per cent and 30 per cent respectively.

Many farmers

Although employment numbers declined, the importance of the agricultural sector as a source of employment for men and women in rural areas, especially those designated as other rural areas, was confirmed by their occupations. Thirty per cent of men and 25 per cent of women in these areas were classified as farmers and farm managers.

TABLE 2.6 LARGEST OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS IN RURAL AREAS BY SEX

Men		Women	
Occupation group	Per cent of employed	Occupation group	Per cent of employed
<i>Rural localities</i>			
Road and rail transport drivers	7.2	Sales assistants	8.6
Farmers and farm managers	5.4	Cleaners	7.8
Mobile plant operators	5.1	School teachers	7.5
Building tradesperson	5.0	Numerical clerks	6.7
Managerial supervisors (sales and service)	4.9	Stenographer/typist	6.6
Total employed(a) ('000)	96.4		53.3
<i>Other rural</i>			
Farmers and farm managers	30.1	Farmers and farm managers	24.5
Agricultural labourers and related workers	6.5	Stenographers and Typists	6.6
Road and rail transport drivers	4.2	Sales assistants	6.2
Building tradespersons	3.9	School teachers	6.0
Mobile plant operators	3.3	Numerical clerks	5.8
Total employed(a) ('000)	502.1		292.3

(a) Includes those who did not state their occupation.

Source: CSD048

... and a narrower range of occupations

An obvious difference between rural and urban areas is the range of available employment opportunities. In other rural areas the most common occupation for both men and women was farmer or farm manager, accounting for 30 per cent of employed men and 25 per cent of employed women. In rural localities occupations were more diverse with the five largest groups accounting for 28 per cent of men and 37 per cent of women.

More likely to be self-employed and work at home

Overall, employed people in rural areas were more likely to have been working in the private sector, to have been self-employed, to have worked longer hours and to have worked at home than employed urban people.

TABLE 2.7 EMPLOYED PERSONS: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS BY LOCATION BY SEX

	Rural			Urban		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
— per cent —						
<i>Industry sector</i>						
Government	19.1	21.9	20.1	27.1	27.3	27.2
Private	80.9	78.1	79.9	72.9	72.7	72.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Employment status</i>						
Wage/salary earner	62.1	63.8	62.7	84.5	89.2	86.3
Self employed	26.1	21.3	24.4	8.9	5.6	7.6
Employer	10.6	9.1	10.0	6.4	4.1	5.5
Unpaid helper	1.2	5.8	2.9	0.2	1.1	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Hours worked</i>						
1-24	5.8	27.2	13.5	5.6	26.5	13.9
25-34	3.6	9.6	5.8	3.7	10.5	6.3
35-39	16.3	15.4	16.0	29.3	27.6	28.6
40 or more	74.2	47.8	64.7	61.5	35.4	51.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Place of work</i>						
At home	20.9	29.6	24.0	2.1	5.8	3.5
Not at home	79.1	70.4	76.0	97.9	94.2	96.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —						
Total	598.5	345.5	944.0	3,346.3	2,214.9	5,561.2

Source: CSD050, CSD043, CSD039 and CSD049

Employment differences between States

There were marked regional differences in employment growth between the States and Territories. At the 1986 Census the largest decline in numbers of people employed in agriculture since 1981 had occurred in the rural areas of Victoria (8,600) and New South Wales (5,500). The Northern Territory and Queensland both recorded small increases in the number of people employed in agriculture. Despite having the greatest employment decline in agriculture, Victoria followed Queensland and Tasmania as a State with a high increase in overall employment in rural areas.

TABLE 2.8 EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS BY STATE

State/Territory	Total employment		Employment in agriculture(a)		Unemployment rate 1986
	1986	Per cent change 1981-86	1986	Per cent change 1981-86	
	'000	per cent	'000	per cent	per cent
NSW	261.7	0.6	83.2	- 6.2	11.9
Vic.	220.9	5.2	67.1	- 11.3	6.7
Qld	217.7	6.7	64.3	2.1	11.4
SA	94.0	2.3	34.0	- 4.8	7.9
WA	91.6	- 0.2	32.9	- 6.0	8.2
Tas.	45.0	5.4	10.4	- 2.4	10.4
NT	12.1	9.5	1.9	5.3	18.1
ACT	1.1	- 2.8	0.1	- 16.2	6.8
Australia	944.0	3.4	293.9	- 5.4	9.9

(a) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.

Source: CSD024 (1981), CSD040 and CSD042 (1986)

... and unemployment differences

The level of rural unemployment varied between each State and Territory but, overall, the pattern was compatible with the levels of unemployment recorded in urban areas. An exception was the Northern Territory with the highest level of rural unemployment recorded in the country (18 per cent) compared to 10 per cent unemployment in its urban areas.

High unemployment among young rural women

At the 1986 Census, levels of unemployment were higher in rural areas than in urban areas with women in rural areas just as likely to have been unemployed as men. As in urban areas, the highest levels of unemployment were recorded among the younger members of the labour force, particularly younger women. For example, the unemployment rate for women aged 15-19 years in rural areas was 25 per cent, substantially higher than that recorded for either men in rural areas or people in urban areas of the same age group (all 20 per cent).

TABLE 2.9 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES: AGE BY LOCATION BY SEX
(per cent)

Age (years)	Rural areas		Urban areas	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
15-19	19.7	24.5	20.1	20.1
20-24	15.5	17.1	14.0	12.4
25-34	10.5	10.0	8.1	8.9
35-44	7.0	6.1	5.5	6.7
45-54	6.9	5.2	5.6	5.7
55-64	8.5	3.1	8.0	4.7
65 and over	1.5	1.8	5.3	8.0
Total	9.9	9.8	8.8	9.6

Source: CSD037

Incomes lower in rural areas

In 1986, the annual income of individuals and households in rural areas was lower than in urban areas. The median annual income of rural men was \$11,900, substantially less than that of men in urban areas (\$15,500). Although the differences between women were less pronounced, women in rural areas also had lower incomes than their urban counterparts. The median income of rural households was similarly lower than that of urban households (\$19,000 and \$22,000 respectively). Although 13 per cent of Australian households were in rural areas, 15 per cent of households in the lowest income group and 10 per cent in the highest group were in rural areas.

**TABLE 2.10 PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER AND HOUSEHOLDS:
LOWEST AND HIGHEST INCOME GROUPS
AND MEDIAN INCOMES BY LOCATION**

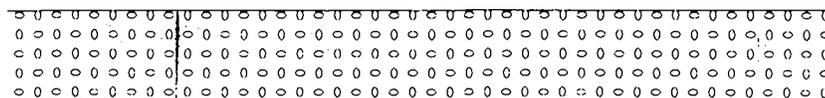
	<i>Rural areas</i>			<i>Urban</i>	<i>Aust- tralia(a)</i>
	<i>Rural localities</i>	<i>Other rural</i>	<i>Total rural</i>		
	— per cent —				
<i>Men</i>					
20 per cent with lowest incomes	3.0	14.6	17.6	82.4	100.0
20 per cent with highest incomes	1.8	8.8	10.5	89.5	100.0
All men(b)	2.7	12.1	14.7	85.3	100.0
	— dollars —				
Median Income	\$12,370	\$11,770	\$11,870	\$15,460	\$15,030
	— per cent —				
<i>Women</i>					
20 per cent with lowest incomes	2.8	12.4	15.2	84.8	100.0
20 per cent with highest incomes	1.6	8.2	9.8	90.2	100.0
All women(b)	2.5	10.3	12.9	87.1	100.0
	— dollars —				
Median Income	\$5,160	\$5,240	\$5,220	\$5,980	\$5,880
	— per cent —				
<i>Total</i>					
20 per cent with lowest incomes	2.8	13.6	16.4	83.6	100.0
20 per cent with highest incomes	1.8	8.8	10.6	89.4	100.0
All people(b)	2.6	11.2	13.8	86.2	100.0
	— dollars —				
Median Income	\$7,550	\$8,130	\$8,020	\$9,900	\$9,590
	— per cent —				
<i>Households</i>					
20 per cent with lowest incomes	3.3	11.4	14.8	85.2	100.0
20 per cent with highest incomes	1.5	8.4	9.9	90.1	100.0
All households(b)	2.7	10.6	13.3	86.7	100.0
	— dollars —				
Median Income	\$17,400	\$19,380	\$18,960	\$22,440	\$21,860

(a) Excludes people in off-shore and migratory category. (b) Includes income not stated.

