GLOSSARY

Aboriginal A person who identifies himself or herself to be of Aboriginal origin. See also Indigenous.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Region ATSIC Regions are legally prescribed areas for the purposes of administration by the Commission and for the election of members to that Commission. At the time of the 1996 Census, there were 36 ATSIC Regions, which together covered all of Australia.

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) The Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA) was developed to provide a standard measure of the relative degree of remoteness of all parts of Australia. It was commissioned by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, and constructed by the National Key Centre for Social Applications of Geographical Information Systems at the University of Adelaide. The index measures remoteness in terms of distance by road from population centres offering a range of services, such as education and health services (CDHAC 1999). The population of the service centre is used as an indicator for the availability of services, while distance from service centres is used as a proxy for the degree of remoteness from those centres (ABS 2001b). Areas are grouped into five categories: 'highly accessible', 'accessible', 'moderately accessible', 'remote' and 'very remote'. Map A1 shows the ARIA classification by Collection District (CD—see below) for Australia.

ARIA categories, as presented in this publication for ABS census are calculated at the Collection District level by taking the average ARIA score across a CD, while for 1999 CHINS, and OATSIH and NACCHO-sourced data, ARIA categories are constructed from ARIA index values calculated for the exact location of the community.

The ABS has incorporated the concepts of 'urban/rural' and 'remoteness' within the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). The ARIA categories are included in the 2001 edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC).

Accessible Category of the ARIA classification (see above). Areas in the accessible category have an ARIA score of 0.2 to 2.39. In these areas, geographic distance imposes some restriction upon accessibility to the widest range of goods, services and opportunities for social interaction.

Alcohol consumption   Measures related to alcohol consumption vary from survey to survey.

In the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey, participants were asked: 'How long ago was the last time you had a drink of alcohol?' Possible answers ranged from 'during the last week' to '12 months ago or more', or 'never'. No information was collected about the amount of alcohol consumed.

In the National Health Survey, risk level was derived from the reported average daily consumption of alcohol during the week prior to interview, and grouped into relative risk levels as defined by the National Health and Medical Research Council as follows:

CONSUMPTION PER DAY

	Males	Females
Relative risk	*mls*	*mls*
Low	Less than 50	Less than 25
Moderate	50–75	25–50
High	Greater than 75	Greater than 50

Risk level as defined by the National Health and Medical Research Council is based on regular consumption levels of alcohol. Indicators derived in the National Health Survey do not take into account whether consumption in the reference week was more, less, or the same as usual, or whether consumption was regular.

Before/after school care   Also known as Outside School Hours Care. Provides care for school-aged children before and/or after school during the school term.

Body mass index (BMI)   A person's weight in kilograms (kg) divided by the square of his or her height in metres (m), that is, kg/m^2. BMI was based on measured height and weight in the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey and self-reported height and weight in the National Health Survey. Persons were categorised into one of four groups according to their BMI. The groups used are consistent with recommendations of the National Health and Medical Research Council.

BODY MASS INDEX

Underweight	Less than 20
Acceptable	20–25
Overweight	Greater than 25–30
Obese	Greater than 30

Bounded Locality   See Section of State.

Capital city   All State and Territory capital city Statistical Divisions.

Care and protection orders	Includes children 'for whom the community services department has a responsibility as a result of some formal legal order or an administrative/voluntary arrangement. Only orders issued for protective reasons are included' (AIHW 1998, p. 85). This definition is more inclusive than what was used in previous years, so results presented here are not comparable with results from years prior to 1997 (see AIHW 1998 and 1999b for more details).
Closed support periods	Support periods that had finished before the end of the reporting period.
Collection district (CD)	The Census Collection District (CD) is the smallest geographical area defined in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). It has been designed for use in the Census of Population and Housing as the smallest unit for collection, processing and output of data (except Work Destination Zones). CDs also serve as the basic building block in the ASGC and are used for the aggregation of statistics to larger ASGC areas, and some census-specific areas, such as Commonwealth and State electoral divisions and CD-derived Postal Areas (ABS 1996a).
Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)	The CDEP scheme enables members of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to exchange unemployment benefits for opportunities to undertake work and training in activities which are managed by a local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community organisation. The CDEP scheme is funded and supported through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, which provides grants to participating community organisations to employ community members.
Community health centre	A facility that provides a range of medical and health related services to the community. The centre may also provide advice to people on issues such as sexually tansmitted diseases, immunisation and family planning. In remote areas not all of these services may be available, but the centre would usually have nurses, health workers and/or doctors in regular attendance.
Congenital malformation	Structural or anatomical abnormalities that are present at birth, usually resulting from abnormal development in the first three months of pregnancy.
Dialysis (haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis)	A treatment for end stage renal disease, where the work of the kidneys is performed artificially. In haemodialysis, the patient's blood is passed through a semi-permeable tube where it is cleansed and pumped back into the body. Haemodialysis needs to be performed a few times a week for several hours at a time, either at a hospital/clinic, or at home. In peritoneal dialysis, the patient's abdomen is used instead of the tube. Fluid is passed into the abdomen via a semi-permanent catheter. As the patient's blood is cleansed, the fluid is drained and refilled, using gravity. This takes place 4–5 times daily. Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis, where the patient is able to move around, is the most common form of peritoneal dialysis. It can be performed either at home or in a hospital/clinic.

Discrete Indigenous community	A geographical location with a physical or legal boundary that is inhabited or intended to be inhabited predominantly (more than 50%) by Indigenous people, with housing and infrastructure that is either owned or managed on a community basis.
DMFT	Used to measure the number of decayed, missing or filled permanent (adult) teeth. It is derived by adding the number of teeth which are decayed, missing or have been filled due to caries (i.e. tooth decay).
dmft	Used to measure the number of decayed, missing or filled deciduous (infant) teeth. It is derived by adding the number of teeth which are decayed, missing or have been filled due to caries (i.e. tooth decay).
Drinker	See Alcohol consumption.
Employed	In the census, employed people are those aged 15 years or more who, during the week prior to census night:

- worked for payment or profit; or

- had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; or

- were on strike or stood down temporarily; or

- worked as unpaid helpers in a family business.

Estimated Resident Population (ERP)	The official Australian Bureau of Statistics estimate of the Australian population. The ERP is based on results of the Census of Population and Housing and is compiled as at 30 June of each census year, and is updated quarterly between censuses. These intercensal estimates of the resident population are revised each time a population census is taken.
	The Indigenous ERP is considered to be experimental because satisfactory data on births, deaths and migration are not generally available, and because of the volatility of counts of the Indigenous population between censuses. See Chapter 9 for more details.
Family	A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics 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. 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).
Family day care	A network of care givers who provide care for children aged 1–12 years in the carer's own home.
Fertility rate	Represents the number of children a woman would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates throughout her reproductive life.

Fetal death (stillbirth)	Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception of 20 or more completed weeks of gestation or of 400 grams or more of birthweight (criteria used for the State and Territory perinatal collections).
Fetal death rate	The number of fetal deaths in a year per 1,000 total births in the same year.
First aid clinic	A facility where an individual can receive life-saving or pain-relieving primary aid.
Highly accessible	Category of the ARIA classification (see above). Areas in the highly accessible category have an ARIA score of 0 to 0.19. In these areas, geographic distance imposes minimal restrictions upon accessibility to the widest range of goods, services, and opportunities for social interaction.
Health Care Card	These cards provide for medical and/or related services free of charge or at reduced rates to recipients of Commonwealth government pensions or benefits.
Hospital separation	Refers to the process by which an admitted patient completes an episode of care in hospital, by being discharged, transferring to another hospital or care facility, or dying. A hospital separation record refers to a patient's administrative record on discharge from hospital. The record gives demographic details such as age, sex and Indigenous status, as well as reasons for hospitalisation, and treatments or procedures performed.
Hostels	A supervised lodging. Some hostels provide accommodation and care for older people who, because of their frailty are unable to stay in their own home and require daily assistance. Others provide accommodation for other groups such as students, people undergoing rehabilitation for substance dependence, or homeless people.
Household	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 (that is, a lone person household).

