

# SPORT AND RECREATION

WRAY VAMPLEW

**M**UCH AUSTRALIAN RECREATIONAL activity is undocumented: the extent of gossiping, gardening and other informal leisure pursuits will never be known. Even activities which were more readily quantifiable generally were not officially enumerated until they became part of the taxation system or were otherwise subjected to government regulation. Hence much of the material presented here deals with organised activities, in most cases using data obtained from unofficial sources.

Australia has often been described as a nation obsessed with sport. Whether this is true with regards to actual participation has not yet been adequately researched, particularly at the local level; the figures presented here relate to Olympic representation by elite amateurs, differentiated according to sport and gender. Only one Australian, Edwin Flack, competed at the first Olympic Games held in Athens in 1896, but he won two gold medals for the 800 and 1500 metres. Since then the Australian success rate has been less spectacular. Australia has been disadvantaged by the fact that the Olympics have usually been held in the northern hemisphere, out of the Australian season for many sports and involving high travelling costs. Australia's most successful Olympics, in terms of medals and finalists, came in 1956 when Melbourne hosted the Games. Australian women first participated at Olympic level in 1912 in Stockholm where swimmer Fanny Durack won the gold medal for the 100 metres freestyle, followed home by her compatriot, Mina Wylie. As participants men have always dominated numerically but women have had proportionately more success.

Despite the lack of statistics on participation in sport, it is safe to assume that once past school age the vast majority of Australians have watched rather than played, especially in the nineteenth century, when half the population was excluded from playing most sports by virtue of their gender. Until the later part of that century most sports events were one-off spectacles, often held at holiday times to attract an audience generally starved of organised public entertainment. Regular gate-money sport developed in the latter decades of the nineteenth century when several factors combined to produce a strong demand. Rising incomes and the increase in population meant that there were more potential consumers and urbanisation created concentrated markets. An increase in life expectancy provided more lifetime leisure, while the reduction in hours of work was of greater significance; the free Saturday afternoon in particular provided a convenient time-slot for regular spectator sport.

The development of three sports strongly identified with Australia can be traced through the attendance figures for major domestic and international cricket matches, for the antipodean brand of football at League level in Victoria and South Australia and for those two great horseracing spectacles of the social sporting calendar, the Melbourne Cup and the Great Eastern Steeplechase, both of which typify Australian racing in being handicap events where all horses supposedly have an equal chance—this in turn creates a vigorous betting market.

Although horseracing and gambling have had a long symbiotic relationship in Australia, wagering was part and parcel of most early sporting activities. Indeed, until the 1870s newspaper advertisements regularly contained challenges for money matches in a variety of sports. Some of these were highly publicised, large-stake, head-to-head contests which suggests an element of conspicuous consumption in a society with high incomes but relatively few consumer durables on which to spend them. Others were low-fee sweepstakes catering for the less well-off sportsman wishing to back his prowess against all comers. Since then a myriad ways to bet and gamble have developed, and gambling has become institutionalised with state-run lotteries and totalisators. The data on gambling in Australia lend some twentieth-century evidence to Australia's reputation as a nation of gamblers, though it must be stressed that the data exclude illegal betting and unrecorded wagers, which would significantly inflate the figures.

Alcohol, too, has been a prominent feature of Australian recreation. Refreshment booths were erected at most crowd-drawing events throughout the nineteenth century and beyond. Licensed hotels and public houses played a central role in Australian recreation, especially for men, by offering one of the few meeting places outside the home unaffected by climate or nightfall (apart from later legislation which enforced early closing). Per capita consumption of alcohol is documented here for Victoria and New South Wales in the nineteenth century and for Australia in the twentieth. Early consumption may be understated because no account has been taken of the unknown, but at times considerable, illicit distillation of spirits; nor is any allowance made for the practice of watering down the high proof imported spirit before it was retailed. On the other hand, some rum was not consumed immediately after importation, but was used as a medium of exchange until the 1830s when the orthodox money supply became sufficient. The statistics given here, especially for the years before 1850, should not be regarded as accurate on a year-by-year basis and should be used to indicate trends rather than minor fluctuations in liquor consumption. They suggest that in the twentieth century average beer intake has virtually doubled; that wine consumption—partly as a result of the expansion of domestic viticulture—has shown an even greater increase; but that spirit drinking has declined substantially.

Australians have flocked to their metropolitan agricultural shows. The attendance figures given here date from 1899, though most of the events have an earlier history as agricultural displays rather than as festive days.

