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Queensland's Baby Boomers: A Profile of Persons Born 1946–1965

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Queensland's Baby Boomers: A Profile of Persons Born 1946–1965

2005

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PREFACE

Baby boomers are generally thought of as those people born in the years after World War II, a period of high fertility rates. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines baby boomers as all Australian residents born in the years 1946 to 1965 inclusive. It includes persons born overseas who have since migrated to Australia and in the case of states and territories, those persons who have moved within Australia.

Baby boomers are of interest to policy makers and the community as they are the first large group, currently over a million Queenslanders, to move into retirement and older age with significantly different characteristics to previous cohorts.

The purpose of this Queensland publication on baby boomers is to provide a demographic, social and economic analysis of this group over time. The information will assist and encourage governments and the community in making informed policy decisions to plan for the challenges of an ageing population. To do this, policy makers need information on the baby boomer population.

Queensland's Baby Boomers is a joint publication between the ABS and the Queensland Government's Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR). It was produced after consultation with Australian and Queensland government departments and agencies. We would like to thank these organisations for their contributions.

The contribution of Dr Gary Ward who was Acting Queensland Government Statistician during the preparation of this publication is acknowledged.

The ABS draws extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, government departments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics from the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence.

Similar publications have been produced by the ABS – *Western Australia's Baby Boomers: A Profile of Persons Born 1946–1965* (cat. no. 4149.5) and *South Australia's Baby Boomers: A Profile* (cat. no. 4149.4). This publication will complement those prepared on other states.

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ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
BMI	body mass index
DIMA	Australian Government Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
DIMIA	Australian Government Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
ERP	estimated resident population
GP	General Medical Practitioner
HIC	Health Insurance Commission
ICD-10	International Classification of Diseases 10th Revision
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.f.d.	not further defined
NHS	National Health Survey
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
OESR	Office of Economic and Statistical Research
SA	South Australia
SD	statistical division
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SIHC	Survey of Income and Housing Costs
SLA	statistical local area
Tas.	Tasmania
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TFR	total fertility rate
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
VET	vocational education and training
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information relating to Queensland's baby boomers. It provides a demographic, social and economic analysis of this group over time at a state and regional level. Bringing together a wide range of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data as well as data from other sources, the publication is divided into ten chapters:

- Baby Boomers in Queensland
- Demography
- Cultural diversity
- Families and care
- Housing
- Education and training
- Health
- Community life
- Income and wealth
- Work

With a timespan of 20 years, persons born at opposite ends of the baby boomers generation will have significantly different experiences, and in terms of life cycle, may be more closely related to other generations than the baby boomer generation. For the purposes of this publication, analysis of the baby boomer generation has been split into 'older baby boomers', those born from 1946 to 1955 inclusive, and 'younger baby boomers', those born from 1956 to 1965 inclusive. An age reference is provided in Table 1.3.

Where possible, this publication compares baby boomers with other age groups.

Data in this publication come from a wide range of sources and therefore may relate to different reference periods. The ages used to represent the baby boomer group vary depending on the availability of data.

Data are not always available on the exact baby boomer age group. In these cases, the closest age group available is used to approximate the baby boomer group.

A list of references appears at the end of each chapter and a glossary of terms appears at the end of the publication. Readers interested in more detailed information should consult the relevant source publication.

CHAPTER 1 BABY BOOMERS IN QUEENSLAND

INTRODUCTION

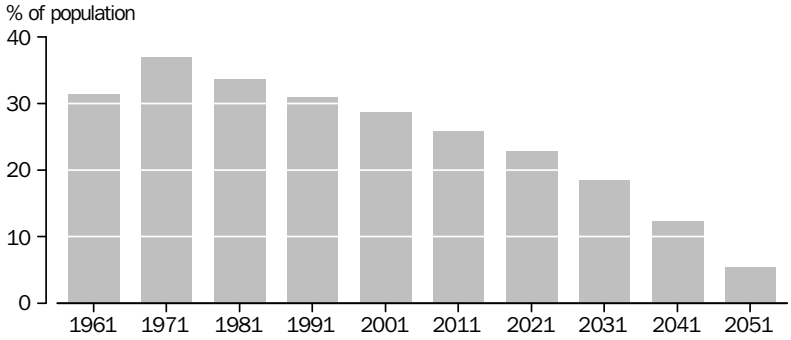
There were 1.039 million baby boomers residing in Queensland in 2001, accounting for 29% of the total population. The size of this group reflects the high fertility rates following World War II (1939–1945), increases in life expectancy and high levels of net interstate and overseas migration.

In 2005, the oldest baby boomers will be aged 59 years, with a number of these nearing retirement or already retired. The youngest baby boomers will be aged 40 years in 2005 and approaching retirement age over the next 15 to 25 years.

The size of this group has resulted in governments recognising the need to review their policies to be better prepared to meet changing service needs. This publication will assist governments in making informed policy decisions to plan for population ageing.

Graph 1.1 shows the baby boomer cohort as a proportion of the population at 10 year intervals from 1961 when the oldest baby boomers were aged 15 years through to the projected proportions for 2051 when the youngest baby boomers will be aged 86 years (OESR 2003).

1.1 BABY BOOMERS AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL POPULATION—1961 to 2051



Source: Commonwealth Census 1961;
Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001);
OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

DEFINING BABY BOOMERS

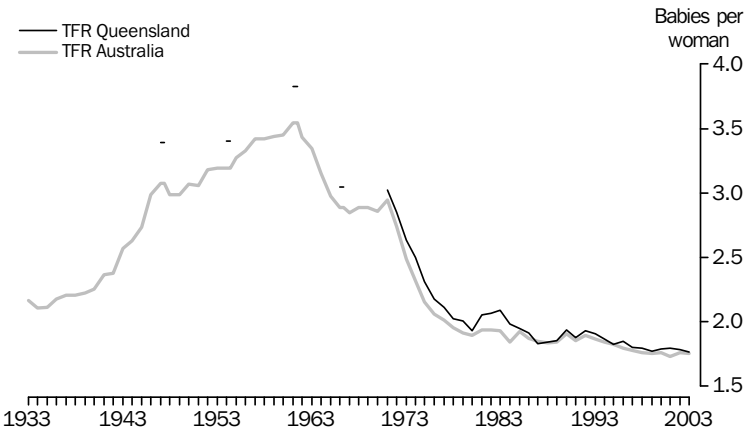
Baby boomers are generally thought of as those people born in the years after World War II, a period of high fertility and birth rates. Various dates for the baby boom have been suggested and used by different demographers and other researchers in Australia and overseas, including 1943 to 1960 (United States), 1946 to 1961, 1946 to 1965, and 1947 to 1964 (Canada). An important reason for these different periods is because of varying fertility and migration patterns in different countries.

DEFINING BABY BOOMERS *continued*

The ABS defines baby boomers as all Australian residents born in the years 1946 to 1965, including persons born overseas who have since migrated to Australia and in the case of states and territories includes persons who have moved within Australia. This is a significant issue for Queensland, with its high level of net interstate migration together with the effect of net overseas migration. The ABS definition of baby boomers has been used in this publication.

The baby boom period reflects a time when the total fertility rate was relatively high, generally being close to or greater than 3.00 babies per woman (Graph 1.2). The total fertility rate started rising moderately in the mid and late 1930s, and then more rapidly in the early and mid 1940s. In 1946, at the start of the baby boom, the Australian total fertility rate was 2.99.

1.2 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), Australia and Queensland—1933 to 2003



(a) For definition of Total Fertility Rate refer to Glossary.

Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001); Births, Australia, 2003 (cat. no. 3301.0).

Fertility rates continued to increase, albeit more slowly, peaking in Australia in 1961 at 3.55 babies per woman, before declining sharply. By 1965, at 2.97 babies per woman, fertility rates had fallen back to below the level in 1946 and continued to decrease sharply, falling below the replacement level of 2.10 in the mid 1970s. The total fertility rate stabilised somewhat during the 1980s, before resuming a more gradual decline during the 1990s.

In 2003, the total fertility rate for Queensland was 1.78, slightly higher than the national rate of 1.76. For the years where Queensland data are available, the total fertility rate has been slightly higher than the national rate. In 1947, the second year of the baby boom, the fertility rate for Queensland was 3.39 while for Australia it was 3.08. The state fertility rate rose to 3.41 in 1954 and peaked in 1961 at 3.83. It was 3.04 in 1966, a year after the baby boom ended. The comparative fertility rates for Australia were 3.19 in 1954, 3.55 in 1961 and 2.89 in 1966.

DEFINING BABY BOOMERS *continued*

With the baby boom spanning a period of twenty years, people in this age group are in different stages of the life cycle and have different characteristics. Some baby boomers still have young children at home while others are nearing or have reached retirement and have adult children who have left home.

Analysis of data in this publication has been divided into two ten year age groups, with people born between 1946 and 1955 referred to as 'older baby boomers' and those born between 1956 and 1965 as 'younger baby boomers'.

Comparisons have been made between baby boomers and other age groups where possible. As a large proportion of people in older age groups have entered the retirement stage of the life cycle, their current characteristics may be indicative of the baby boomers' way of life in years to come.

Data in this publication come from a wide range of sources and therefore may relate to different reference periods. The ages used to represent the baby boomer group vary depending on the period the data refer to. This is shown in Table 1.3. For example, at the time of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, the baby boomers were aged 36 to 55 years, and census data for this age group were used in the analysis. For a survey conducted in 2003, the 38 to 57 year age group was used.

1.3 BABY BOOMER AGE REFERENCE

Year data refer to	*Age if born in 1965*	*Age if born in 1946*
1996	31	50
1997	32	51
1998	33	52
1999	34	53
2000	35	54
2001	36	55
2002	37	56
2003	38	57
2004	39	58
2005	40	59

Data are not always available on the exact baby boomer age group. In these cases, the closest age group available is used to approximate the baby boomer group. For example, the ABS recorded crime statistics in *Chapter 8: Community Life* are from administrative systems maintained by the Queensland Police Service where the age of victims is collected in standard age groups and cannot be modified.

THE AGEING POPULATION

The Queensland population has undergone enormous change over the course of the past century. The demographic composition of Queensland society has been shaped by historic events, such as World War I (1914–1918), the Great Depression (1929–1933) and World War II (1939–1945). This composition reflects the impact of various socio-economic and geographic circumstances such as changes in industry, labour market conditions, immigration policies, cultural diversity, social and religious attitudes, and living standards. These and other factors influence fertility, mortality and migration

THE AGEING POPULATION *continued*

trends and the resultant structure of the population. In turn, the characteristics of the current population will affect the future shape of the population, society and the economy.

The post-World War II 'baby boom' is perhaps the most influential and recognisable demographic trend in Queensland and Australia over the past century. The post-war period was characterised by high marriage rates, high fertility (as a result of women delaying childbirth during the Depression and war years) and improved economic conditions. It was also a period of high population growth through net overseas migration. In 1945, the Australian government introduced an initiative to increase the population by 1.0% per year through immigration. This resulted in high levels of net overseas migration in 1949 and 1950 (ABS 1997). The combination of high fertility and high levels of immigration resulted in a substantial number of persons being born during the post-war period.

Fertility

The high fertility rates experienced in Queensland and Australia after World War II continued into the early 1960s, reaching a peak in Queensland of 3.83 babies per woman in 1961. The fertility rate dropped through the mid 1960s coinciding with the introduction of oral contraception, settling at around 3 babies per woman over the period 1966-1971 (ABS 2002a).

In the late 1960s, legislation was passed that supported the changing attitudes towards the role of women in society. This included new laws allowing married women to work in the public sector (1966 in the Commonwealth Public Service and 1969 in the Queensland state public sector). In 1969, legislation ruled that women should receive equal pay to men for equal work (ABS 1998). This resulted in a steady increase in the participation of women in education and employment, while fertility rates continued to decline (ABS 2002a).

Since the late 1970s, there has been an increasing trend for women to have babies later in life. This is largely seen as a consequence of the delayed timing of the events in people's lives that lead to family formation. Young adults are staying in the family home longer, participating longer in education and placing more focus on their careers, all of which may contribute to later relationship formation and fewer years being available to bear children (ABS 2001a). The cost of raising children and the difficulties in combining work with family responsibilities may also affect the decision to have children (ABS 2002c). These combined factors have contributed to a drop in fertility rates during the past quarter of a century.

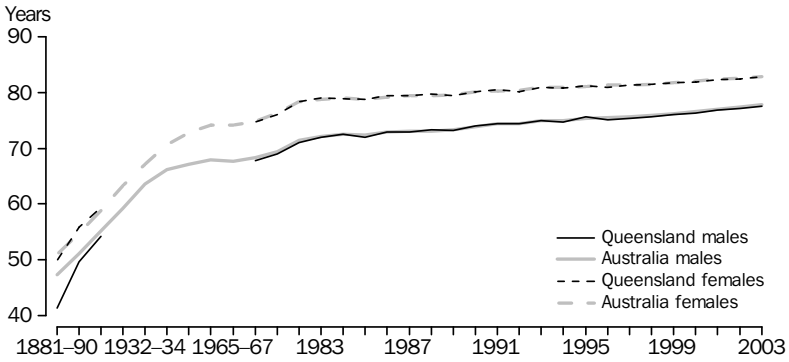
Life expectancy

The past 120 years have seen remarkable improvements in life expectancy (Graph 1.4). During the first decade of the 1900s, average life expectancy at birth in Queensland was 54.2 years for males and 59.3 years for females. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, a new-born baby could expect to live more than twenty years longer (76.9 years for males and 82.3 years for females). Life expectancy data are not available for Queensland between 1920 and 1967, but they have closely followed national trends for the rest of the period.

Life expectancy continued

Improvements in life expectancy reflect a generally consistent decrease in mortality rates (ABS 2001b). A rise in living standards, improved nutrition levels and better health education contributed strongly to lower mortality rates during the first half of the twentieth century, while medical advances in the second half of the century continued the trend (ABS 1997).

1.4 LIFE EXPECTANCY(a) AT BIRTH, by sex, Queensland(b) and Australia—1881 to 2003(c)



(a) Average remaining lifetime at birth.
(b) Life expectancy at birth not available at state level from 1920-22 to 1965-67.
(c) Intervals between life expectancy collection years are not consistent. Intervals range from 3 to 10 years, with the later years having the shortest range. This accounts for the flattening of the life expectancy gains over time.

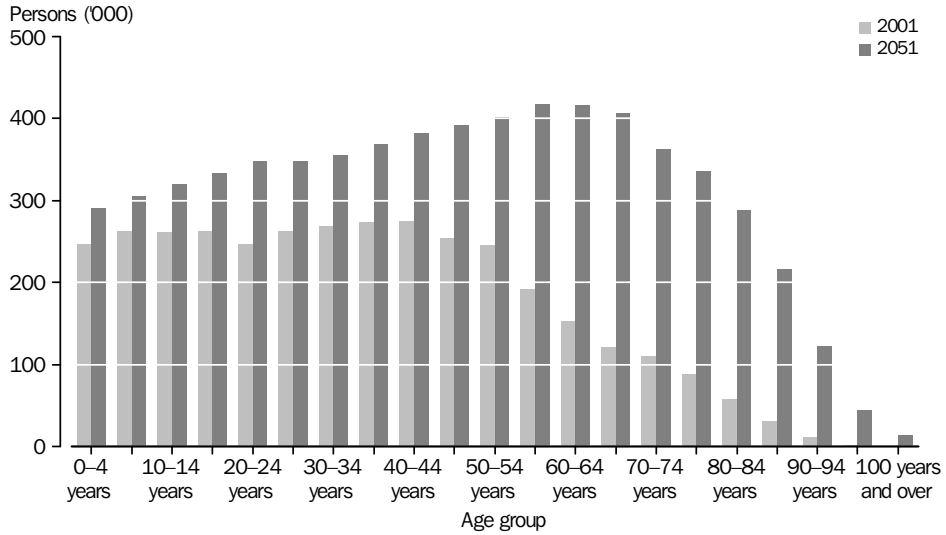
Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001).

Population ageing

The comparatively low fertility rates of the past twenty years will ultimately result in a smaller proportion of younger people in the population compared with older people. This is known as 'structural ageing', as it affects the structure of the population distribution. In addition, improvements in life expectancy will result in a greater number of people living to an older age. This is known as 'numerical ageing', as it affects the actual size of the population, and is compounded by the large number of persons born during the 'baby boom' (ABS 2002b). The combination of structural and numerical ageing in Australia has led to what is commonly known as the 'ageing of the population'.

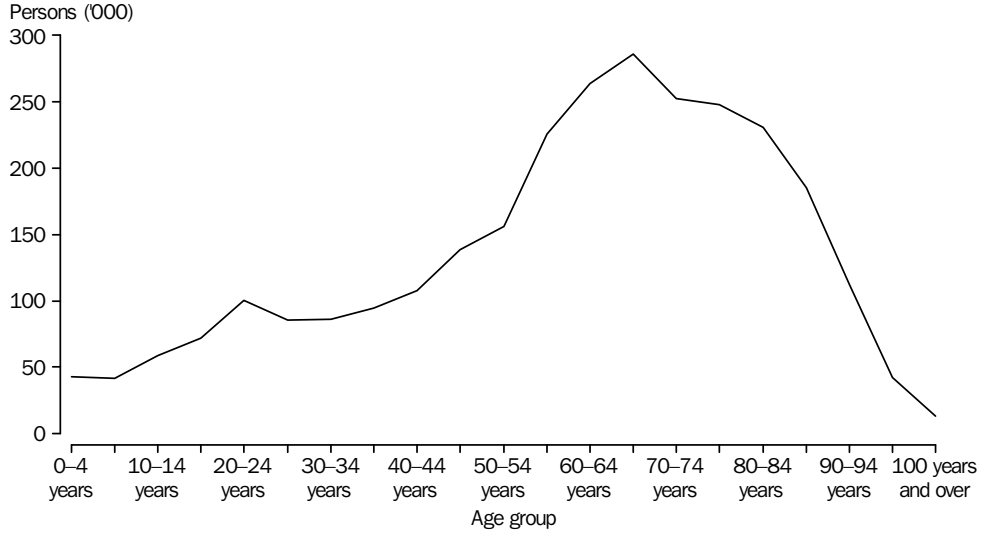
Graph 1.5 shows the age profile of persons in Queensland in five year age groups in 2001 and the projected population in 2051. The difference in the actual and projected populations by these age groups is highlighted in Graph 1.6. Over this fifty year period to 2051, Queensland's population is projected to increase from 3.629 million in 2001 to 6.470 million. Nearly half (48% or 1.369 million persons) of this projected increase will be persons aged 65 years and over. A further 44% or 1.257 million persons of the projected increase will be of working age, approximated by persons aged 20 to 64 years. The remaining 7.6% or 215,000 persons will be those aged 19 years and under, reflecting the projected continued decline in fertility rates.

1.5 AGE PROFILE, Queensland—2001 and 2051



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

1.6 PROJECTED POPULATION CHANGE, by age group—2001 to 2051



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

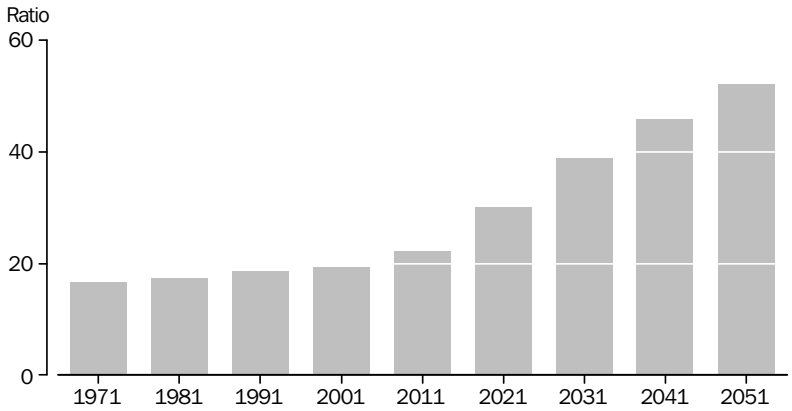
Population ageing continued

Dependency ratios are another means of describing age structures. The age dependency ratio compares the number of people of working age with those who are older than working age. The working age population is usually regarded as those aged between 15 and 64 years, but to reflect changing trends and the longer period spent in education by young people the working age group has been approximated by the 20 to 64 years age group in this publication.

Population ageing continued

In 1971, the age dependency ratio for Queensland was 16.7 – that is, for every 100 persons of working age there were 16.7 persons aged 65 years and over (Graph 1.7). In 2001, the ratio had risen to 19.4. However, as the population ages and the number of older people increases, the age dependency ratio will be substantially higher. By 2031, population projections indicate that the age dependency ratio will be around 39, and by 2051, will have increased to around 52.

1.7 AGE DEPENDENCY RATIO(a), Queensland—1971 to 2051



(a) Age dependency ratio is the number of people aged 65 years and over for each 100 persons of working age (aged between 20 and 64 years).

Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

Changes in social values, attitudes and government policy have and will continue to have an effect on the wellbeing of baby boomers. Female baby boomers have participated in the labour force at greater levels than their predecessors. Post-school education has been more accessible for all baby boomers. Other changes include superannuation reform, attitudes towards mature and older age workers, and access to and availability of part-time employment.

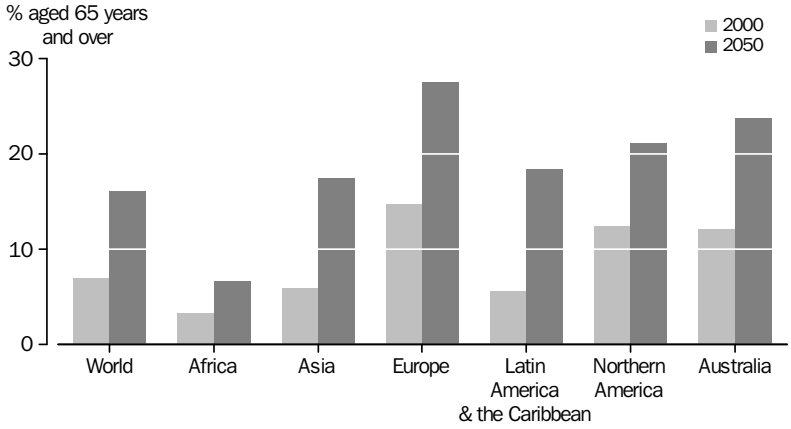
At the other end of the spectrum is the positive contribution made by a healthy and active older population through participation and engagement in the community. Baby boomers are reaping the benefits of medical advances and not only have increased life expectancy but are more likely to be healthier.

Global ageing

An ageing population is not limited to Australia where 12% of its population were aged 65 years and over in 2000. Many of the world's developed countries are experiencing ageing populations. The United Nations (UN) reports that in 2000, 15% of the population of Europe was aged 65 years and over (Graph 1.8), with Italy, Greece and Germany having just under one-fifth of their population in this age group. Japan also had a relatively high proportion of its population aged 65 years and over (17%). In contrast, the less developed regions of the world (Africa, Asia and Latin America/Caribbean) had fewer than 6% of their populations aged 65 years and over.

Global ageing continued

1.8 WORLD POPULATION AGEING—2000 and 2050(a)



(a) Medium variant projection.

Source: World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision; World Urbanization Prospects: The 2003 Revision, United Nations, New York.

The trend of global ageing is expected to continue well into the twenty-first century, with the UN projecting that the proportion of the world's population aged 65 years and over will more than double from 6.9% in 2000 to 16% in 2050 (United Nations 2004). Graph 1.8 shows that the populations of all regions are expected to age, with Africa expecting the least growth in the proportion of people aged 65 years and over. In general, regions with older age structures in the year 2000 are expected to continue to have older age structures by 2050. For Australia, the UN projects that 24% of the population will be aged 65 years and over by 2050, remaining above the world average in 2050 of 16%.

PLANNING FOR AGEING BABY BOOMERS

The ageing of the population has many far-reaching policy implications for all aspects of life – economic, social and environmental.

Australia

In 1999, the 'National Strategy for an Ageing Australia' was launched. It addressed the broad issues of retirement incomes, labour force participation, attitudes, lifestyle and community support, healthy ageing, and health and aged care.

In 2002, the Commonwealth Treasurer released the *Intergenerational Report* as part of the 2002-03 Federal Budget. This report provided a basis for considering the Commonwealth's fiscal outlook over the long term and identifying emerging issues associated with an ageing population.

Australia's Demographic Challenges, a discussion paper aimed at encouraging community debate about the future and the need to prepare for the impact of Australia's ageing population, was released in 2004 by the Commonwealth Treasurer. The three areas identified for attention in the near future included improving the capacity for work through better education and health, better incentives to remain in the labour force, and improved flexibility in the workplace.

The Productivity Commission released a research report *Economic Implications of an Ageing Australia* in April 2005. The report found that ageing pressures are about to accelerate as the baby boomer generation retires. Ageing will reduce economic growth at the same time that it intensifies demand for public services such as health, aged care and

Australia continued

the age pension. The report also indicated that with present policy settings, age-related spending will exceed the growth of tax revenue.

Queensland

In releasing the discussion paper *Queensland 2020: A State for All Ages*, the Queensland Government has sought to maximise consultation with the wider community in the development of strategies and government policies designed to address issues associated with the ageing of the Queensland population. Outcomes sought will fall under the four interconnected areas of wellbeing, social cohesion, intergenerational equity and sustainability.

Initiatives and reforms designed to address the implications of Queensland's ageing population and changing demographics include:

- Education and training – a lifelong learning framework to address learning needs of adults at key transition points in their life
- Health – a twenty year strategic framework for the state's health system
- Transport – planning for transport access in South-east Queensland, including issues on personal mobility in an ageing society
- Housing – initiatives to assist planning and construction of homes that are suitable for all stages of life
- Employment – programs for mature age jobseekers.

In May 2004, the Queensland Government responded to the Commonwealth Treasurer's discussion paper, *Australian Demographic Challenges*. The Queensland Government submission recognised that the discussion paper was timely and provided important recognition of the need for appropriately considered strategies to ensure that Australia's standard of living is not compromised by structural ageing of the population. In Queensland, the most pressing and immediate challenge is managing strong population growth, particularly in South-east Queensland.

The Queensland State Budget 2004-05, Budget Paper No. 2 *Budget Strategy and Outlook* includes discussion on responding to Queensland's demographic challenges. This discussion set out the Queensland Government response to these short and long-term demographic trends and is underpinned by the state's economic strategy. This strategy focuses on increasing productivity growth and labour force participation, the key drivers of economic growth, to generate higher rates of sustainable economic growth and real incomes to support the state's population growth and ageing population.

The strategy aims to achieve this by fostering innovation and investment in human capital and infrastructure. The response concluded that the state government's economic strategy provides a significant response to Queensland's demographic challenges but collaboration across all levels of government will be important in delivering a coherent and comprehensive strategy to respond to the pressures of population growth and, over the longer term, population ageing.

In September 2004, the Queensland Government lodged a submission with the Productivity Commission on the Economic Implications of an Ageing Australia. This submission indicated that population ageing will bring about significant social and economic change requiring appropriate planning and policy responses from all levels of government in Australia.

Queensland continued

The submission stated that the Productivity Commission study should play an important role in establishing a research consensus to guide the development of considered strategies and policies. It further indicated that an assessment of how ageing will differentially affect the states and territories will also represent an important output of this research and that in some areas response to ageing will require a collaborative approach involving the Australian Government.

OVERVIEW

This publication analyses a range of issues relating to Queensland's baby boomers using both ABS and non-ABS data. A brief synopsis of each chapter is provided below.

Demography

Since the early 1960s, baby boomers have been a significant group in Queensland's population. They are expected to continue having a substantial impact on the composition of the state's population in the future, giving rise to new challenges for government, business and community services.

Chapter 2 examines the impact of the baby boomers on the profile and distribution of the Queensland population, in the past, present and future. It examines the 2001 profile of baby boomers in the state's population and the cohort's geographical distribution throughout the state. This chapter compares Indigenous baby boomers with non-Indigenous baby boomers. Interstate and intrastate migration patterns are also examined.

Baby boomers are tracked from 1961 to 2001, showing the increase in the number of baby boomers since 1961 and comparing them as a proportion of the population at specific points in time. Population projections to 2051 demonstrate how baby boomers will continue to impact on Queensland's population as they age. Population age by sex profiles graphically show the progression through the population distribution of the baby boomers from their early years in 1961 to 2001 and their projected profiles to 2051.

Cultural diversity

Overseas migration has had a major effect on Queensland's population size and composition from its earliest settlement. In 1901, 35% of Queenslanders were born overseas, predominantly in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Europe. By 2001, 17% of Queensland's population were born overseas, while 23% of total baby boomers were born overseas.

Chapter 3 examines the characteristics of overseas-born baby boomers. Characteristics examined include country of origin, age profile, year of arrival in Australia, languages spoken and proficiency in English. Overseas-born baby boomers are compared with their Australian-born counterparts in terms of household tenure, income and education. This chapter also looks at other aspects of cultural diversity for all baby boomers, including ancestry and religious affiliation.

Families and care

Families are the basic unit of home life for most people and provide supportive relationships, companionship and assistance and support, especially as people grow older. In 2003, over half (52%) of the 1.068 million families in Queensland were baby boomer families. The majority of the baby boomer families were couples with children (57%), while 30% were couples without children and 13% were lone-parent families. The proportions of baby boomer families as couples without children and lone-person households are expected to rise. These changes will affect the demand for family and

Families and care continued

community resources and will be important considerations in policy and program development.

Chapter 4 examines the living arrangements of baby boomers. It looks at the proportion of baby boomers that live in various types of family and non-family households and presents projections of their living arrangements in 2026. The chapter also looks at the registered and social marital status of baby boomers, and the role of carers of people who are frail, aged or have a disability.

Housing

People live in different types of houses according to their age and circumstances. In 2001, 87% of Queensland baby boomers were living in separate houses. Housing is an important issue for baby boomers as they are likely to make decisions over the next two decades about their retirement, based on factors such as their current housing arrangements and housing costs.

Chapter 5 examines the type of dwellings baby boomers live in, tenure type, dwelling size and condition, home value and equity, and propensity to move. It also compares the housing characteristics of baby boomers with other age groups and examines regional differences in baby boomers' housing.

Education and training

Education and training are recognised as giving people the skills and knowledge for entry into and advancement through the workforce. Baby boomers had greater access to formal education than preceding generations. In 2001, 40% of baby boomers held non-school education qualifications.

Chapter 6 examines the level of school and non-school education attained by Queensland baby boomers and compares these with other age groups. The education achievements of the baby boomer cohort are tracked from 1981 to 2001 to assess their contribution over time. Other characteristics examined include fields of study and future study intentions. This chapter also examines training undertaken by baby boomers, including numbers and areas of training, perceived effectiveness of training and barriers to study and training.

Health

An individual's health status is determined by a complex interaction of social, economic, environmental, behavioural and genetic factors. The life expectancy of Queenslanders is among the highest in the world and this together with declining fertility rates has led to an ageing of the population. As the baby boomer cohort begins to move into the older age groups, there will be a greater number and proportion of the population living into old age with a range of support needs. Governments have a key role to play in ensuring the health system responds to the changes and challenges of the future. However, individual responsibility for adopting healthy behaviours is also essential if many preventable and chronic illnesses are to be avoided.

Chapter 7 examines baby boomers' health status (self-assessed and reported) and discusses a range of health risk factors that have been associated with preventable and chronic illnesses. These include cigarette smoking, consumption of alcohol at levels considered at risk for health, limited physical activity, poor nutrition and being overweight. This chapter also examines health related actions, health care costs and the coverage rates of private health insurance.

Community life

The level of a person's interaction with their community is an indicator of their social wellbeing. The average baby boomer spent nearly four hours a day on recreation and leisure in 1997. A large proportion of baby boomers also visited cinemas, libraries, botanic gardens and other venues. In 2000, 38% of baby boomers were involved in voluntary work through an organisation or group. The way baby boomers are involved in community life is expected to change as they grow older and retire.

Chapter 8 examines how baby boomers use their time, their involvement in voluntary work, and their level of family and community support. The chapter looks at what they do for recreation and leisure, what types of cultural venues they attend and how much they spend on recreation. It also looks at baby boomers' perceptions of crime in the community, whether they have been a victim of crime themselves, the availability of transport and how they travel to work, and the extent to which they use computers and the Internet.

Income and wealth

The amount of income earned largely influences the standard of living of individuals and households. Wealth and income are closely related as income not spent on current consumption allows the accumulation of wealth. Income levels vary across a person's life cycle and may be affected by a range of events and circumstances, e.g. illness, participation in the labour force and family situation. The amount of wealth, in particular superannuation, together with the capacity to access government benefits will be a major factor influencing the retirement decisions of baby boomers and their wellbeing in retirement.

Chapter 9 examines the level and distribution of income and wealth of Queensland's baby boomers and compares them with that of other age groups. This chapter also examines retirement intentions of baby boomers as well as looking at the amount of superannuation held by baby boomers who are yet to retire from the workforce.

Work

The changing age structure of the population will have implications for the growth of the Queensland economy in the decades ahead. The future pace of economic growth depends on the rate at which the workforce grows and on the growth of output per worker. Almost half of Queensland's labour force are baby boomers. The older baby boomers are already approaching or have reached retirement age. As more baby boomers retire from the labour force, one of the challenges for government and business will be to maintain a viable labour market.

Chapter 10 examines the baby boomer cohort and its place in the Queensland labour force. The labour force characteristics of the baby boomers including their type of employment and working patterns are discussed. A section on job mobility analyses the length of time baby boomers have worked in their main job and the extent that employment factors influenced their moving house. An examination of the occupations and industries in which baby boomers are employed concludes the chapter.

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CHAPTER 2 DEMOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION

In the 40 years between 1961 and 2001, Queensland's population increased by 139% from 1.5 million persons to 3.6 million persons, exceeding the national growth rate of 85%. At the same time, Queensland's share of the national population rose from 14.5% in 1961 to 18.7% in 2001.

The proportion of baby boomers in the population has declined since 1971. In 1971, 37% of the state's total population were baby boomers. By 2001 baby boomers comprised 29% of the population, although the number of baby boomers rose from 683,400 to 1.039 million over this period.

The state's population is projected to rise by a further 46% to 5.3 million persons over the 25 years to 2026 and by 78% to reach 6.5 million persons over the 50 years to 2051 (OESR 2003). The median age of Queensland's population is projected to increase from 35 years in 2001 to 47 years in 2051. These changes to the state's population structure will have implications for a range of government and community services including health, housing, aged care, planning and income support.

This chapter examines the impact of baby boomers on the profile of the Queensland population, including age, sex and geographical distribution, by following the baby boomer cohort from 1961 to 2001 and then examining their profile in population projections to 2051. This chapter also includes an examination of the movements of baby boomers, both from interstate and within Queensland.

The analysis in this chapter is based on estimated resident population (ERP) data with the exception of the section on internal migration and the data for 1961 when ERP data were not available. Internal migration figures were sourced from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, while data from 1961 was sourced from the Commonwealth Census. Projections are based on the OESR population projections (medium series).

BABY BOOMERS IN 2001

Age and sex distribution

In 2001, there were 1.039 million baby boomers, aged 36 to 55 years, residing in Queensland, accounting for 29% of the total population (Table 2.1). There were 549,300 younger baby boomers, aged 36 to 45 years, and 489,500 older baby boomers, aged 46 to 55 years, representing 53% and 47% of the baby boomer cohort respectively. For every 100 female baby boomers, there were 98.9 male baby boomers in 2001.

2.1 AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION—2001

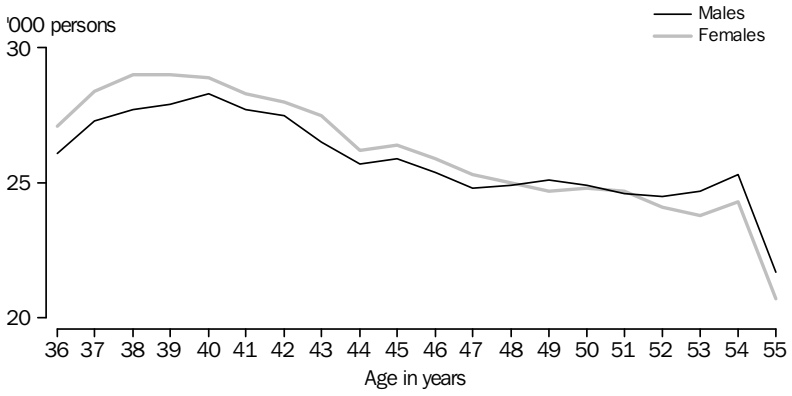
				BABY BOOMERS							
	0–15 years	*16–25 years*	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66–75 years*	*76–85 years*	*86 years and over*	*Total*
	PERSONS ('000)										
Males	423.9	256.0	263.7	270.5	246.1	516.6	168.4	110.0	56.4	11.6	1 806.4
Females	401.0	251.1	270.4	278.8	243.4	522.2	160.2	115.0	77.4	25.2	1 822.5
Total	**824.9**	**507.1**	**534.0**	**549.3**	**489.5**	**1 038.8**	**328.6**	**225.0**	**133.7**	**36.8**	**3 628.9**

Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0).

Age and sex distribution continued

In 2001, the number of males was comparable to the number of females for each year across the baby boomer age range. However, male baby boomers generally had an older age profile than female baby boomers (Graph 2.2). There were more females than males at every age in the range 36 to 48 years, and more males than females at every age in the range 52 to 55 years. Additionally, the largest number of female baby boomers were aged 38 and 39 years while the largest number of males were aged 40 years. There were 29,000 females aged 38 years and 29,000 females aged 39 years, each age accounting for 5.6% of the total female baby boomer population. The 28,300 males aged 40 years represented 5.5% of the total male baby boomer population.

2.2 QUEENSLAND'S BABY BOOMERS, by age and sex—2001



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0).

Geographical distribution

Despite differences in the overall age distributions, Queensland had a similar proportion of baby boomers (29%) to the national average in 2001 (Table 2.3). The Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportion of baby boomers (30%) while the remaining states and territories each recorded around 29%. Of baby boomers in Australia, 18.7% resided in Queensland, similar to the state's share of the national population.

Geographical distribution continued

There were marked differences in the proportion of persons in the younger (under 35 years) and older (60 years and over) age groups in 2001. Queensland had a relatively young population compared with the other states (apart from Western Australia) with a lower proportion of older people than the Australian average – 15.8% of the Queensland population in 2001 were aged 60 years and over compared with 16.8% for Australia (Table 2.3).

2.3 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, States and Territories, by age group—2001

		BABY BOOMERS					
	0–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*
	PERSONS ('000)						
New South Wales	3 294.4	1 004.5	868.7	1 873.2	267.1	1 140.4	6 575.2
Victoria	2 413.9	733.2	635.7	1 368.8	192.0	830.0	4 804.7
Queensland	1 866.1	549.3	489.5	1 038.8	149.8	574.3	3 628.9
South Australia	720.2	230.0	209.1	439.1	63.9	288.5	1 511.7
Western Australia	982.4	297.3	260.4	557.7	74.8	286.2	1 901.2
Tasmania	227.8	71.6	65.1	136.7	20.4	86.9	471.8
Northern Territory	122.6	32.0	24.7	56.7	6.0	12.5	197.8
Australian Capital Territory	172.8	49.8	46.0	95.8	12.2	38.5	319.3
Australia(a)	**9 801.7**	**2 968.1**	**2 599.5**	**5 567.7**	**786.4**	**3 257.6**	**19 413.2**
	PER CENT						
New South Wales	50.1	15.3	13.2	28.5	4.1	17.3	100.0
Victoria	50.2	15.3	13.2	28.5	4.0	17.3	100.0
Queensland	51.4	15.1	13.5	28.6	4.1	15.8	100.0
South Australia	47.6	15.2	13.8	29.0	4.2	19.1	100.0
Western Australia	51.7	15.6	13.7	29.3	3.9	15.1	100.0
Tasmania	48.3	15.2	13.8	29.0	4.3	18.4	100.0
Northern Territory	62.0	16.2	12.5	28.6	3.0	6.3	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	54.1	15.6	14.4	30.0	3.8	12.1	100.0
Australia(a)	**50.5**	**15.3**	**13.4**	**28.7**	**4.1**	**16.8**	**100.0**

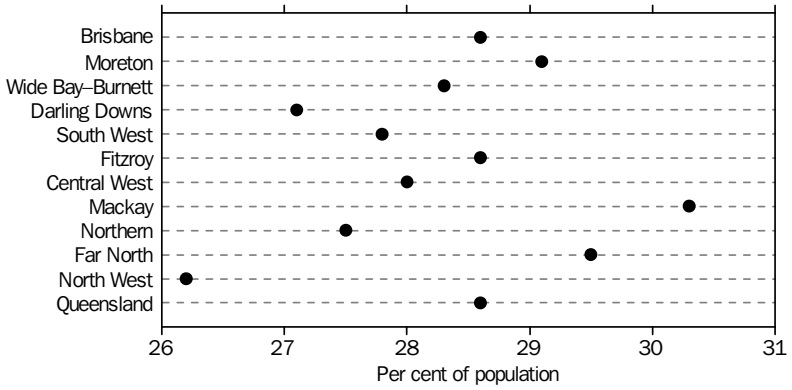
(a) Including Other Territories.

Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0).

Within Queensland, the proportion of baby boomers in each region in 2001 was not substantially different, with each of the statistical divisions (SDs) recording fairly similar proportions of baby boomers within their populations (Graph 2.4). Mackay and Far North SDs had the highest proportions (approximately 30% each), while North West SD (26%) had the lowest.

Geographical distribution continued

2.4 BABY BOOMERS AS A PROPORTION OF POPULATION, Statistical Divisions—2001



Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia and States, 2001 – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 3235.0.55.001).

In 2001, the Queensland population was concentrated in the south-east of the state, with over 65% of the state's population living in Brisbane and Moreton SDs. The distribution of baby boomers across the state was similar to the total Queensland population with most baby boomers living in Brisbane and Moreton SDs in 2001. Around 45% of Queensland baby boomers resided in Brisbane SD and 20% in Moreton SD (Table 2.5).

The proportions of baby boomers living in other SDs was markedly lower. The next two largest proportions were in Far North SD and Wide Bay-Burnett SD, each accounting for 6% of baby boomers. There were three SDs where less than 1% of the state's baby boomers lived: North West SD (0.9%), South West SD (0.7%) and Central West SD (0.3%).

2.5 BABY BOOMERS, Statistical Division, Queensland—2001

	PER CENT			PERSONS ('000)		
Statistical Division	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
Brisbane	45.0	45.9	45.5	232.7	239.7	472.4
Moreton	19.8	20.7	20.3	102.5	108.0	210.5
Wide Bay–Burnett	6.4	6.5	6.4	33.0	33.9	66.9
Darling Downs	5.5	5.5	5.5	28.4	28.6	57.0
South West	0.8	0.7	0.7	4.0	3.5	7.5
Fitzroy	5.2	4.8	5.0	26.7	25.2	52.0
Central West	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.9	1.6	3.5
Mackay	4.2	3.8	4.0	21.6	20.0	41.6
Northern	5.2	4.9	5.0	26.7	25.6	52.3
Far North	6.6	6.1	6.3	33.8	31.9	65.7
North West	1.0	0.8	0.9	5.3	4.2	9.4
Queensland(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**516.6**	**522.2**	**1 038.8**

(a) Including Off-Shore Areas and Migratory SD.

Source: ABS data available on request, Population by Age and Sex, 2001.

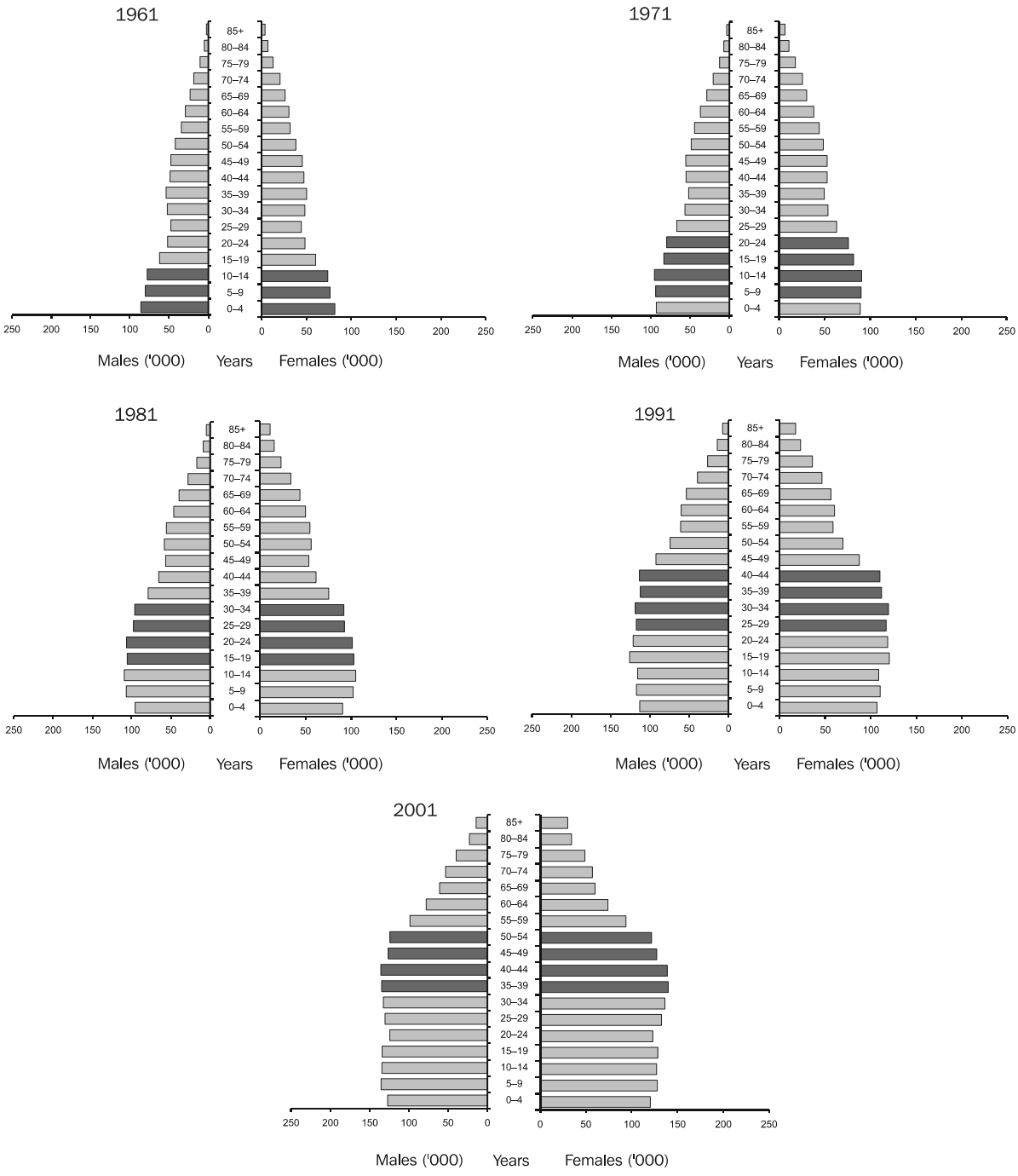
TRACKING THE BABY BOOMERS FROM 1961 TO 2001

The effect of the baby boom on Queensland's age–sex distribution is highlighted in the series of population profiles presented in Graph 2.6. These profiles, and those in the section Baby Boomers in the Future: 2001 to 2051, use age ranges that approximate the baby boomer cohort.

The start of the baby boom forms a prominent bulge at the base of the pyramid (as reflected in the age ranges 10 to 14 in the 1961 profile) due to an increased number of births between 1946 and 1950. The end of the baby boom, however, is not as clearly defined as the start. As the profile for 1971 shows, the end of the boom merges with younger age groups.

The profiles show the ageing of the Queensland population from 1961 to 2001. Declining fertility rates and improved life expectancy in recent decades have contributed to this trend. The median age of the Queensland population has increased from 29 years in 1981 to 35 years in 2001. In 2001, the fertility rate for Queensland was 1.80 babies per woman, around half of what it was at the height of the post-war baby boom.

2.6 PROFILE OF THE QUEENSLAND POPULATION, by age group—1961 to 2001



Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001); *Commonwealth Census* 1961.

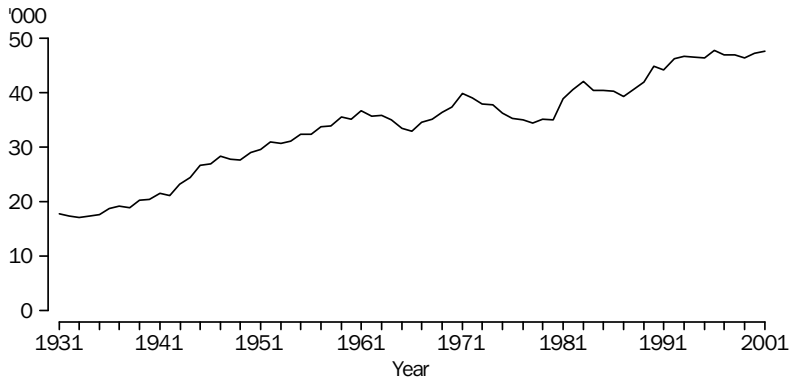
TRACKING THE BABY BOOMERS FROM 1961 TO 2001 *continued*

The number of births in any given period is influenced by two demographic factors – the number of women of reproductive age in the population and the fertility rate prevailing at the time. In 1971, nearly 40,000 births were registered in Queensland coinciding with the older female baby boomers reaching the peak of their reproductive age (Graph 2.7). This effect is often referred to as the baby boomer echo.

While the baby boom lasted for twenty years the echo was quickly curtailed. Queensland's total fertility rate fell sharply from 3.03 in 1971 to 2.06 in 1981. A second peak in registered births in Queensland occurred in 1983 with around 42,100 births. This coincided with a slightly higher fertility rate of 2.09 babies per woman and a large cohort of younger female baby boomers reaching their peak reproductive age together with the influence of a range of demographic, social and technological factors. The late 1960s and the early 1970s saw major changes in access to birth control. This was accompanied by changing laws and attitudes surrounding the role of women in society, allowing women greater reproductive choice and greater freedom to pursue education and employment (ABS 2002).

While total fertility rates continued to decline through the 1980s and 1990s, Queensland births continued to increase with 47,700 registered births recorded in 2001. This reflects the increasing number of women of reproductive age due to the contribution of net migration, especially from interstate. In contrast, for Australia as a whole the number of births in 2001 was lower than the 276,400 recorded in 1971.

2.7 REGISTERED BIRTHS, QUEENSLAND—1931 to 2001



Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001).

The number of baby boomers residing in Queensland has increased every decade since 1961 (Table 2.8). However, as a proportion of the state's total population, baby boomers have fallen from a peak of 37% in 1971 to 29% in 2001. Between 1961 and 2001, Queensland's population increased by 139% from 1.519 million to 3.629 million persons.

In 1961 not all younger baby boomers had been born. Older baby boomers were aged 6 to 15 years and younger baby boomers aged 0 to 5 years. There were 502,300 baby boomers, accounting for one-third of the Queensland population (Table 2.8). By 1971, the number of baby boomers had increased to 683,400 persons, accounting for 37% of the population. The increase in the number of baby boomers from 1961 to 1971 was largely driven by the number of births between 1961 and 1965.

TRACKING THE BABY BOOMERS FROM 1961 TO 2001 *continued*

There were 788,400 baby boomers residing in Queensland in 1981. By 1991, there were 915,700 baby boomers, accounting for 31% of the state's population. By 2001, the baby boomer cohort had increased to 1,038,800 persons, but as a proportion of the total population had decreased to 29%, reflecting the increase in the number of persons younger than baby boomers. The increase in the number of baby boomers between 1971 and 2001 was due to gains from net overseas and interstate migration.

2.8 BABY BOOMERS—1961 to 2001

	1961	*1971*	*1981*	*1991*	*2001*
	PERSONS ('000)				
Baby boomers					
Younger	199.3	370.0	415.7	473.9	549.3
Older	303.0	313.5	372.7	441.8	489.5
Total	*502.3*	*683.4*	*788.4*	*915.7*	*1 038.8*
Rest of population	1 016.6	1 168.1	1 556.8	2 045.3	2 590.2
Total population	**1 518.8**	**1 851.5**	**2 345.2**	**2 961.0**	**3 628.9**
	PER CENT				
Baby boomers					
Younger	13.1	20.0	17.7	16.0	15.1
Older	19.9	16.9	15.9	14.9	13.5
Total	*33.1*	*36.9*	*33.6*	*30.9*	*28.6*
Rest of population	66.9	63.1	66.4	69.1	71.4
Total population	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	AGE RANGE (YEARS)				
Age ranges of younger baby boomers					
Minimum age	0	6	16	26	36
Maximum age	5	15	25	35	45
Age ranges of older baby boomers					
Minimum age	6	16	26	36	46
Maximum age	15	25	35	45	55

Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0); Commonwealth Census, 1961.

The number of male baby boomers increased from 258,000 in 1961 to 516,600 in 2001. Similarly, the number of female baby boomers increased from 244,300 in 1961 to 522,200 in 2001. In contrast, the proportions of male and female baby boomers in the total population decreased during that period. In 1961, 17% of the total population were male baby boomers and 16% were female baby boomers. By 2001, the proportions had decreased to 14% for both sexes.

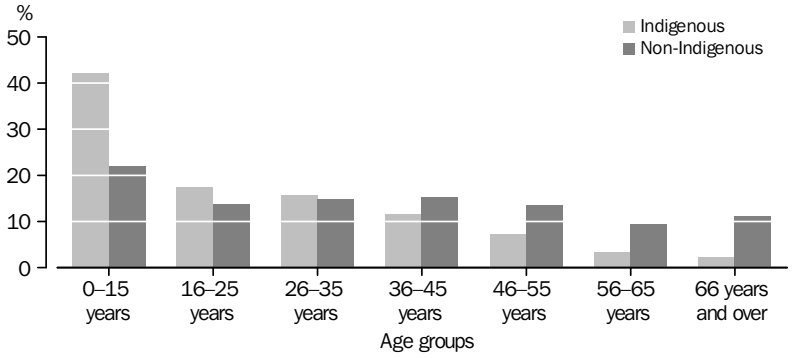
INDIGENOUS POPULATION

In 2001, there were an estimated 125,900 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland, representing 3.5% of the state's population. Approximately one-fifth of the Indigenous population were within the baby boomer age range (Graph 2.9).

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

continued

2.9 INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS(a), by age group—2001



(a) As proportions of each population.

Source: ABS data available on request, Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, 1991 to 2009.

The current age structure of the Indigenous population reflects sustained high fertility and high mortality. In 2003, there were 3,408 Indigenous births in Queensland, 73% to Indigenous mothers and 27% to non-Indigenous mothers and Indigenous fathers. While only babies born to Indigenous mothers are used to estimate Indigenous fertility rates, the total fertility rate in 2003 for the Indigenous population (2.2 babies per woman) was greater than that for the total population (1.8). Life expectancy at birth in 1996–2001 was 59 years for Indigenous males and 63 years for Indigenous females. In 2001, life expectancy at birth for all Queensland males was 77 years and 82 years for all Queensland females.

In 2001, the Indigenous population in Queensland had a young age profile with a median age of 20.1 years compared with 35.6 years for the non-Indigenous population. The relatively young age structure is due to higher fertility and mortality rates experienced by the Indigenous population. Indigenous people as a proportion of particular age cohorts declined with age. Indigenous children aged 15 years and younger accounted for 6.4% of all children aged 15 years and younger while Indigenous persons aged 66 years and over accounted for 0.8% of all persons in this age group. Among the baby boomer cohort aged 36 to 55 years in 2001, Indigenous people comprised 2.3% of total Queensland baby boomers.

It is not possible to determine if the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander population experienced a baby boom similar to the total Australian population. Prior to the 1967 Commonwealth Referendum, Indigenous people were not included in official estimates of the Australian population. During the 30 years between 1971 and 2001, the census count of the Indigenous population in Queensland increased by an average of 4.3% per year compared with 2.3% per year for the total state population. Growth in Queensland's Indigenous population since 1971 reflects both demographic factors (natural increase and migration) and non-demographic factors. Non-demographic factors include improvements in census and administrative collection practices and people identifying their Indigenous origin in statistical collections for the first time.

In 2001, 19% of the Indigenous population belonged to the baby boomer cohort compared with 29% of the non-Indigenous population.

2.10 INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS POPULATION, by age group—2001

	0–5 years	6–15 years	16–25 years	26–35 years	BABY BOOMERS 36–45 years	46–55 years	Total baby boomers	56–65 years	66 years and over	Total
					PER CENT					
Indigenous	16.4	25.6	17.6	15.7	11.6	7.2	18.7	3.5	2.5	100.0
Non-Indigenous	7.9	14.1	13.8	14.7	15.3	13.7	29.0	9.3	11.2	100.0
Total	**8.2**	**14.5**	**14.0**	**14.7**	**15.1**	**13.5**	**28.6**	**9.1**	**10.9**	**100.0**
					PERSONS ('000)					
Indigenous	20.6	32.3	22.2	19.7	14.6	9.0	23.6	4.4	3.1	125.9
Non-Indigenous	278.4	493.7	484.9	514.3	534.7	480.5	1 015.2	324.2	392.4	3 503.0
Total	**299.0**	**525.9**	**507.1**	**534.0**	**549.3**	**489.5**	**1 038.8**	**328.6**	**395.5**	**3 628.9**

Source: ABS data available on request, Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2009.

MIGRATION

As previously stated, the number of baby boomers residing in Queensland increased from 683,400 persons in 1971 to 1,038,800 persons in 2001. This increase reflects the contribution of net interstate and overseas migration to this group. This section examines the intrastate and interstate migration patterns of baby boomers between 1996 and 2001. For information on overseas migration into Queensland, refer to *Chapter 3: Cultural Diversity*.

Personal characteristics and individual, family and household circumstances impact on the likelihood of people moving. The catalyst for baby boomers and younger age groups to move is more likely to be a life event, such as marriage or change in employment (Bell & Hugo 2000).

Baby boomers accounted for 34% of all persons aged 16 years and over who moved residence between 1996 and 2001 (Table 2.11). Of all persons who moved, baby boomers accounted for 36% of those who moved within the same statistical local area (SLA), 34% of those who moved to another SLA within the same SD, and 35% of those who moved interstate.

Older baby boomers were less likely to have moved residence between 1996 and 2001 compared with younger baby boomers. Older baby boomers accounted for 14% of total movers whereas younger baby boomers accounted for 20% (Table 2.11).

2.11 PERSONS WHO MOVED RESIDENCE BETWEEN 1996 AND 2001(a), by age group

	MOVERS							
	Did not move	*Overseas in 1996*	*Move undefined*	*Moved same SLA*	*Moved to other SLA, same SD*	*Moved to other SD, same state*	*Moved interstate*	*Total movers*
	PER CENT							
16–25 years	12.7	24.3	23.7	22.0	22.4	27.2	21.0	23.1
26–35 years	9.8	30.9	31.1	25.0	28.8	26.4	26.5	27.2
Baby boomers								
36–45 years	19.2	22.1	17.5	22.2	19.8	18.2	21.5	20.2
46–55 years	21.7	12.1	11.4	14.3	14.0	13.0	13.9	13.8
Total baby boomers	40.9	34.1	28.8	36.5	33.9	31.2	35.4	34.0
56–65 years	15.8	6.2	7.7	7.9	7.6	8.6	9.3	8.1
66 years and over	20.7	4.5	8.7	8.7	7.3	6.7	7.8	7.6
Total(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total(b)	1 292.4	100.9	35.9	246.6	496.8	233.0	183.9	1 196.2

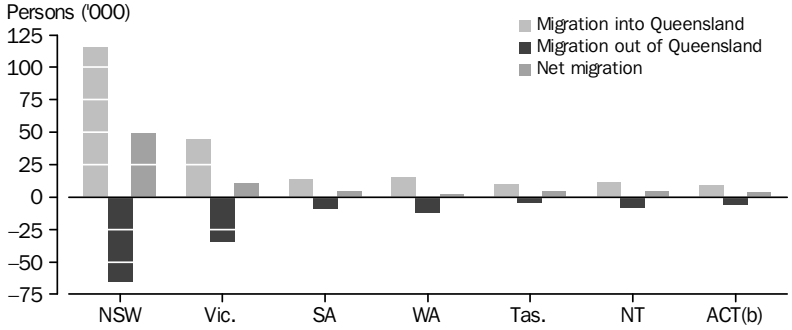
(a) Excluding Not stated.
(b) Persons aged 16 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

MIGRATION *continued*

In the five years to 2001, Queensland experienced a net interstate gain of 79,800 persons. There was a net inflow of persons from all states and territories into Queensland (Graph 2.12). The largest net inflows came from New South Wales (50,300 persons), Victoria (10,600) and Tasmania (4,800). The flows from New South Wales comprised 115,600 persons moving to Queensland and 65,300 persons moving from Queensland to New South Wales.

2.12 INTERSTATE MIGRATION, Persons(a)—1996 to 2001



(a) Persons aged 5 years and over.
(b) Including Other Territories.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

MIGRATION *continued*

Queensland has a number of areas that experienced high population growth between 1996 and 2001. High growth areas are defined in this publication as SLAs where population growth meets two criteria: (1) net populations have increased by at least 3,000 persons, and (2) population growth over this period has exceeded 30%. Using these criteria, Queensland has 11 high growth SLAs – six in Brisbane SD (Table 2.13) and five in Moreton SD (Table 2.14).

While large numbers of baby boomers have moved to high growth coastal areas from southern states, most baby boomers moved into these high growth areas from surrounding areas.

Persons moving into the high growth SLAs within Brisbane were most likely to have moved from within Brisbane SD. For example, 1,207 baby boomers moved into Central Pine West SLA between 1996 and 2001 from other SLAs in Brisbane SD (Table 2.13). Similarly, between 1996 and 2001, 1,940 baby boomers moved to Guanaba–Currumbin Valley SLA, 1,457 baby boomers to Maroochy–Buderim SLA, and 1,045 baby boomers moved to Robina SLA, all from the surrounding Moreton SD (Table 2.14).

While most movements into these high growth areas were from surrounding areas within Queensland, there was a 'sea-change' migration from New South Wales and Victoria into Queensland's high growth regions, particularly into SLAs located in the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast, between 1996 and 2001 (Table 2.14). Migrants from New South Wales accounted for 600 baby boomers who moved to Guanaba–Currumbin SLA and 377 baby boomers to Robina SLA during this time. The Maroochy–Buderim SLA gained 255 Victorian baby boomers – the greatest number of baby boomers from Victoria to migrate to any of the high growth regions.

2.13 BABY BOOMERS MOVING INTO HIGH GROWTH AREAS(a), between 1996 and 2001(b)—Brisbane Statistical Division

	STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA					
	Calamvale	*Central Pine West*	*Doolandella–Forest Lake*	*Kuraby*	*Parkinson–Drewvale*	*Runcorn*
	PERSONS					
Queensland						
Brisbane SD	826	1 207	1 259	662	881	811
Moreton SD	32	29	85	19	31	34
Wide Bay–Burnett SD	7	11	38	6	10	13
Darling Downs SD	21	12	28	8	13	11
Fitzroy SD	16	6	16	7	13	10
Mackay SD	15	13	13	7	8	5
Northern SD	10	23	22	11	4	9
Far North SD	9	21	19	6	13	20
Balance of Queensland(c)	3	14	19	6	3	9
Total	*939*	*1 336*	*1 499*	*732*	*976*	*922*
New South Wales	61	113	176	41	60	76
Victoria	39	54	81	28	25	38
South Australia	16	14	57	8	11	19
Western Australia	20	21	32	12	6	10
Tasmania	7	14	17	4	4	12
Other(d)	13	22	38	5	10	21
Total	**1 095**	**1 574**	**1 900**	**830**	**1 092**	**1 098**

(a) High growth areas are defined as statistical local areas that had a net population increase of at least 3,000 persons and at least a 30% increase between 1996 and 2001.

(b) Excluding persons who resided in the same statistical local area in 1996 and in 2001.

(c) Including South West, Central West, North West, and Off-Shore and Migratory SDs and Queensland undefined. Excluding Not stated.

(d) Including Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories. Excluding people who resided overseas in 1996 and Not Stated.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

MIGRATION *continued*

2.14 BABY BOOMERS MOVING INTO HIGH GROWTH AREAS(a), between 1996 and 2001(b)—Moreton Statistical Division

	STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA				
	Arundel	*Coomera–Cedar Creek*	*Guanaba–Currumbin Valley*	*Maroochy–Buderim*	*Robina*
	PERSONS				
Queensland					
Brisbane SD	81	217	273	402	167
Moreton SD	665	606	1 940	1 457	1 045
Wide Bay–Burnett SD	8	12	42	180	21
Darling Downs SD	8	21	20	121	15
Fitzroy SD	11	16	20	93	15
Mackay SD	6	12	33	52	4
Northern SD	4	8	19	55	20
Far North SD	11	15	32	81	27
Balance of Queensland(c)	11	12	28	58	14
Total	*805*	*919*	*2 407*	*2 499*	*1 328*
New South Wales	141	156	600	416	377
Victoria	49	88	195	255	131
South Australia	21	31	57	75	33
Western Australia	19	14	25	53	40
Tasmania	23	27	42	67	29
Other(d)	18	16	59	81	43
Total	**1 076**	**1 251**	**3 385**	**3 446**	**1 981**

(a) High growth areas are defined as statistical local areas that had a net population increase of at least 3,000 persons and at least a 30% increase between 1996 and 2001.
(b) Excluding persons who resided in the same statistical local area in 1996 and in 2001.
(c) Including South West, Central West, North West, and Off-Shore and Migratory SDs and Queensland undefined. Excluding Not stated.
(d) Including Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory and Other Territories. Excluding people who resided overseas in 1996 and Not stated.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

BABY BOOMERS IN THE FUTURE: 2001 TO 2051

This section uses 2003 OESR population projections to examine the projected number of baby boomers between 2001 and 2051 in ten year periods. Population projections are an assessment of what would happen to the population if certain assumptions about components of population change – births, deaths and migration – are made. This section uses the medium population projections series.

From 2001 to 2021, the number of Queensland baby boomers is projected to continue to increase, due to the impact of gains from net interstate and overseas migration. However, the contribution of baby boomers as proportions of the state's total population is projected to continue to decline (Table 2.15). In 2021, there are projected to be 1,132,700 baby boomers, accounting for 23% of the total Queensland population.

The proportion of baby boomers is projected to decline to around 18% of the state population in 2031 and 5% by 2051. However, this will represent a substantial increase in the number of persons aged 86 years and over compared with 2001. In 2051, there are projected to be around 350,000 baby boomers aged 86 years and over – almost 10 times the number of Queenslanders aged 86 years and over in 2001.

BABY BOOMERS IN THE FUTURE: 2001 TO 2051 *continued*

In 2001, the 549,300 younger baby boomers accounted for 53% of the baby boomer cohort (Table 2.15). By 2021, the younger baby boomer cohort is projected to account for 56% of the Queensland baby boomers, increasing to 87% in 2051.

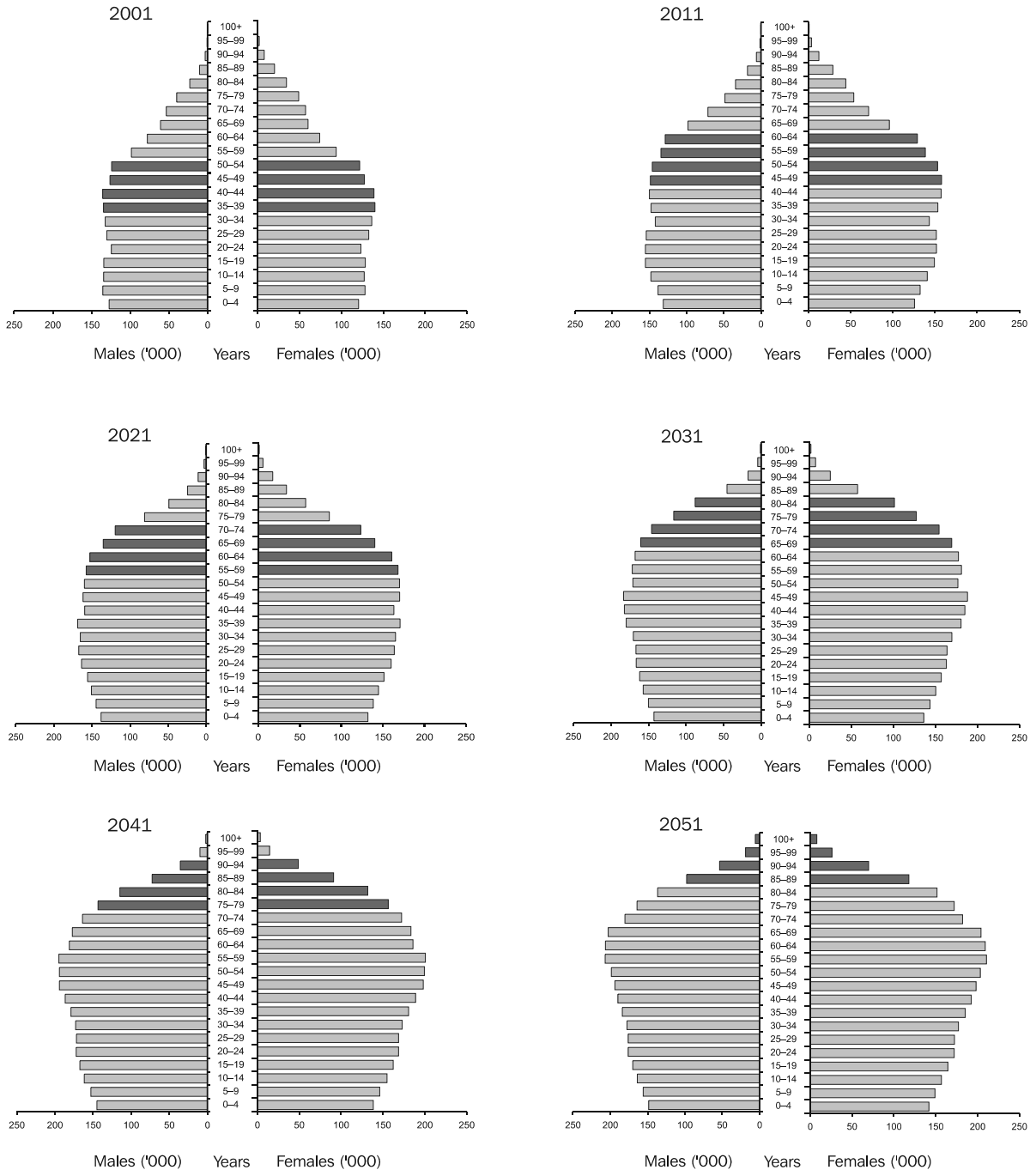
2.15 ACTUAL AND PROJECTED POPULATIONS, Queensland—2001 to 2051

	2001	*2011*	*2021*	*2031*	*2041*	*2051*
			PERSONS ('000)			
Baby boomers						
Younger	549.3	603.6	634.1	618.5	525.1	304.6
Older	489.5	518.0	498.6	406.6	216.2	45.0
Total	*1 038.8*	*1 121.6*	*1 132.7*	*1 025.1*	*741.3*	*349.6*
Rest of population	2 590.1	3 232.5	3 857.2	4 544.9	5 318.5	6 120.5
Total population	**3 628.9**	**4 354.1**	**4 989.9**	**5 570.0**	**6 059.8**	**6 470.1**
			PER CENT			
Baby boomers						
Younger	15.1	13.9	12.7	11.1	8.7	4.7
Older	13.5	11.9	10.0	7.3	3.6	0.7
Total	*28.6*	*25.8*	*22.7*	*18.4*	*12.2*	*5.4*
Rest of population	71.4	74.2	77.3	81.6	87.8	94.6
Total population	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
			AGE RANGE (YEARS)			
Age ranges of younger baby boomers						
Minimum age	36	46	56	66	76	86
Maximum age	45	55	65	75	85	95
Age ranges of older baby boomers						
Minimum age	46	56	66	76	86	96
Maximum age	55	65	75	85	95	105

Source: Population by Age by Sex, Australian States and Territories (cat. no. 3201.0); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

The contribution of the baby boomer cohort to the Queensland population over the 40 years to 2001 was presented in the series of population profiles in Graph 2.6. The contribution of the baby boomers cohort over the 50 years to 2051 in ten year intervals is highlighted in the population profiles in Graph 2.16. These projections show that, as baby boomers age, the end of the baby boomer cohort becomes increasingly less defined. In 2001, the baby boomer bulge is apparent but tends to disappear as the cohort progresses through time.

2.16 PROFILE OF THE QUEENSLAND POPULATION, by age group—2001 to 2051



Source: Australian Historical Population Statistics (cat. no. 3105.0.65.001); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

Geographical distribution 2001 to 2021

This section examines the projected regional distribution of baby boomers between 2001 and 2021, in ten year periods. The shorter time period reflects the fact that regional projections are only available to 2026.

Table 2.17 shows that, despite relatively similar proportions of baby boomers across SDs in 2001, these proportions are projected to diverge as this cohort approaches retirement age. Over the twenty years to 2021, strong growth in baby boomer numbers are projected for a number of SDs. For example, the number of baby boomers in Moreton SD is projected to increase by 107,000 persons or 51% over the twenty years. Wide Bay-Burnett SD is projected to experience a similar proportional growth (32,400 persons or 48%) with a marginal increase projected for Darling Downs SD.

In contrast, the remaining SDs are projected to record declines in their baby boomer populations over the twenty years to 2021. The greatest decline is projected for Brisbane SD, down 24,200 baby boomers by 2021, followed by Fitzroy SD (6,800 baby boomers) and Northern SD (6,300 baby boomers).

Geographical distribution 2001 to 2021 continued

2.17 ACTUAL AND PROJECTED POPULATIONS, Statistical Divisions(a)—2001 to 2021

		2001	2011	2021	Change 2001 to 2021 ('000)
Brisbane					
Baby boomers	'000	472.4	477.5	447.8	–24.2
Total population	'000	1 650.4	1 954.0	2 190.0	539.5
Proportion	%	28.6	24.4	20.4	. .
Moreton					
Baby boomers	'000	210.5	273.3	317.6	107.0
Total population	'000	724.2	974.5	1 202.3	478.1
Proportion	%	29.1	28.1	26.4	. .
Wide Bay–Burnett					
Baby boomers	'000	66.9	84.2	99.3	32.4
Total population	'000	236.5	285.4	333.9	97.4
Proportion	%	28.3	29.5	29.7	. .
Darling Downs					
Baby boomers	'000	57.0	58.4	58.4	1.3
Total population	'000	210.3	229.4	248.3	38.0
Proportion	%	27.1	25.4	23.5	. .
South West					
Baby boomers	'000	7.5	6.7	5.4	–2.1
Total population	'000	27.0	26.8	27.4	0.4
Proportion	%	27.8	25.0	19.9	. .
Fitzroy					
Baby boomers	'000	52.0	49.9	45.0	–6.8
Total population	'000	181.7	201.5	223.2	41.5
Proportion	%	28.6	24.8	20.2	. .
Central West					
Baby boomers	'000	3.5	3.0	2.4	–1.1
Total population	'000	12.5	12.0	12.1	–0.4
Proportion	%	28.0	25.2	19.8	. .
Mackay					
Baby boomers	'000	41.6	41.6	39.2	–2.4
Total population	'000	137.5	155.6	172.4	34.9
Proportion	%	30.3	26.7	22.7	. .
Northern					
Baby boomers	'000	52.3	50.1	46.1	–6.3
Total population	'000	190.3	218.5	244.8	54.5
Proportion	%	27.5	22.9	18.8	. .
Far North					
Baby boomers	'000	65.7	68.7	65.1	–1.2
Total population	'000	222.5	263.4	301.5	77.4
Proportion	%	29.5	26.1	21.6	. .
North West					
Baby boomers	'000	9.4	8.2	6.4	–2.6
Total population	'000	35.9	33.1	33.9	–0.3
Proportion	%	26.2	24.7	18.9	. .
Queensland					
Baby boomers	'000	1 038.8	1 121.6	1 132.7	93.9
Total population	'000	3 628.9	4 354.1	4 989.9	1 360.9
Proportion	%	28.6	25.8	22.7	. .
Age ranges of baby boomers					
Minimum age	years	36	46	56	. .
Maximum age	years	55	55	75	. .

. . not applicable

(a) Based on Australian Standard Geographic Classification, 2001.

Source: Population by Age and Sex, Australia and States, 2001 – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 3235.0.55.001); OESR Population Projections, 2003 (medium series).

SUMMARY

- In 2001, baby boomers comprised a substantial proportion of the Queensland population. There were approximately 1.039 million baby boomers residing in Queensland, accounting for 29% of the total population. Over 65% of baby boomers lived in the south-east of the state (Brisbane and Moreton SDs).

- Almost one-fifth (19%) of the Indigenous population were baby boomers in 2001. This was substantially lower than the proportion for the non-Indigenous population (29%).

- Baby boomers moved to high growth areas between 1996 and 2001 mainly from surrounding regions. New South Wales and Victoria account for the largest numbers of interstate migrants, both across the state and in high growth areas.

- The number of baby boomers is projected to increase to 1.133 million by 2021 but will represent around 23% of Queensland's population. By 2051, the number of baby boomers is projected to decline to approximately 350,000 or 5% of Queensland's population. This will represent an almost tenfold increase in persons aged 86 years and over in the fifty year period between 2001 and 2051.

- The distribution of baby boomers across the state is projected to change substantially over the 20 years to 2021, with strong gains expected in Moreton and Wide Bay-Burnett SDs. All other SDs, apart from Darling Downs SD, are projected to record declines, with the largest numerical decline of baby boomers projected for Brisbane SD, while the highest percentage declines are projected for the western statistical divisions.

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CHAPTER 3 CULTURAL DIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

International migration has had a major impact on both the composition and size of the Queensland population. In 2001, 17% of the Queensland population were born overseas, compared with 22% of the total Australian population. There were 232,900 overseas-born baby boomers in Queensland, accounting for 23% of the state's baby boomers at the time of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

The level of Queensland's overseas migration is influenced by the Australian Government's immigration policies and the relative economic conditions prevalent in Australia and the rest of the world.

Most overseas migrants to Queensland in the 19th century were from the United Kingdom and Ireland and, to a lesser extent, from Europe (mainly Germany). In addition, in the late 1800s there were significant numbers of South Sea Islanders and Chinese migrants in Queensland.

Queensland had a history of importing labour from the South Sea Islands of the Pacific to work as indentured labourers in the cane fields, while the Chinese were largely attracted to the mining industry in northern Queensland.

The Immigration Restriction Act 1901 (commonly known as the 'White Australia' policy) introduced provisions that favoured applicants of European origin, predominantly Anglo-Celtic. There were several thousand indentured labourers from the South Sea Islands in Queensland in 1901 and the majority of these were deported as a result of this Act (Gistitin 1995).

In 1901, 35% of Queenslanders were born overseas, with nearly 30% from the United Kingdom, Ireland and Europe (Government Statistician's Office 1998).

Labour shortages in the immediate post-World War II period resulted in Australia accepting approximately 300,000 displaced persons from Europe. When the White Australia policy was finally abolished in 1973, subsequent, more open, migration policies resulted in migrants being accepted from elsewhere such as the Middle East and, more recently, from Asia.

This chapter uses ABS usual residence census data to describe characteristics such as household tenure, income and education of overseas-born baby boomers and compares them with Australian-born baby boomers. Country of birth, language, ancestry, and religion of baby boomers are also examined.

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS

Over the 25 years to 2001, Queensland has consistently recorded a lower proportion of overseas-born persons than the Australian average. In 1976, Queensland's overseas-born population accounted for 13% of the state's total population, rising to 17% in 2001. Overseas-born baby boomers accounted for 23% of all Queensland baby boomers in 2001.

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS *continued*

In 2001, Queensland had 232,900 overseas-born baby boomers (Table 3.1). Almost two-thirds of these were born in either North West Europe (95,400 persons) or Oceania excluding Australia (59,100 persons). Oceania comprises Australia, New Zealand, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia (excluding Hawaii) and Antarctica.

3.1 BIRTHPLACE OF OVERSEAS-BORN POPULATION, by age group—2001

					BABY BOOMERS					
	0–5 years	*6–15 years*	*16–25 years*	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*
	PER CENT									
Total Oceania and Antarctica (excluding Australia)	45.3	41.9	34.9	36.8	28.3	22.5	25.4	16.0	10.5	25.7
New Zealand	39.5	35.3	27.5	29.0	22.7	19.0	20.9	13.8	9.0	21.1
Rest of Oceania and Antarctica	5.9	6.6	7.4	7.8	5.6	3.4	4.5	2.1	1.4	4.6
Total North West Europe	18.3	16.3	16.7	26.8	36.2	45.7	41.0	55.6	58.1	39.2
United Kingdom	13.6	12.7	11.4	20.7	29.2	33.0	31.1	41.0	43.5	29.5
Ireland	0.5	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.8	1.1
Germany	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.7	2.0	4.6	3.3	5.2	4.7	3.2
Rest of North West Europe	2.6	2.0	3.3	3.4	4.1	6.9	5.5	8.0	8.1	5.4
Total Southern and Eastern Europe	2.3	4.6	4.7	4.5	6.5	9.3	7.9	13.4	18.9	9.2
Italy	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.1	2.6	1.8	4.1	7.4	2.5
Greece	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.5	1.3	1.5	0.7
Rest of Southern and Eastern Europe	2.0	4.3	4.3	3.8	5.0	5.9	5.5	8.0	10.1	6.0
North Africa and the Middle East	2.0	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.3
South East Asia	8.1	9.2	14.8	11.7	10.3	7.2	8.8	4.1	3.1	8.3
North East Asia	7.5	9.8	13.8	6.9	5.6	4.1	4.8	2.8	2.4	5.8
Southern and Central Asia	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.2
Total Americas	6.6	5.8	5.7	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.3	2.8	2.2	4.1
Northern America	5.4	4.2	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9	1.8	1.5	2.7
South America	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.8
Rest of Americas	0.3	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.6
Total Sub-Saharan Africa	7.1	7.6	5.1	4.3	4.4	3.6	4.0	2.3	1.6	3.8
South Africa	5.3	6.0	3.4	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.0	2.4
Rest of Sub-Saharan Africa	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.8	0.9	0.6	1.4
Total overseas-born(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)									
Total overseas-born(a)	8.2	36.1	63.4	88.0	116.6	116.3	232.9	82.8	92.4	603.8

(a) Including Inadequately described, At sea and Not elsewhere classified.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Persons born in North West Europe accounted for 41% of Queensland's total overseas-born baby boomers. This group was dominated by persons born in the United Kingdom with 72,500 persons, representing three-quarters of the baby boomers born in North West Europe.

Persons born in New Zealand were dominant in the Oceania group (excluding Australia), accounting for 48,600 of the 59,100 baby boomers born in this region. Of the remainder, 4,170 were born in Papua New Guinea, 2,920 in Fiji and 1,910 in Samoa.

PERSONS BORN OVERSEAS *continued*

A comparison of the origin of overseas-born baby boomers with younger age groups demonstrates the changes occurring in migration patterns. In 2001, persons born in the United Kingdom comprised 31% of total overseas-born baby boomers and 11% of overseas-born in the 16 to 25 years age group. Persons born in North East Asia (China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and the Koreas) accounted for 4.8% of total overseas-born baby boomers and 14% of overseas-born 16 to 25 year olds.

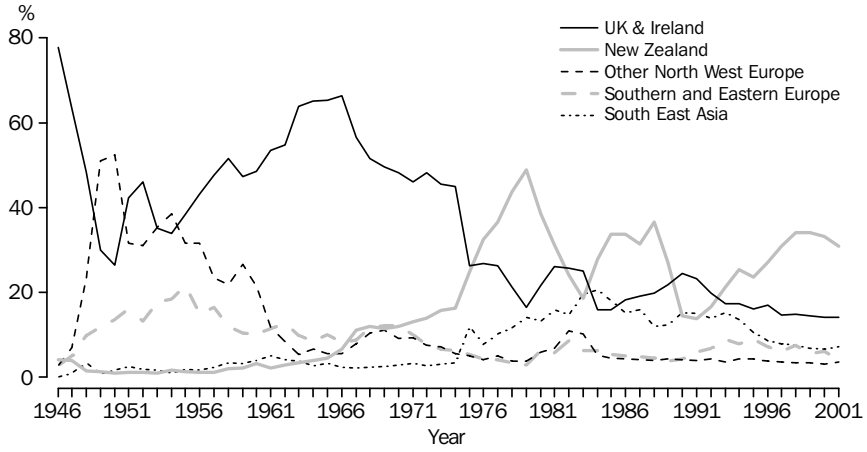
Year of arrival

Over the 50 years to 2001, changing patterns of migration to Australia have resulted in some overseas-born groups having an older age profile than others (ABS 2000). Overseas-born people from countries that supplied large numbers of immigrants in recent times (e.g. Asian and Eastern European countries) are more likely to have a younger profile than those people from countries with a long history of immigration (e.g. Northern and Southern European countries) (DIMA 2001).

Of the baby boomers who migrated to Australia between 1946 (when the first baby boomers were born) to 1975 (when baby boomers were aged 10-29 years), most were born in the United Kingdom, Ireland or other countries in North West Europe (Graph 3.2). By 2001, persons migrating from these countries accounted for 18% of Queensland's overseas-born baby boomer arrivals.

New Zealand-born persons have become a major contributor to overseas-born baby boomer arrivals to Queensland, rising from 12% of the total in 1970 to 31% in 2001. As a proportion of total overseas-born baby boomer arrivals, the contribution of New Zealand-born migrants has fluctuated markedly, peaking at 49% in 1979. In 1991 New Zealand-born baby boomers accounted for 14% of total overseas-born baby boomer arrivals. This contribution increased steadily to 34% by 1998, and remained over 30% until 2001.

3.2 OVERSEAS-BORN BABY BOOMERS, Year of arrival by selected country or region of birth(a)—1946 to 2001



(a) Year of arrival in Australia for those Queenslanders who were overseas-born baby boomers in 2001.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Year of arrival continued

Persons born in Asia have made a significant contribution to overseas-born baby boomers in Queensland since the mid 1970s. As with overseas-born people from other regions, the proportion of South East Asian-born to total overseas-born baby boomers has fluctuated over time.

This contribution is influenced by such things as government policy and opportunities available for people in their country of birth. Following changes to Australia's immigration policy in 1973, the proportion of South East Asian-born baby boomers arriving in Queensland increased through the rest of the 1970s to account for 14% of the total by 1979. From 1980 to 1995, South East Asian-born baby boomers accounted for over 10% of all overseas-born baby boomers arriving in Queensland. This proportion fell to 7.2% in 2001.

LANGUAGE

English is recognised as the official language of Australia. In 2001, 89% of Queensland baby boomers spoke English at home (Table 3.3), similar to that of the total Queensland population.

The ability to speak English is an indicator of a person's ability to participate within the community, to access services, employment opportunities and wealth creation, and general wellbeing (DIMA 2001).

Of the baby boomers resident in Queensland in 2001, 75,800 (7.5% of the total) spoke a language other than English at home. Of these languages, the European languages most spoken by baby boomers at home were Italian (6,800) and German (4,100). Asian languages featured prominently, with Cantonese (6,000), Mandarin (4,800), Tagalog (Filipino) (4,400) and Vietnamese (4,100) being the most common spoken at home.

LANGUAGE *continued*

3.3 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY BABY BOOMERS, by Australian-born and overseas-born persons—2001

	Overseas born(a)	*Australian born*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT		
Total Northern European languages	75.6	97.4	89.9
English	73.0	97.2	89.1
German	1.4	0.1	0.4
Rest of Northern European languages	1.2	0.1	0.3
Total Southern European languages	4.3	0.8	1.6
Italian	1.3	0.5	0.7
Greek	0.6	0.2	0.3
Rest of Southern European languages	2.4	0.1	0.6
Eastern European languages	3.9	0.2	1.1
Southeast Asian languages	4.5	0.1	1.1
Rest of Asian and African languages	9.0	0.1	2.2
Other languages	1.7	0.4	0.7
Total(b)(c)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)		
Total(b)(c)	232.9	737.1	1 006.4

(a) Including At sea and Inadequately described.
(b) Including Not stated.
(c) Including Non-verbal or Inadequately described.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

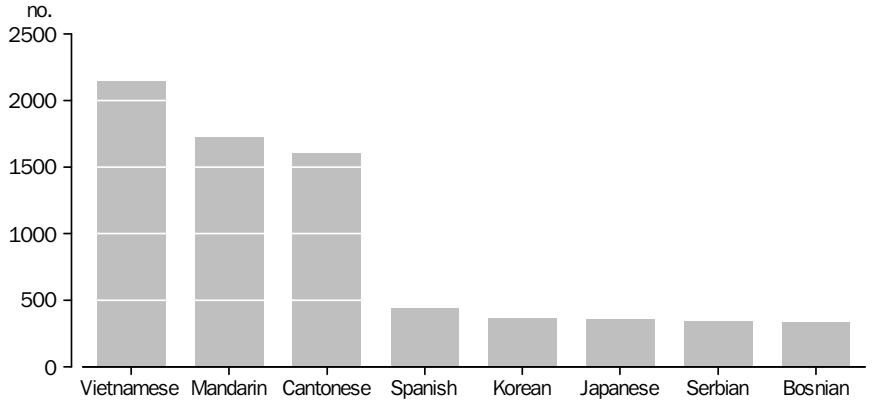
English language proficiency

People with poor English language skills can become further disadvantaged as they age if their proficiency in English does not improve (DIMA 2001). This may be particularly pertinent for females who arrive in Australia from non-English speaking countries and for those who arrive at an older age, as they, in general, report greater difficulty learning English (ABS 2000). The level of interaction with the wider community, in such forms as labour force participation and involvement in organised activities, is a contributing factor to the degree of improvement in the English proficiency of migrants.

About 15% (11,100) of baby boomers resident in Queensland in 2001 who spoke a language other than English at home indicated that they were not proficient in English. Of these, nearly half (49%) spoke either Vietnamese (19%), Mandarin (15%) or Cantonese (14%) at home, while 5.7% spoke a South East Asian language other than Vietnamese. Of the remainder, 14% spoke an Eastern European language, 9.0% spoke a Southern European language and only 1.0% spoke a Northern European language (Graph 3.4).

English language proficiency continued

3.4 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY BABY BOOMERS WHO DID NOT SPEAK ENGLISH WELL, by main language—2001



Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

COMPARING OVERSEAS-BORN AND AUSTRALIAN-BORN BABY BOOMERS

Overseas-born baby boomers accounted for 23% of total Queensland baby boomers in 2001. This section compares the overseas-born baby boomers with their Australian-born counterparts in the areas of household tenure, income and education levels. It highlights the similarities and differences evident in these two populations.

Household tenure type

Of the 698,000 Australian-born baby boomers enumerated at home at the 2001 census, 75% either fully owned a property (35%) or were in the process of purchasing a property (40%), compared with 64% of overseas-born baby boomers (Table 3.5). Of the overseas-born baby boomers, those born in Italy (55%), North East Asia (54%) and Greece (53%) were most likely to fully own a home and were least likely to be in the process of purchasing a home.

Full property ownership was lowest among those baby boomers born in Rest of Americas (Central America and Caribbean) (15%), South America (19%) and New Zealand (21%). As a consequence, renting was more common, with over one-third of baby boomers from these regions renting, compared with 22% of Australian-born baby boomers.

3.5 TENURE TYPE OF USUAL RESIDENCE, BABY BOOMERS(a), by birthplace—2001

	Fully owned	*Being purchased*(b)	*Rented*	*Other tenure type*(c)	*Total*(d)
	PER CENT				
Australia (including External Territories)	*35.0*	*39.6*	*22.0*	*2.1*	*100.0*
Total Oceania and Antarctica (excluding Australia)	21.6	39.9	35.1	1.7	100.0
New Zealand	20.8	41.6	34.5	1.6	100.0
Rest of Oceania and Antarctica	25.0	32.1	38.1	2.2	100.0
Total North West Europe	30.3	43.9	23.3	1.4	100.0
United Kingdom	27.8	46.2	23.8	1.2	100.0
Ireland	30.6	46.4	20.5	1.2	100.0
Germany	42.9	33.0	20.8	1.9	100.0
Rest of North West Europe	36.8	37.0	22.5	2.0	100.0
Total Southern and Eastern Europe	41.2	29.6	24.3	2.4	100.0
Italy	55.1	26.6	13.9	2.5	100.0
Greece	53.1	24.8	16.9	2.4	100.0
Rest of Southern and Eastern Europe	35.4	31.0	28.5	2.4	100.0
North Africa and the Middle East	29.6	31.1	34.3	2.6	100.0
South East Asia	39.3	32.7	23.7	2.2	100.0
North East Asia	53.8	18.6	23.5	2.1	100.0
Southern and Central Asia	30.5	38.0	27.3	2.2	100.0
Total Americas	25.1	39.5	32.0	1.8	100.0
Northern America	29.2	40.1	27.5	1.9	100.0
South America	19.2	42.0	35.6	1.3	100.0
Rest of Americas	14.6	33.1	47.8	1.9	100.0
Total Sub-Saharan Africa	26.6	40.9	29.6	1.7	100.0
South Africa	25.9	39.8	31.5	1.6	100.0
Rest of Sub-Saharan Africa	27.5	42.2	27.1	1.7	100.0
Total overseas-born(e)	*28.5*	*35.5*	*25.4*	*1.6*	*100.0*
Total(f)	**33.2**	**38.5**	**22.9**	**2.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)				
Total	316.9	366.9	218.2	19.2	953.3

(a) Usual residents enumerated at home in occupied private dwellings. Excluding overseas visitors.
(b) Including Rent/buy schemes.
(c) Including Being occupied rent free, Being occupied under a life tenure scheme and Other tenure type.
(d) Including Not stated or Not applicable.
(e) Including Inadequately described, At sea, and Not elsewhere classified.
(f) Including Not stated.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Income

Queensland baby boomers who were born in Australia have a slightly higher representation at the upper end of the income scale than overseas-born baby boomers (Table 3.6).

Five per cent of these Australian-born baby boomers had an income of $78,000 and above in 2001, similar to the proportion of overseas-born baby boomers (4.9%). Baby boomers born in South Africa (11% of total) and Northern America (predominantly the United States and Canada) (10%) were the most heavily represented in the income range of $78,000 and above. One-third of Australian-born baby boomers recorded an income in the range $1-$20,799 in 2001. This was similar to the proportion for overseas-born baby boomers of 33%. Baby boomers born in Rest of Americas, South East Asia, Rest of Southern and Eastern Europe and North Africa and the Middle East were most heavily represented in this income range.

3.6 ANNUAL INCOME OF BABY BOOMERS, by birthplace—2001

	Negative or nil income	*$1–$20,799*	*$20,800–$31,199*	*$31,200–$41,599*	*$41,600–$77,999*	*$78,000 or more*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Australia (including External Territories)	*4.3*	*32.7*	*20.1*	*14.2*	*20.0*	*5.0*	*100.0*
Total Oceania and Antarctica (excluding Australia)	5.2	30.9	22.8	15.7	17.1	4.2	100.0
New Zealand	4.9	29.6	22.9	16.4	18.0	4.5	100.0
Rest of Oceania and Antarctica	6.3	36.6	22.1	12.4	13.1	3.0	100.0
Total North West Europe	5.4	31.6	19.4	14.8	20.0	5.5	100.0
United Kingdom	5.2	30.8	19.4	15.0	20.6	5.8	100.0
Ireland	5.1	27.0	18.2	16.2	21.8	7.1	100.0
Germany	6.6	35.7	19.2	14.1	16.6	3.9	100.0
Rest of North West Europe	6.0	34.4	19.8	13.7	18.0	4.0	100.0
Total Southern and Eastern Europe	5.8	40.7	20.2	12.1	12.8	3.2	100.0
Italy	5.4	34.0	21.4	14.2	15.2	4.3	100.0
Greece	5.2	40.6	21.6	11.2	11.0	4.1	100.0
Rest of Southern and Eastern Europe	5.9	43.0	19.6	11.6	12.2	2.8	100.0
North Africa and the Middle East	5.8	42.3	17.1	9.4	14.0	5.2	100.0
South East Asia	7.6	43.8	21.4	9.7	10.1	2.6	100.0
North East Asia	14.2	38.2	17.3	10.0	12.2	3.4	100.0
Southern and Central Asia	7.3	28.1	16.7	14.0	23.0	7.6	100.0
Total Americas	7.2	31.3	17.4	12.5	20.4	7.8	100.0
Northern America	8.0	25.7	16.0	12.5	24.4	10.3	100.0
South America	6.5	40.0	19.2	13.3	13.9	2.6	100.0
Rest of Americas	4.5	44.8	21.4	11.3	10.6	3.1	100.0
Total Sub-Saharan Africa	8.1	23.1	17.2	14.8	23.9	9.9	100.0
South Africa	8.9	20.6	16.7	15.0	25.0	10.9	100.0
Rest of Sub-Saharan Africa	7.1	26.4	17.8	14.5	22.4	8.6	100.0
Total overseas-born(b)	*6.2*	*33.2*	*20.1*	*13.9*	*17.6*	*4.9*	*100.0*
Total(c)	**4.7**	**32.2**	**19.6**	**13.8**	**18.9**	**4.8**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	47.2	324.2	197.7	138.9	190.1	48.5	1 006.4

(a) Including Not stated or Not applicable.
(b) Including Inadequately described, At sea and Not elsewhere classified.
(c) Including Not stated.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Level of education

Of those Australian-born baby boomers resident in Queensland in 2001, 13% held a bachelor degree or higher level of education qualification compared with 17% for overseas-born baby boomers (Table 3.7). While this proportion was higher than that of baby boomers born in New Zealand (8.5%), Italy (7.7%) and Greece (6.9%), it was considerably lower than baby boomers from many other regions. The proportion of baby boomers born in Northern America (39% of total), Southern and Central Asia (including India and Sri Lanka) (38%) and South Africa (31%) who possessed a bachelor degree or higher was more than twice that of their Australian-born counterparts.

3.7 EDUCATION LEVEL OF BABY BOOMERS, by birthplace—2001

	Bachelor degree and above	*Advanced diploma and diploma level*	*Certificate Level*	*No qualifications*(a)	*Total*(b)
			PER CENT		
Australia (including External Territories)	*13.1*	*6.7*	*19.4*	*54.9*	*100.0*
Total Oceania and Antarctica (excluding Australia)	9.3	7.2	21.6	53.4	100.0
New Zealand	8.5	7.0	23.1	53.4	100.0
Rest of Oceania and Antarctica	13.1	8.2	14.9	53.3	100.0
Total North West Europe	14.9	8.8	23.6	45.4	100.0
United Kingdom	15.2	8.5	22.7	47.0	100.0
Ireland	19.3	8.9	22.7	41.3	100.0
Germany	14.0	9.1	27.3	39.2	100.0
Rest of North West Europe	12.8	10.2	26.6	41.1	100.0
Total Southern and Eastern Europe	12.0	7.9	22.3	47.3	100.0
Italy	7.7	4.8	21.0	58.5	100.0
Greece	6.9	4.0	16.0	65.5	100.0
Rest of Southern and Eastern Europe	13.9	9.3	23.3	41.7	100.0
North Africa and the Middle East	26.0	7.6	12.1	44.1	100.0
South East Asia	23.4	6.5	8.3	52.0	100.0
North East Asia	30.5	8.6	6.6	45.2	100.0
Southern and Central Asia	37.8	9.0	11.0	33.9	100.0
Total Americas	33.1	10.0	13.6	34.9	100.0
Northern America	39.4	9.6	11.7	32.7	100.0
South America	21.9	10.6	18.5	37.6	100.0
Rest of Americas	19.7	10.9	15.8	41.4	100.0
Total Sub-Saharan Africa	29.3	15.2	17.6	31.0	100.0
South Africa	30.9	16.9	17.9	28.0	100.0
Rest of Sub-Saharan Africa	27.3	13.0	17.3	34.7	100.0
Total overseas-born(c)	*16.8*	*8.4*	*19.7*	*46.8*	*100.0*
Total(d)	**13.6**	**6.9**	**19.0**	**51.8**	**100.0**
			PERSONS ('000)		
Total	136.8	69.9	191.2	521.7	1 006.4

(a) Including qualifications deemed out of scope.
(b) Including Inadequately described, Not stated and Not applicable.
(c) Including Inadequately described, At sea, and Not elsewhere classified.
(d) Including Not stated.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Level of education continued

Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications include both advanced diploma and diploma level and certificate level courses. In 2001, 26% of Australian-born baby boomers possessed VET qualifications, slightly lower than the proportion of overseas-born baby boomers (28%). Baby boomers born in Rest of North West Europe, Germany and South Africa were the most likely to possess VET qualifications.

ANCESTRY

Ancestry describes a person's ethnic or cultural heritage. It is usually considered in terms of a person's identification with particular ethnic groups, cultural groups or nationalities, or descendancy from one or more particular groups. The extent to which successive generations retain their culture, ethnicity or language is an important element of cultural and language diversity in Australia (ABS 1999).

ANCESTRY *continued*

In the 2001 census, people were asked to report the ancestries with which they most closely identified as far back as three generations. Over one-half (54%) of Queensland baby boomers reported North West European ancestry (Table 3.8). The most commonly cited North West European ancestries among Queensland baby boomers were British (42%), Irish (6.6%) and German (3.4%). Australian ancestry was reported by 29% of all baby boomers.

3.8 ANCESTRY OF PERSONS, by age group—2001

				BABY BOOMERS					
	0–15 years	*16–25 years*	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*
	PER CENT								
Total Oceanian	46.0	37.9	34.6	31.7	29.5	30.7	26.5	24.9	34.8
Australian	44.2	36.1	32.5	29.9	28.0	29.0	25.5	24.5	33.2
New Zealander	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.3	1.0
Rest of Oceanian	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.6
Total North West European	38.2	45.1	49.0	52.1	56.3	54.1	60.3	58.2	49.4
British	32.7	36.3	38.0	40.0	43.8	41.8	47.0	45.7	39.3
Irish	3.3	4.9	6.0	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.2	5.5
German	1.5	2.5	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.9	3.7	2.9
Rest of North West European	0.6	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.5	1.8
Total Southern and Eastern European	2.8	3.9	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.5	4.3
Italian	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.3	1.8
Greek	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Rest of Southern and Eastern European	0.9	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	1.9
North African and Middle Eastern	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
South East Asian	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.3	1.0
North East Asian	1.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.2	0.8	1.8
Southern and Central Asian	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.6
Total People of the Americas	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4
North American	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
South American	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1
Rest of the Americas	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1
Sub-Saharan African	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)								
Total(b)	811.2	489.0	510.1	532.9	473.5	1 006.4	318.4	387.0	3 522.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) Including Inadequately described or Not stated.
(b) Table counts first response only in cases where more than one ancestry was identified. Therefore the number of responses is the same as the number of persons.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

RELIGION

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Australia was predominantly a Christian nation, with 94% of the Queensland population being affiliated with a Christian religion (ABS 2001). Changing migration patterns over the twentieth century and, in particular, the recent increase in the proportion of migrants from Asia and the Middle East have resulted in an increase in non-Christian religions in Australia. In addition, there has also been a recent trend for a large number of persons to state they had no religion.

RELIGION *continued*

In 2001, almost three-quarters (73%) of Queensland baby boomers stated that they were Christian (Table 3.9). The corresponding figure for persons aged under 36 years was 66%, and for persons aged 66 years and over 83%.

The proportion of people reporting their religion as Christian increased with age, with younger people more likely to state they had no religion. In 2001, 14% of all Queensland baby boomers stated that they did not affiliate with any religion compared with 18% of persons aged less than 36 years and 6.4% of persons aged 66 years and over.

Buddhism was the most commonly reported non-Christian religion of Queensland baby boomers (1.3%).

3.9 RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, by age group—2001

			BABY BOOMERS					
	0–15 years	*16–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*
				PER CENT				
Buddhism	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.4	1.1
Christianity	66.2	65.9	71.3	74.2	72.7	79.3	82.7	71.0
Hinduism	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3
Islam	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.4
Judaism	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Other religions	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4
No religion	18.2	18.4	14.6	12.6	13.7	9.2	6.4	14.8
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
				PERSONS ('000)				
Total(a)	811.2	999.1	532.9	473.5	1 006.4	318.4	387.0	3 522.0

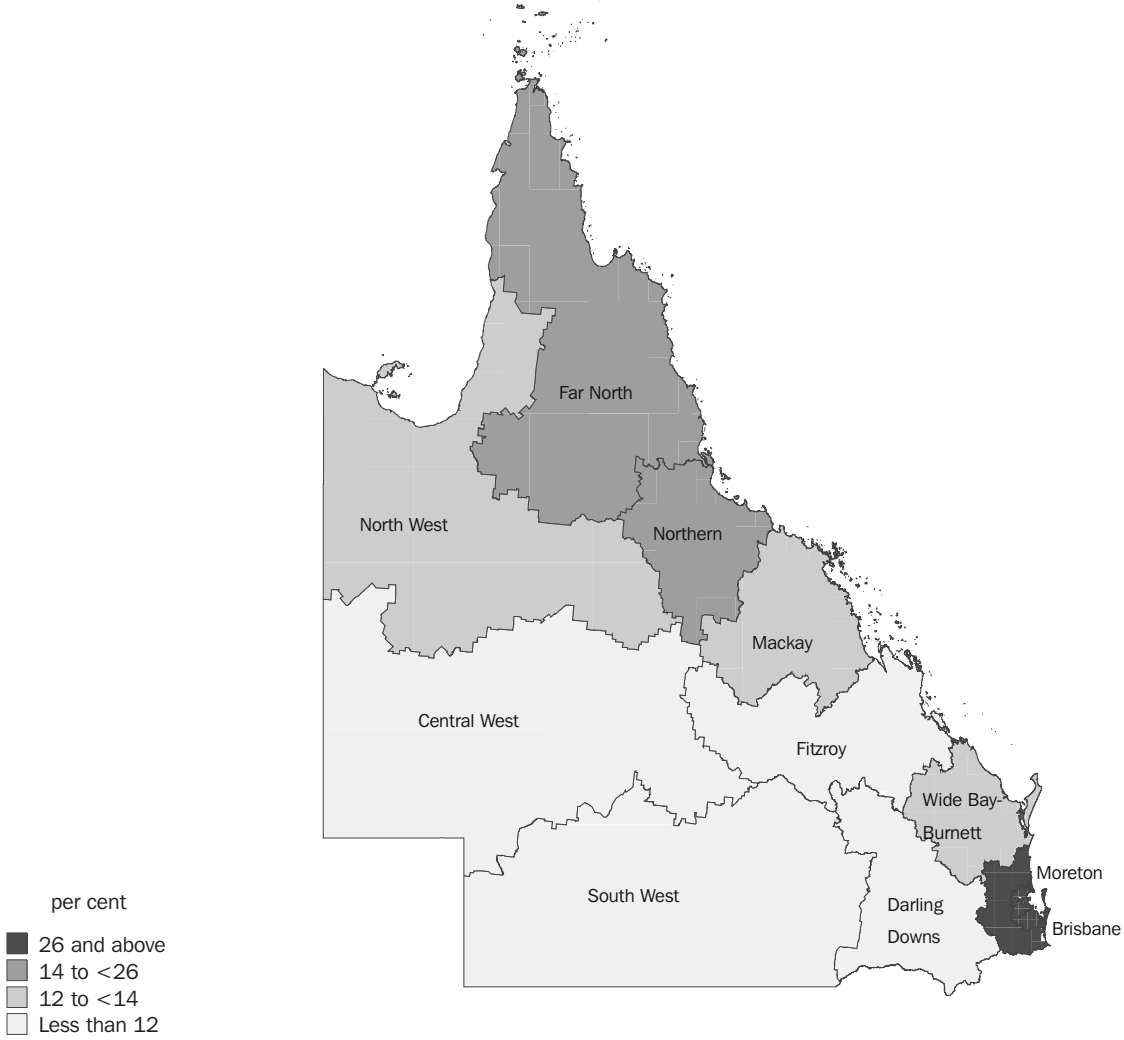
(a) Including Not stated, Inadequately described and Not further defined.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

The overseas-born population is highly concentrated in the more urban regions of Queensland and this concentration is more evident for overseas-born baby boomers. In Brisbane Statistical Division (SD) in 2001, 28% of baby boomers were born overseas (Figure 3.10). Moreton SD recorded similar proportions of overseas-born baby boomers to Brisbane SD. South West SD and Central West SD had the lowest proportion of overseas-born baby boomers, recording less than 7% of their baby boomers being born overseas.

3.10 OVERSEAS-BORN BABY BOOMERS, by Statistical Division—2001



Source: Census of Population and Housing 2001

SUMMARY

- In 2001, overseas-born baby boomers accounted for 23% of Queensland baby boomers compared with 17% of the state's total population being born overseas. Persons born in North West Europe accounted for 41% of Queensland's overseas-born baby boomers.

- In 2001, 7.5% (75,800) of baby boomers resident in Queensland spoke a language other than English at home. Of these baby boomers, 11,100 were not proficient in English.

- Sixty-four per cent of overseas-born baby boomers either fully owned or were in the process of purchasing a home in 2001. This compares with 75% for Australian-born baby boomers.

- In 2001, 4.9% of overseas-born baby boomers reported income of $78,000 or more compared with 5.0% of Australian-born baby boomers. A similar proportion (33%) of both Australian and overseas-born baby boomers reported income of $1 – $20,799 in 2001.

- Nearly 17% of overseas-born baby boomers held a bachelor degree or higher level of educational qualification. This was higher than for Australian-born baby boomers (13%).

- Overseas-born baby boomers are more concentrated in the south-east corner of the state with over one-quarter of baby boomers residing in each of Brisbane and Moreton SDs in 2001. This compares with less than 7% of baby boomers residing in South West and Central West SDs being born overseas.

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CHAPTER 4 FAMILIES AND CARE

INTRODUCTION

Families form the basic unit of home life for most Australian people. They provide supportive relationships, companionship and guidance on social values, develop social cohesion and form the basis of a civil society. The family unit also takes on a large part of the burden of caring for people in need of support (ABS 2001a).

This chapter examines the marital status of the baby boomers, and the types of families or households they live in. The projected living arrangements for baby boomers and their role in caring informally for other people are also discussed.

Data presented are drawn from a range of ABS sources such as the Census of Population and Housing, the Family Characteristics Survey, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, and Household and Family Projections 2001 to 2026.

MARITAL STATUS

Social and economic events occurring in the latter half of the 20th century triggered a shift in attitudes towards family formation. Some of these events, which included greater participation of women in the labour force and greater control over conception, resulted in men and women delaying marriage and having children later in life (ABS 2002). This has been further compounded by the changing attitudes of young adults as they reach milestones (leaving the parental home, gaining economic independence, marrying or forming long-term de facto relationships) later in life than their parents. Young adults are now more likely to enter into de facto marriages prior to deciding whether to formally marry (ABS 2000a, 2001b).

Registered marital status

Registered marital status refers to a person's status in relation to a legally registered marriage as either never married, currently married, separated, divorced or widowed.

At the time of the 2001 census, 68% of baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years in 2001) were registered as married, higher than the overall proportion for the Queensland population aged 16 years and over (52%) (Table 4.1). The proportions of younger baby boomers and older baby boomers in registered marriages were 65% and 70% respectively. This proportion dropped to 55% for persons aged 66 years and over, reflecting the higher proportion of this age group that are widowed (32%).

Registered marital status continued

4.1 REGISTERED MARITAL STATUS, by age groups—2001

			BABY BOOMERS					
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
				PER CENT				
Never married	92.2	42.1	16.3	7.5	12.1	5.2	5.2	30.4
Married	6.9	48.5	65.4	70.0	67.6	71.5	54.8	51.7
Separated	0.6	4.3	6.2	5.6	5.9	4.1	2.1	3.9
Divorced	0.3	5.0	11.4	14.7	12.9	12.7	6.3	8.2
Widowed	0.1	0.2	0.8	2.2	1.4	6.5	31.5	5.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
				PERSONS ('000)				
Total	489.0	510.1	532.9	473.5	1 006.4	318.4	387.0	2 710.8

(a) Persons aged 16 years and over. Excluding overseas visitors.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

The trend of increasing age at first marriage and the increasing number of de facto relationships could explain why a larger proportion of younger baby boomers (16%) had never been married compared with older baby boomers (7.5%).

In 2001, 19% of baby boomers were divorced or separated. This is due to baby boomers being at an age where most people have been married at least once and where divorces are also prevalent. The median age of divorce was 42.5 years for men and 39.6 years for women in 2002. A further 1.4% of baby boomers were widowed.

The rate of divorce and separation for baby boomers has important policy implications due to the economic and social effects resulting from the splitting of family assets and savings, and the changed family and social support structure.

De facto marriage

For the purposes of the census, a de facto marriage exists when the relationship between two people (of the opposite or same sex, who live together in the same household) is reported as de facto, partner, common law husband/wife/spouse, lover, boyfriend or girlfriend.

In recent decades, there has been a move away from the traditional type of marriage in favour of de facto marriages, especially prior to formal or registered marriages. Of all marriages in 2002, 80% of couples had cohabited prior to marrying (ABS 2003).

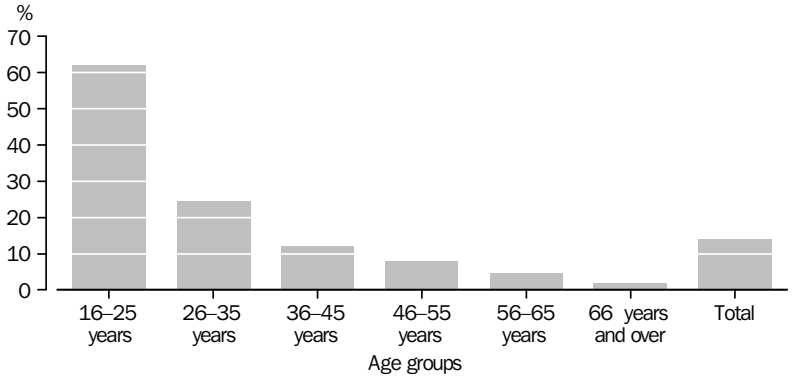
In 2001, 10% of baby boomers living in a couple relationship were in a de facto marriage, lower than the overall proportion for the Queensland population aged 16 years and over (14%) (Graph 4.2).

De facto marriages were more common among people in younger age groups, particularly those in their twenties or younger. Of those aged 16 to 25 years living in a couple relationship, 62% were in a de facto marriage.

De facto marriage

continued

4.2 PERSONS(a) LIVING IN A COUPLE RELATIONSHIP, Proportion in de facto marriages, by age group—2001



(a) Persons aged 16 years and over. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

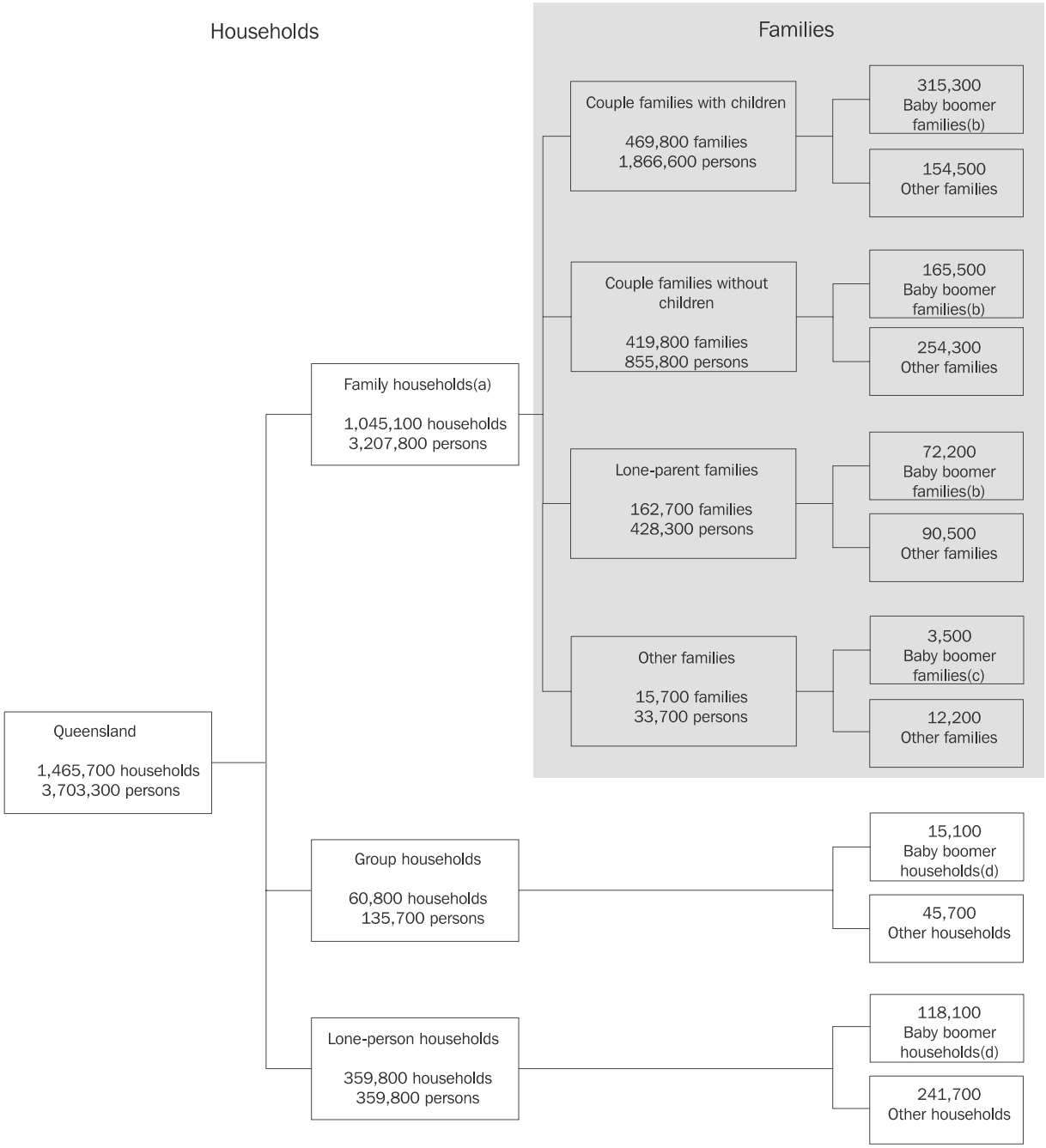
FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

This section presents data from the 2003 Family Characteristics Survey to examine the households and families that baby boomers live in. The survey reported 1.045 million family households in Queensland with 1.068 million families residing in these households. Figure 4.3 shows the number of persons, types of households and families in 2003.