Household income	Household income is the sum of the personal incomes of each resident aged 15 years or more present in the household. In the census, persons who were temporarily absent on census night, had nil or negative income, or did not state their income, are not included in the census tally of household income.
Incidence	The number of new cases of a particular illness commencing during a given period in a specified population (see also Prevalence).

Income	Refers to regular gross weekly income, which is the income before tax, superannuation, health insurance, or other deductions are made. Gross income includes family allowance, family allowance supplement, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, maintenance (child support), superannuation, wages, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest received, business or farm income (less operation expenses) and workers compensation received.
Independent housing	Refers to housing which is categorised as owner-occupied, a rooming house, hostel, hotel or private board, public or community housing, private rental, living rent-free or in a car, tent, park, street or squat.
Indigenous	Persons who self-identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. See also Aboriginal, and Torres Strait Islander.
Indigenous family	An Indigenous family is one in which either the reference person or his/her spouse is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Indigenous household	In the Census, an Indigenous household is a family household where any family in the household is defined as an Indigenous family (see above), or a lone person household where the lone person is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. Group households are not included.

In the AHS, an Indigenous household is defined as any household containing at least one person of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin aged 15 years or over. |
Industry	This variable describes the industries in which employed people (aged 15 years and over) work, and is coded to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) (ABS 1993).
Infant mortality	Deaths of children under one year of age.
Jurisdiction	As used in this publication, refers to the States and Territories of Australia.
Koori	The preferred term used to describe Indigenous people in some parts of south-eastern Australia.
Labour force status	Identifies whether a person aged 15 years or over is employed, unemployed, or not in the labour force. See also Employed, Unemployed, Not in the labour force.
Landlord type	For rented dwellings, this variable provides information on the person or organisation from whom the dwelling is rented. The landlord is classified as: Private Landlord; Real Estate Agent; State/Territory Housing Authority; Community or Co-operative Housing Group; Employer-Government; Employer-Other; or Other.

Life tables	A life table is a statistical model used to show the life expectancy and hence the levels of mortality at different ages. It depicts the mortality experience of a hypothetical group of newborn babies thoughout their lifetimes. Life tables may be complete or abridged, depending on the age interval used in their compilation. Complete life tables such as those for the Australian population contain data by single years of age, while abridged life tables, such as those for the Indigenous population, contain data for five-year age groups. Life tables are presented separately for each sex (ABS 1999b).
Long-day care centre	A day care centre that is open for at least eight hours a day and at least 48 weeks a year. Caters mostly for under school-age children whose parents are in the paid workforce, are looking for work, or are in education or training.
Long-term health condition	Refers to medical conditions (illness, injury or disability) which have lasted at least six months, or which the respondent expects to last for six months.
Low birthweight	Birthweight of less than 2,500 grams.
Major Urban	See Section of State.
Median income	Median income is the midpoint of the distribution of income.
Moderately accessible	Category of the ARIA classification (see above). Areas in the moderately accessible category have an ARIA score of 2.4 to 5.94. In these areas, geographic distance imposes a moderate restriction upon accessibility to the widest range of goods, services, and opportunities for social interaction.
Morbidity	Any departure, subjective or objective, from a state of physiological or psychological wellbeing.
Neonatal death	Death of a liveborn infant within 28 days of birth.
Neonatal mortality rate	The number of neonatal deaths in a year per 1,000 live births in the same year.
Not in the labour force	Includes people aged 15 years or more who were neither employed nor unemployed. This category includes people who were retired, pensioners and people engaged in home duties. See also Employed, Unemployed, Labour force status.
Nursing homes	Cater for people who are highly dependent and need a lot of daily help with personal care and ongoing nursing.
Occasional care	Provides care mainly for under school-age children. These services cater mainly for families who require short-term care for their children.
Occupation	In the census this variable describes the main job held by employed people (aged 15 years and over) during the week prior to census night.

Other Urban See Section of State.

Out of home placements Defined as 'out of home overnight care for children and young people under 18 years of age, where the State or Territory makes a financial payment' (AIHW 1998, p. 37). Placements in certain types of facilities are not included. See AIHW (1998, 1999b) for more details.