So far attention has focused on what might be termed popular culture. Some counterbalance can be found in the listings of attendances at museums and art galleries, though the coverage is spasmodic. Nevertheless the figures suggest that, although sport and the 'show' have generally had greater popularity than more cerebral activities, artefacts and artworks have had an attraction for substantial numbers of Australians.

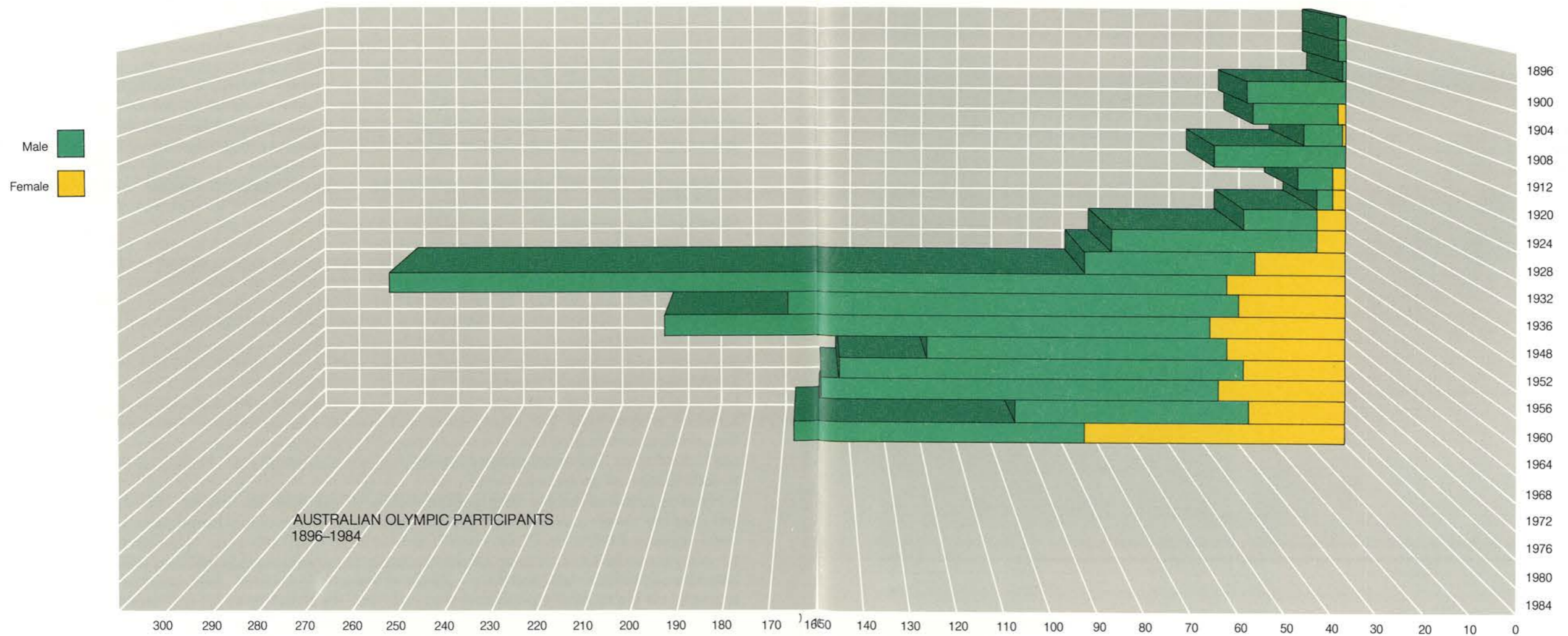
Not all Australians have wished to watch sport or to participate in cultural or other recreational activities at first hand. For many, radio, and later television, brought entertainment and instruction into their own homes. An indication of the growth in this form of passive recreation can be seen in the figures which detail the number of radio and television licences taken out prior to the abolition of licensing in 1974.

Sport and recreation have been a major feature of the Australian lifestyle, but such leisure activities are more than fun and games. They have wider social, economic and political implications and tell us much about the society in which they take place. Sport has not always been a great social leveller; more often than not it has reinforced and reflected differences in class, race and gender. Although do-it-yourself recreation still exists on a wide scale, much of the leisure sector has become big business. It has also, like the economy in general, become subject to increasing government intervention and regulation. The social and economic importance of sport and recreation in Australia goes beyond the statistics presented here.

SR 1-51 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC PARTICIPANTS 1896-1984

Year	Archery		Athletics		Basketball		Boxing		Canoeing		Cycling		Equestrian		Fencing		Gymnastics		Hockey		Judo	Modern Pentathlon	Rowing	Rugby Union		Shooting		Soccer	Swimming		Diving	Synchronised Swimming		Tennis		Water Polo		Weight Lifting		Wrestling		Yachting		Total	Total																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				21	22	23	24		25	26		27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51									
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f				m	f	m	f		m	f		m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f								
1896			1																																														2	2															
1900			1																																															2	2														
1904			1																																														1	1															
1908			6				1																		15		1			5																				28	28														
1912			5																					13					7	2																			26	2	28														
1920			4										2											12					5	1																			12	1	13														
1924			9				3					4												12					5		1																			37	37														
1928			6	1								1												1				2	3	1																			14	4	18														
1932			3	1								1												1				2	3																				8	4	12														
1936			5	5			3					3												12				2	3	1																				29	8	37													
1948			13	4			7					6												8			6	4	1												10	2	5		3				67	8	75														
1952			13	21			6					6												14				6	4	2																				74	25	99													
1956			55	11	12		9			7	1	11		5		18	3	6	3	20				27			12		20																						271	33	304												
1960			17	12			10			5	2	9		5		9	2	2	2	13				25			7		20																							159	30	189											
1964			24	8			10			8	2	14		7	1	13	5	6	6	15				28			8																										194	38	232										
1968			16	18	12		4			6		9		7		5		1	1	15				11			3																											119	34	153									
1972		2	1	13	12	12		4		7		10		4		2	2	2	1	16				16			4																										142	29	171										
1976		2	2	16	12	12		4		6	2	14		7		2	1	2	1	16				12			6																												148	35	183								
1980		1	2	14	7	12		2		5		11		1	2	1	2	1	2					11		5																																94	27	121					
1984		1	1	21	11	12	12	5		8	1	12		7		1	2	2	4	16				17		5		7	2																																		158	72	230

NOTE f=female, m=male.



AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC PARTICIPANTS 1896-1984

## SR 52-57 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC MEDALLISTS AND PLACEGETTERS 1896-1984

Year	Sport	Gold	Silver	Bronze	4th	5th	6th	
		52	53	54	55	56	57	
1896	Athletics (m) Total (m)	2 2						
1900	Athletics (m) Swimming (m) Total (m)			3 2 2				
1908	Boxing (m) Rugby Union (m) Swimming (m) Total (m)		1 1 1		1 1			
1912	Swimming (m) (f) Tennis (m) Total (m) (f)	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	2 2 1 3	2 2 2 2			
1920	Athletics (m) Swimming (m) Total (m)		1 1 2	1 1 1	1 1			
1924	Athletics (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) Total (m)	1 1 2		1 1			1 1	
1928	Cycling (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) Total (m)			1 2 1				
1932	Athletics (m) Cycling (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Wrestling (m) Total (m) (f)				1 1		1 1	
1936	Rowing (m) Athletics (f) Total (m) (f)						1 1 1 1	
1948	Athletics (m) (f) Cycling (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Wrestling (m) Total (m) (f)	1 1 1 1	2 1 1 1		2 1 1 1		2 1	
1952	Athletics (m) (f) Cycling (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) Weightlifting (m) Total (m) (f)	3 2 1 1 3		1 1 1 1	2 2	1 1	3 1 5	
1956	Athletics (m) (f) Boxing (m) Canoeing (m) (f) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)		2 1 1	2 1 1		2 2	2 2	
1960	Athletics (m) (f) Boxing (m) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Rowing (m)		1 1	1 2		1 1	2 1	
	Swimming (m) (f) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)			2 1 1		1 1	2 2	
1964	Athletics (m) (f) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Judo (m) Swimming (m) (f) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)			1 3 1 1	2 2	1 1	1 2	
1968	Athletics (m) (f) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)	1 1 2	2 1		1 1	1 1	3 1 5 2	
1972	Athletics (f) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Swimming (m) (f) Weightlifting (m) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)		2 3		1 1		3 1 3 3	
1976	Athletics (m) (f) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Fencing (m) Hockey (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Yachting (m) Total (m) (f)					1 2	1 1 2 5	
1980	Athletics (m) (f) Canoeing (m) Cycling (m) Rowing (m) Swimming (m) (f) Total (m) (f)		1 1			1 1	1 1 2 6 7	
1984	Athletics (m) (f) Canoeing (m) Cycling (m) Equestrian (m) Hockey (m) Rowing (m) (f) Shooting (f) Swimming (m) (f) Water Polo (m) Weightlifting (m) Wrestling (m) Yachting (m) (f) Total (m) (f)		1 1		2 1 1		1 1 1 2 1	3 1 1 1 2 7

