

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

Reporting country: [Australia](#)

Population census date: [9 August 2011](#)

Housing census date: [9 August 2011](#)

**A. General population census information**

**1. Census information**

Type of census	
(a) Traditional census	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Register based census	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Combination	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Other, please specify <span style="background-color: #cccccc; display: inline-block; width: 50px; height: 1em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	<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"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(f) Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located in the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(i) Refugees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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: %)	1.7	2.2	1.2

Base denominator for this estimate is:	
(a) Enumerated population 21 504 721 374 540 – undercount 475 300 – residents temporarily overseas @ 9 August 2011	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Estimated “complete” population 9 August 2011 22 359 500	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Don’t know	<input type="checkbox"/>

Method(s) used in estimating completeness:	
(a) Post Enumeration Survey (PES)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date conducted: 4 September 2011 to	

3 October 2011	
Size of sample (specify unit: number of dwellings):	
For total area: 43242	
For urban areas: <input type="text"/>	
For rural areas: <input type="text"/>	
Population groups excluded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overseas visitors who were not in Australia on 9 August 2011 (Census night);</li> <li>• foreign diplomats and their families;</li> <li>• people in non-private dwellings (NPDs) such as hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions;</li> <li>• people who were not in dwellings (as the sample selected in the PES is based on a selection of dwellings);</li> <li>• babies born after 9 August 2011; and</li> <li>• people in Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Australian Antarctic Territory and Jervis Bay Territory.</li> </ul>	
(b) Demographic analysis, please specify: by age, sex, marital status, country of birth, indigenous status	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other methods, please specify: <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 4. Definition of urban/rural

The definition of urban areas for this census is:

An urban centre is generally defined as a population cluster of 1000 or more people

The definition of rural areas for this census is:

A locality is a population cluster of between 200 and 999 people and classified as rural.

#### 5. Definition of cities

The definition of a city proper for this census is:

The ABS does not have a definition for city proper as such. Greater Capital City Statistical Area seems to be the most comparable.

Greater capital cities are represented by Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) and represent a socio-economic definition of each of the eight state and

territory capital cities. This means each greater capital city includes people who regularly socialise, shop or work within the city but live in small towns and rural areas surrounding the city. 'Rest of state' regions are the areas within each state or territory not defined as being part of the greater capital city.

The definition of urban agglomeration for this census is:

The Significant Urban Area (SUA) structure of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) is used to disseminate a broad range of ABS social and demographic statistics. It represents concentrations of 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. They can also include related peri-urban and satellite development and the area into which the urban development is likely to expand.

## **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 2011 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?

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 a concordance has been developed and it is possible to provide data in ISCED 1997. The data provided with this request uses the ASCED.

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

The ABS has designed ASCED to be as consistent with ISCED 1997 as possible. However, the needs of users and producers of statistics on education in Australia, and other factors unique to the Australian education system, have meant that total consistency has not been possible. Like ASCED, ISCED has separate dimensions of Level of Education and Field of Education.

In both ISCED and ASCED, Level of Education includes education from the earliest

years of pre-school and school, through to advanced levels of higher education. ASCED was designed specifically to align closely with the AQF, which is used within the Australian education system. This framework incorporates qualification levels, titles and guidelines. These guidelines contain the main criteria for defining Australian qualifications and are not the same as the criteria for determining level of education in ISCED. The Level of Education component of ASCED has nevertheless been designed to allow for the provision of data classified to ISCED in line with international practice. The criteria used to group fields of education in ISCED 1997 are the same as those used in ASCED. Despite the similarities between ISCED 1997 and ASCED in the conceptual approach to field of education, the classification criteria have not been applied in exactly the same way. The broad and narrow fields in ASCED have been designed to accurately reflect the reality of educational provision in Australia and thus differ from the groups at similar levels in ISCED 1997. Australian data classified to detailed fields in ASCED can, however, be converted to ISCED 1997 for international reporting purposes.

