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# demoz

newsletter of the Australian Population Association

Demoz Number 59

December 2006

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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This will be my last report as President.

The Association's financial records are now in order, and at the AGM we reviewed the audited books. This has been a remarkable achievement. As you probably know from your experience with other professional and charitable organizations, changes in government regulations have increased the responsibilities of Treasurers and governing boards, and it has required a lot of hard work to adapt to this new environment. In future the Association will need to regularly use professional accountants to assist the volunteer officers in order to ensure that we do not fall behind in our duties to file the obligatory financial reports.

The incoming council will be working to facilitate a joint APA/PANZ meeting, and finding further ways to advance the goal of the association. They will also be overseeing the coordination of the 2008 Conference in Darwin.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding support provided by the Secretary, Dr Ann Evans, and the Treasurer, Dr Rebecca Kippen, over the last two years. They have worked assiduously to improve the Association.

Finally I would like to express my appreciation to Dr Heather Booth for her years of dedication to the Journal, raising it to an international quality journal with high academic standards. Her contribution has been nothing short of phenomenal.

The new editor, appointed by council, Dr Edith Gray, will be taking over from the 2007 edition.

Terence H. Hull  
Outgoing President, APA  
[Terry.Hull@anu.edu.au](mailto:Terry.Hull@anu.edu.au)

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## **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

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This is my last issue as editor of Demoz. From June Gour Dasvarma from Flinders University in Adelaide will be taking over the reins.

This issue contains information about the very successful December conference in Adelaide and introduces you to some of our new council members including the new editor of the Journal of Population Research. We also announce the winners of our student competitions and keep you up to date with happenings in population around Australia.

As always, contributions from members are most welcome. Contributions can be sent to Gour at anytime via email [gour.dasvarma@flinders.edu.au](mailto:gour.dasvarma@flinders.edu.au)

Ann Evans

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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

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### **12th International Metropolis Conference**

In October 2007, the annual International Metropolis Conference will be held for the first time in the Southern Hemisphere – in Melbourne, Australia.

Hosted by Monash University and the Australian Multicultural Foundation in association with the Federal Government, the Victorian State Government and the City of Melbourne, Metropolis International 2007 is an internationally significant research-based conference that focuses on immigration and settlement issues.

Metropolis 2007 will feature Australian and global leaders and officials, renowned academics and key stakeholders who will gather to examine migration, economic growth and social cohesion. The Conference will bring together some of the world's key migration and diversity experts to discuss key issues and, in particular, to examine: the patterns of current and future migration the scope for reinforcing its favourable impact on economic growth strengthening social cohesion.

For more information visit  
<http://www.metropolis2007.org>

### **TRANSITIONS: Health and mobility in Asia and the Pacific**

24-26 June, 2007

Monash University

In public health, the term "transition" flags changes in the distribution of disease and changes in mortality and morbidity rates. The term is a gesture towards epidemiological transitions, health transitions and nutrition transitions - declining mortality rates from all causes, declining infant mortality rates, shifts from infectious to non-communicable disease. But we are also interested in the economic, social, political and cultural factors that produce such transitions: shifts from agricultural to industrial production, rural to urban settlements,

subsistence to mono-cultivation and modern economies, population movements on a temporary and permanent basis, the remission of money within countries and throughout the region, forced population movement due to civil war, disaster and trafficking. Transitions have occurred also with respect to technology and values: the introduction of new technologies, procedures and drugs, ideals regarding body, diet and activity, the role of government in the provision of services. The themes are as broad or as narrow as you would like them to be: a tool to think about health, wellbeing, mobility in Asia and the Pacific.

Conference sub-themes:

Outsourcing and offshore labour: the production of illness

The mobility of viruses and their prevention  
 Disaster and violence, flight and forced movement

Commodification of the body, global technologies and global health

Emergent identities, social movements and wellbeing

Call for papers:

Abstracts should be unstructured and have a word limit of 150-200 words. Abstract submissions will be accepted until Friday, March 2, 2007 by email to Kathleen Nolan: [Kathleen.J.Nolan@med.monash.edu.au](mailto:Kathleen.J.Nolan@med.monash.edu.au) For further information on keynote speakers, conference themes, abstracts and registration, visit the website:  
[www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/conference/index.html](http://www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/conference/index.html)

**APA**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference**  
**2008**  
**Darwin**

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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The Association extends a warm welcome to the following new members whose applications have been approved by the Association since the last issue of *Demoz*.

### **New members approved by APA National Council, 23 Feb 2007**

Prof	Richard	Madden	NSW
Ms	Kim	Johnstone	NT
Miss	Melissa	Thompson	SA
Ms	Meimanat	Hosseini Chavoshi	ACT

### **New members approved by APA National Council, 5 Dec 2007**

Dr	Salut	Muhidin	QLD
Mr	Binod	Nepal	ACT
Ms	Judith	Burns	NSW
Dr	Arunachalam	Dharmalingam	VIC
Mr	Tony	Mole	ACT
Mr	Frank	Siciliano	NSW

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## POPULATION UPDATE

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### **Estimated Australian Population**

As at Dec 2006: 20,736,149 (<http://www.abs.gov.au>)

### **Estimated World Population**

As at Dec 2006: 6,570,053,180 (<http://www.census.gov>)

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## ABS ANIMATED POPULATION PYRAMIDS

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This year the ABS released animated population pyramids on the ABS website for each State and Territory. You can find the pyramids by going to the website [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au) and selecting Australia's Population under the National Statistics heading then scrolling down the page to the link "Animated Population Pyramids". You will need to have SVG viewer loaded on your PC - see the link provided on the APP webpage for details

Feel free to play around with these - they include features such the ability to highlight a cohort as it ages, change speed, pause and show the excess of males over females or visa-versa. You may find these useful in teaching or illustrating demographic change to colleagues.

For further details contact Neil Scott in ABS Demography Section on 02 6252 6296.

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## NEW APA COUNCIL

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A new council was appointed at the 2006 AGM to serve until the 2008 AGM. The council has new and continuing members and includes members from most States covering the university and government

sectors. A full list of council members and their contact details appears on page 23 of this issue of DEMOZ. Each of the new council members are introduced below.

**Natalie Jackson, University of Tasmania**

The new president of APA, Natalie Jackson, is an Associate Professor in the School of Sociology and Social Work, University of Tasmania, and Director of the university's Demographic Analytical Services Unit.

She undertook her Ph.D. in demography at the Australian National University, and holds a Master of Social Science in anthropology and demography from the University of Waikato in New Zealand. Natalie's current research is on the social, economic and political implications of the different rates of structural and numerical ageing unfolding across Australia's States and Territories; on whether Australia's baby boomers will change their retirement plans in line with government thinking on the matter; and on socio-demographic differentials between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians and New Zealanders.

**Jennifer Baxter, Australian Institute of Family Studies**

Jenny is a Research Fellow at the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), having started there in 2005 after completing her PhD in the Demography and Sociology Program of ANU. Her research interests lie in the area of parental employment and the relationship between parental employment and family and child wellbeing. Most recently, she has been studying topics in this area using data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children.

**Dominic Brown, University of Queensland**

Dominic completed both his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in England, Southampton University and Leeds University respectively and moved to Australia in February 2003. He is currently appointed as a lecturer in the School of Geography, Planning and Architecture at the University of Queensland and teach at all levels from first year up to masters on a range of courses including Global Population Issues, Applied Demography and Medical Geography.

His main areas of research interest include temporary and permanent internal migration, spatial and temporal health inequalities in both Australia and the United Kingdom at the regional and local level, and since arriving in Australia has also developed an interest in studying remote populations.

**Angelique Parr, New South Wales Department of Planning**

Angelique is a demographer with over fifteen years experience in both Australia and New Zealand. After she completed a Masters' thesis at the University of Canterbury on Maori Migration in New Zealand under the guidance of Professor Richard Bedford, she was then employed in the Demographic Unit at Statistics New Zealand. This was followed by a period as a demographer with several of New Zealand's Health Funding Authorities during which time she developed a research interest in a range of reproductive health issues. While in New Zealand she was an active member of the Population Association of New Zealand (PANZ), as a member of the national council between 1991 and 1995, and as vice-president during 1996-1997.

Since moving to Australia she has worked for the New South Wales Department of Planning, providing demographic research for strategic planning purposes, particularly in the area of coastal population issues, and developing official state population projections. Angelique is currently enrolled as a PhD student in the School of School of Geography, Planning and Architecture at The University of Queensland. Her research interests have come full circle, with her doctoral research focusing on return migration in Australia.

**Fran Rolley, University of New England**

Fran Rolley is a Senior Lecturer in Geography and Planning at the University of New England where she teaches units in population and social geography and research methods. Her Ph D research focused on health care service provision and patterns of health care utilisation in rural Australia and she continues to research in the areas of rural health inequalities, demographic change and service provision in rural communities. Current research projects include the social impacts of immigration to Australia, homelessness in rural Australia, and in relation to teaching and learning, the incorporation of core skills (including demographic ones!) into geography and planning curricula.

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**NEW EDITOR FOR JPR**

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In December 2006, Heather Booth the Founding Editor of the Journal of Population Research (JPR), stepped down after 9 years.

As the new Editor I would like to introduce myself to all the members of APA. For those of you whom I have not met, I hold a research and teaching position in the Demography and Sociology Program at The Australian National University. APA members may remember me as Convenor of the 2004 APA Conference that was held in Canberra. That experience was an extremely positive one and I enjoyed every minute of working with the Committee Members, planning, and preparing for that conference. It is with this attitude that I intend to run JPR.

JPR currently provides high-quality research articles to an international audience. This direction will be maintained ensuring cutting-edge research that is of interest to APA members and others whose work or research is on population issues.

I'm looking forward to my new role as Editor of JPR and working with the Associate Editors who generously provide their time to the journal. I would encourage members of APA to consider their journal as a potential place for publishing their exciting research.

Edith Gray (Editor JPR)

<http://www.jpr.org.au>

<http://demography.anu.edu.au/People/staff/edith.php>

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**DEMOGRAPHY @ ARC in 2007**

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The following discovery grants have been awarded in the field of Demography or to APA members.

DP0773060 Dr F Guo; Prof GJ Hugo; Prof X Yuan

**Rural Migrant Labour in Large Chinese Cities**

China's economic and political significance globally, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, can hardly be exaggerated. China is increasing rapidly in its importance to Australia as a trading partner, source of immigrants and tourists and as a power in Australia's region of influence. The rapid growth of Chinese cities is a critical element in its striking social and economic development and a deeper understanding of this will contribute to Australia enhancing economic, social and political linkages with China. It also will develop Australian capacity with respect to Chinese research and develop strong academic linkages with China.

DP0772544 Dr HA Evans; Dr EE Gray

**Understanding an important aspect of current-day family dynamics: the institution of repartnering in Australia**

Families are at the core of Australia's social fabric. Understanding their dynamics assists in developing good policies and mechanisms to support them. Repartnering is an important aspect of current-day family dynamics. Yet we know relatively little about how these partnerships operate. This project will illuminate the patterns and issues central to repartnering and provide a significant contribution to social research. Results from this study will equip policy makers with appropriate knowledge to develop policies aimed at assisting families. The findings will contribute to growing international knowledge on family dynamics in repartnered relationships, as well as strengthen Australia's social and economic fabric through stronger families.

DP0771500 Prof GJ Hugo

**Linkages Between Temporary and Permanent Migration in Australia**

Australia's economy and society has benefited from immigration more than any OECD country during the postwar era. Moreover it will continue to be of great significance to national prosperity, productivity and sustainability. However paradigmatic changes are occurring in global international migration systems and if Australia is to continue to maximise benefits from immigration it must continually modify its policies to accommodate those changes. The present project seeks to contribute to this effort by providing a better understanding of the contemporary migration system. Such understanding is a necessary pre-requisite for the timely formulation of effective immigration and settlement policies and programs.

DP0771033 Dr HJ Maxwell-Stewart; Dr R Kippen; Prof JS McCalman; Mr GJ McCarthy; Dr R Shlomowitz; A/Prof AJ Venn; A/Prof DG Meredith; Dr SC Dharmage

**Founders and survivors: Australian lifecourses in historical context**

This project will create one of the world's outstanding longitudinal studies of human health and resilience. It will contribute to the historical understanding of European migration, settler colonialism, forced labour and human health under stress, long-run family formation and falling fertility, household economy, and the social determinants of health. It will contribute to debate both nationally and internationally on the long-run effects of social and biomedical interventions and of investment in human capital. It will tell the grassroots history of the Australian penal and colonial experiments and it will form a scholarly coalition with the great community of family historians.

DP0771418 Prof JF Martin; Dr NM Argent; A/Prof SW Baum; A/Prof L Bourke; Dr PA McManus; Dr WN Pritchard; A/Prof AD Sorensen; Prof JJ Walmsley

**Australia's Rural Heartlands: Declining Economic Fortune or Dynamic Regional Adjustment?**

Agriculture in the rural heartlands provides high quality food and fibre for domestic consumption and export making significant contributions to national earnings. The heartlands are the custodians of our natural resources and cultural heritage and farmers play a vital economic and social role in the sustainability of these regions. While there is considerable variability between these places this research will provide a detailed understanding as to why it is that rural places differ in their development. A major benefit will be to present Australian governments, the agricultural industry and rural communities with a more accurate picture of how the rural heartlands now function, and to articulate the public policy implications.

DP0770460 Dr NM Argent; Prof R Jones; Dr MA Tonts; Prof JH Holmes

**The Amenity Principle: The causes, incidence and land use planning implications of amenity-led rural settlement in Australia.**

This project will produce an 'amenity index' - a composite measure of a community's relative attractiveness to in-migrants for a substantial portion of the nation's ecumene. This index will aid in the development of more targetted approaches to rural planning and place marketing. Through the multi-state and multi-region nature of the fieldwork, the project will also draw together a range of approaches used in managing the complex and often competing demands of amenity-inspired in-migration, thus making it a resource for innovative approaches to land use planning and management.

**2006 APA CONFERENCE: SOME UNVERIFIED NUMBERS**

David Lucas compiled these statistics while waiting at Adelaide Airport, using back-of -the-envelope technology. After allowing for a couple of 'no-shows', 100 non-plenary papers were actually presented.

By topic these were:

• Census, other data	10
• Mobility, spatial distribution	20
• International migration	13
• Fertility, children	13
• Marriage, relationships	4
• Mortality, morbidity	6
• Generations	4
• Ageing, retirement	6
• Forecasts, change	9
• Services and housing	6
• Human resources	5
• Historical demography	4

Using the affiliation/location of the first author, roughly two-thirds of the papers came from Universities, with the ANU, Adelaide, Flinders and Queensland particularly well represented, while Victorian Universities were notable for their absence. The Territories did well with the ACT producing more papers than any of the States, while the Northern Territory, hosts for the 2008 conference, out-produced Western Australia and Tasmania.

Finally some comparisons with the British Society for Population Studies Conference held at the University of Southampton in September, 2006:

- They too had around 100 papers
- Over 190 attended, only slightly more than attended the the APA (and the UK has a population of 60 million! )
- They had three plenary speakers compared with our nine
- Their Newsletter had a 24 page report on their conference, compiled by 28 contributors (Northern Territory to note for 2008?)

We heard the following plenary papers:

**Policy Issues in Australia's Population Future**

Professor Graeme Hugo  
Federation Fellow/Professor of Geography,  
Director, The National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems,  
The University of Adelaide

**Population Policy from the Perspective of Endogeneity**

Professor Peter McDonald  
Head, Demography and Sociology Program, RSSH, The Australian National University

**The Regional Context of Australian Population Policy**

Professor Gavin W. Jones, National University of Singapore

**Influencing Population Policy to Sustain Regional Australia - The Story of APOP SA**

The Honourable Greg Crafter, Consultant, Adelaide

**Rapid Local Population Growth and Premature Ageing - the new Sustainability Crisis**

Mr Peter Hall, Planning SA

**City of Playford's Population Vision 2050**

Ms Cate Atkinson, General Manager, City of Playford, South Australia

**Waltzing with Transnationalism: International Migration in the Philippines' Destiny**

Dr Maruja M.B. Asis, Scalabrini Migration Centre, Philippines

**Computer Usage, Destination Language Proficiency and the Earnings of Natives and Immigrants**

Barry Chiswick  
Director, UIC Centre for Economic Education, University of Illinois at Chicago

**A New Global Migration Regime**

Professor Graeme Hugo  
Federation Fellow/Professor of Geography,  
Director, The National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems,  
The University of Adelaide

And a presidential address:

**The Strange History and Problematic Future of the Australian Census**

Terry Hull

When looking back into the first century of Australian history following white settlement we often rely on the records of musters, listings and censuses to provide information on individuals and communities. The first census of New South Wales in 1828 was little more than a directory of names of settlers and settlements, but both professional historians and genealogists regard it as invaluable. As the scientific principles of censuses were developed over the course of the nineteenth century the information collected became ever more important for social scientists and economists. Analysts looked to the census for insights into education, occupation, income, family relationships and the classic demographic variables of fertility, mortality and migration. In the twentieth century professional historians in the UK and USA opened wholly new perspectives on society by looking to the census for records of common families who

were not recorded in the newspapers or diaries of the time, and the community structures in which they lived. Unfortunately such innovations have not been possible in Australia. The individual records of colonial and Commonwealth censuses are not to be found in the libraries or archives, and concerns about privacy have forced generations of statisticians to destroy their most important data collections soon after the basic tables have been completed. This paper explores the history behind the anomalous practice of destroying census records in Australia, and poses some questions about the role of the census in the writing of histories of Australian people.

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### **BORRIE PRIZE WINNERS 2004**

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Congratulations to our Borrie Prize winners for 2004

Section A Elizabeth Allen - Impacts of immigration & Fertility on Australia's ageing population

Section B Julie Tinnion -Competition for skilled migrants: theory and Policy issues facing Canada & Australia

Section C Yaghoob Foroutan - Competing factors affecting women's employment in Australia:  
Migration, Religion

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### **BORRIE PRIZE WINNERS 2005**

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Congratulations to our Borrie Prize winners for 2004

Section A Kathy Daish - Designing a relevant and achievable population policy for SA.

Section B Wilma A Perante -Factors associated with current contraceptive use among married women in the Phillipines'

Section C Not awarded

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### **APA SUPPORTING STUDENTS**

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#### **GRANTS**

We currently have two sources of funding for research students. Both grants provide funding for the purchase of data or for fieldwork related expenses.

- The J.C Caldwell Grant provides up to \$1,000 for research on any population-related topic.
- The Alan Gray Grant provides up to \$1,000 to encourage and support student research in the field of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population Studies

**BORRIE PRIZE**

The APA also runs the annual W.D. Borrie Prize. From 2007 this competition will have two categories and awards a prize to the best essay in each category.

Category A: Essays/papers of 2000-5000 words by undergraduate students. The prize is \$400 and a certificate.

Category B: Essays/papers of 3000-6000 words by postgraduate students. The prize is \$600 and a certificate

See the website for further details [www.apa.org.au](http://www.apa.org.au).

**MEMBERSHIP PRIZE**

A new initiative of council is the membership prize. We are offering 1-year free membership to the top student in registered courses on population at Australian universities. To register a course, please send an email to the secretary [secretary@apa.org.au](mailto:secretary@apa.org.au). One prize has been awarded at Macquarie University, and one at the Australian National University.

Email [secretary@apa.org.au](mailto:secretary@apa.org.au) to register your course for 2007.

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**HISTORICAL DEMOGRAPHY IN 2010**

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**International Commission of Historical Sciences Conference to be held at Amsterdam in 2010, during the 21st International Congress of Historical Sciences, probably in July.**

The Commission, founded in 1960, is an independent body, affiliated with the International Commission of Historical Sciences, and sponsored by the Minnesota Population Centre, among others. Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux runs a secretariat at the Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. A preliminary list of sessions was accepted at Sydney in 2005 (I paraphrase): *Native Peoples and Minorities; Politics of Populations; Inheritance Systems; Effects of Migration; Using Micro-data; Generational Differences*. Fauve-Chamoux wished to finalize a list in 2007, March 1st at the latest, so that she could call for papers before summer. A session is a series of small papers, I judge not more than half an hour long, followed by discussion. Fauve-Chamoux would like to receive proposals for papers.

Hopefully the session on migration will cover, as well as the effect, on fertility, mortality and marriages, of change of residence in an open population (without knowledge of external origins and destinations), discussion of Andrei Rogers' matrix methods to simulate the effect on households. That there is some local interest in such work is shown by the publication, Rogers and James Raymer 2005, *Journal of Population Research* **22**(1): 1-19.

Bill Stewart

<http://historicaldemography.net>

## **POPULATION SAHALLI**

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Population stabilization plays a critical role in a wide range of other international efforts including global climate change, global security, women's empowerment, poverty, HIV/AIDS, and child and maternal mortality. To provide quick and easy access to this vast web of related information, the Population Institute has partnered with an innovative software company and created an information sharing system dedicated solely to population issues. We are proud to present and invite you to participate in our exciting new project, Population Sahalli (<http://www.population.sahalli.com>).

Population Sahalli\* is an interactive, living bibliography that allows members to add and view resources and participate in online discussions with practitioners and experts located in the U.S. and around the world. Current users include policy experts from the U.S. government and NGOs, academics, health practitioners and activists. Registration and participation in the program is free! Sign up at <http://population.sahalli.com/Members/Request.aspx> for your free Population Sahalli membership today.

Please contact the Population Institute by email or phone at (202) 544-3300 if you have any comments or questions.

\*Sahalli is the name of the program this site runs on. Derived from Chinook Indian jargon, Sahalli means "high ground:" an appropriate epithet given the bird's eye perspective on population issues that this site will provide.

## **BIXBY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

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Through a generous grant from the Fred H. Bixby Foundation, the Population Council has created a new Bixby Fellowship Program to expand opportunities for recently trained population specialists and biomedical researchers. These fellowships will allow developing country nationals to work with experienced mentors in the Council's network of offices. Fellows will work on projects in one of the three of the Population Council's Programs: Reproductive Health; HIV/AIDS; and Poverty, Gender, and Youth. A description of the program and details about application procedures are available on the Council's website at [http://www.popcouncil.org/slr/Bixby/Bixby\\_home.html](http://www.popcouncil.org/slr/Bixby/Bixby_home.html). For more information, please feel free to contact us at: [bixbyfellowship@popcouncil.org](mailto:bixbyfellowship@popcouncil.org).

## **2006 POPULATION COUNCIL WORKING PAPERS**

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Zimmer, Zachary, Toshiko Kaneda, and Laura Spess. "Urban versus rural mortality among older adults in China," Policy Research Division Working Paper no. 214. New York: Population Council.

Download the full working paper in PDF format at <http://www.popcouncil.org/pdfs/wp/214.pdf>

Urban versus rural place of residence has proven to be a critical health determinant over time and across countries. Several studies have demonstrated an urban advantage in mortality in China. This variation by place of residence could be a function of differences in characteristics of individuals, differences in urban and rural communities, or a combination of individual and community factors. Population aging, coupled with a growing distinction between urban and rural life, is creating some urgency in the effort to determine the magnitude of the urban advantage among older adults and to ascertain the mechanisms responsible for the association. Using data from the China Health and Nutrition Survey, with additional information from the 2000 Chinese Census, the current study examines urban/rural variation in mortality

of adults aged 50 and older. The analysis describes differences in mortality and examines the extent to which variations are accounted for by socioeconomic and health-access and health-availability characteristics that are measured at individual and community levels. Age-specific mortality rates across regions and Cox proportional hazard model ratios are provided using mortality data from 1989 to 2000. Results show unadjusted rural mortality to be 30 percent higher than urban mortality. Adjusting for cadre status and number of amenities within the community reduces the difference to about 18 percent, so that these two covariates account for about 40 percent of the baseline urban advantage.

John Bongaarts. "How long will we live?" Policy Research Division Working Paper no. 215. New York: Population Council.

Download the full working paper in PDF format at <http://www.popcouncil.org/pdfs/wp/215.pdf>

Since 1800 life expectancy at birth has doubled from about 40 years to nearly 80 years in high-income countries. Pessimists expect these improvements to end soon because we are approaching biological limits to longevity, whereas optimists predict continued rapid improvements without limits. To shed light on this controversy, past trends in the juvenile, background, and senescent components of life expectancy are examined in 16 high-income countries. Large increases in conventional life expectancy before 1950 are found to be primarily attributable to reductions in juvenile and background mortality. After 1950 the rate of improvement in life expectancy slowed because declines in juvenile and background mortality slowed, but senescent mortality fell more rapidly than before, thus becoming the main cause of rising life expectancy at birth. The role of smoking in the past half-century is also quantified. In the future, background mortality and juvenile mortality will have little or no impact on longevity because they have reached very low levels. There is, however, no evidence of approaching limits, and life expectancy will likely improve at a rate of approximately 1.5 years per decade owing to continued declines in senescent mortality.

## NEW UN POPULATION DIVISION PUBLICATIONS

### **New outputs from 2005 World Urbanization Prospects**

The United Nations Population Division is pleased to announce the publication of a working paper and two wall charts based on the 2005 Revision of the World Urbanization Prospects.

The working paper summarizes major findings from the estimation and projection of the urban and rural populations for the period 1950-2030 and urban agglomerations with more than 1 million inhabitants for 1975-2015 for all countries in the world. The working paper discusses urban and rural population growth by major world areas and development groups, mega-cities, medium-sized cities and government views and policies on urban population change. Detailed tables displaying information on the number of urban and rural residents, the proportion urban and their rate of change by development group, major area and country are given for 1950-2030. There are also tables showing the population of cities with 750 thousand inhabitants or more in 2005, their rates of change for the period 1950-2015 and the population of capital cities in 2005.

The wall chart on urban agglomerations shows the evolution of the population from 1975 to 2015 (including an estimate for 2005) for all urban agglomerations of the world with more than 1 million inhabitants. The wall chart also contains the key findings of the World Urbanization Prospects 2005 Revision in narrative form.

The wall chart on urban and rural areas shows estimates and projections of the urban and rural populations for all countries in 2005 and 2030, as well as estimates of current (2000-2005) rates of change and information on the country's largest urban agglomeration.

The working paper and the wall charts can be downloaded from the Population Division's web site <http://www.unpopulation.org>. The working paper is also available in hard copy from the Population Division and the hard copy version of the wall charts will be available at the end of November 2006.

### **International Migration Flows dataset**

The United Nations Population Division is pleased to announce the release of the dataset "International Migration Flows To and From Selected Countries: The 2005 Revision" and its accompanying documentation.

In addition to the documentation, the CD-ROM contains time series data on the flows of international migrants as recorded by 15 countries in developed regions, namely, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. All files are presented in Excel format.

Each file contains several worksheets. The first worksheet contains data on immigration, the second worksheet contains data on emigration when available, and the third worksheet shows data on net migration, that is, the difference between immigration and emigration when both series are available. Additional worksheets are presented for countries with more than one data series. Each worksheet contains information on the period covered by these statistics, the type of data presented and the sources used to obtain the data.

The documentation on "International Migration Flows To and From Selected Countries: The 2005 Revision" and the Data Order Form can be accessed through the website of the Population Division ([unpopulation.org](http://unpopulation.org)) under the header Order Data and Software.

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## **IMMIGRATION NEWS**

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The Department of Immigration and Multiculturalism website lists four recent publications of interest to APA members. The publications can be accessed in PDF format on the DIMA Research Publications website (<http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/research/index.htm>).

November 2006	Immigration Update
November 2006	The Effectiveness of Cross-Cultural Training in the Australian Context
August 2006	Temporary Skilled Migrants' Employment and Residence Outcomes <i>Findings from the follow-up survey of 457 visa holders</i>

### **Settler numbers on the rise: Media release 27 December 2006**

Australia has retained its reputation as a destination of choice for migrants, with settler arrival numbers continuing to rise.

More than 131 000 people made Australia their new home during 2005-2006, up about 8000 on the previous year, Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs Amanda Vanstone said today.

‘That’s 8000 extra people who chose to make Australia their home, people who not only brought with them aspirations for a wonderful new life but also brought the experience and skills to help build Australia’s future,’ Senator Vanstone said.

‘The great thing about our migration programme is that new arrivals have settled all over the country, in cities and in regional areas, meaning the wealth of their knowledge and experience is being spread throughout the community.’

A snapshot of the new arrivals highlights the non-discriminatory approach that the Australian Government has taken to immigration, with people from more than 200 countries represented in the settler arrivals statistics.

The largest number of settlers came from the United Kingdom with 23 290, up by about 5000 on the previous year.

Other European countries contributed about 7000 migrants, while the number of new arrivals from Sudan fell almost 2000 from the previous year to 3783.

Iraqi arrival numbers were up almost 500 to 2425, while more than 52 000 people from 34 Asian countries made Australia their new home during 2005-2006.

Senator Vanstone said the majority of new arrivals entered Australia through the family and skill streams of the migration programme.

‘Our migration target for 2006-2007 is about 140,000, including 97,500 in the skill stream and that number does not include the 13,000 refugee and humanitarian entrants who will begin new lives in Australia through our humanitarian programme.’

The full list of statistics can be found in *Settler Arrivals 2005-2006*, a Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs publication that has been published on its website at [www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/index.htm).

### **Skilled Migration and Training Are Complementary Says Research and Employers: Media release 18 September 2006**

A senior immigration official today said skilled migration and domestic training should be viewed as complementary rather than as a choice between one or the other.

Mr Abul Rizvi, head of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs’ 457 visa taskforce, said independent research showed a high percentage of skilled migrants passed skills on to their Australian colleagues, and employers proved this was the case.

‘Indeed, employers have stressed to us that in order to boost their training efforts, they need to attract more skilled migrants who can assist with such training,’ Mr Rizvi told the Skilling Australia Summit in Sydney.

He also said research continually dismissed the notion temporary skilled migration reduced job opportunities for Australians.

'I think we are all aware of the research consensus that permanent skilled migrants create as many jobs as they take,' he said.

Mr Rizvi revealed three DIMA surveys conducted over the past 15 years had shown skilled migrants were doing better in the labour market with employment rates continually increasing among new migrants six months after arriving.

Figures also show unemployment rates for migrants and Australian-born residents are falling and converging.

'This is good not just in economic terms but it is also good in terms of social cohesion,' he added.

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## ABS NEWS

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### **First Australian baby boomers reach 60: Media Release 13 December 2006**

The first of Australia's baby boomers born in 1946 turned 60 years of age this year.

Around 218,000 people born in 1945-46 turned 60 last financial year, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The remaining baby boomers will reach this milestone over the next two decades, with the largest age group, who were born in 1963, turning 60 in the year 2023.

Australia's population continues to age, with the number of people aged 60 years and over up 3% on last year (reaching 3.7 million people). The ageing of the population is mainly due to sustained low levels of fertility and increasing life expectancy.

The working age population (those aged 15-64 years) increased largely due to more teenagers turning 15 years than those turning 65 years in the 12 months to 30 June 2006. However this is not projected to continue - the number of 15-year-olds are set to decline due to falls in the number of births throughout the 1990s, and the number of 65-year-olds will swell as the first of the baby boomers reach 65 in 2011.

Over the past 20 years (between 1986 and 2006), the proportion of the population aged under 15 years has dropped from 23% to 19% of the total population. The working age group (15-64 years) has remained stable, increasing from 66% to 67%. Those aged 65 years and over have increased from 11% to 13%.

The number of people aged 85 years or over has doubled compared with 20 years ago from 129,300 to 338,000 people at 30 June 2006.

The median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) has increased 5.8 years over the last two decades to 36.9 years at 30 June 2006. Both South Australia and Tasmania have the oldest populations each with a median age of 39 years. The Northern Territory remains the youngest, with a median age of 31 years.

### **Australians living longer than ever: Media Release 30 November 2006**

Life expectancy in Australia is the highest on record, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Under current death rates, a boy born today could expect to live 78.5 years while a girl could expect to live 83.3 years. Having survived to age 65, men could expect to live another 18.1 years and women another 21.4 years.

Since 1985, life expectancy has increased by six years for men and four and a half years for women, reflecting a decrease in death rates over time. The increase in life expectancy is one of the factors contributing to the ageing of Australia's population.

Australia's life expectancy is among the highest in the world and compares well with other developed countries. Life expectancy for Australian males is exceeded only by Iceland and Hong Kong, both with 79 years, while the female life expectancy is exceeded only by Japan and Hong Kong, both with 85 years.

The Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest life expectancy for both males (79.9 years) and females (84.0 years), while the Northern Territory experienced the lowest life expectancy for both males (72.5 years) and females (78.2 years).

In 2005 the standardised death rate (which eliminates the effect of different age structures of different populations) was the lowest on record at 6.0 deaths per 1,000 people. In 1985 the standardised death rate was 9.8 deaths per 1,000 people.

There were 130,700 deaths registered (67,200 men and 63,500 women) in Australia in 2005, 1,800 fewer than in 2004.

Further details are in **Deaths, Australia 2005** (cat. no. 3302.0). Regional State/territory deaths information is also available.

### **ABS: Australian fertility rate highest in 10 years: Media Release 17 October 2006**

The national fertility rate is at its highest level since 1995, according to the latest detailed births statistics released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today.

Australia's total fertility rate increased in 2005 to 1.81 babies per woman, up from 1.77 in 2004.

All states and territories recorded increases in total fertility rates between 2004 and 2005, with Tasmania reaching replacement level fertility (2.1 babies per woman) in 2005.

The number of babies registered was at its highest since 1993. The number of babies registered in 2005 (259,800) was 5,500 more than the number registered in 2004.

Women aged 30-34 years continued to have the highest fertility rate of all women (117.5 babies per 1,000 women in 2005), the highest for this age group since 1964. This reflects the continuing trend of delaying motherhood.

Fertility rates of young women aged 20-24 years and teenagers continued to decline, although in some states and territories, teenage fertility has increased.

The median age of mothers giving birth in 2005 was 30.7 years, 3.4 years older than mothers in 1985 (27.3 years). The median age of fathers was 32.9 years, 2.8 years older than fathers in 1985 (30.1 years).

While the median age of mothers has been increasing in each state and territory in recent years, in 2005 the median age of mothers declined in South Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, compared to 2004.

There were 12,100 births registered in Australia during 2005 where at least one parent was identified as Indigenous. The total fertility rate of Indigenous women was 2.06 in 2005, higher than that of all women (1.81).

More details available in **Births, Australia 2005** (cat. no. 3301.0). Regional State/territory information is also available.

### **Australia's population passes 20.5 million: Media Release 21 September 2006**

Australia's population passed 20.5 million in the March quarter 2006, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

In the year ending March 2006, Australia's population increased by 263,200 people, representing an annual growth rate of 1.3%.

Queensland recorded the fastest growth at 2.0% for the year ending March 2006, gaining 80,200 people. The slowest growth (0.7%) was in Tasmania, adding 3,600 people.

Victoria's population grew by 1.3%, its largest annual percentage increase for 17 years. Western Australia's population grew by 1.9%, its largest percentage increase for 16 years, and South Australia's population growth at 0.8% was the largest increase for 14 years.

Population growth in the states and territories comprises three components: natural increase, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

Natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was the major component of population growth in Queensland (28,900 people), the Australian Capital Territory (2,800 people), the Northern Territory (2,800 people) and Tasmania (2,600 people).

Net overseas migration was the major component of population growth for New South Wales (41,600 people), Victoria (37,100 people), Western Australia (21,000 people) and South Australia (8,800 people).

Queensland had the highest net interstate migration, with an increase of 26,800 people in the year ended March 2006.

Further details are in **Australian Demographic Statistics, March quarter 2006** (cat. no. 3101.0).

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## NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

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**Further information on these and other AIHW publications is available at the Institute's website: <http://www.aihw.gov.au>. Alternatively, you can contact AIHW publications on tel. 02 6244 1032. Many publications are available on the site in Adobe Acrobat format, with a link that allows users to download the free software to read the publications in this format.**

### **First time mums getting older**

Over 40% of births in 2004 were to first-time mums, who, at an average age of 28 years were about two years older than their 1991 counterparts, according to the fourteenth annual report on pregnancy and childbirth in Australia released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) National Perinatal Statistics Unit

The report, *Australia's mothers and babies 2004*, shows that of the 257,205 babies born to 252,871 mothers in 2004, 108,575 were born to first time mums. 'While first-time mothers are getting older, still more than half (57.9%) were younger than 30,' said Dr Elizabeth Sullivan of the National Perinatal Statistics Unit, located at the University of New South Wales.

Mothers aged 35 years or older made up 12.5% of new mothers in 2004 compared with 6.9% in 1995 when the average age of first-time mothers was 26.5 years. Close to 20% (49,411) of all women who gave birth in 2004 were aged 35 years or older.

'This continues the upward trend in maternal age seen in recent years,' Dr Sullivan said.

Around 9.2% of babies born to first-time mothers were preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation), compared with 7.4% of babies born to women who had previously given birth.

Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams) was more common in live born babies of first-time mothers.

The report also showed that, compared with women who had previously given birth, first-time mothers had higher rates of interventions, such as induced labour and caesarean section.

The overall increase in caesarean sections continued with close to 30% of all mothers having caesarean sections in 2004, compared with less than 20% in 1995.

'Caesarean sections were more common among older mothers and those who gave birth in private hospitals, and also for those who had previously had a caesarean section,' Dr Sullivan said.

### **Fewer Australian children adopted, but many more overseas adoptions**

The number of intercountry adoptions has tripled over the last 25 years, and now accounts for three-quarters of all adoptions, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The latest edition of *Adoptions Australia 2005-06*, the sixteenth report in the series, shows that despite the overall decline in adoptions over the last three decades (a 17-fold decrease since the 1970s), numbers of adoptions over the last nine years have remained relatively stable.

