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Bureau of
Statistics

30 JUNE 1991 - 30 JUNE 1996

3230.0

EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES OF THE
**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES
STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION**

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUE 31 MAR 1998

C O N T E N T S

	page
Notes	2
Summary of findings	3

T A B L E S

List of tables	7
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A D D I T I O N A L I N F O R M A T I O N

Explanatory Notes	27
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I N Q U I R I E S

- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Glen Heyen on Canberra (02) 6252 5117, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains experimental estimates of the Indigenous population based on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Some statistics based on the 1986 and 1991 Censuses of Population and Housing are also included.

.....

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
PES	Post Enumeration Survey
RSE	Relative Standard Error
SE	Standard Error
..	not applicable

.....

ROUNDED FIGURES

Population figures over 1,000 in the text of this publication are rounded to the nearest hundred. While unrounded figures are provided in tables, accuracy to the last digit is not claimed and should not be assumed.

.....

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

.....

INTRODUCTION

This estimated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) population is experimental in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and migration are not generally available. Furthermore, there is significant intercensal volatility in census counts of the Indigenous population (as shown in table 7), thus adding to the problem of estimating the true Indigenous population. This volatility can in part be attributed to changes in the propensity of persons to identify as being of Indigenous origin.

The estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population as at 30 June 1996 was 386,000, an increase of 40,700 since 30 June 1991. The average annual growth rate of the Indigenous population of Australia for the period 1991 to 1996 was 2.3%, higher than the rate for the total population of 1.2%.

The 30 June 1996 estimate of the Indigenous population represents 2.1% of the total population (18,310,700), an increase of 0.1 percentage points since 1991.

New South Wales had the largest Indigenous population at 30 June 1996, with 109,900, or 28.5% of the total Indigenous population, followed by Queensland with 27.2%.

The Indigenous population of the Northern Territory comprised 28.5% (51,900) of the total Northern Territory population at 30 June 1996. This is the highest proportion of any State or Territory. The lowest was 0.5% (22,600) for Victoria.

Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1996

.....

	<i>Indigenous population</i>	<i>Proportion of Indigenous population</i>	<i>Proportion of total State population</i>
	'000	%	%
.....			
New South Wales	109.9	28.5	1.8
Victoria	22.6	5.9	0.5
Queensland	104.8	27.2	3.1
South Australia	22.1	5.7	1.5
Western Australia	56.2	14.6	3.2
Tasmania	15.3	4.0	3.2
Northern Territory	51.9	13.4	28.5
Australian Capital Territory	3.1	0.8	1.0
Australia(a)	386.0	100.0	2.1
.....			

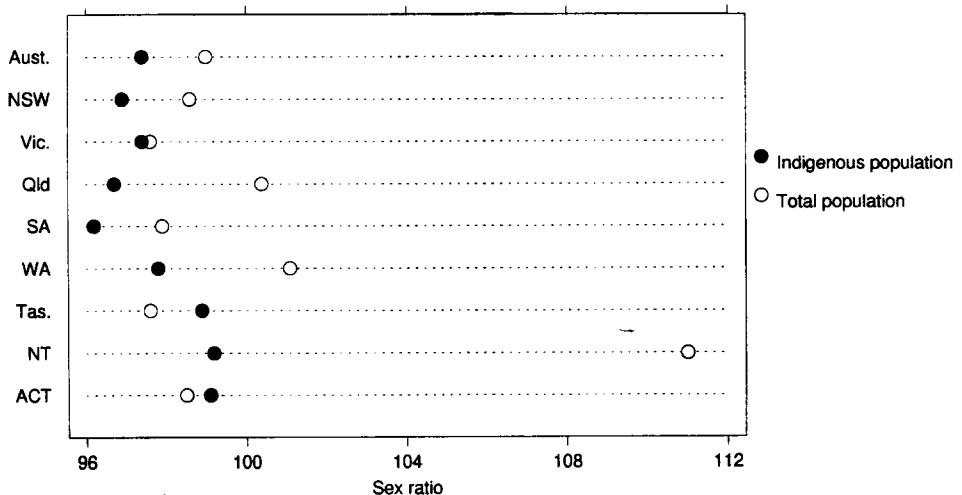
(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

SEX RATIO

The ratio of males to females in the Indigenous population at 30 June 1996 was 97.4 (97.4 males to 100 females) compared to 99.0 for the total population. For most States and Territories the sex ratios of the Indigenous population were lower than for the total population. The sex ratio of the Indigenous population ranged from 99.2 in the Northern Territory to 96.2 in South Australia.

Sex ratios of the Indigenous and total populations, 30 June 1996



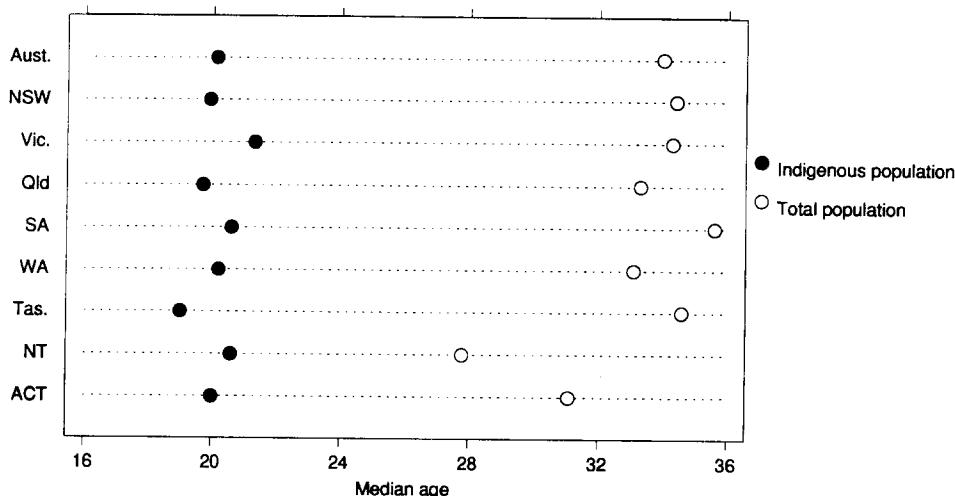
A YOUNG INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At 30 June 1996, Australia's Indigenous population had a median age of 20.1 years, about 14 years younger than for the total population (34.0 years). The median age of the Indigenous population ranged from 19.0 years in Tasmania to 21.3 years in Victoria.

The median age of Indigenous males at 30 June 1996 was 19.3 years and for Indigenous females 20.9 years. The median age for males was between one and two years lower than for females for all States and Territories except the Australian Capital Territory where the median age for males was 0.7 years lower than for females.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Median ages of the Indigenous and total populations, 30 June 1996



The age structure of the Indigenous population differed greatly from that of the total Australian population. The proportion of the population in each five-year age group is consistently higher for the Indigenous population in age groups less than 30 years and lower for higher age groups. This reflects the relatively high mortality and high fertility of the Indigenous population.

The life expectancy of persons of Indigenous origin born in the 1991–96 period was 57 years for males and 62 years for females. This compares to the life expectancy of total Australian males and females of 75 years and 81 years respectively for persons born in the 1994–96 period.

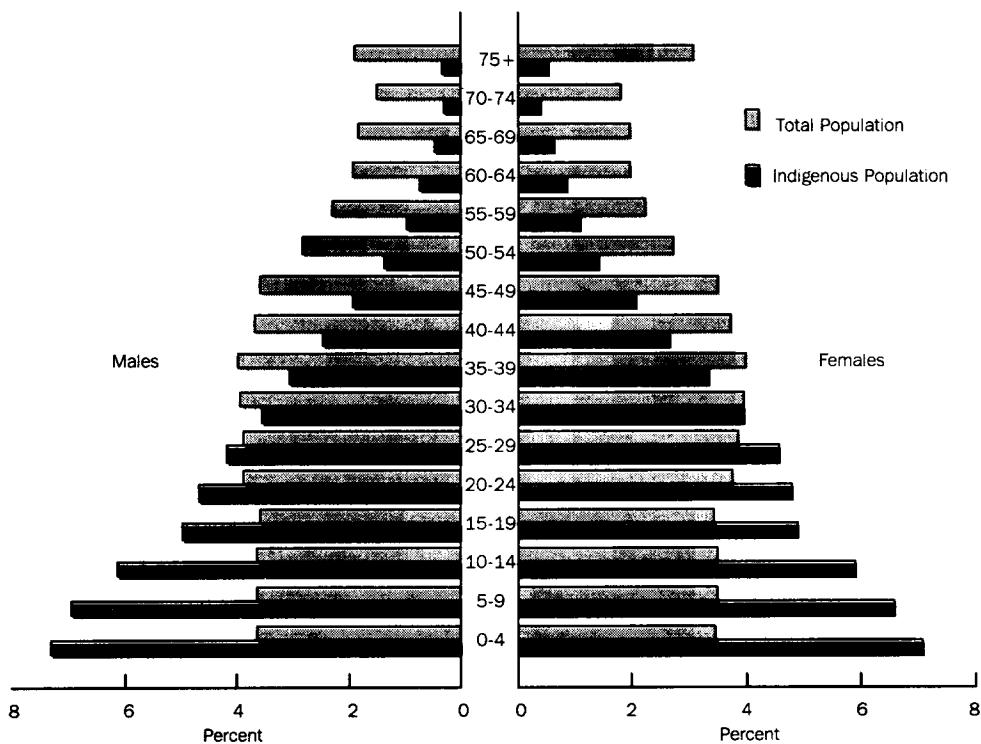
The proportion of the Indigenous population under 15 years of age was 40.0% compared with 21.4% for the total population. Persons aged 65 and over comprise 2.6% of the Indigenous population and 12.0% of the total population.

