

# Australian Census Information

## December 2002

This document gives background information about Census data available in the University of Sydney Library. The notes can be used to help you work out whether the data you need is available on CDROM, microfiche or paper. If available on CDROM, this can help you in your choice of disk. Access to CDROM data is via the designated workstations near the Information Desk.

### A. The present situation:

#### Availability of Census data by format

Year	Hardcopy*	Microfiche	CDROM	WWW
1911-1961	yes* RL319.4/11	no*		
1966	yes* RL319.4/11	yes		
1971	yes* RL319.4/11	yes		
1976	yes* RL319.4/11	yes		
1981	yes* RL319.4/11	yes		
1986	some*	yes	Supermap86, SEIFA86**	
1991	very little*	maps only	CDA91, CLIB91, SEIFA91**	no
1996	summary tables only	no	CDA96, CLIB96, SEIFA96**	Summary tables only. Basic profiles also on Ausstats.
2001	summary tables only	no	CDA2001 CLIB2001 SEIFA2001**	Summary tables only. Basic profiles also on Ausstats.

- \*Note: microfiche versions of the printed volumes are part of the ABS **Historical Microfiche Series** at MIC319.4/68 (years 1901-1993). These are exact reproductions of the summary data published in paper format. The Census data published exclusively on microfiche gives greater detail, and for much smaller geographical units than the paper versions.
- \*\* SEIFA is Socioeconomic Indicators for Areas. More details about this product can be found via Ausstats at <http://www.abs.gov.au/>, and with the census manuals near the Information Desk.

### Microfiche sets of census data

Year	Guide/Index	Notes
<b>1966</b> MIC919.40021/8	At front of each batch	Very few fiche. Summary tables are at RL319.4/11.
<b>1971</b> MIC919.40021/8	In lid of box	Users may need to supplement these figures with the hardcopy set at RL319.4/11.
<b>1976</b> MIC919.40021/8A	In lid of box	Users may need to supplement these figures with the hardcopy set at RL319.4/11.
<b>1981</b> MIC919.40021/1	Separate booklet at MIC919.40021/1	Tables indicate number of pages of data and geographical area (eg postcodes, LGAs) and give batch numbers eg 81.301. Summary tables are at RL319.4/11.
<b>1986</b> MIC919.40021/2	Separate booklet at MIC919.40021/6	Tables indicate number of pages of data and geographical area (eg postcodes, LGAs) and give batch numbers eg 86.301. The set also includes Collection District maps (see below). Summary tables are at Ref319.4/11.
<b>1991</b> MIC919.40021/10	Collection District maps only.	Maps are arranged by federal electoral district. Users may need to look up the maps to find the CD number for their area(s)
<b>1996</b>	None	Maps of the area around the University (at CD level) are kept near the Information Desk at Fisher Library. NSW maps are available via CDATE96.
<b>2001</b>	None	Non-interactive Maps are provided as part of CLIB2001 to allow identification of individual CDs. CDATE2001 has full mapping software.

### CDROM Census Disks

Census	Disk	Tables	Table Type	Maps	Download
1986	Supermap86	Yes	Profiles* only	Yes	Yes
1991	CDATA91	Yes	Profiles* only	Yes	Yes
	CLIB91 Profiles CLIB91 Matrices	Yes Yes	Profiles* Matrices**	No No	No No
1996	CDATA96	Yes	Profiles* only	Yes	Yes
	CLIB91	Yes	Profiles*	No	No
2001	CDATA2001	Yes	Profiles* only	Yes	Yes
	CLIB2001	Yes	Profiles*	Yes ***	TBA

**\*Profiles = Community Profiles**, used to find figures for *small areas*, such as Local Government Areas, postcodes and collection districts (CDs). Data is also available for larger regions such as states and Australia-wide. Used to locate eg number of people earning over \$50,000 in Ashfield LGA, or the number of New Zealand born in postcode 2048.

**\*\*Matrices = Cross-Classified Data** (*Large area data only, state and Australia-wide*). Used to find such multi-factored information as the number of males in Tasmania who were born in Scotland and arrived in 1988-1989 and were members of a group household.

**\*\*\***Includes basic maps of regions with various boundaries including CDs, but no ability to map census data.

#### Differences between the Sources of 2001 Census Information

	CLIB	CDATA	Website
<b>Access</b>	Networked CD-ROM with internet interface.	Networked single-user CD-ROM.	Census pages on ABS website
<b>Availability</b>	Available to for use within the Library only	Commercial product in 2 options: - CDATA 2001 Full GIS A detailed Basemap also available	All data available through AusStats is free within the Library and to Uni of Sydney staff/students remotely.

	<b>CLIB</b>	<b>CDATA</b>	<b>Website</b>
<b>Content</b>	Full community profile series including Basic and Expanded Community Profiles, Indigenous Profile, Time Series Profile, Usual Residents Profile, Working Population Profile. All available levels	Basic Community Profile and Time Series Profile to Collection District level.	Full community profile series including Basic and Expanded Community Profiles, Indigenous Profile, Time Series Profile, Usual Residents Profile, Working Population Profile. All available levels
<b>Functionality</b>	Data presented as html tables. Read and print only. Does not allow for manipulation of data	Product offers powerful mapping software enabling complex tasks and analysis to be undertaken. Full GIS functionality (MapInfo Professional v.7). Import - full version only Export. See also <a href="#">CDATA 2001</a> web pages	Some data available as html tables but most data in spreadsheet format.
<b>Outputs</b>	Tables - read and print only	Tables, Graphs, Reports, Maps	Spreadsheets and text
<b>Off-site use</b>	Not available	Not available	Freely available website
<b>Typical user</b>	Community users	Researchers, planners	Researchers, planners, community use.

## **B. Questions to help you decide which format to use:**

### **1. What type of figures do you need?**

If you need numbers/percentages of the population for:

age, sex, income, religion, journey to work, employed/unemployed, educational level, industry or profession, home ownership/rental etc then the census is relevant.

If you need eg

the value of the wheat crop grown in the Orange district, or number of childcare centres in Balmain, or average number of pet cats per household in Toukley, or

number of people with the name John Howard in Murwillumbah, then the census will not help them.

[If you are unsure about whether the data you need is in the Census, you can check a census question form in the Census Dictionary, or at the back of most Census publications at Ref319.4/11.]

## 2. Have you used the census before?

If **No**, the time available for Information Desk staff to help is very limited, and you may need either to make an appointment with Ray Penn or Fiona McCay, or to use the guides and manuals and teach themselves.

If **Yes**, but don't know which disk/format to use, refer to the questions below.

## 3. What time period of figures do you need?

If you need the **2001** census: See section B above.

If you need the **1996** census:

Do you wish to get just **tables** of data, or do you also need to create **maps**?

**Tables** only - Do you need to **download** files to use in a spreadsheet, or just **print**?

**Download** - You will need to use CDATA96 as it has download capabilities.

**Print** - You will need to use CLIB96: it allows printing but not downloading

**Maps** - You will need to use CDATA96 as it has mapping capabilities.

**If you just want to print tables of data, use CLIB96.**

**If you need to create maps, or download to a floppy disk, use CDATA96.**

*Note that as of June 1998 we have received Release 2 of CLIB96 which is the full Basic Community Profiles Disk. Release 3 is expected in March 1999 and should contain the Extended Community Profiles (similar to matrices in CLIB91).*

If you need the **1991** census:

Do you wish to get just **tables** of data, or do you also need to create **maps**?

**Tables** only - Do you need to **download** files to use in a spreadsheet, or just **print**?

**Download** - You will need to use CDATA91 as it has download capabilities.

**Print** - You will need to use CLIB91: it allows printing but not downloading

**Maps** - You will need to use CDATA91 as it has mapping capabilities.

Do you wish to get small area data, such as postcodes, LGAs, Collection Districts etc?

**Small Area Data** - You will need to use CLIB91 Profiles

**If you just want to print tables of data, use CLIB91.**

**If you need small area data use CLIB91 Profiles.**

**If you need to create maps, or download to a floppy disk, use CDATA91.**

If you need the **1986** census:

Do you wish to get just **tables** of data, or do you need to create **maps**?

**Tables** only - Do you want to download to use in a spreadsheet, or just print?

**Download** - You will need to use Supermap86 as it has download capabilities.

**Print** - You may use either the Supermap86 CDROM (difficult) or the microfiche at MIC919.40021/2 (much easier).

**Maps** - You will need to use Supermap86 as it has mapping capabilities.

**If you just want to print tables of data, use the microfiche (easy) or Supermap86 (difficult).**

**If you need to create maps, or download to a floppy disk, use Supermap86.**

If you need the **1966 - 1981** census:

Do you need **detailed tables**?

**Yes** - use the microfiche at MIC919.40021/1-8

**No** - use the hardcopy at RL319.4/11.

If you need the **1961 census or earlier**:

Use the hardcopy at RL319.4/11

#### **4. What geographical area do you need?**

This is always an essential question when using the census. You will have to be clear about the geographical region you need data for, as this is an essential part of searching for the data. Most people need Local Government Areas (LGAs, or LLGAs), or postcodes, or Collection Districts (CDS). If you are not sure, refer them to the Census Dictionary at Ref319.4/11.

### **C. Getting started.**

1. Obtain the disks from the Information Desk. You will need to hand in a student ID card, which you can get back when you return the disks to the Information Desk.
2. Refer to the relevant handouts for CLIB, or CDATA or SEIFA, also contained in this folder.

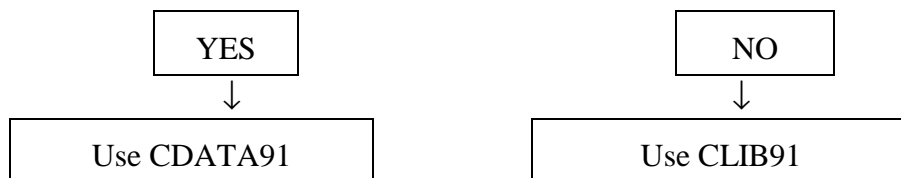
### **D. Other Census products**

**SEIFA: SocioEconomic Indicators for Areas**, 1986, 1991, 1996 (2001 not yet available)

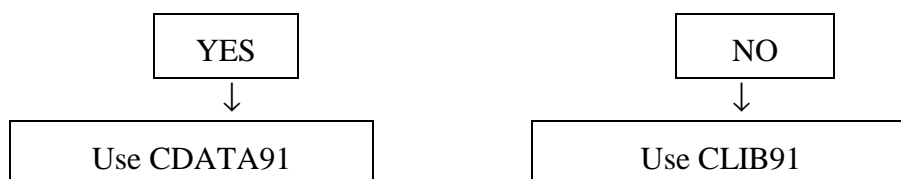
This product uses the census data to allocate indices of relative advantage and disadvantage for geographic regions from CD to state level. Researchers use it to find whether statistics they have on e.g. public health correlate with relative advantage/disadvantage for a particular area. This is a very specialised product and not used very much. If you need help, ask for Ray Penn at the Information Desk.

**Appendix 1: Deciding which 1991 CDROM disk to use:**

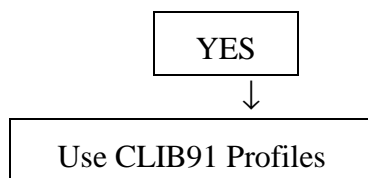
**Do you need to create maps?**



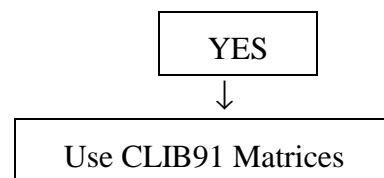
**Do you need to download data?**



**Do you need small area data?**

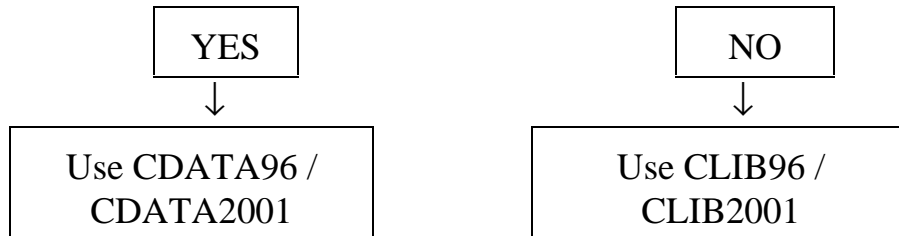


**Do you need cross-classified data, or highly specific data at national or state level?**

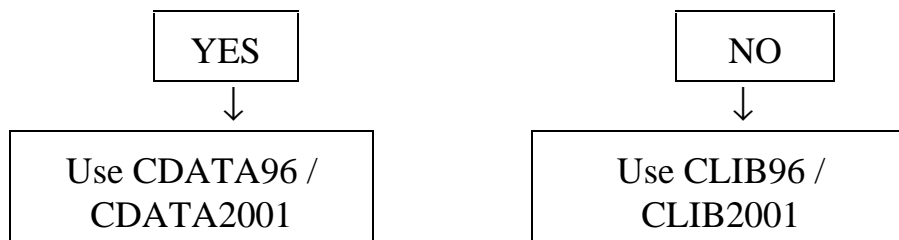


**Appendix 2: Deciding which 1996 and 2001 CDROM disk to use:**

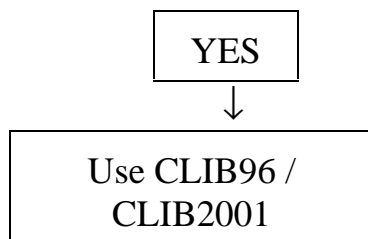
**Do you need to create maps?**



**Do you need to download data?**



**Do you need small area data?**



**Do you need cross-classified data, or highly specific data at national or state level?**

