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CHAPTER 14

WELFARE SERVICES

This chapter relates to welfare services other than those concerned specifically with education, health and repatriation. The latter are dealt with, in the main, in the relevant chapters of this Year Book. Apart from a summary of government expenditure on welfare services and short descriptions of certain interstate organisations providing welfare services, the chapter is devoted to a description in some detail of the services provided by the Commonwealth. For information on the many important welfare services provided by State and local governments, especially in the fields of child and Aboriginal welfare, reference should be made to the Year Books or Statistical Registers of the States and the annual reports of the State departments concerned. Information on pension and superannuation schemes provided for government and semi-government employees, mine workers, parliamentarians, and employees of private business is included in the chapter Private Finance.

In addition, there are numerous services of this nature provided by charitable and other non-government institutions and organisations. There are institutions providing shelter and/or caring for needy, aged, infirm or handicapped persons, neglected children, destitute persons, wayward boys and girls, and the like. Many organisations, too, provide aid in kind (food, clothing, etc.), auxiliary medical and nursing services, and other assistance to relieve suffering and hardship. Considerable work is also done by such organisations in the rehabilitation or establishment in the community of various types of people, such as prisoners and migrants, and in the prevention and alleviation of cruelty and maltreatment of any sort. Comprehensive information regarding the activities of such organisations is not available.

Further information on subjects dealt with in this chapter is included in the annual bulletins *Australian National Accounts*, *Commonwealth Finance*, and *State, Territory and Local Government Authorities' Finance and Government Securities*. Current and summarised information on Commonwealth social services is contained in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* and the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

Expenditure on welfare services

This section deals with various government payments for the relief of the aged, indigent, infirm, widowed and unemployed, assistance to families, Aboriginal welfare, etc. For summary statements of cash payments to persons made by public authorities under various functional heads, see *Australian National Accounts* and the other annual bulletins mentioned above.

Commonwealth expenditure on welfare services

Information concerning the cost of administering each Commonwealth benefit separately is not compiled. However, the chapter Public Finance, and, in more detail, the annual bulletin *Commonwealth Finance*, present an analysis of Commonwealth expenditure by function and economic type, from which some estimates of administrative costs can be derived. Commonwealth expenditure on Aboriginal welfare is included on page 498 and that on grants for the construction of homes for the aged and for accommodation for disabled persons on pages 512 and 513 respectively.

The National Welfare Fund

The National Welfare Fund was established by the *National Welfare Fund Act 1943* to finance a scheme of national welfare and has operated from 1 July 1943. At its commencement it was used to finance funeral benefits and maternity allowances, but other social and health benefits were made a charge on the fund from time to time, and at present expenditure on all benefits except repatriation, telephone rental concessions, and a few minor social and health benefits is met from the fund. The fund is used only to finance the benefits themselves; it is not used to finance the cost of administering the benefits, or of capital works associated with the benefits.

NATIONAL WELFARE FUND: RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE AND BALANCES
1961-62 TO 1965-66
 (\$'000)

Year	Income			Expenditure	Balance in fund at end of year
	Contribution from Consolidated Revenue	Interest on investments	Total		
1961-62 . . .	730,383	4,075	734,457	730,383	410,108
1962-63 . . .	758,589	4,118	762,706	758,589	414,225
1963-64 . . .	832,696	4,157	836,853	832,696	418,382
1964-65 . . .	890,366	4,199	894,564	890,366	422,581
1965-66 . . .	941,574	4,241	945,815	941,574	426,822

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE FROM NATIONAL WELFARE FUND
ON SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES: STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 1965-66
 (\$'000)

Service	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T. (a)	A.C.T. (a)	Ab- road	Total
Social Services—										
Age and Invalid Pen- sions	174,201	111,019	70,859	39,691	30,760	13,439	1,102	794	489	442,355
Child Endowment(b) . . .	61,050	49,235	26,626	16,988	13,624	6,318	1,037	1,478	56	176,432
Commonwealth Reha- bilitation Service . . .	537	427	251	203	187	54	..	..	..	1,660
Funeral Benefits	410	282	165	91	66	33	..	2	..	1,050
Maternity Allowances . . .	2,475	2,040	1,075	657	536	243	55	70	8	7,159
Unemployment Benefits . .	2,773	1,216	2,458	709	368	275	3	11	..	7,813
Sickness Benefits	2,665	1,667	961	512	457	174	20	27	..	6,483
Special Benefits(c)	368	551	174	62	47	57	..	1	..	1,261
Widows' Pensions	18,753	12,692	7,987	4,802	3,602	1,791	159	165	65	50,017
National Health Services—										
Hospital Benefits	25,086	13,349	9,378	5,458	5,286	1,991	85	110	..	60,743
Medical Benefits	16,477	11,156	4,144	4,978	3,387	1,140	..	..	..	41,282
Medical Benefits for Pensioners	5,389	3,404	1,907	1,285	958	386	..	35	..	13,365
Milk for School Children	2,910	2,382	1,256	799	619	398	56	74	..	8,493
Pharmaceutical Benefits for Pensioners	27,611	18,951	9,013	5,670	4,205	2,098	..	(d) 166	..	67,713
Tuberculosis Cam- paign—	10,034	5,674	3,772	2,289	1,665	637	..	..	..	24,071
Allowances	437	291	344	93	61	50	7	2	..	1,286
Maintenance and surveys(e)	6,585	3,019	2,068	662	697	338	..	9	..	13,379
Miscellaneous(f)	185	104	406	20	28	82	86	g 2,362	(h) 181	3,453
Rental Losses(h) . . . . .	..	..	213	..	..	..	..	..	..	213
Home Savings Grants(i) . .	5,017	4,184	1,634	1,313	762	325	6	106	..	13,346
Total	362,964	241,645	144,693	86,281	67,316	29,829	2,636	5,411	799	941,574

(a) Payments for some health services to residents of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory are included in the amounts shown for States. (b) Includes payments for student children aged 16 to 21 years. (c) Includes special benefits to migrants in reception and training centres. (d) Includes payments to the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Bush Nursing Centres. (e) Mainly payments to State Governments as a contribution towards the cost of surveys and the maintenance of institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis. (f) This item covers the cost of the Commonwealth Health Laboratory Services, subsidies to home nursing services, the cost of radio-active isotopes provided under the National Health Act, running expenses of the Blood Fractionation Plant, purchase of poliomyelitis vaccine, and hearing aids for school children. (g) Includes running expenses of the Blood Fractionation Plant at the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, \$847,000, and part cost of the Commonwealth Health Laboratories, \$154,000; subsidies to home nursing services \$546,000; and purchase of poliomyelitis vaccine, \$813,000. (h) Contributions to States, under Commonwealth and State Housing Agreement 1945, for losses on rental housing. (i) Under the Home Savings Grant Act 1964.

