

## Explanatory Notes

### Geography

RDA (Regional Development Australia) estimates are based on 2013 RDA boundaries.

### RDA estimates

Estimates are produced by:

Corresponding SLA (Statistical Local Area) or Local Government Area (LGA) estimates based on versions of the Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC) to the SLA or LGA boundaries for the current version of the ASGC (2011); and  
Aggregating SLA or LGA estimates on ASGC 2011 boundaries to 2013 RDA boundaries.

### Data confidentiality

Cells in the source data have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. Due to rounding, the sum of the individual components may not necessarily add up to total values. No reliance should be placed on cells with a small number in them.

### Place of enumeration and place of usual residence

Place of enumeration records the geographic area in which a dwelling (and therefore any persons within the dwelling) were enumerated or counted on Census Night. Place of usual residence is the place where a person usually lives. It may, or may not be the place where the person was counted on Census Night. Each person is required to state his/her address of usual residence on the Census form.

### Attribution

You can find guidance on attributing ABS material on the website.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.NSF/89a5f3d8684682b6ca256de4002c809b/70353d5dd53b0e2dca257522001e996c!OpenDocument>

## Data Series

### Building approvals – Average value of new houses

Definition(s): This is calculated from the total value of building approvals for new houses divided by the total number of building approvals for new houses over the same period.

Values are based on the building approvals in the financial year, that is, for the 12 months to 30 June in the stated year. Statistics on the value of building work approved are derived by aggregating the estimated 'value of building work when completed' reported on building approval documents provided to local councils or other building approval authorities. These value data should exclude the value of land and landscaping but include site preparation costs associated with building activity.

*Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)*

### **Building approvals – Residential, non-residential and total**

Definition(s): Data is based on approvals for construction of new buildings, alterations and additions to existing buildings, approved non-structural renovation and refurbishment work, and approved installation of integral building fixtures. Includes all approved residential building valued at \$10,000 or more and all approved non-residential building valued at \$50,000 or more. Building approvals are classified by Type of Building (e.g. 'residential', 'non-residential') based on the intended main function. Values are based on the building approvals in the financial year, that is, for the 12 months to 30 June in the stated year. Statistics on the value of building work approved are derived by aggregating the estimated 'value of building work when completed' reported on building approval documents provided to local councils or other building approval authorities.

[Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Building Approvals, Australia \(cat. no. 8731.0\)](#)

### **Country of birth**

Definition(s): Records a persons country of birth. The 'Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition, Revision 1' is used to classify responses for country of birth of person.

[Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile DataPack, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2069.0.30.003\), T08 - Country of Birth of Person by Sex](#)

### **Employment by industry**

For Census purposes, a person is defined as employed if they are aged 15 years and over and who:

- work for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business, during the week prior to Census Night; or
- have a job from which they are on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; or
- are on strike or stood down temporarily.

Industry of employment is coded using the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0). Based on place of enumeration on Census night.

[Source: ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, Time Series Profile \(cat. no. 2069.0.30.003\), T25 Industry of Employment by Sex for Time Series](#)

### **English proficiency**

Definition(s): Applies to all persons i.e. people who speak English only, as well as those who speak a language at home other than English.

For each person who speaks a language other than English at home, this variable classifies their self-assessed proficiency in spoken English.

[Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile DataPack, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2069.0.30.003\), T11 - Proficiency in Spoken English/Language by Age](#)

### **Estimated resident population**

Definition(s): Estimated resident populations (ERPs) are official estimates of the Australian population, which link people to a place of usual residence within Australia. Usual residence is that place where each person has lived or intends to live for six months or more from the reference date for data collection. Preliminary estimates as at 30 June are normally available by April of the following year, revised estimates twelve months later and rebased and final estimates after the following census.

Population by age statistics are sourced from estimated resident populations (ERPs).

*Source: [Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2010-2011 \(cat. no. 3218.0\)](#)*

*[Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2010 \(cat. no. 3235.0\)](#)*

### **Highest year of school completed**

Definition: The highest level of primary or secondary schooling completed. Includes people aged 15 years and over who are no longer attending primary or secondary school. Based on place of usual residence.

*Source: [Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Basic Community Profile, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2001.0\), T28 - Selected Labour Force, Education and Migration Characteristics](#)*

### **Housing (privately owned / public housing)**

Definition(s): Proportion of housing privately owned/mortgaged refers to the proportion of occupied private dwellings that are either fully owned or being purchased. Proportion of housing (public housing) refers to the proportion of occupied private dwellings where the dwelling is being rented from a state or territory housing authority.

