

United Nations Statistics Division: Demographic Yearbook
Questionnaire on Metadata for Population and Housing Census

Reporting country: [Australia](#)

Population census date: [09 August 2016](#)

Housing census date: [09 August 2016](#)

A. General population census information

1. Census information

Type of census	
(a) Traditional census	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Register based census	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Combination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d) Other, please specify 	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Type of population count and coverage

Type of population count	
(a) De facto / population present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) De jure / usual resident population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please specify whether the following population groups were enumerated in the census

Population group	Included	Excluded	Not applicable
(a) Nomads	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Persons living in areas to which access is difficult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located outside the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Civilian residents temporarily absent from the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(e) Civilian residents who cross a frontier daily to work in another country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
(f) Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located in the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Civilian foreigners who do not cross a frontier daily and are in the country temporarily, including undocumented persons, or transients on ships in harbour at the time of the census	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Civilian foreigners who cross a frontier daily to work in the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
(i) Refugees	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
█	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
█	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Estimated census completeness

Estimated completeness:	Both sexes	Male	Female
(a) Gross under-enumeration (specify unit: █)	█	█	█
(b) Gross over-enumeration (specify unit: █)	█	█	█
(c) Net error (specify unit: %)	1.0	1.5	0.4

Base denominator for this estimate is:	
(a) Enumerated population	X
(b) Estimated "complete" population	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>

Method(s) used in estimating completeness:	
(a) Post Enumeration Survey (PES)	X
Date conducted:	Sept 2016
Size of sample (specify unit: Households):	42,000
For total area: Australia	
For urban areas: Unknown	

For rural areas: Unknown	
<p>Population groups excluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overseas visitors who were not in Australia on 9 August 2016 (Census night); • foreign diplomats and their families; • people in non-private dwellings (NPDs) such as hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions; • people who were not in dwellings (as the sample selected in the PES is based on a selection of dwellings); • babies born after 9 August 2011; and • people in Norfolk Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Australian Antarctic Territory and Jervis Bay Territory. 	
(b) Demographic analysis, please specify: by age, sex, marital status, country of birth, indigenous status See: http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailedPage/2940.02016?	X
(c) Other methods, please specify: <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Definition of urban/rural

The definition of urban areas for this census is:

Based on Urban Centres and Localities (UCLs). These represent areas of concentrated urban development with populations of 200 people or more and are primarily identified using objective dwelling and population density criteria using data from the 2016 Census.

See <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1270.0.55>

The definition of rural areas for this census is:

Bounded Localities (urban concentrations with less than 200 people) and areas outside Urban Centres and Localities are considered rural areas.

5. Definition of cities

The definition of a city proper for this census is:

While the ABS does not have a specific definition for what it considers a city. It does have a number of geographic classifications related to cities. State and national capital cities are represented by Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). See also urban agglomerations.

See <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1270.0.55.001>

The definition of urban agglomeration for this census is:

Urban agglomerations are identified in the Significant Urban Area (SUA) structure of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). It represents concentrations of contiguous urban development with a population of 10,000 or more using whole Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2s). They do not necessarily represent a single Urban Centre, as they can represent a cluster of related Urban Centres with a core urban population over 10,000.

See <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1270.0.55.001>

6. Definition of locality

The definition of a locality for this census is:

A locality is generally defined as a population cluster of between 200 and 999 people.

7. Definition of literacy

The definition of “literate” and “illiterate” for this census is:

There are no questions on the Census in Australia on literacy

8. Educational attainment

Do you follow the International Standard Classification for Education (ISCED) for tabulating the population by educational attainment?

No. The ABS uses the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED).

If so, what revision?

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data in ISCED (specify revision number)?

Yes. Correspondence files have been developed and it is possible to provide data in ISCED 1997 categories (1 digit level).

If no, please point out the major deviations from ISCED (specify revision number).

B. Economic characteristics

1. Activity status

What is the lower age limit for the collection of information on activity status in this census?

15 years

Is there a maximum age limit for collection of information on activity status for this census?

No

What reference period do you use to determine the economic activity of a person?

In the last week prior to the Census

2. Definition of economically active population used in this census

Definition of economically active population	
(a) Usually active population	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Currently active population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are the following groups considered economically active in the national tabulations?
If not, please indicate how they are classified:

Economic group	Yes	No
(a) contributing (unpaid) family workers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) unemployed persons including those never previously employed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) armed forces;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) part-time workers even though they may spend most time at non-gainful activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) domestic servants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Status in Employment

Do you follow the International Standard Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93), for the classification of the Status in Employment in your country?

No

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data in ICSE-93?

Yes. Categories reported in the 2016 Census are compatible with ICSE-93

If no, please point out the major deviations from ICSE-93.

4. Occupation

Do you follow the International Standard Classification for Occupations (ISCO) for tabulating the employed population by occupation?

No. The ABS uses ANZSCO

If yes, what revision?

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data in ISCO (specify revision number)?

Correspondence files have been created for ISCO 08 and ISCO 88. No data is available to convert ANZSCO to ISCO 68 or ISCO 58

See:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1220.02013,%20Version%201.2?OpenDocument>

If no, point out the major deviations from ISCO (specify revision number).

5. Industry

Do you follow the International Standard Classification for International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) for tabulating the employed population by industry?