NOTE f=female, m=male

SR 58-67 ATTENDANCES AT VICTORIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE MATCHES 1897-1983

Year 31 Dec	VFL MINOR ROUNDS			VFL FINALS			SANFL MINOR ROUNDS			SANFL FINALS		
	Games	Aggregate attendance	Finals	Aggregate attendance	Finals	Aggregate attendance	Games	Aggregate attendance	Finals	Aggregate attendance	Finals	Aggregate attendance
	per club											
1897	14	30 800	6	30 800	a	7 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1898	17	29 658	1	4 823	4 823	7 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1899	17	..	2	36 181	20 181	7 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1900	17	..	3	55 000	30 000	6 500	..	..	..	..	..	..
1901	17	..	4	82 202	35 202	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1902	17	..	3	63 963	32 363	14 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1903	17	..	3	73 688	32 688	11 000-15 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1904	17	..	4	88 000	30 000	10 500-12 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1905	17	..	3	67 937	44 437	29 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1906	17	..	3	96 577	45 477	25 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1907	17	..	3	104 648	50 261	22 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1908	18	..	4	156 700	36 700	25 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1909	18	..	4	133 577	42 577	20 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1910	18	..	3	128 149	43 905	19 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1911	18	..	4	175 979	54 463	20 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1912	18	..	4	197 568	59 479	22 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1913	18	..	4	103 696	30 427	13 000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1914	18	..	4	110 192	39 211	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1915	18	..	4	57 831	20 953	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1916	12	..	4	82 760	28 385	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1917	15	..	3	104 214	39 168	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1918	14	..	4	189 067	45 413	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1919	18	..	4	213 892	53 908	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1920	18	..	4	165 450	43 122	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921	18	..	4	207 628	50 054	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1922	18	..	4	213 462	46 566	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1923	18	..	6	171 200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1924	18	..	4	225 282	64 288	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1925	17	..	4	203 629	59 362	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1926	18	..	3	138 736	34 551	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1927	18	1728 700	4	200 005	50 026	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1928	18	1872 806	4	233 636	63 336	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1929	18	1696 353	4	175 720	45 022	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1930	18	1700 231	4	198 561	60 712	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1931	18	1600 250	4	230 706	69 724	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1932	18	1659 350	4	213 407	75 754	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1933	18	1746 100	4	183 692	65 335	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1934	18	1753 200	4	203 860	54 154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1935	18	1660 700	4	235 165	74 091	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1936	18	1536 750	4	230 706	69 724	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1937	18	1541 100	4	233 548	88 540	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1938	18	1613 300	4	290 703	96 834	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1939	18	1557 465	4	250 471	78 110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1940	18	..	4	215 429	69 061	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) No grand final.  
(b) Competition suspended.





SR 86-93 EXPENDITURE ON GAMBLING, AUSTRALIA  
1921-1939

Year 30 June	NET				GROSS			
	Totali- sators	Book- makers	Lotter- ies	Total	Totali- sators	Book- makers	Lotter- ies	Total
	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
1921	1.0	5.6	0.7	7.3	7.3	38.6	1.3	47.2
1922	1.0	5.5	0.7	7.2	7.3	38.0	1.6	46.9
1923	1.0	5.5	0.6	7.1	7.4	38.6	1.5	47.5
1924	1.0	5.4	0.7	7.1	8.0	37.4	1.6	47.0
1925	0.9	4.8	0.7	6.4	7.5	33.8	1.6	42.9
1926	0.9	4.5	0.7	6.1	7.4	31.3	1.7	40.4
1927	0.9	4.5	0.9	6.3	7.1	31.7	2.2	41.0
1928	0.9	4.1	0.9	5.9	6.4	28.9	2.3	37.6
1929	0.8	4.0	0.9	5.7	5.8	27.8	2.2	35.8
1930	0.8	4.1	0.9	5.8	5.7	28.3	2.3	36.1
1931	0.6	3.4	0.7	5.1	4.2	23.8	1.7	29.8
1932	0.6	2.9	1.2	4.9	4.6	20.3	3.1	28.0
1933	0.7	2.6	1.5	4.8	5.0	17.9	3.9	26.8
1934	0.7	3.8	1.7	6.2	5.4	26.0	4.3	35.7
1935	0.7	5.0	1.8	7.5	5.5	33.9	4.6	44.0
1936	0.8	5.3	2.0	8.1	6.0	35.6	5.3	46.9
1937	0.8	5.9	2.0	8.7	6.2	39.5	5.2	50.9
1938	0.9	7.5	2.2	10.6	7.1	50.3	5.8	63.2
1939	0.9	8.7	2.3	11.9	6.9	58.1	6.2	71.2

