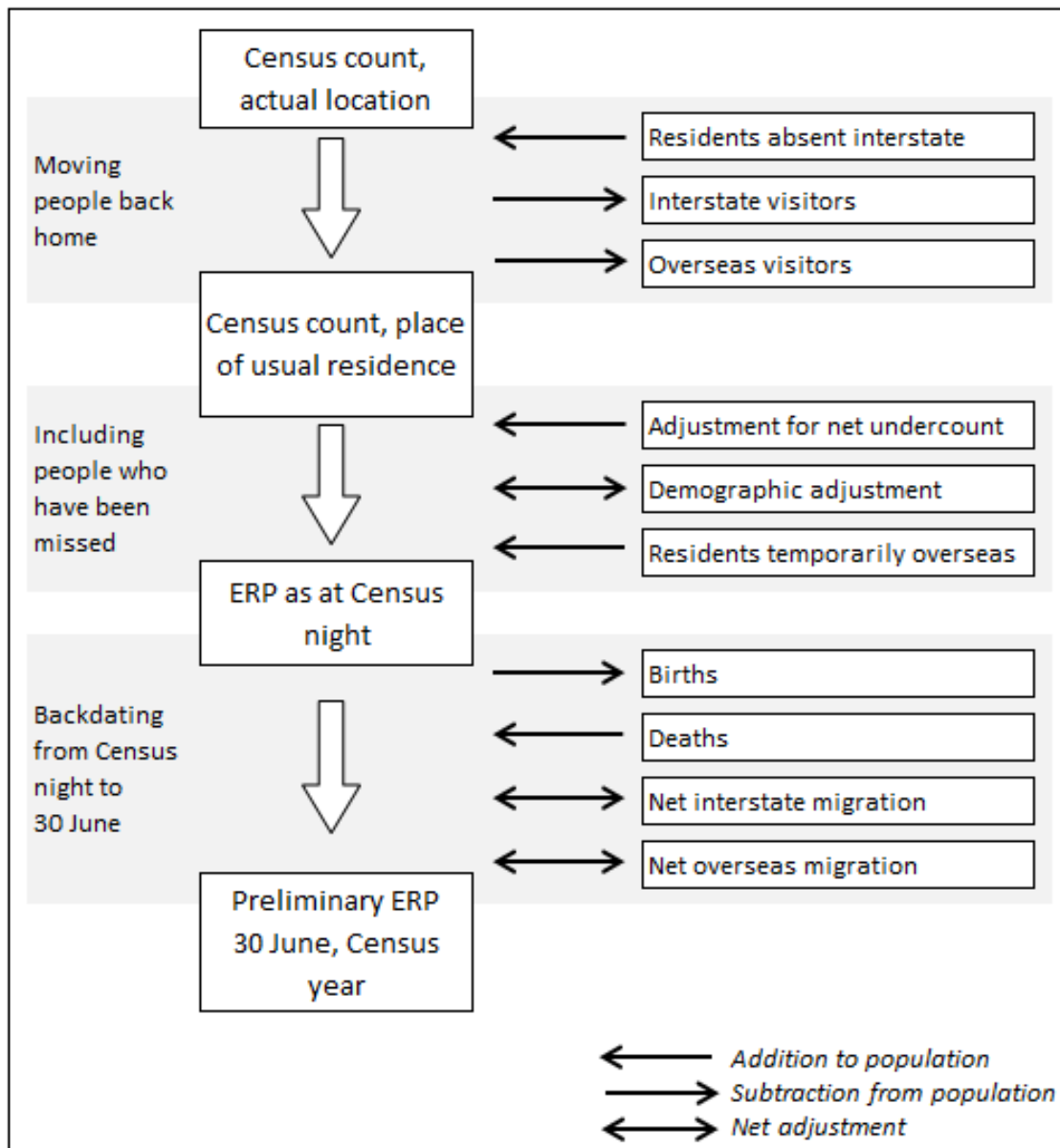


REBASING FACT SHEET

PROCESS FOR DERIVING ERP FROM THE CENSUS

Deriving a 30 June 2011 ERP figure from the 2011 Census count involves three main steps. The first two relate to deriving the ERP at Census night (9 August 2011) and the third backdating this ERP to 30 June 2011.

The following flowchart illustrates the steps that are involved:



The first step involves translating Census counts by actual location to a place of usual residence basis, by:

- adding in an estimate of those residents who were absent interstate on Census night;
- subtracting those who were visiting from interstate; and
- subtracting overseas visitors to Australia on Census night;

The second step involves an adjustment for those usual residents who were not enumerated in the Census, by:

- using the results from the 2011 Census Post Enumeration Survey (PES) to adjust for undercount;
- adding in the number of Australian residents who were temporarily overseas (RTOs) on Census night using data on international travellers obtained from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship; and
- applying a range of demographic adjustments designed to resolve any minor statistical anomalies in the age-sex composition of the derived population estimates.

The third step involves backdating the resulting ERP figure for Census night 9 August 2011 to 30 June 2011 using the components of population change. That is:

- subtracting births;
- adding in deaths;
- accounting for net interstate migration; and
- accounting for net overseas migration

Preliminary Rebasing

At the time of preliminary rebasing (estimates published in June 2012) the process outlined above was followed but the number of RTOs and the demographic adjustments were not final and were therefore based on modelling.

Final Rebasing

12 months after preliminary rebasing, when all data are now available, two adjustments to preliminary rebasing and a final review of intercensal components of growth are performed in order to derive a final ERP. The two adjustments include:

1. A revision of the number of Australian Residents who were Temporarily Overseas (RTOs) on Census night.
- Final RTO figure of 484,700, compared with the preliminary RTO figure of 475,300
2. The application of demographic adjustments designed to resolve any statistical anomalies in the age-sex composition of the derived population estimates (11,700 final adjustment compared to 1,900 preliminary).

For further information, see the feature article **Final Rebasing of Australia's Population Estimates using the 2011 Census of Population and Housing** in *Australian Demographic Statistics - Dec 2012* (cat. no. 3101.0).

INTERCENSAL ERROR AND DISCREPANCY

The 'intercensal error' refers to the difference between the latest preliminary Census based ERP figures for 30 June 2011 and the ERP figures based on the previous Census which were estimated forward using births, deaths and migration data.

There are two areas that contribute to the intercensal error:

- errors in the Census based estimates of the population at the current or previous Census date; and/or
- errors in the estimates of any of the components of population change (births, deaths and migration) since the previous Census.

The ABS is aware that the term 'intercensal error' is often misinterpreted, with the word 'error' being too commonly considered to be a synonym for 'mistake'. As a result, the ABS will use the terms 'preliminary intercensal difference' and 'final intercensal difference' in the 2016 rebasing cycle.

'Intercensal discrepancy' is determined once rebasing is complete, and is the difference between final ERP and the final updated components of ERP.

QUALITY OF ESTIMATES

The ABS has undertaken extensive quality assurance processes before releasing the improved population estimates, to confirm the high quality of the 2011 population estimates. For further information see the **Quality Declaration** in *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0).

FURTHER INFORMATION

A number of useful feature articles and technical notes published in *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0) are available (including one from *Census of Population and Housing - Details of Undercount, 2011* (cat. no. 2940.0)). This fact sheet is a companion to the feature article **Final Rebasing of Australia's Population Estimates using the 2011 Census of Population and Housing** (released 20 June 2013).