Overcrowding There is currently no universally accepted defintion of overcrowding, and sources cited in this publication vary according to one or more criteria.

Jones (1999) employs the definition recommended by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, developed for the Review of Commonwealth State Housing Provision 1997, which complies with a 'bedroom occupancy standard of one bedroom per married or de facto couple, one bedroom per adult household member, and a maximum of 2 dependent children per bedroom. Two categories of overcrowding apply to this standard:

- 'moderate overcrowding' describes a situation in which 'there is one bedroom less than is needed to satisfy the occupancy standard';

- 'high overcrowding' describes a situation 'where two or more bedrooms would be needed to satisfy the occupancy standard.

The 1999 Australian Housing Survey (ABS 2001c) uses the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, the criteria for which are:

- there should be no more than two persons per bedroom;

- children less than 5 years of age of different sexes may reasonably share a bedroom;

- children 5 years of age or older of opposite sex should have separate bedrooms;

- children less than 18 years of age and of the same sex may reasonably share a bedroom;

- single household members 18 years or over should have a separate bedroom, as should parents or couples.

Participation rate Number of persons in the labour force (that is, employed plus unemployed) expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate is calculated excluding those who did not state their labour force status. See also Labour Force, Employed, Unemployed, Not in the labour force.

Perinatal death/mortality A fetal or neonatal death.

Perinatal mortality rate The number of perinatal deaths per 1,000 total births in the same year.

Place of enumeration The place where a person was located when counted on census night.

Post-school educational qualification	This variable describes the level of the highest post-school educational qualification gained (e.g. bachelor degree, diploma, etc.). Level of attainment is coded as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications.
Pre-school/kindergarten	Provide programs to prepare children for their first year at school. Generally operate on a short day sessional basis and are closed during school holidays.
Prevalence	The number of instances of a specific disease present in a given population at a designated point in time (see also Incidence).
Principal diagnosis (in hospital separations data)	The diagnosis established to be chiefly responsible for a patient's hospitalisation.
Principal procedure	The most significant hospital procedure (see below) performed for treatment of a principal diagnosis.
Private dwelling	In the Census, this refers to a building or structure in which a household lives. Houses under construction, derelict houses, vacant tents, or converted garages are not counted nor are hotels, guest houses, prisons, hospitals or other communal dwellings.
Procedure (hospital)	A clinical intervention that is surgical in nature; carries a procedural risk; carries an anaesthetic risk; requires specialised training; and/or requires special facilities or equipment only available in an acute setting. Because a procedure is not undertaken every time a patient visits hospital, the number of hospital separation always exceeds procedures recorded.
Recent conditions	Medical conditions (illness, injury or disability) experienced in the two weeks prior to interview. May include long-term conditions experienced in the period.
Reference person (Census)	The reference person is the person who is used as the basis for determining the familial and non-familial relationships within a household. It is usually the person identified as Person 1 on the census Household Form.

Reference person (AHS)	The reference person for each household is determined by applying the following selection criteria, to all usual residents aged 15 years and over in the household, until a single appropriate reference person is identified:

- the person with the highest tenure type ranked from top down as owner without a mortgage, owner with a mortgage, renter, other tenure; or

- the person with the highest income; or

- the eldest person.

	For example, in a household containing a lone parent with a non-dependent child, the person with the highest tenure is the reference person. If the non-dependent child is an owner with a mortgage and the lone parent lives in the dwelling rent-free, the non-dependent child will be the reference person. If both individuals have the same tenure, the one with the higher income will be the reference person, and if both individuals have the same income, the reference person is the elder.
Remote	The term used in 1995 NHS data to indicate those living in sparsely settled areas. Results for people living in remote areas are not included in the NHS results reported in this publication. See also Sparsely settled area.
	'Remote' also forms part of the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification (RRMA). RRMA has been used to classify the geographic location of medical practitioners, as reported in Chapter 4. In this case, the 'remote' zone includes remote centres (urban centre population greater than or equal to 5,000) and other remote areas (urban centre population less than 5,000), each having an 'index of remoteness' greater than 10.5. More information on RRMA is available elsewhere (Department of Primary Industries and Energy & Department of Human Services and Health 1994).
	'Remote' is also a category in the ARIA classification (see above). Areas in the remote category have an ARIA score of 5.95 to 10.49. In these areas, geographic distance imposes a high restriction upon accessibility to the widest range of goods, services, and opportunities for social interaction.
Risk factor	An aspect of lifestyle or behaviour, a health condition, an environmental exposure, or an inborn or inherited characteristic, known to be associated with health-related conditions considered important to prevent.
Rural Balance	See Section of State.

