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Chapter 6

POPULATION

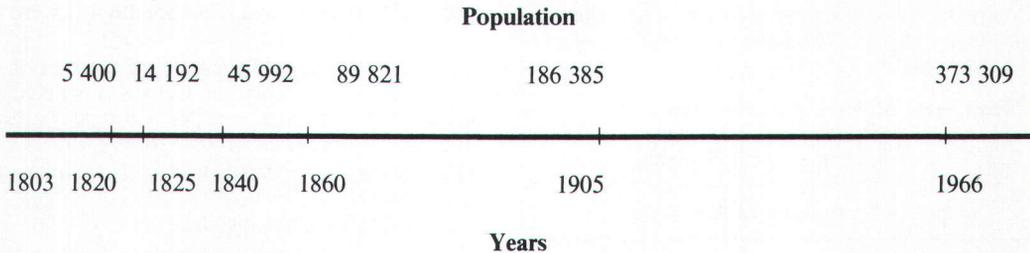
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Chapter 6

POPULATION

6.1 TASMANIA'S POPULATION

The first sixty years of white settlement saw a fairly rapid population build-up, more than half of whom were, or had been, convicts. Although this rate of increase then diminished, by 1905 — 45 years later — the number of people had again doubled. With a birth rate of less than one per cent to 1945 it took another 65 years to double again.



Population growth, 1820–1966, Tasmania

6.1.1 Historical

The first human inhabitants of what is now Tasmania arrived about 25 000 years ago, crossing the land bridge that then connected Tasmania to the mainland. They settled in tribal groups across the whole island. Total numbers, before white settlement, have been estimated to have never exceeded 5000.

White settlement began in 1803 to secure British strategic interests against the French. Tasmania was settled as a gaol and this largely governed the way the colony was run. Most of the population were convicts or government officials. Famine was not unknown and the hand-to-mouth existence of the colony required accurate population counts. Musters of the convicts were held weekly, on Sunday after divine service, at which time the convicts would receive their weekly ration. A general muster for the whole population was held monthly until 1813, when an annual muster was introduced.

Immigration to Tasmania in the early years was mostly involuntary. Originally, convicts were sent from Sydney but from 1819 onwards direct shipments began from England.

Settlement was confined to Hobart and Launceston and surrounding districts. The gentry — farmers, using convict labour — found profitable occupations in growing wool or providing the Sydney market with its grain. Whaling and sealing and associated activities also provided employment. However, the colonial economy was kept afloat by the heavy expenditure of the Imperial Government on the prison establishment.

Increasing numbers of convicts arrived from England, reaching a peak in the 1840's when over 5 000 arrived in one year. By the time transportation was abolished in 1853, 65 000 of the 150 000 convicts transported to Australia had been sent to Tasmania; over 80 per cent of them were male. At the Census of 1847, just over 50 per cent of the

CENSUS 1881, TASMANIA

6.1 Age of the Population

Age group (years)	Males	Females	Persons	%
0-4	6 518	6 602	13 120	11.3
5-19	22 581	21 759	44 340	38.3
20-59	25 798	23 148	48 946	42.3
60 and over	6 265	3 034	9 299	8.0
Total	61 162	54 543	115 705	100.0

However, the Superintendent of the Census, Mr E.C. Nowell said in his report: '.... a very considerable number of persons, not only in the uneducated, but even in the educated classes, really do not know their own age — and there are many parents who have forgotten the ages of their children.'

Mean age: Males; 26.4 years
Females; 23.2 years
Persons; 24.89 years

6.2 Country of Birth

Country	Number
Tasmania	79 991
Other Australian Colonies	3 614
British Isles:	
England and Wales	17 307
Scotland	3 744
Ireland	7 192
Total British Isles	28 243
Germany	782
Other Europe	413
China	844
Other	1 818
Total	115 705

6.3 Occupations

Occupation	Males	Females	Persons
Professional	1 529	791	2 320
Domestic	437	353	790
Commercial	3 595	289	3 884
Agricultural	16 118	3 290	19 408
Industrial	12 602	1 882	14 484
Others:			
Labourers-branch undefined	3 968	2	3 970
Other	445	69	514
Persons of Property or rank not returned under any office or occupation	285	274	559

6.4 Population of Larger Towns

Town	Number
Hobart	23 633
Launceston	12 752
Longford	1 286
Westbury	1 156
New Norfolk	1 036
Campbell Town	948
Waratah	874
Deloraine	836
Latrobe	711
Oatlands	673
Evandale	564

Dwellings: material of outer walls:
7 672 brick and stone
14 041 wood, iron, or lath and plaster
996 slab, bark or mud huts
181 tents or canvas roofs

Sickness and Infirmary

'The cases of sickness returned on the day of the Census were 1 751; 913 being those of males, and 838 those of females. Out of every 10 000 persons of both sexes living on that day 151 were therefore sick...

There is reason to believe that the amount of sickness at the time when the Census was taken was above the average, measles being, as I am informed, very prevalent in the Colony.'

Other statistics collected showed Tasmanians had a high rate of illness in the categories 'deaf and dumb', 'blind', 'lunatic' and 'idiot'.

'Sufficient cause for these excesses in Tasmania may be found in the circumstances connected with the early settlement of the Colony, which affected the physical condition of a large portion of the older inhabitants and their offspring; and in the fact that for many years there was a tendency among the most vigorous part of the population to migrate to other countries, especially Victoria.'