*Source: [Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Time Series Profile \(cat. no. 2069.0.30.003\), T16 Tenure Type and Landlord Type by Dwelling Structure for Time Series](#)*

### **Indigenous status**

Definition(s): Record those people who are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. Torres Strait Islanders are the descendants of the Indigenous people of the Torres Strait, between the tip of Cape York and Papua New Guinea.

*Source: [Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile DataPack, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2069.0.30.003\), T06 - Indigenous Status by Age by Sex](#)*

### **Internet Access**

Definition: The number of, and percentage of total, occupied private dwellings with Internet access, by type of access. Based on place of usual residence.

*Source: [ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Basic Community Profile \(cat. no. 2069.0.30.007\), B35 Type of Internet Connection by Dwelling Structure](#)*

### **Participation rate**

Definition(s): The labour force as a proportion of the total population aged 15 years and over. Labour force refers to people either employed or unemployed. Employed persons are those that in the reference week were: employees receiving remuneration; unpaid family workers; employees who had a job but were not at work (e.g. on leave); working proprietors. See unemployed and unemployment for the definition of unemployed. Based on place of

*Source: [Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile DataPack, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2069.0.30.003\), T28 - Selected Labour Force, Education and Migration Characteristics](#)*

### **Post-school qualifications**

Definition(s): The percentage of the population, aged 15 years and over, who have obtained a non-school qualification (recording the highest educational attainment that person has received).

Non-school qualification is coded using the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED). Based on place of enumeration on Census night.

[Source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing, Time Series Profile \(cat. no. 2069.0.30.003\), T20 Selected Person Characteristics for Time Series](#)

## **Personal income**

Definition(s): The average wage and salary income is calculated as the total wage and salary income divided by the total number of wage and salary earners. Wages and salaries are the main forms of payments made to employees for their work or services.

Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes:

- Gross Salary or wage income, as shown on the 'PAYG payment summary - individual non-business';
- Allowances, which may include car, travel or transport allowances, allowances for tools, clothing or laundry and dirt, risk, meal or entertainment allowances;
- Commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria and other payments for services;
- Attributed personal services income;
- Eligible termination payments and Lump sums.

The average unincorporated business income is calculated as the total Own unincorporated business income divided by the total number of Own unincorporated business income earners. Own unincorporated business income includes the following data items on the individual income tax return: net income (or loss) from business; distributions from partnerships and trusts for primary production activities; distributions from partnerships for non-primary production activities; and net personal services income. The data for Own unincorporated business income excludes: distributions from trusts for non-primary production activities as this mainly includes income from a range of other activities (mainly investments); and income of working directors/owners of incorporated businesses who are classified as employees and consequently their income is included under wage and salary

Data is compiled from the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Individual Income Tax Return Database and provided to the ABS by the ATO in aggregated form only, at the Statistical Local Area level. The statistics are based on individual income tax returns lodged for the financial year ended 30 June, and processed within sixteen months of the financial year to which they relate.

[Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2009-10 \(cat. no. 6524 n 55 002\)](#)

## Unemployment

Definition(s): The ABS defines someone who is unemployed as all persons 15 years of age and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

The unemployment rate is the percentage of people in the labour force who are unemployed.

RDA level estimates of Unemployed and Unemployment rate are compiled from DEEWR Small Area Labour Market estimates, smoothed series, which are produced at the SLA level. State/Territory and Australia estimates are from Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), and the seasonally adjusted series. DEEWR Small Area Labour Market estimates are produced by apportioning the level of unemployment for a region, as published by the ABS, across each of the SLAs within that region in accordance with the distribution of Centrelink Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) beneficiaries, taking into account ABS unemployment estimates benchmarked at the metropolitan/non-metropolitan level. For [Source: ABS Labour Force, \(cat. no. 6202.0\), State/Territory and Australia estimates and DEEWR Small Area Labour Markets, SLA data used to compile RDA estimates](#)

## Total family income (weekly)

Definition(s): The sum of total personal income for each member of a family household aged 15 years and over. Total income, also referred to as gross income, is the sum of income received from all sources before any deductions such as income tax, the Medicare Levy or salary sacrificed amounts are taken out. Family income is not applicable to non-family households such as group households or lone person households; or to people in non-

[Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile DataPack, 2011 Second Release \(cat. No. 2069.0.30.003\), T29 - Family composition and labour force status of parent\(s\)/partners by total family](#)