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE FROM NATIONAL WELFARE FUND ON
SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES: TOTAL, 1961-62 TO 1965-66

Service	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	
					Amount	Per Lead
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$
Social Services—						
Age and Invalid Pensions	360,489	375,507	399,880	426,597	442,355	38 64
Child Endowment(a)	132,755	135,421	168,758	172,830	176,432	15 41
Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service	1,447	1,395	1,489	1,604	1,660	0 14
Funeral Benefits	752	802	812	866	1,050	0 09
Maternity Allowances	7,817	7,563	7,457	7,294	7,159	0 63
Unemployment, Sickness and Special Benefits(c)	31,810	29,315	21,625	14,540	15,557	1 36
Widows' Pensions	30,189	31,353	41,569	47,044	50,017	4 37
National Health Services—						
Hospital Benefits	44,404	47,326	56,216	58,791	60,743	5 31
Medical Benefits	21,823	23,474	24,848	35,277	41,282	3 61
Medical Benefits for Pensioners	8,796	9,146	9,531	9,320	13,365	1 17
Milk for School Children	7,483	7,454	7,775	8,059	8,493	0 74
Pharmaceutical Benefits	52,185	57,044	58,237	60,638	67,713	5 91
Pharmaceutical Benefits for Pensioners	18,195	19,867	20,602	21,564	24,071	2 10
Tuberculosis Campaign—						
Allowances	1,746	1,607	1,593	1,458	1,286	0 11
Maintenance and surveys(e)	8,666	9,748	10,473	10,146	13,379	1 17
Miscellaneous(f)	1,696	1,529	1,785	2,859	3,453	0 30
Rental Losses(h)	130	37	45	130	213	0 02
Home Savings Grants(i) . . . . .	..	..	..	11,349	13,346	1 17
Total	730,383	758,589	832,696	890,366	941,574	82 25

(a) See footnote (b) to table on page 496.

For footnotes (c), (e), (f), (h) and (i), see table on page 496.

State expenditure on certain welfare services

The following table shows net expenditure from State government funds on certain welfare services. The figures exclude expenditure on unemployment, bush fire, flood, etc., relief, Aboriginal welfare, and some other items which are excluded because information cannot be obtained for all States. Loan fund expenditure is excluded also. Because of differences in organisation and accounting methods, the information shown for some classes is not on exactly the same basis for all States; it may also be incomplete because particulars of some activities are not separately recorded and are therefore excluded. The expenditure shown is 'net' in the sense that receipts for services rendered have been deducted from gross expenditure.

NET EXPENDITURE BY STATE GOVERNMENTS ON CERTAIN WELFARE
SERVICES, 1965-66
(\$'000)

Service	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
Relief of aged, indigent and infirm, child welfare, etc.	13,199	9,157	4,406	2,606	3,084	1,455	33,907
Miners' phthisis	72	59	..	..	58	..	189
Total	13,271	9,216	4,406	2,606	3,142	1,455	34,096

Aboriginal welfare

Expenditure out of Commonwealth and State Consolidated Revenue Funds specifically on Aboriginal welfare during the years 1961-62 to 1965-66 is shown in the following table. Expenditure from Trust Funds and Loan Funds on this item is not available. As with the table in the previous paragraph, the figures hereunder may be incomplete because particulars of some activities are not available.

**ABORIGINAL WELFARE: EXPENDITURE FROM CONSOLIDATED REVENUE
FUNDS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1961-62 TO 1965-66
(\$'000)**

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1961-62 . . .	562	100	1,607	1,048	2,601	2,024	9	7,950
1962-63 . . .	689	120	1,610	1,025	3,318	2,595	11	9,368
1963-64 . . .	605	120	1,705	1,212	1,550	3,045	11	8,248
1964-65 . . .	712	130	1,764	1,270	1,880	3,201	6	8,965
1965-66 . . .	834	131	2,016	1,428	2,151	2,595	7	9,162

Commonwealth social services

Under the provisions of section 51 of the Constitution, the Commonwealth Government is empowered to legislate on:

'(xxiii) Invalid and old age pensions:

'(xxiiiA) The provision of maternity allowances, widows' pensions, child endowment, unemployment, pharmaceutical, sickness and hospital benefits, medical and dental services (but not so as to authorize any form of civil conscription), benefits to students and family allowances:'.

The latter paragraph was inserted in the Constitution after being accepted by the electors at a referendum on 28 September 1946. The enabling Act was assented to on 19 December 1946.

Before 1947, Commonwealth social service benefits were paid under various Acts. On 1 July 1947, with the passage of the *Social Services Consolidation Act 1947*, all Acts providing social service benefits were amalgamated. This Act eliminated certain anomalies and obsolete provisions, and changed the title 'old-age pension' to 'age pension'. The word 'Consolidation' was dropped from the short title of the Act in 1954. The Act is at present styled the *Social Services Act 1947-1966*.

Social service benefits provided

The social service benefits provided by the Commonwealth Government under the *Social Services Act 1947-1966*, and the date on which each came into operation, are:

Age pension	1 July 1909
Child endowment	1 July 1941
Child endowment—student children	14 January 1964
Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service	10 December 1948
Funeral benefit	1 July 1943
Guardians' allowances for widowers and other unmarried age and invalid pensioners with children in their care	14 October 1965
Invalid pension	15 December 1910
Maternity allowance	10 October 1912
Sickness benefit	1 July 1945
Special benefit	1 July 1945
Supplementary assistance (age, invalid and widows' pensions)	15 October 1958
Unemployment benefit	1 July 1945
Widows' pensions	30 June 1942
Widows' pensions—children's allowances	2 October 1956
Wives' and children's allowances for pensioners who are invalids	8 July 1943
Wives' and children's allowances for age pensioners	14 October 1965

Age and invalid pensions

Age pensions are payable to men, sixty-five years of age and over, and women, sixty years of age and over, who have lived in Australia continuously for at least ten years, which need not be immediately prior to the date of claim for a pension. If a person has completed five years, but not ten years, continuous residence, and has lived in Australia for periods which exceed a total of ten years, the period of continuous residence otherwise required is reduced by the total of his periods of residence in Australia in excess of ten years. Any periods of absence during which a person's home remains in Australia, and absences in certain other circumstances, are counted as residence, and any absence in an external Territory of the Commonwealth, while not counting as residence, does not interrupt continuity of residence in Australia. Residence in New Zealand or the United Kingdom may be treated as residence in Australia.

Invalid pensions are payable to persons, sixteen years of age and over, who have lived in Australia for a continuous period of five years (including certain absences) at any time, and who are permanently incapacitated for work to the extent of at least eighty-five per cent, or permanently blind. If the incapacity or blindness first occurred outside Australia, except during a temporary absence, a period of ten years continuous residence is necessary, but if a person has completed five years, but not ten years, continuous residence and has lived in Australia for periods which exceed a total of ten years, the period of continuous residence otherwise required is reduced by the total of his periods of residence in Australia in excess of ten years. Residence in New Zealand or the United Kingdom may be treated as residence in Australia. Certain absences do not affect eligibility.

Current rates of pension. The maximum standard rate was increased to \$676 per annum (\$13 a week) from 30 September 1966. This is payable to a single, widowed, or divorced pensioner, a married man whose wife receives a wife's allowance, or a married pensioner whose spouse is not receiving an age or invalid pension, an unemployment, sickness or special benefit, a tuberculosis allowance, or a service pension. The maximum married rate was also increased from 30 September 1966, and is \$1,222 per annum (\$23.50 a week) for a married couple, both pensioners, i.e. \$611 per annum (\$11.75 a week) each. For a married person whose spouse receives an unemployment, sickness or special benefit, a tuberculosis allowance, or a service pension, the maximum rate is also \$611 per annum (\$11.75 a week).