—E.C. NOWELL, Superintendent of the Census.

* The number of Tasmanian-born living in Victoria at the Census of 1881 was nearly 12 000.

total population of 70 000 people were, or had been, convicts. Less than 20 per cent were free immigrants.

The 1850's saw a change of direction for Tasmania. The abolition of transportation not only led to the fall off in the number of people arriving but also to a reduction in government spending. The gold boom in Victoria drew many people away from the colony. The export trade collapsed as economic development on the mainland led to replacement of commodities once supplied by Tasmania. The wool industry, the only export industry to maintain some vigour, had to contend with sharply falling prices. Population growth slumped as the high rate of natural increase was partially offset by emigration to the mainland.

The mining boom, sparked off by the discovery of tin at Mt Bischoff and of gold at Beaconsfield in the early 1870's, provided a turning point for the economy. Railway construction quickened the pace of growth. Population began to spread beyond the Launceston-Hobart axis. The north-west farmers, who had begun to settle the area in the 1850's, found new markets on the mainland for their potatoes. Butter factories followed the growth of dairying, though mainly supplying the local market. The provision of timber to the quickly-growing mainland cities was also an important industry. The settlement of the Huon was associated with the development of the apple industry. Further impetus was given to this industry by the advent of refrigerated shipping, 1891 saw the first apple exports to Britain.

The economic growth in the 1870's and 1880's was reflected in a rapidly increasing population with immigrants, including Chinese, seeking wealth in Tasmania. The 15 years between 1861 and 1876 saw the population increase from 90 000 to 105 000 or little over one per cent a year. The fifteen years, 1876 to 1891, saw the population reach 147 000, an annual rate of increase more than double the previous period.

The economic depression of the 1890's, brought on by a fall in prices of export commodities and a drying up of overseas investment, while severe, had less effect than in other States. Conditions were ameliorated by a new mining boom, centred on silver finds at Zeehan and copper at Mt Lyell. At its peak in the late 1890's, the West Coast towns had a population in excess of 20 000. Tasmania's relative prosperity was reflected in a net immigration in excess of 4 000 a year from 1896 to 1899.

Federation brought both advantages and disadvantages to Tasmania. While primary produce

such as potatoes, fruit, hops, timber, butter and jam had freer access to mainland markets, many small manufacturers faced competition from mainland firms. The West Coast mining boom petered out; by 1911 less than 14 000 people lived in the Lyell and Zeehan districts. Economic stagnation was reflected in a drift of people to the mainland.

Hydro-industrialization came to be seen as the way out of the economic bind that Tasmania found itself in. The Electrolytic Zinc Co. was the first of many industries attracted to Tasmania by the prospect of cheap power. However, this was not sufficient to alleviate the economic gloom of the 1920's and 1930's. Recession particularly afflicted rural industries, with the slump in agricultural export prices predating the onset of general economic depression.

In the 35 years between 1910 and 1945, Tasmania's population grew at only 0.7 per cent a year, well under half the rate achieved in the previous 35 years. Improved standards of public health, which brought a decline in both the general death rate and in infant mortality, was offset by a declining birth rate and continued movement of Tasmanians interstate.

Since World War Two, Tasmanians have shared in the prosperity of the Australian economy. The rapid expansion of government services and the growth of the manufacturing industry, particularly along the North-West Coast provided jobs. Despite the decline in rural employment due to mechanisation of many rural activities, farmers enjoyed a prosperity unknown before the war. In the 1960's and 1970's mining re-emerged as a growth sector in the Tasmanian economy. Tourism emerged as a major sector in the 1970's. Despite this growth, Tasmania still tended to lag behind the mainland States. The number of overseas immigrants attracted to Tasmania was far less in proportion than other States; and the non-British born migrants tended to be of northern rather than southern European origin. This pattern has resulted in Dutch and German born people forming the two largest non-British born migrant groups recorded at the 1981 Census for Tasmania.

The post-war baby boom and the significant net migration gain contributed to an average annual population increase of 1.5 per cent in the 35 years 1945-1980, more than double the pre-war experience. However, Tasmania still lagged behind the Australian average annual increase of two per cent over the same period. As a result the proportion of the total Australian population living in Tasmania has decreased from 3.4 per cent in 1945 to 2.9 per cent in 1980.

CENSUS 1981, TASMANIA

6.5 Age of the Population

<i>Age group (years)</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>%</i>
0-4	17 054	16 393	33 447	8.0
5-19	58 372	56 202	114 574	27.3
20-59	107 483	105 403	212 886	50.8
60 and over	25 732	32 318	58 050	13.9
Total	208 641	210 316	418 957	100.0

6.6 Marital Status of the Population

<i>Status</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>%</i>
Never married —				
Aged less than 15 years	56 025	53 579	109 604	26.2
Aged 15 years and over	45 131	34 936	80 067	19.1
Now married	95 072	94 370	189 442	45.2
Separated not divorced	3 499	4 128	7 627	1.8
Divorced	4 898	5 957	10 855	2.6
Widowed	4 016	17 346	21 362	5.1
Total	208 641	210 316	418 957	100.0

