

Census of Population and Housing, 1986:

Collection District Master File

User's Guide for the Machine-Readable
Data File
(SSDA Census Series)

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User's Guide Prepared by
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What is the CDMF

The Collection District Master File (CDMF) stores basic counts and associated geographic codes for every collection district (CD) in Australia, for tabulation, field control, processing control and general research purposes, and to facilitate linkage to previous Census data.

Included on this file for each CD are the number of persons and dwellings, area in hectares, its State or Territory, Census division and subdivision, Commonwealth Electoral Division, Statistical Local Area (SLA), legal LGA, Statistical Region and Statistical District, Section of State, Locality, State Electoral Division, Postcode, CD Comparability indicators, area in hectares and latitude and longitude of its centroid. The CDMF was first produced for the 1966 Census and has been produced for each census since. All census counts on the file are on the basis of place of enumeration. No usual residence counts are provided.

Where it is impossible or especially difficult to specify a geographic location for persons on census night because, for example, they were aboard ship in Australian waters, on off-shore oil rigs, drilling platforms and the like, or on an overnight journey by train or bus, they were allocated to a CD called 'migratory'. There is one such CD for each State and the Northern Territory.

The Master File contains, for each CD, one record of data. For the 1986 Census 29,632 CDs were delineated throughout Australia. The Master File therefore contains 29,632 logical records, each of 145 characters in length, containing 41 cells of CD information.

CODEBOOK

Record structure

The 41 cells of information for the CD Master File are in one physical record for each logical record in the format:

Field name	Start position	Field Length
1. State/Territory	1	1
2. Census division	2	2
3. Census subdivision	4	2
4. Collection district	6	2
5. Statistical division	8	2
6. Statistical subdivision	10	2
7. Statistical local area	12	4
8. Legal local government area (LGA) code (1986)	16	4
9. Statistical region	20	2
10. Statistical district	22	4
11. Section of State (i.e. urban/rural indicator)	26	1
12. Urban centre/rural locality	27	5
13. State suburb code	32	3
14. Commonwealth electoral division	35	3
15. State electoral division (c)	38	4
16. Postcode	42	4
17. 1981 census LGA code (e)	46	3
18. 1981 census division	49	2
19. 1981 census subdivision	51	2
20. 1981 collection district	53	2
21. 1976 census division	55	2
22. 1976 census subdivision	57	2
23. 1976 collection district	59	2
24. 1981/1986 comparability indicator	61	1
25. 1976/1986 comparability indicator	62	1
26. CD serial number	63	6
27. Latitude of centroid	69	8
28. Longitude of centroid	77	8
29. Area in hectares	85	10
30. Journey to work study area	95	2
31. 1981 total persons	97	4
32. 1981 total dwellings	101	4
33. Number of persons in private dwellings	105	5
34. Number of persons in caravans etc. in caravan parks	110	5
35. Number of persons in non-private dwellings	115	5
36. Total persons	120	5
37. Number of occupied private dwellings	125	4
38. Number of unoccupied private dwellings	129	4
39. Number of caravans etc. in caravan parks	133	4
40. Number of non-private dwellings	137	4
41. Filler	141	4

Field Data Code Groups

FIELD 1 - State/Territory

A single digit code is used for each State and Territory. It is allocated in the following manner:

- 1 = New South Wales
- 2 = Victoria
- 3 = Queensland
- 4 = South Australia
- 5 = Western Australia
- 6 = Tasmania
- 7 = Northern Territory
- 8 = Australian Capital Territory

FIELD 2 - Census division

These are the major control areas used for the collection of census data. Each is represented by a two digit numeric code allocated sequentially, from 01, in geographic order within each State/ Territory. For the 1986 Census, Australia was divided into 162 census divisions (132 in 1981). Census divisions generally correspond to the Commonwealth electoral divisions existing at the time of the census although, because of their size, some Commonwealth electoral divisions are split into two or more census divisions. The split divisions are:

<i>Commonwealth electoral division</i>	<i>Census divisions</i>
NSW	Riverina-Darling
	Riverina
	Darling
QLD	Kennedy
	Kennedy East
	Kennedy West
	Maranoa
	Maranoa East
	Maranoa West
SA	Grey
	Grey
	Eyre Peninsula
WA	Kalgoorlie
	Kalgoorlie
	Kimberley-Pilbara
NT	Northern Territory
	Top End Urban
	Central Urban
	Remainder NT

FIELD 3 - Census subdivision

For administration purposes, each census division is divided into census subdivisions. Each is represented by a two digit numeric code allocated sequentially, from 01. Each census subdivision consists of approximately 12 to 15 collection districts. Where 1981 Census subdivisions have not been altered within a census division, their codes were retained for 1986 where possible. Where alterations have occurred, the subdivisions have been renumbered. When renumbering of an area occurs, the first number is allocated to the most north-westerly segment. Numbering then proceeds in a serpentine fashion from west to east, then east to west, gradually moving south.

FIELD 4 - Collection district

The CD is the smallest geographical area used in the collection and dissemination of census data. Each represented by a two digit numeric code allocated sequentially, from 01, within each census subdivision.

Where CDs for 1986 are comparable with those for 1981, and are in the same census division and census subdivision, the CD code has been retained where possible. However, for situations where CDs are not comparable between 1981 and 1986 (for example in cases where census subdivisions have been renumbered), the CD code has been allocated in a similar manner to census subdivisions.

FIELD 5 - Statistical division

Statistical divisions are designed to be relatively homogeneous regions, characterised by identifiable social and economic links between the inhabitants and the economic units within the region under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities.

Capital city statistical divisions are delineated to embrace the area expected to contain the urban development of the city (and associated urban areas) for a period of at least twenty years.

Statistical divisions are represented by a two digit numeric code which starts at 05 and jumps in steps of five within each State/ Territory. The gaps are to allow for future expansion. The code 85 has been allocated to 'Off-Shore and Migratory' in each State and the Northern Territory.

FIELD 6 - Statistical subdivision

A statistical subdivision is delineated on the same basis as a statistical division, but as a portion of the latter.

Each statistical subdivision is represented by a two digit numeric code allocated every fifth number from 05 (as in Field 5) within each statistical division. The code 01 is allocated to the statistical division 85 'Off-shore and Migratory' in each State and the Northern Territory.

FIELD 7 - Statistical local area

Statistical local areas (SLAs) are for the most part local government area (i.e. legal LGA) based. In special cases, where a legal LGA is much larger and more populous than the general run of legal LGAs (as is the City of Brisbane), or where there are no legal local government authorities (as in the Australian Capital Territory), the administrative areas have been subdivided to form areas roughly equivalent in extent and population. SLAs cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. The 1981 Census equivalent was the Census LGA.

They are identified by unique four digit numeric codes within a State/ Territory which have the following features:

- (a) within each State/ Territory SLA codes are in the range 0001-9990, excluding those ending with 99. Codes ending with 99 and those within the range 9991-9999 have been reserved for special purposes;
- (b) the arrangement of SLA codes within each State/Territory is in ascending numerical order for alphabetically listed SLAs. Gaps have been provided between the codes to provide space for future expansion or change;
- (c) the fourth, i.e. last, digit of the SLA code is used as an indicator for the following characteristics:

0 indicates that the SLA equates with a legal LGA;

1-8 indicates that the SLA is a part legal LGA and gives each part a number; and 9 indicates that the SLA represents either, an unincorporated area, an off-shore/ migratory category or an undefined category.

Since SLA codes are unique only within State or Territory, for unique Australia wide identification State/Territory code and SLA code are needed.

FIELD 8 - Legal LGA code (1986)

These are identified by unique four digit numeric codes within States/ Territories. The legal LGA codes were determined in conjunction with SLA codes and are strongly integrated with them. They have the following features:

- (a) they are identical with SLA codes in all cases where there is a strict one to one correspondence between legal LGAs and SLAs;
- (b) their first three digits are identical with the first three digits of SLA codes in all those cases where legal LGAs consist of two or three SLAs.