Source: CSD035

Differences between rural localities and other rural areas

Men in rural localities had slightly higher median incomes than men in other rural areas (\$12,400 and \$11,800 a year respectively). This difference may be attributable to the influence of the incomes of farmers who were highly represented in other rural areas (men who were farmers or farm managers had a median income of \$10,000, much lower than the median income of all rural men). Conversely, women and households in rural localities had lower incomes than those in other rural areas. Women farmers had a median income (\$7,400 a year) well above that of rural women in general.



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND HOUSING

Family households more common in rural areas

In 1986, there were 5.3 million households in Australia, of which nearly 700,000 were found in rural areas. Over 80 per cent of rural households contained families, compared to 76 per cent of urban households. Households containing one family only were more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas but there were also proportionally more households containing more than one family. Lone person households and group households were less common in rural areas. The distribution of household types in rural localities was very similar to that in urban areas (78 per cent were family households compared to 76 per cent in urban areas). Almost 85 per cent of households in other rural areas contained families.

TABLE 3.1 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION BY LOCATION

Household type	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
<i>Family households(a)</i>	78.4	84.6	83.4	76.1
One family	75.8	82.4	81.1	74.3
Two or more families	2.6	2.2	2.3	1.8
<i>Non-family households</i>	21.6	15.4	16.6	23.9
Lone person household	18.8	13.0	14.1	19.5
Group household	2.8	2.4	2.5	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total	140.1	559.1	699.2	4,565.3

(a) Family households may include non-family members.

Source: CSD063

... and 'traditional' family units

Families differ considerably in their composition according to the presence or absence of a mother, father, children and/or other family members. The representation of different family types in rural and urban areas confirmed that the 'traditional' family unit of a couple and dependent child(ren) was more prevalent in rural areas. For example, of the 601,000 families in rural areas, 41 per cent consisted of a couple and their dependent child(ren). The equivalent proportion in urban areas was 35 per cent. One parent families represented 6 per cent of families in rural areas compared to 8 per cent in urban areas. Overall, the proportions of other family types, such as couple only families or couple families with adult family members, in rural and urban areas, were not very dissimilar. The distribution of family types further suggested that 'traditional' families were more common in other rural areas than in rural localities with 52 per cent of families in other rural areas containing at least a couple and dependent child(ren) compared to 45 per cent in rural localities.

TABLE 3.2 FAMILY COMPOSITION BY LOCATION

Family type	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
<i>Couple families</i>	87.6	90.8	90.2	85.3
Couple only	33.8	28.1	29.2	30.8
Couple and dependent child(ren)	37.0	42.2	41.2	34.5
Couple and adult(s)	8.6	10.5	10.2	10.9
Couple, adult(s) and dependent child(ren)	8.2	10.0	9.7	9.0
<i>Other families</i>	12.4	9.2	9.8	14.7
Lone parent and dependent child(ren)	5.8	4.1	4.4	6.2
Lone parent, adult(s) and dependent child(ren)	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.9
Related adults	4.8	4.0	4.1	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total	114.1	486.5	600.6	3,557.4

Source: CSD025

The prevalence of the 'traditional' family unit in rural areas was further demonstrated by the fact that families in these areas generally had more children (29 per cent of families with dependent children had 3 or more dependent children living in the household) than families in urban areas (23 per cent), and that there were fewer couples involved in de facto relationships (5 per cent compared to 6 per cent). There was also a particularly high proportion of one parent families headed by a male parent in rural areas (21 per cent compared to 13 per cent).

TABLE 3.3 SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES BY LOCATION (per cent)

Characteristic	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
Per cent of couple families in de facto relationships	6.3	5.1	5.3	5.8
Per cent of one parent families headed by a male parent	17.3	22.9	21.5	13.4
Per cent of families with dependent child(ren) with three or more dependent children	27.7	29.6	29.3	22.8

Source: CSD020, CSD024 and CSD025

Larger rural households

Although the average size of both rural and urban households has declined over the years, rural households were still larger than urban households in 1986 with an average of 3.2 people compared to 2.8 people. In rural areas, 20 per cent of households contained more than 4 people and 14 per cent contained 1 person only. In urban areas the figures were reversed with 20 per cent of households containing only 1 person and 14 per cent containing more than 4 people. For more details see *Australian Families and Households* (Cat. No. 2504.0).