6.7 Families by Family Type

<i>Family unit</i>	<i>Male head</i>	<i>Female head</i>	<i>Total families</i>
Head only —			
Aged less than 30	4 415	3 134	7 549
Aged 30-44	2 726	1 120	3 846
Aged 45 and over	6 248	12 887	19 135
Total	13 389	17 141	30 530
Head, no spouse and —			
1 dependant	567	3 213	3 780
2 dependants	319	2 275	2 594
3 dependants	102	987	1 089
4 dependants	34	297	331
5 or more dependants	10	109	119
Total	1 032	6 881	7 913
Head and spouse only	28 440	2 109	30 549
Head, spouse and —			
1 dependant	10 206	520	10 726
2 dependants	16 907	618	17 525
3 dependants	8 368	252	8 620
4 dependants	2 481	64	2 545
5 or more dependants	717	24	741
Total	38 679	1 478	40 157
Head, no spouse, other adult(s) and —			
No dependants	1 954	4 139	6 093
1 dependant	204	951	1 155
2 dependants	95	497	592
3 dependants	32	172	204
4 dependants	15	69	84
5 or more dependants	6	42	48
Total	2 306	5 870	8 176
Head, spouse, other adult(s) and —			
No dependants	10 592	404	10 996
1 dependant	5 189	147	5 336
2 dependants	3 084	82	3 166
3 dependants	1 191	40	1 231
4 dependants	365	10	375
5 or more dependants	155	5	160
Total	20 576	688	21 264
Total	104 422	34 167	138 589

6.8 Country of Birth

<i>Country</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Australia	183 359	188 265	371 624
UK and Ireland	11 839	11 450	23 289
Europe —	6 868	4 949	11 817
Austria	251	148	399
Czechoslovakia	199	95	294
Germany	1 039	897	1 936
Greece	429	356	785
Hungary	197	100	297
Italy	835	508	1 343
Netherlands	1 577	1 431	3 008
Poland	801	474	1 275
Yugoslavia	536	254	790
Europe n.e.1	1 004	686	1 690
Asia —	1 169	1 258	2 427
India	186	217	403
Malaysia	218	203	421
Asia n.e.1	765	838	1 603
America (a)	569	563	1 132
Africa	494	476	970
Oceania (b)	1 525	1 469	2 994
Not stated or at sea	2 818	1 886	4 704
Total	208 641	210 316	418 957

(a) Includes North and South America.

(b) Includes New Zealand.

6.9 Population in Urban Centres and Localities

<i>Town</i>	<i>1947</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>1947</i>	<i>1981</i>
Beaconsfield	722	898	Luina	n.a.	522
Beauty Point	294	998	New Norfolk	2 934	6 243
Bicheno	121	674	Oatlands	679	545
Bridgewater	267	6 880	Penguin	938	2 616
Bridport	330	885	Perth	558	1 229
Burnie-Somerset	7 976	20 368	Pontville	194	908
Campbell Town	770	879	Port Sorell	194	859
Cressy	381	640	Queenstown	3 598	3 714
Currie	513	859	Railton	627	857
Cygnets	773	715	Richmond	414	587
Deloraine	1 586	1 923	Rosebery	1 058	2 675
Devonport	7 497	21 424	St Helens	713	1 005
Dodges Ferry	n.a.	743	St Marys	746	653
Dover	586	570	Savage River	n.a.	1 141
Evandale	574	614	Scottsdale	1 194	2 002
Geeveston	1 360	860	Seven Mile Beach	62	682
George Town	292	5 592	Sheffield	656	945
Grassy	352	780	Snug	593	684
Gravelly Beach	289	535	Sorell-Midway Point	522	2 544
Hadspen	146	908	Stanley	797	603
Hobart	76 534	128 603	Triabunna	330	924
Huonville-Ranelagh	1 049	1 347	Tullah	206	1 894
Kingston-Blackman's Bay	722	8 556	Turners Beach	n.a.	842
Latrobe	1 716	2 401	Ulverstone	3 432	9 413
Lauderdale	n.a.	2 117	Westbury	908	1 161
Launceston	40 442	64 555	Wynyard	1 858	4 582
Legana	119	964	Zeehan	767	1 750
Longford	1 085	2 027			

6.1.2 1980-1984

The rate of growth of Tasmania's population since 1980 has continued to lag behind that of Australia as a whole. Emigration to other States, particularly of the 19-34 age group, has been the main reason for Tasmania's slower growth rate. However, 1984 saw a turnaround in the traditional migration pattern from a loss to a net gain of over 1 000 people, which boosted Tasmania's growth rate to just below that for Australia as a whole.

Trends in population distribution apparent in the 1970's have continued into the 1980's. The move away from the inner city areas of Hobart and Launceston to the outer suburbs is reflected in the static or declining populations of the core city municipalities of Hobart, Glenorchy and Launceston and the above average increases in the outer city municipalities of Kingborough, Clarence and Brighton in the South, and Lilydale, St Leonards and Beaconsfield in the North.

The drift from rural areas to urban areas has also continued with many country municipalities, particularly in the South, losing population. This has been partially offset by the move of city workers to municipalities within commuting distance. Municipalities such as Richmond in the South, Evandale in the North and Kentish on the North West Coast have benefitted from this trend. The drift to city areas has also been checked by the move of retired people to resort centres on the coast. Municipalities such as Scottsdale (Bridport), Portland (St Helens) and Glamorgan (Bicheno) have experienced an influx of retired people as permanent residents.

On a regional basis, the distribution of Tasmania's population has remained remarkably constant since the end of World War II. Tasmania is the most decentralised state, in terms of population, in Australia, with nearly 60 per cent of the population living outside the Hobart Statistical Division. The Burnie-Devonport Statistical District is currently Tasmania's fastest growing area, with continued industrial development combined with the attractiveness of the North-West towns as retirement centres encouraging the above average growth.

However, as a proportion of the total State population the Mersey-Lyell Region (which contains the Burnie-Devonport Statistical District) with 25 per cent of the population and the Hobart and Southern Region (47 per cent) have gained only marginally on the Northern Region (28 per cent).

6.10 Estimated Resident Population and Components of Population Change, Tasmania

<i>Natural increase ('000)</i>			
<i>Period</i>	<i>Live births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Total natural increase</i>
Year ended 30 June —			
1980	6.6	3.2	3.5
1981	7.1	3.5	3.6
1982	7.1	3.3	3.8
1983	7.0	3.4	3.6
1984	7.1	3.4	3.7
1985 <i>p</i>	7.2	3.6	3.6
<i>Net migration ('000)</i>			
<i>Period</i>	<i>Overseas</i>	<i>Interstate</i>	<i>Total</i>
Year ended 30 June —			
1980	0.6	-1.0	-0.4
1981	1.3	-1.0	0.3
1982	0.9	-2.2	-1.2
1983	0.6	-1.4	-0.8
1984	0.6	0.6	1.1
1985 <i>p</i>	0.7	0.4	1.1
<i>Population ('000)</i>			
<i>Period</i>	<i>At end of period</i>	<i>Increase (a)</i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Year ended 30 June —			
1980	423.6	3.1	0.67
1981	427.2	3.9	0.86
1982	429.8	2.6	0.59
1983	432.6	2.8	0.67
1984	437.3	4.7	1.09
1985 <i>p</i>	442.1	4.7	1.07

(a) For years prior to 1981, differences between the total increase shown and the sum of natural increase and net migration are due to the distribution of intercensal discrepancy.

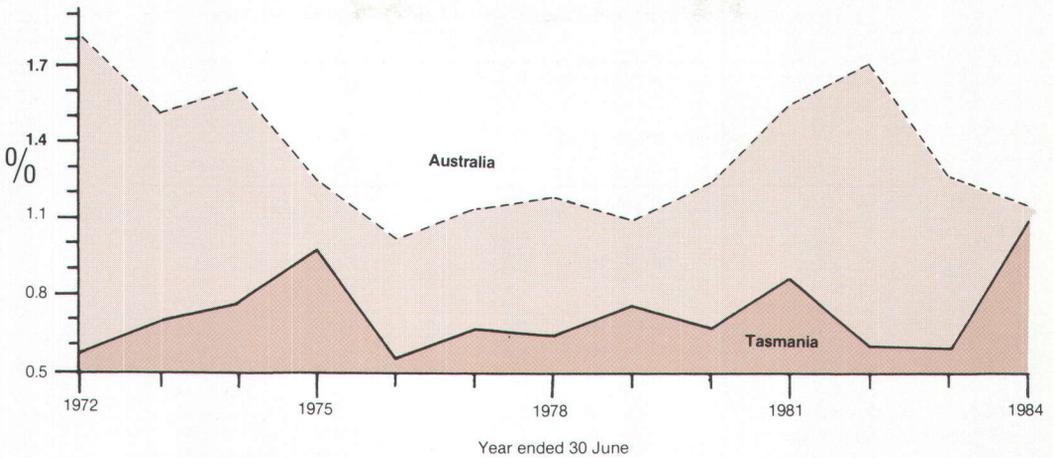
6.11 Annual Average Growth Rates, Tasmania

<i>Period</i>	<i>Population</i>		<i>Annual average growth rate (%)</i>
	<i>Beginning of period</i>	<i>End of period</i>	
1947-1954 (a) (b)	257 080	308 750	2.7
1954-1961 (a) (b)	308 750	350 340	1.8
1961-1966 (a) (b)	350 340	371 440	1.2
1966-1971 (a)	371 440	390 410	1.0
1971-1976 (c)	398 100	412 300	0.7
1976-1981 (c)	412 300	427 300	0.7

(a) Census counted population. (b) Prior to 1966 excludes full-blood Aborigines.

(c) Estimated resident population.

Annual population growth rates, Australia and Tasmania, 1972-1984

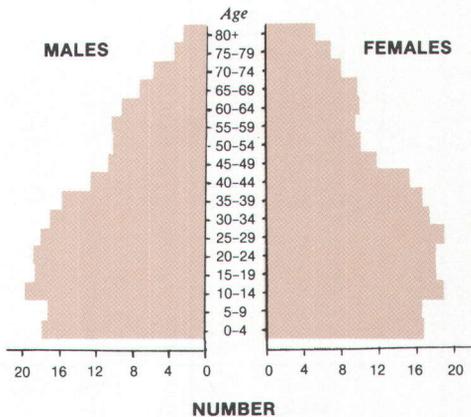


6.12 Estimated Resident Population in Statistical Divisions, Tasmania, at 30 June

Division	1981	1985	Annual average rate of change 1981 to 1985 (%)
Greater Hobart Statistical Division	171 110	178 050	1.00
Southern Statistical Division	29 950	30 380	0.36
Greater Launceston Statistical Subdivision	86 810	89 740	0.83
Central North Statistical Subdivision	15 870	16 190	0.50
North Eastern Statistical Subdivision	14 890	15 440	0.91
Northern Statistical Division	117 570	121 370	0.80
Burnie — Devonport Statistical Subdivision	72 890	76 390	1.18
North-Western Rural Statistical Subdivision	22 550	23 000	0.50
Western Statistical Subdivision	13 130	12 910	0.42
Mersey-Lyell Statistical Division	108 570	112 300	0.85
TASMANIA	427 200	442 100	0.86

6.13 Age Distribution, Tasmania, 1985

Age group (years)	Males	Females	Persons	%
0-4	18 122	17 532	35 654	8.1
5-9	17 255	16 603	33 858	7.6
10-14	19 481	18 933	38 414	8.7
15-19	19 086	18 448	37 534	8.5
20-24	19 275	19 226	38 501	8.7
25-29	18 432	18 372	36 804	8.3
30-34	17 396	17 003	34 399	7.8
35-39	16 522	16 114	32 636	7.4
40-44	13 170	12 740	25 910	5.8
45-49	10 976	10 597	21 573	4.9
50-54	10 138	9 825	19 963	4.5
55-59	10 403	10 051	20 454	4.6
60-64	9 365	10 150	19 515	4.4
65-69	7 415	8 621	16 036	3.6
70-74	5 975	7 516	13 491	3.1
75-79	3 673	5 220	8 893	2.0
80-over	2 765	5 711	8 476	2.0
All ages	219 449	222 662	442 111	100.0



Age Distribution, Tasmania, 1985

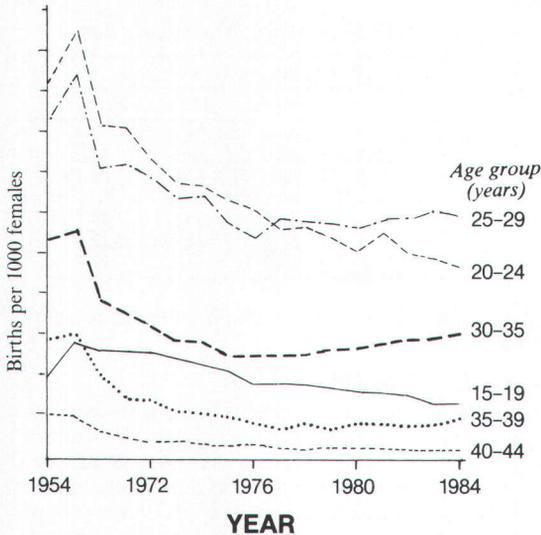
**6.14 Estimated Resident Population in Local Government Area
at 30 June**

<i>Local government area</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>1985^p</i>	<i>Annual average rate of change 1981 to 1985 (per cent) (a)</i>
Greater Hobart — Southern Region			
Hobart (H)	47 890	47 750	-0.07
Glenorchy (H)	41 860	41 700	-0.10
Clarence (H)	45 550	47 460	1.03
Brighton (H) (S)	9 640	11 740	5.05
Kingborough (H) (S)	17 510	20 060	3.46
New Norfolk (H) (S)	9 800	9 750	-0.13
Sorell (H) (S)	5 420	6 150	3.21
Bothwell (S)	730	700	-1.04
Bruny (S)	390	390	—
Esperance (S)	3 170	3 200	-0.24
Glamorgan (S)	1 490	1 580	1.48
Green Ponds (S)	1 000	1 050	1.23
Hamilton (S)	2 570	2 460	-1.09
Huon (S)	4 860	4 940	0.41
Oatlands (S)	2 070	1 980	-1.11
Port Cygnet (S)	2 290	2 420	1.39
Richmond (S)	1 830	1 980	1.99
Spring Bay (S)	1 910	1 950	0.52
Tasman (S)	1 080	1 170	2.02
Northern Region			
Launceston	61 760	62 460	0.28
Beaconsfield	14 150	15 220	1.84
Deloraine	5 020	5 150	0.64
Evandale	1 960	2 200	2.93
George Town	7 310	7 350	0.14
Longford	5 810	6 110	1.27
Westbury	6 670	7 440	2.77
Campbell Town	1 540	1 530	-0.16
Fingal	2 920	2 920	—
Flinders	1 090	1 100	0.23
Portland	2 130	2 430	3.35
Ringarooma	2 330	2 370	0.43
Ross	530	500	-1.45
Scottsdale	4 350	4 590	1.35
Mersey-Lyell Region			
Burnie	20 400	21 210	0.98
Circular Head	7 910	8 040	0.41
Devonport	23 930	25 300	1.40
Kentish	4 350	4 580	1.30
King Island	2 720	2 400	-3.08
Latrobe	5 630	5 870	1.05
Penguin	5 270	5 440	0.80
Ulverstone	13 110	13 880	1.44
Wynyard	12 120	12 670	1.12
Gormanston	130	100	-6.35
Queenstown	3 740	3 860	0.79
Strahan	440	480	2.20
Waratah	2 150	2 060	-1.06
Zeehan	6 670	6 410	-0.99
Tasmania	427 200	442 100	0.86

(a) Annual average rate of increase or decrease (-) in population over the four year period 1981 to 1985.

6.2 FERTILITY

The late 1950s and early 1960s was a period of peak fertility in the post-war era before a decline in the mid 1960s, which continued steadily through the 1970s. The trend since 1980 indicates that a period of stability may have been reached, but at a level only a little over 50 per cent of the 1961 rate.