The above described incorporation of the legal LGA code in the SLA code permits almost all SLAs to be linked with their respective legal LGAs. The only exceptions occur in Queensland and the Northern Territory in the case of the following legal LGAs:

QLD : Albert, Brisbane, Logan, Pine Rivers, Redland, Caboolture, Gold Coast, Moreton, Thuringowa and Townsville;

NT : Darwin and Palmerston.

In these exceptional cases each of the legal LGAs has more than eight component SLAs.

For unique Australia wide identification each legal LGA needs to be identified by at least its own four digit code plus the code of the relevant State/ Territory.

An additional code of 9399 is to be used to represent the aggregation of the 'Unincorporated' SLAs for each State and the Northern Territory. It is to be used as a defacto legal LGA to enable State/ Territory totals to be produced for some census legal LGA output.

FIELD 9 - Statistical region

These consist of one or more SLAs and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They were designed primarily as geographic areas containing sufficient population to be suitable for the presentation of both population census and labour force statistics within the frameworks for standard statistical outputs from these collections. Each statistical region is designated by a two digit numeric code.

FIELD 10 - Statistical districts

Statistical districts represent large urban areas of Australia outside State capital city statistical divisions. They sometimes straddle statistical division and State /Territory boundaries, e.g. the 'Gold Coast-Tweed' Statistical District. Statistical districts are designated by a four digit numeric code.

FIELD 11 - Section of State

Within a State or Territory, each section of State represents an aggregation of non-contiguous geographic areas of a particular urban type, with the rural balance constituting another section of State. Each CD is allocated an appropriate Section of State code. The sections of State within each State and Territory are represented by the following one digit numeric code:

0 Major Urban - all urban centres with a population of 100,000 and over;

1 Other Urban - all urban centres with a population of 1,000 to 99,999 and known holiday resorts of less population if they contain 250 or more dwellings of which at least 100 are occupied on census night;

2 Locality - all population clusters of 200 to 999 persons; and

3 Rural Balance - the remainder of the State/ Territory.

4 Off-Shore and Migratory - persons who on census night were:

- on off-shore oil rigs, drilling platforms and the like;
- on board vessels in and between Australian ports; or
- on board long-distance trains, buses or aircraft.

The above section of State categories can be used in conjunction with other CD-based ASGC geographic areas show section of State components within, say, statistical subdivisions or statistical divisions.

FIELD 12 - Urban centre/(rural) locality

Urban centres/(rural) localities consist of a single whole CD, or adjoining whole CDs, with urban characteristics. In the case of (rural) localities they represent population clusters of between 200 and 999 people; urban centres are population clusters of 1,000 or more people (including some known holiday resorts of smaller size). Because of their nature they can straddle SLA, legal LGA, statistical subdivision and other ASGC geographic area boundaries.

They are represented by a five digit numeric code which uniquely identifies each urban centre/(rural) locality.

FIELD 13 - State suburb code

This is a three digit numeric code used in the statistical subdivisions of Greater Hobart and Greater Launceston and the Perth Statistical Division to allocate suburbs in alphabetical order. Details of codes used in this field can be obtained from the relevant State Office (see Appendix B for addresses and telephone numbers).

FIELD 14 - Commonwealth electoral division

Each CD has been allocated to the appropriate Commonwealth electoral division, the boundaries of which are those as at the last redistribution (completed in September 1984). In a few cases, a small amount of approximation results when the boundary of the Commonwealth electoral division does not correspond with CD boundaries. In such cases, each CD has been allocated to the Commonwealth electoral division in which the majority of dwellings were counted.

Commonwealth electoral divisions are designated by a three digit numeric code as follows:

0001 Adelaide (SA)
0002 Aston (VIC)

0003 Ballarat (VIC)
0004 Banks (NSW)

0005	Barker (SA)	0058	Gippsland (VIC)
0006	Barton (NSW)	0059	Goldstein (VIC)
0007	Bass (TAS)	0060	Grayndler (NSW)
0008	Batman (VIC)	0061	Greenway (NSW)
0009	Bendigo (VIC)	0062	Grey (SA)
0010	Bennelong (NSW)	0063	Griffith (QLD)
0011	Berowra (NSW)	0064	Groom (QLD)
0012	Blaxland (NSW)	0065	Gwydir (NSW)
0013	Bonython (SA)	0066	Hawker (SA)
0014	Boothby (SA)	0067	Henty (VIC)
0015	Bowman (QLD)	0068	Herbert (QLD)
0016	Braddon (TAS)	0069	Higgins (VIC)
0017	Bradfield (NSW)	0070	Hindmarsh (SA)
0018	Brand (WA)	0071	Hinkler (QLD)
0019	Brisbane (QLD)	0072	Holt (VIC),
0020	Bruce (VIC)	0073	Hotham. (VIC)
0021	Burke (VIC)	0074	Hughes (NSW)
0022	Calare (NSW)	0075	Hume (NSW)
0023	Calwell (VIC)	0076	Hunter (NSW)
0024	Canberra (ACT)	0077	Indi (VIC)
0025	Canning (WA)	0078	Isaacs (VIC)
0026	Capricornia (QLD)	0079	Jagajaga (VIC)
0027	Casey (VIC)	0080	Kalgoorlie (WA)
0028	Charlton (NSW)	0081	Kennedy (QLD)
0029	Chifley (NSW)	0082	Kingsford-Smith (NSW)
0030	Chisholm (VIC)	0083	Kingston (SA)
0031	Cook (NSW)	0084	Kooyong (VIC)
0032	Corangamite (VIC)	0085	Lalor (VIC)
0033	Corio (VIC)	0086	La Trobe (VIC)
0034	Cowan (WA)	0087	Leichhardt (QLD)
0035	Cowper (NSW)	0088	Lilley (QLD)
0036	Cunningham (NSW)	0089	Lindsay (NSW)
0037	Curtin (WA)	0090	Lowe (NSW)
0038	Dawson (QLD)	0091	Lyne (NSW)
0039	Deakin (VIC)	0092	Lyons (TAS)
0040	Denison (TAS)	0093	Macarthur (NSW)
0041	Dobell (NSW)	0094	MacKellar (NSW)
0042	Dundas (NSW)	0095	Macquarie (NSW)
0043	Dunkley (VIC)	0096	Makin (SA)
0044	Eden-Monaro (NSW)	0097	Mallee (VIC)
0045	Fadden (QLD)	0098	Maranoa (QLD)
0046	Fairfax (QLD)	0099	Maribyrnong (VIC)
0047	Farrer (NSW)	0100	Mayo (SA)
0048	Fisher (QLD)	0101	McEwan (VIC)
0049	Flinders (VIC)	0102	McMillan (VIC)
0050	Forde (QLD)	0103	McPherson (QLD)
0051	Forrest (WA)	0104	Melbourne (VIC)
0052	Fowler (NSW)	0105	Melbourne Ports (VIC)
0053	Franklin (TAS)	0106	Menzies (VIC)
0054	Fraser (ACT)	0107	Mitchell (NSW)
0055	Fremantle (WA)	0108	Moncrieff (QLD)
0056	Gellibrand (VIC)	0109	Moore (WA)
0057	Gilmore (NSW)	0110	Moreton (QLD)

