





Australian Bureau of Statistics

2006 Census QuickStats : Australia Quality Declaration

Latest ISSUE Released at 9:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 27/6/2007 LOCATION CODE: 0

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PERSON CHARACTERISTICS (Place of usual residence)


PERSON CHARACTERISTICS 	Australia  % of total persons		Australia % of total persons	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
Total persons (excluding overseas visitors)	19,855,288	-	18,769,249	-
Males	9,799,252	49.4%	9,270,466	49.4%

Females	10,056,036	50.6%	9,498,783	50.6%
Indigenous persons (comprises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander)	455,031	2.3%	410,003	2.2%

In the 2006 Census (held on 8th August 2006) there were 19,855,288 persons usually resident in Australia. The population has increased by 6%, or just over one million people, since the 2001 Census. As in 2001, females slightly outnumbered males in the population.

Just over 2% of the population identified themselves as being of Indigenous origin in the 2006 Census. Since the 2001 Census, the Indigenous population has increased by 11% or 45,000 persons.

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AGE 	Australia % of total persons		Australia % of total persons	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
Age groups:				
0-4 years	1,260,405	6.3%	1,243,969	6.6%
5-14 years	2,676,807	13.5%	2,668,506	14.2%
15-24 years	2,704,276	13.6%	2,566,346	13.7%
25-54 years	8,376,751	42.2%	8,159,808	43.5%
55-64 years	2,192,675	11.0%	1,759,742	9.4%
65 years and over	2,644,374	13.3%	2,370,878	12.6%
Median age of persons	37	-	35	-

Australia's population continued to age as a result of low fertility and increased life expectancy. The median age of the resident population increased by 2 years, to 37 years in 2006 from 35 years in 2001. The biggest change occurred in the older age groups. The proportion of the population aged 55-64 years increased from 9% to 11% between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. Over the same period the proportion of children in the population (aged 0-14) decreased slightly. However, there were about 16,500 more young children aged 0-4 years in 2006 than in 2001.

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SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS	Australia % of total persons		Australia % of total persons	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
Australian citizenship	17,095,569	86.1%	16,559,774	88.2%
Persons born overseas	4,416,037	22.2%	4,105,444	21.9%
Overseas visitors (excluded from all other classifications)	206,358	1.0%	203,101	1.1%

Most people counted in the 2006 Census were Australian citizens (86%). Although the proportion of the population who are citizens decreased slightly, the number of citizens increased by about 535,000 between 2001 and 2006.

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COUNTRY OF BIRTH **MAIN RESPONSES FOR AUSTRALIA**

	Australia % of total persons 2006 Census		Australia % of total persons 2001 Census	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
Australia	14,072,944	70.9%	13,629,481	72.6%
England	856,939	4.3%	847,365	4.5%
New Zealand	389,463	2.0%	355,765	1.9%
China (excludes SAR's and Taiwan Province)	206,591	1.0%	142,780	0.8%
Italy	199,121	1.0%	218,718	1.2%
Viet Nam	159,850	0.8%	154,831	0.8%

In the 2006 Census, 7 out of 10 Australian residents were born in Australia, a slight decrease from 2001. Of people born overseas, the most common countries of birth were England, New Zealand, China, Italy, and Viet Nam.

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LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT**HOME** **MAIN RESPONSES FOR AUSTRALIA**

	Australia % of total persons 2006 Census		Australia % of total persons 2001 Census	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
English only spoken at home	15,581,333	78.5%	15,013,965	80.0%
Italian	316,890	1.6%	353,605	1.9%
Greek	252,220	1.3%	263,717	1.4%
Cantonese	244,553	1.2%	225,307	1.2%
Arabic	243,662	1.2%	209,372	1.1%
Mandarin	220,601	1.1%	139,286	0.7%

Most people counted in the 2006 Census spoke only English at home (79%). Small proportions of the population spoke other languages at home. The most common languages other than English spoken at home were Italian, Greek, Cantonese, Arabic, and Mandarin.


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RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION**MAIN RESPONSES FOR AUSTRALIA**

	Australia % of total persons 2006 Census		Australia % of total persons 2001 Census	
	2006 Census	2006 Census	2001 Census	2001 Census
Catholic	5,126,882	25.8%	5,001,624	26.6%
Anglican	3,718,248	18.7%	3,881,162	20.7%
No Religion	3,706,557	18.7%	2,905,993	15.5%
Uniting Church	1,135,422	5.7%	1,248,674	6.7%
Presbyterian and Reformed	596,668	3.0%	637,530	3.4%


The most common religious affiliations reported in the 2006 Census continued to be Catholic (26%) and Anglican (19%). The proportion of the population that stated they had no religion increased to 19%, from 16% in 2001.

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MARITAL STATUS (Population aged 15 years and over) 	Australia 2006 Census	% of persons aged 15 years and over 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of persons aged 15 years and over 2001 Census
Married	7,900,684	49.6%	7,635,947	51.4%
Never married	5,278,600	33.2%	4,691,609	31.6%
Separated or divorced	1,801,979	11.3%	1,609,314	10.8%
Widowed	936,813	5.9%	919,904	6.2%

Just under half (49.6%) of the Australian resident population stated they were married in the 2006 Census, a slight decrease from 51.4% in the 2001 Census. The number and proportion of Australians stating they were never married, separated, or divorced increased from 2001.