## SR 94-105 EXPENDITURE ON GAMBLING, AUSTRALIA 1949-1981

Year 30 June	NET					GROSS						
	Totali- sator	Book- makers	Lotter- ies	Other	Total	On- course totali- sators	Off- course totali- sators	Total totali- sators	Book- makers	Lotter- ies	Other	Total
	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1949	5.6	58.5	11.1		75.2	47.3		47.3	387.2	28.5		463.0
1950	6.3	62.1	12.1		80.5	52.4		52.4	409.8	31.1		493.3
1951	7.2	68.5	13.5		89.2	60.3		60.3	448.1	34.7		543.1
1952	8.8	86.2	14.9		109.9	73.9		73.9	558.1	38.4		670.4
1953	9.0	85.1	17.0		111.1	67.2		67.2	547.8	43.8		658.8
1954	9.3	90.0	17.4		116.7	66.6		66.6	599.1	44.8		710.5
1955	8.7	83.3	22.8		114.8	62.9		62.9	543.6	57.8		664.3
1956	8.9	85.7	25.2		119.8	64.7		64.7	562.5	63.8		691.0
1957	8.9	85.2	26.3	7.5	127.9	64.9		64.9	580.0	66.6	7.5	719.0
1958	9.3	90.0	25.5	8.5	133.3	67.8		67.8	592.3	65.5	8.5	734.1
1959	9.2	84.9	24.5	9.0	127.6	66.9		66.9	558.6	62.7	9.0	697.2
1960	9.7	90.9	27.2	12.5	140.3	72.0		72.0	598.5	67.1	12.5	750.1
1961	10.1	94.9	28.0	17.0	150.0	71.0	4.0	75.0	614.5	71.5	17.0	778.0
1962	15.5	91.9	29.6	17.5	154.5	71.7	41.0	112.7	604.3	75.9	17.5	810.4
1963	21.5	91.4	32.4	33.0	178.3	73.0	82.4	155.4	601.5	83.5	33.0	873.4
1964	27.4	92.7	38.9	56.5	215.5	76.1	124.4	200.5	609.7	87.5	56.5	954.2
1965	35.7	101.9	34.7	68.5	240.8	82.0	182.3	264.3	671.4	88.6	68.5	1092.8
1966	46.8	99.7	34.0	79.0	259.5	89.3	258.4	347.7	656.4	87.8	79.0	1170.9
1967	58.5	105.5	36.4	98.0	298.4	95.2	331.7	426.9	692.3	90.9	98.0	1308.1
1968	72.1	107.3	38.0	117.0	334.4	100.5	421.8	522.3	707.1	96.5	117.0	1442.9
1969	85.5	109.8	40.7	132.0	368.0	107.5	504.4	611.9	724.3	101.4	132.0	1569.6
1970	101.3	118.6	43.6	152.5	416.0	121.8	599.3	721.1	786.8	108.1	152.5	1768.5
1971	114.6	121.9	44.7	174.5	455.7	130.0	691.1	821.1	813.3	111.8	174.5	1920.7
1972	141.5	134.6	47.0	192.5	515.6	156.0	825.8	981.8	897.0	119.6	192.5	2190.9
1973	164.6	147.6	53.4	211.8	577.4	167.8	965.1	1132.9	981.2	132.3	211.8	2458.2
1974	195.9	171.6	67.7	260.2	695.4	183.9	1138.3	1322.2	1144.1	164.8	260.2	2891.3
1975	256.0	213.3	91.8	370.1	931.2	229.2	1450.5	1679.7	1422.9	232.1	371.9	3706.6
1976	295.7	234.6	120.8	439.7	1090.8	265.2	1611.1	1876.3	1563.9	296.6	448.7	4185.5
1977	327.7	256.2	154.1	489.3	1227.3	286.0	1742.7	2028.7	1708.0	377.1	501.7	4615.5
1978	362.8	274.8	177.3	520.8	1335.7	340.4	1888.4	2228.8	1832.0	439.5	533.3	5033.6
1979	387.3	293.9	211.1	580.9	1473.2	374.7	2037.9	2412.6	1959.4	514.4	598.1	5484.5
1980	421.6	327.4	262.9	656.2	1668.1	430.3	2244.9	2675.2	2183.0	630.0	671.6	6159.8
1981	460.4	344.6	303.2	751.7	1859.9	463.1	2459.4	2922.5	2297.6	773.2	757.2	6750.5