TABLE 3.4 SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS(a) BY LOCATION

Number of people	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
1	19.6	13.2	14.5	20.2
2	30.8	27.1	27.8	30.4
3-4	33.2	38.8	37.7	35.4
5-6	13.4	18.0	17.1	12.4
7 or more	3.0	2.9	2.9	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total	134.4	539.3	673.7	4,513.7
<i>Average household size(b)</i>				
1981	3.1	3.3	3.3	2.9
1986	2.9	3.2	3.2	2.8

(a) Excludes households in caravans etc. in caravan parks. (b) Households with 8 or more people were assumed to have 8 people only.

Source: CSD026 (1981), CSD059 (1986)

Most people lived in separate houses

People in rural areas were more likely to have lived in a separate house than people in urban areas. More than 9 in 10 occupied private dwellings in rural areas were separate houses while in urban areas the proportion was slightly less than 8 in 10. Of the remaining private dwellings found in urban areas, the majority were flats, town-houses and other types of medium and high density housing. In rural areas, a substantial proportion of the occupied private dwellings (7 per cent) were caravans etc. in caravan parks or on residential land, and various forms of improvised housing.

TABLE 3.5 STRUCTURE OF OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS BY LOCATION

Dwelling type	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
Separate house	88.0	91.8	91.1	76.8
Medium/high density(a)	6.4	1.4	2.4	21.9
Caravans etc.(b)	5.7	6.8	6.6	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total	140.1	559.1	699.2	4,565.3

(a) Comprises semi-detached house, row/terrace house, other medium density, flats over 3 storeys and house/flat attached to shop/office. (b) Comprises caravan etc. in park, other caravan, houseboat etc. and improvised dwellings.

Source: CSD056

Higher levels of home ownership

Home ownership, an aspiration held by many Australians, had been realised by 38 per cent of households by 1986. In rural areas 48 per cent of private dwellings were owned outright and 26 per cent were in the process of being paid off. In urban areas the level of home ownership (37 per cent) was considerably lower and there was a much higher proportion of householders paying off their homes (32 per cent). The high levels of home ownership in rural areas resulted in renting being far less common, 17 per cent compared to 27 per cent in urban areas. Most renting households did so from private owners, but 7 per cent of households in urban areas and rural localities and 2 per cent of households in other rural areas rented public housing.

TABLE 3.6 HOUSEHOLDS(a): NATURE OF OCCUPANCY BY LOCATION

Nature of Occupancy	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
<i>Owner Occupied</i>	69.8	74.2	73.4	68.5
Owned	44.9	48.4	47.7	36.8
Being purchased	24.9	25.8	25.6	31.7
<i>Rented</i>	24.0	15.1	16.8	27.0
Private landlord	17.1	13.0	13.9	19.8
Public authority	6.9	2.0	3.0	7.2
Other(b)	6.2	10.7	9.8	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total(b)	134.4	539.3	673.7	4,513.7

(a) Excludes caravans etc. in parks. (b) Includes households for which nature of occupancy was not stated.

Source: CSD066

Higher mortgages, lower rents

In 1986, median monthly mortgage payments in rural areas were considerably higher than those in urban areas. Although the median monthly mortgage payment for dwellings in rural localities (\$305) was lower than in urban areas (\$344), the other rural areas had an extremely high median monthly mortgage payment of \$393.