The age structure of the male Indigenous population is similar to that of the female Indigenous population.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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Estimated resident population, Australia—30 June 1996



LIST OF TABLES

	Page	
1996 CENSUS BASED TABLES		
1	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996	8
2	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1991	9
3	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1996	10
4	Indigenous population and total population, 30 June 1996—Sex ratios	11
5	Indigenous population and total population, 30 June 1996—Median ages	12
6	Estimated resident Indigenous population by ATSIC region, 30 June 1996	13
OTHER TABLES		
7	Indigenous census counts and population estimates, 1986, 1991 and 1996	19
8	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1986— 1986 Census based	20
9	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1991— 1991 Census based	21
10	Estimated resident Indigenous population, 30 June 1996— 1991 Census based	22
11	Components of the estimated resident Indigenous population, 6 August 1996	23
12	Interstate migration, Indigenous population— 6 August 1991 to 6 August 1996	24
13	Experimental life table of the Indigenous population, 1991 to 1996	25

1

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996

As at 30 June	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
MALES									
1991	48 099	9 982	45 851	9 748	25 125	6 801	23 282	1 281	170 267
1992	49 213	10 200	46 891	9 921	25 621	6 954	23 784	1 327	174 011
1993	50 389	10 422	47 990	10 123	26 128	7 115	24 276	1 375	177 920
1994	51 581	10 652	49 113	10 342	26 654	7 276	24 773	1 423	181 918
1995	52 802	10 894	50 274	10 572	27 219	7 444	25 291	1 472	186 075
1996	54 103	11 149	51 525	10 810	27 794	7 620	25 836	1 522	190 468
FEMALES									
1991	49 685	10 277	47 340	10 061	25 766	6 982	23 592	1 333	175 114
1992	50 814	10 478	48 450	10 283	26 238	7 104	24 066	1 372	178 886
1993	51 986	10 705	49 600	10 510	26 745	7 236	24 541	1 410	182 816
1994	53 218	10 934	50 771	10 741	27 256	7 378	25 015	1 449	186 847
1995	54 482	11 179	51 983	10 985	27 812	7 531	25 520	1 492	191 071
1996	55 822	11 449	53 292	11 241	28 411	7 702	26 040	1 536	195 581
PERSONS									
1991	97 784	20 259	93 191	19 809	50 891	13 783	46 874	2 614	345 381
1992	100 027	20 678	95 341	20 204	51 859	14 058	47 850	2 699	352 897
1993	102 375	21 127	97 590	20 633	52 873	14 351	48 817	2 785	360 736
1994	104 799	21 586	99 884	21 083	53 910	14 654	49 788	2 872	368 765
1995	107 284	22 073	102 257	21 557	55 031	14 975	50 811	2 964	377 146
1996	109 925	22 598	104 817	22 051	56 205	15 322	51 876	3 058	386 049

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 30 June 1991(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
0-4	7 752	1 463	7 332	1 549	4 096	1 082	3 547	189	27 020
5-9	6 815	1 308	6 476	1 291	3 375	1 053	3 104	191	23 627
10-14	5 345	1 042	5 292	1 027	2 781	831	2 771	154	19 260
15-19	5 032	1 025	5 004	1 032	2 699	636	2 793	165	18 397
20-24	4 391	1 011	4 409	991	2 534	605	2 475	144	16 568
25-29	3 976	843	3 833	901	2 157	542	1 880	114	14 254
30-34	3 430	783	3 265	713	1 894	515	1 615	118	12 340
35-39	2 878	645	2 614	629	1 386	460	1 302	85	10 006
40-44	2 436	542	2 126	428	1 089	377	992	52	8 047
45-49	1 810	390	1 488	345	811	252	807	36	5 942
50-54	1 369	290	1 059	239	626	164	576	18	4 346
55-59	1 060	202	961	161	476	138	480	7	3 487
60-64	698	166	658	142	423	82	328	5	2 502
65-69	439	116	494	83	247	41	214	1	1 635
70-74	327	52	360	67	150	5	178	0	1 139
75 and over	341	104	480	150	381	18	220	2	1 697
All ages	48 099	9 982	45 851	9 748	25 125	6 801	23 282	1 281	170 267
FEMALES									
0-4	7 349	1 500	6 983	1 491	3 889	955	3 179	204	25 561
5-9	6 449	1 215	6 220	1 310	3 413	1 058	3 016	184	22 873
10-14	5 148	1 035	5 236	1 064	2 727	890	2 665	169	18 941
15-19	5 157	1 070	5 150	1 091	2 683	663	2 816	172	18 811
20-24	4 958	1 047	4 877	1 077	2 709	626	2 511	154	17 968
25-29	4 470	950	4 116	968	2 328	573	2 034	135	15 579
30-34	3 812	825	3 487	771	1 939	611	1 725	112	13 290
35-39	3 121	634	2 895	594	1 518	432	1 380	84	10 664
40-44	2 468	529	2 311	453	1 122	354	1 097	58	8 399
45-49	1 793	334	1 597	327	834	206	814	33	5 942
50-54	1 405	277	1 247	259	638	178	646	12	4 663
55-59	1 128	244	982	206	554	124	603	5	3 847
60-64	881	237	787	178	480	101	375	6	3 046
65-69	537	125	568	94	308	78	288	5	2 004
70-74	401	98	424	58	237	53	230	0	1 501
75 and over	608	157	460	120	387	80	213	0	2 025
All ages	49 685	10 277	47 340	10 061	25 766	6 982	23 592	1 333	175 114
PERSONS									
0-4	15 101	2 963	14 315	3 040	7 985	2 037	6 726	393	52 581
5-9	13 264	2 523	12 696	2 601	6 788	2 111	6 120	375	46 500
10-14	10 493	2 077	10 528	2 091	5 508	1 721	5 436	323	38 201
15-19	10 189	2 095	10 154	2 123	5 382	1 299	5 609	337	37 208
20-24	9 349	2 058	9 286	2 068	5 243	1 231	4 986	298	34 536
25-29	8 446	1 793	7 949	1 869	4 485	1 115	3 914	249	29 833
30-34	7 242	1 608	6 752	1 484	3 833	1 126	3 340	230	25 630
35-39	5 999	1 279	5 509	1 223	2 904	892	2 682	169	20 670
40-44	4 904	1 071	4 437	881	2 211	731	2 089	110	16 446
45-49	3 603	724	3 085	672	1 645	458	1 621	69	11 884
50-54	2 774	567	2 306	498	1 264	342	1 222	30	9 009
55-59	2 188	446	1 943	367	1 030	262	1 083	12	7 334
60-64	1 579	403	1 445	320	903	183	703	11	5 548
65-69	976	241	1 062	177	555	119	502	6	3 639
70-74	728	150	784	125	387	58	408	0	2 640
75 and over	949	261	940	270	768	98	433	2	3 722
All ages	97 784	20 259	93 191	19 809	50 891	13 783	46 874	2 614	345 381

(a) Revised figures based on the 1996 Census. See Explanatory Notes paragraph 5.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

3

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 30 June 1996

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(a)
MALES									
0-4	8 315	1 655	7 911	1 542	3 919	1 059	3 611	241	28 263
5-9	7 708	1 458	7 287	1 544	4 077	1 080	3 531	189	26 884
10-14	6 790	1 308	6 451	1 291	3 375	1 053	3 104	191	23 577
15-19	5 306	1 038	5 254	1 024	2 764	831	2 753	154	19 141
20-24	4 937	1 002	4 911	1 009	2 647	625	2 742	165	18 049
25-29	4 269	986	4 287	966	2 462	580	2 404	144	16 106
30-34	3 828	818	3 695	874	2 081	517	1 814	114	13 749
35-39	3 270	749	3 114	684	1 806	490	1 539	118	11 777
40-44	2 703	604	2 455	591	1 302	435	1 222	85	9 404
45-49	2 239	495	1 955	396	1 001	352	911	52	7 406
50-54	1 611	342	1 324	306	721	227	719	36	5 289
55-59	1 165	242	902	203	532	139	489	18	3 695
60-64	850	157	769	131	380	113	385	7	2 794
65-69	521	121	489	107	318	62	248	5	1 871
70-74	297	81	335	58	167	26	147	1	1 112
75 and over	294	93	386	84	242	31	217	2	1 351
All ages	54 103	11 149	51 525	10 810	27 794	7 620	25 836	1 522	190 468
FEMALES									
0-4	8 173	1 601	7 738	1 516	3 730	1 014	3 337	199	27 318
5-9	7 319	1 498	6 955	1 489	3 879	954	3 170	204	25 479
10-14	6 446	1 215	6 218	1 310	3 413	1 058	3 016	184	22 868
15-19	5 125	1 035	5 211	1 064	2 717	890	2 655	169	18 873
20-24	5 093	1 054	5 088	1 076	2 651	663	2 782	172	18 588
25-29	4 868	1 022	4 789	1 052	2 659	621	2 461	154	17 635
30-34	4 365	925	4 019	943	2 277	557	1 984	135	15 210
35-39	3 695	800	3 379	746	1 882	586	1 673	112	12 881
40-44	2 990	609	2 774	569	1 454	407	1 325	84	10 218
45-49	2 324	503	2 176	428	1 055	329	1 032	58	7 912
50-54	1 644	309	1 464	302	765	182	748	33	5 451
55-59	1 242	251	1 101	234	563	153	574	12	4 131
60-64	949	203	825	176	466	99	509	5	3 233
65-69	694	187	625	138	375	76	298	6	2 400
70-74	390	90	419	69	228	53	208	5	1 463
75 and over	505	147	511	129	297	60	268	4	1 921
All ages	55 822	11 449	53 292	11 241	28 411	7 702	26 040	1 536	195 581
PERSONS									
0-4	16 488	3 256	15 649	3 058	7 649	2 073	6 948	440	55 581
5-9	15 027	2 956	14 242	3 033	7 956	2 034	6 701	393	52 363
10-14	13 236	2 523	12 669	2 601	6 788	2 111	6 120	375	46 445
15-19	10 431	2 073	10 465	2 088	5 481	1 721	5 408	323	38 014
20-24	10 030	2 056	9 999	2 085	5 298	1 288	5 524	337	36 637
25-29	9 137	2 008	9 076	2 018	5 121	1 201	4 865	298	33 741
30-34	8 193	1 743	7 714	1 817	4 358	1 074	3 798	249	28 959
35-39	6 965	1 549	6 493	1 430	3 688	1 076	3 212	230	24 658
40-44	5 693	1 213	5 229	1 160	2 756	842	2 547	169	19 622
45-49	4 563	998	4 131	824	2 056	681	1 943	110	15 318
50-54	3 255	651	2 788	608	1 486	409	1 467	69	10 740
55-59	2 407	493	2 003	437	1 095	292	1 063	30	7 826
60-64	1 799	360	1 594	307	846	212	894	12	6 027
65-69	1 215	308	1 114	245	693	138	546	11	4 271
70-74	687	171	754	127	395	79	355	6	2 575
75 and over	799	240	897	213	539	91	485	6	3 272
All ages	109 925	22 598	104 817	22 051	56 205	15 322	51 876	3 058	386 049

(a) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
INDIGENOUS POPULATION									
0-4	101.7	103.4	102.2	101.7	105.1	104.4	108.2	121.1	103.5
5-9	105.3	97.3	104.8	103.7	105.1	113.2	111.4	92.6	105.5
10-14	105.3	107.7	103.7	98.5	98.9	99.5	102.9	103.8	103.1
15-19	103.5	100.3	100.8	96.2	101.7	93.4	103.7	91.1	101.4
20-24	96.9	95.1	96.5	93.8	99.8	94.3	98.6	95.9	97.1
25-29	87.7	96.5	89.5	91.8	92.6	93.4	97.7	93.5	91.3
30-34	87.7	88.4	91.9	92.7	91.4	92.8	91.4	84.4	90.4
35-39	88.5	93.6	92.2	91.7	96.0	83.6	92.0	105.4	91.4
40-44	90.4	99.2	88.5	103.9	89.5	106.9	92.2	101.2	92.0
45-49	96.3	98.4	89.8	92.5	94.9	107.0	88.3	89.7	93.6
50-54	98.0	110.7	90.4	101.3	94.2	124.7	96.1	109.1	97.0
55-59	93.8	96.4	81.9	86.8	94.5	90.8	85.2	150.0	89.4
60-64	89.6	77.3	93.2	74.4	81.5	114.1	75.6	140.0	86.4
65-69	75.1	64.7	78.2	77.5	84.8	81.6	83.2	83.3	78.0
70-74	76.2	90.0	80.0	84.1	73.2	49.1	70.7	20.0	76.0
75 and over	58.2	63.3	75.5	65.1	81.5	51.7	81.0	50.0	70.3
All ages	96.9	97.4	96.7	96.2	97.8	98.9	99.2	99.1	97.4
TOTAL POPULATION									
0-4	105.3	105.5	105.5	105.4	105.7	105.7	106.0	103.6	105.4
5-9	104.9	104.9	105.2	106.2	105.3	104.6	107.8	104.2	105.1
10-14	104.9	104.4	106.1	104.8	105.8	103.7	105.9	104.4	105.1
15-19	104.8	105.4	104.9	104.5	105.7	103.8	110.5	103.8	105.1
20-24	102.6	102.0	103.0	105.1	105.8	101.5	109.6	101.2	103.0
25-29	99.7	98.7	101.6	103.1	103.4	97.9	104.9	99.4	100.4
30-34	100.6	98.1	99.2	99.8	100.8	96.0	107.7	97.1	99.6
35-39	100.0	98.9	99.5	99.7	100.8	96.8	110.9	95.7	99.6
40-44	99.8	98.3	100.9	98.6	100.2	100.1	110.3	93.8	99.6
45-49	102.8	99.3	104.0	100.0	105.7	102.2	121.1	98.1	102.3
50-54	103.9	102.1	105.8	100.2	108.2	102.0	129.3	104.5	104.0
55-59	102.6	101.3	106.2	99.0	105.2	101.2	142.1	102.8	103.0
60-64	98.5	97.5	102.9	97.4	100.6	97.1	127.9	102.3	99.2
65-69	94.1	94.0	97.3	94.7	97.4	96.2	129.3	94.3	95.1
70-74	83.7	82.3	88.4	83.2	88.0	83.7	104.7	82.3	84.4
75 and over	60.7	60.4	65.2	60.7	62.3	61.2	81.5	59.8	61.5
All ages	98.6	97.6	100.4	97.9	101.1	97.6	111.0	98.5	99.0

(a) Males per 100 females.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

5

INDIGENOUS POPULATION AND TOTAL POPULATION, 30 June 1996—Median ages(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
INDIGENOUS POPULATION									
Males	18.9	20.7	18.8	20.0	19.5	18.5	19.9	19.6	19.1
Females	20.9	21.8	20.5	21.2	20.9	19.5	21.4	20.3	20.9
Persons	19.9	21.3	19.7	20.6	20.2	19.0	20.6	20.0	20.1
TOTAL POPULATION									
Males	33.7	33.5	32.7	34.6	32.6	33.9	28.2	30.7	33.3
Females	35.1	35.1	33.8	36.5	33.7	35.2	27.4	31.9	34.7
Persons	34.4	34.3	33.3	35.6	33.1	34.6	27.8	31.3	34.0

(a) The age at which half the population is older and half is younger.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996

Age group (years)	Queanbeyan	Bourke	Coffs Harbour	Sydney	Tamworth	Wagga Wagga
MALES						
0-4	730	587	2 077	2 705	859	1 608
5-9	665	578	1 979	2 447	840	1 398
10-14	631	466	1 736	2 118	761	1 283
15-19	527	334	1 303	1 800	580	933
20-24	496	323	1 175	1 822	450	847
25-29	415	326	999	1 538	408	735
30-34	364	305	933	1 286	429	633
35-39	329	223	839	1 083	357	564
40-44	248	214	688	908	278	459
45-49	200	174	531	749	226	416
50-54	136	152	366	509	187	300
55-59	108	89	260	383	132	216
60-64	67	81	200	255	105	151
65-69	33	41	148	148	51	105
70-74	24	24	79	79	39	53
75 and over	23	16	65	103	32	59
All ages	4 996	3 933	13 378	17 933	5 734	9 760
FEMALES						
0-4	687	594	1 964	2 797	839	1 501
5-9	662	561	1 921	2 258	772	1 360
10-14	620	427	1 663	2 002	700	1 226
15-19	439	329	1 269	1 762	575	927
20-24	439	363	1 183	1 972	476	841
25-29	428	381	1 129	1 798	484	811
30-34	395	301	1 083	1 498	510	718
35-39	366	267	945	1 242	405	590
40-44	253	193	788	1 085	293	468
45-49	187	171	509	893	228	401
50-54	133	111	386	584	177	290
55-59	68	98	296	431	142	220
60-64	63	87	217	317	106	165
65-69	51	57	184	221	74	114
70-74	37	41	93	121	40	64
75 and over	31	37	119	203	40	79
All ages	4 859	4 018	13 749	19 184	5 861	9 775
PERSONS						
0-4	1 417	1 181	4 041	5 502	1 698	3 109
5-9	1 327	1 139	3 900	4 705	1 612	2 758
10-14	1 251	893	3 399	4 120	1 461	2 509
15-19	966	663	2 572	3 562	1 155	1 860
20-24	935	686	2 358	3 794	926	1 688
25-29	843	707	2 128	3 336	892	1 546
30-34	759	606	2 016	2 784	939	1 351
35-39	695	490	1 784	2 325	762	1 154
40-44	501	407	1 476	1 993	571	927
45-49	387	345	1 040	1 642	454	817
50-54	269	263	752	1 093	364	590
55-59	176	187	556	814	274	436
60-64	130	168	417	572	211	316
65-69	84	98	332	369	125	219
70-74	61	65	172	200	79	117
75 and over	54	53	184	306	72	138
All ages	9 855	7 951	27 127	37 117	11 595	19 535
Proportion of total(%)(a)	2.6	2.1	7.0	9.6	3.0	5.1
Median age	19.8	20.8	19.2	20.9	19.4	18.6

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996 *continued*

Age group (years)	Wangaratta	Ballarat	Brisbane	Cairns	Mount Isa	Cooktown
MALES						
0-4	813	842	2 383	1 144	526	338
5-9	700	758	2 136	1 008	500	350
10-14	613	695	1 871	976	435	280
15-19	476	562	1 567	863	321	300
20-24	530	472	1 468	755	327	352
25-29	473	513	1 223	664	327	331
30-34	384	434	1 090	574	302	250
35-39	349	400	902	499	217	229
40-44	314	290	658	394	173	187
45-49	274	221	545	313	114	162
50-54	180	162	334	193	109	103
55-59	105	137	232	133	79	72
60-64	80	77	161	128	54	65
65-69	60	61	109	84	41	52
70-74	39	42	88	59	32	28
75 and over	52	41	74	64	43	43
All ages	5 442	5 707	14 841	7 851	3 600	3 142
FEMALES						
0-4	765	836	2 295	1 119	582	386
5-9	670	828	2 047	1 002	473	378
10-14	558	657	1 718	985	401	297
15-19	501	534	1 555	811	316	255
20-24	515	539	1 578	780	358	300
25-29	507	515	1 409	743	330	309
30-34	441	484	1 189	651	268	247
35-39	364	436	979	576	239	187
40-44	296	313	847	462	180	168
45-49	268	235	612	350	153	154
50-54	169	140	407	215	127	105
55-59	120	131	255	179	88	77
60-64	97	106	204	133	68	58
65-69	96	91	153	116	36	57
70-74	45	45	99	83	35	29
75 and over	84	63	137	88	52	35
All ages	5 496	5 953	15 484	8 293	3 706	3 042
PERSONS						
0-4	1 578	1 678	4 678	2 263	1 108	724
5-9	1 370	1 586	4 183	2 010	973	728
10-14	1 171	1 352	3 589	1 961	836	577
15-19	977	1 096	3 122	1 674	637	555
20-24	1 045	1 011	3 046	1 535	685	652
25-29	980	1 028	2 632	1 407	657	640
30-34	825	918	2 279	1 225	570	497
35-39	713	836	1 881	1 075	456	416
40-44	610	603	1 505	856	353	355
45-49	542	456	1 157	663	267	316
50-54	349	302	741	408	236	208
55-59	225	268	487	312	167	149
60-64	177	183	365	261	122	123
65-69	156	152	262	200	77	109
70-74	84	87	187	142	67	57
75 and over	136	104	211	152	95	78
All ages	10 938	11 660	30 325	16 144	7 306	6 184
Proportion of total(%)(a)	2.8	3.0	7.9	4.2	1.9	1.6
Median age	21.9	20.6	19.3	20.6	20.7	23.9