Number of Births per 1000 Females, Tasmania, 1954-1984

Whereas prior to 1977 the most fertile age group was 20-24, this is now the 25-29 age group. The fertility rate of the 20-24 age group has continued to decline while that of the 25-29 and 35-39 age groups have risen slightly. Several factors have contributed to these trends including later marriage and an increasing period between marriage and the birth of the first child.

Since the early 1960s the median age for spinster brides has increased from 21.2 years to 22.8 years in 1984. In the mid 1960s the median duration between marriage and the birth of the first child was about 12 months. This increased during the 1970s and by 1984 it had exceeded two years.

6.15 Average Age of Brides (years)

Year	Spinster	All Brides
1979	21.4	24.8
1981	21.9	25.0
1983	22.5	25.7
1984	22.8	26.2
1985	22.8	26.2

6.16 Duration of Marriage and Percentage of First Births, Tasmania

Duration of marriage	1979	1981	1984
Under 1 year	25.2	25.3	21.8
Years — 1	20.4	21.4	21.5
— 2	16.5	16.4	18.4
— 3	14.3	11.6	12.6
More than 3 years	23.7	25.3	25.6

Although the fertility rate has been falling and is still currently below replacement level, the fertility rate for Tasmanian women is higher than the national rate, and has been for a number of years.

6.17 Net Reproduction Rates, Tasmania and Australia

Year	Tasmania	Australia
1976	0.988	0.981
1982	0.958	0.925
1984	0.971	0.885

Fertility — Now and 100 Years Ago, Tasmania

	1884	1984
Population (a) —		
Males	128 380	437 200 _p
Females	68 056	217 100 _p
Births —		
Males	2 327	3 582
Females	2 251	3 550
Total	4 578	7 132
Ex-nuptial births (b) —		
Males	107	560
Females	97	526
Total	204	1 086
Proportion of total births	4.5	15.2
Crude birth rate (per 1000 mean population)	35.7	16.3

(a) Mean population for year ending 31 December.

(b) Births out of wedlock.

6.3 LIFE EXPECTANCY AND MORTALITY

6.3.1 Life expectancy

A measure often used to indicate changes in the health status of a community or to make comparisons between communities is life expectancy. This is the number of years that a person can, on average, expect to live past his present age, and is based on death rates of the population.

Reflecting the high infant mortality rates and death rates during the early years of life, life expectancy at age 0 in the early part of this century was less than at age 5. Improvements in hygiene and health care substantially reducing infant and early age death rates, has increased life expectancy at age 0 for both males and females. Expectation of life at age 0 for males has improved by 17.4 years since the beginning of the century and for females by 20.9 years.

At higher ages, the changes were minor until the 1970s. In 1970-72 life expectancy for males aged 60 was 15.4 years compared with 14.3 years in the first decade of this century and for females 19.7 compared with 16.2 years. Since 1970-72 there has been a significant increase in life expectancy of 60 year olds; for males it has

increased by 2.6 to 18.0 in 1984 and for females by 2.8 years to 22.5 years. Much of this improvement can be related to prevention and advances in treatment of diseases associated with the circulatory system such as heart attacks and strokes.

The increase in life expectancy means there are an increasing number of elderly people in the population, many of whom will be needing support services.

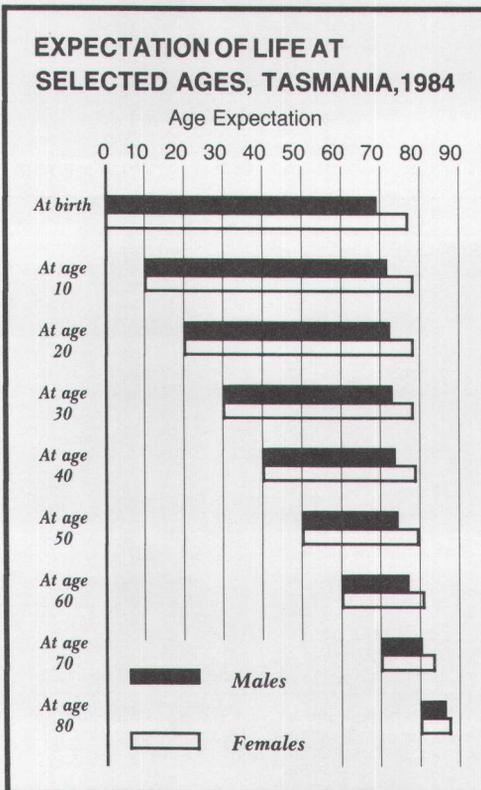
6.18 Life Expectancy, Australia (Years)

Age (Years)	1901-1910		1984	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0	55.2	58.8	72.6	79.7
5	57.9	58.6	68.5	74.8
10	53.5	56.0	63.6	69.9
20	44.7	47.5	54.0	60.1
40	28.6	31.5	35.1	40.7
60	14.3	16.2	18.0	22.5
70	8.7	10.0	11.3	14.7

At all ages females have a higher life expectancy than males.

6.3.2 Mortality

The 1970s and early 1980s have been years of considerable improvement in mortality rates, particularly in the higher age groups, and infants. Improvements in age-specific death rates have been most marked among the 70-79 age group for both males and females where the decrease has been of the order of 10 per cent, and among infants. The infant mortality rate has fallen quite dramatically, from 20.3 per thousand live-male births in 1960-62 to 14.3 in 1984 and from 17.3 to 8.5 among females. Nevertheless, the infant mortality rate is higher in Tasmania than for Australia.