'The decline over the longer term can be attributed to the fall in the number of adoptions of Australian children and reflects the number of Australian children who are available for adoption, while the stability over the last nine years can be directly attributed to the rapid increase in overseas adoptions,' said Ms Sushma Mathur of the AIHW's Children Youth and Families Unit.

According to the report, a range of medical, social and legislative factors have contributed to these trends, including the availability of more effective birth control, the emergence of family planning centres and sex education classes, and changes in individual preferences and social trends with regards to raising children.

In 2005-06 there were 576 adoptions in Australia, and 421 of those (73%) were intercountry adoptions. Most children adopted from overseas were born in China (28%), South Korea (24%) and Ethiopia (17%).

There were 155 adoptions of Australian children in 2005-06. Of these, 60 were local (no previous relationship with the adoptive parents) and 95 were known child adoptions (adoptions by step-parents, relatives or carers). The great majority of the known adoptions (73%) were by step-parents.

In both local and intercountry adoptions, nearly all children (91%) were younger than five years old, and more than half of these were infants aged less than one year.

Children in local adoptions tended to be younger than those adopted from overseas, while for known child adoptions, most (71%) were aged 10 years and over.

The vast majority of adoptive mothers and fathers in both local and intercountry adoptions were 35 years and older with 52% of adoptive mothers and 60% of adoptive fathers being 40 or over. Parents adopting from overseas tended to be older than those adopting Australian children.

Around half of the children in local and intercountry adoptions were adopted into families with no other children.

### **Assisted reproduction: deliveries of one baby on the rise**

The proportion of deliveries as a result of Assisted Reproduction Technology (ART) in which one baby was born has risen, reflecting a decrease in the number of embryos transferred per ART treatment cycle, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The report, *Assisted reproduction technology in Australia and New Zealand 2004*, shows that during 2004, 41,904 ART treatment cycles were undertaken in Australia and New Zealand, 8,794 cycles resulted in a pregnancy and 6,792 resulted in a live delivery.

'Of all deliveries resulting from ART treatment in 2004, 82.8% were single gestation deliveries compared with 80.0% in 2002,' notes Professor Michael Chapman, spokesman for the AIHW's National Perinatal Statistics Unit (located at the University of New South Wales), 'and this increase reflects a change in the number of embryos transferred per cycle.'

'In 2004, 40.5% of cycles with embryo transfer involved the transfer of one embryo and 56.3% involved the transfer of two embryos. In 2002, these proportions were 28.4% and 65.6% respectively' comments Professor Chapman.

For ART treatment cycles where women used their own embryos, 73.4% of women who had a cycle in which a single embryo was transferred were aged less than 38 years.

In 2004, the delivery of at least one live baby was achieved in 22.8% of transfer cycles where women used their own fresh embryos, while the figure for women who used their own thawed embryos was 15.6%.

'When we look at women who used their own fresh eggs, women aged 25-29 years achieved more successful outcomes, with 34.7% of transfer cycles achieving a live delivery, while women aged 40 years and over had a success rate of 7.8%,' says Professor Chapman.

Of the 8,038 babies born to women who had ART treatment in 2004, 71.4% were singletons. About one-quarter of babies were born preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation) and 10.9% of singletons were born preterm.

One fifth of live births to women who had ART treatment in 2004 were classified as being low birthweight (less than 2,500g). Of live born singletons, 7.5% were classified as low birthweight.

### **Australia's maternal death rate remains stable**

In Australia, 95 maternal deaths were reported in the three year period 2000 to 2002. The report, *Maternal deaths in Australia 2000-2002*, released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) details the numbers and causes of these deaths.

'Among the 95 deaths are eight late maternal deaths, which occurred up to a year after the end of the pregnancy, and three deaths believed to be unrelated to the pregnancy' Dr Elizabeth Sullivan, Director of the AIHW's National Perinatal Statistics Unit at the University of New South Wales, explained.

The report focuses on the 84 deaths related directly and indirectly to pregnancy and birth. Over the three year period the ratio of maternal deaths per 100,000 women who gave birth (called the Maternal Mortality Ratio or MMR) was 11.1 compared to 8.4 per 100,000 women who gave birth in the previous period 1997-1999.

'While there has been an increase in the number of deaths indirectly related to pregnancy or its management from 30 in 1997-1999 to 52 in 2000-2002, the rise is primarily a result of improved reporting of deaths, and changes in the classification of some deaths from incidental to indirect, with the number of incidental deaths falling from 28 to 3 over the same period,' Dr Sullivan said.

The most common causes of maternal deaths overall were from infection, cardiac disease, amniotic fluid embolism, psychiatric events and haemorrhage. While there was a decline in the number of deaths from pulmonary thromboembolism, drug overdoses and motor vehicle accidents.

The maternal mortality ratio for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women was 45.9 deaths per 100,000 women who gave birth - a rate 5.3 times that of non-Indigenous Australian women (who had a MMR of 8.7 deaths per 100,000 women who gave birth).

Associate Professor James King, Chair of the AIHW National Advisory Committee on Maternal Mortality said, 'the persisting higher level of mortality experienced by Indigenous mothers is of serious concern, as is the higher overall rates of all cause mortality experienced by Indigenous women of reproductive age.'

Professor King noted that many maternal deaths had not been referred to coroners, with only 56% of maternal deaths being the subject of coronial inquests. 'It is essential that we learn as much as we can from each one of these deaths, so that giving birth in Australia becomes even safer than it is at present,' he said.

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to the APA Secretary or DEMOZ Editor**

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