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996 *continued*

Age group (years)	Rockhampton	Roma	Torres Strait Area	Townsville	Adelaide	Ceduna
MALES						
0-4	1 006	761	531	1 222	991	132
5-9	906	720	512	1 155	954	149
10-14	809	629	387	1 064	819	152
15-19	645	479	274	805	649	80
20-24	551	401	293	764	629	87
25-29	489	359	238	656	565	77
30-34	396	335	213	535	500	92
35-39	358	245	196	468	429	60
40-44	302	218	149	374	373	59
45-49	221	176	143	281	245	38
50-54	171	137	97	180	189	25
55-59	101	74	63	148	119	14
60-64	105	70	63	123	73	20
65-69	40	41	53	69	64	2
70-74	24	26	36	42	29	3
75 and over	26	27	58	51	47	2
All ages	6 150	4 698	3 306	7 937	6 675	992
FEMALES						
0-4	967	755	485	1 149	936	139
5-9	839	697	475	1 044	888	142
10-14	779	619	340	1 079	810	145
15-19	617	489	300	868	690	96
20-24	556	493	300	723	687	74
25-29	563	451	240	744	636	98
30-34	489	376	210	589	559	96
35-39	359	296	214	529	466	83
40-44	312	216	178	411	406	40
45-49	263	174	147	323	276	38
50-54	189	122	92	207	198	23
55-59	119	101	106	176	141	18
60-64	85	69	82	126	103	14
65-69	63	39	74	87	85	10
70-74	38	35	49	51	35	3
75 and over	48	31	56	64	95	3
All ages	6 286	4 963	3 348	8 170	7 011	1 022
PERSONS						
0-4	1 973	1 516	1 016	2 371	1 927	271
5-9	1 745	1 417	987	2 199	1 842	291
10-14	1 588	1 248	727	2 143	1 629	297
15-19	1 262	968	574	1 673	1 339	176
20-24	1 107	894	593	1 487	1 316	161
25-29	1 052	810	478	1 400	1 201	175
30-34	885	711	423	1 124	1 059	188
35-39	717	541	410	997	895	143
40-44	614	434	327	785	779	99
45-49	484	350	290	604	521	76
50-54	360	259	189	387	387	48
55-59	220	175	169	324	260	32
60-64	190	139	145	249	176	34
65-69	103	80	127	156	149	12
70-74	62	61	85	93	64	6
75 and over	74	58	114	115	142	5
All ages	12 436	9 661	6 654	16 107	13 686	2 014
Proportion of total(%)(a)	3.2	2.5	1.7	4.2	3.5	0.5
Median age	18.5	17.9	20.2	18.9	20.4	19.1

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996 *continued*

Age group (years)	Port Augusta	Perth	Broome	Kununurra	Warburton	Narrogin
MALES						
0-4	419	1 527	235	354	170	494
5-9	441	1 439	271	374	156	490
10-14	320	1 139	247	319	142	435
15-19	295	999	210	192	153	312
20-24	293	950	179	222	165	301
25-29	324	871	173	215	159	292
30-34	282	685	131	182	102	287
35-39	195	591	136	145	91	219
40-44	159	445	105	110	73	170
45-49	113	320	57	74	92	141
50-54	92	231	50	70	56	79
55-59	70	143	40	57	45	60
60-64	38	103	26	43	27	53
65-69	41	63	20	58	28	28
70-74	26	27	11	20	12	16
75 and over	35	36	20	25	14	24
All ages	3 143	9 569	1 911	2 460	1 485	3 401
FEMALES						
0-4	441	1 413	214	315	165	464
5-9	459	1 377	268	368	159	476
10-14	355	1 169	249	287	131	475
15-19	278	1 023	173	225	134	321
20-24	315	992	144	228	183	292
25-29	318	966	163	231	145	318
30-34	288	793	140	184	115	262
35-39	197	719	143	155	86	230
40-44	123	566	91	106	83	159
45-49	114	382	73	65	73	130
50-54	81	255	27	71	60	90
55-59	75	173	37	39	38	68
60-64	59	146	40	39	37	49
65-69	43	90	44	64	24	29
70-74	31	67	17	30	12	24
75 and over	31	65	26	20	22	26
All ages	3 208	10 196	1 849	2 427	1 467	3 413
PERSONS						
0-4	860	2 940	449	669	335	958
5-9	900	2 816	539	742	315	966
10-14	675	2 308	496	606	273	910
15-19	573	2 022	383	417	287	633
20-24	608	1 942	323	450	348	593
25-29	642	1 837	336	446	304	610
30-34	570	1 478	271	366	217	549
35-39	392	1 310	279	300	177	449
40-44	282	1 011	196	216	156	329
45-49	227	702	130	139	165	271
50-54	173	486	77	141	116	169
55-59	145	316	77	96	83	128
60-64	97	249	66	82	64	102
65-69	84	153	64	122	52	57
70-74	57	94	28	50	24	40
75 and over	66	101	46	45	36	50
All ages	6 351	19 765	3 760	4 887	2 952	6 814
Proportion of total(%)(a)	1.6	5.1	1.0	1.3	0.8	1.8
Median age	21.3	19.4	20.2	20.1	23.8	19.5

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996 *continued*

Age group (years)	South Hedland	Derby	Kalgoorlie	Geraldton	Hobart	Alice Springs
MALES						
0-4	327	237	238	337	1 059	346
5-9	371	329	255	392	1 080	281
10-14	288	260	208	337	1 053	251
15-19	222	222	180	274	831	214
20-24	240	201	162	227	625	237
25-29	225	185	134	208	580	270
30-34	203	162	149	180	517	192
35-39	180	139	136	169	490	168
40-44	121	91	84	103	435	140
45-49	65	82	63	107	352	92
50-54	70	42	40	83	227	69
55-59	36	59	31	61	139	49
60-64	34	36	23	35	113	33
65-69	32	36	13	40	62	25
70-74	25	22	11	23	26	13
75 and over	34	42	21	26	31	29
All ages	2 473	2 145	1 748	2 602	7 620	2 409
FEMALES						
0-4	295	267	201	396	1 014	356
5-9	288	295	247	401	954	246
10-14	253	240	216	393	1 058	313
15-19	180	220	159	282	890	255
20-24	214	201	168	229	663	286
25-29	222	210	148	256	621	226
30-34	222	177	156	228	557	193
35-39	129	146	114	160	586	165
40-44	123	105	87	134	407	143
45-49	74	73	65	120	329	101
50-54	70	53	34	105	182	87
55-59	55	55	39	59	153	60
60-64	44	41	31	39	99	52
65-69	27	44	11	42	76	28
70-74	17	28	15	18	53	16
75 and over	35	47	23	33	60	50
All ages	2 248	2 202	1 714	2 895	7 702	2 577
PERSONS						
0-4	622	504	439	733	2 073	702
5-9	659	624	502	793	2 034	527
10-14	541	500	424	730	2 111	564
15-19	402	442	339	556	1 721	469
20-24	454	402	330	456	1 288	523
25-29	447	395	282	464	1 201	496
30-34	425	339	305	408	1 074	385
35-39	309	285	250	329	1 076	333
40-44	244	196	171	237	842	283
45-49	139	155	128	227	681	193
50-54	140	95	74	188	409	156
55-59	91	114	70	120	292	109
60-64	78	77	54	74	212	85
65-69	59	80	24	82	138	53
70-74	42	50	26	41	79	29
75 and over	69	89	44	59	91	79
All ages	4 721	4 347	3 462	5 497	15 322	4 986
Proportion of total(%) ^(a)	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.4	4.0	1.3
Median age	21.5	20.9	20.4	19.2	19.0	22.1

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

6

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION BY ATSIC REGION, 30 June 1996 *continued*

Age group (years)	Jabiru	Katherine	Aputula	Nhulunbuy	Tennant Creek	Darwin
MALES						
0-4	612	576	515	529	261	772
5-9	603	632	522	538	300	655
10-14	494	506	508	514	232	599
15-19	506	397	440	422	206	568
20-24	506	397	478	420	196	508
25-29	437	374	377	391	172	383
30-34	292	298	272	272	125	363
35-39	245	219	264	232	104	307
40-44	212	198	186	173	81	232
45-49	153	109	171	145	59	182
50-54	126	114	97	116	51	146
55-59	65	84	104	64	37	86
60-64	67	61	82	42	37	63
65-69	38	35	58	20	27	45
70-74	25	33	32	9	19	16
75 and over	24	40	55	30	24	15
All ages	4 405	4 073	4 161	3 917	1 931	4 940
FEMALES						
0-4	590	513	501	446	282	649
5-9	578	551	498	487	252	558
10-14	469	500	441	461	229	603
15-19	440	381	439	440	190	510
20-24	518	392	476	444	195	471
25-29	375	400	392	384	189	495
30-34	305	272	328	328	140	418
35-39	227	241	278	262	110	390
40-44	224	173	210	179	85	311
45-49	169	134	166	160	76	226
50-54	108	93	128	122	47	163
55-59	80	79	114	79	43	119
60-64	70	60	132	67	37	91
65-69	46	50	63	33	19	59
70-74	46	37	39	11	17	42
75 and over	35	37	61	28	24	33
All ages	4 280	3 913	4 266	3 931	1 935	5 138
PERSONS						
0-4	1 202	1 089	1 016	975	543	1 421
5-9	1 181	1 183	1 020	1 025	552	1 213
10-14	963	1 006	949	975	461	1 202
15-19	946	778	879	862	396	1 078
20-24	1 024	789	954	864	391	979
25-29	812	774	769	775	361	878
30-34	597	570	600	600	265	781
35-39	472	460	542	494	214	697
40-44	436	371	396	352	166	543
45-49	322	243	337	305	135	408
50-54	234	207	225	238	98	309
55-59	145	163	218	143	80	205
60-64	137	121	214	109	74	154
65-69	84	85	121	53	46	104
70-74	71	70	71	20	36	58
75 and over	59	77	116	58	48	48
All ages	8 685	7 986	8 427	7 848	3 866	10 078
Proportion of total(%)(a)	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.0	2.6
Median age	20.2	19.6	21.7	20.4	19.8	20.7

(a) Total ATSIC regional population as a percentage of the total Indigenous population.