6.19 Age-Specific Death Rates, Tasmania

Age group (years)	Males		Females	
	1970-72	1984	1970-72	1984
Under 1	17.8	14.2	11.5	9.3
1-4	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.5
5-9	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.1
10-14	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2
15-19	2.4	1.2	0.6	0.4
20-24	2.0	1.5	0.5	0.4
25-29	1.8	1.0	0.8	0.7
30-34	1.8	1.5	0.8	0.5
35-39	2.1	2.0	1.3	1.0
40-44	3.4	3.2	1.9	1.3
45-49	5.3	4.3	3.0	2.9
50-54	9.5	7.6	5.6	4.7
55-59	15.5	14.6	8.0	7.2
60-64	25.2	21.4	12.4	11.7
65-69	39.5	36.2	21.3	19.6
70-74	62.2	56.7	36.5	23.0
75-79	91.9	77.5	60.9	47.9
80 and over	164.0	146.0	135.5	120.4

6.4 POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Tasmania is projected to have an annual average population growth rate of less than one per cent up to the year 2021. In the period 1984 to 2001 the annual average growth rate is estimated at 0.86 per cent and between 2001 and 2021, 0.48 per cent.

These projections and accompanying tables are based on assumptions about four key demographic variables; mortality, which takes account of average 1981–1983 mortality rates, State variations and annual long term rates of population decline; fertility, which applies a linear trend to Tasmanian fertility rates; overseas migration, where a net annual migration of 50 000 for Australia up to 1986–87 and 100 000 thereafter is assumed; and interstate migration, where a small net flow of 2600 per year is assumed.

Tasmania's projected growth rates are the lowest of all States as well as both Territories; whereas it had 2.8 per cent of Australia's population in 1984, by the year 2021 it will have fallen to 2.4 per cent.

6.20 Population Distribution, States and Territories 1984–2021 (per cent)

States and Territories	1984	2001	2021
NSW	34.8	34.0	33.5
Vic.	26.2	25.3	24.2
Qld	16.1	17.2	18.2
SA	8.7	8.3	7.8
WA	8.9	9.7	10.5
Tas.	2.8	2.6	2.4
NT	0.9	1.1	1.4
ACT	1.6	1.8	1.9
Australia	100.0	100.0	100.0

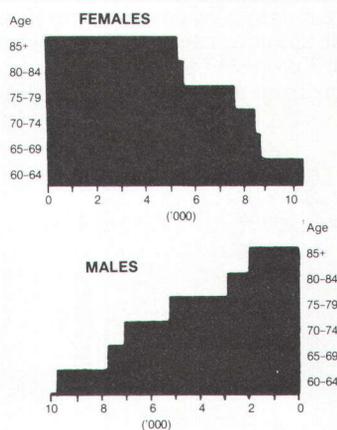
The State and Territory distribution of the population of Australia is projected to change with New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania losing population and the remain-

ing States and Territories gaining population share. The largest gain occurs in Queensland which increases its share by 2.1 per cent. The largest loss occurs in Victoria which decreased its share by 2 per cent.

The median age (the age where one half of the population is younger and the other half older) of the population is projected to increase in all States and Territories between 1984 and 2021. The greatest increase in median age occurs in the Australian Capital Territory (9.4 years) and the smallest increase occurs in New South Wales (6.6 years) Tasmania shows an increase of 9.2 years.

6.22 Median Age (years)

State and Territories	1984	2001	2021
NSW	31.1	35.0	37.7
Vic.	30.7	35.1	38.9
Qld	29.6	33.6	36.6
SA	31.4	36.2	39.3
WA	29.5	34.0	37.3
Tas.	29.8	34.9	39.0
NT	25.1	29.0	32.2
ACT	27.8	33.2	37.2
Australia	30.5	100.0	37.8



Age Population Forecast, Tasmania, 2001

6.21 Estimated Resident Population (1984) and Projections (1991–2021) ('000)

State or Territory	Actual 1984	1991	2001	2011	2021
New South Wales	5 405.1	5 864.7	6 571.8	7 181.2	7 747.1
Victoria	4 075.9	4 395.7	4 879.1	5 257.3	5 584.9
Queensland	2 505.1	2 824.9	3 312.9	3 769.2	4 212.1
South Australia	1 353.0	1 457.5	1 601.7	1 711.0	1 810.4
Western Australia	1 382.6	1 574.5	1 874.2	2 155.0	2 423.8
Tasmania	437.3	467.4	506.3	534.6	557.1
Northern Territory	138.9	170.2	218.4	266.9	312.7
Aust. Capital Territory	252.6	286.5	345.4	399.2	446.8
Australia	15 543.6	17 041.6	19 309.7	21 274.5	23 095.7

6.5 TASMANIA'S MIGRANT POPULATION A 1981 Census Profile

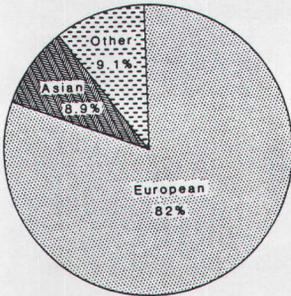
There are now more than three million people born overseas living in Australia, about 20 per cent of the population. In the four decades since 1945 4.2 million people have arrived from more than 120 countries helping to double the population. More than 400 000 have been refugees and displaced people — from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Central and South America, and more recently, Africa.