No. The ABS uses ANZSIC

If so, what revision?

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data in ISIC (specify revision number).

Correspondence files have been created for ISIC Rev 4 and ISIC Rev 3. No data is available to convert ANZSIC to ISIC Rev 1 or ISIC Rev 2

See:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/PrimaryMainFeatures/1292.0.55.005?OpenDocument>

If no, please point out the major deviations from ISIC (specify revision number)..

C. Household characteristics

1. Definitions

General definition of a household for this census is:

A household is defined as one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually resident in the same private dwelling. Under this definition, all occupants of a dwelling form a household and complete one form. Therefore, for Census purposes, the total number of households is equal to the total number of occupied private dwellings as a Census form is completed for each household from which dwelling information for the household is obtained.

General definition of a family nucleus for this census is:

A family is defined by the ABS as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Each separately identified couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship forms the basis of a family. Some households contain more than one family. Non-related persons living in the same household are not counted as family members (unless under 15 years of age). Other related individuals (brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles) may be present in the household. If more than one family is present these people can only be associated with the primary family.

2. Head of household / reference member

Which one among the following options was used for the concept of head of household or reference person?

Please select one.

- a) Head of household
- b) Reference person
- c) Other

With regard to your answer to the previous question, please provide the definition that was used in the Census.

The ABS does not use the concept of household headship in its Census data. The Family/Household Reference Person is identified as the household member used in Census coding as the starting point for identifying the relationships between usual residents of a household. Familial relationships are defined in terms of the relationship between the family reference person and all other family members. On the Census form, people are asked to state their relationship to Person 1. If suitable, Person 1 will then be used as the basis for coding family and relationship details. If Person 1 is not the most appropriate reference person, coders assign a reference person based on age, marital status and relationship considerations. A reference person must be a usual resident of the dwelling aged 15 years and over, and also present on Census Night i.e. not temporarily absent.

In multiple family households, there is a reference person for each family. The reference person for the primary family is usually defined as the household reference person. The identification of a family reference person allows each family within a dwelling to be treated as a separate entity for tabulation purposes.

For group, visitor only and other non-classifiable households, the first person on the form who meets the above criteria will become the reference person.

D. Housing census characteristics

1. Housing information

What definition did you apply in this census for housing unit?

The ABS defines a housing unit as a dwelling. A dwelling is a structure which is intended to have people live in it, and which is habitable on Census night. Some examples of dwellings are houses, motels, flats, caravans, prisons, tents, humpies and houseboats.

Private dwellings are enumerated using online or paper household forms, which obtain family and relationship data as well as information on the dwelling itself such as rent or mortgage payments and ownership. Non-private dwellings (hotels, hospitals etc.) are enumerated on personal forms. While these forms capture information about the person's residential status within the non-private dwelling, they do not capture information on ownership of, or payments related to, the dwelling.

All occupied dwellings are counted in the Census. Unoccupied private dwellings are also counted. This includes unoccupied units in retirement villages (self-contained). Unoccupied residences of owners, managers or caretakers of caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates are also counted, but other unoccupied dwellings in such establishments are not counted.

What definition did you apply in this census for conventional dwelling?

See above

Are vacant units included in the enumerated conventional dwellings?

Yes

What definition did you apply in this census for room?

The ABS does not define nor collect data on rooms (other than bedrooms) in the Census.

2. Definition of cities

(as referred to in the Housing Census Questionnaire: City Data)

General definition of a city in the reporting country for this census

See Information above (Section 5). Data on cities reported here and prior are based on three geographic classifications, Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs); Significant Urban Areas (SUAs) and Urban Centres (UCs) with populations greater than 100,000 people. Some of these classifications overlap.

City 1 (Capital City) – Territory refers to:

Adelaide (UC) – South Australia
Brisbane (UC) – Queensland
Cairns (UC) – Queensland

CANBERRA (UC) – Australian Capital Territory
Canberra-Queanbeyan (SUA) – Australian Capital Territory/New South Wales
Central Coast (SUA) – New South Wales
Darwin (UC) – Northern Territory
Geelong (UC) – Victoria
Gold Coast-Tweed Heads – Queensland/New South Wales
Greater Adelaide (GCCSA) – South Australia
Greater Brisbane (GCCSA) – Queensland
Greater Darwin (GCCSA) – Northern Territory
Greater Hobart (GCCSA) – Tasmania
Greater Melbourne (GCCSA) – Victoria
Greater Perth (GCCSA) – Western Australia
Greater Sydney (GCCSA) – New South Wales
Hobart (UC) – Tasmania
Melbourne (UC) – Victoria
Newcastle (UC) – New South Wales
Perth (UC) – Western Australia
Sunshine Coast (SUA) – Queensland
Sydney (UC) – New South Wales
Toowoomba (UC) – Queensland
Townsville (UC) – Queensland
Wollongong (UC) – New South Wales

E. Bibliography of Population and Housing Statistics

Please list publications that contain results of your latest population census and your latest housing census:

All ABS reference material related to the Census can be found on the following link:
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/Census?OpenDocument&ref=topBar>

Information on Statistical Geography can be found here:
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/geography>

The Post Enumeration Survey results can be found here:
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/9E2E16CFF2CF31A6CA2570A50083C371?opendocument>