7

INDIGENOUS CENSUS COUNTS AND POPULATION ESTIMATES, 1986, 1991 and 1996

	Census counts(a)	1986 Census based estimates(b)	1991 Census based estimates(b)	1996 Census based estimates(b)
NEW SOUTH WALES				
1986	59 053	61 483	66 041	..
1991	69 993	..	75 020	97 784
1996	101 636	..	83 707	109 925
VICTORIA				
1986	12 569	13 313	15 766	..
1991	16 701	..	17 890	20 259
1996	21 503	..	20 470	22 598
QUEENSLAND				
1986	61 300	64 260	65 933	..
1991	70 072	..	74 214	93 191
1996	95 374	..	84 089	104 817
SOUTH AUSTRALIA				
1986	14 289	14 986	15 324	..
1991	16 227	..	17 239	19 809
1996	20 421	..	19 581	22 051
WESTERN AUSTRALIA				
1986	37 768	39 333	39 001	..
1991	41 844	..	44 182	50 891
1996	50 699	..	50 423	56 205
TASMANIA				
1986	6 719	6 870	8 244	..
1991	8 912	..	9 461	13 783
1996	13 929	..	10 682	15 322
NORTHERN TERRITORY				
1986	34 679	38 674	38 885	..
1991	39 857	..	43 754	46 874
1996	46 362	..	48 830	51 876
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY				
1986	1 057	1 072	1 384	..
1991	1 583	..	1 616	2 614
1996	2 844	..	2 052	3 058
AUSTRALIA(c)				
1986	227 593	240 152	250 738	..
1991	265 371	..	283 560	345 381
1996	352 949	..	320 046	386 049

(a) On a usual residence basis as at Census date (30 June 1986, 6 August 1991, 6 August 1996).

(b) As at 30 June.

(c) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

8

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 30 June 1986—1986 Census based(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
0-4	4 434	932	4 398	1 103	2 759	479	2 645	79	16 838
5-9	3 763	770	4 162	900	2 494	470	2 541	55	15 167
10-14	4 139	842	4 453	972	2 578	512	2 477	74	16 058
15-19	4 113	866	4 239	945	2 535	463	2 488	54	15 711
20-24	3 427	798	3 413	862	2 216	339	2 182	79	13 320
25-29	2 747	662	2 761	731	1 728	306	1 796	56	10 798
30-34	2 089	498	2 204	526	1 292	251	1 295	49	8 210
35-39	1 760	411	1 703	394	992	202	1 039	35	6 541
40-44	1 266	291	1 288	283	746	163	724	15	4 779
45-49	1 001	178	979	215	588	97	647	18	3 728
50-54	733	118	805	186	495	68	444	7	2 858
55-59	543	94	647	134	431	70	382	3	2 304
60-64	359	89	508	85	289	44	279	3	1 659
65-69	235	61	376	59	284	18	229	5	1 269
70-74	142	31	248	43	147	18	132	0	764
75 and over	152	42	229	59	256	12	118	0	868
All ages	30 903	6 683	32 413	7 497	19 830	3 512	19 418	532	120 872
FEMALES									
0-4	4 177	858	4 241	1 052	2 713	466	2 589	76	16 177
5-9	3 655	758	3 832	860	2 383	444	2 386	75	14 403
10-14	4 030	790	4 199	931	2 407	483	2 279	59	15 188
15-19	3 923	828	4 057	911	2 448	445	2 402	63	15 091
20-24	3 308	770	3 297	835	2 145	328	2 112	73	12 874
25-29	2 683	645	2 705	717	1 696	299	1 766	48	10 565
30-34	2 082	495	2 207	527	1 298	249	1 306	50	8 219
35-39	1 798	416	1 750	408	1 001	205	1 076	34	6 694
40-44	1 339	303	1 377	288	793	121	780	25	5 032
45-49	1 038	192	1 082	251	640	99	662	13	3 978
50-54	771	149	869	201	531	61	525	12	3 120
55-59	616	144	720	141	430	52	423	2	2 531
60-64	420	93	543	121	335	39	393	6	1 952
65-69	259	63	419	106	260	30	245	2	1 386
70-74	215	47	253	59	187	19	128	2	910
75 and over	266	79	296	81	236	18	184	0	1 160
All ages	30 580	6 630	31 847	7 489	19 503	3 358	19 256	540	119 280
PERSONS									
0-4	8 611	1 790	8 639	2 155	5 472	945	5 234	155	33 015
5-9	7 418	1 528	7 994	1 760	4 877	914	4 927	130	29 570
10-14	8 169	1 632	8 652	1 903	4 985	995	4 756	133	31 246
15-19	8 036	1 694	8 296	1 856	4 983	908	4 890	117	30 802
20-24	6 735	1 568	6 710	1 697	4 361	667	4 294	152	26 194
25-29	5 430	1 307	5 466	1 448	3 424	605	3 562	104	21 363
30-34	4 171	993	4 411	1 053	2 590	500	2 601	99	16 429
35-39	3 558	827	3 453	802	1 993	407	2 115	69	13 235
40-44	2 605	594	2 665	571	1 539	284	1 504	40	9 811
45-49	2 039	370	2 061	466	1 228	196	1 309	31	7 706
50-54	1 504	267	1 674	387	1 026	129	969	19	5 978
55-59	1 159	238	1 367	275	861	122	805	5	4 835
60-64	779	182	1 051	206	624	83	672	9	3 611
65-69	494	124	795	165	544	48	474	7	2 655
70-74	357	78	501	102	334	37	260	2	1 674
75 and over	418	121	525	140	492	30	302	0	2 028
All ages	61 483	13 313	64 260	14 986	39 333	6 870	38 674	1 072	240 152

(a) Based on the 1986 Census rather than the 1996 Census.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

9

ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 30 June 1991—1991 Census based(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
0-4	5 705	1 381	5 501	1 271	3 576	702	3 310	120	21 581
5-9	4 977	1 115	4 908	1 186	2 969	647	2 937	113	18 860
10-14	4 268	942	4 533	945	2 574	628	2 534	85	16 526
15-19	4 210	984	4 317	924	2 446	585	2 449	100	16 028
20-24	4 024	959	4 054	946	2 389	478	2 514	82	15 456
25-29	3 482	840	3 319	822	2 056	381	2 033	84	13 024
30-34	2 855	720	2 653	700	1 570	378	1 628	69	10 584
35-39	2 248	573	2 210	502	1 262	280	1 248	61	8 391
40-44	1 797	466	1 664	357	893	241	876	44	6 341
45-49	1 306	324	1 164	291	671	167	702	22	4 650
50-54	1 009	197	849	225	536	115	566	11	3 514
55-59	739	129	720	155	446	94	430	5	2 720
60-64	490	126	536	127	355	56	307	4	2 001
65-69	326	99	385	85	228	44	212	3	1 382
70-74	202	49	233	64	160	22	118	1	850
75 and over	183	72	251	43	212	22	133	1	918
All ages	37 821	8 976	37 297	8 643	22 343	4 840	21 997	805	142 826
FEMALES									
0-4	5 468	1 307	5 331	1 212	3 264	631	3 099	117	20 438
5-9	4 654	1 065	4 668	1 133	2 857	628	2 915	108	18 036
10-14	4 075	912	4 187	904	2 503	613	2 350	101	15 657
15-19	4 049	944	4 156	889	2 260	562	2 314	76	15 258
20-24	3 885	924	3 921	915	2 313	461	2 434	90	14 950
25-29	3 404	820	3 253	808	2 021	372	2 004	90	12 779
30-34	2 849	714	2 662	709	1 591	374	1 643	75	10 625
35-39	2 287	575	2 266	519	1 318	280	1 312	53	8 615
40-44	1 861	475	1 716	409	963	219	994	50	6 692
45-49	1 314	320	1 253	300	677	144	729	28	4 770
50-54	1 027	231	988	246	537	101	559	8	3 698
55-59	775	179	796	169	457	77	492	5	2 952
60-64	606	158	659	129	375	55	369	2	2 353
65-69	381	99	458	86	257	51	241	3	1 577
70-74	244	70	284	74	169	26	147	1	1 017
75 and over	320	121	319	94	277	27	155	4	1 317
All ages	37 199	8 914	36 917	8 596	21 839	4 621	21 757	811	140 734
PERSONS									
0-4	11 173	2 688	10 832	2 483	6 840	1 333	6 409	237	42 019
5-9	9 631	2 180	9 576	2 319	5 826	1 275	5 852	221	36 896
10-14	8 343	1 854	8 720	1 849	5 077	1 241	4 884	186	32 183
15-19	8 259	1 928	8 473	1 813	4 706	1 147	4 763	176	31 286
20-24	7 909	1 883	7 975	1 861	4 702	939	4 948	172	30 406
25-29	6 886	1 660	6 572	1 630	4 077	753	4 037	174	25 803
30-34	5 704	1 434	5 315	1 409	3 161	752	3 271	144	21 209
35-39	4 535	1 148	4 476	1 021	2 580	560	2 560	114	17 006
40-44	3 658	941	3 380	766	1 856	460	1 870	94	13 033
45-49	2 620	644	2 417	591	1 348	311	1 431	50	9 420
50-54	2 036	428	1 837	471	1 073	216	1 125	19	7 212
55-59	1 514	308	1 516	324	903	171	922	10	5 672
60-64	1 096	284	1 195	256	730	111	676	6	4 354
65-69	707	198	843	171	485	95	453	6	2 959
70-74	446	119	517	138	329	48	265	2	1 867
75 and over	503	193	570	137	489	49	288	5	2 235
All ages	75 020	17 890	74 214	17 239	44 182	9 461	43 754	1 616	283 560