ASCED Level	ISCED Level	
9	Other Education -	No correspondence.
8	Pre-Primary Education 0	Pre-primary education.
7	Primary Education 1	Primary education or first stage of basic education.
62	Junior Secondary Education 2A	Programmes designed to prepare students for direct access to ISCED 3A or 3B which are the subcategories of Level 3 earmarked for providing access to tertiary education.
61	Senior Secondary Education 3A	Programmes designed to provide direct access to ISCED 5A, which is the type of tertiary education that enables the students to gain entry into advanced research or highly skilled professions.
524-525	Certificate I Level 2C	Programmes that are 'terminal' and are primarily meant to provide direct access to the labour market.
521-523	Certificate II Level 2C	Programmes that are 'terminal' and are primarily meant to provide direct access to the labour market.
514-516	Certificate III Level 3C	Programmes designed to lead directly to the labour market or entry into ISCED level 4 programmes or even other ISCED level 3 programmes.
511-513	Certificate IV Level 4B	Programmes that do not provide access to tertiary education

42	Diploma Level	5B	(ISCED 5A or 5B), but are designed primarily for direct entry into the labour market. Programmes which are practical/technical/occupationally specific.
41	Advanced Diploma and Associate Degree Level	5B	Programmes which are practical/technical/occupationally specific.
3	Bachelor Degree Level	5A	Programmes which are largely theoretically based/research preparatory or which provide access to professions with high skills requirements.
2	Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	5A	Programmes which are largely theoretically based/research preparatory or which provide access to professions with high skills requirements.
12	Master Degree Level	5A	Programmes which are largely theoretically based/research preparatory or which provide access to professions with high skills requirements
11	Doctoral Degree Level	6	Second stage of tertiary education (leading to an advanced research qualification)

## B. Economic characteristics

### 1. Activity status

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

15

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 Census night

### 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 checked="" 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?

The ABS uses the following Status in Employment classification:

### **Employment Type (EMTP)**

For employed persons, defines their employment type for the main job held in the week prior to Census Night.

Employment Type (EMTP) is derived using responses to questions on:

- full/part-time job (Question 34)
- job last week (Question 35)
- hours worked (Question 44)
- person's business (Questions 36,37)

The derivation methodology takes into account answers to these questions to derive the most appropriate Employment type.

### **Classification**

Applicable to: Employed persons

- 1 Employee not owning business
- 2 Owner managers of incorporated enterprises
- 3 Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises
- 4 Contributing family worker

Not applicable category comprises:

Persons aged under 15 years

Persons who are unemployed

Persons with Labour Force Status (LFSP) not stated

Persons not in the labour force

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

Yes a concordance has been developed and it is possible to provide data in ICSE-93. The data provided for this request uses the ABS classification for Status in Employment, as outlined above.

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

The Australian status in employment classification is based on the ILO's resolution (Fifteenth ICLS 1993) concerning the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93). The ICSE classifies job holders according to the type of economic risk held between the job holder and other persons or legal organisations.



The Australian status in employment classification classifies job holders according to their perception of the relationship between themselves and the enterprise for which they work, together with the legal status of the enterprise where this can be established. The ICSE group "members of producers' cooperatives" is excluded from the Australian classification due to its lack of relevance in the Australian context. The groups distinguished in the Australian classification are:

- employee - a person who works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece-rates, or payment in kind; or a person who operates his or her own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees;
- employer - a person who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires one or more employees;
- own account worker - a person who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires no employees; and

contributing family worker - a person who works without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a relative

#### **4. Occupation**

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

ABS uses the Australian New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).

If yes, what revision? First edition, Revision 1

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

A concordance is available, so it is possible to provide data in ISCO-88. It should also be noted that 4 digit ISCO to 1 digit ANZSCO provides a better concordance than 4 digit to 4 digit. The data produced for this request uses the ANZSCO not ISCO.

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

The ten major groups in ISCO-88 remain broadly similar to the eight ANZSCO 2006 major groups. The most significant difference at major group level is that ISCO-88 has identified Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers as a separate major group (Major Group 6), whereas ANZSCO includes Farmers and Farm Managers as a sub-major group in Major Group 1 Managers and Skilled Agricultural and Horticultural Workers as a sub-major group in Major Group 3 Technicians and Trade Workers.