The provision of assistance in the form of land grants or help with passage costs has been a feature of Australian immigration since the early days of colonisation. An estimated half of all Australia's settlers have received some form of help.

At June 1981 there were more than 42000 overseas born people living in Tasmania, just under 10 per cent of the State's population.

6.5.1 Birthplace

The pattern of post-war immigration to Tasmania has differed significantly from that of Australia as a whole. While people have come from all continents, 80 per cent were either born in English speaking countries (64 per cent) or in Northern Europe (17 per cent). Fifteen per cent have come from Asia, Oceania or Africa.



Birthplace of Tasmania's Migrant Population, 1981

For Australia as a whole, less than half of all migrants have come from English speaking countries and only 14 per cent from Northern Europe.

6.5.2 Where They Live

People born overseas are more urbanised than the locally born population, with 84 per cent living in the Hobart, Launceston and Burnie-Devonport districts. This compares with 77 per cent of the total population who live in these areas. Nearly half live in greater Hobart compared with only 40 per cent of the total population.

6.5.3 Age

As most migrants are of working age on arrival in Australia, their age profile differs markedly from that of the total population. Only 21 per cent of people born overseas are less than 25 years of age whereas over 62 per cent of the total population are under 25.

6.23 Age of Overseas Born Population in Tasmania

Age	Males	Females	Persons
0-24	4 070	4 045	8 115
25-54	12 526	10 426	22 952
35-64	3 225	2 683	5 908
65+	2 646	3 020	5 666
Total (a)	22 466	20 169	42 635

(a) Individual figures have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential information.

6.5.4 Period of Residence

The changes in the pattern of Australia's immigration program is reflected in statistics focussing on the period of residence. Over half the Asian and Oceania born population have been in Australia less than 10 years while more than 65 per cent of the European born population have been in Australia for 22 years or more; the proportion of migrants born in the UK and Ireland has remained fairly constant during the post-war period. That is Asia and Oceania and, to a lesser extent, Africa and America are now providing a considerably larger proportion of Australia's immigrants than even just 10 years ago.

6.24 Period of Residence of Overseas born Population

Country of birth	0-9	10-21	22-28	29+
UK and Ireland	4 310	9 490	3 357	5 786
Europe	979	2 879	3 305	4 466
Asia	1 282	558	177	476
America (a)	569	388	50	114
Africa	470	376	52	109
Oceania (b)	1 562	807	119	421
Total	9 132	14 514	7 058	11 280

(a) Includes North and South America.

(b) Includes New Zealand.

6.5.5 Proficiency in Speaking English

Over half of Tasmania's migrant population use a language other than English in their home. Even long established Northern European groups such as the Dutch and Germans frequently use their native language.

Greeks, Italians and Yugoslavs in particular have strongly maintained their original language.

6.25 English Proficiency

Country of birth	Speaks English only	Speaks other languages and speaks English	
		Well	Not well or not at all
		UK and Ireland	22 830
Europe	4 325	6 228	911
Asia	1 070	911	279
America (a)	982	108	5
Africa	827	109	2
Oceania (b)	2 680	160	4
Total	32 714	7 750	1 211

(a) Includes North and South America.

(b) Includes New Zealand.

Only about 0.3 per cent of all migrants don't speak English at all; even among the non-British and Irish migrants only a relatively small number, 0.7 per cent, don't use English. Among these, females outnumber males by almost two to one while among the national groups it is Greeks, Poles and Asians who are the least proficient in English.

6.5.6 Employment and Occupation

Unemployment rates among migrants in Tasmania are mostly lower than for both males and females than for the population as a whole.

However among Asians, Americans and people from Oceania unemployment is higher.

6.26 Unemployment Rate, Tasmania (%)

Country of birth	Unemployed	
	Male	Female
UK and Ireland	5.9	7.2
Europe	5.5	7.2
Asia	8.2	10.7
America (a)	10.1	8.4
Africa	5.5	9.2
Oceania (b)	8.2	9.0
Total	6.1	7.6
Total population	7.2	8.4

(a) Includes North and South America.

(b) Includes New Zealand.

Occupation patterns show considerable variation between migrant groups. Almost half the Asians, Americans and Africans, females as well as males, are employed in professional, technical or managerial occupations. Migrant males from the UK and Ireland, and Oceania are split, one third in each of the professional and trade groups with about another 12 per cent in sales or clerical occupations. Almost half the European males are tradesmen or process workers.

In the clerical and sales occupations, women outnumber men; especially women from the UK and Ireland, and Europe. Of the Europeans a high proportion are Greeks who are employed in the sales area while a high percentage of Dutch women are employed as clerks.

6.27 Occupations of Migrants

Country of birth	Professional, technical, managerial	Clerical and sales	Trade or process workers	Service, sport, recreation	Other	Total employed
<i>Males</i>						
UK and Ireland	2 896	1 034	2 508	638	960	8 036
Europe	1 159	503	2 410	323	694	5 086
Asia	337	94	86	65	103	685
America (a)	156	48	67	12	45	329
Africa	151	41	47	21	33	292
Oceania (b)	260	90	259	37	175	823
<i>Females</i>						
UK and Ireland	1 584	1 606	200	636	388	4 417
Europe	404	585	202	447	250	1 893
Asia	197	133	13	62	40	438
America (a)	100	56	3	21	24	205
Africa	98	43	8	17	12	175
Oceania (b)	140	147	28	73	60	447

(a) Includes North and South America.

(b) Includes New Zealand.

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