A wife's allowance may be granted, subject to the means test, to the wife of an invalid pensioner or of an age pensioner permanently incapacitated, blind, or who has the care of a child, if she is not receiving an age or invalid pension, or a service pension under the *Repatriation Act 1920-1966* (see Chapter 5, Repatriation). The maximum annual rate of a wife's allowance is \$312 per annum (\$6 a week). A child's allowance of \$78 per annum (\$1.50 a week), free of the means test, is payable for the first child under sixteen years, and the pension may also be increased by \$78 per annum (\$1.50 a week), subject to the means test, for each other child under sixteen years. A guardian's allowance of up to \$4 a week is payable to widowers and other unmarried age or invalid pensioners who have one or more children in their care.

Eligibility for a child's allowance and the additional pension for children is extended to include a child over sixteen years until he reaches twenty-one years, provided he is wholly or substantially dependent on the pensioner and is receiving full-time education at a school, college or university. Supplementary assistance of up to \$2 a week, subject to a means test, is available to pensioners receiving the maximum standard rate pension if they pay rent or pay for board and lodging or for lodging. From 1958 to October 1965 the rate was \$1 a week, and supplementary assistance was available only to maximum standard rate pensioners paying rent who were considered to depend entirely on the pension. At 30 June 1966, 546,940 age pensioners (eighty-six per cent of all age pensioners) and 99,305 invalid pensioners (ninety-three per cent of all invalid pensioners) were receiving the maximum pension.

If the pensioner is an inmate of a benevolent home, the maximum payable to him is \$4.50 a week if he is eligible for the standard rate pension, or \$4.20 a week otherwise. The rest is paid to the home for his maintenance. The balance is not paid to the home if the pensioner is in an infirmary ward, as payments under the Commonwealth Hospital Benefits Scheme are made in that case. The maximum payable to a standard rate pensioner is increased if supplementary assistance is also payable.

A table showing the maximum rates of pension operating since 1 July 1909 at dates prior to 14 October 1965 is included on page 608 of Year Book No. 51. Details of increased allowances payable from 14 October 1965 to 30 September 1966, when the current rates of pensions and allowances became operative, are included on page 505 of Year Book No. 52.

Means test. Age and invalid pensions (other than pensions paid to blind persons) and allowances paid to wives (but not a child's allowance of \$1.50 a week) are subject to a means test which applies to income and property. From March 1961 the means tests which previously applied separately on income and property were merged into one composite means test. The rate of

pension payable depends on the claimant's *means as assessed*. These consist of his annual rate of income plus a property component equal to \$2 for each complete \$20 of his net property above \$400. A person's *means as assessed* may consist entirely of income, entirely of the property component, or of various combinations of income and property component. From 27 April 1967 the pension payable is calculated by deducting from the applicable maximum annual rate of pension, plus, where applicable, guardian's allowance and/or additional pension for children, the amount by which *means as assessed* exceed \$442 where the pensioner is married or \$520 where the pensioner is single, widowed or divorced. Where the standard rate applies, no pension is payable where the value of property is \$12,360 or more (\$14,440 or more if qualified for a guardian's allowance) if the pensioner is single, widowed or divorced; or \$11,580 if the pensioner is married. Where the married rate applies, no pension is payable where the value of property is \$10,940 or more. The wife's allowance is affected by income and property on the same basis as the pension, i.e. it is reduced by the amount of *means as assessed* over \$442. Supplementary assistance is reduced by the amount by which *means as assessed* exceed \$52.

Certain types of income are excepted. The main exceptions are: income from property; gifts or allowances from children, parents, brothers, or sisters; benefits (other than annuities) from friendly societies; child endowment or other payments for children; Commonwealth health benefits and amounts received from registered benefit organisations. A pensioner's income may also be reduced by up to \$156 per annum (\$3 a week) for each dependent child under sixteen years (twenty-one years if a full-time student).

Certain types of property are disregarded. They include the permanent home of the pensioner, his furniture and personal effects, the surrender value (up to \$1,500) of life insurance policies, the capital value of annuities or contingent interests, and the value of any reversionary interests.

For the purposes of the means test the income and property of a married person are considered to be half the total income and property of the husband and wife unless they are legally separated or in other special circumstances.

AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 30 JUNE 1966

Pensions in force	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Age—									
Males	73,362	46,150	33,180	17,330	13,020	5,809	647	298	189,796
Females	173,955	117,006	68,428	42,148	30,856	13,372	679	744	447,188
Persons	247,517	163,156	101,608	59,478	43,876	19,181	1,326	1,042	636,984
Invalid—									
Males	22,907	13,910	9,816	4,607	4,817	2,027	243	113	58,440
Females	19,518	11,277	8,002	3,914	3,758	1,417	165	154	48,205
Persons	42,425	25,187	17,818	8,521	8,575	3,444	408	267	106,645

NEW PENSIONERS, BY SEX AND MARITAL STATUS: AUSTRALIA 1965-66

Marital status	Age pensioners			Invalid pensioners			Total
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	
Single	2,466	4,263	6,729	3,778	2,955	6,733	13,462
Married	14,609	17,157	31,766	6,380	2,670	9,050	40,816
Widowed	2,357	9,963	12,320	587	644	1,231	13,551
Divorced	356	757	1,113	326	341	667	1,780
Total	19,788	32,140	51,928	11,071	6,610	17,681	69,609

The average age of new age pensioners was 68.5 years for men and 65.6 years for women.

NEW INVALID PENSIONERS, BY AGE GROUP: AUSTRALIA, 1965-66

	16-19 years	20-44 years	45-59 years	60-64 years	65 years and over	Total
Number	1,958	3,201	8,369	3,698	455	17,681
Per cent	11	18	47	21	3	100

Persons at or above the qualifying age for age pensions when granted invalid pensions are generally those with insufficient residence to qualify for age pension.

AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1961-62 TO 1965-66

Year	Pensioners at 30 June				Total payments during year (b)	Average weekly pension as at 30 June		
	Age		Invalid	Total		Age (c)	Invalid (c)	Age and invalid combined (c)
	Number	Rate (a)						
1961-62	594,012	529	No. 97,246	No. 691,258	\$'000 360,489	\$ 10.19	\$ 10.52	\$ 10.24
1962-63	607,350	534	104,038	711,388	375,507	10.16	10.52	10.24
1963-64	615,186	533	109,725	724,911	399,880	10.71	11.26	10.79
1964-65	628,100	534	107,473	735,573	426,597	11.18	11.73	11.26
1965-66	636,984	532	106,645	743,629	442,355	11.33	12.24	11.46

(a) Number of pensioners per 1,000 persons of pensionable age (males aged 65 years and over and females aged 60 years and over). (b) Includes allowances and supplementary assistance. (c) Includes supplementary assistance.

The sum paid in age and invalid pensions in 1965-66, including the amount paid to homes for the maintenance of pensioners and allowances to wives of invalid pensioners, represented an expenditure of \$38.64 per head of population, compared with \$37.92 in 1964-65.

Child endowment

A person who is resident in Australia and has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of sixteen years or of a student child over sixteen but under twenty-one years, or an approved institution of which children are inmates, is qualified to receive an endowment in respect of each such child. There are provisions to meet cases of families divided because of divorce, separation, unemployment or death of a parent. There is no means test.