ISCO-88 also includes a separate Major Group 0, for the Armed Forces. In ANZSCO, jobs held by members of the Armed Forces are classified together with their civilian

equivalents where these exist and to a number of other specific occupations.

In common with ISCO-88, ANZSCO now incorporates the sub-major group as a level of aggregation between the major and minor groups.

The five skill levels in ANZSCO are defined in terms of the AQF levels as follows.

### **Skill Level 1**

Occupations at Skill level 1 have a level of skill commensurate with a bachelor degree or higher qualification. At least 5 years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualification. In some instances relevant experience and/or on-the-job training may be required in addition to the formal qualification.

### **Skill Level 2**

Occupations at Skill level 2 have a level of skill commensurate with one of the following:

- NZ Register Diploma or
- AQF Associate Degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma

At least 3 years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances relevant experience and/or on-the-job training may be required in addition to the formal qualification.

### **Skill Level 3**

Occupations at Skill level 3 have a level of skill commensurate with one of the following:

- NZ Register Level 4 qualification
- AQF Certificate IV or
- AQF Certificate III including at least two years of on-the-job training.

At least 3 years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances relevant experience and/or on-the-job training may be required in addition to the formal qualification

### **Skill Level 4**

Occupations at Skill level 4 have a level of skill commensurate with one of the following:

- NZ Register Level 2 or 3 qualification or
- AQF Certificate II or III.

At least one year of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances relevant experience and/or on-the-job training may be required in addition to the formal qualification

### **Skill Level 5**

Occupations at Skill level 5 have a level of skill commensurate with one of the following:

- NZ Register Level 1 qualification or
- AQF Certificate I or
- compulsory secondary education.

For some occupations a short period of on-the-job training may be required in addition to or instead of the formal qualification.

The following table illustrates the assignment of the major groups to the five skill levels:

	Major Group	Skill Level
1	Managers	1,2
2	Professionals	1
3	Technicians and Trades Workers	2,3
4	Community and Personal Service Workers	2,3,4,5
5	Clerical and Administrative Workers	2,3,4,5
6	Sales Workers	2,3,4,5
7	Machinery Operators and Drivers	4
8	Labourers	4,5

## 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?

ABS uses the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC 06).

If so, what revision? Revision 1

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

A concordance is available, so it is possible to provide data in ISIC Rev 3. The data produced for this request uses ANZSIC 06 not ISIC Rev 3.

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

Concordance ISIC Rev 3 to ANZSIC 06

## C. Household characteristics

### 1. Definitions

General definition of a household for this census is:

A household is defined as a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

Under this definition, in a group house where occupants share the dwelling, each occupant who usually supplies his/her own food should be counted as a separate household and issued with a separate Household Form. In practice, however, most such households usually only complete one form.

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.

The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of either a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households, therefore, 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).

### 2. Head of household / reference member

Definition	
(a) Head of household, defined as follows: The householder or any other adult aged 15+ household member	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Reference member of household, defined as follows: The person who is used as the basis for determining the familial and non-familial relationships within a household. It is usually the person who has identified himself/herself as person one on the household form.	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other (for example: Joint head of household): N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **D. Housing census characteristics**

### **1. Housing information**

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

Census does not have a specific definition for housing unit, however the closest definition would be for Dwelling unit.

In general terms, 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 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 and, while these forms capture information about relationships 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. Unoccupied dwellings in caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates are not counted. Unoccupied residences of owners, managers or caretakers of such establishments are counted. Unoccupied units in retirement villages (self-contained) will also be counted.

A household (occupied private dwelling) is defined as a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

Under this definition, in a group house where occupants share the dwelling, each occupant who usually supplies his/her own food should be counted as a separate household and issued with a separate Household Form. In practice, however, most such households usually only complete one form.

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

A dwelling is a structure which is intended to have people live in it and which is habitable on Census night. Eg. Houses, flats/units, apartments.

Are vacant units included in the enumerated conventional dwellings?

