

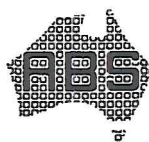
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Age-specific birth rates

Fertility within the childbearing group varies considerably, as may be seen from the five-year age-specific rates in the following table. These rates were obtained by dividing births according to age of mother by the estimated number of women in the corresponding five-year age group.

Total fertility is obtained by summing single age specific rates or by summing five-year age-specific rates and multiplying by 5. This total, divided by 1000, represents the hypothetical number of children a woman would bear during her lifetime if she experienced the rates of the year shown. Total fertility rose to a peak in 1961, of 3.4 children per woman, declined to 2.8 in 1967 and to 2.40 in 1974.

AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES(a): AUSTRALIA

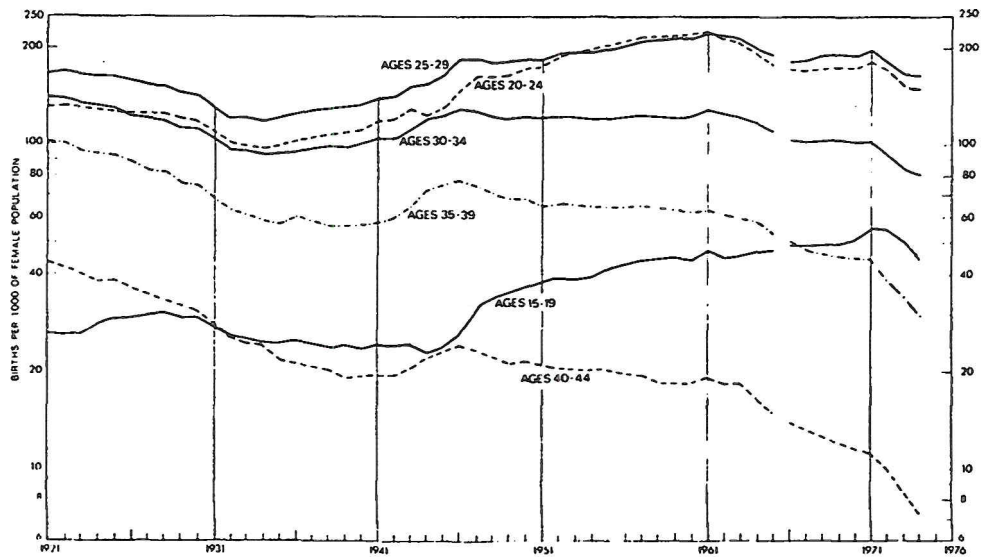
Period	Age group (years)							Total fertility
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
1946-50(b)	33.05	164.22	183.29	126.56	72.33	22.71	1.76	3.020
1951-55(b)	39.54	192.81	192.97	123.51	65.05	20.50	1.53	3.180
1956-60(b)	44.20	216.42	211.47	126.06	63.91	18.96	1.45	3.412
1961-65(b)	46.50	203.95	207.15	122.38	59.18	17.54	1.19	3.289
1966-70(b)	49.32	172.65	187.64	103.00	46.85	12.86	0.99	2.867
1970	51.13	171.99	188.63	101.24	44.29	11.69	0.78	2.849
1971	55.50	181.87	193.50	101.78	44.15	11.31	0.78	2.944
1972	54.44	168.66	181.65	94.03	38.87	10.01	0.74	2.742
1973	49.04	155.35	166.91	84.16	33.62	8.42	0.60	2.491
1974	45.24	150.08	164.49	81.46	30.01	7.37	0.46	2.396

(a) Number of births per 1,000 women in each age group. Excludes particulars of full-blood Aborigines before 1966.
 (b) Average annual rates.

AGE SPECIFIC BIRTH RATES: AUSTRALIA

1921 TO 1974

(NUMBER OF BIRTHS PER 1000 OF FEMALE POPULATION IN EACH AGE GROUP)



NOTE (1) The vertical scale is logarithmic, and the curves rise and fall according to the rate of increase and decrease, actual numbers are indicated by the scale.
 (2) Prior to 1966 birth registrations identified as those of full blood Aborigines were excluded.