For the purpose of this analysis, the following definitions are used: a 'baby boomer household' is a household that includes a person of baby boomer age (38 to 57 years in 2003); a 'baby boomer couple' or 'baby boomer lone-parent family' is a family where one of the partners (or lone parent) is of baby boomer age; all other baby boomer families are those that include at least one baby boomer partner.

Over half of the 1.068 million Queensland families in 2003 were baby boomer families (52%). The majority of baby boomer families were couples with children (57%), while 30% were couples without children, and 13% were baby boomer lone-parent families.

4.3 HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES BY TYPE



(a) In addition to couples, parents, children and other family members, family households may also include unrelated individuals. Therefore, the number of persons in family households will not equal the number of persons in families. A total of 23,400 unrelated individuals lived with families in households.
(b) A baby boomer family is where one of the partners (or lone parent) was aged 38 to 57 years.
(c) A baby boomer other family is a family that includes a person aged 38 to 57 years.
(d) A baby boomer household is a household that includes a person aged 38 to 57 years.

Source: ABS data available on request, Family Characteristics Survey, 2003.

Families

COUPLE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

In 2003, two-thirds (67%) of couple families with children comprised at least one partner of baby boomer age, with 73% of these families having both partners of baby boomer age (Table 4.4).

Of the 315,300 baby boomer couple families with children, 40% (125,200) contained two younger baby boomer partners, 18% (56,400) contained two older baby boomer partners and 16% (49,300) contained one younger baby boomer and one older baby boomer as partners.

4.4 COUPLE FAMILIES—2003

	With children	*Without children*	*All couple families*
	NUMBER OF FAMILIES ('000)		
Baby Boomer families			
Both partners of younger baby boomer age	125.2	18.5	143.7
Both partners of older baby boomer age	56.4	62.6	119.0
One partner of younger and one of older baby boomer age	49.3	25.3	74.7
One partner of baby boomer age	84.3	59.1	143.4
Total baby boomer families	*315.3*	*165.5*	*480.8*
Families with no baby boomer parents/partners	154.5	254.3	408.8
Total	**469.8**	**419.8**	**889.6**

Source: ABS data available on request, Family Characteristics Survey, 2003.

COUPLE FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN

In 2003, over a third (39%) of baby boomer couple families without children contained at least one partner of baby boomer age (Table 4.4). Of baby boomer couple families without children, 11% had two partners of younger baby boomer age, 38% had two partners of older baby boomer age and a further 15% contained one younger and one older baby boomer as partners.

Over a third (35%) of couple families without children were those where both partners were aged 58 years and over in 2003. These couples are more likely to have children that have left the parental home, becoming what is commonly referred to as 'empty-nesters'. A further 25% of couple families without children contained two partners born after the baby boom.

LONE-PARENT FAMILIES

There are a growing number of Australian families comprising children with only one resident parent. This is largely associated with the increase in the number of divorced and separated persons in the population, although the rate of divorce has changed little in recent decades. In 1992, lone-parent families made up 13% of all families in Queensland (110,300). By 2003, this proportion had increased to 15% (162,700 families) (Figure 4.3).

Families continued

LONE-PARENT FAMILIES *continued*

Less than half (44%) of the 162,700 lone-parent families in 2003 had a parent of baby boomer age, with a higher proportion of these families containing lone parents of younger than older baby boomer age (28% and 17% of all lone-parent families respectively). Around 37% of lone-parent families had a lone parent under 38 years of age.

The parent in the majority of lone-parent baby boomer families was female (82%) compared with 88% of all lone-parent families.

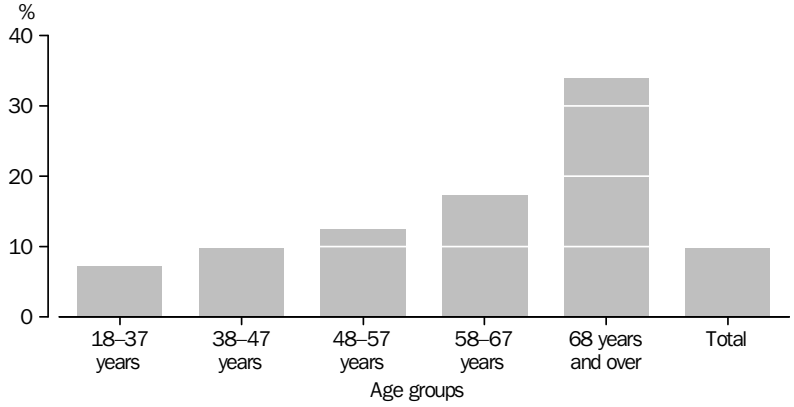
Lone-Person households

Lone-person households have become more common in recent decades, and reflect social changes, such as increases in the number of divorced and widowed people. As people age, there is an increased likelihood of living alone, through the death of a partner or through separation due to illness or disability (ABS 1999). The total number of lone-person households increased from 21% (229,500 households) in 1992 to 25% (359,800) in 2003. Of all lone-person households in 2003, 33% (118,100) were baby boomer households (Figure 4.3).

In 2003, 11% of all baby boomers were living alone, compared with 9.7% of the Queensland population. This proportion was higher for older baby boomers (13%) than younger baby boomers (9.8%) (Graph 4.5). The proportion increased with age, with 17% of persons aged 58 to 67 years and 34% of persons aged 68 years and over living alone.

Most baby boomers living alone were male (63%), which may indicate males are more likely to live alone after separation or divorce, while females more often become lone parents (75%) (ABS 1996).

4.5 PROPORTION OF PERSONS LIVING ALONE, by age group—2003



Source: ABS data available on request, Family Characteristics Survey, 2003.

Group households

In 2003, there were 15,100 group households with at least one person of baby boomer age, representing 25% of all group households.

HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY PROJECTIONS

This section presents ABS Household and Family projections from 2001 to 2026 to examine the projected living arrangements of baby boomers. These projections show some possible scenarios for households, families and living arrangements between 2001 and 2026. Three household and family projection series have been produced – Series I, II and III – using different assumptions about the rate of change in living arrangements. This section draws on data from Series II of the projections. The base population used for the projections is the June 2001 estimate, distributed by living arrangement type as determined using 2001 census information.

Household and families

Between 2001 and 2026 Queensland is projected to experience the strongest growth in households in Australia. Queensland households are projected to increase by 68%, from around 1.4 million in 2001 to 2.3 million in 2026, exceeding the projected national growth of 42% (ABS 2004a).

Lone-person households are projected to increase substantially, growing by 111% from 329,500 households in 2001 to 695,600 in 2026.

The number of families in Queensland is also projected to increase more rapidly than families Australia-wide, from about 1.0 million in 2001 to 1.5 million in 2026, an increase of around 50%. This is higher than the 31% growth projected nationally.

Couple families without children are projected to become the most common family type, overtaking couple families with children in 2026. The proportion of couple families without children is projected to increase from 37% of all Queensland families in 2001 to 47% in 2026, while the proportion of couple families with children is projected to decline from 44% to 34%.

Projected living arrangements of baby boomers

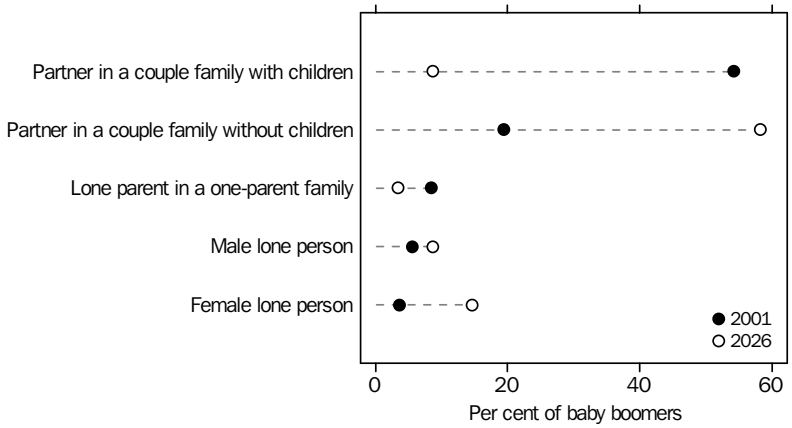
As the age structure of the population changes and as trends in marriage, family and work change, living arrangements will also shift.

Although baby boomers in 2001 were aged 36 to 55 years and will be aged 61 to 80 years in 2026, these projections use standard age ranges to approximate the baby boomer cohort, 35 to 54 years and 60 to 79 years respectively.

The proportion of baby boomers living as partners in a couple family without children is projected to rise from 19% of this age group in 2001 to 58% in 2026, becoming the most common living arrangement for baby boomers (Graph 4.6). For younger baby boomers, the proportion is projected to rise from 11% to 61%, while for older baby boomers the proportion is projected to increase from 29% to 55%.

Projected living arrangements of baby boomers continued

4.6 COMMON LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BABY BOOMERS—2001 and 2026



Source: ABS data available on request, Household and Family Projections, Australia, 2001 to 2026.

In 2026, living alone is projected to be the second most common living arrangement for baby boomers with 23% of all baby boomers living alone, an increase from 9.3% in 2001. Of these baby boomers living alone, 167,500 (63%) are projected to be females. A higher proportion of older baby boomers (29%) is projected to be living alone than younger baby boomers (19%).

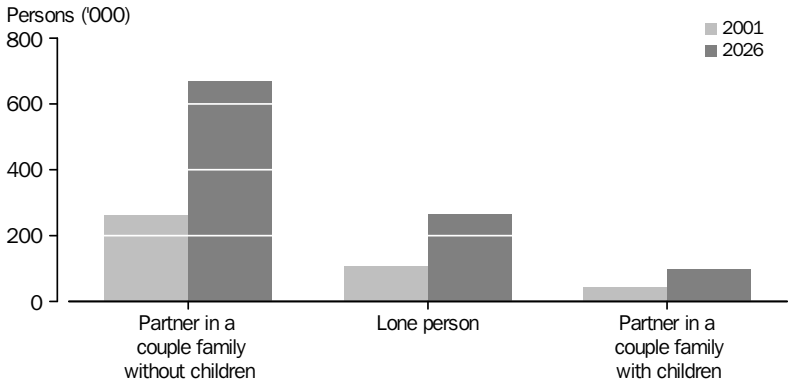
The third most common living arrangement is projected to be that of living as a partner in a couple family with children, declining to 8.7% in 2026 from 54% in 2001. It is projected that a higher proportion of younger baby boomers (11%) will be living in this arrangement than older baby boomers (5.9%).

Due to the size of the baby boomer cohort, it is projected that by 2026 there will be a much larger number of persons in the 60 to 79 years age group than in 2001. For further information, refer to *Chapter 2: Demography*.

Although the most common living arrangements for the 60 to 79 years age group are projected to remain the same as those for this age group in 2001, the numbers of persons living in these arrangements are projected to increase. It is projected that the number of persons aged 60 to 79 years living as partners in a couple family without children will increase by 154% from 264,000 in 2001 to 670,800 in 2026 (Graph 4.7). Over the same period, the number of persons in this age group living alone is projected to increase by 153% from 105,800 to 267,800. These changes will have implications not only for housing demand, but also for policies relating to income support, accommodation provisions, aged care, health and family services.

Projected living arrangements of baby boomers continued

4.7 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERSONS AGED 60 TO 79 YEARS—2001 and 2026



Source: ABS data available on request, Household and Family Projections, Australia, 2001 to 2026.

CARERS

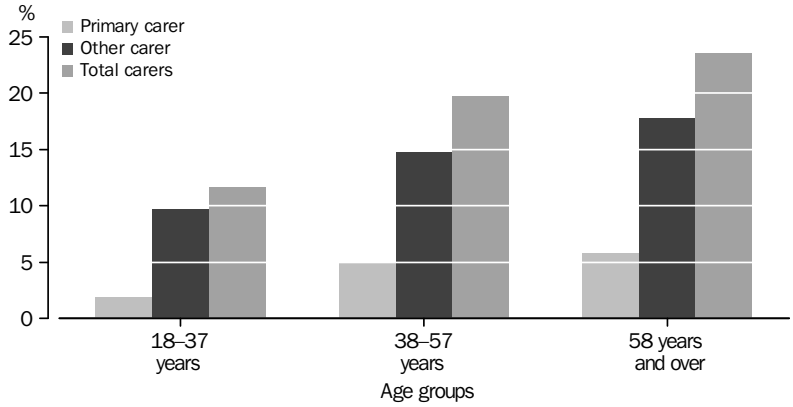
Caring, in its broadest sense, encompasses many of the daily interactions that maintain and enhance human relationships. In most instances, the role of caring is provided by family members or friends, and is a role that most people will play at some point in their lifetime. The assistance provided by friends and family members makes it possible for people who are frail, aged or have disabilities to live at home and to access community services. Caring for others contributes to the cohesion of families and communities, and the extent to which it occurs in a society is a measure of community strength and social solidarity (ABS 2000b).

The 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers identified 209,300 carers in Queensland who were baby boomers (persons aged 38 to 57 years in 2003). This figure represents 43% of all carers in Queensland. A carer was defined as any person who provided informal help or supervision to persons with disabilities or long-term conditions, or to persons who were elderly. The survey did not include persons who were caring for a child, unless the child had a disability or long-term condition.

The rates of caring within different age groups tended to relate to life stages. Twenty per cent of baby boomers were carers, compared with 24% of persons aged 58 years and over and 12% of persons aged 18 to 37 years (Graph 4.8). Among baby boomer carers, 62% were female, compared with 56% of all Queensland carers aged 18 years and over.

CARERS *continued*

4.8 PROPORTION OF PERSONS IN A CARER ROLE, by age group—2003



Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2003.

Primary carers

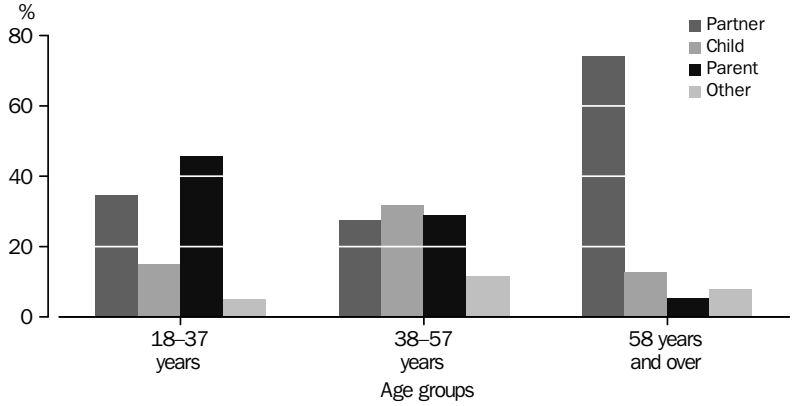
Primary carers provide the majority of informal help needed by a person with a disability, including disability as a result of ageing. Around 5% of all baby boomers were primary carers while 4.0% of all Queenslanders and 1.9% of persons aged 18 to 37 years provided primary care. Persons aged 58 years and over provided the highest proportion of primary care (5.8%).

Females comprised the majority of primary carers in all age groups. Seventy-seven per cent of baby boomer primary carers were female, compared with 81% of 18 to 37 year olds and 66% of those aged 58 years and over.

Care recipients and relationship to carers

Most informal care arrangements exist between family members, resulting in caring relationships that reflect the respective life stages of carers and those they care for (ABS 2000b). Primary carers of baby boomer age were caring for a parent (29%), partner (28%) or child (32%) (Graph 4.9). In contrast, 74% of primary carers aged 58 years and over were caring for a partner, 13% for a child and 5.4% for a parent.

4.9 RELATIONSHIP OF PRIMARY CARER TO MAIN RECIPIENT OF CARE, by age group of carer—2003



Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2003.

Care recipients and relationship to carers continued

A carer may provide assistance within or outside their own home, and to more than one person. Most primary carers (84%) were likely to be living with the person they cared for. In 2003, 73% of baby boomers who were primary carers provided assistance to someone residing in their own home, compared with 96% of primary carers aged 58 years and over and 90% of primary carers aged 18 to 37 years.

Employment and income

Many people who take on a caring role are affected by the amount of time and energy this role demands of them. For people of working age, juggling the competing demands of the care-giving role and the requirements of paid employment can be difficult. Accordingly, involvement in the labour force decreases as rates of caring increase (ABS 2000b).

Employment opportunities for some carers could be limited by their need to find flexible and/or part-time work to accommodate their caring responsibilities (ABS 2000b). In 2003, almost two-thirds (61%) of carer baby boomers combined their caring role with employment, with 39% engaged in full-time work (Table 4.10). A lower proportion of primary carers were employed (42%) compared with other carers (67%). In comparison, 81% of those baby boomers not in a caring role were employed.

As primary carers are restricted in their labour force participation, a relatively high proportion of them are reliant on a government pension or allowance as their principal source of income (ABS 2000b). In 2003, 56% of baby boomer primary carers were dependent on the government for income support, compared with 14% of baby boomers who were not providing care.

Employment and income continued

4.10 BABY BOOMERS: LABOUR FORCE STATUS AND PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME, by carer status—2003

	Primary carer	*Other carer*	*All carers*	*Not a carer*	*Total*
	PER CENT				
Labour force status					
Employed					
Full-time	16.2	46.3	38.7	61.0	56.6
Part-time	26.4	20.7	22.1	19.6	20.1
Total	42.4	67.0	60.8	80.7	76.8
Unemployed	2.1	4.2	3.7	2.5	2.7
Not in the labour force	55.3	28.8	35.5	16.8	20.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Principle sources of income					
Wages or salary	24.9	48.9	42.9	59.3	56.1
Profit or loss from unincorporated business	*8.4	8.9	8.8	15.5	14.2
Government pension or allowance	56.1	30.1	36.6	13.6	18.2
Other	*7.0	*5.2	5.7	4.4	4.6
Not stated	**3.4	6.9	6.0	7.2	6.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)				
Total	52.6	156.7	209.3	852.8	1 062.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2003.

SUMMARY

- At the time of the 2001 census, 68% of baby boomers were registered as married, 19% were divorced or separated and a further 12% had never married. Of those baby boomers living in couple relationships, 10% were in de facto marriages.

- In 2003, over half of the 1,068,000 Queensland families had at least one baby boomer (52%), with most of these being couple families (either with or without children) (86%) and another 13% being lone-parent families.

- The proportion of baby boomers living as partners in a couple family with children is projected to decline from 54% in 2001 to 8.7% in 2026. Conversely, it is projected that there will be increases in the proportions of baby boomers who live as partners in a couple family without children and those who live as lone persons, rising from 19% to 58% and from 9.3% to 23% respectively over this period.

- Due to the size of the baby boomer cohort, it is projected that between 2001 and 2026 the number of persons aged 60 to 79 years living as partners in a couple family without children will increase by 154% and that the number of persons in this age group living alone will increase by 153%. These changes will impact on the demand for various family and community resources and are considerations in policy and program development.

- In 2003, 20% of all persons of baby boomer age were carers compared with 12% of persons aged 18 to 37 years and 24% of persons aged 58 years and over. Around 5.0% of all baby boomers were primary carers.

- Almost two-thirds (61%) of carer baby boomers combined their caring role with employment, with 39% engaged in full-time work in 2003. In comparison, 81% of those baby boomers not in a caring role were employed.

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CHAPTER 5 HOUSING

INTRODUCTION

The type of housing people choose to live in is closely related to factors such as progression through different life-cycle stages, family structure and changing financial situations. In general, people usually rent as young adults, purchase a home as partnerships are formed and children born and own a house outright in older age. For a number of older people, the onset of diminished health and disabilities combined with a need for security has led to the emergence of self-care dwellings in retirement villages (ABS 2001).

In 2001, 87% of Queensland baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years) were living in separate houses. Housing is an important issue for older baby boomers as they are likely to make decisions over the next two decades about their retirement, based on factors such as their current tenure arrangements and housing costs.

Using ABS data from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing and the Australian Housing Survey 1999, this chapter examines the types of dwellings baby boomers live in, tenure type, dwelling size, condition of housing, housing costs, home value and equity, and propensity to move.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Dwelling type

The majority of Queenslanders live in separate houses. In 2001, 84% of people lived in a separate house and 12% lived in a semi-detached dwelling, unit or flat (Table 5.1).

The proportion of baby boomers living in a separate house was higher at 87%. There were slightly more younger baby boomers (88%) than older baby boomers (87%) in this type of dwelling. The proportion of baby boomers living in semi-detached dwellings, units or flats was 10%. This proportion is higher for the older age groups, with respective proportions of 12%, 16% and 20% for the 56 to 65 years, 66 to 75 years, and 76 years and over age groups, all at the expense of separate housing. Other private accommodation such as caravans, houseboats and improvised dwellings were home for 1.3% of baby boomers, but were more common for the 56 to 65 and 66 to 75 years age groups at 2.1% and 2.0% respectively.

5.1 DWELLING STRUCTURE OF USUAL RESIDENCE(a), by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS								
	0–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66–75 years*	*76 years and over*	*Total*
	PER CENT								
Private Dwelling									
Separate house	86.3	81.4	87.7	86.6	87.2	84.0	79.1	64.1	84.2
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse, etc.	4.7	6.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.8	6.9	8.8	5.1
Flat, unit or apartment	6.1	9.5	5.6	6.2	5.9	7.3	9.1	10.7	7.0
Other dwelling(b)	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.3	2.1	2.0	1.2	1.2
Not stated	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7
Total	*98.4*	*98.7*	*99.1*	*99.1*	*99.1*	*99.0*	*97.9*	*85.8*	*98.1*
Non-private dwelling									
Nursing home	—	—	—	0.1	—	0.2	0.7	6.3	0.4
Accommodation for the retired or aged (care)	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.7	6.8	0.4
Other(c)	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.2
Total	*1.6*	*1.3*	*0.9*	*0.9*	*0.9*	*1.0*	*2.1*	*14.2*	*1.9*
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)								
Total	1 248.9	483.0	511.4	450.3	961.7	298.7	207.4	159.8	3 359.6

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Usual residents enumerated at home. Excluding overseas visitors.

(b) Including caravan, cabin, houseboat, house or flat attached to a shop or office etc, improvised home, tent, sleepers out.

(c) Including public housing, boarding schools, university colleges, hostels, etc.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Dwelling type continued

There are regional differences in the proportion of baby boomers living in a separate house. The statistical divisions (SDs) with the largest proportion of baby boomers living in separate houses in 2001 were Wide Bay-Burnett (93%), Darling Downs (93%), South West (92%), Fitzroy (91%) and Brisbane (89%). Lowest proportions were in Far North (83%), North West (81%) and Moreton (80%) SDs.

The largest differences between the proportion of baby boomers in a separate house compared with persons aged 66 years and over in a separate house were in Moreton and Brisbane SDs (18 and 15 percentage points respectively). This indicates that these regions are likely to experience the greatest proportion (and number) of baby boomers moving to other accommodation in future years if this trend continues. This may also reflect the greater availability of alternative types of housing in these statistical divisions.

The extent to which baby boomers move from a house to other types of accommodation will depend on factors such as health, lifestyle, security, income and how long non-dependent children stay at home.

Dwelling type continued

The demand for care services in the home and aged care accommodation is expected to increase as baby boomers age. The proportion of persons aged 56 to 65 years in a nursing home or accommodation for the retired or aged was 0.3% in 2001 (Table 5.1), rising to 1.4% for persons aged 66 to 75 years and 13% (20,900 persons) for those aged 76 years and over.

Baby boomers' aged care accommodation needs will depend on a variety of factors, such as their health status, availability of aged care places and the level of family support. However, it is projected that by 2031, 40% of the baby boomer population (406,600 persons) will be aged 76 to 85 years, which is three times higher than the 133,700 persons of the corresponding age living in Queensland in 2001. This will put pressure on aged care services in the home and residential aged care places (OESR, 2003).

Tenure type

In 2001, most Queenslanders lived in a dwelling that they fully owned or were purchasing (65%), although the proportion was higher in 1991 (67%). Table 5.2 shows that more than 7 in 10 baby boomers lived in a dwelling that was owned or being purchased, with the proportion being higher for older baby boomers (76%) than younger baby boomers (68%).

As people get older they are increasingly more likely to own their own home than to be purchasing or renting. In 2001, 25% of younger baby boomers lived in a fully owned dwelling, compared with 43% of older baby boomers, 66% of persons aged 56 to 65 years, and 76% of persons aged 66 to 75 years.

More younger baby boomers (26%) tended to live in rented accommodation than older baby boomers (19%). People in the older age groups were less likely to live in rental accommodation. In 2001, 15% of 56 to 65 year olds, 13% of 66 to 75 year olds and 12% of persons aged 76 years and over rented their accommodation.

5.2 TENURE TYPE OF USUAL RESIDENCE(a), by age group—2001

			BABY BOOMERS						
	0–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66–75 years*	*76 years and over*	*Total*
				PER CENT					
Fully owned	20.2	14.3	24.5	43.2	33.2	65.6	76.3	73.4	32.9
Being purchased	36.4	38.8	43.6	32.7	38.5	14.2	4.5	4.1	32.0
Total	*56.6*	*53.0*	*68.1*	*75.9*	*71.7*	*79.8*	*80.8*	*77.5*	*64.9*
Rented									
Public housing authority	4.5	2.8	3.1	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.1	3.5
Other landlord type	32.7	37.4	23.0	16.3	19.9	11.9	8.8	8.5	25.3
Not stated	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total	*37.6*	*40.6*	*26.3*	*19.0*	*22.9*	*15.1*	*12.5*	*11.9*	*29.1*
Other tenure type(b)	2.3	2.8	2.2	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.5	4.8	2.3
Not stated	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.3	4.2	5.8	3.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
				PERSONS ('000)					
Total	1 229.5	476.6	506.9	446.5	953.3	295.7	203.1	137.2	3 295.4

(a) Usual residents enumerated at home in occupied private dwellings. Excluding overseas visitors.

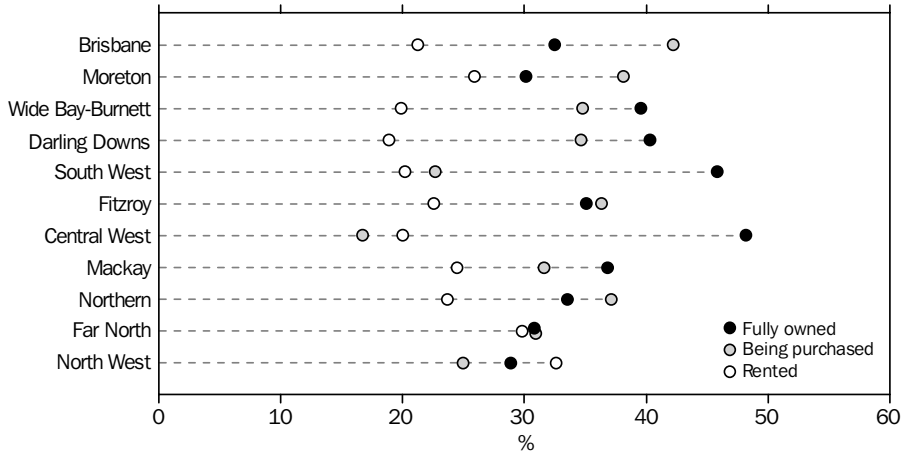
(b) Including being occupied rent free and under a life tenure scheme.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Tenure type continued

As indicated by Graph 5.3, the SDs with the highest proportion of baby boomers who fully owned their own home in 2001 were Central West (48%), South West (46%), Darling Downs (40%) and Wide Bay-Burnett (40%). The lowest proportions were in North West (29%), Moreton (30%) and Far North (31%) SDs.

5.3 TENURE TYPE OF USUAL RESIDENCE(a), Baby Boomers by Statistical Division—2001



(a) Usual residents enumerated at home in occupied private dwellings. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Tenure type continued

At 30 June 2003, the number of public housing occupants aged 55 years and over renting from the Queensland Department of Housing was 23,868. This represents 22% of the total number of the state's public housing tenants and approximately 3% of Queensland's total population aged 55 years and over. It is projected that there will be an increased need to provide appropriate, affordable housing for baby boomers as they age (Queensland Government 2004).

Size of dwellings

The number of bedrooms per dwelling is an indicator of dwelling size. Most houses in Queensland in 2001 had three or four bedrooms (80%), while most semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses, etc. had two or three bedrooms (86%) and most flats, units or apartments had two bedrooms (57%).

Table 5.4 shows that baby boomers live in dwellings with more bedrooms than persons aged 56 years and over. Most baby boomers (84%) lived in a dwelling with three or more bedrooms in 2001. Older people are more likely than other age groups to live in a dwelling with one or two bedrooms. While 13% of all baby boomers lived in one or two bedroom dwellings, this proportion was higher for all older age groups.

5.4 NUMBER OF BEDROOMS IN DWELLINGS, by age group(a)—2001

			BABY BOOMERS						
	0–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66–75 years*	*76 years and over*	*Total*
					PER CENT				
None	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.3
One	1.0	2.3	1.8	2.4	2.1	3.6	4.7	6.4	2.2
Two	9.3	15.7	10.4	11.6	11.0	15.0	19.9	28.0	12.6
Three	44.8	50.9	45.0	45.7	45.3	50.2	51.4	45.9	46.7
Four	32.7	23.4	32.3	30.0	31.2	23.2	16.5	11.2	28.2
Five or more	9.3	4.3	7.6	7.3	7.5	4.8	3.3	3.0	7.0
Not stated	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.6	4.7	3.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
					PERSONS ('000)				
Total	1 229.5	476.6	506.9	446.5	953.3	295.7	203.1	137.2	3 295.4

(a) Usual residents enumerated at home in occupied private dwellings. Excluding overseas visitors.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001

The proportion of baby boomers living in dwellings with four or more bedrooms in 2001 was 39%. Brisbane SD had the largest proportion with 43%, followed by Darling Downs (41%) and South West (38%) SDs. Lowest proportions were in North West (26%), Far North (29%), Mackay (31%) and Wide Bay-Burnett (32%) SDs.

Dwelling condition

The 1999 Australian Housing Survey found that 17% of dwellings in Queensland were considered by occupants to have major structural problems, such as sinking/moving foundations, walls/windows out of plumb, major cracks in walls/floors, wood rot/termite damage and major plumbing problems (Table 5.5). The proportion of baby boomer

Dwelling condition continued

households (with reference persons aged 34 to 53 years in 1999) who considered their dwelling to have major structural problems was 17%, with younger baby boomer households being higher (19%) than older baby boomer households (15%). Dwellings with a reference person aged 54 years and over were less likely to have major structural problems.

5.5 HOUSEHOLDS: SELECTED HOUSING CONDITIONS, by age group of reference person—1999

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–33 years	*34–43 years*	*44–53 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*54–63 years*	*64–73 years*	*74 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Major structural problems								
Has major structural problems	26.4	18.8	15.3	17.2	11.8	13.1	8.7	17.4
Has no major structural problems	72.6	79.8	84.3	81.9	86.7	85.0	87.4	81.2
Total(b)	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
Need for internal repairs								
Essential need	4.0	6.8	*2.6	4.8	*1.3	*1.5	*2.3	3.6
Moderate need	14.1	10.6	9.5	10.1	7.1	*4.8	*4.1	9.5
Low need	31.8	31.9	27.6	29.9	22.3	20.3	16.3	27.0
No need	50.1	50.7	60.3	55.3	69.3	73.4	77.3	60.0
Total	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
Need for external repairs								
Essential need	5.9	6.2	*4.2	5.3	*3.6	*3.0	*2.9	4.7
Moderate need	10.3	10.0	12.0	10.9	14.0	7.4	7.9	10.5
Low need	30.5	26.2	24.2	25.3	22.9	23.8	19.0	25.4
No need	53.3	57.5	59.6	58.5	59.6	65.8	70.2	59.3
Total	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
	HOUSEHOLDS ('000)							
Total	314.8	299.9	272.6	572.5	180.8	152.5	121.2	1 341.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Including Not known.

Source: ABS data available on request, Australian Housing Survey, 1999.

This survey also found that 40% of dwellings in Queensland needed interior repairs, although only 3.6% were in need of essential repairs. These proportions were slightly higher for baby boomers, with 45% of their dwellings in need of interior repairs, including 4.8% in need of essential repairs.

External repairs were needed for 41% of dwellings, including 4.7% that needed essential repairs. Again, the proportions were slightly higher for dwellings of baby boomers (42% and 5.3% respectively).

HOUSING COSTS AS A PROPORTION OF INCOME

A home is the largest single lifetime purchase for most people. Whether people buy or rent depends not only on lifestyle and life cycle issues but also on income, housing prices and interest rates. As shown previously in Table 5.2, as people get older, they increasingly own their home rather than rent.

HOUSING COSTS AS A PROPORTION OF INCOME *continued*

While there is no single standard measure of housing affordability, indicative housing affordability statistics can be obtained by expressing housing costs as a proportion of household income. For example, if more than 50% of household income was spent on housing costs, this may indicate severe affordability problems, particularly for households with low incomes (ABS 2000).

Table 5.6 shows that in 1999, Queensland baby boomer households spent an average of 14% of their income on housing, with 16% spent by younger baby boomer households and 13% spent by older baby boomer households. Households with a reference person aged 15 to 33 years spent a higher proportion of their income on housing with an average of 19%. The proportion was lowest for households with a reference person aged 54 to 63 years (10%). The proportions were similar in Brisbane SD and the rest of the state.

5.6 PROPORTION OF INCOME SPENT BY HOUSEHOLDS ON HOUSING, by age group of reference person—1999

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–33 years	*34–43 years*	*44–53 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*54–63 years*	*64–73 years*	*74 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Brisbane SD	19.8	17.1	12.8	15.0	10.0	11.1	14.9	15.5
Rest of State	18.1	14.8	12.5	13.7	10.2	13.9	10.9	14.2
Queensland	**19.0**	**15.9**	**12.7**	**14.3**	**10.1**	**12.7**	**12.9**	**14.9**
	HOUSEHOLDS ('000)							
Total	314.8	299.9	272.6	572.5	180.8	152.5	121.2	1 341.8

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Australian Housing Survey, 1999.

Table 5.7 shows that while 70% of baby boomers had housing costs of a quarter or less of total income, 22% had housing costs of more than a quarter of total income. The proportion with housing costs of more than a quarter of total income was generally lower for the older age groups.

5.7 HOUSOLDS: HOUSING COSTS AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL INCOME, by age group of reference person—1999

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–33 years	*34–43 years*	*44–53 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*54–63 years*	*64–73 years*	*74 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
25% or less(b)	63.6	68.5	72.5	70.4	79.1	72.5	78.0	70.9
Greater than 25% to 30%	9.0	7.1	5.3	6.3	4.1	*5.3	*3.9	6.3
Greater than 30% to 50%	14.7	11.6	9.5	10.6	*4.4	13.1	*6.2	10.6
Greater than 50%(c)	7.2	5.9	*5.1	5.5	7.3	4.8	*7.6	6.3
Total(d)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	HOUSEHOLDS ('000)							
Total	314.8	299.9	272.6	572.5	180.8	152.5	121.2	1 341.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Including nil or rounded to zero.

(c) Including nil or negative income.

(d) Including households with housing costs not known.

Source: ABS data available on request, Australian Housing Survey, 1999.

HOME VALUE AND EQUITY

Dwelling values and the amount of equity that people have in their homes are important aspects of wealth and can have a major influence on retirement decisions and lifestyle. Based on house values in 1999, a greater proportion of baby boomer households and households with a reference person aged 54 to 63 years fully owned or were purchasing homes with a value of $200,000 or more compared with the younger and older age groups (Table 5.8).

The table also shows that in 1999, 48% of baby boomer households in Queensland had equity of $100,000 and over. The corresponding proportion for older baby boomer households (55%) was higher than for younger baby boomer households (40%). Households with a reference person in the older age groups tended to have greater equity in their home.

5.8 OWNER HOUSEHOLDS: VALUE OF DWELLING AND EQUITY IN DWELLING, by age group of reference person—1999

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–33 years	*34–43 years*	*44–53 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*54–63 years*	*64–73 years*	*74 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Value of dwelling								
Less than $100,000	17.3	16.3	15.0	15.6	19.8	26.0	29.8	19.6
$100,000–$149,999	39.5	28.4	24.7	26.5	22.8	27.8	28.4	28.1
$150,000–$199,999	25.0	25.0	23.9	24.4	19.3	19.9	20.6	22.6
$200,000–$299,999	12.5	19.8	21.0	20.4	19.7	14.3	12.6	17.5
$300,000–$399,999	*3.3	5.9	4.5	5.2	*7.4	*4.2	*5.8	5.2
$400,000 or more	**1.4	*3.5	7.5	5.5	*7.7	*4.5	*0.9	4.7
Total(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Equity in dwelling								
$1 to $19,999(c)	25.7	12.9	7.9	10.4	5.6	1.2	0.5	9.3
$20,000–$49,999	30.3	17.1	12.0	14.5	4.6	5.1	4.9	12.6
$50,000–$99,999	22.4	26.8	18.7	22.7	16.9	20.4	24.5	21.6
$100,000–$199,999	14.0	30.3	36.0	33.2	39.7	47.2	49.1	35.4
$200,000 or more	6.6	10.0	18.9	14.5	29.4	22.5	19.3	17.6
Total(d)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	HOUSEHOLDS ('000)							
Total	123.1	198.9	204.2	403.2	151.0	127.9	100.9	906.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over who fully owned or were purchasing their own home.

(b) Including value of dwelling not known.

(c) Including zero or negative equity.

(d) Including value of dwelling or amount owing not known.

Source: ABS data available on request, Australian Housing Survey, 1999.

PROPENSITY TO MOVE

People are likely to move a number of times during their lives as their situation and needs change. Individuals often move several times in their young adult years, as they seek work or further their education. Further moves can be made for reasons of preference such as a larger/smaller home, different location or other desired lifestyle changes. Additionally, moves can be prompted by factors that are not totally under the control of the individual such as job location, separation and divorce as well as the termination of a lease if the individual is renting their home.

5.9 HOUSEHOLDS: LENGTH OF TIME LIVED IN CURRENT HOME, by age group of reference person—1999

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–33 years	*34–43 years*	*44–53 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*54–63 years*	*64–73 years*	*74 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
0 to less than 6 years	91.4	68.7	50.3	60.0	37.2	35.3	17.6	57.7
6 to less than 11 years	6.7	19.2	16.7	18.0	18.9	21.1	19.1	15.9
11 to less than 16 years	*1.2	8.0	15.7	11.6	14.7	11.0	11.5	9.5
16 to less than 21 years	**0.2	3.4	9.4	6.2	8.5	*5.7	8.6	5.3
21 years or more	**0.3	*0.7	7.9	4.1	20.7	26.8	43.2	11.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	HOUSEHOLDS ('000)							
Total	314.8	299.9	272.6	572.5	180.8	152.5	121.2	1 341.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Australian Housing Survey, 1999.

PROPENSITY TO MOVE *continued*

Compared with baby boomers, younger persons stay in their home for a shorter time, whereas older persons stay for longer periods. In 1999, the majority of baby boomers (60%) had lived in their current house for less than six years, with only 4.1% of baby boomers having lived in their current home for over 21 years (Table 5.9). The proportion of older persons who had lived in their current home for 21 years or more was considerably higher.

SUMMARY

- In 2001, 87% of baby boomers lived in a separate house and 10% lived in a flat, unit or townhouse. The proportion of persons living in separate houses decreased as people aged, reaching 64% for persons aged 76 years and over.

- A third (33%) of baby boomers lived in a fully owned dwelling in 2001. A further 39% were in a dwelling that was being purchased and 23% were in rented accommodation. The proportion in a fully owned dwelling was higher for persons aged 56 years or over.

- Most baby boomers lived in dwellings with three or more bedrooms, with 39% living in dwellings with four or more bedrooms. The proportion of baby boomers living in a dwelling with one or two bedrooms was 13% compared with 34% of persons aged 76 years and over.

- In 1999, 17% of dwellings in Queensland where the reference person was a baby boomer were considered by occupants to have major structural problems. The corresponding proportion for older persons was lower.