(a) Based on the 1991 Census rather than the 1996 Census.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
0-4	6 053	1 520	6 118	1 332	3 947	739	3 439	142	23 308
5-9	5 613	1 352	5 517	1 270	3 560	722	3 286	136	21 470
10-14	4 885	1 096	4 943	1 197	2 968	652	2 928	126	18 799
15-19	4 174	952	4 532	966	2 564	626	2 474	90	16 395
20-24	4 125	1 014	4 246	957	2 413	564	2 396	115	15 843
25-29	3 893	974	3 961	936	2 350	470	2 451	91	15 137
30-34	3 357	819	3 215	793	1 989	375	1 974	82	12 610
35-39	2 734	709	2 573	677	1 485	354	1 559	66	10 168
40-44	2 096	553	2 116	480	1 196	266	1 174	62	7 950
45-49	1 656	441	1 554	329	826	229	810	52	5 899
50-54	1 187	288	1 065	273	592	150	636	23	4 217
55-59	879	168	749	206	466	102	490	12	3 080
60-64	623	104	609	127	372	78	352	5	2 272
65-69	393	101	413	101	280	48	234	4	1 574
70-74	242	74	269	61	164	39	146	3	998
75 and over	246	76	270	74	230	29	144	3	1 074
All ages	42 156	10 241	42 150	9 779	25 402	5 443	24 493	1 012	160 794
FEMALES									
0-4	5 749	1 453	5 819	1 281	3 762	706	3 276	136	22 193
5-9	5 360	1 307	5 359	1 229	3 249	638	3 079	134	20 364
10-14	4 562	1 061	4 729	1 151	2 862	630	2 888	127	18 017
15-19	3 995	921	4 219	925	2 515	608	2 306	103	15 604
20-24	3 974	986	4 099	928	2 235	538	2 266	94	15 128
25-29	3 781	945	3 849	937	2 310	457	2 410	97	14 790
30-34	3 329	812	3 195	803	1 998	369	2 005	96	12 614
35-39	2 763	706	2 634	687	1 570	362	1 612	73	10 415
40-44	2 186	567	2 231	504	1 284	273	1 261	62	8 375
45-49	1 774	457	1 662	390	923	205	944	67	6 429
50-54	1 241	292	1 203	290	624	136	683	28	4 503
55-59	945	207	919	232	487	96	511	9	3 407
60-64	685	157	718	152	402	71	428	4	2 621
65-69	516	135	554	108	314	53	303	2	1 986
70-74	305	79	357	65	200	50	178	3	1 237
75 and over	386	144	392	120	286	47	187	5	1 569
All ages	41 551	10 229	41 939	9 802	25 021	5 239	24 337	1 040	159 252
PERSONS									
0-4	11 802	2 973	11 937	2 613	7 709	1 445	6 715	278	45 501
5-9	10 973	2 659	10 876	2 499	6 809	1 360	6 365	270	41 834
10-14	9 447	2 157	9 672	2 348	5 830	1 282	5 816	253	36 816
15-19	8 169	1 873	8 751	1 891	5 079	1 234	4 780	193	31 999
20-24	8 099	2 000	8 345	1 885	4 648	1 102	4 662	209	30 971
25-29	7 674	1 919	7 810	1 873	4 660	927	4 861	188	29 927
30-34	6 686	1 631	6 410	1 596	3 987	744	3 979	178	25 224
35-39	5 497	1 415	5 207	1 364	3 055	716	3 171	139	20 583
40-44	4 282	1 120	4 347	984	2 480	539	2 435	124	16 325
45-49	3 430	898	3 216	719	1 749	434	1 754	119	12 328
50-54	2 428	580	2 268	563	1 216	286	1 319	51	8 720
55-59	1 824	375	1 668	438	953	198	1 001	21	6 487
60-64	1 308	261	1 327	279	774	149	780	9	4 893
65-69	909	236	967	209	594	101	537	6	3 560
70-74	547	153	626	126	364	89	324	6	2 235
75 and over	632	220	662	194	516	76	331	8	2 643
All ages	83 707	20 470	84 089	19 581	50 423	10 682	48 830	2 052	320 046

(a) Based on the 1991 Census rather than the 1996 Census.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

11

COMPONENTS OF THE ESTIMATED RESIDENT INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 6 August 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.(b)
MALES									
Census count, usual residence	50 145	10 653	46 720	10 015	24 988	6 948	22 826	1 424	173 818
Adjustment for									
Less additional edit	851	546	372	150	245	33	24	17	2 238
Plus allocation of not stateds	1 572	354	1 905	272	1 273	236	799	37	6 453
Plus Indigenous undercount(c)	3 365	712	3 388	698	1 837	487	2 287	84	12 862
Total	4 086	520	4 921	820	2 865	690	3 062	104	17 077
<i>Estimated Indigenous population</i>	54 231	11 173	51 641	10 835	27 853	7 638	25 888	1 528	190 895
FEMALES									
Census count, usual residence	51 491	10 850	48 654	10 406	25 711	6 981	23 536	1 420	179 131
Adjustment for									
Less additional edit	798	483	364	126	231	19	24	16	2 061
Plus allocation of not stateds	1 593	345	1 587	278	1 109	240	605	31	5 791
Plus Indigenous undercount(c)	3 667	762	3 536	709	1 882	518	1 974	106	13 157
Total	4 462	624	4 759	861	2 760	739	2 555	121	16 887
<i>Estimated Indigenous population</i>	55 953	11 474	53 413	11 267	28 471	7 720	26 091	1 541	196 018
PERSONS									
Census count, usual residence	101 636	21 503	95 374	20 421	50 699	13 929	46 362	2 844	352 949
Adjustment for									
Less additional edit	1 649	1 029	736	276	476	52	48	33	4 299
Plus allocation of not stateds	3 165	699	3 492	550	2 382	476	1 404	68	12 244
Plus Indigenous undercount(c)	7 032	1 474	6 924	1 407	3 719	1 005	4 261	190	26 019
Total	8 548	1 144	9 680	1 681	5 625	1 429	5 617	225	33 964
<i>Estimated Indigenous population</i>	110 184	22 647	105 054	22 102	56 324	15 358	51 979	3 069	386 913

(a) On a usual residence basis.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

(c) Includes adjustments to ages 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 based on demographic analysis of registered births data.

STATE/TERRITORY OF DEPARTURE.....

<i>State/Territory of arrival</i>	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total arrivals(b)
NSW	..	732	1 417	248	216	123	237	297	3 270
Vic.	578	..	327	173	130	182	90	53	1 533
Qld	2 871	627	..	276	331	269	801	148	5 323
SA	294	247	185	..	263	64	423	18	1 494
WA	276	167	297	269	..	94	515	21	1 639
Tas.	114	137	103	33	60	..	27	10	484
NT	196	90	673	369	453	20	..	41	1 842
ACT	489	49	134	36	31	13	42	..	794
<i>Total departures(b)</i>	4 818	2 049	3 136	1 404	1 484	765	2 135	588	16 379

(a) Based on the 1996 Census and adjusted for additional edit. Excludes persons under 5 years of age in 1996 and persons who did not state their State or Territory of usual residence, or who were overseas in 1991.

(b) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

Age	Ix	qx	Lx	e ^x	Age	Ix	qx	Lx	e ^x
MALES									
0	100 000	0.02572	98 071	56.87	50	68 762	0.02373	67 946	17.60
1	97 428	0.00274	97 268	57.37	51	67 130	0.02531	66 281	17.01
2	97 161	0.00134	97 096	56.52	52	65 431	0.02699	64 548	16.44
3	97 031	0.00094	96 985	55.60	53	63 666	0.02878	62 750	15.88
4	96 940	0.00067	96 907	54.65	54	61 833	0.03067	60 885	15.34
5	96 875	0.00049	96 851	53.69	55	59 937	0.03269	58 957	14.81
6	96 827	0.00042	96 807	52.71	56	57 978	0.03481	56 968	14.29
7	96 786	0.00040	96 767	51.74	57	55 959	0.03706	54 922	13.79
8	96 747	0.00040	96 728	50.76	58	53 885	0.03944	52 823	13.30
9	96 708	0.00040	96 689	49.78	59	51 760	0.04193	50 675	12.83
10	96 669	0.00042	96 649	48.80	60	49 590	0.04456	48 485	12.37
11	96 628	0.00047	96 606	47.82	61	47 380	0.04732	46 259	11.92
12	96 583	0.00054	96 557	46.84	62	45 138	0.05022	44 004	11.49
13	96 531	0.00065	96 500	45.86	63	42 871	0.05326	41 729	11.07
14	96 469	0.00085	96 428	44.89	64	40 587	0.05644	39 442	10.66
15	96 387	0.00123	96 328	43.93	65	38 297	0.05976	37 153	10.27
16	96 269	0.00203	96 171	42.98	66	36 008	0.06323	34 870	9.89
17	96 073	0.00271	95 943	42.07	67	33 732	0.06685	32 604	9.53
18	95 813	0.00320	95 660	41.18	68	31 477	0.07062	30 365	9.17
19	95 507	0.00365	95 333	40.31	69	29 254	0.07454	28 164	8.83
20	95 158	0.00408	94 964	39.46	70	27 073	0.07862	26 009	8.50
21	94 770	0.00447	94 558	38.62	71	24 945	0.08285	23 912	8.19
22	94 346	0.00485	94 118	37.79	72	22 878	0.08725	21 880	7.88
23	93 889	0.00521	93 645	36.97	73	20 882	0.09181	19 924	7.59
24	93 400	0.00555	93 141	36.16	74	18 965	0.09652	18 050	7.30
25	92 882	0.00588	92 609	35.36	75	17 134	0.10141	16 266	7.03
26	92 335	0.00621	92 049	34.57	76	15 397	0.10645	14 577	6.77
27	91 762	0.00654	91 462	33.78	77	13 758	0.11167	12 990	6.51
28	91 161	0.00687	90 848	33.00	78	12 222	0.11705	11 506	6.27
29	90 535	0.00722	90 208	32.23	79	10 791	0.12260	10 130	6.04
30	89 881	0.00757	89 541	31.46	80	9 468	0.12831	8 861	5.81
31	89 201	0.00794	88 847	30.69	81	8 253	0.13420	7 699	5.59
32	88 493	0.00833	88 125	29.93	82	7 146	0.14025	6 645	5.38
33	87 756	0.00874	87 372	29.18	83	6 143	0.14647	5 693	5.18
34	86 989	0.00919	86 589	28.43	84	5 244	0.15287	4 843	4.98
35	86 190	0.00967	85 773	27.69	85	4 442	0.15943	4 088	4.79
36	85 356	0.01018	84 922	26.96	86	3 734	0.16615	3 424	4.60
37	84 487	0.01074	84 033	26.23	87	3 113	0.17305	2 844	4.42
38	83 579	0.01135	83 105	25.51	88	2 575	0.18011	2 343	4.24
39	82 631	0.01200	82 135	24.80	89	2 111	0.18734	1 913	4.06
40	81 639	0.01271	81 120	24.09	90	1 715	0.19473	1 548	3.88
41	80 601	0.01348	80 058	23.40	91	1 381	0.20229	1 242	3.69
42	79 515	0.01431	78 946	22.71	92	1 102	0.21001	986	3.50
43	78 377	0.01521	77 780	22.03	93	871	0.21789	776	3.30
44	77 184	0.01618	76 560	21.36	94	681	0.22593	604	3.08
45	75 935	0.01723	75 281	20.71	95	527	0.23413	465	2.84
46	74 627	0.01835	73 942	20.06	96	404	0.24248	355	2.55
47	73 257	0.01956	72 540	19.43	97	306	0.25098	267	2.21
48	71 824	0.02086	71 075	18.81	98	229	0.25964	199	1.78
49	70 326	0.02224	69 544	18.20	99	170	0.26844	147	1.23

