

APPENDIX 4

Australian adoption statistics 1950–2010

Sources:

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Adoptions Australia 2004–2005, Child Welfare Series No. 37, 2005, Table 1, p. 5

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Adoptions Australia 2009–2010, Child Welfare Series No. 50, December 2010, Table A.1, p. 43.

NAA, A432 1966/2404 Part 2, *Uniform Adoption Legislation*, draft letter to the Attorney-General, 11 July 1963, folio p. 49, digital p. 326.

NAA, A432 1961/2241 Part 2, *Uniform Adoption Legislation—Material prepared by the States*, Number of Adoptions in Each State During Period 1951–60, folio p. 134, digital p. 91.

NAA, A432 1961/2241 Part 2, *Uniform Adoption Legislation—Material prepared by the States*, State of Victoria: Summary of Adoption Orders made from 1939–1960, digital p. 59.

NSW Legislative Council, Standing Committee on Social Affairs, *Releasing the Past—Adoption Practices 1950–1998—Final report*, Parliamentary Paper Number 600, December 2000, pp 219–220.

Notes:

Some sources report data by calendar year, others report data by financial year, while others do not specify. This table is labelled by calendar year as that is the format used by the AIHW, from which the majority of figures are drawn.

Australian Adoption Statistics 1950–2010

Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
1939-40	982	400	n/a	133	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1940-41	1,164	509	n/a	166	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1941-42	1,403	773	n/a	215	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1942-43	1,440	786	n/a	140	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1943-44	1,496	844	n/a	188	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1944-45	1,594	1,171	n/a	231	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1945-46	1,324	1,029	n/a	243	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1946-47	1,597	1,121	n/a	244	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1947-48	1,378	1,095	n/a	244	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1948-49	1,716	1,124	n/a	253	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1949-50	1,549	992	n/a	274	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1950-51	1,533	1,145	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1951	1,343	1,174	851	275	n/a	259	n/a	n/a	3,902
1952	1,522	1,208	860	258	n/a	254	n/a	n/a	4,102
1953	1,758	1,297	819	273	359	241	n/a	n/a	4,747
1954	1,853	1,158	756	237	383	239	n/a	n/a	4,626
1955	1,591	958	662	288	374	249	n/a	n/a	4,122
1956	1,420	1,243	783	262	402	264	n/a	n/a	4,374
1957	1,516	1,224	765	277	470	251	n/a	n/a	4,503
1958	1,939	1,298	771	290	472	258	21	24	5,073
1959	2,121	1,232	852	316	575	285	26	17	5,424
1960	1,843	1,306	865	332	571	256	27	20	5,220
1961	2,217	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	14	n/a
1962	2,303	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	41	20	n/a
1963	2,175	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1964	2,517	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1965	2,294	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1966	2,914	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1967	1,940	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1968	1,986	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1969-70	2,346	2,031	1,500	703	834	243	102	61	7,820
1970-71	3,275	2,057	1,562	301	879	289	122	68	8,553
1971-72	4,539	1,768	1,774	457	776	303	127	54	9,798
1972-73	3,315	1,765	1,678	717	649	268	121	29	8,542
1973-74	1,936	1,557	1,458	783	558	268	120	25	6,705
1974-75	1,799	1,168	1,394	528	551	243	123	33	5,839
1975-76	1,449	1,032	1,112	531	549	211	87	19	4,990

Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
1976-77	1,770	908	1,014	497	658	185	82	74	5,188
1977-78	1,068	951	660	417	506	164	55	46	3,867
1978-79	1,020	956	563	380	415	173	56	40	3,603
1979-80	853	914	450	387	475	148	85	25	3,337
1980-81	794	711	454	305	505	140	74	35	3,018
1981-82	855	753	467	261	396	119	81	39	2,971
1982-83	926	692	555	270	424	117	59	29	3,072
1983-84	698	686	517	250	438	87	51	43	2,770
1984-85	623	631	331	293	222	97	74	23	2,294
1985-86	n/a	n/a	359	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1986-87	n/a	n/a	334	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1987-88	280	114	309	191	416	120	36	28	1,494
1988-89	335	288	353	147	221	85	47	25	1,501
1989-90	360	212	278	128	174	71	50	21	1,294
1990-91	329	258	210	136	103	61	25	20	1,142
1991-92	310	185	232	120	112	58	23	12	1,052
1992-93	209	101	222	87	111	23	20	10	783
1993-94	188	112	206	85	106	37	21	9	764
1994-95	260	145	179	127	108	12	18	6	855
1995-96	204	131	170	75	48	17	19	4	668
1996-97	263	123	129	56	79	30	26	3	709
1997-98	200	114	111	69	48	19	15	1	577
1998-99	185	102	94	64	53	25	16	6	545
1999-00	154	122	105	79	59	19	24	4	566
2000-01	166	98	62	74	53	24	27	10	514
2001-02	207	110	49	79	62	20	23	11	561
2002-03	122	82	67	76	72	21	25	7	472
2003-04	115	120	65	59	79	26	33	5	502
2004-05	154	161	84	49	77	23	20	17	585
2005-06	149	131	82	62	72	35	30	15	576
2006-07	164	127	91	65	62	26	22	11	568
2007-08	125	98	86	41	36	31	14	9	440
2008-09	155	71	92	43	35	23	13	9	441
2009-10	157	81	68	50	26	9	16	5	412
Total	75082	44,753	27,510	14181	14,653	6,426	2136	986	145,481