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INCOME (Population aged 15 years and over) 	Australia 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census
Median individual income (\$/weekly)	466	375
Median household income (\$/weekly)	1,027	782
Median family income (\$/weekly)	1,171	937

Median gross individual income rose 24% between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. In 2001, the median gross household income was \$782, this increased to \$1,027 in 2006. The median gross family income also increased during the same period from \$937 to \$1,171.

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FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS


FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS 	Australia 2006 Census	% of total families 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of total families 2001 Census
Total families	5,219,165	-	4,936,828	-
Couple families with children	2,362,582	45.3%	2,321,165	47.0%
Couple families without children	1,943,643	37.2%	1,764,167	35.7%
One parent families	823,254	15.8%	762,632	15.4%

Other families	89,686	1.7%	88,864	1.8%
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About 5 million families were counted in the 2006 Census. Couples with children continue to be the most common family type, although as a proportion of all families, this type decreased slightly to 45% between 2001 and 2006. The proportion of couples without children increased from 36% in 2001 to 37% in 2006. There was very little change in the proportion of one parent families and other families between the Censuses.


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DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS

DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS - PRIVATE DWELLINGS 	Australia 2006 Census	% of total private dwellings and occupied private dwellings 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of total private dwellings and occupied private dwellings 2001 Census
Total private dwellings (including unoccupied and not stated)	8,426,559	-	7,790,079	-
Occupied private dwellings:	7,596,183	-	7,072,202	-
Separate house	5,685,387	74.8%	5,327,309	75.3%
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse etc	702,550	9.2%	632,176	8.9%
Flat, unit or apartment	1,076,315	14.2%	923,139	13.1%
Other dwellings	127,337	1.7%	134,274	1.9%
Not stated	4,594	0.1%	55,304	0.8%


There were 8,426,559 private dwellings counted in Australia in the 2006 Census, an increase of 8.2% since the 2001 Census. The largest proportional change was for flats, units and apartments showing an increase of 0.9% (153,176 dwellings). The reduction in the number of dwelling types not stated was a result of better field procedures during the 2006 Census.

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DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS - OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS 	Australia 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census
Median rent (\$/weekly)	190	145
Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly)	1,300	867
Average household size	2.6	2.6
Average number of persons per bedroom	1.1	1.1


Rents and housing loan repayments increased between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. In 2006, the median weekly rent increased to \$190, from \$145 in 2001. The median monthly housing loan repayment increased to \$1,300 in 2006, up from \$867 in 2001. The average household size and the average number of persons per bedroom did not change.

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TENURE TYPE - OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS 	Australia 2006 Census	% of total occupied private dwellings 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of total occupied private dwellings 2001 Census
Fully owned	2,478,264	32.6%	2,810,917	39.7%
Being purchased (includes being purchased under rent/buy scheme)	2,448,205	32.2%	1,872,132	26.5%
Rented (includes rent-free)	2,063,947	27.2%	1,858,324	26.3%
Other tenure type	65,715	0.9%	196,026	2.8%
Not stated	540,050	7.1%	334,803	4.7%


Of the 7.5 million private dwellings counted in the 2006 Census 65% were fully owned or being purchased, slightly lower than in 2001 (66%). This change was driven by a large decrease in the proportion of occupied private dwellings that were fully owned.

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HOUSEHOLD TYPE - OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS 	Australia 2006 Census	% of total occupied private dwellings 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of total occupied private dwellings 2001 Census
Family household	5,122,760	67.4%	4,866,031	68.8%
Lone person household	1,740,481	22.9%	1,616,213	22.9%
Group household	280,856	3.7%	262,551	3.7%

In the 2006 Census, around two thirds of all occupied private dwellings in Australia were family households. This proportion decreased slightly between 2001 and 2006. The proportion of dwellings that were occupied by lone person or group households did not change between Censuses.

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LANDLORD TYPE - OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS BEING RENTED (including rent free accommodation) 	Australia 2006 Census	% of total rented dwellings 2006 Census	Australia 2001 Census	% of total rented dwellings 2001 Census
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Real estate agent	1,043,198	50.5%	813,633	43.8%
State or Territory housing authority	306,697	14.9%	317,171	17.1%
Other landlord type	652,012	31.6%	705,122	37.9%
Landlord type not stated	62,037	3.0%	22,398	1.2%

In the 2006 Census just over half (51%) of all occupied private dwellings being rented were rented from real estate agents, an increase from 44% in the 2001 Census. There was a decrease in the proportion of occupied private dwellings being rented from a State or Territory housing authority and from other landlord types.

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Data for this QuickStat was collected from the 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population and Housing.

Some values in this QuickStat may have been adjusted to avoid release of confidential data. For further information refer to Introduced Random Error.

For further inquiries contact the ABS National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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 Census Data Quality Statement
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This page last updated 1 August 2008

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