TABLE 3.7 HOUSEHOLDS(a): MORTGAGE AND RENT PAYMENTS BY LOCATION

Mortgages/Rents	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
<i>Mortgage payments (monthly)</i>				
\$0-\$99	10.3	4.5	5.6	13.0
\$100-\$199	14.9	9.8	10.8	10.8
\$200-\$299	23.6	17.6	18.8	16.8
\$300-\$399	19.9	19.2	19.4	18.5
\$400-\$499	13.5	16.6	16.0	15.3
\$500-\$599	7.6	10.7	10.1	9.8
\$600 or more	10.2	21.7	19.4	15.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total households	33.5	139.2	172.7	1,431.7
	— dollars —			
Median payments	\$305	\$395	\$370	\$345
	— per cent —			
<i>Rents (weekly)</i>				
\$0-\$24	25.6	18.9	20.8	8.1
\$25-\$49	33.6	31.2	31.9	18.0
\$50-\$74	24.0	26.0	25.4	22.9
\$75-\$99	9.6	12.0	11.3	24.3
\$100-\$124	4.0	7.1	6.2	14.4
\$125 or more	3.3	4.9	4.4	12.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total households	32.2	81.2	113.4	1,221.0
	— dollars —			
Median payments	\$43	\$50	\$48	\$76

(a) Excludes households in caravans etc. in caravan parks.

Sources: CSD068 and CSD069

In contrast to the high mortgage payments, the amount of rent paid by rural households was considerably lower than that paid by urban households. Over 50 per cent of rural households who rented their dwellings paid less than \$50 per week. In comparison, the median level of weekly rent payments for urban dwellers was \$76.

More cars per household

Living long distances from shopping and service facilities, business contacts, schools, friends and places of entertainment is a distinctive aspect of rural life. While public transport services (e.g. school buses) are available in many rural communities, rural households are still heavily dependent on private transport to meet day to day needs. On average, rural households had greater access to motor vehicles (excluding motor bikes and tractors) than did urban households. Less than 1 in 20 households in other rural areas did not have access to a motor vehicle, in rural localities the ratio was almost 1 in 9, while in urban areas it was close to 1 in 7 households. Sixty-three per cent of households in other rural areas owned or used two or more vehicles and the average for every 20 households in all rural areas was 36 vehicles, 8 vehicles more than for every 20 households in urban areas.

TABLE 3.8 OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS: MOTOR VEHICLES PER HOUSEHOLD BY LOCATION

Number of motor vehicles	Rural areas			Urban
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural	
	— per cent —			
0	10.9	4.5	5.8	14.1
1	46.5	33.0	35.7	44.7
2	32.3	39.5	38.1	31.5
3	7.5	14.4	13.1	7.3
4 or more	2.8	8.6	7.5	2.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	— '000 —			
Total	140.1	559.1	699.2	4,565.3
	— number —			
Average vehicles per household	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.4

(a) Households with more than 4 motor vehicles were assumed to have had 4 vehicles each.

Source: CSD065

People in non-private dwellings

At the 1986 Census, over 75,000 people were counted in almost 5,000 non-private dwellings in rural areas. While the overall distribution of people in private and non-private dwellings was similar in rural and urban areas, there were major differences in the types of non-private dwellings inhabited. Only a small proportion (within the range of 5 to 8 per cent) of people in nursing homes, hospitals and homes for the aged, hostels for the homeless and hostels for the disabled, were counted in rural areas.

People camping out on census night were mostly found in rural areas (88 per cent). Other types of non-private dwellings where high proportions of people were counted in rural areas were staff quarters, typically belonging to work gangs involved in road and railway maintenance, mining exploration and shearing (46 per cent), corrective institutions (25 per cent) and residential colleges (22 per cent).

TABLE 3.9 PEOPLE(a): TYPE OF DWELLING OCCUPIED BY LOCATION

Type of dwelling	Rural areas			Total urban	Total	
	Rural locality	Other rural	Total rural			
	— per cent —					'000
Private dwelling	2.7	11.8	14.5	85.5	100.0	15,078.5
Non-private dwelling	2.7	12.2	14.9	85.1	100.0	505.5
Hotel, motel	4.8	9.8	14.6	85.4	100.0	105.9
Nursing home	1.1	3.0	4.1	95.9	100.0	82.6
Hospital(b)	2.6	2.1	4.7	95.3	100.0	82.2
Staff quarters	4.7	41.6	46.3	53.7	100.0	51.0
Boarding house, private hotel	2.2	15.5	17.7	82.3	100.0	45.4
Home for the aged	1.1	3.6	4.7	95.3	100.0	45.0
Residential college, hall of residence	1.7	20.2	21.9	78.1	100.0	24.2
Boarding school	1.7	9.6	11.2	88.8	100.0	20.4
Corrective institution	0.9	24.2	25.1	74.9	100.0	12.9
Convent, monastery etc.	2.2	8.8	11.0	89.0	100.0	10.7
Hostel for the disabled	0.8	7.1	7.9	92.1	100.0	8.8
Welfare institution(c)	1.5	14.8	16.4	83.6	100.0	5.7
Campers out	5.6	82.9	88.5	11.5	100.0	4.8
Hostel for homeless, nightshelter, refuge	1.6	4.7	6.3	93.7	100.0	4.5
Other and not classifiable	4.2	53.3	57.5	42.5	100.0	1.4

(a) Excludes 18,192 people classified as migratory. (b) Comprises public and private hospitals (not private psychiatric) and psychiatric hospitals or institutions. (c) Includes child care institutions.

Source: CSD055 and CX2478B

GLOSSARY

Family	Two or more people related by blood, marriage or de facto relationship who live in the same household.
Household	A person living alone, or two or more persons who live and eat together in private residential accommodation.
Major urban centre	A population cluster which contains at least 100,000 people. Includes all capital city statistical divisions except Darwin.
Non-private dwellings	Include hotels, motels, boarding houses, nursing homes, hospitals, boarding schools, reformatories, prisons, staff quarters, religious and charitable institutions, defence establishments and similar group living quarters and tents, improvised homes etc. which had communal eating facilities. Where the accommodation includes self-contained units, the units are considered as part of the non-private dwelling, not as separate households.
Other rural area	A population cluster which contains less than 200 people. Aboriginal communities on pastoral properties, and people living on outstations are included in this category.
Other urban centre	A population cluster which contains between 1,000 and 99,999 people, or a known holiday resort with a smaller population which contains at least 250 dwellings of which at least 100 were occupied on census night.
Private dwelling	Normally a house, flat, part of a house or even a room, but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above, shops or offices, an occupied caravan in a caravan park or boat in a marina, a houseboat or tent if it is standing on its own block of land. A caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling. An occupied private dwelling is the premises occupied by a household. Since there may be more than one household within a structure, there may also be more than one dwelling in a structure. The number of households is equal to the number of occupied private dwellings and caravans etc. in caravan parks.
Rural areas	Comprise rural localities (see below) and other rural areas (see above).
Rural locality	A population cluster which contains between 200 and 999 people. Excludes known holiday resorts of at least 250 dwellings of which at least 100 were occupied on census night.
Sex ratio	The number of males for every 100 females.
Urban areas	Comprise major urban centres and other urban centres (see above).

APPENDIX A

Publications in the series

Cat.No.	Title
2501.0	<i>Census 86 — Australia in Brief (Dec. 1987)</i>
2502.0	<i>Census 86 — Australia in Profile (Aug. 1988)</i>
2503.0	<i>Census 86 — Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People (Feb. 1991)</i>
2504.0	<i>Census 86 — Population Growth and Distribution in Australia (including internal migration) (Sept. 1990)</i>
2505.0	<i>Census 86 — Multicultural Australia (Jan. 1992)</i>
2506.0	<i>Census 86 — Australian Families and Households (Sept. 1989)</i>
2507.0	<i>Census 86 — Rural Australia (Mar. 1992)</i>
2510.0	<i>Census 86 — Religion in Australia (Jan. 1991)</i>
2511.0	<i>Census 86 — Australia's One Parent Families (Dec. 1991)</i>
2514.0	<i>Census 86 — Fertility in Australia (Feb. 1992)</i>

APPENDIX B**Guide to data sources**

A number of sources given for tables and figures in this publication are abbreviated for ease of reference. A full list of abbreviated titles follows.

CX

Cross-classified table on microfiche or floppy disk.

CSD*

Twenty-one page format consisting of 70 tables based on census count at place of enumeration.

If you require further information about the data sources used in this publication, refer to the *Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables* (Cat. No. 2175.0) available from the nearest ABS office (see Appendix C for addresses and telephone numbers) or contact an Information Officer.

* Available for a range of geographic areas. Refer to the *Catalogue of 1986 Census Tables* (Cat. No. 2175.0) for further information.

APPENDIX C

Inquiries

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VICTORIA

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