

Australia's Man Drought Continues

Social researcher and demographer Mark McCrindle outlines Australia's gender differences based on the latest census data: Where can you find a woman?

There are more women in Australia than men:

- For every 100 males there are 103 females.

Women outlast men by 5 years:

- Life expectancy for a male is 78 and for a female it is 83.

However more boys are born than girls:

- For every 100 females born there are 105 males.

Therefore the man drought doesn't kick in until the late 20's:

- Males outnumber females for the first 26 years of life.
- From 27 years on there are more women in Australia than men.

Men marry women 2 years younger than themselves:

- Median age for first time bridegroom is 32 while their brides' average age is 30.

The man drought exists in every state and territory except the Northern Territory:

- In the NT there are 106 males for every 100 females.
- WA falls just short of breaking the man drought with 99 males per 100 females.

Where can you find a man?

- Single women may be comforted to know that 52% of males aged 20–39 are unattached.
- The two local areas showing the highest proportion of males to females in the country both register a staggering ratio of 270 to 100. These areas are Litchfield (NT) and Duntroon (ACT). The reason for this man-flood is that both these areas contain large military bases.
- The next highest ratios transpire either in mining towns or in areas with a prison.

Where can you find a woman?

- Women dominate higher education enrolments with females representing 52% of students at TAFE and 57% of students at Australian universities.
- However of these women studying only 44% are unattached.
- The local areas with the highest ratio of females to males include Peppermint Grove, WA (132 females per 100 males) and Deakin, ACT (130 females per 100 males) however both these areas contain a large girls boarding school which is the cause of the ratio.
- Chermside, Qld (125 females per 100 males) and Mosman, NSW (119 females per 100 males) are not far behind but the female numbers are due to their large elderly population and the inclusion of local aged care facilities.



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