Twelve months' residence in Australia is required if the claimant and the child were not born here, but this requirement is waived if the Department of Social Services is satisfied that they are likely to remain in Australia permanently. Where the child's father is not a British subject, endowment is payable if the child was born in Australia, if the mother is a British subject, or if the Department is satisfied that the child is likely to remain permanently in Australia. Under certain conditions, endowment may be paid to Australians who are temporarily absent overseas.

Rates of endowment. From 1 July 1941 the rate of endowment was 50c a week for each child under sixteen in excess of one in a family, and for each child under sixteen in an approved institution. The rate was increased to 75c a week in June 1945, and to \$1.00 a week in November 1948. From June 1950, 50c a week became payable for the first or only child in a family. From January 1964 the rate was increased to \$1.50 a week for the third and subsequent children under sixteen years in families and for each child in an institution, and that amount also became payable for full-time students between sixteen and twenty-one years. Full-time student children are those receiving full-time education at a school, college or university and who are not in employment or engaged in work on their own account.

Number of claims and endowed children—children under sixteen years. The number of families receiving child endowment at 30 June 1966 in respect of children under sixteen years was 1,610,490, an increase of 27,689 or 1.7 per cent during the year.

CHILD ENDOWMENT: CLAIMS AND ENDOWED CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS, STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1966

State, Territory, etc.	Family groups			Institutions		Total endowed children under 16 years
	Claims in force	Endowed children under 16 years		Number	Endowed child inmates under 16 years	
		Number	Average number per claim			
New South Wales	587,291	1,270,262	2.16	134	5,365	1,275,627
Victoria	443,753	982,651	2.21	122	5,027	987,678
Queensland	227,230	534,734	2.35	55	3,293	538,027
South Australia	157,204	350,927	2.23	55	1,677	352,604
Western Australia	120,973	282,827	2.34	64	3,707	286,534
Tasmania	53,813	126,870	2.36	20	401	127,271
Northern Territory	6,835	15,612	2.28	38	5,817	21,429
Australian Capital Territory	13,177	29,582	2.25	..	..	29,582
Abroad	214	468	2.19	..	..	468
Total	1,610,490	3,593,933	2.23	488	25,287	3,619,220

The following table shows, as at 30 June 1966, the number of claims in force and the number of endowed children under sixteen years in family groups, classified according to the number of endowed children in the family group. The families included in the table are not necessarily made up entirely of the children of one marriage, but may include step-children, foster children, adopted children, and any other children in the custody, care and control of the claimant.

CHILD ENDOWMENT: ENDOWED CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS IN FAMILY GROUPS, TOTAL, 30 JUNE 1966

Number of endowed children under 16 years in family group	Claims in force	Endowed children under 16 years	Number of endowed children under 16 years in family group	Claims in force	Endowed children under 16 years
1	554,610	554,610	9	1,428	12,852
2	518,910	1,037,820	10	544	5,440
3	301,329	903,987	11	185	2,035
4	142,804	571,216	12	75	900
5	55,473	277,365	13	15	195
6	22,319	133,914	14 or more	7	110
7	8,839	61,873			
8	3,952	31,616	Total	1,610,490	3,593,933

Number of claims and endowed children—student children sixteen to twenty-one years

**CHILD ENDOWMENT: CLAIMS AND ENDOWED STUDENT CHILDREN
STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 30 JUNE 1966**

State, Territory, etc.	Family groups			Institutions		Total endowed student children
	Claims in force	Endowed student children		Number	Endowed student child inmates	
		Number	Average number per claim			
New South Wales . . .	42,210	45,534	1.08	12	33	45,567
Victoria	47,737	51,286	1.07	21	80	51,366
Queensland	15,263	16,480	1.08	14	34	16,514
South Australia	14,260	15,276	1.07	13	94	15,370
Western Australia . . .	8,092	8,679	1.07	20	90	8,769
Tasmania	3,633	3,929	1.08	3	4	3,933
Northern Territory . . .	265	299	1.13	5	14	313
Australian Capital Territory	1,421	1,570	1.10	..	..	1,570
Abroad	19	24	1.26	..	..	24
Total	132,900	143,077	1.08	88	349	143,426

**CHILD ENDOWMENT: ENDOWED STUDENT CHILDREN IN
FAMILY GROUPS, TOTAL, 30 JUNE 1966**

Number of endowed student children in family group	Claims in force	Endowed student children	Number of endowed student children in family group	Claims in force	Endowed student children
1	123,147	123,147	5 or more	1	5
2	9,341	18,682			
3	401	1,203			
4	10	40	Total	132,900	143,077

Liability and expenditure—children under sixteen years

**CHILD ENDOWMENT: CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS
LIABILITY AND EXPENDITURE, STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 1965-66
(\$'000)**

State, Territory, etc.	Annual liability at 30 June 1966			Total payments to endowees and institutions during year
	Family groups	Institutions	Total	
New South Wales	58,840	418	59,258	57,372
Victoria	45,996	392	46,388	45,097
Queensland	25,902	257	26,159	25,296
South Australia	16,489	131	16,620	15,858
Western Australia	13,589	289	13,878	12,930
Tasmania	6,148	31	6,179	6,022
Northern Territory	751	454	1,205	1,032
Australian Capital Territory	1,392	..	1,392	1,382
Abroad	22	..	22	(a) 56
Total	169,129	1,972	171,101	165,044

(a) Includes expenditure for endowed student children; separate figures not available.

Liability and expenditure—student children sixteen to twenty-one years

**CHILD ENDOWMENT: STUDENT CHILDREN, LIABILITY AND
EXPENDITURE, STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 1965-66
(\$'000)**

State, Territory, etc.	Annual liability at 30 June 1966			Total payments to endowees and institutions during year
	Family groups	Institutions	Total	
New South Wales	3,552	3	3,555	3,678
Victoria	4,000	6	4,006	4,138
Queensland	1,285	3	1,288	1,330
South Australia	1,192	7	1,199	1,130
Western Australia	677	7	684	695
Tasmania	307	..	307	297
Northern Territory	23	1	24	25
Australian Capital Territory	122	..	122	96
Abroad	2	..	2	(a)
Total	11,160	27	11,187	11,389

(a) Included in preceding table showing expenditure for endowed children under sixteen years; separate figures not available.

Child endowment summary. 1961-62 to 1965-66

CHILD ENDOWMENT: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1961-62 TO 1965-66

At 30 June—	Family group claims in force		Insti-tutions	Endowed children	Annual liability for endowment (b)	Total payments (b)(c)
	For children under 16 years(a)	For student children(a)				
					\$'000	\$'000
1961-62	1,523,074	..	479	3,420,134	138,247	132,755
1962-63	1,535,388	..	497	3,457,620	139,876	135,421
1963-64	1,555,630	113,062	502	(d) 3,631,047	(d) 175,766	(d)(e) 168,758
1964-65	1,582,801	128,641	r487	(d) 3,710,616	(d) 180,065	(d) 172,830
1965-66	1,610,490	132,900	488	(d) 3,762,646	(d) 182,288	(d) 176,432

(a) Claims by families with children under sixteen and student children are shown in both columns. Information on the number of families having such dual claims is not available. (b) A number of endowments are paid every twelve weeks. During two years out of every three there are four such payments but every third year there are five. Figures for annual liability, therefore, reflect trends in expenditure on child endowment more accurately than do figures for payments. (c) Year ended 30 June. (d) Includes student children and reflects higher rates for third and subsequent children under sixteen years in families. (e) Expenditure for this year includes five twelve-weekly payments.

Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service

The Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service was set up to help persons who are unable to work because of physical handicap, or who have had to give up their employment because of sickness or injury. It helps disabled persons to reach their maximum physical fitness and to prepare for suitable employment. They are given suitable treatment and training, the cases selected being those in which the person's disability is remediable and there are reasonable prospects of his engaging in a suitable vocation within three years after the commencement of treatment or training.

The service is available to invalid and widow pensioners, persons receiving unemployment, sickness or special benefits, persons receiving tuberculosis allowances, and persons aged fourteen or fifteen who, without treatment and training, would be likely to qualify for an invalid pension on reaching the age of sixteen years. During treatment, payment of pension or benefit continues. When vocational training begins the pension or benefit is suspended and a rehabilitation allowance, together with a training allowance of \$3.00 a week, is paid instead. With an invalid pensioner, or a sickness, unemployment or special beneficiary, the rehabilitation allowance is equivalent to and calculated in the same manner as an invalid pension. In the case of a widow pensioner the rate is the same as that of the widow's pension.

Living-away-from-home allowances are paid where necessary. Fares and living expenses (including those of an attendant where required) incurred in connection with treatment, training or attendance for an interview or for medical examination may also be paid. Necessary artificial replacements, surgical aids and appliances may be provided, free of charge, to a person receiving treatment and training or who needs them to assist him to engage in a suitable vocation after the discontinuance of his treatment and training. He may also be provided with books, equipment and tools of trade costing up to \$80 in any period of twelve months. Where books, equipment and tools of trade provided to assist a person to engage in a suitable vocation are retained by him, he is liable to repay the cost but is not required to make repayment until after he has commenced employment. The repayment may be made by instalments. If the treatment or vocational training does not result in the trainee's being able to engage in employment, he receives the pension or benefit to which he is entitled. Disabled persons who cannot qualify for the free service may pay for rehabilitation themselves, or they may be sponsored by government or private organisations. Rehabilitation allowances, training allowances, living-away-from-home allowances and other allowances are not payable in these cases. Books, tools, etc., are available on a repayment basis.

Numbers dealt with by the service

COMMONWEALTH REHABILITATION SERVICE: AUSTRALIA, 1965-66

Type	Referred	Accepted	Com- pleted training	Placed in employment	
				After training (a)	Without training
Invalid pensioners	9,827	358	86	86	150
Widow pensioners	7	2	..	..	1
Unemployment and sickness beneficiaries	13,923	921	182	182	569
Special beneficiaries	3	..	..	..	..
Recipients of tuberculosis allowance	191	25	13	14	12
Persons aged 14-15 years	149	62	27	22	23
Persons provided with rehabilitation on payment of the cost by another authority	93	66	1	3	55
Total	24,193	1,434	309	307	810

(a) Includes persons who had received training prior to 1 July 1965.

Of the 1,434 persons accepted during 1965-66, seventy per cent were under forty years of age. The average number receiving rehabilitation training at the end of each month during the year was 938. Total cost of this service during 1965-66 was \$1,659,720.

Funeral benefits

A funeral benefit of up to \$20.00 is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay, the cost of the funeral of an age or invalid pensioner or of a claimant who, but for his death, would have been granted an age or invalid pension, or of a person who at the time of his death was receiving, or was a claimant for, a tuberculosis allowance, if he would otherwise have been qualified to receive an age or invalid pension. Where the cost of the funeral has been met partly by payment from a contributory funeral benefit fund of an organisation other than a friendly society, funeral benefit is payable to the extent of the amount (not above \$20.00) by which the cost of the funeral exceeded the amount paid from the fund. The maximum amount payable is increased to \$40.00 where an age, invalid or widow pensioner is liable for the funeral expenses of a spouse, a child under sixteen years, or another age, invalid or widow pensioner.

**FUNERAL BENEFITS GRANTED: STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC.
1961-62 TO 1965-66**

(Number)

State, Territory, etc.	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
New South Wales	15,228	16,365	16,680	17,709	17,015
Victoria	9,702	10,861	10,594	11,280	11,354
Queensland	6,000	5,952	6,176	6,542	6,596
South Australia	3,103	3,595	3,618	3,801	3,751
Western Australia	2,605	2,589	2,749	2,981	2,709
Tasmania	1,174	1,183	1,242	1,325	1,340
Northern Territory	11	5	14	18	8
Australian Capital Territory	66	74	73	94	92
Abroad . . . . .	..	..	2	5	2
Total	37,889	40,624	41,148	43,755	42,867

Total cost of funeral benefits granted during 1965-66 was \$1,049,945.

Maternity allowances

Maternity allowances are paid to provide financial assistance towards the expenses associated with the birth of children and are additional to the benefits provided under the Commonwealth health scheme. They are not subject to a means test.

Subject to certain conditions, a maternity allowance is payable to a woman who gives birth to a child, either in Australia or on board a ship proceeding to Australia or from a port in Australia or an Australian Territory to another such port, and, on the date on which she lodges her claim, is residing in Australia or is in Australia and intends to remain permanently, provided she receives no benefit similar to a maternity allowance from the country from which she came. A woman who gives birth to a child during a temporary absence from Australia may also be eligible. An alien mother may receive the allowance if she or her husband resided in Australia for at least twelve months immediately prior to the birth of the child, or if she is likely to remain in Australia permanently.

Rates of allowance. The allowance is \$30.00 if the mother has no other children, \$32.00 if she has one or two children under sixteen, and \$35.00 if she has three or more other children under sixteen. The amount is increased by \$10.00 for each additional child born at a birth. An advance payment of \$20.00 may be made four weeks before the expected date of birth. The balance is payable immediately after the birth. Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a still-born child, or a child which lives for less than twelve hours, if the child had developed for at least five and a half months.

*Claims paid***MATERNITY ALLOWANCES: CLAIMS PAID AT EACH RATE
STATES AND TERRITORIES, ETC., 1965-66**

(Number)

State, Territory, etc.	Single births			Multiple births							Total claims paid
	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$35.00	Twins			Triplets			Quad- ruplets	
				\$40.00	\$42.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$55.00	\$65.00	
New South Wales . . .	28,618	34,767	13,502	270	376	202	2	..	2	..	77,739
Victoria . . .	22,545	28,961	11,708	204	321	181	2	6	5	1	63,934
Queensland . . .	11,532	14,130	7,481	96	143	102	2	1	1	..	33,488
South Australia . . .	7,188	9,493	3,687	66	110	47	..	2	1	..	20,594
Western Australia . . .	5,698	7,665	3,232	48	87	31	1	1	1	..	16,764
Tasmania . . .	2,542	3,417	1,555	13	38	13	..	..	..	..	7,578
Northern Territory . . .	596	645	476	3	5	6	..	..	..	..	1,731
Australian Capital Territory . . .	744	1,023	383	5	15	7	..	1	..	..	2,178
Abroad . . .	116	157	28	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	305
Total . . .	79,579	100,258	42,052	708	1,096	589	7	11	10	1	224,311

