

The Rest

Relationship Statistics

Vol. 65 – January 2007

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HOUSING

- Around 98% of Australians live in private self-contained living arrangements, while the remainder lives in hostels, boarding houses, residential colleges, staff quarters, prisons, corrective and detention facilities, nursing homes and other welfare institutions.
- Of the 7.7 million households in private dwellings in 2003-04, 80% were living in separate houses, 11% in apartments and units and 8% were in town houses, terrace/row houses and semi-detached residences. Among capital cities, the proportion of separate houses was lowest in Sydney at 70% and highest in Hobart at 85%.
- When broken down into dwelling size, 4.7% of households were living in one-bedroom dwellings, 19.5% were in two-bedroom premises, 48.7% lived in three-bedrooms and 26.8% were in residences with four or more bedrooms.
- In the period from 1976 to 2003-04, the average number of occupants per dwelling decreased from 3.1 to 2.5, while at the same time, the proportion of dwellings with four or more bedrooms increased from 17% to 27% and the average number of bedrooms per dwelling increased from 2.8 to 3.0.
- The rate of owner occupancy rose rapidly in Australia after the Second World War from a rate of 53% of occupied private dwellings being owned outright or being purchased by their occupiers in 1947 to 70% in 1961 – a rate that has remained largely steady ever since.
- In 2003-04, 35% of households owned their dwellings outright and 35% were owners with a mortgage. A further 21% were renting from a private landlord and 5% were renting from a state or territory housing authority.
- The proportion of home owners who own their house outright has declined from 42% in 1994-95 to 35% in 2003-04; while the proportion with a mortgage has increased over the same period from 30% to 35%.
- The Northern Territory had the lowest rate of overall home ownership (59%), the lowest rate of outright home ownership (17%), the highest proportion of owners with a mortgage (42%) and the highest proportion of renters (36%).
- Of the 5.4 million households that owned their home in 2003-04, 90% lived in a separate house. By comparison, only 55% of renter households lived in a separate house, whereas 29% lived in apartments/units and 15% lived in semi-detached dwellings.
- In 2003-04, owners with a mortgage had average monthly housing costs of \$287 per week or 19% of their gross household income; owners without a mortgage had average housing costs (principally rates) of \$25 a week or just 3% of household income; and renters in the private market paid an average of \$198 per week – also 19% of their household income.
- In 2003-04, 9% of renters and 7% of owners with a mortgage spent over 50% of their household income on housing.

SOURCE:

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2007). 2007 Year Book Australia. ABS Catalogue No.1301.0. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia.