

Population Drift To Urban Areas

Census figures released yesterday illustrate the drift of Australia in population to urban areas since 1933. Despite an increase in population, the statistics released by the acting Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. S. R. Carver) show a decrease in rural population throughout Australia.

Rural population in 1947 was 8769 less than in 1933, when the total was 2,381,017.

Metropolitan and provincial urban population, however, increased from 4,232,118 to 5,206,507.

Total population of Australia at June 30, 1947, was 7,570,368, excluding full blooded aborigines, and showing an increase since, 1933 of 949,519.

Persons under 21 increased, by 63,786 from 2,555,107 to 2,598,893.

Persons over 21 increased by 875,783 from 4,055,889 to 4,931,672. These figures however did not include about 48,000 who did not state their age when the census was conducted in 1947.

In the 1933 census, about 90,000 more persons had not married than in 1947. The census figures also showed a considerable increase in the number of families with three or less children, but a substantial drop in families of more children than three.

At June 30, 1947, 99,629 more persons had only one dependent child than in 1933. Persons with two children dependents rose by 60,423, and persons with three increased by 4,682. All larger families were less in number than in 1933.