**MATERNITY ALLOWANCES: CLAIMS PAID, STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC.
1961-62 TO 1965-66**

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Abroad	Total
NUMBER										
1961-62 . . .	87,659	65,847	36,339	21,328	17,366	8,942	1,398	1,662	300	240,841
1962-63 . . .	82,700	66,021	35,659	21,357	17,152	8,560	1,516	1,789	310	235,064
1963-64 . . .	83,580	64,438	34,966	21,096	16,988	8,437	1,663	2,013	270	233,451
1964-65 . . .	80,592	64,424	33,963	20,820	16,667	7,821	1,661	2,015	176	228,139
1965-66 . . .	77,739	63,934	33,488	20,594	16,764	7,578	1,731	2,178	305	224,311
AMOUNT (\$'000)										
1961-62 . . .	2,884	2,114	1,178	690	559	289	45	48	10	7,817
1962-63 . . .	2,665	2,117	1,153	685	552	277	49	56	10	7,563
1963-64 . . .	2,649	2,065	1,128	675	546	272	54	60	9	7,457
1964-65 . . .	2,569	2,058	1,093	666	534	251	53	64	6	7,294
1965-66 . . .	2,475	2,040	1,075	657	536	243	55	70	8	7,159

Unemployment, sickness and special benefits

Unemployment and sickness benefits are paid to males over sixteen and under sixty-five years of age, and females over sixteen and under sixty years of age, who are unemployed or who are temporarily incapacitated for work and thereby suffer loss of income. They must have been living in Australia during the preceding twelve months or be likely to remain permanently in Australia. A person receiving an age, invalid or widow's pension, or a service pension (as distinct from a war pension) under the *Repatriation Act 1920-1966*, or a tuberculosis allowance, is ineligible to receive a benefit.

To qualify for an unemployment benefit a person must establish that he is unemployed and that his unemployment is not due to his being a direct participant in a strike, that he is capable and willing to undertake suitable work, and that he has taken reasonable steps to obtain such work. Registration with the local Commonwealth District Employment Office is necessary. To qualify for a sickness benefit, a person must establish that he is temporarily incapacitated for work because of sickness or accident and that he has thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages or other income. A married woman is not eligible to receive a sickness benefit if it is reasonably possible for her husband to maintain her. Where her husband is able to maintain her only partially, a benefit may be paid at such rate as is considered reasonable in the circumstances. In exceptional cases a married woman may qualify for unemployment benefit in her own right.

A special benefit may be granted to a person not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit who is not receiving an age, invalid or widow's pension or a service pension, and who, because of age, physical or mental disability or domestic circumstances, or for any other reason, is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants. Recipients of special benefits include, among others, persons caring for invalid parents, also deserted wives and persons ineligible for age, invalid or widows' pensions because of lack of residence qualifications.

Special benefits are also paid to migrants who are in reception centres awaiting their first placement in employment in Australia. During this time they receive a short instruction in English and in Australian conditions to facilitate their assimilation into the community and employment.

Rates of benefit. The maximum weekly rates of benefit payable and permissible income in respect of benefit periods which commenced on or after 1 March 1962 are as follows.

	Maximum weekly rate \$	Permissible weekly income \$
Unmarried person under 18 years of age	3.50	2.00
Unmarried person 18 to 20 years of age	4.75	2.00
All others	8.25	4.00

An additional benefit of \$6 a week may be paid for a dependent spouse and \$1.50 a week for each dependent child under sixteen years of age if resident in Australia. Additional benefit, at the same rate as that for a dependent spouse, may be paid where a woman is keeping house for a claimant who has one or more children under sixteen years of age in his care. It may be granted only if no such benefit is payable for his wife, and the housekeeper is substantially dependent on him but not employed by him.

The weekly rate of benefit is reduced by the amount by which a beneficiary's other income exceeds the amount shown in the relevant line of the final column in the preceding table. For unemployment benefit purposes the income of the spouse is also taken into account unless the claimant and his spouse are permanently separated. For sickness benefit purposes the income from an approved friendly society or other similar approved body in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable is disregarded. 'Income' does not include child endowment or other payments for children, Commonwealth hospital and pharmaceutical benefits, a tuberculosis allowance, or an amount paid in reimbursement of medical, dental or similar expenses. There is no means test on property.

The amount of compensation, damages or similar payment, or war pension, if paid in respect of the same incapacity as that for which sickness benefit is claimed, is deducted from the sickness benefit. If not paid in respect of the same incapacity, compensation is regarded as income and war pension is ignored.

There is a waiting period of seven days for which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

Benefits

**UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS
STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1965-66**

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Number admitted to benefit—									
Unemployment—									
Males	27,135	10,659	25,801	8,954	2,976	1,513	41	154	77,233
Females	13,630	5,174	9,545	4,639	2,907	1,229	40	100	37,264
Persons	40,765	15,833	35,346	13,593	5,883	2,742	81	254	114,497
Sickness—									
Males	19,444	11,551	9,301	4,676	4,351	1,509	169	193	51,194
Females	7,345	4,357	2,991	1,619	1,405	531	58	85	18,391
Persons	26,789	15,908	12,292	6,295	5,756	2,040	227	278	69,585
Special—									
Ordinary—									
Males	569	358	435	82	43	52	3	1	1,543
Females	452	1,548	280	82	35	72	..	2	2,471
Persons	1,021	1,906	715	164	78	124	3	3	4,014
Migrants—									
Persons	815	2,834	..	175	..	..	..	..	3,824
Total—									
Males(a)	47,148	22,568	35,537	13,712	7,370	3,074	213	348	129,970
Females(a)	21,427	11,079	12,816	6,340	4,347	1,832	98	187	58,126
Persons(b)	69,390	36,481	48,353	20,227	11,717	4,906	311	535	191,920
Persons on benefit at end of year—									
Unemployment—									
Males	4,643	2,386	2,817	1,478	389	224	2	15	12,154
Females	2,996	1,064	1,392	874	354	209	3	12	6,904
Persons	7,839	3,450	4,209	2,352	743	433	5	27	19,058
Sickness—									
Males	2,975	1,747	1,086	561	544	211	22	36	7,182
Females	1,280	731	442	254	224	87	3	17	3,038
Persons	4,255	2,478	1,528	815	768	298	25	53	10,220
Special—									
Ordinary—									
Males	227	115	95	30	24	24	1	..	516
Females	441	862	258	83	76	91	..	2	1,813
Persons	668	977	353	113	100	115	1	2	2,329
Migrants—									
Persons	23	179	..	20	..	..	..	..	222
Total—									
Males(a)	8,045	4,248	3,998	2,069	957	459	25	51	19,852
Females(a)	4,717	2,657	2,092	1,211	654	387	6	31	11,755
Persons(b)	12,785	7,084	6,090	3,300	1,611	846	31	82	31,829
Benefits paid—									
Unemployment . \$'000	2,773	1,216	2,458	709	368	275	3	11	7,813
Sickness . \$'000	2,665	1,667	961	512	457	174	20	27	6,483
Special(b) . \$'000	368	551	174	62	47	57	..	1	1,261
Total benefits paid(b) . \$'000	5,806	3,434	3,593	1,283	872	506	23	39	15,557

(a) Excludes migrants in reception centres.

(b) Includes migrants in reception centres.

**UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS: SUMMARY
AUSTRALIA, 1961-62 TO 1965-66**

Year	Number admitted to benefit			Average number of persons on benefit at end of each week			Amount paid in benefits		
	Un-employment	Sick-ness	Special (a)	Un-employment	Sick-ness	Special (a)	Un-employment	Sick-ness	Special (b)
1961-62 . . .	278,936	63,586	7,466	52,950	9,286	2,867	\$'000 25,274	\$'000 5,330	\$'000 1,206
1962-63 . . .	200,982	66,402	8,227	39,706	10,514	2,647	21,301	6,750	1,263
1963-64 . . .	139,500	69,503	7,602	25,925	10,994	2,684	13,458	6,901	1,266
1964-65 . . .	88,512	68,637	6,719	13,742	10,457	2,567	6,807	6,498	1,235
1965-66 . . .	114,497	69,585	7,838	14,927	10,044	2,507	7,813	6,483	1,261

(a) Includes migrants in reception centres.

(b) Includes payments to migrants in reception centres.

Widows' pensions

Rates and conditions. Widows' pensions are payable according to the following classes. The rates shown have been in operation since October 1966.

Class 'A'. A widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of sixteen years—\$884 per annum (\$17 a week). This includes the standard rate pension of \$676 per annum (\$13 a week) and a mother's allowance of \$208 per annum (\$4 a week). In addition, a flat rate allowance of \$78 per annum (\$1.50 a week) for one child and, subject to the means test, extra pension of \$78 per annum (\$1.50 a week) for each other child under sixteen years are payable. Payment may be made for a child over sixteen years until he reaches twenty-one years, if he is wholly or substantially dependent on the widow and is receiving full-time education at a school, college, or university.

Class 'B'. A widow who has no children under sixteen years of age or eligible full-time student children in her custody, care and control, and who is not less than fifty years of age or who, after having attained the age of forty-five years, ceased to receive a Class 'A' widows' pension because she no longer had the custody, care and control of a child—\$611 per annum (\$11.75 a week).

Class 'C'. A widow who is under fifty years of age and has no children under the age of sixteen years, or eligible full-time student children, in her custody, care and control, but is in necessitous circumstances within the twenty-six weeks after the death of her husband—\$11.75 a week for not more than twenty-six weeks after the death of her husband. If the widow is pregnant this period may be extended until the child's birth. She may then become eligible for a Class 'A' widow's pension.

Widow pensioners may receive supplementary assistance of up to \$104 per annum (\$2 a week), subject to a means test, if they pay rent or pay for board and lodging or for lodging. From October 1958 to October 1965 the rate was \$1 a week and was payable to widows, otherwise qualified, who were considered to be entirely dependent on the pension.

For classes 'A' and 'B' the term 'widow' includes a wife who has been deserted by her husband without just cause for a period of at least six months, a divorcee, a woman whose husband has been imprisoned for at least six months, and a woman whose husband is in a mental hospital. Certain dependent females also may qualify for 'A', 'B' or 'C' Class pensions.

The residence qualification is five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to the date of lodgment of the claim, but this period may be reduced to one year if the widow and her husband were living permanently in Australia when he died. Certain absences are ignored.

A widow's pension is not payable to a woman receiving an age or invalid pension, a tuberculosis allowance, or a war widow's pension, or to a deserted wife or divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband.

Means test. Widows' pensions are subject to a means test on income and property. The pension payable depends on the claimant's *means as assessed*. These consist of her annual rate of income together with a property component equal to \$2 for every complete \$20 by which the value of her property is in excess of a stipulated sum. In the case of a Class 'B' widow, \$400 of property is exempt. A Class 'A' widow has a basic exemption of \$2,000 when the value of her property exceeds \$4,500, but no property component is calculated where she has property of no more than \$4,500 in value. A Class 'A' pension is not payable where a widow has property valued at \$16,040 or more; no Class 'B' pension is payable where property is \$11,720 or more. In each case the maximum rate of pension is reduced by the amount by which the widow's *means as assessed* exceed \$520. There is no specific means test for the Class 'C' pension, which

is paid only where it is evident that a widow has insufficient means of support. The types of income and property disregarded for means test purposes are the same as for age and invalid pensions. Supplementary assistance is reduced by the amount by which *means as assessed* exceed \$52.

Pensions

WIDOWS' PENSIONS: STATES, TERRITORIES, ETC., 1965-66

State, Territory, etc.	Number admitted— all classes (a)	Pensions current at 30 June				Average weekly pension at 30 June (b)	Amount paid in pensions (b) (c)
		Class 'A'	Class 'B'	Class 'C'	All classes		
New South Wales	5,439	11,759	14,314	52	26,125	\$ 14.75	\$'000 18,753
Victoria	3,437	7,961	9,273	17	17,251	14.35	12,692
Queensland	2,138	5,300	5,489	16	10,805	14.57	7,987
South Australia	1,373	3,042	3,517	8	6,567	14.36	4,802
Western Australia	1,036	2,288	2,775	8	5,071	13.92	3,602
Tasmania	446	1,211	1,110	6	2,327	14.89	1,791
Northern Territory	48	99	103	..	202	15.09	159
Australian Capital Territory	55	136	122	..	258	15.44	165
Abroad . . . . .	..	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	..	65
Total	13,972	31,796	36,703	107	68,606	14.53	50,017

(a) Excludes transfers from one class to another. (b) Includes supplementary assistance and allowances. (c) Includes payments to benevolent homes for maintenance of pensioners. (d) Included in the figures for the State or Territory in which the pensioner is normally domiciled.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS: SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1961-62 TO 1965-66

Year	Number admitted— all classes (a)	Pensions current at 30 June				Average weekly pension at 30 June (b)	Amount paid in pensions (b) (c)
		Class 'A'	Class 'B'	Class 'C'	All classes		
1961-62	12,960	24,584	32,157	95	56,836	\$ 10.44	\$'000 30,189
1962-63	12,537	25,261	33,112	104	58,477	10.45	31,353
1963-64	14,207	27,371	34,659	94	62,124	13.57	41,569
1964-65	14,243	29,713	35,574	111	65,398	14.09	47,044
1965-66	13,972	31,796	36,703	107	68,606	14.53	50,017

(a) Excludes transfers from one class to another. (b) Includes supplementary assistance and allowances. (c) Includes payments to benevolent homes for maintenance of pensioners.

Reciprocal social services agreements with other countries

New Zealand. An agreement between the Governments of Australia and New Zealand for reciprocity in social services came into operation on 3 September 1943 and was amended from 1 July 1949. The reciprocal arrangements cover age and invalid pensions, widows' pensions, child endowment, and unemployment and sickness benefits, and apply to both permanent and temporary changes of residence. Residence in one country may be treated as residence in the other country in relation to entitlement to benefits in which a residential qualification applies. Persons from one country taking up permanent residence in the other country become eligible for any of the specified benefits of the new country under the same conditions (with one or two exceptions) as apply to citizens of that country. Persons in receipt of any of the specified benefits in one country may continue to receive those benefits while temporarily absent in the other country.

Britain. A reciprocal agreement on social services between Britain and Australia came into operation on 7 January 1954. Amendments became effective from 1 April 1958 and 1 October 1962. Under the current agreement residence in one country may be treated as residence in the other country as the basis for entitlement to benefits in which a residential qualification applies.

Australians going to Britain for permanent residence are treated in Britain as if they had been insured under the National Insurance Scheme while in Australia, so that they can qualify for various National Insurance benefits. There is also provision for the safeguard of social service rights for persons going from one country to the other for temporary residence.

Commonwealth assistance to aged persons homes and homes for disabled persons employed in sheltered workshops

The Aged Persons Homes Act 1954-1957. This Act is designed to encourage the provision of homes in which aged persons may reside in conditions approaching normal domestic life.

To be eligible for assistance under the Act an organisation must be:

- (a) carried on otherwise than for purposes of profit or gain to the individual members; and
- (b) a religious organisation, an organisation the principal objects or purposes of which are charitable or benevolent, an organisation of former members of the defence forces established in every State or a State branch of such an organisation, or an organisation approved by the Governor-General for the purposes of the Act.

An organisation conducted or controlled by, or by persons appointed by, the Government of the Commonwealth or of a State or a local governing body established under the law of a State, is not eligible for assistance under the Act.

The Director-General of Social Services may make a grant of money to an organisation as assistance towards meeting the cost of the construction or purchase of a home, including land, to be used permanently for the accommodation of aged persons. The grant is made on a basis of \$2 for each \$1 raised by the organisation (\$1 for each \$1 from 1954 to 1957), not counting money which the organisation receives from a governmental body or borrowed. Before a grant is made the Director-General must be satisfied that the sum of the money expended and the money at present available for expenditure by the organisation towards the capital cost of the home, together with the amount of the grant, will be not less than the capital cost of the home.

The following table gives information regarding grants approved during 1965-66. The amounts granted include new grants approved in 1965-66 together with adjustments made during the year in respect of grants originally approved in earlier years.

AGED PERSONS HOMES: GRANTS APPROVED, AMOUNTS GRANTED, AND BEDS PROVIDED, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1965-66

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total
Grants approved . no.	42	29	16	44	14	3	..	1	149
Amounts granted . \$'000	2,682	1,946	1,081	2,400	1,372	80	1	13	9,576
Beds provided . no.	774	553	318	719	414	25	..	4	2,807

The following table gives information regarding grants approved for each of the years 1961-62 to 1965-66. The amounts granted in each year include new grants approved in that year together with adjustments made during the year in respect of grants originally approved in earlier years. In previous Year Books these subsequent adjustments were included in the amount shown for the respective year in which the original grant was approved.

**AGED PERSONS HOMES: GRANTS APPROVED, AMOUNTS GRANTED, AND BEDS PROVIDED, AUSTRALIA
1961-62 TO 1965-66**

Year	Grants approved	Amounts granted	Beds provided
	no.	\$'000	no.
1961-62	130	r6,180	2,260
1962-63	155	r8,574	2,939
1963-64	134	r7,281	2,466
1964-65	r152	r6,684	2,083
1965-66	149	9,576	2,807

Since the commencement of the Act in December 1954, 1,333 grants amounting to \$58,419,000 have been approved, and accommodation has been provided for 23,218 aged persons.

The Disabled Persons Accommodation Act 1963. This Act came into operation on 25 November 1963, and provides that grants may be made to eligible organisations towards the capital cost of approved buildings which will provide residential accommodation for disabled persons engaged, or likely to be engaged, in paid employment in a sheltered workshop. The Act covers both the erection of buildings to be used for accommodation and the purchase of existing premises for conversion into accommodation. In both cases the cost of the necessary land may be included. Eligibility of organisations for grants is on the same basis as for the Aged Persons Homes Act. For the purposes of the Act, a disabled person is a person who is qualified by age (sixteen years or over) and on medical grounds for an invalid pension under the Social Services Act. A sheltered workshop is a factory or workshop, or part thereof, in which all or a substantial number of employees are disabled persons who receive payment for their work.

Three grants amounting to \$83,894 were approved during 1965-66 in respect of projects in New South Wales, Western Australia and Tasmania. With the grant to an organisation in south Australia in 1963-64, the total grants approved to 30 June 1966 amounted to \$119,884.

Telephone rental concessions

Effective from 1 October 1964 an amendment to the Telephone Regulations of the Post and Telegraph Act provides that a telephone service for age, invalid and widow pensioners and blind people is available at an annual rental equal to two-thirds of the amount otherwise payable. The Department of Social Services re-imburses the Postmaster General's Department for the cost of the scheme including administrative costs. Expenditure during 1964-65 and 1965-66 was \$552,360 and \$1,579,065 respectively, plus \$36,062 and \$64,520 respectively for administration.

Selected non-government organisations

National Safety Council of Australia

The National Safety Council of Australia was founded in Victoria in 1927. In 1959 it was reorganised, and new Articles of Association were adopted in 1961, placing it on a more truly federal basis and reflecting the expanded character of the Council in the thirty-nine years since its formation. The objects of the Council are to devise and encourage the adoption of safety measures of all kinds, to promote discussion of all matters relating to safety measures, to conduct an educational campaign among the people of Australia to stimulate the adoption and observance of safety measures, and to consider, initiate and support improvements in the laws of the Commonwealth of Australia, the States and local governing bodies, calculated to prevent accidents.

The Council is now registered in Canberra, with Divisions established in all States. It is managed by a Federal Council responsible for those objectives which are of a national character. Each State Division controls its own affairs which are of State or local character.

Life saving

There are two life saving organisations in Australia, the Royal Life Saving Society—Australia and the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. The objects of these organisations are the prevention of death from drowning and other forms of asphyxiation; the education of the general public in methods of life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned or asphyxiated; technical education in water safety; the encouragement of swimming and life saving in schools and other organisations; the encouragement of all aspects of swimming and aquatics which would assist in saving lives; and the initiation of research within the field of water safety and life saving.

The Royal Life Saving Society operates at lakes, rivers, and bay and barbour beaches, and gives instruction to school pupils and members of other bodies throughout Australia except on surf beaches.

The Surf Life Saving Association of Australia controls all life saving activities on the ocean beaches throughout Australia. In all, over 230 clubs are affiliated, comprising a membership of over 24,000. Volunteer patrols operate every week-end, and in recent years over 5,000 rescues have been recorded during each surfing season. The total number of recorded rescues during the past fifty-nine years is 150,364.

Royal Humane Society

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia has as its main object the granting of awards to all who with bravery, skill and perseverance risk their own lives in saving or attempting to save those of their fellow creatures. The classes of awards are (a) Gold Medal, (b) Silver Medal, (c) Bronze Medal, and (d) Certificate of Merit. The Clarke Medal is awarded for the outstanding case of the year, and the Rupert Wilks Trophy is awarded for the most outstanding bravery by a child under thirteen years of age.

The Order of St John

The Priory in Australia of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem is the governing body of the various activities of the Order, which comprises the St John Ambulance Association, the St John Ambulance Brigade and the Hospitallers' Clubs in all States and Commonwealth Territories.

Members of the St John Ambulance Association teach first aid, home nursing, hygiene, and child welfare, and members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade provide first aid at public functions. The Hospitallers' Clubs in each State undertake the collection of funds for the St. John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem and other duties which tend to bring together all persons interested in the work of the order. The Order of St John maintains ambulance transport services in some States, acts as an auxiliary to such services in other States, and provides technical reserves for the medical services of the Crown.