0111	Murray (VIC)	0134	St George (NSW)
0112	Newcastle (NSW)	0135	Stirling (WA)
0113	New England (NSW)	0136	Streeton (VIC)
0114	Northern Territory	0137	Sturt, (SA)
0115	North Sydney (NSW)	0138	Swan (WA)
0116	O'Connor (WA)	0139	Sydney (NSW)
0117	Oxley (QLD)	0140	Tangney (WA)
0118	Page (NSW)	0141	Throsby (NSW)
0119	Parkes (NSW)	0142	Wakefield (SA)
0120	Parramatta (NSW)	0143	Wannon (VIC)
0121	Perth (WA)	0144	Warringah (NSW)
0122	Petrie (QLD)	0145	Wentworth (NSW)
0123	Phillip (NSW)	0146	Werriwa (NSW)
0124	Port Adelaide (SA)	0147	Wide Bay (QLD)
0125	Prospect (NSW)	0148	Wills (VIC)
0126	Rankin (QLD)	0149	Migratory (NSW)
0127	Reid (NSW)	0150	Migratory (VIC)
0128	Richmond (NSW)	0151	Migratory (QLD)
0129	Riverina-Darling (NSW)	0152	Migratory (SA)
0120	Robertson (NSW)	0153	Migratory (WA)
0131	Ryan (QLD)	0154	Migratory (TAS)
0132	Scullin (VIC)	0155	Migratory (NT)
0133	Shortland (NSW)		

FIELD 15 - State electoral division (district in Queensland)

This four digit field is used in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia to show the State electoral division in which each CD falls.

Other States use this field as follows:

Victoria. The first two digits represent the Victorian Legislative Council code and the second two digits represent the Victorian Legislative Assembly code.

Tasmania. As Tasmanian State electoral divisions are the same as Commonwealth electoral divisions, the codes are the same, except for the addition of the prefix 'O' to the Tasmanian State electoral divisions, making them four digit codes.

Northern Territory/ Australian Capital Territory. This field is not used.

FIELD 16 - Postcode

Each CD has been allocated the appropriate four digit Australia Post postcode. CDs split by postcode boundaries have been allocated to the postcode area in which the majority of dwellings were counted.

For rural CDs which cover more than one postcode area, the postcode allocated is from that postcode area which is assessed by inspection of census field maps and aerial photographs to have the largest population.

All migratory CDs have been allocated postcode 0000.

FIELD 17 - 1981 Census LGA code

This is a three digit numeric code assigned to 1981 CD records.

The code ranges are as follows:

New South Wales	001-181
Victoria	001-216
Queensland	001-310
South Australia	001-132
Western Australia	001-141
Tasmania	001-052
Northern Territory	001-049
Australian Capital Territory	001-086

A complete list of 1981 Census LGAs, and their codes, is contained in the information paper *Geographic Code List* (2141.0).

FIELD 18 - 1981 census division

FIELD 19 - 1981 census subdivision

FIELD 20 - 1981 collection district

The above three fields are each represented by a two digit numeric code which together make up what is known as a 'CD indicative'. Field 24 provides a 1981 / 1986 comparability indicator.

FIELD 21 - 1976 census division

FIELD 22 - 1976 census subdivision

FIELD 23 - 1976 collection district

See comment on Fields 18, 19 and 20 above. Field 25 provides a 1976 / 1986 comparability indicator.

FIELD 24 - 1981/1986 comparability indicator

A single digit numeric code which indicates whether the 1986 Census collection district is comparable with a 1981 Census collection district. Loss of comparability can be caused by a number of factors but the main ones are changes to CD boundaries to align them with readily identifiable topographical features, LGA boundary changes, changes necessary to accommodate urban growth, and changes necessary to enable population figures for new or modified statistical areas to be provided.

The code values used are:

0 = CD is perfectly comparable i.e. the CD has exactly the same boundary.

1 = CD where the population and dwellings are not affected even though there has been a change in the CD boundary.

2 = CD is comparable within a 10% dwelling limit i.e., a boundary change has occurred but no more than 10% by number of 1981 dwellings in the CD have been added to or subtracted from the old CD in the boundary change.

3 = CD is comparable except that a special dwelling(s) such as a new hospital, etc., has been taken out and made a separate CD or CDs. In this instance the boundary must remain unchanged for the 'outer' CD.