Ix number of persons at exact age x

qx proportion dying between exact age x and exact age x + 1

Lx number of persons surviving at age x last birthday

e^x complete expectation of life at exact age x

13

EXPERIMENTAL LIFE TABLE OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION, 1991 to 1996 *continued*

Age	Ix	qx	Lx	e ^x	Age	Ix	qx	Lx	e ^x
FEMALES									
0	100 000	0.02282	98 289	61.66	50	68 762	0.01786	76 184	20.19
1	97 718	0.00199	97 601	62.10	51	67 130	0.01917	74 774	19.55
2	97 523	0.00094	97 477	61.22	52	65 431	0.02057	73 289	18.92
3	97 432	0.00066	97 399	60.28	53	63 666	0.02205	71 728	18.31
4	97 367	0.00048	97 344	59.32	54	61 833	0.02363	70 090	17.71
5	97 320	0.00037	97 302	58.34	55	59 937	0.02529	68 376	17.13
6	97 284	0.00033	97 268	57.37	56	57 978	0.02706	66 587	16.56
7	97 252	0.00031	97 237	56.38	57	55 959	0.02892	64 725	16.01
8	97 222	0.00031	97 207	55.40	58	53 885	0.03088	62 791	15.47
9	97 192	0.00031	97 177	54.42	59	51 760	0.03294	60 788	14.94
10	97 162	0.00032	97 146	53.44	60	49 590	0.03510	58 721	14.44
11	97 131	0.00035	97 114	52.45	61	47 380	0.03737	56 595	13.94
12	97 097	0.00039	97 078	51.47	62	45 138	0.03974	54 414	13.47
13	97 059	0.00046	97 036	50.49	63	42 871	0.04223	52 185	13.00
14	97 014	0.00059	96 985	49.51	64	40 587	0.04482	49 915	12.55
15	96 956	0.00083	96 916	48.54	65	38 297	0.04752	47 612	12.12
16	96 876	0.00130	96 813	47.58	66	36 008	0.05033	45 285	11.70
17	96 749	0.00176	96 664	46.64	67	33 732	0.05326	42 941	11.29
18	96 579	0.00209	96 478	45.73	68	31 477	0.05629	40 591	10.90
19	96 377	0.00238	96 262	44.82	69	29 254	0.05944	38 244	10.52
20	96 148	0.00264	96 021	43.93	70	27 073	0.06270	35 910	10.15
21	95 894	0.00288	95 756	43.04	71	24 945	0.06608	33 600	9.80
22	95 618	0.00311	95 469	42.16	72	22 878	0.06957	31 323	9.46
23	95 320	0.00333	95 161	41.29	73	20 882	0.07317	29 089	9.13
24	95 002	0.00354	94 834	40.43	74	18 965	0.07689	26 909	8.81
25	94 666	0.00375	94 488	39.57	75	17 134	0.08071	24 790	8.50
26	94 311	0.00396	94 124	38.72	76	15 397	0.08465	22 743	8.20
27	93 938	0.00416	93 742	37.87	77	13 758	0.08870	20 773	7.91
28	93 547	0.00438	93 342	37.03	78	12 222	0.09286	18 890	7.64
29	93 137	0.00461	92 922	36.19	79	10 791	0.09713	17 097	7.37
30	92 708	0.00485	92 483	35.35	80	9 468	0.10150	15 401	7.10
31	92 258	0.00510	92 023	34.52	81	8 253	0.10599	13 805	6.85
32	91 788	0.00538	91 541	33.70	82	7 146	0.11057	12 312	6.60
33	91 294	0.00568	91 034	32.88	83	6 143	0.11527	10 924	6.36
34	90 775	0.00602	90 502	32.06	84	5 244	0.12006	9 640	6.13
35	90 229	0.00638	89 941	31.25	85	4 442	0.12496	8 460	5.89
36	89 653	0.00677	89 349	30.45	86	3 734	0.12996	7 383	5.66
37	89 046	0.00721	88 725	29.66	87	3 113	0.13506	6 406	5.44
38	88 404	0.00769	88 064	28.87	88	2 575	0.14026	5 526	5.21
39	87 724	0.00821	87 364	28.09	89	2 111	0.14556	4 737	4.97
40	87 004	0.00878	86 622	27.31	90	1 715	0.15096	4 036	4.74
41	86 241	0.00940	85 835	26.55	91	1 381	0.15646	3 416	4.49
42	85 430	0.01008	84 999	25.80	92	1 102	0.16206	2 873	4.23
43	84 569	0.01081	84 112	25.06	93	871	0.16776	2 400	3.95
44	83 655	0.01161	83 169	24.33	94	681	0.17357	1 991	3.65
45	82 683	0.01247	82 168	23.61	95	527	0.17947	1 640	3.31
46	81 652	0.01340	81 105	22.90	96	404	0.18548	1 341	2.92
47	80 558	0.01440	79 978	22.20	97	306	0.19161	1 089	2.48
48	79 398	0.01547	78 784	21.52	98	229	0.19759	877	1.94
49	78 169	0.01662	77 520	20.85	99	170	0.23239	701	1.30

Ix number of persons at exact age x

qx proportion dying between exact age x and exact age x + 1

Lx number of persons surviving at age x last birthday

e^x complete expectation of life at exact age x

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- 1** This publication contains experimental estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) population of Australia based on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing and life tables of the Indigenous population. Statistics based on the 1986 and 1991 Censuses of Population and Housing have also been included.
- 2** These estimates of the Indigenous population are experimental in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and internal migration are not generally available. Furthermore, there is significant intercensal volatility in census counts of the Indigenous population (as shown in table 7), thus adding to the problem of estimating the true Indigenous population. This volatility can in part be attributed to changes in the propensity of persons to identify as being of Indigenous origin. As a result, a method based on the use of life tables is used to produce time series data.
- 3** Indigenous estimates based on the 1996 Census of Population and Housing are significantly higher than those which would have been expected if the Indigenous population in 1991 had been subject to expected levels of natural increase and migration over the 1991 to 1996 intercensal period.
- 4** Estimates for Jervis Bay Territory are included in the total population estimates. Counts from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing include 24 persons usually resident in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island who had Indigenous origin reported. These persons have been excluded from these estimates because of the small numbers involved.

METHOD

Source of statistics

- 5** Indigenous population estimates have been produced for each year from 30 June 1996 back to 30 June 1991. The source of these statistics are Indigenous person counts from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing based on place of usual residence. In the census, place of usual residence refers to the address at which a person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more in the census year.

Two stage process

- 6** The method of estimation was a two stage process. Firstly, various adjustments were applied to census counts to produce the estimated Indigenous population as at 6 August 1996. Secondly, these 6 August Indigenous estimates were initially 'survived' back to 30 June 1996 and then back to 30 June 1991 using life tables. This method is known as the reverse survival method. Zero net internal and external migration were assumed.

Adjustments

- 7** Before census counts as at 6 August 1996 were survived back to 30 June 1996, various adjustments were made. The adjustment process involved four factors: persons recorded as Indigenous whose parents were born overseas; non-response to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin question in the census; net census undercount; and adjustments based on registered Indigenous births.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

.....

Adjustments *continued*

PARENTS BORN OVERSEAS

8 The first adjustment relates to Indigenous persons where both parents were overseas born. The census counts in 1996 included Indigenous persons where both parents were born overseas. An adjustment was applied to the census counts of Indigenous persons to exclude those Indigenous persons whose parents were born overseas. A person was deemed to have been born overseas if their birthplace was not recorded as either 'Australia' or 'Not Stated'.

NOT STATED INDIGENOUS ORIGIN

9 The second adjustment dealt with those persons for whom basic details were available but there was no response to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin question on the census form. This non-response may be due to two factors. One is that a form was completed but there was no response to the Indigenous origin question. The other is where the census collector considered that a person did reside at a particular residence on census night, but was not able to obtain a completed census form for that person. In the latter case, a 'dummy' census form was created where age, sex and state of usual residence on census night are imputed, but all other characteristics (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin) remain 'Not Stated'.

10 It was assumed that some of these non-respondents were actually of Indigenous origin. The imputation procedure allocated non-respondents on each type of form to being of Indigenous origin according to the proportion of Indigenous in the total stated response on that form type. Imputation was applied individually for males and females in each Statistical Local Area.

UNDERCOUNT

11 The third adjustment involved correcting for net undercount of the Indigenous population. Results from the 1996 Post Enumeration Survey (PES) showed that there was a significant difference between the net undercount rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons. As a result, it was decided to incorporate the Indigenous net undercount into Indigenous estimates. These estimates are the first to use a specific Indigenous undercount rate. Estimates based on data from the 1991 Census of Population and Housing used the undercount rate corresponding to the total population. The following table shows the net Indigenous and non-Indigenous undercount rates, standard errors (SEs) and relative standard errors (RSEs), from the 1996 PES.

