

# THE SUM OF AUSTRALIA

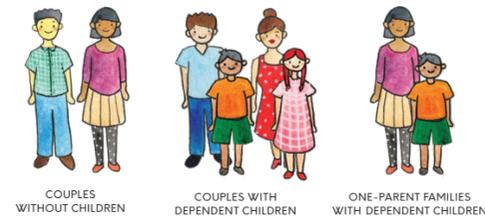
OVER 5½ MILLION FAMILIES CALL AUSTRALIA HOME.  
CAN YOU SPOT YOURS IN OUR SNAPSHOT?

WORDS DAISY CHEIN  
ILLUSTRATIONS JESS CHEN

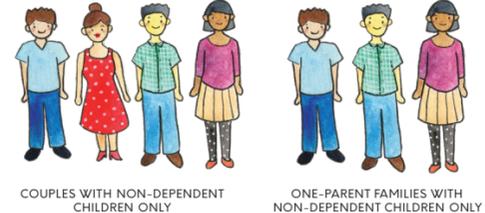
## AUSTRALIA HAS 5.58 MILLION FAMILIES

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE: 2.6 PEOPLE

37.8% 36.7% 10.6%



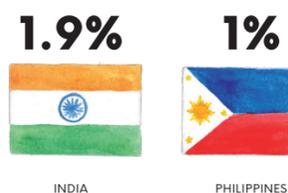
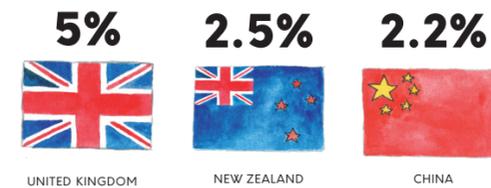
7.9% 5.3%



- 71% of children under 15 live with two biological or adoptive parents.
- 19% of children live with a single mother.
- 2% of children live with a single father.
- 82% of children are born into two-parent families, but only 53% live with both biological parents by age 17.
- In 2011, more than half (53%) of 21-year-olds and 25% of 25-year-olds were living at home with their parents.

## WHERE WE'RE FROM

TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF BIRTH  
(OTHER THAN AUSTRALIA)



## 28.5% OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS WERE BORN OVERSEAS.

Australia's 2014-15 Humanitarian Programme granted 13,756 visas, comprised of 11,009 under the offshore resettlement component and 2747 under the onshore protection component. Of the 6002 Refugee visas granted in 2014/15, 16.8% were women at risk.



## PARENTS & BABIES

Just-released 2016 Australian Census data shows that the 'typical' Australian is a 38-year-old woman with two kids, living in a 3-bedroom house with 2 cars. She does 5-14 hours a week of domestic work; the 'typical' male does less than 5. From the 2011 Census:

MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE:



29.9YRS (M) 28.3YRS (F)

AVERAGE MOTHER'S AGE AT BIRTH OF FIRST CHILD: 29 YRS

Percentage of women over 30 having their first child rose from 23% (1991) to 43% in 2011.



## FERTILITY RATE 2012: 1.93 PEAK FERTILITY RATE: 3.55 IN 1961

Since 1961, the fertility rate has steadily declined and has been below replacement levels since 1976.

## LOWEST FERTILITY: 1.74 IN 2001

85% of Australian mothers claim too many people offer unsolicited fertility tips (half of Australian mother-in-laws do it, as do 47% of strangers).



## HEALTH & WELLBEING

Infant mortality rates Indigenous: 6.2 deaths per 1000 live births, Non-Indigenous: 3.7 deaths per 1000 live births.



15,000 REPORTED CASES OF NEGLECT  
9,900 REPORTED CASES OF PHYSICAL ABUSE  
5,800 REPORTED CASES OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Data is limited to only those who come into contact with children's services agencies; actual cases will be higher.



- 1-in-5 children have an undetected vision problem.
- In 2016, an estimated 650 children aged up to 14 years were newly diagnosed with cancer (365 boys and 285 girls). Over the last 30 years, cancer rates in children up to 14 years rose by about 11%, but cancer death rates decreased by about 60%.
- 58,000 children, 0-14 years are hospitalised and 250 children die each year due to accidental injuries.
- Almost 1-in-7 children, 4-17 years, experienced a mental health disorder in 2016 (almost 560,000 kids).



**SUBSTANTIAL CLAIMS OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE AGAINST CHILDREN 0-17 YEARS: 17,600 IN 2011-12**

EMOTIONAL ABUSE IS THE MOST COMMON FORM OF ABUSE CLAIMS AGAINST CHILDREN IN AUSTRALIA.

- Over 80% of Australians seek health information online and almost 40% look online for self-treatment.

## MEDIA

Australian kids aged 6-13 years now spend more time using the Internet (almost 12 hrs/week) than watching television (10.5 hrs). However, almost 30% of kids' internet usage is done outside the home, at school or elsewhere (when TV isn't an option). At home, kids spend almost 8½ hrs a week on the Internet – around two hours less than watching TV.



## BACK-TO-SCHOOL COSTS

Spend per primary school child per year (school shoes, uniforms, books and stationery):

QLD: \$346  
SA: \$344  
VIC: \$327  
NT: \$324  
TAS: \$309  
WA: \$304  
NSW: \$286



**DO PARENTS FEEL STRESSED ABOUT THE \$ THEY SPEND ON BACK-TO-SCHOOL ITEMS?**

YES 60%  
NO 40%



## SPORT

Nearly 3.2 million kids under 14 (69%) played sport in 2016 (peaking at 87% for 9- to 11-year-old boys and 92% for girls). However, only 54% played at least once a week, and only 19% at least three times per week.

## SIX MOST POPULAR SPORTS PLAYED BY 6- TO 13-YEAR-OLDS

48.8%



SWIMMING

48.7%



SOCCER

37.7%



CYCLING

31.7%



ATHLETICS

30.5%



BASKETBALL

30.3%



DANCING

## FREE TIME

Children have four hours less play time (18.5 hours) per week than their parents' generation (22.5 hours). 2-in-3 people (64%) choose spending time with family as their favourite activity.



**CHILD**

THE REAL GUIDE FOR PARENTS