4 = CD is not comparable due to a split of the 1981 CD into two parts (the old boundary being retained around the two new parts).

5 = As for 4 above except that the split has involved the creation of three or more parts.

6 = CD is not comparable because of a split with variations being made to all or part of the existing boundaries.

7 = CD is not comparable because it is an amalgamation of two 1981 CDs to give a 1986 CD (using the same outer boundary).

8 = CD is not comparable because it is an amalgamation of three or more 1981 CDs (using the same outer boundary).

FIELD 25 - 1976/1986 comparability indicator

This field is represented by a one digit code as follows:

0 = comparable CD between the 1976 and 1986 Censuses (i.e. the 1976-1981 comparability indicator code was 0 and the 1981-1986 comparability code was 0 or 1).

1 = any situation where the 1976 CD is not comparable with the 1986 CD.

FIELD 26 - CD serial number

This is a six digit numeric code Snnnnn automatically assigned uniquely to CDs, where 'S' is a State code:

1 - NSW

2 - VIC

3 - QLD

4 - SA

- 5 - WA
- 6 - TAS
- 7 - NT
- 8 - ACT

and 'nnnnn' is a sequential number starting at 00001 for each State and is allocated to CDs in ascending CD indicative order.

FIELD 27 - Latitude of centroid

This is an eight digit numeric field showing the latitude of the centroid of the CD. The last five digits represent the decimal fraction of the degree of latitude; for example, 02151763 = 21.51763 degrees South.

FIELD 28 - Longitude of centroid

This is an eight digit numeric field showing the longitude of the centroid of the CD. The last five digits represent the decimal fraction of the degree of longitude; for example, 12151763 = 121.51763 degrees East.

FIELD 29 - Area in hectares

This is a ten digit numeric field showing the area of the CD in hectares. The last two digits are the decimal fraction; for example, 0000031415 = 314.15 hectares.

FIELD 30 - Journey to work study area

This is a two digit numeric field used to indicate whether a CD is in one of the journey to work study areas.

The codes are:

- 0-not applicable
- 1 -Sydney/ Wollongong/ Newcastle
- 2-Melbourne/ Geelong
- 3-Brisbane/ Gold Coast/ Sunshine Coast
- 4-Adelaide
- 5-Perth/ Mandurah
- 6-Southern Tasmania
- 7-Northern Tasmania
- 8-Canberra/Queanbeyan
- 9-Darwin
- 10-Latrobe Valley
- 11 -Bendigo /Ballarat

FIELD 31 - 1981 total persons (see note below Field 32)

This is a four digit numeric field containing the number of persons in 1981 CDs.

FIELD 32 - 1981 total dwellings

This is a four digit numeric field containing the number of dwellings in 1981 CDs.

Note: The counts for fields 31 and 32 are generally for the same geographic area as that used for the 1986 CD. In cases where 1981 CD boundaries were changed or CDs were split, the 1981 Census counts provided are estimates only.

FIELD 33 - Number of persons in private dwellings

This is a five digit numeric field showing the total number of persons in private dwellings in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 34 - Number of persons in caravans etc in caravan parks

This is a five digit numeric field showing the total number of persons in caravans etc in caravan parks in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 35 - Number of persons in non-private dwellings

This is a five digit numeric field showing the total number of persons in non-private dwellings in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 36 - Total persons

This is a five digit numeric field showing the number of persons counted in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 37 - Number of occupied private dwellings

This is a four digit numeric code showing the number of occupied private dwellings in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 38 - Number of unoccupied private dwellings

This is a four digit numeric code showing the number of unoccupied private dwellings in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 39 - Number of caravans etc in caravan parks

This is a four digit numeric code showing the number of occupied caravans etc in caravan parks in the CD for the 1986 Census. Note that caravan parks were previously enumerated as non-private dwellings.

FIELD 40 - Number of non-private dwellings

This is a four digit numeric code showing the number of non-private dwellings in the CD for the 1986 Census.

FIELD 41 - Filler

This field consists of four spaces.