Rural Rural localities and towns with a total population of under 1,000 people. Most remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are included in this category. See also Section of State.

'Rural' also forms part of the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification (RRMA). RRMA has been used to classify the geographic location of medical practitioners, as reported in Chapter 4. In the classification, 'rural' zone includes small rural centres (urban centre population between 10,000 and 24,999), large rural centres (urban centre population between 25,000 and 99,000), and other rural centres (urban centre population less than 10,000), with each having an index of remoteness less than 10.5. More information on RRMA is available elsewhere (Department of Primary Industries and Energy & Department of Human Services and Health 1994).

Satisfactory dwelling/dwelling that meets needs of household Respondents in the AHS were asked whether the dwelling met the needs of the occupants. If the answer was no, they were asked to identify specific problems with the dwelling.

Section of State Within a State or Territory, each Section of State represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographic areas of a particular urban/rural type.

The Sections of State within each State and Territory are:

■ Major Urban—all urban centres with a population of 100,000 and over;

■ Other Urban—all urban centres with a population of 1,000 to 99,999;

■ Bounded Locality—all population clusters of 200 to 999 people; and

■ Rural Balance—the rural remainder of the State or Territory.

An additional category (offshore, shipping and migratory Collector Districts) includes people who were enumerated on off-shore oil rigs, drilling platforms and the like, aboard ship in Australian waters, or on an overnight journey by train or bus. There is one such category for each State and the Northern Territory. This category is not used in this publication.

Self-assessed health status Refers to respondents' perception of own general health status. In the NHS and the NATSIS, respondents were asked to rate their health as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor.

Smoker status	The definitions of smoking vary slightly from survey to survey.
	In the NATSIS, smoking referred to cigarette smoking only. A current smoker was a person who answered 'yes' or 'sometimes' when asked whether he or she smoked cigarettes (including packet and roll-your-own).
	In the NHS, smoking referred to the smoking of tobacco, including manufactured (packet) cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes, cigars and pipes, but excluded chewing tobacco and smoking of non-tobacco products. A 'current smoker' was a person who reported smoking tobacco at the time of the survey. 'Regular smoking' was defined as smoking one or more cigarettes (or pipes or cigars) per day on average. An 'ex-smoker' was a person who said he or she did not smoke at the time of interview, but had done so in the past. People who said they had never smoked tobacco were categorised as 'never smokers'.
Sparsely settled area	Refers to Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) in which the dwelling density for the SLA as a whole was less than 0.057 dwellings per square kilometre (or 57 dwellings per 100 square kilometres). In 1995, about 156,200 people lived in sparsely settled areas, of whom about 68,400 were Indigenous and 87,800 were non-Indigenous. Results from the 1995 NHS for people from sparsely settled areas are not included in this publication.
Statistical Local Area (SLA)	Statistical Local Areas are areas defined in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), which consist of one or more Collection Districts (CDs). They can be based on Legal Local Government Areas, or parts thereof, or any unincorporated area. They cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia, without gaps or overlaps.
Torres Strait Islander	A person who identifies himself or herself to be of Torres Strait Islander origin. See also Indigenous.
Unemployed	In the census, unemployed people are those who, during the week prior to census night, did not have a job but were actively looking for work (either full-time or part-time) and were available to start work.
Unemployment rate	The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force (that is, employed plus unemployed persons).
Urban	See Section of State.
Usual Residence	Refers to the place where the person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more.
Very remote	A category in the ARIA classification (see above). Areas in the very remote category have an ARIA score of 10.5 to 15. In these areas, geographic distance imposes the highest restriction upon accessibility to the widest range of goods, services, and opportunities for social interaction.