	Estimate	SE	RSE(%)
.....			
Indigenous	7.1	1.04	14.7
Non-Indigenous	1.5	0.11	7.0

.....

12 Total undercount rates vary considerably by age, sex and State. For example, undercount is consistently highest for males aged 20 to 29 years. Thus it was considered that a more accurate estimate of the Indigenous population would be achieved by applying an age, sex and State specific undercount distribution instead of a uniform 7.1% undercount rate. However, high sampling errors precluded the use of PES results of indigenous undercount by age, sex and State.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Adjustments continued

Instead, the age, sex, and State undercount distribution for the total Australian population was applied to the total Indigenous undercount rate of 7.1%. Although the PES was not conducted in remote areas or Indigenous communities where special procedures were used in the Census, the undercount was applied to all geographic areas in the absence of other information.

ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON REGISTERED BIRTHS

13 Lastly, adjustments were made based on registered Indigenous births. Following the adjustment for undercount, the numbers at age zero were compared with registered births. The births registered in South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory were higher than the numbers at age zero. In these States and Territories, the numbers at age zero were raised on the basis of the number of registered births. The following table shows these registrations during the financial year 1995–96 and subsequent adjustments.

	Births	Adjustments to age zero
SA	557	34
WA	1 566	158
Tas.	255	72
NT	1 387	391
ACT	59	7

Ages 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 were then smoothed for all States and Territories to maintain relativities between ages. The new total for ages 0 to 4 remained unchanged.

Backdating

14 After adjustments had been made to produce Indigenous population estimates as at 6 August 1996 (the Census date), the estimates were backdated to 30 June 1996 (30 June is the standard reference date for population estimates). In normal circumstances, the cohort component method would have been employed. This method updates a base estimated population (stock figure) by the use of data on demographic flows (flow data). These demographic events are births, deaths and migration. However, satisfactory flow data for the Indigenous population were not generally available. As a result, the estimates of the Indigenous population as at 30 June 1996 were obtained by surviving the adjusted census counts back using life tables. This method is known as the reverse survival method. No attempt has been made to adjust for any change in propensity to identify as Indigenous. Instead, independent series have been produced using both the 1991 and 1996 Censuses.

15 While net internal migration has increased in the 1991–1996 intercensal period compared with the 1986–1991 intercensal period, the absolute size of the migration still does not warrant a specific interstate migration assumption. As such, zero internal migration has been assumed. Census data also indicates that the level of external migration of Indigenous persons is negligible. Hence zero external migration has also been assumed.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Backdating *continued*

16 The life table used to backdate the population is shown in table 13. This life table was produced using the Preston-Hill method by comparing the change in counts of the Indigenous population between the two censuses with the number of Indigenous deaths registered for each five-year cohort. This enables the rate of increase in identification and the level of under-enumeration of deaths to be calculated. With this data, it is possible to estimate the number of deaths and the population on a consistent basis and to produce a life table for the period 1991–1996.

17 Two modifications then took place. Firstly, female mortality rates were adjusted such that when the 1996 estimates were backdated to 1991, the sex ratios of the resultant population closely matched those recorded at the 1991 Census. Secondly, a revision was made at ages 0 and 1. The resulting table is a modification of that which appeared in *Deaths, Australia, 1996* (Cat. no. 3302.0).

1991 CENSUS BASED ESTIMATES

18 Indigenous population data as at 30 June 1991 and 30 June 1996 have been reproduced based on the 1991 Census of Population and Housing (see tables 9 and 10). The 1991 data have previously been published in *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 1986 to 1991* (Cat. no. 3230.0) and subsequently revised in *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, June 1991 to June 2001* (Cat. no. 3231.0). The 1996 data reflects the high series published in this latter publication.

1986 CENSUS BASED ESTIMATES

19 Indigenous estimates as at 30 June 1986, based on the 1986 Census of Population and Housing, have been provided (see table 8). These data were previously published in *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 1986 to 1991* (Cat. no. 3230.0).

PROPENSITY TO IDENTIFY

Increase between 1991 and 1996

20 The difference between the 1991 and 1996 Census counts of Indigenous persons, as recorded on census forms, was significantly larger than expected despite similar collection procedures for the two censuses. This increase cannot be fully accounted for by natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration over the intercensal period. While improvements in census procedures have taken place, it appears that there has been a large increase in the propensity to indicate Indigenous origin on census forms between the two censuses. This is consistent with the previous intercensal period, in which there was a significant difference between the 1986 and 1991 Censuses which could not be fully accounted for. Population estimates based on the 1986 and 1991 Censuses as well as the 1996 Census have been published to indicate the impact of this change in propensity to identify.

Change between Census and PES

21 The PES shows that the reported Indigenous origin of persons can change over a relatively short time. The PES is a survey conducted after the Census which asks similar personal questions to the Census, including a question on Indigenous origin. While the PES is conducted only three weeks after the Census, some individuals still have different responses to the Indigenous question in

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Change between Census and PES continued

both the Census and the PES. The following table shows the indicated Indigenous origin of people in both the 1996 Census and the 1996 PES. This table includes only those persons who stated in the PES that their birthplace was Australia. There were no responses of 'Mixed Origin' in the PES for these persons.

CENSUS RESPONSE.....						
PES response	Non- Indigenous	Aboriginal	Torres Strait Islander	Mixed Origin	Not Stated	Total
Non-Indigenous	61 518	181	41	5	1 069	62 814
Aboriginal	77	1 125	5	26	23	1 256
Torres Strait Islander	9	8	68	7	0	92
Not Stated	101	0	0	0	0	101
Total	61 705	1 314	114	38	1 092	64 263

22 The number of people who were identified as being of Indigenous origin was 8.0% less in the 1996 PES compared to the Census. Results from 1991 and 1986 indicate that this relationship varies considerably. In 1991, there was a reduction in Indigenous persons of 1.7% in the PES compared to the Census. In 1986, the number identified as being of Indigenous origin was 10.6% higher in the PES than in the 1986 Census.

23 Note, however, that the Census and the PES use different collection procedures. For example, census forms are delivered to households and self-enumerated by those at the household while PES forms are administered by an interviewer who interviews any responsible adult in the household. As such, the difference in the Indigenous origin for people between the PES and Census can in part be attributed to the difference in methodologies.

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin

24 The 1996 Census form asked the following question of each person:

14. Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander	
For persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, mark both 'yes' boxes.	

The question appeared as question 13 in the 1991 Census form (and as question 9 in the 1996 Census). It was identical except for the prompt for persons of mixed origin:

13. Is the person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Aboriginal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Torres Strait Islander	
For persons of mixed origin, indicate the one to which they consider themselves to belong.	

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin *continued*

25 The Census question is based on the first aspect of the definition adopted by the Commonwealth Government in 1978 of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin but may in part measure the second aspect as well. The definition states that an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is:

- a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent,
- who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and
- is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives.

26 For the 1996 Census, some assistance was available in a 'General Inquiry Guide' and through the Census Hotline which provided the following explanations:

- For census purposes, 'Aboriginal' does not refer to everyone born in Australia, or to the aboriginal people of any other country.
- Mark 'Yes, Aboriginal' if you are of Australian Aboriginal descent and identify yourself as Aboriginal.
- 'Torres Strait Islander' means people who originally come from the Torres Strait Islands located between the Australian mainland and Papua New Guinea. Mark 'Yes, Torres Strait Islander' if you are of Torres Strait Islander descent and identify yourself as a Torres Strait Islander.
- Persons of both origins should mark both 'yes' boxes.
- If someone is from another group of islands, tell them to answer 'No', unless they have an ancestor who was Aboriginal or from the islands between Cape York and Papua New Guinea.

Sex Ratio

27 Male population per 100 female population.

Median age

28 The age at which half the population is older and half is younger.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

Definitional Discrepancies

29 Some people who were identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin may not be accepted as such by the community with which they associate. To this extent, the Census may overcount the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander population, according to the Commonwealth Government definition. Similarly, other discrepancies (positive or negative) may arise due to differences between the census question and the Commonwealth Government definition.

Sex ratios

30 Sex ratios for the estimates of the Indigenous population in the Australian Capital Territory and Jervis Bay Territory are based on a much smaller population base and accordingly are subject to high variability.

Comparison with other sources

31 The Indigenous estimates in this publication have been compared with Indigenous aged pensioners data provided by the Department of Social Security (DSS) and Indigenous school enrolments data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The ABS school enrolments data have two sources. State Education departments provide data on government school enrolments and the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DEETYA)

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Comparison with other sources *continued*

provide data on non-government school enrolments. The estimates in this publication are higher than those obtained by using either the aged pensioner or school enrolments data. As these data sources were expected to under-represent the Indigenous population, no adjustments to the Indigenous estimates were deemed necessary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

32 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND REFERENCES

33 Other ABS publications that may be of interest to users of this publication include:

Australian Demographics Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) — issued quarterly

Australian Social Trends, 1994 (Cat. no. 4102.0)

Births, Australia (Cat. no. 3301.0)

Census of Population and Housing: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, Australia (Cat. no. 2034.0)

Deaths, Australia (Cat. no. 3302.0)

Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population (Cat. no. 3231.0)

Population Distribution, Indigenous Australians (Cat. no. 4705.0)

Statistics on the Indigenous Peoples of Australia. *Year Book, Australia, 1994 and 1998 editions* (Cat. no. 1301.0)

34 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

35 A related publication which may also be of interest is:

Preston, S.H. and K.J. Hill. 1980. 'Estimating the completeness of death registration', *Population Studies*, Vol. 34, no. 2, pp. 349–366.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS AVAILABLE

36 A consultancy service to undertake Indigenous population estimates for smaller areas than State and Territory and post-1996 projections of the Indigenous population under client specified assumptions is available. For further information or a quote, contact Glen Heyen, Demography Section, Canberra, on (02) 6252 5117.







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