



Grandparents & Grandchildren – Inflection Points for Baby Boomers

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Financial Demographics (www.findem.com.au)

Increased life expectancy, changing age specific fertility rates and incidence of stepfamilies have all brought changes in trends of the age at which people become grandparents and the number and age profile of children who become grandchildren. Studies of these patterns are referred to as 'kinship' studies. In Australia no population data has been found for the stocks and age profile of kin. This paper explores overseas studies of kinship and includes simulation of Australian kinship for the population from 1970 to 2050 based on population cohort mortality, age specific fertility and male/female partnership age differences. The paper also discusses the financial and economic implications of kinship stocks and the benefit which would flow from collection of regular statistics of Australian kinship.