- Baby boomer households spent on average 14% of their income on housing in 1999, while households with an older reference person spent a lower proportion. Housing costs were less than a quarter of total income for 70% of baby boomer households.

- Around one-third (31%) of baby boomer households lived in a dwelling valued at $200,000 or more in 1999. About half (48%) had $100,000 or more equity in their home. Persons in the older age groups tended to live in lower valued homes and had greater equity in their home.

- In 1999, 60% of baby boomers had lived in their current home for less than six years while only 4.1% had lived in their current home for 21 years or more. Older persons were less likely to move.

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CHAPTER 6 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

INTRODUCTION

Formal education has traditionally been considered important in providing people with the skills and knowledge for entry into, and advancement through the workforce. In a broader sense, education is a life-long process of obtaining knowledge and gaining skills, extending beyond formal education obtained in schools, colleges and universities. Learning can occur outside the workplace and after people have left the workforce, and many people undertake educational courses or attend training purely for personal development and interest.

In the transition to a knowledge-based economy, it is becoming more recognised that once people do enter the workforce, they need to continually update their skills and add to their knowledge base in order to be more effective and productive. Training can occur in either a formal or informal environment.

This chapter uses a range of ABS data sources to examine both education and training characteristics of baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years in 2001). Data from ABS surveys use standard age groups, which may differ slightly from the age ranges of the baby boomers. Information on education, which can be defined as the acquisition of knowledge within a formal institutional setting, includes an overview of levels of education attained, fields of education undertaken and future study intentions. Information on training, defined as the acquisition of job-related skills in vocationally focused institutions and/or the workplace, includes fields of training undertaken, the effectiveness of training and barriers that discourage training.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Educational attainment is strongly connected to labour force outcomes. The skills acquired in undertaking study and gaining a qualification may increase the chances of finding a job or aid in finding a preferred or higher paying job. Information about the employment outcomes of baby boomers in Queensland is discussed in *Chapter 10: Work*.

Non-school qualifications

A non-school qualification is awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. This comprises postgraduate degrees, graduate diplomas, bachelor degrees, diplomas, and certificates. In 2001, 33% of Queenslanders aged 16 years and over had a non-school qualification (Table 6.1).

With the exception of persons aged 16 to 25 years (many of whom would presumably still be studying toward a qualification), the proportion of the total population who hold non-school qualifications decreases as age increases. In 2001, a greater proportion of baby boomers (40%) had a non-school qualification when compared with older age groups. Of persons aged 56 to 65 years, 31% had a non-school qualification, while the proportion for those aged 66 years and over was 18%.

Non-school qualifications continued

Younger baby boomers (aged 36 to 45 years) were more likely to have a non-school qualification (41%) than older baby boomers (aged 46 to 55 years) (38%). The proportion of persons aged 26 to 35 years with a non-school qualification was 43%.

A greater proportion of baby boomers held a postgraduate degree than any other age group. At 2.2% of the total baby boomer age cohort, this was almost double the proportion of higher degrees held by the total population.

6.1 HIGHEST QUALIFICATION, by qualification type and age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Total non-school qualifications	*22.5*	*42.5*	*41.1*	*37.8*	*39.5*	*30.6*	*18.2*	*32.9*
Postgraduate degree	0.2	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.5	0.6	1.4
Graduate diploma and Graduate certificate	0.2	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.0	0.3	1.1
Bachelor degree	6.7	13.6	10.4	8.8	9.6	5.8	3.1	8.5
Diploma and Associate diploma	3.4	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.9	5.7	3.4	5.6
Certificate III & IV	8.7	16.1	17.1	16.0	16.6	15.0	9.8	13.9
Certificate I & II	2.4	2.5	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.4	0.8	1.9
Certificate level, nfd	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5
School qualification	62.9	52.8	53.8	57.0	55.3	61.8	63.2	58.1
Other(b)	14.6	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.2	7.6	18.6	9.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Persons aged 16 years and over.

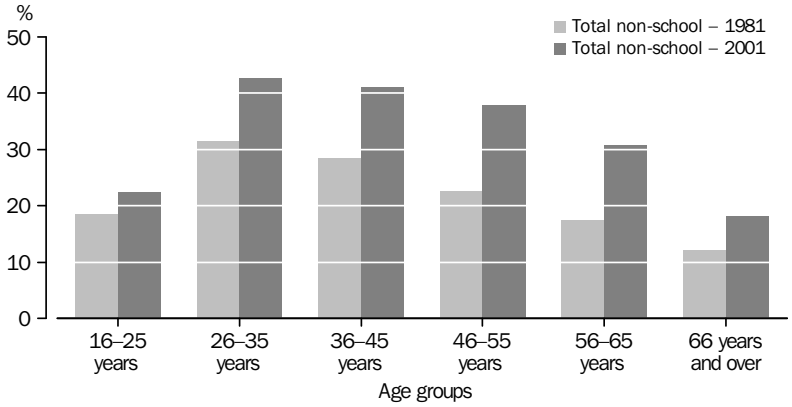
(b) Including Did not go to school, Not stated and Inadequately described.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

In 1981, the Queensland baby boomer cohort comprised the age range 16 to 35 years. The older baby boomers, those aged 26 to 35 years in 1981, held the largest proportion of educational qualifications of any age group (Graph 6.2). Nearly one-third (31%) of this age group had a non-school qualification. Certificate level qualifications were the most commonly held, with 21% of this age group having this level of qualification.

Non-school qualifications continued

6.2 TOTAL NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS HELD, by age group—1981 and 2001



Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 1981 and 2001.

Twenty years later in 2001, baby boomers were aged between 36 and 55 years, and younger baby boomers (aged between 36 and 45 years) had a greater proportion of persons with a non-school qualification than their older baby boomer counterparts (aged 46 to 55 years), with shares of 41% and 37% respectively. Of these proportions, 19% of younger baby boomers and 18% of older baby boomers held a certificate level qualification. Persons aged 26 to 35 had the largest proportion with 42% of this age group having non-school qualifications.

Highest year of school completed

In recent decades, there has been an increasing emphasis on completing formal education (ABS 1999; ABS 2000). In 1961, the Queensland Government raised the minimum school leaving age to 15 years. Information presented in this section highlights the fact that Queensland baby boomers have, in general, completed higher levels of school qualifications than preceding generations (Table 6.3).

In 2001, 55% of baby boomers possessed school qualifications only. Over one-third (38%) of Queensland baby boomers left school at year 10 or below and held no non-school qualifications.

6.3 HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED, by age group—2001

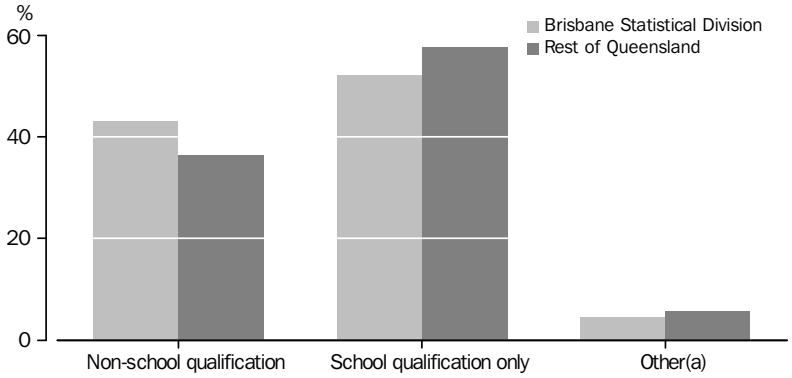
	BABY BOOMERS							
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Total school qualifications(b)	62.9	52.8	53.8	57.0	55.3	61.8	63.2	58.1
Year 12 or equivalent	38.7	22.7	13.8	11.9	12.9	10.3	10.1	18.7
Year 11 or equivalent	8.3	6.3	5.5	3.9	4.8	3.0	2.5	5.1
Year 10 or equivalent	12.0	18.2	26.3	26.4	26.3	22.0	15.9	20.2
Year 9 or equivalent	3.0	3.9	5.3	5.9	5.6	6.6	6.8	5.1
Year 8 or below	0.9	1.7	2.9	8.8	5.7	19.8	28.0	8.9
Non-school qualifications	22.5	42.5	41.1	37.8	39.5	30.6	18.2	32.9
Other(c)	14.6	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.2	7.6	18.6	9.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Persons aged 16 years and over.
(b) Excluding persons who have attained a non-school qualification.
(c) Including Did not go to school, Not stated and Inadequately described.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Capital city – rest of state comparison

While 55% of Queensland baby boomers had school only qualifications and 40% had non-school qualifications in 2001, these proportions are not reflected consistently across the state. Baby boomers resident in Brisbane Statistical Division (SD) were more likely to have a non-school qualification than their counterparts in the rest of the state. In 2001, 43% of baby boomers resident in Brisbane SD had a non-school qualification compared with 37% of baby boomers resident in the rest of the state (Graph 6.4). School only qualifications were held by 52% of Brisbane SD baby boomers, while the corresponding figure for baby boomers resident in the rest of the state was 58%.

6.4 BABY BOOMERS – HIGHEST LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION ATTAINED, by region—2001



(a) Including Did not go to school, Not stated and Inadequately described.
Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

FIELD OF EDUCATION

Main field of highest non-school qualifications

The main fields of study among baby boomers with a non-school qualification were ENGINEERING AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES (22% of total or 107,900 persons), MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE (13%), HEALTH (11%) and EDUCATION (10%) (Table 6.5). These fields of study were also the most popular among other age groups, although 16 to 25 year olds were less likely to have an ENGINEERING AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES qualification (13% of total) and more likely to have a MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE qualification (18%) than older age groups.

Changes in the nature of non-school qualifications can be examined when comparing the fields of study for the Queensland baby boomers in 2001 against the same age group (36 to 55 year olds) in previous decades. A decade earlier in 1991, there were proportionately fewer persons aged 36 to 55 years with a qualification in MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE (10%) but more persons with a qualification in ENGINEERING AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES (27%).

6.5 FIELD OF NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PERSONS ('000)							
Natural and physical sciences	4.0	7.4	6.5	5.4	11.9	2.6	1.7	27.5
Information technology	5.2	7.0	5.1	2.5	7.6	0.6	0.1	20.4
Engineering and related technologies	19.6	48.6	58.0	49.8	107.9	32.4	27.4	235.9
Architecture and building	6.9	17.5	20.8	17.9	38.6	12.0	9.1	84.1
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	4.5	7.1	5.8	3.6	9.4	2.0	1.4	24.5
Health	6.8	22.7	30.0	22.6	52.6	13.0	11.1	106.2
Education	5.7	19.7	24.3	23.9	48.2	12.1	7.0	92.7
Management and commerce	27.8	41.3	35.9	28.3	64.3	13.6	10.9	157.9
Society and culture	13.4	23.0	20.6	17.9	38.5	8.2	4.7	87.9
Creative arts	5.8	8.5	6.1	4.2	10.3	2.4	2.2	29.3
Food, hospitality and personal services	13.7	19.7	13.3	9.7	23.1	4.7	3.1	64.3
Mixed field programmes	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.0
Other(b)(c)	37.1	35.5	37.7	34.4	72.0	29.1	76.6	250.3
Total	**150.7**	**258.2**	**264.3**	**220.3**	**484.7**	**132.8**	**155.5**	**1 181.9**

(a) Persons aged 16 years and over who hold a non-school qualification.
(b) Including Inadequately described and Not stated.
(c) Over one-fifth (21%) of all people with a non-school qualification did not provide sufficient information for their field of study to be adequately described.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

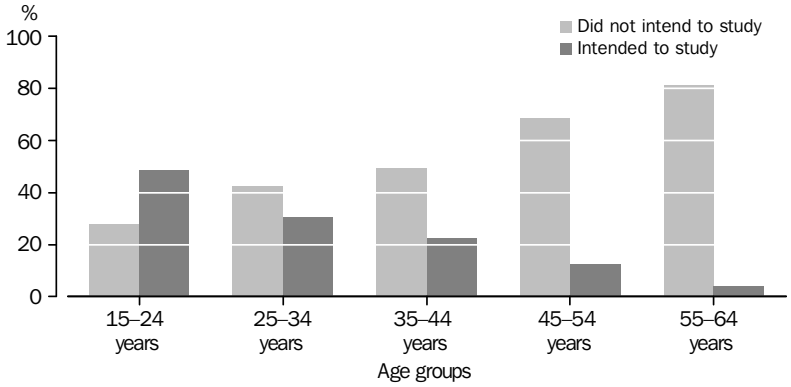
FUTURE STUDY INTENTIONS

The information on future study intentions was sourced from the ABS Survey of Education and Training and is limited in coverage to the 15 to 64 year age groups.

Eighteen per cent (184,600) of baby boomers (approximated by persons aged 35 to 54 years) reported in 2001 that they intended to study for a qualification in the next three years (Graph 6.6). The proportion intending to study for a qualification was higher among younger baby boomers (22%) than older baby boomers (13%). This compared with 25% of the total Queensland population aged 15 to 64 years. Only 4.0% of persons aged 55 to 64 years intended to study for a qualification in the next three years.

FUTURE STUDY INTENTIONS *continued*

6.6 FUTURE STUDY INTENTIONS NEXT THREE YEARS, by age group—2001



Source: Education and Training Experience, Australia, 2001 (cat. no. 6278.0) – Queensland data cube.

TRAINING

In 2001, Queensland baby boomers completed 928,000 training courses (Table 6.7). Of these, younger baby boomers completed 524,400 courses (more than any other age group), and older baby boomers 403,600 courses. Younger baby boomers undertook 148,100 training courses in management and professional fields, accounting for 28% of courses completed by this age group. This compares with older baby boomers who completed over 125,200 training courses in management and professional fields (31% of courses for this age group).

Other courses commonly completed by baby boomers included training in health and safety (19% of courses completed by younger baby boomers and 21% of courses completed by older baby boomers), and training in technical and para-professional fields (10% by younger baby boomers and 12% by older baby boomers).

6.7 TRAINING COURSES COMPLETED(a), by field of training and age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–19 years	*20–24 years*	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*Total*(b)
	COURSES COMPLETED ('000)							
Management and professional	*4.9	49.7	140.0	148.1	125.2	273.3	42.3	510.2
Technical and para-professional	*5.8	14.8	59.2	53.8	46.4	100.2	25.5	205.6
Trade and craft	*7.0	20.3	53.5	52.6	15.4	68.1	*11.6	160.6
Clerical and office	*4.5	*9.4	21.7	21.0	18.3	39.3	*3.4	78.3
Sales and personal service	18.1	33.9	40.0	29.7	30.2	59.9	*7.8	159.7
Transport, plant and machinery operation	**0.5	*3.6	16.9	17.1	*11.8	*29.0	*3.3	53.3
Labouring and related	*5.3	*7.8	**1.2	*5.2	**2.7	**7.9	**2.2	24.4
Induction	16.4	23.7	31.5	25.3	*11.7	*37.0	*4.4	113.2
Supervision	**0.9	**1.8	13.8	15.2	*9.6	*24.8	*4.5	45.8
Computing skills	**2.1	18.9	40.0	41.4	39.7	81.0	13.9	156.0
Health and safety	31.6	26.7	91.5	99.7	84.8	184.5	21.8	356.2
Other(c)	**0.4	*7.1	*6.2	15.2	*7.9	*23.1	*8.4	45.2
Total	**97.7**	**217.8**	**515.6**	**524.4**	**403.6**	**928.0**	**149.2**	**1 908.4**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) This table counts the number of training courses completed, not the number of persons. Estimates relate to a maximum of four training courses per person. Therefore, a person may contribute more than once to a given category and/or to more than one category.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Including English language. Literacy, Numeracy, and Music and arts.

Source: Education and Training Experience, Australia, 2001 (cat. no. 6278.0) – Queensland data cube.

TRAINING *continued*

In 2001, baby boomers who earned a wage or salary completed 756,000 training courses (Table 6.8). This represented 48% of all training courses completed by wage or salary earners aged 15 years and over. Younger baby boomers completed 435,200 training courses and older baby boomers 320,800 courses.

Baby boomers reported that about 90% of completed training courses resulted in the development of transferable skills (i.e. skills that could be used in other jobs). At the same time, about 6% of completed training courses assisted baby boomers in obtaining a pay rise or promotion. These proportions are comparable to all wage and salary earners who completed training courses in Queensland.

6.8 TRAINING COURSE COMPLETED BY WAGE OR SALARY EARNERS(a), by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–19 years	*20–24 years*	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55-64 years*	*Total*(b)
	COURSES ('000)							
Whether skills are transferable(c)								
Skills are transferable	78.8	179.8	401.6	394.2	281.0	675.2	85.1	1 420.6
Skills are not transferable	*6.4	16.6	44.0	41.0	39.8	80.8	14.0	161.8
Whether helped obtain a pay rise or promotion								
Helped obtain a pay rise or promotion	*7.0	25.7	39.0	27.1	16.0	43.1	**1.1	115.9
Did not help obtain a pay rise or promotion	78.2	170.7	406.6	408.1	304.8	712.9	98.0	1 466.4
Total	**85.2**	**196.4**	**445.6**	**435.2**	**320.8**	**756.0**	**99.1**	**1 582.4**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) This table counts the number of courses completed not the number of persons. Estimates relate to a maximum of four training courses per person. Therefore, a person may contribute more than once to a given category and/or to more than one category.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over who were wage and salary earners.

(c) Skills gained through the completion of a training course are considered transferable if they could be used in a similar job with another employer.

Source: Education and Training Experience, Australia, 2001 (cat. no. 6278.0) – Queensland data cube.

Baby boomers enrolled in a course of study

In 2001, over 54,300 baby boomers studied at an educational institution, representing 5.4% of total Queensland baby boomers (Table 6.9). Around 6.8% of younger baby boomers and 3.8% of older baby boomers were attending an educational institution in 2001.

In line with the trend across all age cohorts for an increased emphasis on attaining formal qualifications, a higher proportion of persons aged 36 to 55 years attended an educational institution in 2001 compared with the same age group in 1991 and in 1981. In 2001, 5.4% of persons aged 36 to 55 years attended an educational institution, compared with 2.1% of persons aged 36 to 55 years in 1981.

6.9 PERSONS ATTENDING AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION(a), by age group—1981, 1991 and 2001

			36–55 YEARS					
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total 36–55 years*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	***Total***(b)
	PER CENT(c)							
1981	17.1	5.1	2.9	1.2	2.1	0.5	0.2	**5.6**
1991	32.2	8.3	5.8	2.7	4.5	0.9	0.4	**25.2**
2001	39.9	10.5	6.8	3.8	5.4	1.4	0.4	**24.8**

(a) Full-time and part-time study.

(b) Including persons aged 0 to 15 years.

(c) Of each age group.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 1981, 1991, and 2001.

Barriers to study and training

In 2001, 807,100 Queensland baby boomers (78% of the total who did not study) indicated they did not want to study, while 233,200 (22%) did not study but wanted to. For training, 759,700 baby boomers (73% of the total who did not train) did not want to undertake training, while 280,600 (27%) undertook no training but wanted to (Table 6.10).

6.10 PERSONS NOT AT SCHOOL(a), barriers to study and training—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–19 years	*20–24 years*	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*Total*(b)
	PERSONS ('000)							
Barriers to study								
Main reason did not study although wanted to(c)								
Too much work	*3.2	10.1	26.1	17.3	14.3	31.6	*4.5	75.4
Other work-related reasons	**1.4	*4.2	*7.2	*4.7	*6.4	*11.1	*3.4	27.1
Course or qualification-related reasons	13.7	10.7	12.7	11.3	*7.4	*18.7	*2.7	58.5
Caring for family members	**0.4	*6.5	20.1	13.9	*4.7	*18.6	**1.1	46.7
Personal or other family reasons	*2.8	*5.3	13.0	13.7	12.6	26.3	*4.5	51.9
No time	*4.0	12.5	25.2	29.2	11.2	40.4	*7.8	89.9
Financial reasons	13.3	20.8	40.0	41.7	22.7	64.4	9.5	148.0
Other	*5.4	10.7	11.9	16.4	*5.8	*22.2	*6.2	56.3
Total	*44.3*	*80.6*	*156.2*	*148.2*	*85.0*	*233.2*	*39.6*	*553.9*
Did not want to study(d)	85.4	173.5	376.5	397.3	409.8	807.1	296.3	1 738.8
Total	**129.7**	**254.1**	**532.7**	**545.5**	**494.8**	**1 040.3**	**335.9**	**2 292.7**
Barriers to training								
Main reason did not do training although wanted to(e)								
Too much work	*2.7	12.4	28.7	24.7	27.1	51.8	*5.0	100.7
Lack of employer support	*2.4	9.5	25.4	17.8	10.0	27.8	*3.3	68.5
Other work-related reasons	*2.8	*5.4	8.9	*3.1	*6.4	*9.5	*3.3	30.0
Course-related reasons	*6.6	10.1	26.8	17.7	10.1	27.8	*4.4	75.7
Caring for family members	**0.4	*7.1	12.5	14.3	*3.1	*17.4	*2.2	39.7
Personal or other family reasons	*2.4	*4.1	12.0	11.7	8.4	20.0	*1.7	40.2
No time	*4.1	12.5	19.9	26.2	17.0	43.2	*7.2	86.9
Financial reasons	*6.8	16.6	29.1	30.4	25.9	56.3	8.9	117.7
Other	*3.8	9.5	15.9	15.6	11.1	26.8	*7.8	63.8
Total	*32.2*	*87.3*	*179.2*	*161.5*	*119.2*	*280.6*	*44.0*	*623.3*
Did not want to do training(f)	97.5	166.8	353.5	384.0	375.6	759.7	291.9	1 669.4
Total	**129.7**	**254.1**	**532.7**	**545.5**	**494.8**	**1 040.3**	**335.9**	**2 292.7**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Including persons who were studying at school level at a place other than a school, e.g. TAFE.

(b) Persons aged 15 to 64 years.

(c) Including persons who studied in last 12 months but who wanted to study for additional educational qualifications.

(d) Including persons who studied in last 12 months and who did not want to study for additional educational qualifications.

(e) Including persons who attended training in last 12 months but who wanterd to undertake additional training.

(f) Including persons who attended training in last 12 months and who did not want to undertake additional training.

Source: Education and Training Experience, Australia, 2001 (cat. no. 6278.0) – Queensland data cube.

Barriers to study and training continued

Of the 148,200 younger baby boomers who, in 2001, wanted to study but were not able to, 41,700 (28%) indicated that they were not studying due to financial reasons, while a further 29,200 (20%) identified lack of time as the main barrier to study. Of the 85,000 older baby boomers who, in 2001, wanted to study but were not, 27% indicated financial reasons as the main barrier to studying and 17% indicated that the main reason for not studying was too much work.

Of the younger baby boomers who, in 2001, did not undertake training but wanted to, the main barrier to training was financial reasons (19% of total). Around 23% of older baby boomers, who were not training but wanted to, indicated the main barrier to training was too much work.

SUMMARY

- In 2001, 40% of Queensland baby boomers had a non-school qualification, compared with 33% of all Queenslanders aged 16 years and over.
- Over half (55%) of Queensland baby boomers had school qualifications only, with over one-third (38%) leaving school at year 10 or below. This compares with 58% of all Queenslanders aged 16 years and over who possessed a school qualification only.
- In 2001, 18% of baby boomers indicated that they intended to study for a qualification in the next three years.
- Queensland baby boomers completed 928,000 training courses in 2001.
- In accordance with the general trend, a higher proportion of persons aged 36 to 55 years (5.4%) attended an educational institution in 2001 compared with the same age group (2.1%) in 1981.
- Nearly a quarter (22%) of baby boomers indicated in 2001 that they did not study but wanted to, while 27% indicated that they did not undertake training but wanted to.

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CHAPTER 7 HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

Many factors determine and influence health. It is now understood that health status results from a complex interaction of social, economic, environmental, behavioural and genetic factors (Queensland Health 2001). Determinants of health is the term used for those factors that have either a positive or negative influence on health at the individual or population level.

Health determinants can be broadly divided into 'upstream' determinants (education, employment, income, living and working conditions), 'midstream' (health behaviours and psychosocial factors) and 'downstream' (physiological and biological factors) (Turrell et al. 1999).

The life expectancy of Australians and Queenslanders is now among the highest in the world, reflecting lower mortality rates for infants and those aged 45 years and over. For the three years 2000 to 2002, the average life expectancy at birth for Queenslanders was 77.2 years for males and 82.4 years for females. During this period, the life expectancy for baby boomers, who were aged 36 to 55 years in 2001, ranged from 79.1 to 80.6 years for males and 83.6 to 84.6 years for females. Population projections suggest that in 2051, there will be an estimated 350,000 baby boomers (then aged 86 to 105 years) compared with 37,000 persons in that age group in 2001. This topic is covered in more detail in *Chapter 2: Demography*.

The projected growth and ageing of the population is expected to lead to changing demands on the health care system in Queensland. As the baby boomer cohort ages, society will be faced with greater numbers of older people and a wide range of support needs.

This chapter examines baby boomers' health status, health risk factors and health related actions using data primarily sourced from the 2001 National Health Survey (NHS). Data on causes of death are also presented in this chapter.

SELF-ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS

A person's perception of their own general health status is considered a good measure of their current physical and mental health. It can also be a predictor of mortality for those aged 65 years and over (McCallum et al. 1994).

Results from the 2001 NHS show, that in Queensland, 82% of baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years in 2001) considered themselves to have good, very good or excellent health (Table 7.1). This proportion was less than for persons aged 15 to 35 years (89%), but considerably higher than for persons aged 66 years and over (68%). A slightly higher proportion of male baby boomers (84%) than female baby boomers (81%) considered themselves to have good to excellent health.

SELF-ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS *continued*

Eighty-four per cent of younger baby boomers (aged 36 to 45 years in 2001) rated their health as good to excellent compared with 80% of older baby boomers (aged 46 to 55 years in 2001).

7.1 SELF-ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Excellent	24.3	20.3	15.7	18.2	14.7	9.7	19.0
Very good	35.6	34.3	31.9	33.2	25.5	20.5	31.5
Good	29.2	29.8	32.5	31.0	33.2	38.2	31.6
Fair	8.6	12.4	15.1	13.7	20.6	22.0	13.6
Poor	2.3	3.2	4.8	3.9	6.0	9.6	4.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS

Long-term health conditions affect all age groups, with 89% of persons aged 15 years and over in Queensland reporting a long-term condition in 2001 (Table 7.2). Although most baby boomers reported their health as being good to excellent, 93% of baby boomers reported having a long-term health condition. Long-term conditions affected 88% of younger baby boomers compared with 98% of older baby boomers.

LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS *continued*

7.2 PREVALENCE OF LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS(a), by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Total with long-term conditions	77.3	88.0	98.3	92.9	99.7	99.4	88.6
Total without long-term conditions	22.7	12.0	*1.7	7.1	**0.3	**0.6	11.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Conditions that have lasted or are expected to last for six months or more.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

Long-term health conditions vary in their effects on health. Table 7.3 shows that sight disorders were among the most common long-term conditions affecting the health of baby boomers with 37% reporting long-sightedness/hyperopia, 25% reporting short-sightedness/myopia and 11% presbyopia (an age associated eye disorder resulting in difficulty seeing objects close up). In particular, a higher proportion of older baby boomers reported being long-sighted (56%) and/or having presbyopia (18%) compared with younger baby boomers (20% and 4.5% respectively).

Conditions such as arthritis and back pain have the potential to impact on a person's quality of life including participation in the labour force. A quarter of baby boomers (25%) reported back problems, while 15% listed arthritis as a long-term condition.

High cholesterol and hypertensive disease were more frequently reported by older baby boomers (11% and 15% respectively) than by younger baby boomers (4.0% and 4.2% respectively).

LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS *continued*

7.3 SELECTED LONG-TERM CONDITIONS(a), by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Short sighted/myopia	20.0	22.7	28.0	25.2	37.8	28.7	25.1
Long sighted/hyperopia	8.6	20.2	56.0	37.1	53.2	48.4	29.6
Presbyopia	**—	4.5	18.3	11.0	20.0	38.3	11.5
Back pain/problems nec(c)	21.2	24.3	25.5	24.9	27.8	21.3	23.3
Vasomotor and allergic rhinitis	17.1	17.9	12.5	15.3	11.3	11.4	15.0
Chronic sinusitis	14.8	13.8	17.8	15.7	15.3	16.2	15.4
Asthma	14.6	9.4	9.5	9.4	11.4	10.1	11.7
Arthritis	3.3	10.5	20.8	15.3	32.5	49.8	17.3
Total/partial deafness	5.5	10.7	17.6	14.0	21.3	31.9	14.0
High cholesterol	*0.7	4.0	11.2	7.4	15.5	17.7	7.2
Hypertensive disease	*0.6	4.2	15.4	9.5	30.3	40.8	12.7
Migraine	8.2	10.4	9.0	9.8	5.6	*3.5	7.8
Other long-term conditions	44.5	57.3	63.4	60.2	69.5	80.7	58.0
Total with long-term conditions(d)	**77.3**	**88.0**	**98.3**	**92.9**	**99.7**	**99.4**	**88.6**
	PERONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Conditions which have lasted or are expected to last for six months or more.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Long-term back pain/problems other than slipped discs or other disc problems.

(d) The per cent columns of conditions add to more than the total because more than one long-term condition may be specified. Where more than four long-term conditions are reported, only the four most severe are recorded.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The age standardised death rate for Queensland in 2002 was 6.8 deaths per 1,000 persons, similar to the Australian rate of 6.7 deaths per 1,000 persons (ABS 2003). Of the 23,968 deaths in Queensland in 2002, almost one in ten (9.4%) were of baby boomer age (aged 37 to 56 years in 2002).

The mortality rate among persons aged 67 years and over was substantially higher (4,682.4 deaths per 100,000 persons) than for baby boomers (212.9 deaths per 100,000 persons) (Table 7.4). Within the baby boomer group, the mortality rate was 140.2 for younger baby boomers (aged 37 to 46 years in 2002) and 295.1 for older baby boomers (aged 47 to 56 years in 2002). As shown in the table, this difference can be attributed mainly to a range of malignant neoplasms (cancers) and ischaemic heart diseases, predominantly acute myocardial infarctions (heart attacks).

CAUSES OF DEATH *continued*

There were also differences in the most prevalent causes of death between males and females. The most prevalent cause of death for older male and female baby boomers was malignant neoplasms (cancer) with rates of 139.2 and 132.4 deaths per 100,000 baby boomer aged males and females respectively. The main types of cancers causing death among older male baby boomers were cancers of the digestive organs (43.5 deaths per 100,000 males aged 47 to 56 years) and cancers of the trachea, bronchus and lung (38.6 deaths per 100,000 males aged 47 to 56 years). For older female baby boomers, the main types of cancers causing death were breast cancer (39.5 deaths per 100,000 females aged 47 to 56 years) and cancers of the trachea, bronchus and lung (22.4 deaths per 100,000 females aged 47 to 56 years). There was also a high rate of deaths among older male and female baby boomers due to diseases of the circulatory system (97.4 and 34.2 per 100,000 males and females respectively).

Cancers were also the most common cause of death for younger female baby boomers (45.3 deaths per 100,000 females aged 37 to 46 years) and younger male baby boomers (36.6 deaths per 100,000 males aged 37 to 46 years). Intentional self-harm (35.2 deaths per 100,000 males aged 37 to 46 years) and accidents (unintentional injuries) with a rate of 28.3 deaths per 100,000 males aged 37 to 46 years were other common causes of death among younger male baby boomers.

Among persons aged 67 years and over, the most common causes of death for both males and females were diseases of the circulatory system (2,016.4 and 2,151.3 deaths per 100,000 males and females aged 67 years and over respectively), followed by cancers (1,506.9 and 898.9 deaths per 100,000 males and females aged 67 years and over respectively). The main types of diseases of the circulatory system affecting persons aged 67 years and over were ischaemic heart diseases and cerebrovascular diseases (1,127.1 and 553.7 deaths per 100,000 persons respectively).

The major cause of death due to accidents was transport accidents for baby boomers (8.6 deaths per 100,000 persons) and injury due to falls for the age group 67 years and over (26.2 deaths per 100,000 persons).

7.4 SELECTED UNDERLYING CAUSES OF DEATH(a)(b), by age group—2002(c)

	BABY BOOMERS					
	0–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–66 years*	*67 years and over*	*Total*(d)
	PER 100,000 PERSONS						
Malignant neoplasms							
Digestive organs (C15-C26)	np	7.3	32.8	19.3	114.5	325.9	49.4
Trachea, bronchus and lung (C33-C34)	np	5.0	30.6	17.0	92.4	238.8	37.6
Melanoma and other malignant neoplasms of skin (C43-C44)	np	4.1	8.1	6.0	13.6	48.0	8.2
Breast (C50)	np	8.1	19.6	13.5	26.3	55.8	12.1
Female genital organs (C51-C58)	np	2.7	6.7	4.6	16.3	39.3	7.0
Male genital organs (C60-C63)	np	np	np	np	17.5	117.7	13.9
Urinary tract (C64-C68)	np	np	5.1	3.3	16.0	66.1	9.2
Brain (C71)	np	2.5	6.9	4.6	15.1	21.5	5.3
Lymphoid, haematopoietic and related tissue (C81-C96)	1.6	3.6	9.5	6.4	28.4	111.9	16.7
Total malignant neoplasms (C00-C97)	*5.6*	*41.0*	*135.8*	*85.5*	*392.1*	*1 171.4*	*182.6*
Diseases of the circulatory system							
Ischaemic heart diseases (I20-I25)	np	12.4	42.9	26.7	140.8	1 127.1	136.5
Cerebrovascular diseases (I60-I69)	np	4.8	10.1	7.3	27.2	553.7	61.7
Diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries (I70-I79)	np	np	np	np	7.6	108.3	12.2
Total diseases of the circulatory system (I00-I99)	*3.5*	*22.2*	*66.0*	*42.8*	*202.1*	*2 090.8*	*246.9*
Diseases of the respiratory system							
Influenza and pneumonia (J10-J18)	np	np	np	np	6.0	123.7	13.9
Chronic lower respiratory diseases (J40-J47)	np	np	7.5	4.5	37.2	261.1	31.7
Total diseases of the respiratory system (J00-J99)	np	*2.9*	*11.9*	*7.1*	*48.0*	*453.0*	*53.6*
Diabetes mellitus (E10-E14)	np	np	6.7	4.2	22.4	110.1	14.6
Diseases of the liver (K70-K77)	np	6.4	9.5	7.9	16.3	19.4	5.8
Accidents							
Transport accidents (V01-V99)	11.3	9.3	7.9	8.6	7.3	11.8	10.2
Falls (W00-W19)	np	np	np	np	4.5	26.2	4.0
Accidental drowning and submersion (W65-W74)	np	np	np	np	1.5	1.0	1.2
Other external causes of accidental injury (W00-X59)	7.2	10.2	9.3	9.8	10.9	86.3	16.4
Total accidents	*18.5*	*19.5*	*17.2*	*18.4*	*18.1*	*98.1*	*26.6*
Intentional self-harm (X60-X84)	11.9	23.1	14.4	19.0	14.8	14.7	14.5
All causes	**64.5**	**140.2**	**295.1**	**212.9**	**788.8**	**4 682.4**	**645.9**

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) All deaths registered have been coded using the tenth revision of the *International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD 10)* as released in 1999 by the World Health Organization.

(b) Expressed per 100,000 estimated resident population as at 30 June.

(c) The 2002 deaths data shown above were collected one year after the National Health Survey, 2001. Age groups shown in this table are therefore one year older when compared with the results of the National Health Survey, 2001.

(d) The mortality rates described here are a crude death rate based on the 2002 revised estimated resident population and so vary slightly from those published in *Causes of Death, Australia (cat. no. 3303.0)*. Mortality rates in this publication have been age standardised using the 2001 estimated resident population as the standard.

Source: ABS data available on request, Causes of Death Collection, 2002.

HEALTH RISK FACTORS

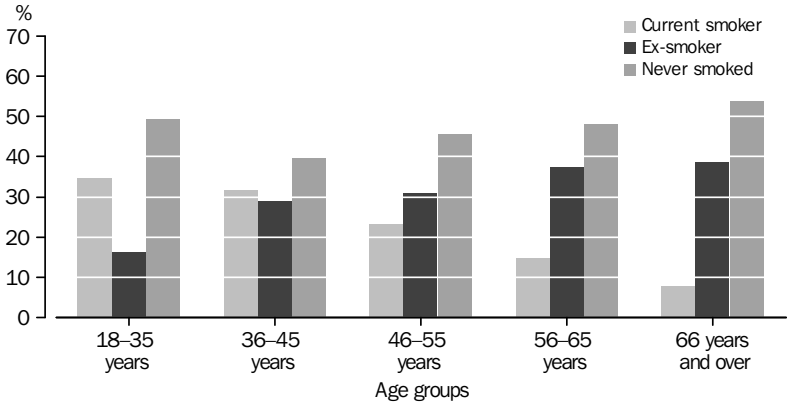
The health of baby boomers in the future will be affected by a range of lifestyle and environmental factors, the health effects of which are often cumulative. Some of the major preventable risk factors include cigarette smoking, consumption of alcohol at levels considered at risk for health, limited physical activity, poor nutrition and being overweight (AIHW 2004).

Smoking has been associated with several types of cancers, coronary heart disease and cardiovascular disease, while excessive intake of alcohol has been associated with liver disease, high blood pressure, cancers and injuries from accidents and violence (AIHW 1996, 2002). Insufficient physical activity and poor nutrition, including excess fat consumption have been associated with obesity, high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol levels, all of which increase the risk of developing diabetes and cardiovascular disease, particularly heart attacks and other forms of coronary heart disease (ABS 2002a).

Smoking

In 2001, just over a quarter (28%) of Queensland baby boomers were smokers, with a higher proportion of male baby boomers (31%) being smokers than their female counterparts (24%). While 32% of younger baby boomers were current smokers, this proportion reduced to 23% for older baby boomers (Graph 7.5).

7.5 SMOKER STATUS, by age group—2001



Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

The Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage is one of the five Socioeconomic Indexes for Areas (SEIFAs) (see Glossary). Data sourced from the 2001 NHS show that baby boomers who lived in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas (the bottom SEIFA quintile) had higher rates of smoking (33%) than baby boomers who lived in the least socioeconomically disadvantaged areas (the top SEIFA quintile), with a smoking rate of 14%.

From 1999 to 2001 there were an average 3,402 deaths per year in Queensland due to tobacco smoking, accounting for 19% of all males deaths and 10% of all female deaths (Queensland Health 2004). In addition, over the three years 1999–2000 to 2001–02, there were an average of 30,453 hospital admissions per year in Queensland due to smoking. Hospital rates increased with age, with 49% of admissions occurring in people aged 65 years and over. The study also found that a large increase in tobacco smoking related

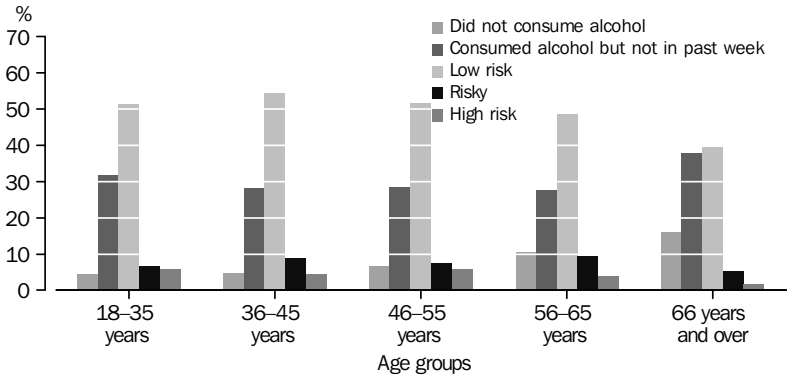
Smoking continued

morbidity requiring hospital admission occurs from age 45 to 49 years for both sexes, with males experiencing higher rates at all ages beyond 40 years.

Alcohol consumption

Just over half (53%) of all Queensland baby boomers were considered low risk drinkers while 13.1% were considered to be consuming risky or high risk levels of alcohol (Graph 7.6). Female baby boomers (9.8%) had lower levels of risky/high risk alcohol consumption than males in the same age group (17%). In terms of socioeconomic disadvantage, the proportions of baby boomers who were risky and high risk drinkers of alcohol were similar across the SEIFA quintiles.

7.6 ALCOHOL RISK LEVEL(a), by age group—2001



(a) Alcohol consumption in the last week. Based on Australian Alcohol Guidelines. See Glossary.
Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

From 1999–2000 to 2001–02, there were an average 20,912 hospital admissions per year in Queensland due to hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption, with higher rates in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage (Queensland Health 2004). The study further showed that a steady increase in rates occurred from age 45 to 49 years and over.

Exercise levels

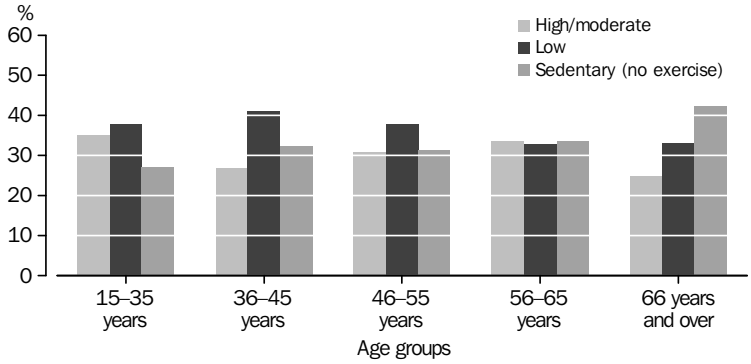
In 2001, 29% of baby boomers reported undertaking moderate to high levels of exercise while almost a third (31%) were considered to be sedentary, i.e. undertook no exercise (Graph 7.7). The remainder undertook low or very low levels of exercise, with a greater proportion of females (43%) reporting lower levels of exercise than males (36%).

Overall, levels of exercise decreased among older age groups, with 42% of persons aged 66 years and over undertaking no exercise compared with 27% of persons aged 15 to 35 years who were considered to be sedentary.

Male and female baby boomers who lived in the least socioeconomically disadvantaged areas were more physically active than those who lived in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas.

Exercise levels continued

7.7 EXERCISE LEVELS(a), by age group—2001



(a) Based on frequency, intensity (i.e. walking, moderate exercise and vigorous exercise) and duration of exercise (for recreation, sport or fitness) in the two weeks prior to interview. Incidential exercise undertaken for other reasons, such as for work or while engaged in domestic duties, was excluded.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

Healthy weight

The Body Mass Index (BMI) can be used to measure the prevalence of overweight or obesity in adults. In the National Health Survey, respondents are classified according to their BMI, which is calculated as weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in metres. As the data are self-reported, the measure is considered to underestimate overweight and obesity since studies have shown respondents tend to overestimate height and underestimate weight (ABS 1997).

In 2001, a greater proportion of baby boomers were considered to be overweight or obese (54%) when compared with the total population (46%) (Table 7.8). Male baby boomers (63%) were more likely to be overweight or obese than female baby boomers (46%), younger males aged 15 to 35 years (40%) and older males aged 66 years and over (57%).

The 2001 NHS found little variation in the proportion of baby boomers who were overweight or obese across socioeconomic quintiles.

7.8 BODY MASS INDEX, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Body Mass Index (BMI)							
Underweight (BMI<18.5)	7.2	2.7	*0.8	1.8	*1.0	*2.1	3.8
Normal range (BMI 18.5–24.99)	52.0	41.0	33.9	37.6	29.0	39.6	42.3
Overweight (BMI 25–30)	22.8	32.2	37.0	34.5	38.0	33.8	30.3
Obese (BMI>30)	10.4	17.6	21.6	19.5	24.8	15.0	16.0
Not known	7.6	6.5	6.7	6.6	7.2	9.4	7.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

Nutrition

Eating a balanced diet is an important factor in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Good nutrition may assist in reducing the risk of coronary heart disease, several common cancers, and obesity, as well as type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, high blood pressure and raised blood cholesterol (AIHW 2002).

The *Australian Guide to Healthy Eating* (1998) recommends, for adults, two serves of fruit (300g) and five serves of vegetables (375g) daily for optimum health benefits (Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services 1998). In 2001, 36% of Queensland baby boomers reported consuming, on average, four or more serves of vegetables per day and 54% consumed two or more serves of fruit per day (Table 7.9). A higher proportion of baby boomers reported consuming, on average, four or more serves of vegetables per day than the Queensland population aged 15 years and over (32%), largely due to the lower consumption of the 15 to 35 years age group. The proportion of baby boomers who consumed two or more serves of fruit per day was similar to that of the population aged 15 years and over.

Forty-five per cent of baby boomers usually drank low/reduced fat or skim milk in 2001, similar to the state average (43%). More older baby boomers (51%) consumed low/reduced fat or skim milk than younger baby boomers (41%).

The proportion of persons who used salt after cooking did not vary substantially across age groups, with almost half (46%) of baby boomers never or rarely adding salt after cooking.

Nutrition continued

7.9 SELECTED DIETARY HABITS, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Usual daily serves of vegetables							
Doesn't eat vegetables	*0.6	**0.5	*0.7	*0.6	**0.2	**—	*0.5
1 serve or less	23.3	17.3	15.5	16.5	10.0	10.2	17.5
2–3 serves	54.7	48.9	45.1	47.1	49.2	49.3	50.5
4–5 serves	18.4	28.4	33.3	30.7	31.8	36.1	26.9
6 serves or more	2.9	4.9	5.4	5.2	8.8	4.4	4.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Usual daily serves of fruit							
Doesn't eat fruit	11.1	7.5	5.6	6.6	*4.1	*2.0	7.4
1 serve or less	43.5	43.5	33.8	38.9	34.0	25.3	38.3
2–3 serves	36.5	39.8	49.6	44.4	48.9	59.5	43.9
4–5 serves	7.3	7.4	8.4	7.8	11.8	10.8	8.5
6 serves or more	1.7	*1.9	*2.6	2.2	*1.3	*2.4	1.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Usual type of milk							
Whole	57.8	51.6	36.7	44.6	38.2	41.7	48.5
Low/reduced fat	26.4	26.3	36.0	30.9	35.9	32.7	30.0
Skim	9.4	14.5	14.6	14.5	16.3	17.0	13.1
Soy	3.2	3.1	4.7	3.9	4.7	*2.4	3.5
Evaporated or sweetened condensed	**—	**—	**—	**—	**—	**0.2	**—
None of the above	3.1	4.5	7.5	5.9	4.7	6.0	4.7
Total(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Salt added after cooking							
Never/rarely	51.3	46.7	45.5	46.1	46.7	48.8	48.5
Sometimes	22.9	18.1	22.1	20.0	16.3	20.1	20.7
Usually	25.8	35.2	32.4	33.9	37.0	31.1	30.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Including persons who did not know the type of milk they usually consumed.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

HEALTH RELATED ACTIONS

Most people spend some time attending to their health, whether it is preventative or ongoing care, or actions related to a specific health problem.

HEALTH RELATED ACTIONS *continued*

In terms of preventative action, there is a growing recognition of the importance of taking a 'whole of life' approach in the development of comprehensive strategies to prevent chronic disease. Research has indicated that the adoption of a healthy lifestyle at any age, including from age 50 years onwards, provides health benefits and mitigates against the effects of illness and disease (Australian Department of Health and Ageing 2001).

Health related actions include changing lifestyle behaviours, consulting doctors or other health professionals, taking medications and taking time off work to recover. Health related actions can also be preventative such as having regular dental check-ups. Results from the 2001 NHS indicate that 42% of Queensland baby boomers had taken at least one health related action in the two weeks prior to the survey (Table 7.10).

7.10 HEALTH RELATED ACTIONS TAKEN(a), by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
At least one health action taken(c)							
Hospital inpatient episode	*0.6	*1.0	*0.9	*1.0	*1.6	*1.7	1.0
Visited casualty/emergency	*1.0	*1.3	*1.2	*1.2	**0.3	**0.5	1.0
Visited outpatients	1.8	2.6	3.0	2.8	*3.2	5.0	2.8
Visited day clinic	2.6	2.7	4.0	3.3	*3.7	4.4	3.2
Consulted a GP	19.2	16.8	23.1	19.8	27.8	35.1	22.6
Consulted a specialist	5.3	3.5	5.4	4.4	6.9	12.2	6.1
Dentist consultation	4.8	5.1	4.5	4.8	8.2	4.4	5.1
Consulted other health professional	12.7	13.6	13.0	13.3	9.1	13.5	12.6
Had days away from work/study	10.8	7.9	4.8	6.5	*3.2	**—	6.9
Had other days of reduced activity	16.2	11.2	12.4	11.8	13.9	16.1	14.3
Total specified health actions taken(c)	*43.1*	*40.1*	*43.6*	*41.8*	*45.9*	*55.0*	*44.5*
None of the above actions	56.9	59.9	56.4	58.2	54.1	45.0	55.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Health actions taken in the two weeks prior to the survey. Only includes health actions covered in the National Health Survey.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) More than one health action may be specified.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

The most common health related action taken across all age groups was consulting a doctor (general practitioner or specialist). About one-quarter of baby boomers (24%) consulted a doctor compared with 47% of persons aged 66 years and over. However, the proportion who consulted other health professionals was approximately the same for both age groups.

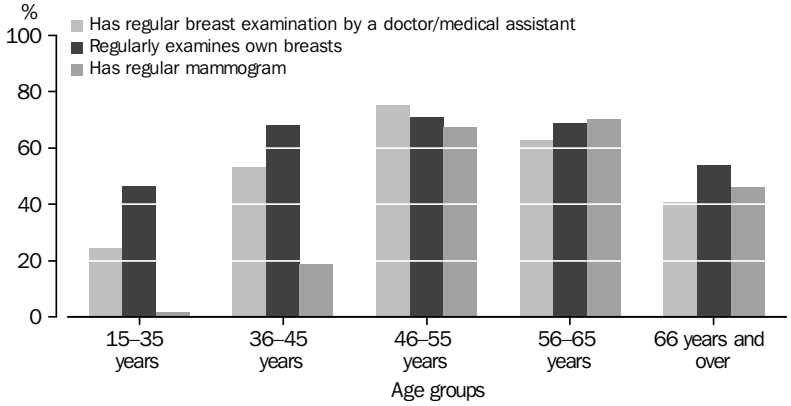
Breast examinations

Breast cancer is a major cause of death among female baby boomers. There is evidence that population-based screening and effective treatment can reduce mortality from breast cancer (AIHW 1998). The BreastScreen Queensland Program provides free breast screens (screening mammograms) to women aged over 40 years. This program especially targets women aged 50 to 69 years, as research indicates this is the age group where the benefits from screening have been most clearly demonstrated (World Health Organization 2002).

Results from the 2001 NHS show that 90% of female baby boomers and 96% of females aged 56 to 65 years have had at least one type of regular breast examination. All types of breast examinations were slightly more common among older baby boomer women (91%) than younger baby boomer women (88%).

Regular mammograms were highest among older female baby boomers (67%) and females aged 56 to 65 years (71%) while regular examinations by doctors or a medical assistant were highest among older female baby boomers (75%) (Graph 7.11). Regular self-examinations were also more common among total female baby boomers and females aged 56 to 65 years (both 69%) than other age groups.

7.11 BREAST EXAMINATIONS, by age group—2001



Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

HEALTH CARE COSTS

In the context of the ageing population, the cost of future health care has the potential to place significant pressures on government budgets. For example, even with the implementation of extensive healthy ageing strategies, there is likely to be a larger number of older people with chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes in the future. Alzheimers and other dementias are also a major cause of disability, requiring ongoing support and financial resources.

In 2000–01, the allocated health expenditure per person for all baby boomers ($1,952) was 25% less than the Australian average of $2,602 (Table 7.12). Allocated expenditure for older baby boomers ($2,196) was higher than for younger baby boomers ($1,734), but lower than the Australian average. On a gender basis, allocated health expenditure per person for younger male baby boomers accounted for $1,461 and for younger female (excluding maternal) baby boomers was $1,854. For the older baby boomers, males accounted for $1,965 and females (excluding maternal) for $2,426.

HEALTH CARE COSTS *continued*

Health expenditure, on average, increases with age. As shown in Table 7.12, in 2000–01, allocated expenditure for baby boomers was almost eight-tenths (0.8) of the Australian average. For 65 to 74 year olds, it was 2.1 times the Australian average and for men and women 85 years and over, allocated health expenditure was six times the national average.

7.12 ALLOCATED HEALTH EXPENDITURE PER PERSON(a), by sex and age group, Australia—2001–01

					BABY BOOMERS							
	0–4 years	*5–14 years*	*15–24 years*	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65–74 years*	*75–84 years*	*85 years and over*	*Total*
	DOLLARS PER PERSON											
Sex												
Persons	1 714	1 187	1 549	1 746	1 734	2 196	1 952	3 299	5 567	8 944	15 725	2 602
Male	1 864	1 120	1 325	1 302	1 461	1 965	1 699	3 210	5 689	8 983	14 186	2 291
Female	1 556	1 258	1 782	2 186	2 004	2 428	2 203	3 391	5 453	8 917	16 411	2 908
Female (excluding maternal)	1 548	1 257	1 546	1 651	1 854	2 426	2 122	3 391	5 453	8 917	16 411	2 773
	RATIO OF AGE GROUP TO TOTAL											
Sex												
Persons	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.3	2.1	3.4	6.0	1.0
Male	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7	1.4	2.5	3.9	6.2	1.0
Female	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.9	3.1	5.6	1.0
Female (excluding maternal)	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.2	2.0	3.2	5.9	1.0

(a) Health expenditure able to be allocated by disease. This is 87.5% of recurrent health expenditure. See Glossary.

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW 2005). *Health system expenditure on disease and injury in Australia, 2000–01*. Second edition. AIHW cat. no. HWE 28 Canberra: AIHW (Health and Welfare Expenditure Series no. 21).

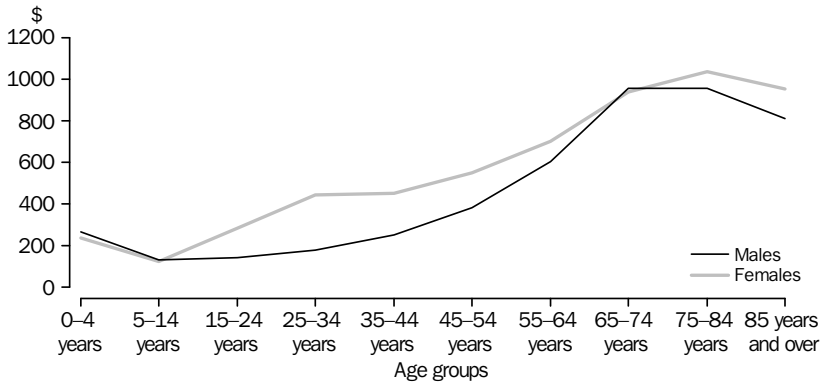
The Health Insurance Commission publishes data on Medicare services provided to Queensland residents. Medicare services are those services provided by private medical practitioners, optometrists and some dental practitioners for which a contribution is paid by the Health Insurance Commission. These data show that Medicare costs also rise with age but less steeply than allocated health expenditure (Table 7.12). Graph 7.13 shows that in 2003–04 the average value of Medicare benefits for Queenslanders was greater for persons aged 65 years and over than for those aged 55 to 64 years. Persons aged 65 years and over accounted for approximately one-quarter (28%) of the value of total benefits.

Projecting future health costs to incorporate the baby boomer cohort is problematic and this could be further compounded by growing community expectations of high quality care, the introduction of new medical treatments and technologies, and potential labour shortages in the health care industry. The impacts of all of these factors are uncertain (Queensland Government 2004).

HEALTH CARE COSTS

continued

7.13 AVERAGE VALUE OF BENEFITS FOR SERVICES PROCESSED IN 2003–04(a), by age group and sex



(a) Calculated using customised population projections for 2003–04 prepared by ABS according to assumptions agreed to by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Source: Australian Government Health Insurance Commission, Table 14, Statistical tables, Annual Report, 2003–04, HIC website, viewed 18 January 2005.

Private health insurance and health cards

In 2001, 55% of Queensland baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years) held private health insurance (Table 7.14), less than their Australian counterparts (60%). For older baby boomers in Queensland, only 57% were insured compared with 65% for Australia (ABS 2002b). The majority of persons who had private health insurance were covered by both hospital and ancillary cover.

Older Queensland baby boomers were more likely to be covered (57%) than younger baby boomers (53%). The proportion with private health insurance was greater for persons aged 56 to 65 years (56%) than for persons aged 66 years and over (44%).

For baby boomers covered by private health insurance, the main reasons given for obtaining insurance were for security, protection and peace of mind (44%), because it allowed for a choice of doctor (25%), for treatment as a private patient in hospital (25%), perceived shorter waiting times (21%) and because it provided benefits for ancillary services/extras (21%).

The main reasons given by baby boomers for not obtaining private health insurance were that they could not afford it or felt it was too expensive (72%), private health insurance lacked value for money (13%) and that the Medicare cover was sufficient (13%). In 2001, a high proportion of Queenslanders aged 66 years and over (93%) had an Australian Government health card compared with only 24% of baby boomers. This is due to one of the health card eligibility conditions being related to a person's age.

Private health insurance and health cards continued

7.14 PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTH CARDS, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS						
	15–35 years	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Type of private health insurance							
Hospital cover only	5.9	8.5	9.5	9.0	13.0	15.6	9.1
Ancillary cover only	2.9	*1.8	*1.1	1.5	*1.1	**0.8	1.9
Both hospital and ancillary cover	29.8	42.5	45.9	44.1	41.5	27.2	36.1
Total with insurance(b)	*39.4*	*53.0*	*56.5*	*54.7*	*55.9*	*44.2*	*47.6*
Without private health insurance(c)	60.2	47.0	43.5	45.3	44.1	55.8	52.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Government health card(d)							
Has health card	27.7	23.2	24.4	23.8	50.4	93.1	37.7
Does not have health card	72.3	76.8	75.8	76.4	49.6	7.1	62.4
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 056.4	536.5	480.0	1 016.4	316.9	372.1	2 761.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(b) Including persons who were insured but did not know what type of cover they had.

(c) Including persons who did not know, or did not state, whether they had private health insurance.

(d) Comprises Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Commonwealth Seniors Health Card and Department of Veterans Affairs Entitlement Card.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Health Survey, 2001.

SUMMARY

- Eighty-two per cent of baby boomers considered themselves to be in good to excellent health in 2001. Younger baby boomers rated their health higher (84%) than older baby boomers (80%).
- The increase in the mortality rate between older and younger baby boomers can be mainly attributed to a range of malignant neoplasms (cancers) and ischaemic heart diseases.
- In 2001, 28% of baby boomers were smokers. Baby boomers were less likely to be smokers than persons aged 18 to 35 years (35%), but more likely than persons aged 66 years and over (7.7%).
- Just over half (53%) of baby boomers were considered low risk drinkers while 8.6% were considered to be consuming medium or high risk levels of alcohol.
- In 2001, just over a quarter of baby boomers (29%) reported undertaking moderate to high levels of exercise while almost one third of baby boomers (31%) were considered to be sedentary.
- In 2001, 54% of baby boomers were considered to be overweight or obese compared with 46% of the total population aged 15 years and over. Male baby boomers (63%) were more likely to be overweight or obese than female baby boomers (46%).
- Smoking and physical inactivity levels of baby boomers were higher for those living in areas with a low SEIFA quintile compared with those living in areas with a high SEIFA quintile. However, there was little variation by areas of relative socioeconomic disadvantage in the proportions of baby boomers who were risky and high risk drinkers of alcohol or who were overweight or obese.
- The most common health related action undertaken by baby boomers was to consult a doctor (general practitioner or specialist). About one-quarter of baby boomers (24%) consulted a doctor, although this proportion increased for persons aged 66 years and over (47%).
- Allocated health expenditure on baby boomers is, on average, lower than the Australian per capita average. Health care costs rise steeply for older age groups.
- Just over half (55%) of baby boomers had private health insurance in 2001 with older baby boomers more likely to be covered (57%) than younger baby boomers (53%).

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CHAPTER 8 COMMUNITY LIFE

INTRODUCTION

People's interaction with the community is an indicator of their social wellbeing. A person's level of interaction with the community and what forms that interaction takes will vary with factors such as age, lifestyle, family situation, and the area they live in. As baby boomers become older and reach retirement age, the way they are involved in or affected by aspects of community life can be expected to change. The large number of baby boomers reaching retirement age over the next decade or two is likely to have a substantial impact on community infrastructure requirements.

This chapter uses a range of ABS survey data and census data to look at various aspects of baby boomers and their community life. Types of information include how they use their time, amount and type of voluntary work undertaken, social contact issues, crime and safety issues, transport issues, and their use of computers and the Internet.

USE OF TIME

The 1997 Time Use Survey results show how much time people spent on their various activities. The amount of time spent on personal care in Queensland, the largest category, was similar across all age groups, taking an average of 10.7 hours a day for baby boomers, who were aged 32 to 51 years in 1997 (Table 8.1).

8.1 USE OF TIME(a), by age group—1997

			BABY BOOMERS					
	15–24 years	*25–31 years*	*32–41 years*	*42–51 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*52–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	AVERAGE HOURS PER DAY							
Personal care(c)	11.4	11.0	10.8	10.6	10.7	10.9	11.5	11.1
Employment	3.3	3.8	3.7	5.0	4.3	3.9	0.8	3.4
Education	1.2	*0.2	*0.1	*0.1	0.1	np	np	0.3
Domestic	1.0	2.1	2.7	2.5	2.6	3.1	3.2	2.4
Child care	0.3	1.1	1.3	0.3	0.8	*0.1	*0.1	0.5
Purchasing	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
Voluntary work and care	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3
Social and community interaction	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Recreation and leisure(d)	4.8	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.7	4.2	6.5	4.5
Total	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**	**24.0**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Including primary activity only. Please see activity type, *How Australians Use Their Time* (cat. no. 4153.0) p. 71.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Including sleeping, eating, drinking, washing, and grooming.

(d) Including interaction with pets.

Source: ABS data available on request, Time Use Survey, 1997.

USE OF TIME *continued*

Baby boomers spent an average of 4.3 hours a day on employment related activities. This was higher for older baby boomers (aged 42 to 51 years in 1997) at 5.0 hours, compared with younger baby boomers (aged 32 to 41 years) at 3.7 hours, with the latter group spending 1.3 hours on childcare. For persons older than the baby boomer cohort, the amount of time spent on employment fell with age, to 0.8 hours for persons aged 60 years and over.

Older baby boomers spent slightly more time on recreation and leisure (3.9 hours) than younger baby boomers (3.5 hours). Time on recreation and leisure increased to 4.2 hours for persons aged 52 to 59 years and 6.5 hours for those aged 60 years and over. As baby boomers move into older age groups, the trend to spend less time on employment related activities and more time on recreation and leisure is likely to continue.

RECREATION AND LEISURE

People spend time on a wide variety of recreation and leisure activities, ranging from participating in sport and outdoor activity through to reading and watching television. The Time Use Survey found that in 1997 Queensland baby boomers spent, on average, 2.4 hours a day watching television and videos, 2.1 hours a day talking, including on the telephone, 1.4 hours a day listening to CDs, records, tapes and the radio and 0.6 hours a day reading (Table 8.2). In comparison, the average time spent reading by persons aged 60 years and over was 1.2 hours a day.

8.2 USE OF TIME: RECREATION AND LEISURE(a), by age group—1997

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–24 years	*25–31 years*	*32–41 years*	*42–51 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*52–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	AVERAGE HOURS PER DAY(c)							
Sport and outdoor activity	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3
Reading	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.6
Audio/visual media:								
Watching TV/videos	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.8	3.7	2.8
Listening to radio/CDs/records/tapes	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3
Total including other audio/visual	*4.4*	*3.7*	*3.8*	*4.1*	*4.0*	*4.2*	*5.3*	*4.3*
Talking including phone	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.6	1.4	2.0
Other(d)	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8
Total	**8.9**	**7.7**	**7.4**	**8.3**	**7.9**	**7.9**	**9.9**	**8.4**

(a) Including primary activity and secondary activity. Please see activity type, *How Australians Use Their Time* (cat. no. 4153.0) p. 71.
(b) Persons aged 15 years or over.
(c) Including time spent on communication for the specific activity.
(d) Including interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes, *How Australians Use Their Time* (cat. no. 4153.0).
Source: ABS data available on request, Time Use Survey, 1997.

Baby boomers also spent 0.3 hours a day participating in sport and outdoor activity and 0.2 hours a day on more passive activities such as games, hobbies, arts and crafts. As expected, time spent on more passive activities increased for persons aged 60 years and over, with this group spending 0.6 hours a day on these activities.

Cultural activities

The 2002 General Social Survey provides information on people's attendance at cultural and leisure venues. Table 8.3 shows that baby boomers (aged 37 to 56 years in 2002) are much more likely to attend the cinema than any other cultural venue or activity, with 72% of this group going to a cinema at least once in the 12 months prior to the survey. More younger baby boomers attended cinemas (76%) than older baby boomers (67%).

Attendance at other cultural venues and activities varied between older and younger baby boomers. Attendance at libraries (52%), botanic gardens (47%) and zoological parks and aquariums (40%) were more popular with younger baby boomers, while more older baby boomers attended art museums (27%) and musicals and operas (20%). When compared with older age groups, a higher proportion of baby boomers attended cultural venues and activities, with the exception of musicals and operas, which were attended by 23% of persons aged 57 to 59 years, compared with 19% of baby boomers.

Although the General Social Survey did not specifically ask reasons for non-attendance at cultural venues and activities, attendance is likely to be influenced by cost, health factors and personal preferences.

8.3 ATTENDANCE AT SELECTED CULTURAL VENUES AND ACTVITIES(a), by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Cinemas	84.7	76.0	67.1	71.9	52.0	42.5	69.8
Libraries	46.2	52.3	44.4	48.6	38.7	38.1	45.2
Botanic gardens	47.2	47.2	44.7	46.0	36.7	37.0	44.2
Zoological parks and aquariums	46.1	40.0	33.7	37.1	22.2	20.3	36.4
Popular music concerts	31.6	22.0	21.8	21.9	*15.9	10.7	23.0
Art museums	21.5	25.5	26.8	26.1	*18.2	20.4	22.9
Other museums	19.9	25.8	20.3	23.2	*15.5	19.1	20.8
Other performing arts	20.1	21.2	17.9	19.7	*18.0	16.4	19.1
Musicals and operas	14.7	17.0	20.4	18.6	23.3	18.1	17.3
Theatre performances	16.5	18.8	15.5	17.3	*17.2	12.5	16.0
Dance performances	10.2	16.1	11.9	14.1	*11.1	5.9	10.9
Classical music concerts	4.2	7.6	10.4	8.9	*8.3	6.2	6.6
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 005.2	552.9	478.3	1 031.2	122.2	544.3	2 702.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) In the 12 months before the survey.

(b) Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, General Social Survey, 2002.

Sport and physical activities

Social and community interaction by baby boomers is not limited to attendance at cultural and leisure venues and activities as many baby boomers also participate in sports and physical activities. The 2002 General Social Survey found the most common form of physical activity was walking for exercise, with 30% of baby boomers participating in this activity (Table 8.4). A higher proportion of older baby boomers (33%) walked for

Sport and physical activities continued

exercise compared with younger baby boomers (28%). Other sports and physical activities popular with the baby boomer cohort included swimming (11%), aerobics/fitness (8.1%), golf (7.6%) and tennis (6.7%).

As with attendance at cultural venues, a larger proportion of baby boomers participated in sports and physical activities, compared with persons in older age groups. The exceptions were for persons in the 57 to 59 years age group whose participation in golf (10%) and fishing (8.7%) was higher than that of baby boomers (7.6% and 6.1% respectively).

8.4 TOP TEN SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTVITIES(a), by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Walking for exercise	15.9	28.2	33.0	30.5	30.1	24.7	23.9
Swimming	11.6	12.2	9.7	11.1	*9.5	4.8	9.9
Aerobics/fitness	12.1	8.6	7.4	8.1	*7.7	4.8	8.9
Golf	7.4	7.0	8.4	7.6	*10.4	5.8	7.3
Tennis	5.8	5.6	8.0	6.7	**0.5	*1.8	5.1
Fishing	4.0	5.6	6.6	6.1	*8.7	*3.5	4.9
Cycling	5.1	6.7	*2.4	4.7	**0.5	*2.6	4.3
Running	4.8	5.6	*2.1	4.0	—	**0.9	3.5
Netball	8.1	*1.5	—	0.8	—	—	3.3
Touch football	7.0	2.7	**0.2	1.5	—	—	3.2
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 005.2	552.9	478.3	1 031.2	122.2	544.3	2 702.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) In the 12 months before the survey.
(b) Persons aged 18 years and over.
Source: ABS data available on request, General Social Survey, 2002.

Household expenditure on recreation

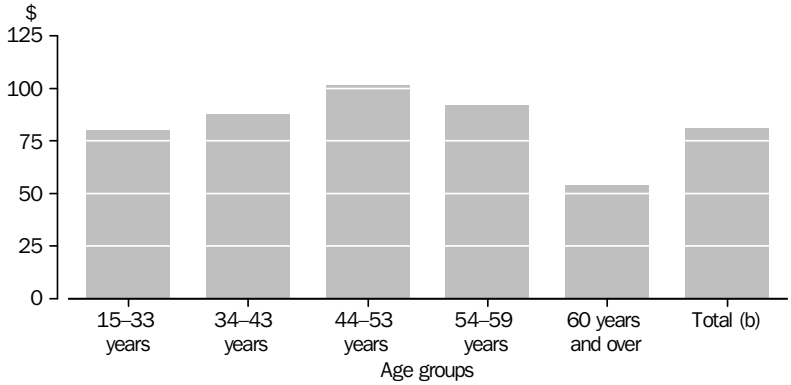
The 1998-99 Household Expenditure Survey collected information on the expenditure, income and other characteristics of household residents in private dwellings. The category of recreation expenses consists of a diverse range of goods and services, including the purchase of audiovisual equipment and parts, home computer equipment, books, newspapers and magazines. It also includes expenditure on gambling, sports fees and charges, cultural fees and charges, selected holiday expenses, animal expenses and other recreational expenses.

The survey results found that households where a baby boomer (aged 34 to 53 years in 1999) was the reference person spent an average of $94 a week on recreation (Graph 8.5). Older baby boomer households spent $102, while younger baby boomer households spent $88. Spending gradually declined to $54 for those households where

Household expenditure on recreation continued

the reference person was aged 60 years and over. The average expenditure for all households was $81.

8.5 AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON RECREATION, by age group(a)—1998–99



(a) Based on the age of the reference person in the household. This was determined by (in order of precedence) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage, a lone parent, the person with the highest income and the eldest person.
(b) Reference persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Household Expenditure Survey, 1998–99.

VOLUNTARY WORK

Many people are involved in voluntary work as part of their cultural, leisure, sporting and recreational activities. Volunteers provide a valuable service to the community and the work they do is considered to be an important part of their personal participation in their community. The roles of volunteers are varied, ranging from fundraising to counselling, coaching and administration.

The 2000 Survey of Voluntary Work found that 38% of Queensland baby boomers (aged 35 to 54 years in 2000) did voluntary work through an organisation or group in the 12 months before the survey (Table 8.6). Younger baby boomers had a higher volunteer rate (42%) than older baby boomers (34%), with the volunteer rate for older persons at 25%. Among baby boomers, 48% of those employed part-time were volunteers, higher than those employed full-time (36%) and those not in the labour force (32%).

VOLUNTARY WORK
continued

8.6 VOLUNTARY WORK(a), by labour force status by age group—2000

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–34 years	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	VOLUNTEER RATE (PER CENT)						
Employed full-time	27.3	36.6	36.1	36.4	*24.2	*43.9	31.9
Employed part-time	33.2	58.2	*35.8	47.5	**23.1	*46.7	40.6
Unemployed	*24.7	**47.6	**43.8	*45.4	**—	**—	*29.5
Not in the labour force	*24.7	*38.2	*25.9	32.4	**26.7	22.0	25.4
Total	**27.9**	**42.0**	**34.2**	**38.3**	***24.5**	**24.9**	**31.2**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	237.3	220.8	159.8	380.7	*43.3	122.5	783.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) In the 12 months before the survey. The survey defines volunteers as persons who willingly gave unpaid help, in the form of time, service or skills, through an organisation or group. Volunteers may work for a number of the same type or different types of organisations. Therefore total involvements are greater than total volunteers.

(b) Persons aged 18 years and over who were volunteers.

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Voluntary Work, 2000.

According to the 2002 General Social Survey, people were engaged in voluntary work for a wide range of organisations. Baby boomers (aged 37 to 56 years in 2002) performed voluntary work for sport, recreation and hobby organisations (15%), welfare and community organisations (13%) and education, training and youth development organisations (13%) while 8.8% performed work for religious groups (Table 8.7).

Younger baby boomers (aged 37 to 46 years in 2002) were more likely to be involved in sport, recreation and hobby organisations and education, training and youth development organisations compared with older baby boomers (aged 47 to 56 years in 2002). The high rates for younger baby boomers in these areas are likely to be partly due to parents being involved in their children's sport, recreational and educational activities.

Involvement with most categories of organisations generally declined in older age groups, except for welfare and community organisations, which had higher volunteer participation rates of 16% for persons aged 57 to 59 years and 14% for persons aged 60 years and over.

VOLUNTARY WORK
continued

8.7 VOLUNTARY WORK(a), by type by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Sport/recreation/hobby	12.2	17.7	12.3	15.2	*7.4	7.3	12.1
Welfare/community	8.0	12.2	13.8	12.9	15.9	14.3	11.5
Education/training/youth development	6.7	19.0	*6.2	13.0	**3.8	*3.3	8.3
Religious	6.2	9.0	8.5	8.8	*10.9	8.8	7.9
Total(c)	*31.4*	*44.6*	*39.9*	*42.4*	*36.6*	*30.6*	*35.7*
No voluntary work	68.6	55.4	60.1	57.6	63.4	69.4	64.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 005.2	552.9	478.3	1 031.2	122.2	544.3	2 702.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
(a) In the 12 months before the survey. The survey defines volunteers as persons who willingly gave unpaid help, in the form of time, service or skills, through an organisation or group.
(b) Persons aged 18 years and over.
(c) Components are not additive. A volunteer can work in more than one type of voluntary work.
Source: ABS data available on request, General Social Survey, 2002.

The most common reasons for baby boomers volunteering were to help others and the community (47%), for personal satisfaction (40%) and personal and family involvement (35%). Other reasons include to do something worthwhile, social contact, to be active, religious beliefs and to learn new skills. While helping others and the community was the most common reason provided across most age groups, younger baby boomers most commonly reported that they volunteered for personal and family involvement reasons (48%), compared with older baby boomers (17%).

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Social contact is usually a vital component of overall wellbeing within the community. According to the 2002 General Social Survey, 94% of Queensland baby boomers had contact with family or friends outside the household in the week before the survey (Table 8.8). The same proportion felt they could ask for small favours from persons outside the household and also were able to get support in time of crisis from persons outside the household. All three of these aspects of social contact were reported by 86% of baby boomers.

8.8 SOCIAL CONTACT, by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Had contact with family or friends living outside the household in last week	96.1	94.7	93.1	94.0	98.9	95.8	95.4
Could ask for small favours from persons living outside the household	95.4	94.5	92.4	93.5	94.7	93.8	94.3
Able to get support in time of crisis from persons living outside the household	96.9	95.4	92.5	94.1	91.6	93.0	94.8
Has all of the above	90.6	87.8	84.7	86.4	89.0	87.4	88.3
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 005.2	552.9	478.3	1 031.2	122.2	544.3	2 702.8

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, General Social Survey, 2002.

SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY

The 2003 Recorded Crime Victims collection provides information on the number of recorded victims of crime, expressed as victimisation rates. The offences recorded may have been reported by a victim, witness or other person, or they may have been detected by police. The statistics do not provide a total picture of crime, as not all crime comes to the attention of the police.

Assault is the most common type of violent crime (ABS 1997). The assault victimisation rate for Queensland baby boomers (approximated by persons aged 35 to 54 years in 2003) was 482 per 100,000 persons (Table 8.9). Younger baby boomers reported a rate of 607 compared with 344 for older baby boomers. Rates for other crimes were found to be lower with overall crime victimisation rates falling with age.

SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY *continued*

8.9 VICTIMS OF RECORDED CRIME(a), by selected offences by age group—2003

	BABY BOOMERS(b)						
	0–34 years	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65 years and over*	*Total*(c)
	RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS(d)						
Homicide and related offences(e)	7.1	6.9	4.4	5.7	2.5	1.8	6.1
Assault	746.3	607.3	344.1	481.7	185.8	58.3	556.2
Sexual assault	239.2	45.4	21.4	34.0	5.6	2.0	133.4
Kidnapping/abduction	6.4	0.4	—	0.2	—	—	3.3
Robbery	61.9	30.1	31.7	30.8	21.2	12.0	43.9
Blackmail/extortion	1.1	2.5	3.1	2.8	1.0	—	1.5
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 871.6	568.0	518.1	1 086.1	392.4	451.0	3 801.0

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) In the 12 months before the survey. Refers to individual person victims only and therefore does not include organisations as victims.

(b) Baby boomers were aged 38 to 57 years in 2003, but data for this age range are not available. The nearest age range available was used instead.

(c) Including victims for whom age was not specified.

(d) Victimisation rate per 100,000 of the estimated resident population of Queensland in each age group in 2003.

(e) Including murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and driving causing death.

Source: ABS data available on request, National Crime Statistics, 2003.

Not all crime is reported to police or comes to their notice, for various reasons. The 2002 Crime and Safety Survey estimates the true extent of crime and shows that over 4,300 per 100,000 baby boomers (approximated by persons aged 35 to 54 years in 2002) were victims of personal crime in the 12 months before the survey (Table 8.10). Assault was the most prevalent personal crime for all age groups. Total victimisation rates decreased for older age groups.

8.10 ESTIMATES OF ACTUAL CRIME(a), by selected offences by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS(b)							
	15–24 years	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65 years and over*	*Total*(c)
	RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS							
Robbery	*852.9	*552.5	**—	*155.3	68.0	*318.9	**—	305.9
Assault	8 193.2	6 108.9	4 480.6	3 876.9	4 216.4	1 804.7	478.9	4 357.0
Sexual assault(d)	*1 046.1	*470.4	**123.8	**76.6	**103.1	—	—	*251.4
All personal crime(e)	**9 078.4**	**6 627.4**	**4 604.5**	**4 038.1**	**4 356.5**	**2 023.4**	**478.9**	**4 676.6**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	456.4	517.7	610.8	475.5	1 086.3	367.2	404.3	2 831.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
(a) In the 12 months before the survey.
(b) Baby boomers were aged 37 to 56 years in 2002, but data for this age range are not available. The nearest age range available was used instead.
(c) Persons aged 15 years and over.
(d) Sexual assault data refer to persons aged 18 years and over.
(e) Components are not additive as some people may have been the victims of more than one type of crime. Including other personal crime: homicide and related offences, kidnapping/abduction, robbery and blackmail/extortion.

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Crime and Safety, 2002.

SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY *continued*

The perception of crime or public nuisance problems within a person's neighbourhood is an important indicator of how they feel about their own safety and wellbeing. Over the 12 months prior to the 2002 survey, 70% of all age groups reported at least one problem in their neighbourhood, with the lowest reporting rate of 61% for persons aged 60 years and over (Table 8.11). Nearly three-quarters (73%) of baby boomers reported at least one problem in their neighbourhood, with a higher reporting rate for younger baby boomers (74%) than older baby boomers (71%).

The most common problems perceived by baby boomers were housebreaking, burglaries and theft from homes, and dangerous and noisy driving, both reported at 41%. Perceptions of crime were similar across all age groups except persons aged 60 years and over, who reported lower perceptions of crime in their neighbourhood.

SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY *continued*

8.11 PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME OR PUBLIC NUISANCE PROBLEMS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS(a)						
	15–34 years	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT						
Housebreaking/burglaries/theft from homes	37.7	42.1	40.4	41.3	42.4	37.4	39.4
Car theft	15.6	15.9	15.3	15.6	14.2	15.1	15.4
Other theft	9.7	10.0	9.4	9.7	8.6	6.4	9.0
Louts/youth gangs	15.0	14.8	13.1	14.0	12.6	11.5	13.8
Prowlers/loiterers	10.1	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.0	5.9	8.1
Drunkenness	15.1	10.3	11.4	10.8	7.2	7.2	11.3
Vandalism/graffitti/damage to property	20.6	21.6	22.5	22.0	18.4	16.7	20.2
Dangerous/noisy driving	39.5	41.4	40.5	41.0	40.3	33.2	38.9
Illegal drugs	10.6	10.8	9.9	10.4	7.3	7.5	9.7
Sexual assault	1.8	1.3	*1.2	1.2	*1.0	*0.7	1.3
Other assault	3.2	2.9	2.0	2.5	*1.7	*1.2	2.4
Problems with neighbours/domestic problems	11.6	12.3	9.7	11.2	7.7	6.1	10.0
Other	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.6	*2.1	2.1	2.5
At least one problem(c)	*72.3*	*73.9*	*71.3*	*72.8*	*69.1*	*61.4*	*70.1*
No problem	27.7	26.1	28.7	27.2	30.9	38.6	29.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	974.1	610.8	475.5	1 086.3	208.6	562.9	2 831.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Baby boomers were aged 37 to 56 years in 2002, but data for this age range are not available. The nearest age range available was used instead.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

(c) Including persons who did not give details of problems in neighbourhood.

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Crime and Safety, 2002.

While the information presented shows the perception of crime by older age groups is generally lower than by younger people, they do not always feel as safe. The Crime and Safety Survey, 2002 found that 85% of younger baby boomers and 81% of older baby boomers felt very safe or safe when home alone during the day (Table 8.12). Proportions for older age groups decreased slightly with 80% of persons aged 55 to 64 years and 79% of persons aged 65 years and over also reporting feeling very safe or safe when home alone during the day.

While all age groups reported feeling less safe at home alone at night than during the day, 76% of all baby boomers felt very safe or safe at night, while a further 13% reported feeling neither safe nor unsafe.

SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY *continued*

8.12 FEELINGS OF SAFETY WHEN HOME ALONE, by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS(a)							
	15–24 years	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT							
During the day								
Very safe	42.2	46.6	43.0	38.1	40.9	33.4	26.1	39.1
Safe	41.2	37.4	42.1	43.2	42.5	46.8	53.1	43.4
Neither safe nor unsafe	10.3	8.4	7.2	8.9	7.9	11.3	10.8	9.3
Unsafe	*1.5	1.6	*1.1	2.1	1.5	2.9	2.2	1.8
Very unsafe	*1.0	2.0	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.2
Never home alone	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.7	4.2	3.0	4.7	3.9
Not stated	**0.2	**0.3	*0.4	**0.2	*0.3	**0.2	*0.7	0.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
After dark								
Very safe	25.9	30.4	29.6	28.7	29.2	25.0	19.9	27.0
Safe	43.2	42.5	46.8	47.2	47.0	48.2	49.3	46.0
Neither safe nor unsafe	17.2	15.8	12.9	13.6	13.2	13.5	14.8	14.6
Unsafe	7.8	5.9	4.5	4.8	4.6	5.7	5.1	5.6
Very unsafe	2.5	3.1	2.4	2.8	2.6	3.3	2.2	2.7
Never home alone	3.1	2.2	3.3	2.6	3.0	4.0	8.2	3.7
Not stated	**0.3	**0.2	*0.5	**0.3	*0.4	**0.4	**0.4	0.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	456.4	517.7	610.8	475.5	1 086.3	367.2	404.3	2 831.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Baby boomers were aged 37 to 56 years in 2002, but data for this age range are not available. The nearest age range available was used instead.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Crime and Safety, 2002.

TRANSPORT

The availability of transport affects people's working and social lives and their level of independence, an issue of growing importance as they age. The 2001 National Strategy for an Ageing Australia identifies the importance of transport in the community, stating that transport enables 'access to services, family, friends, and it supports greater social interaction' (Andrews 2001).

The type of transport used will depend on a range of factors such as frequency, location, speed, cost, safety, comfort, car affordability (including running costs) and traffic volumes. For many of these reasons, the proportion of people who usually travel by public or private transport will vary between urban and rural areas.

TRANSPORT *continued*

Getting from place to place is a vital part of modern society. The 1997 Time Use Survey found that Queensland baby boomers (aged 32 to 51 years in 1997) spent an average of 75 minutes a day travelling (Table 8.13). This was similar for both younger and older baby boomers, while the time decreased for older persons. Travelling to and from work was found to be the main reason for travel by younger persons and baby boomers, with purchasing and social participation reported as the main reasons for travel by older persons.

8.13 AVERAGE TIME SPENT TRAVELLING(a), by purpose by age group—1997

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–24 years	*25–31 years*	*32–41 years*	*42–51 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*52–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	MINUTES PER DAY							
Employment	21	23	21	28	24	14	4	19
Purchasing	14	12	13	18	16	17	15	15
Social participation	19	13	11	10	10	8	11	12
Recreation and leisure	13	12	7	7	7	6	7	9
Other	16	16	21	12	18	9	7	13
Total	**83**	**75**	**73**	**75**	**75**	**54**	**44**	**68**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	502.6	353.0	488.8	493.6	982.4	226.0	483.8	2 547.8

(a) All activities including primary and secondary activity. Please see Activity Type, *How Australians Use Their Time,* (cat. no. 4153.0) p. 71.
(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.
Source: ABS data available on request, Time Use Survey, 1997.

Journey to work

On the day of the 2001 census, 83% of employed baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years in 2001) travelled to work, 6.8% worked at home and 9.1% did not go to work (Table 8.14). These proportions were similar for both younger and older baby boomers. For persons in older age groups, a higher proportion worked from home.

Of the 603,000 baby boomers who travelled to work, the majority (83%) travelled by car only, while 6.4% used public transport, either public transport only or public and private transport. The use of public transport declined for older age groups, with 5.6% of employed persons aged 56 to 65 years using these methods. Of the total persons who travelled to work, employed persons aged 15 to 25 years recorded the highest proportion using public transport, with 12% travelling to work using either public transport only or public and private transport, with a further 9.0% walking or cycling to work. In comparison, 5.3% of baby boomers walked or cycled to work.

8.14 METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Public transport only	7.3	5.7	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.2	2.2	4.9
Car only	60.5	67.0	68.9	68.2	68.6	60.4	38.9	65.4
Truck or motorbike/scooter only	1.5	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.3	4.4	3.6	3.0
Bicycle only	2.0	1.7	1.2	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.3
Walked only	5.2	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.4	4.0	5.3	3.9
Other means only	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.4	0.6
Public and private transport	2.1	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.0	0.5	1.5
Private transport only (more than one method)	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.6
Travelled to work	*79.7*	*84.1*	*83.2*	*82.3*	*82.8*	*74.9*	*52.6*	*81.3*
Worked at home	1.4	3.8	6.1	7.7	6.8	13.1	26.5	5.9
Did not go to work	16.7	10.8	9.4	8.7	9.1	9.8	11.1	11.1
Not stated	2.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	2.3	9.8	1.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	308.4	360.2	392.6	336.0	728.6	133.2	23.8	1 554.2

(a) Employed persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

Journey to work continued

Brisbane Statistical Division (SD), with its fairly extensive network of public transport, had the largest proportion of employed baby boomers travelling to work by public transport at 11%.

Queensland households are highly dependent on the family car. Reasons for this include a relatively decentralised population, distances between population centres, and limited public transport services in many areas (ABS 2000). The 2002 General Social Survey found that 92% of baby boomers (aged 37 to 56 years in 2002) had access to a motor vehicle to drive (Table 8.15). This declined to 74% for persons aged 60 years and over.

Only 3.2% of baby boomers reported they cannot get to, or often have difficulty getting to, the places needed. This proportion was higher for persons aged 60 years and over (5.5%).

8.15 TRANSPORT ACCESS, by age group—2002

	BABY BOOMERS						
	18–36 years	*37–46 years*	*47–56 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*57–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT						
Had access to motor vehicle/s to drive	88.4	91.9	92.0	92.0	93.0	74.2	87.1
Can easily get to the places needed	84.6	89.1	87.0	88.1	90.2	86.1	86.5
Sometimes have difficulty getting to the places needed	12.2	8.8	8.6	8.7	*8.3	8.4	9.9
Cannot or often have difficulty getting to the places needed	*3.1	*2.1	*4.4	3.2	**1.6	5.5	3.5
Total(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Total	1 005.2	552.9	478.3	1 031.2	122.2	544.3	2 702.8

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over.

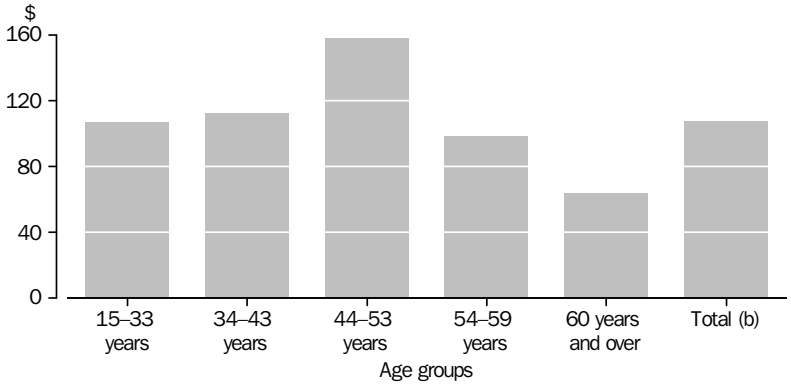
(b) Including housebound persons.

Source: ABS data available on request, General Social Survey, 2002.

Journey to work continued

According to the 1998-99 Household Expenditure Survey, households where a baby boomer (aged 34 to 53 years in 1999) was the reference person spent an average of $134 a week on transport related expenses (Graph 8.16). Older baby boomers spent more on transport related expenses ($158) than did younger baby boomers ($112). In contrast, households where the reference person was aged 60 years and over spent an average of $63 a week on transport related expenses. The average for all households was $107.

8.16 AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON TRANSPORT, by age group(a)—1998–99



(a) Based on the age of the reference person in the household. This was determined by (in order of precedence) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage, a lone parent, the person with the highest income and the eldest person.

(b) Persons aged 15 years and over.

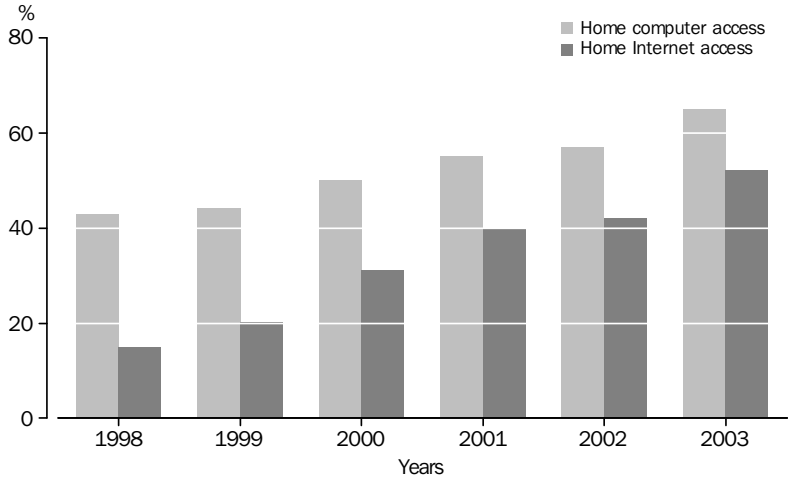
Source: ABS data available on request, Household Expenditure Survey, 1998–99.

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE

The use of computers and the Internet are now part of the everyday lives of a growing number of Queenslanders. Computers are used for various reasons and in various aspects of people's lives, including at home, work and educational institutions. The Internet provides people with access to the local and global community and allows a wide range of information to be shared among people across the world.

This technology can potentially have benefits for older people, helping to overcome geographic isolation, mobility limitations and personal feelings of isolation. Between 1998 and 2003, the rate of computer and Internet access has grown. The proportion of households with a computer rose from 43% to 65%, while those households with Internet access increased from 15% to 52% (Graph 8.17).

8.17 HOUSEHOLDS WITH COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS—1998 to 2003



Source: Household Use of Information Technology, Australia (cat. no. 8146.0).

The 2001 census asked whether people used a computer at home or accessed the Internet anywhere in the week prior to the census (Table 8.18). Of baby boomers (aged 36 to 55 years in 2001), 48% used a computer at home in that week. Younger baby boomers (52%) were more likely to have used a computer than older baby boomers (43%). On a regional basis, the proportion of baby boomers using a computer in the week before the census was highest in Brisbane SD (52%), followed by Moreton SD (48%), Fitzroy SD (45%) and Northern SD (45%). The lowest proportions were in the western SDs, with usage rates varying between 33% and 37%.

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE *continued*

8.18 COMPUTER USE(a), at home by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	0–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*
	PER CENT							
Yes	48.1	47.0	51.8	42.8	47.6	28.0	9.7	41.7
No	47.9	49.6	45.2	54.4	49.5	69.3	85.5	54.7
Not stated	4.0	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.7	4.8	3.6
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	1 300.3	510.1	532.9	473.5	1 006.4	318.4	387.0	3 522.0

(a) People who used a computer at home in the week before the census.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001

In the week before the 2001 census, 43% of baby boomers used the Internet (Table 8.19). Forty-six per cent of younger baby boomers reporting usage compared with 39% of older baby boomers. Internet usage declined for the older age groups. Most baby boomers accessed the Internet from home, followed by work, and elsewhere, such as an educational institution.

8.19 INTERNET USE(a), by place and age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	0–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*
	PER CENT							
Yes								
At home only	20.9	22.3	23.3	19.4	21.5	14.9	5.4	19.0
At work only	2.1	9.6	7.9	7.4	7.7	3.1	0.2	4.7
At home and at work only	2.0	10.9	11.9	10.2	11.1	3.7	0.2	5.8
Other(b)	13.2	5.8	2.8	1.9	2.4	1.2	0.4	6.5
Total	*38.2*	*48.6*	*45.9*	*38.8*	*42.6*	*22.9*	*6.3*	*36.1*
No	56.8	47.5	50.5	57.9	54.0	74.0	88.4	59.7
Not stated	5.1	3.8	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.1	5.4	4.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total	1 300.3	510.1	532.9	473.5	1 006.4	318.4	387.0	3 522.0

(a) People who used the Internet in the week before the census.

(b) Including elsewhere (e.g. educational institutions); at home and elsewhere; and at home, at work and elsewhere.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE *continued*

Internet usage by baby boomers was highest in Brisbane SD (51%), Moreton SD (47%), Northern SD (43%) and Far North SD (43%). The lowest proportions occurred in the western SDs, with usage rates between 31% and 38%.

Use of computers and the Internet is likely to continue to increase as many baby boomers have become accustomed to having access to computers and the Internet at work, at home and for study. Although home computers only became common in the late 1980s and the Internet in the late 1990s, each generation has increasingly incorporated computers into their lifestyle and this trend is likely to continue.

SUMMARY

- Baby boomers spent a daily average of 4.3 hours on employment, 3.7 hours on recreation and 2.6 hours on domestic activities in 1997. As they become older, baby boomers are expected to spend less time on employment but more time on other activities.

- Attendance at cinemas is the most popular cultural activity for baby boomers, with 72% visiting the cinema in 2002. This was followed by visiting libraries (49%), botanic gardens (46%) and zoological parks and aquariums (37%).

- A large proportion of baby boomers participated in sports and physical activities in 2002, including 30% who walked for exercise.

- Voluntary work through an organisation or group was undertaken by 38% of baby boomers in 2000. This was substantially higher than the current volunteer rate for older persons.

- Over 4,300 out of every 100,000 baby boomers were victims of crime in 2002, with victimisation rates decreasing for older age groups.

- In 2002, the majority (83%) of baby boomers felt safe or very safe at home by day and 76% felt safe or very safe at home after dark. These proportions fell to 79% and 69% respectively for persons aged 65 years and over.

- On average, baby boomers spent 75 minutes a day travelling in 1997, with employment (24 minutes a day) being the primary reason.

- In 2001, for baby boomers who journey to work, the car was the predominant method of travel, with 83% of these baby boomers using this method compared with 6.4% who travelled by public transport and 5.3% who walked or cycled.

- Nearly half (48%) of baby boomers used a computer at home in the week before the 2001 census, while 43% reported using the Internet.

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CHAPTER 9 INCOME AND WEALTH

INTRODUCTION

Income and wealth are closely related as income not spent on current consumption allows the accumulation of wealth. People's income and reserves of wealth provide access to many of the goods and services consumed in daily life. The main components of household wealth are primarily home ownership and superannuation (ABS 2002).

As baby boomers move into retirement their income is likely to decline and their assets may be used to maintain their lifestyles. The amount of wealth, in particular superannuation, together with their capacity to access government benefits will be major factors influencing the retirement decisions of baby boomers.

This chapter uses a range of ABS data to examine the income, wealth, retirement intentions and superannuation of baby boomers. Income and wealth in retirement are closely related to employment, which is analysed in *Chapter 10: Work*.

INCOME

Income levels vary over a person's life. Age, family situation, participation in the labour force, time spent at work, qualifications, performance of investments, employment experience, and occupation and industry of employment all influence a person's income. A person's earning capacity generally increases with age until around 60 years, when their earning capacity starts to decrease (ABS 1998b).

Family commitments can affect a person's income level, through the opportunity to work, type of work undertaken and time able to be spent at work. This can change over time, particularly for women who move into and out of the labour force to have and care for children.

While income is usually received by individuals, it is normally spent by the household. Therefore, this section examines baby boomers' household income using the notion of 'equivalised disposable household income'. This is a standardised income measure, adjusted for the different income needs of households of different size and composition. It takes into account the greater income needs of larger households and the economies of scale achieved when people live together. For a lone-person household, it is the same as disposable household income. For a household with more than one person, it indicates the disposable household income that would need to be received by a lone-person household to achieve the same level of economic wellbeing as the household in question.

This section also uses the concept of 'quintiles' to group and order people according to their relative household incomes. The quintiles have been formed by ranking all persons in Queensland by their equivalised disposable household income and then dividing them into five groups of equal size. For a more detailed explanation of equivalised disposable household income and quintiles, refer to the Glossary.

INCOME *continued*

Data for this section are sourced from the Survey of Income and Housing Costs (SIHC), results from which were published in *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2000–01* (cat. no. 6523.0).

In 2000–01, baby boomers (approximated by persons aged 35 to 54 years) resided in households with a mean equivalised disposable household income of $478 per week, above the $439 per week for all Queensland persons (Table 9.1). Older baby boomers (aged 45 to 54 years) lived in households with the highest mean equivalised disposable household income of any age group, at $497 per week, while younger baby boomers (aged 35 to 44 years) recorded a mean equivalised disposable household income of $460 per week.

9.1 EQUIVALISED DISPOSABLE HOUSEHOLD INCOME, by income quintile and age group—2000–01

			BABY BOOMERS						
Income quintile	*0–14 years*	*15–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–59 years*	*60 years and over*	*Total*	*Mean weekly equivalised disposable household income ($)*
				PERSONS ('000)					
Lowest	144.0	157.0	78.4	97.7	176.1	55.3	175.6	708.0	174
Second	201.4	149.0	102.5	58.3	160.9	28.0	164.1	703.5	284
Third	200.6	182.3	127.1	82.1	209.2	27.2	83.6	702.8	389
Fourth	129.8	239.8	137.8	113.6	251.4	26.3	63.9	711.2	522
Highest	75.5	305.3	97.9	136.8	234.7	45.3	34.6	695.5	833
Total	**751.4**	**1 033.5**	**543.6**	**488.6**	**1 032.2**	**182.1**	**521.7**	**3 521.0**	**439**
				$ PER WEEK					
Mean weekly equivalised disposable household income	388	495	460	497	478	444	327	439	. .

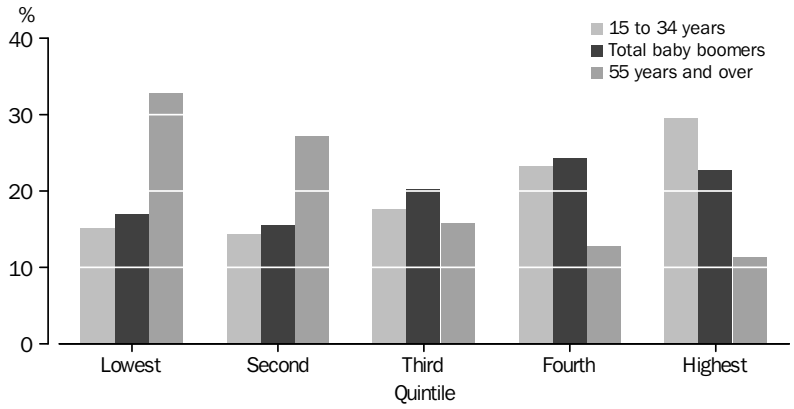
. . not applicable

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Income and Housing Costs, 2000–01.

In 2000–01, 251,400 baby boomers (24% of all baby boomers) were in the fourth household income quintile, the largest number of baby boomers in any quintile (Graph 9.2). The least number of baby boomers (160,900 persons or 16% of baby boomers) were in the second household income quintile. In comparison, 305,300 persons aged 15 to 34 years lived in households in the highest income quintile, while 230,800 persons aged 55 years and over were in the lowest income quintile.

INCOME *continued*

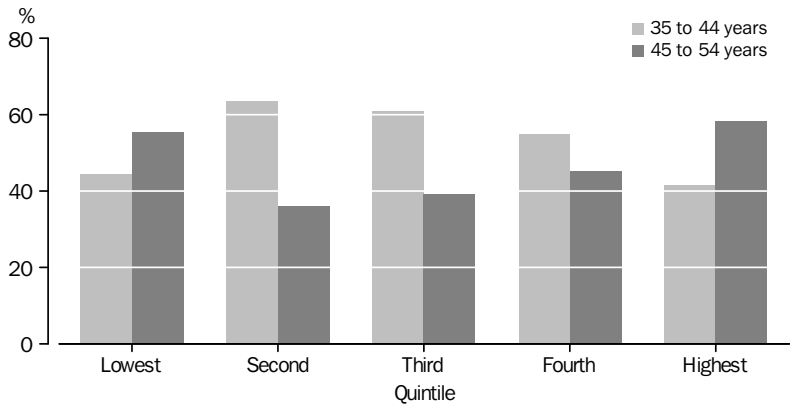
9.2 DISTRIBUTION OF EQUIVALISED DISPOSABLE HOUSEHOLD INCOME, by age group—2000–01



Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Income and Housing Costs, 2000–01.

Of baby boomers in the highest household income quintile in 2000–01, 58% were older baby boomers and 42% were younger baby boomers (Graph 9.3). Further, older baby boomers comprised the majority of baby boomers (56%) in the lowest quintile. The highest proportion (64%) of younger baby boomers were in the second quintile.

9.3 PROPORTION OF YOUNGER AND OLDER BABY BOOMERS, by equivalised disposable household income quintiles—2000–01



Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Income and Housing Costs, 2000–01.

In 2000–01, baby boomers living in 'couple only' or 'group' households had the highest mean equivalised disposable household incomes at $584 per week and $576 per week respectively (Table 9.4). These comprised 20% and 3.5% of all baby boomers respectively. However, baby boomers in 'couple and dependents only' households, while comprising the greatest proportion of all baby boomers (about 38%), had a considerably lower mean equivalised disposable household income ($425 per week). Baby boomers in 'other couple, one family' households accounted for about 18% of all baby boomers and had a mean equivalised disposable household income of $536 per week.

INCOME *continued*

Baby boomers in households comprising 'one parent and dependents, one family' (6.7% of all baby boomers) recorded the lowest equivalised disposable household income of $319 per week. 'Lone-person' baby boomer households (9.3%) reported an equivalised disposable household income of $434 per week in 2000–01.

9.4 EQUIVALISED DISPOSABLE HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF BABY BOOMERS, by household type—2000–01

	BABY BOOMERS		*Mean weekly equivalent disposable household income ($)*
	('000)	*Per cent*	
Household composition			
Couple, one family households			
Couple only	202.5	19.6	584
Couple and dependents only	394.6	38.2	425
Other couple, one family households	188.4	18.2	536
One parent, one family households with dependent children	69.0	6.7	319
Other family households	45.7	4.4	470
Non-family households			
Lone person	95.9	9.3	434
Group household	36.2	3.5	576
Total	**1 032.2**	**100.0**	**478**
Area of usual residence			
Brisbane SD	462.4	44.8	486
Balance of state	569.8	55.2	471
Queensland	**1 032.2**	**100.0**	**478**

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Income and Housing Costs, 2000–01.

For baby boomers in households in Brisbane Statistical Division (45% of all baby boomers in the state), the mean equivalised disposable household income was $486 per week in 2000–01. For baby boomers in the balance of the state the mean equivalised disposable household income was $471 per week.

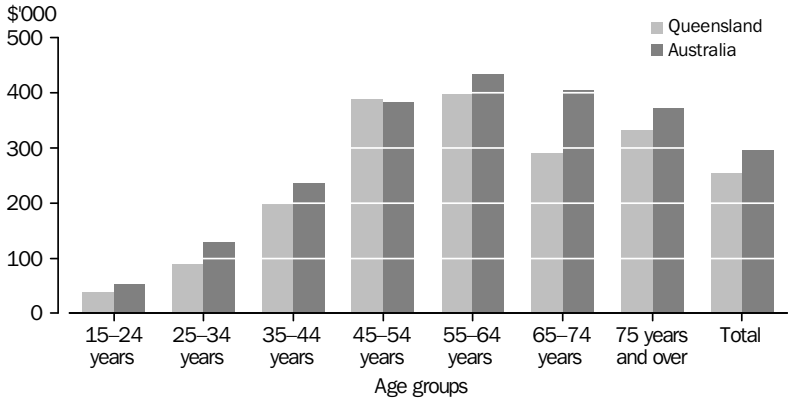
WEALTH

This section reports the findings of an exploratory study that constructed experimental distributional wealth data for Australia using modelling techniques.

For most people, wealth, a person's or household's net worth is the sum of its assets minus its liabilities, accumulates while they are working, and is then drawn upon when they enter retirement. In 1999–2000, the mean net worth of Queensland households was highest for persons aged 55 to 64 years at over $397,000 (Graph 9.5).

WEALTH *continued*

9.5 MEAN HOUSEHOLD NET WORTH, by age group—1999–2000



Source: ABS data available on request, Working Papers in Econometrics and Applied Statistics: No. 2002/1 Experimental Estimates of the Distribution of Household Wealth, Australia, 1994–2000.

In 1999–2000, the mean net worth of Queensland baby boomer households (that is, where the household reference person was aged between 35 and 54 years) was $289,000. There was a significant difference between the mean net worth of the younger baby boomer (aged 35 to 44 years) and older baby boomer (aged 45 to 54 years) households. In 1999–2000, the mean net worth of Queensland's younger baby boomer households was $199,000, compared with the mean net worth of older baby boomer households of $389,000, a difference of $190,000.

In 1999–2000, the mean net worth of all Queensland households was $254,000. This was lower than the Australian average of $295,000. The household net worth of older baby boomers in Queensland was almost $6,000 more than the Australian average for older baby boomers. However, for younger baby boomers, the household net worth in Queensland was $38,000 lower than the Australian average.

RETIREMENT

Retirement from work signifies a major transition for most people, bringing both opportunities and challenges. Socially, relationships and networks can be found through increased involvement in a range of recreational and community activities. A person's main source and level of income will change through accessing different income streams such as superannuation, savings, or a government pension. This can impact upon a person's consumption patterns and lifestyle choices.

Some people move from full-time work into part-time or casual work before leaving the labour force completely. The reasons influencing retirement decisions and the retirement intentions of baby boomers are explored further in this section, using data from the Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey, 1997. The scope of the survey included persons aged 45 years and over in 1997 when baby boomers were aged between 32 and 51 years. As such, this section analyses retirement issues relating only to older baby boomers (approximated by the age range 45 to 54 years), and for persons aged 45 years and over as a whole.

RETIREMENT *continued*

Several years have elapsed since these data were collected and many of those who were intending to retire in the 1997 survey may have since retired. Furthermore, it is possible that attitudes and intentions have adjusted in response to social changes, the prevailing economic climate and the greater awareness of an ageing population. As such, these data should be interpreted with caution.

Retirement from full-time work

Retirement from full-time work refers to persons who had a full-time job and had ceased working full-time, were not looking for full-time work, and did not intend to work full-time in the future.

In 1997, around 288,000 older baby boomers in Queensland indicated that they intended to retire from full-time employment or retire from looking for full-time work (Table 9.6). Approximately 24% indicated they intended to retire from full-time employment when aged between 65 and 69 years, while 20% intended to retire when aged between 60 and 64 years, and 17% between 55 and 59 years. However, 35% did not know the age they intended to retire.

9.6 INTENDED AGE TO RETIRE FROM FULL-TIME WORK, by age group(a)—1997

	OLDER BABY BOOMERS						
Intended age to retire	*45–49 years*	*50–54 years*	*Total older baby boomers*	*55–59 years*	*60–64 years*	*65–69 years*	***Total***(b)
	PER CENT						
45–49 years	np	. .	np	. .	. .	. .	np
50–54 years	4.1	*0.9	2.7	. .	. .	. .	**2.0**
55–59 years	16.0	18.2	17.0	*5.9	. .	. .	**13.3**
60–64 years	18.3	23.4	20.5	27.0	*9.0	. .	**20.3**
65–69 years	24.0	23.9	24.0	34.6	42.7	*26.9	**27.3**
70 years and over	np	np	np	*—	*5.6	*34.7	np
Did not know	35.7	33.1	34.5	32.5	42.7	*38.4	**34.9**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Persons who intended to retire from full-time work	163.4	124.6	288.0	70.4	31.0	6.7	**397.7**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
. . not applicable
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
(a) Age at November 1997.
(b) Including persons aged 70 years and over.
Source: ABS data available on request, Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey, 1997.

Retirement from the labour force

Of the 288,000 older baby boomers who indicated they intended to retire from full-time work, 199,000 (69%) indicated they intended to retire from the labour force (Table 9.7). Retirement from the labour force includes persons who retire from work, or retire from looking for work of more than 10 hours per week, and do not intend to work at any time in the future. Around 24% of older baby boomers intended to leave the labour force

Retirement from the labour force continued

when they were aged between 65 and 69 years and 20% between 60 and 64 years, while 40% did not know.

9.7 FULL-TIME WORKERS INTENDED AGE TO RETIRE FROM LABOUR FORCE, by age group(a)—1997

	OLDER BABY BOOMERS						
Intended age to retire	*45–49 years*	*50–54 years*	*Total older baby boomers*	*55–59 years*	*60–64 years*	*65–69 years*	***Total***(b)
	PER CENT						
45–49 years	np	. .	np	. .	. .	. .	np
50–54 years	np	np	np	. .	. .	. .	np
55–59 years	13.2	12.7	12.9	*3.7	. .	. .	**9.9**
60–64 years	18.3	22.2	20.0	24.1	*9.5	. .	**19.3**
65–69 years	23.6	24.2	23.9	36.5	47.0	*29.4	**28.2**
70 years and over	np	np	np	*—	*4.8	*34.1	np
Did not know	40.1	39.6	39.8	35.6	38.8	*36.5	**38.9**
	PERSONS ('000)						
Full-time workers who intended to retire from the labour force	112.2	86.8	199.0	49.5	25.1	*5.3	**280.0**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
. . not applicable
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
(a) Age at November 1997.
(b) Including persons aged 70 years and over.
Source: ABS data available on request, Retirement and Retirement Intentions Survey, 1997.

SUPERANNUATION

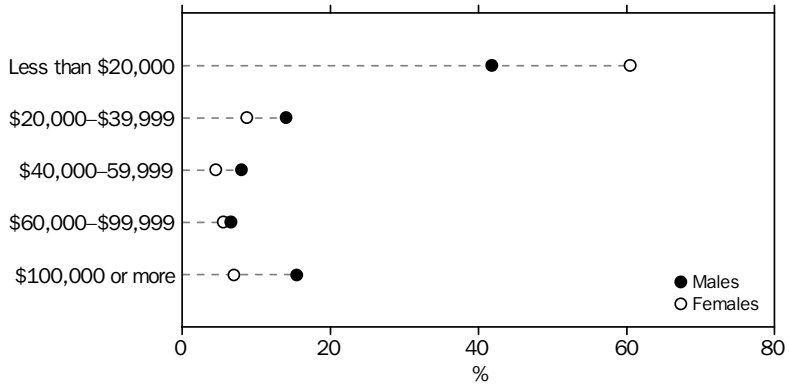
This section uses data from the Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation conducted in April to June 2000, to analyse superannuation as it relates to the Queensland baby boomer cohort (aged 35 to 54 years in 2000). The analysis uses the concept of 'pre-retired' persons, which are persons who, in 2000, were currently working or intending to work in the future, whether or not they were currently looking for work.

In 2000, 60% of female pre-retired baby boomers and 42% of male pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation had a total superannuation balance of less than $20,000 (Graph 9.8). Around 14% of these pre-retired male baby boomers had between $20,000 and $39,999 and a further 15% had $100,000 or more in superannuation. In comparison, 8.8% of pre-retired female baby boomers with superannuation had between $20,000 and $39,999, while 7.0% had $100,000 or more in superannuation.

SUPERANNUATION

continued

9.8 PRE-RETIRED BABY BOOMERS WITH SUPERANNUATION, by sex—2000



Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, 2000.

In 2000, 49% of employed pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation had less than $20,000 in superannuation, while 12% had $100,000 or more in superannuation (Table 9.9).

Around 67% of unemployed pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation had less than $20,000 in superannuation, while only a small proportion of unemployed pre-retired baby boomers had more than $100,000 in superannuation. About 14% of pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation did not know the amount of superannuation they held.

9.9 PRE-RETIRED BABY BOOMERS WITH SUPERANNUATION, by employment status—2000

	EMPLOYED PERSONS					
Total superannuation balance	*Working full-time*	*Working part-time*	*Total Employed*	*Unemployed*	*Not in labour force*	*Total*
	PER CENT					
Less than $20,000	44.2	65.1	49.1	66.9	59.7	50.4
$20,000–$39,999	13.9	6.4	12.1	**6.6	*7.3	11.7
$40,000–$59,999	7.7	*3.2	6.6	**6.0	**4.0	6.5
$60,000–$99,999	7.1	*3.8	6.3	**3.8	**4.8	6.1
$100,000 or more	14.3	*4.8	12.1	**1.8	*9.4	11.6
Not determined	12.8	16.6	13.7	*14.8	*14.9	13.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)					
Total persons with a superannuation balance	530.6	165.0	695.7	27.8	42.0	765.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superanuation, 2000.

SUPERANNUATION
continued

Income is a strong determinant of superannuation levels. Those on higher gross personal incomes were more likely to have larger amounts in superannuation in 2000 (Table 9.10). For those pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation, and earning $60,000 or more per annum, 41% had $100,000 or more in superannuation while 16% had less than $20,000 in superannuation. For those pre-retired baby boomers on low incomes (less than $20,000 per annum), 68% had less than $20,000 in superannuation.

9.10 PRE-RETIRED BABY BOOMERS WITH SUPERANNUATION, by annual income—2000

Total superannuation balance	*Less than $20,000*	*$20,000–$39,999*	*$40,000–$59,999*	*$60,000 or more*	*Total*(a)
			PER CENT		
Less than $20,000	68.5	60.6	30.8	15.7	50.4
$20,000–$39,999	*4.7	12.5	15.9	*10.5	11.7
$40,000–$59,999	*3.5	5.6	10.5	*10.0	6.5
$60,000–$99,999	*4.3	*2.5	11.3	14.9	6.1
$100,000 or more	*2.9	4.3	21.9	41.2	11.6
Not determined	16.1	14.5	9.6	*7.6	13.8
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
			PERSONS ('000)		
Total persons with a superannuation balance	166.9	302.7	140.1	80.1	765.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Including Nil and negative income, and Not stated income.

Source: ABS data available on request, Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, 2000.

SUMMARY

- Older baby boomers lived in households with the highest mean equivalised disposable household income in 2000–01, at $497 per week. The corresponding estimate for younger baby boomers was $460 per week.

- Older baby boomers had accumulated a mean household net worth of $389,000 in 1999–2000, compared with younger baby boomers who had a mean household net worth of $199,000.

- Around 288,000 older baby boomers indicated they intended to retire from full-time work in 1997. Of these, 69% or 199,000 indicated they intended to retire completely from the labour force.

- In 2000, 41% of pre-retired baby boomers with superannuation, and earning $60,000 or more per annum had $100,000 or more in superannuation, while 68% of those on less than $20,000 per annum had less than $20,000 in superannuation.

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CHAPTER 10 WORK

INTRODUCTION

The changing age structure of the population will have implications for the growth of the Queensland economy in the decades ahead. The future pace of economic growth depends on the rate at which the workforce grows, and on the growth of labour productivity, or output per worker (Queensland Government 2004a). As baby boomers enter retirement age, the labour force is expected to face challenges in maintaining this growth as labour force participation currently declines sharply after 54 years of age, the age of the oldest baby boomer cohort in 2000.

This chapter provides an overview of baby boomers' labour force characteristics and examines in more detail a number of specific employment issues relating to this cohort.

Data in this chapter are sourced from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, and a range of ABS surveys. The surveys use standard age groups, which may differ slightly from the age range of the baby boomers.

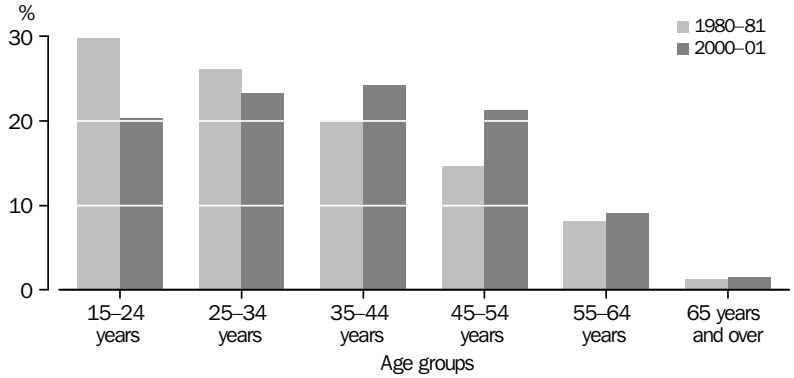
GENERAL LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

In 2000–01, baby boomers represented a significant proportion of the Queensland labour force. Of the 1.827 million persons in the Queensland labour force, baby boomers accounted for 46%. Older baby boomers (aged 45 to 54 years) accounted for 21% of the total while younger baby boomers (aged 35 to 44 years) accounted for the remaining 24% (Graph 10.1 and Table 10.2).