Yes, unoccupied private dwellings are also counted. Unoccupied private dwellings are structures built specifically for living purposes which are habitable, but unoccupied on Census Night. Vacant houses, holiday homes, huts and cabins (other than seasonal

workers' quarters) are counted as unoccupied dwellings. Also included are newly completed dwellings not yet occupied, dwellings which are vacant because they are due for demolition or repair, and dwellings to let.

Unoccupied private dwellings in caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates, and units in accommodation for the retired or aged (self-care) are not counted in the Census. The exception to the above are residences of owners, managers or caretakers of the establishment.

What definition did you apply in this census for room?

ABS collects number of bedrooms only. Respondents are advised to include any room that was defined as a bedroom even if it is not used as such, for example study, office or computer room. Any bedrooms which have been created as a result of alterations and additions (such as built-in verandas, extensions, cabins) which occupants of a dwelling use as a bedroom should also be included.

## **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

The ABS does not have a definition for a city as such. Greater Capital City Statistical Areas seems to be the most comparable.

The Capital Cities represent the socioeconomic area of each of the eight State and Territory Capitals. The Capital City boundaries are built from aggregations of whole Statistical Areas Level 4 to facilitate the comparison of labour force data with other economic data such as the Consumer Price Index, released on Capital Cities. The Capital City boundaries represent a broad socioeconomic definition of each city, they contain not only the urban area of the city but also areas of non-urban land where much of the population has strong links to the capital city, through for example, commuting to work.

City 1 (Capital City) – Territory refers to:

Sydney – New South Wales

City 2 – Territory refers to:

Melbourne - Victoria

City 3 – Territory refers to:

Brisbane - Queensland

City 4 – Territory refers to:

Adelaide – South Australia

Perth – Western Australia  
Hobart – Tasmania  
Darwin – Northern Territory  
Australian Capital Territory – Australian Capital Territory



## **E. Bibliography of Population and Housing Statistics**

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

**2011 Census products: All products can be found on the ABS website [www.abs.gov.au/census](http://www.abs.gov.au/census)**

[QuickStats](#) enable you to quickly and easily access summary information about the people, families and dwellings in an area and compare it to state and national data. At the state and national level, QuickStats highlights key differences between 2006 and 2011 Census data.

[Community Profiles](#) provide a comprehensive statistical picture of an area, detailing characteristics of people, families and dwellings. They cover most topics from the Census form and can be used for research, planning and analysis.

[TableBuilder](#) is an online tool designed for users who have a knowledge of Census concepts and some experience using Census data. You can build basic or complex tables at any geographic area level, ranging from a single Statistical Area Level 1 to the whole of Australia.

[DataPacks](#) are suitable for experienced Census data users who have their own database or analysis systems. DataPacks contain data for the main Census characteristics of people, families and dwellings for geographic areas ranging from a single Statistical Area Level 1 to the whole of Australia.

[SEIFA](#) is a product developed for those who are interested in the assessment of the welfare of Australian communities. 2011 SEIFA will be available free of charge from the ABS website from 28 March 2013.

[Census Sample Files](#) are confidentialised samples of Census unit record data for modelling and analysis

[2011 Census Dictionary](#) (cat. no. 2901.0) contains details of the classifications used in the 2011 Census along with definitions of Census concepts and terms. The dictionary is a comprehensive reference guide that will help you determine and specify your data requirements.

### **Information Paper**

The [Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing -- Products and Services, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2011.0.55.001) describes the changes to 2011 Census data concepts and classifications. It also describes the data products and gives details on release dates for data from the 2011 Census.

### **How Australia Takes a Census**

[How Australia Takes a Census](#) (cat. no. 2903.0) describes how the ABS planned to conduct the 2011 Census and process the results. It includes the following materials, which were used in the 2011 Census:

- the [2011 Household Form](#)
- the [2011 Census Guide](#)



- [Census topics 1911-2011](#)

### **Census Fact Sheets**

They provide a summary of conceptual and data issues, and changes that have occurred since the last Census. Most fact sheets focus on either a complex question on the Census form, or a particular output variable. There are also fact sheets that are based around [geography](#) or [enumeration procedures](#).