

Census Information

Local and Family History

Pathfinder no. 1



Bega Library:	Mon. – Fri., 9.30am – 5.30pm.	Sat 9.00am – 12 noon.	Zingel Place, Bega.
Bermagui Library:	Mon.-Tues., Thurs.-Fri., 9.30am – 5.00pm.		Young Street, Bermagui.
Merimbula Library:	Mon., Wed. - Fri., 9.30am – 5.00pm.	Sat 9.00am – 12 noon.	Main Street, Merimbula.
Eden Library:	Tues. – Fri., 9.30am – 5.00pm.	Sat 9.00am – 12 noon.	Cnr Imlay & Mitchell, Eden.

Initially, NSW covered the whole of eastern Australia and New Zealand. By 1860, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and New Zealand had been established.

Since 1901, the Commonwealth government has been responsible for the census. A census has been conducted in 1901, 1911, 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006. It was the practice to destroy all returns after statistics had been extracted so none of that raw data survives. However, for the 2001 and the 2006 census everyone was given the option of their returns being retained and released to the public after 100 years.

From 1788-1828, ad hoc musters and nominal lists of people were kept, until the first census was conducted in 1828. There was a census in 1833, 1841, 1846, 1851, 1856, 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891 but no records have survived. *See ARK fiche for 1824-1825 Musters.*

1828 census (first census).

Some household and institutional returns survive and alphabetical compilations of data. Does not record the military, although their wives and children were probably included. *See Local History computer and ARK Reels 2551-2552, 2506-2507. Also available via Ancestry Library Edition.*

1841 census

Some household returns survive. Arranged by district and only records heads of households. There is an online index available via www.records.nsw.gov.au (State Records NSW).

1891 census

Collector's books survive which only give the name of the head of the household. See www.records.nsw.gov.au

1901 census

Collector's books survive. *See ARK fiche nos. 1021, 1022, 1023.*

For further information please refer to:

- ♦ *The Society of Australian Genealogists guide to Musters and Censuses – Australia on their website www.sag.org.au.*
- ♦ *NSW State Records Short Guide no. 12 (ARK) www.records.nsw.gov.au*