The Queensland labour force has aged over the past two decades (Graph 10.1). As part of this trend, the baby boomer cohort has had an important and ongoing influence on Queensland's labour supply. In the early 1980s, when the youngest baby boomers were entering the workforce, Queensland had a much younger labour force. In 1980–81, persons then aged 15 to 24 years (the younger baby boomers) accounted for 30% of the state's labour force. By 2000–01, this cohort (aged 35 to 44 years) accounted for only 24% of the total labour force. However, younger baby boomers still represented the largest segment of the Queensland labour force of any age group.

GENERAL LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS
continued

10.1 LABOUR FORCE, proportion by age group(a)—1980–81 and 2000–01



(a) Proportion of all persons aged 15 years and over.
Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001).

In 2000–01, the unemployment rate for baby boomers was below the rate for the total Queensland population. The unemployment rate for younger baby boomers was 5.6% and the rate for older baby boomers was 5.3% compared with the state's average unemployment rate of 8.0% (Table 10.2).

Baby boomers actively participated in the labour force in 2000–01, with participation rates for both younger and older baby boomers at around 80%. Labour force participation rates for persons aged 35 to 54 years have increased over the past two decades. In 1980–81, the participation rate for persons then aged 35 to 54 years was 71.0%, rising to 80.3% in 2000–01. This upward trend in the aggregate participation rate of this cohort masks quite divergent trends in male and female participation rates. Males aged 35 to 54 years in 1980–81 had a participation rate of 92.0%, declining to 89.1% over the twenty years to 2000–01. In contrast, the participation of females aged 35 to 54 years has increased from 49.2% in 1980–81 to 71.6% in 2000–01.

The oldest baby boomer has reached the age where participation rates currently decrease substantially while the youngest baby boomer will be aged 55 years in 2020. In 2000–01, the participation rate for persons aged 55 to 64 years was 50.2%, or 28.6 percentage points lower than for older baby boomers. For persons aged 65 years and over, the participation rate fell sharply to 6.5%.

10.2 EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS, by age group—2000–01

	BABY BOOMERS							
	15–24 years	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Employed full-time	35.5	59.3	58.5	57.8	58.2	33.3	3.4	43.3
Employed part-time	27.1	15.6	18.6	16.8	17.7	13.8	3.0	16.4
Unemployed	11.2	6.2	4.6	4.2	4.4	3.1	0.1	5.2
Not in the labour force	26.1	18.9	18.3	21.2	19.7	49.8	93.5	35.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PER CENT							
Unemployment rate	15.2	7.6	5.6	5.3	5.5	6.2	1.1	8.0
Participation rate	73.9	81.1	81.7	78.8	80.3	50.2	6.5	64.8
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total persons in labour force	371.8	426.2	444.4	388.2	832.6	168.8	27.1	1 826.5
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	502.9	525.7	543.9	492.8	1 036.8	336.2	416.5	2 818.1

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001).

GENERAL LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS *continued*

Male baby boomers are more likely to be employed in full-time jobs than female baby boomers (Table 10.3). In 2000–01, 79% of male baby boomers were in full-time employment compared with 38% of female baby boomers. Conversely, females were more likely to be employed in part-time jobs (30%) than males (5.6%).

10.3 EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF BABY BOOMERS, by sex—2000–01

	Males	*Females*
	PER CENT	
Employed full-time	78.7	37.9
Employed part-time	5.6	29.8
Unemployed	4.9	4.0
Not in the labour force	10.9	28.3
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PER CENT	
Unemployment rate	5.5	5.5
Participation rate	89.1	71.6
	PERSONS ('000)	
Total baby boomers in labour force	458.4	374.2
Total baby boomers	514.4	522.3

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001).

GENERAL LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS *continued*

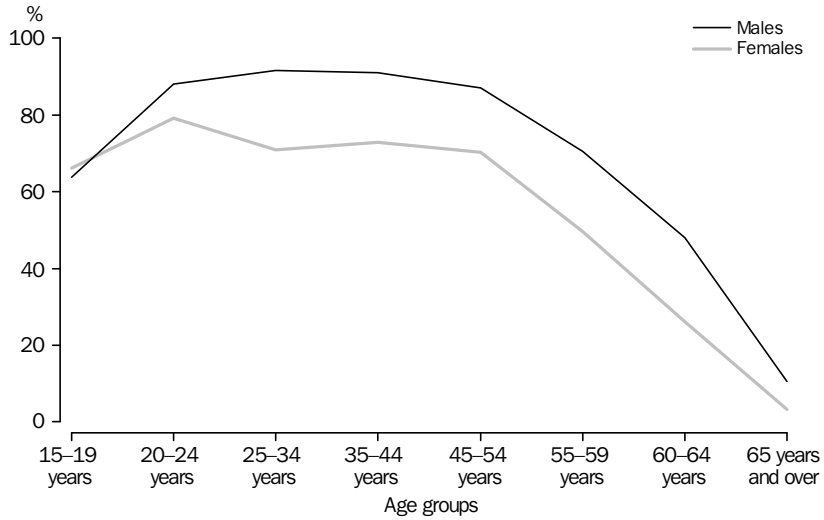
The unemployment rate for both male and female baby boomers in Queensland was 5.5% in 2000–01 compared with 8.2% for all males and 7.8% for all females.

Female baby boomers were less likely to participate in the labour force. The male labour force participation rate was 89.1% compared with the female participation rate of 71.6%.

In 2000–01, the male participation rate for younger baby boomers was 91.0% compared with 87.1% for older baby boomers. The male participation rate for those aged 55 to 59 years was 70.6%, reducing to 48.0% and 10.5% for those aged 60 to 64 years and those aged 65 years and over respectively (Graph 10.4). The corresponding female participation rates were 72.8% for younger baby boomers and 70.4% for older baby boomers. The rate for females aged 55 to 59 years was 49.6%, declining to 26.1% for females aged 60 to 64 years and 3.3% for females aged 65 years and over.

The high participation rate and low unemployment rate of baby boomers largely reflects the fact that baby boomers are currently in the age cohort that is commonly referred to as the 'prime working age' cohort. This cohort covers persons aged 25 to 54 years, with baby boomers making up around two-thirds of this group in 2000–01.

10.4 AGE-SPECIFIC PARTICIPATION RATES, by sex—2000–01



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

The large baby boomer cohort has commenced moving from the prime working age group to the retirement age group and this will provide new challenges. Labour force growth and consequent economic growth will be affected by baby boomers' decisions over the next two decades on labour force participation. However, Queensland Treasury research indicates that under any reasonable labour force participation scenario, Queensland's labour force is projected to grow, albeit at a slower rate, until at least 2050–51 (Queensland Government 2004b).

In 2000, over 450,000 Queensland baby boomers (58% of employed persons aged 35 to 54 years) worked a set number of days each week (Table 10.5). Additionally, baby boomers were less likely to work on a casual or relief basis than persons aged 15 to 34 years. In 2000, 9.9% of employed persons aged 35 to 44 years and 5.8% of employed

GENERAL LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS *continued*

persons aged 45 to 54 years undertook casual or relief work in their main job, compared with 13% of employed persons aged 20 to 24 years and 33% of employed persons aged 15 to 19 years.

10.5 WORKING PATTERN IN MAIN JOB, by age group—2000

				BABY BOOMERS				
	15–19 years	*20–24 years*	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–69 years*	*Total*(a)
				PERSONS ('000)				
Set number of days each week	57.2	101.6	230.8	236.3	214.6	450.9	94.2	934.6
Set number of days each fortnight	*6.6	17.4	34.4	39.1	35.6	74.7	11.3	144.4
19 day month	**1.8	—	*8.0	*6.8	11.3	18.1	*2.7	30.6
Casual or relief work	38.9	22.5	39.4	41.4	21.2	62.6	11.5	174.8
Roster or shift system	10.1	17.8	36.7	33.5	24.0	57.5	9.4	131.6
Other working pattern	*4.2	11.5	36.7	57.9	57.0	114.9	31.4	198.7
Not collected – did not work in last 4 weeks	**0.6	**0.6	*5.2	**1.7	**1.0	2.7	*2.3	11.3
Total	**119.4**	**171.4**	**391.2**	**416.7**	**364.7**	**781.4**	**162.8**	**1 626.0**
				PER CENT				
Set number of days each week	47.9	59.3	59.0	56.7	58.8	57.7	57.9	57.5
Set number of days each fortnight	5.5	10.2	8.8	9.4	9.8	9.6	6.9	8.9
19 day month	1.5	—	2.0	1.6	3.1	2.3	1.7	1.9
Casual or relief work	32.6	13.1	10.1	9.9	5.8	8.0	7.1	10.8
Roster or shift system	8.5	10.4	9.4	8.0	6.6	7.4	5.8	8.1
Other working pattern	3.5	6.7	9.4	13.9	15.6	14.7	19.3	12.2
Not collected – did not work in last 4 weeks	0.5	0.4	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.4	0.7
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Persons with one or more jobs aged 15 years and over.

Source: Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia (cat. no. 6361.0).

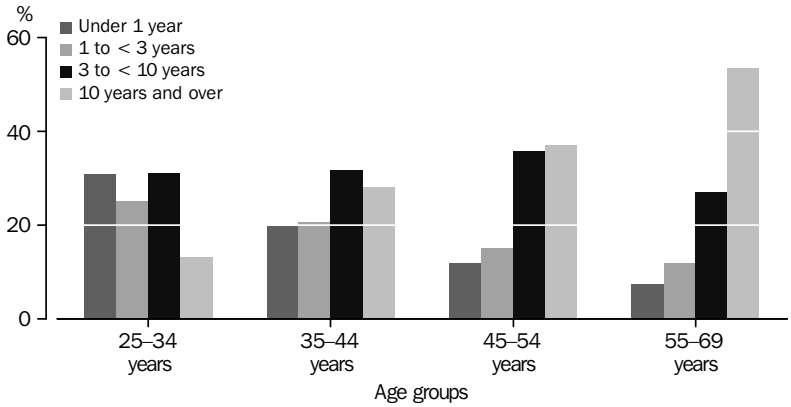
JOB MOBILITY

Queensland employed baby boomers recorded less job mobility than persons aged 25 to 34 years. When surveyed in 2000, about 252,000 baby boomers (32% of total employed baby boomers) had worked in their current job for ten years and over, whereas 126,000 (16%) had worked in their current job for less than one year (Graph 10.6).

In comparison, 31% of employed persons aged 25 to 34 years had worked in their current job for less than one year.

JOB MOBILITY *continued*

10.6 TIME WORKED IN MAIN JOB, by age group—2000



Source: Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia (cat. no. 6361.0).

Employment prospects were not a major consideration for Queensland baby boomers who moved house in the three years prior to 2000. Around 18% of younger baby boomers and 20% of older baby boomers who moved home in 2000 considered better employment prospects as a factor in the move. These proportions were lower than those for persons aged 18 to 34 years. Of employed persons who moved home in 2000, 25% of those aged 18 to 24 years and 22% of those aged 25 to 34 years reported better employment prospects as a consideration (Table 10.7).

10.7 REASON FOR MOVING, by age group—2000

			BABY BOOMERS					
	18–24 years	*25–34 years*	*35–44 years*	*45–54 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*55–64 years*	*65 years and over*	*Total movers*(a)
				PERSONS ('000)				
Better employment prospects								
Was one of the considerations	54.1	79.5	41.6	27.9	69.5	11.8	**0.8	215.9
Was not one of the considerations	163.4	278.1	184.2	113.9	298.1	67.5	50.4	857.5
Total movers(b)	**220.4**	**358.4**	**226.6**	**142.5**	**369.1**	**79.3**	**51.2**	**1 078.5**
				PER CENT				
Better employment prospects								
Was one of the considerations	24.5	22.2	18.4	19.6	18.8	14.9	1.6	20.0
Was not one of the considerations	74.1	77.6	81.3	79.9	80.8	85.1	98.4	79.5
Total movers(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over that moved in the three years prior to 2000.

(b) Including Don't know and Not stated responses.

Source: Population Mobility, Queensland (cat. no. 3237.3).

OCCUPATION

Over 128,200 baby boomers in Queensland were employed as PROFESSIONALS in 2001. This was the largest occupation group for baby boomers, accounting for 18% of all employed persons aged 36 to 55 years (Table 10.8). This was similar to the proportion of all employed persons (16%) and the 26 to 35 years age cohort (19%). INTERMEDIATE CLERICAL, SALES AND SERVICE WORKERS was the second largest occupation group in 2001, accounting for 121,000 baby boomers (17% of employed baby boomers).

10.8 EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION GROUP(a), by age group—2001

			BABY BOOMERS					
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(b)
	PER CENT							
Managers and administrators	1.8	6.8	9.6	11.1	10.3	14.2	27.5	8.4
Professionals	9.5	18.7	17.9	17.4	17.6	15.4	13.5	16.0
Associate professionals	7.5	12.8	13.0	13.7	13.4	13.1	10.5	12.0
Tradespersons and related workers	15.5	14.5	12.4	10.7	11.7	10.8	6.7	12.9
Advanced clerical and service workers	2.4	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.2	3.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	20.2	17.4	17.0	16.2	16.6	13.1	8.0	17.0
Intermediate production and transport workers	7.2	8.6	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.9	5.4	8.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	21.2	7.2	6.7	7.3	7.0	7.5	7.2	10.1
Labourers and related workers	13.0	8.8	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.6	7.1	9.8
Total(c)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
	PERSONS ('000)							
Total employed persons(c)	296.9	360.2	392.6	336.0	728.6	133.2	23.8	1 554.2

(a) *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations* (cat. no. 1220.0).

(b) Persons aged 16 years and over.

(c) Including Not stated and Inadequately described. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

In 2001, 41% of all employed baby boomers worked in higher skilled positions, such as MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATORS, PROFESSIONALS or ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS. Older baby boomers (42% of employed persons aged 46 to 55 years) had a similar representation in these higher skilled occupations to younger baby boomers (41% of employed persons aged 36 to 45 years). LABOURERS AND RELATED WORKERS accounted for 8.9% of employed baby boomers, similar to most other age groups.

In 2001, proportions of employed baby boomers working in specific occupation groups varied across the state's statistical divisions (SDs) (Table 10.9). Brisbane SD recorded the highest proportion of total employed baby boomers working as PROFESSIONALS with 21%, compared with the state average of 18%. Central West and South West SDs recorded the highest proportion of MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATORS (24% of the total), while North West and Central West SDs recorded the highest proportion employed as LABOURERS AND RELATED WORKERS (14%).

10.9 EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION GROUP, BABY BOOMERS by Statistical Division—2001

	Brisbane	*Moreton*	*Wide Bay -Burnett*	*Darling Downs*	*South West*	*Fitzroy*
	PER CENT					
Managers and administrators	9.5	9.3	12.2	15.7	23.6	10.2
Professionals	20.6	16.0	13.8	16.4	8.9	14.1
Associate professionals	13.3	14.8	12.1	11.8	12.5	13.0
Tradespersons and related workers	10.8	13.0	11.8	11.0	10.7	13.4
Advanced clerical and service workers	4.0	4.5	3.1	3.2	2.8	3.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	18.1	16.1	15.5	14.5	11.0	14.8
Intermediate production and transport workers	8.2	7.2	10.4	8.6	9.6	13.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	6.5	8.7	6.5	6.1	5.4	5.9
Labourers and related workers	7.4	8.7	12.8	11.1	13.6	10.4
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Including Not stated, Inadequately described, Off-shore Areas, Migratory, and Queensland undefined. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

10.9 EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION GROUP, BABY BOOMERS by Statistical Division—2001 *continued*

	Central West	*Mackay*	*Northern*	*Far North*	*North West*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT					
Managers and administrators	23.9	11.2	9.9	10.4	11.5	10.3
Professionals	9.0	12.2	16.0	15.4	10.1	17.6
Associate professionals	13.2	12.0	13.1	13.7	12.3	13.4
Tradespersons and related workers	11.8	13.2	12.4	11.3	14.3	11.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	1.8	2.9	3.1	3.2	2.4	3.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	10.6	13.4	17.0	15.6	11.5	16.6
Intermediate production and transport workers	9.2	16.3	10.8	9.1	16.3	9.0
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	4.8	6.4	6.6	8.3	5.2	7.0
Labourers and related workers	13.8	10.5	9.2	11.0	14.1	8.9
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Including Not stated, Inadequately described, Off-shore Areas, Migratory, and Queensland undefined. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

INDUSTRY

Baby boomers are employed across all industries in Queensland. Differences with the state's total employed population exist in a number of industries, namely RETAIL TRADE, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES and ACCOMMODATION, CAFES AND RESTAURANTS (Table 10.10). In 2001, RETAIL TRADE employed 12% of all working baby boomers (84,000 persons) compared with 15% of Queensland's total employed population and 28% of employed persons aged 16 to 25 years.

INDUSTRY *continued*

Over 82,000 baby boomers were employed in HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, representing 11% of all baby boomers and over half of all Queenslanders employed in this industry. Baby boomers were most likely to work in this industry, closely followed by those aged 56 to 65 years (11%). In contrast, only 6.2% of persons aged 16 to 25 years and 9.0% of persons aged 26 to 35 years were employed in this industry.

10.10 EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, by age group—2001

	BABY BOOMERS							
	16–25 years	*26–35 years*	*36–45 years*	*46–55 years*	*Total baby boomers*	*56–65 years*	*66 years and over*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3.3	3.8	4.2	4.9	4.5	9.3	23.9	4.8
Mining	0.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.4	1.2
Manufacturing	9.6	11.6	11.3	10.5	10.9	10.5	7.0	10.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.4	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.8
Construction	5.8	7.7	7.8	7.2	7.6	7.1	4.0	7.2
Wholesale trade	4.6	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.1	3.8	5.1
Retail trade	28.3	12.7	11.4	11.7	11.5	11.2	9.3	15.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	10.3	5.4	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.8	5.6
Transport and storage	2.6	5.0	5.6	5.9	5.7	6.5	4.1	5.0
Communication services	0.9	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.2	0.6	1.5
Finance and insurance	2.3	3.7	2.9	2.6	2.8	1.9	2.2	2.8
Property and business services	8.6	10.3	9.7	10.2	9.9	10.5	10.4	9.8
Government, administration and defence	3.8	5.7	5.2	4.9	5.1	4.0	2.6	4.8
Education	4.1	6.9	9.2	10.0	9.5	7.9	4.2	7.7
Health and community services	6.2	9.0	11.1	11.5	11.3	10.5	7.3	9.7
Cultural and recreational services	3.0	2.7	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.7	2.4
Personal and other services	3.2	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.4	2.6	3.7
Total(b)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Persons aged 16 years and older.

(b) Including Non-classifiable economic units and Industry not stated. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

In 2001, over 341,000 baby boomers were employed in Brisbane SD, representing 47% of all employed Queenslanders in this age group. Of the baby boomers employed in Brisbane SD, 13% (44,000) worked in MANUFACTURING, 12% (41,000) worked in HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES and PROPERTY AND BUSINESS SERVICES, and 11% (36,000) in RETAIL TRADE (Table 10.11).

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING employed a significant number of baby boomers in a number of regional SDs. In 2001, 30% (800) of total employed baby boomers in Central West SD worked in AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING, while in South West SD the proportion was 29% (1,700).

MINING was a major employer of baby boomers in Mackay and North West SDs, employing 2,600 baby boomers in Mackay (9.1% of total) and 1,200 baby boomers (18% of total) in North West.

10.11 EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, BABY BOOMERS, by Statistical Division—2001

	Brisbane	*Moreton*	*Wide Bay -Burnett*	*Darling Downs*	*South West*	*Fitzroy*
	PER CENT					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.9	3.1	12.8	14.4	29.1	6.9
Mining	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.4	1.5	5.6
Manufacturing	12.8	9.8	10.5	9.7	3.7	10.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.9	0.6	1.4	0.8	1.0	2.4
Construction	7.0	9.9	6.9	6.3	6.7	7.0
Wholesale trade	5.8	4.7	4.2	5.0	3.5	4.6
Retail trade	10.7	13.7	12.6	11.3	10.3	10.8
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	2.7	6.6	4.2	3.1	4.8	4.5
Transport and storage	6.0	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.7	7.4
Communication services	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.2
Finance and insurance	3.6	2.7	1.6	2.1	1.1	1.8
Property and business services	12.0	10.8	5.7	6.1	4.0	6.6
Government administration and defence	5.5	3.2	4.4	4.8	6.2	4.0
Education	9.9	8.5	9.9	11.3	7.1	10.2
Health and community services	11.9	11.0	12.6	12.4	9.3	10.0
Cultural and recreational services	1.9	3.1	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.3
Personal and other services	4.0	3.8	2.9	2.8	2.4	3.2
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Including Non-classifiable economic units, Not stated, Off-shore Areas, Migratory and Queensland undefined. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

10.11 EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, BABY BOOMERS, by Statistical Division—2001 *continued*

	Central West	*Mackay*	*Northern*	*Far North*	*North West*	*Total*(a)
	PER CENT					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	30.2	10.0	5.9	7.9	9.1	4.5
Mining	0.4	9.1	2.2	1.6	17.9	1.4
Manufacturing	3.1	8.4	9.4	7.1	5.3	10.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.9
Construction	8.0	7.1	7.5	7.1	6.8	7.6
Wholesale trade	3.0	5.7	4.6	3.9	3.2	5.2
Retail trade	9.4	11.4	11.4	12.4	9.1	11.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	5.5	5.5	3.4	8.0	5.3	4.2
Transport and storage	4.6	7.5	6.1	7.3	5.9	5.7
Communication services	1.5	1.1	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.8
Finance and insurance	0.7	1.7	1.9	1.6	0.9	2.8
Property and business services	3.2	6.8	7.6	7.5	4.7	9.9
Government administration and defence	7.8	2.9	7.5	7.5	9.3	5.1
Education	7.4	7.6	10.5	8.6	6.7	9.5
Health and community services	8.1	8.8	11.8	9.8	7.8	11.3
Cultural and recreational services	1.5	1.2	1.8	2.1	0.9	2.0
Personal and other services	2.3	2.4	3.6	3.5	3.0	3.7
Total(a)	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Including Non-classifiable economic units, Not stated, Off-shore Areas, Migratory and Queensland undefined. Excluding overseas visitors.

Source: ABS data available on request, Census of Population and Housing, 2001.

SUMMARY

- The Queensland labour force has aged since 1980–81, when younger baby boomers were still entering the workforce. In 2000–01, Queensland baby boomers were a large component of the state's labour market.

- There were about 833,000 baby boomers in the Queensland labour force, representing 46% of the total labour force in 2000–01. About 79% of older baby boomers and 82% of younger baby boomers participated in the labour force.

- Labour force participation rates tend to decrease as people age. Baby boomers are currently entering the retirement age group and their decisions on whether or not to continue to participate in the labour force over the next two decades will impact significantly on Queensland labour force growth over this period.

- Baby boomers are less job mobile than younger cohorts. In 2000, baby boomers had been in their current job for longer than the younger age groups with 32% of baby boomers having stayed in their current job for over 10 years. In 2000, baby boomers were less likely than younger age groups to move home for employment reasons.

- In 2001, the largest occupation group for baby boomers was PROFESSIONALS, accounting for 18% of employed baby boomers, followed by INTERMEDIATE, SALES AND SERVICE WORKERS (17%) and ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS (13%).

- In 2001, industries employing the highest proportions of baby boomers included RETAIL TRADE (12%), HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (11%) and MANUFACTURING (11%).

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GLOSSARY

Alcohol risk level

Based on the respondent's estimated average daily alcohol consumption in the seven days prior to the NHS interview. Risk levels are based on the National Health and Medical Research Council risk levels for harm in the long-term, and assumes the level of alcohol consumption is typical. The average daily consumption of alcohol associated with the risk levels is:

Males

Low risk:	50 ml or less.
Risky:	more than 50 ml, up to 75 ml.
High risk:	more than 75 ml.

Females

Low risk:	25 ml or less.
Risky:	more than 25 ml, up to 50 ml.
High risk:	more than 50 ml.

Allocated health expenditure

Allocated health expenditure includes expenditure incurred for services provided by hospitals, high-level residential aged care, out-of-hospital medical services (including general practitioner, imaging, pathology and specialist expenditure), other professional services (optometrists, dentists, physiotherapists etc.), pharmaceuticals (prescription and over-the-counter), community mental health, public health screening programs and research. Not included is expenditure for Ambulance, aids and appliances, some community and public health, administration and other non-institutional expenditure. For more detail see Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Health System Expenditure on Disease and Injury in Australia, 2000–01,* Second edition.

Ancestry

Ancestry describes the ethnic or cultural heritage of a person, that is, the ethnic or cultural groups to which a person's forebears are or were attached. In practice, ancestry is the ethnic or cultural groups which the person identifies as being his or her ancestry. Ancestry therefore involves a measure of self-identification of ethnic or cultural group affiliation or nationality, as well as of descent from one or more particular groups.

Ancillary cover

Any cover provided by private insurance organisations for health-related services other than medical or hospital cover (e.g. physiotherapy, dental, optical, chiropractic and ambulance).

Assault

See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO) (cat. no. 1234.0)

A three-level hierarchical classification developed for use in the collection and publication of crime statistics. It is used in all ABS collections requiring a classification of offences, and the ABS encourages its use by other government bodies and the community in general.

Baby boomer

Queensland residents who were born between 1946 and 1965 inclusive. This includes people born overseas or interstate during this period who have since migrated to Queensland. Older baby boomers are those born between 1946 and 1955 inclusive, and younger baby boomers are those born between 1956 and 1965 inclusive.

Birth

The delivery of a child, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, who, after being born, breathes or shows any evidence of life such as a heartbeat.

Blackmail/extortion

See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Body Mass Index (BMI) BMI is calculated from self-reported height and weight information, using the formula: weight (kg) divided by the square of height (m). To produce a measure of the prevalence of overweight or obesity in adults, BMI values are grouped as follows:

Underweight:	Less than 18.5
Normal range:	18.5 to less than 25.0
Overweight:	25.0 to less than 30.0
Obese:	30.0 and greater.

Capital city The statistical division for the state capital. Unless specified otherwise, in this publication capital city refers to the Brisbane Statistical Division.

Carer A person of any age who provides any normal assistance, in terms of help or supervision, to persons with disabilities or long-term conditions, or to persons who are elderly (that is, aged 60 years and over). The assistance has to be ongoing, or likely to be ongoing, for at least six months. Assistance to a person in a different household relates to everyday types of activities, without specific information on the activities.

Child care activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Community/welfare organisations Organisations and institutions providing human and social services to the general community and specific target population groups. Included are organisations whose work is for the wider social benefit of the general community without the provision of direct services, such as Apex and Rotary. Other organisations included cover those giving material assistance, personal care and advice, such as Lifeline, the Smith Family, Brotherhood of St. Lawrence, Legacy, Royal Blind Societies, Wesley Mission, Meals on Wheels. Further examples include ethnic welfare groups, marriage guidance, information and referral services, community transport, neighbourhood centres, accommodation referral and advice, homes and shelters.

Couple family A couple family is based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. The family may or may not include any number of dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals.

Dependent children Dependent children are all persons aged under 15 years; and people aged 15–24 years who are full-time students, have a parent in the household and do not have a partner or child of their own in the household.

Divorce Decree absolute of dissolution of marriage.

Domestic activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Dwelling A dwelling is a building or structure in which people live. This can be a house, a block of flats, or other dwelling (such as a caravan, a houseboat or an improvised home). For the purposes of the Census of Population and Housing, dwellings are classified into private and non-private dwellings. Each of these dwelling types is further divided into occupied and unoccupied dwelling categories.

Education activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Educational attainment Presents a measure of highest non-school educational qualification attained, and for those without a non-school qualification whether they completed Year 12. This term has only been used when data are presented to be consistent with the superseded *ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ)* (cat. no. 1262.0).

Employed

For data obtained from the Labour Force Survey, employed persons were those aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job, business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers)
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers)
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
  - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week
  - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week
  - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement
  - on strike or locked out
  - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job.
  - were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

For data obtained from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, employed persons were those aged 15 years and over who during the week prior to Census night:

- worked for payment or profit, or as an unpaid helper in a family business
- had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent
- were on strike or stood down temporarily.

Employment related activities

See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Empty-nesters

Parents whose children have left home.

English language proficiency

A self-reported measure of a person's proficiency in spoken English. Responses to this question are subjective. For example, one respondent may consider that a response of 'Well' is appropriate if they can communicate well enough to do the shopping while another respondent may consider such a response appropriate only for people who can hold a social conversation. Proficiency in English is just an indicator of a person's ability to speak English and not a definite measure of their ability.

English-speaking countries

Countries have been defined as predominantly English-speaking on the basis of whether Australia has received significant numbers of migrants from them who are likely to speak English. This includes Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Equivalised disposable household income

Is derived from gross income after income tax and the Medicare levy are deducted. Disposable income is sometimes referred to as net income and is able to provide a better indication of the resources available to a household in maintaining its standard of living. Equivalising income assists in the analysis of the relative well-being of households of different size and composition. The equivalent disposable income figures in this section indicate the amount of disposable income that a single person household would require to maintain the same standard of living as the household in question, regardless of the size or composition of the latter.

Estimated resident population

The official measure of the population of Australia and its states and territories is based on the concept of residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who usually live in a state or territory, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months.

Exercise level Based on frequency, intensity and duration of exercise in the 2 weeks prior to the NHS interview. From these components, an exercise score was derived using factors to represent the intensity of the exercise. Scores were grouped for output as follows:

Sedentary:	Less than 100 (includes no exercise)
Low:	100 to less than 1,600
Moderate:	1,600 to 3,200, or more than 3,200 but less than 2 hours of vigorous exercise
High:	More than 3,200 and 2 hours or more of vigorous exercise.

Families 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, adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household.

Family household A family household is defined by the ABS as a household which contains one or more families. A family household may also contain non-family members, such as unrelated persons or visitors.

Flat, unit or apartment All dwellings in blocks of flats, units or apartments. These dwellings do not have their own private grounds and usually share a common entrance foyer or stairwell. This category also includes flats attached to houses such as granny flats, and houses converted into two or more flats.

Full-time workers Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Government health card Includes Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Commonwealth Seniors Health Card and treatment entitlement cards issued by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Group household A group household is a household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all persons are aged 15 years or over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.

Hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption Hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption relate to the levels of risk associated with alcohol consumption calculated from the 1998 and 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Surveys (based on guidelines revised by National Health and Medical Research Council in October 2001). Hazardous levels of alcohol consumption relate to five or six standard drinks per day for males and three or four standard drinks for females. Harmful levels of alcohol consumption are indicated by more than six standard drinks per day for males and more than four standard drinks for females.

Hospital cover Health insurance provided by private insurance organisations to cover all or part of the costs of private accommodation in a public hospital, charges for private hospital treatment and care in a public hospital by a doctor of the patient's choice.

Indigenous A person is defined to be of Indigenous origin if he or she identifies himself or herself as of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage One of 5 of the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFAs) compiled by the ABS following each population census. Each of the indexes summarise different aspects of the socioeconomic condition of areas; the index of relative socioeconomic disadvantage includes attributes such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. The index refers to the area (the Census Collector's District) in which a person lives, not to the socioeconomic situation of the particular individual. For further information about the SEIFAs see *Information Paper; Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas* (cat. no. 2039.0).

Industry A person's industry of employment, as classified by the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0).

Kidnapping/abduction See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Knowledge-based economy This term was defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development as an economy which is directly based on the production and use of knowledge and information.

Labour force Persons aged 15 years and over who were employed or unemployed.

Labour force participation rate The labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over.

Labour force status A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.

Language spoken at home Data for this variable are coded using the *Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL), 1997* (cat. no. 1267.0). Only one language is coded for each person despite the fact that people may speak more than one language at home.

Life expectancy Life expectancy refers to the average number of additional years a person of a given age and sex might expect to live if the age-specific death rates of the given period continued throughout his/her lifetime.

Lone parent family A person who has no spouse or partner usually present in the household but who forms a parent-child relationship with at least one dependent or non-dependent child usually resident in the household.

Lone person household A person who makes provision for his/her own food and other essentials in living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household is classified as a lone person household. He/she may live in a dwelling on his/her own, or share a dwelling with another individual or family.

Long-term condition A condition which in the respondent's opinion has lasted for six months or more, or which he or she expects will last for six months or more. Some conditions reported were assumed to be long-term conditions. These included asthma, cancer, diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus types 1 and 2, rheumatic heart disease, heart attack and stroke.

Manslaughter See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Marriage Refers to registered marriages only. Under the *Australian Marriage Act 1961 (Commonwealth)*, a marriage may be celebrated by a minister of religion registered as an authorised celebrant, by a district registrar or by other persons authorised by the Attorney-General.

Median age The age at which half the population is older and half is younger.

Median value For any distribution the median value is that value which divides the relevant population into two equal parts, half falling below the value, and half exceeding it. Where the value for a particular record has not been stated, that record is excluded from the calculation.

Murder See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Net interstate migration See net migration. The defined geographical areas are states and/or territories.

Net migration The difference between the number of persons who have changed their place of usual residence by moving into a given defined geographic area and the number who have changed their place of usual residence by moving out of that defined geographic area during a specified time period. This difference can be either positive or negative.

Non-dependent children A natural, step, adopted or foster child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, who is aged over 15 years, is not a full-time student aged 15–24 years, and who has no partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the household.

Non-private dwelling Non-private dwellings are residential dwellings with accommodation which are not included in the Census of Population and Housing list of private dwelling categories. Non-private dwellings are classified according to their function. They include hotels, motels, guest houses, jails, religious and charitable institutions, military establishments, hospitals and other communal dwellings. Where this type of accommodation includes

Non-private dwelling *continued*	self-contained units (as provided by hotels, motels, homes for the elderly and guest houses), the units are enumerated as part of the non-private dwelling. Complexes such as retirement villages, which have a combination of self-contained units, hostel and/or nursing home accommodation, are enumerated as non-private dwellings.
Non-school qualification	A non-school qualification is one awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education.
Not in the labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed.
Occupation	A set of jobs with similar sets of tasks, classified according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0). The classification has five levels of hierarchy: major group, sub-major group, minor group, unit group and occupation.
Older baby boomers	See Baby boomers.
Other carer	A person who provides informal assistance, but who is not the main (or primary) source of assistance.
Other couple, one family households	A family household consisting of one couple with non-dependent children only, and/or other relatives, and/or unrelated individuals. Does not include couple only or couple with dependent children family households.
Other dwelling	This includes caravans; cabins; houseboats; sheds, tents, humpies and other improvised homes; house or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.
Other health professionals	Comprises Aboriginal health worker (n.e.c.), Accredited counsellor, Acupuncturist, Alcohol and drug worker (n.e.c.), Audiologist/Audiometrist, Chemist (for advice), Chiropodist/Podiatrist, Chiropractor, Dietitian/Nutritionist, Herbalist, Hypnotherapist, Naturopath, Nurse, Occupational therapist, Optician/Optometrist, Osteopath, Physiotherapist/Hydrotherapist, Psychologist, Social worker/Welfare officer, and Speech therapist/Pathologist.
Overseas-born	Overseas-born people are those who state that they were born in a country other than Australia, those born at sea, and those whose responses are classed as 'Inadequately described' or 'Not elsewhere classified'.
Part-time workers	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week or were not at work in the reference week.
Personal care activities	See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.
Population projections	Calculated using a combination of assumptions for future levels of births, deaths and migration, to arrive at the possible size, structure and distribution of Australia's population in the future.
Pre-retired	Includes persons who were currently working, and those who intended to work in the future whether or not they were currently looking for work.
Primary carer	A primary carer is a person of any age who provides the most informal assistance, in terms of help or supervision, to a person with one or more disabilities. The assistance has to be ongoing, or likely to be ongoing, for at least six months and be provided for one or more of the core activities of self-care, mobility or communication.
Private dwelling	A private dwelling in the census is defined as a house, flat, part of a house, or even a room; but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above shops or offices; an occupied caravan in a caravan park or occupied boat in a marina, a houseboat, a tent if it is standing on its own block of land, or an improvised dwelling such as a humpy or park bench. A caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling.
Purchasing goods and services activities	See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Quintiles The distribution of income across different groups within a population can be shown through the use of income quintiles. Income quintiles are formed by ranking all units within a population by income and then dividing them into 5 groups, each containing one-fifth of the population.

Recreation and leisure activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Relative standard error The standard error of an estimate expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Standard error is a measure of the variability of estimates which occurs as a result of sampling. That is, the error which occurs by chance because the data were obtained from a sample, not the entire population.

Religious organisations Organisations providing religious beliefs as their primary focus, administering religious services and rituals. Includes churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, shrines, seminaries, monasteries and religious institutions.

Retirement from full-time work Persons who had a full-time job at some time and who had ceased full-time labour force activity (i.e. were not working full-time, were not looking for full-time work and did not intend to work full-time at any time in the future). Unpaid voluntary work was not considered full-time work.

Retirement from the labour force Persons who had retired from work or looking for work of more than 10 hours per week, and did not intend to work at any time in the future. These persons are considered fully retired. Persons that have never worked more than 10 hours per week were also treated as fully retired.

Robbery See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

SEIFA See Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage.

Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse These dwellings have their own private grounds and no other dwelling above or below them.

Separate house This is a house which stands alone in its own grounds separated from other dwellings by at least half a metre. A separate house may have a flat attached to it, such as a granny flat or converted garage (the flat is categorised under Flat, unit or apartment).

Sexual assault See Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO).

Social and community interaction activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Sport/recreation organisations Organisations in general and specialised fields of sport, recreation and leisure; sports clubs and facilities; indoor and outdoor recreational facilities; racing and gambling; social, leisure and hobby clubs; zoological, botanical, recreational parks and gardens; theme and amusement parks. Included are hobby and general interest groups such as bird watchers' groups, book clubs, embroiderers' guilds, gardening clubs, etc.

Standardised death rate Standardised death rates enable the comparison of death rates between populations with different age structures by relating them to a standard population.

Statistical division Statistical divisions are general purpose geographical areas which represent relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic links between the inhabitants and between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. For further information, refer to *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2002* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Statistical local area The statistical local area (SLA) is a general purpose geographical unit. It is the base spatial unit used by the ABS to collect and disseminate statistics other than those collected from the population census. For further information, refer to *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), 2002* (cat. no. 1216.0).

Superannuation A long-term savings arrangement which operates primarily with a superannuation fund to provide income for retirement.

Time Use Survey Activity Classification The classification used in the 1997 Time Use Survey. This classification describes nine major categories of time use activities, classified into the four major typologies of: Necessary Time, Contracted Time, Committed Time and Free Time. For a detailed description of the time use typologies and classifications, see *Time Use Survey – Users Guide* (cat. no. 4150.0).

Total fertility rate The sum of age-specific fertility rates (live births at each age of mother per female population of that age). It represents the number of children a female would bear during her lifetime if she experienced current age-specific fertility rates at each age of her reproductive life.

Unemployed For data obtained from the Labour Force Survey, unemployed persons were those aged 15 years 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.

For data obtained from the 2000 Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, unemployed persons were those aged 15 years 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 would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week), or
  - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then, or
  - were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week (including the whole of the reference week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

Unemployment rate For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in that same group.

Victimisation rate The number of victims per 100,000 of the estimated resident population.

Voluntary work and care activities See Time Use Survey Activity Classification.

Volunteer A volunteer is someone who willingly gave unpaid help, in the form of time, service or skills, through an organisation or group in the 12 months prior to the survey. People who did voluntary work overseas, or whose only voluntary work was for the Sydney 2000 Olympic or Paralympic Games were excluded.

Volunteer rate For any group, the volunteer rate is the number of volunteers in that group expressed as a percentage of total population in the same group.

Wealth Wealth is defined in this study to be the sum of a person's or household's assets minus the sum of its liabilities. This is equivalent to the concept of net worth.

Younger baby boomers See Baby boomers.

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