SR 106 PER CAPITA SPIRITS CONSUMPTION, NSW 1800-1829

Year 31 Dec	Con- sumption	Year 31 Dec	Con- sumption
106		106	
gals		gals	
1800	7.8	1815	5.6
1801	7.2	1816	7.2
1802	0.8	1817	3.3
1803	2.6	1818	1.1
1804	2.2	1819	3.2
1805	..	1820	4.0
1806	..	1821	..
1807	..	1822	1.3
1808	..	1823	1.3
1809	0.5	1824	..
1810	..	1825	..
1811	7.7	1826	3.9
1812	2.8	1827	3.6
1813	3.0	1828	4.2
1814	0.8	1829	7.2

*With sport went beer drinking and gambling—until recently restricted by the wowers, but part of that code of the mateship of men, that necessity constantly to demonstrate masculine sameness, which provided one of the most flattening sources of uniformity.'*

Donald Horne, 1967.

SR 107-112 PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF SPIRITS, BEER AND WINE, NSW AND VIC 1828-1890

Year 31 Dec	NSW			VIC			Year 31 Dec	NSW			VIC		
	Spirits <sup>a</sup>	Beer <sup>b</sup>	Wine <sup>c</sup>	Spirits <sup>a</sup>	Beer <sup>b</sup>	Wine		Spirits <sup>a</sup>	Beer <sup>b</sup>	Wine	Spirits <sup>a</sup>	Beer <sup>b</sup>	Wine
	107	108	109	110	111	112		107	108	109	110	111	112
	gals			gals				gals			gals		
1828	4.20	4.86	4.93	..	..	..	1860	2.40	4.00	1.10	1.80	6.00	0.70
1829	7.19	5.83	5.57	..	..	..	1861	2.50	2.80	1.00	2.00	4.60	0.80
1830	..	..	..	..	..	..	1862	3.20	3.60	1.60	2.30	3.20	0.80
1831	2.73	1.58	1.64	..	..	..	1863	3.10	4.80	1.00	3.30	10.50	0.90
1832	6.98	4.56	3.02	..	..	..	1864	1.30	2.60	0.80	2.20	12.90	0.80
1833	3.29	3.10	1.06	..	..	..	1865	1.90	3.40	0.90	1.50	15.50	0.60
1834	5.79	3.15	3.62	..	..	..	1866	1.10	3.50	1.20	1.60	16.00	1.20
1835	7.03	3.83	3.97	..	..	..	1867	1.10	2.90	1.10	2.40	18.10	1.10
1836	6.86	3.48	4.07	..	..	..	1868	1.90	3.00	1.20	1.60	27.30	1.00
1837	1.16	2.74	2.52	..	..	..	1869	1.50	3.10	1.20	1.10	21.70	1.10
1838	2.70	4.58	4.07	2.50	3.05	1.93	1870	1.60	2.70	1.00	1.30	20.30	1.20
1839	3.93	6.05	6.11	2.29	5.98	0.57	1871	1.60	2.90	1.00	1.10	18.50	1.10
1840	..	8.40	5.17	..	18.47	..	1872	1.50	2.00	1.20	1.10	17.40	0.90
1841	..	..	..	..	10.84	1.66	1873	1.30	2.90	1.50	1.30	18.80	1.10
1842	..	2.70	2.13	2.17	21.36	0.49	1874	1.60	2.70	1.50	1.40	18.90	1.10
1843	1.37	2.77	2.14	0.97	6.73	0.25	1875	1.80	2.20	1.60	1.00	16.80	1.10
1844	0.73	2.19	0.68	1.47	4.53	0.31	1876	1.80	2.20	1.60	1.30	18.40	0.80
1845	1.06	2.70	1.37	1.54	1.93	1.00	1877	1.90	1.90	1.50	1.40	19.60	0.80
1846	1.96	6.85	1.66	1.71	2.96	1.77	1878	1.50	1.40	1.30	0.80	19.20	0.60
1847	3.02	3.07	1.47	2.97	4.16	1.50	1879	1.60	1.80	1.30	1.00	17.40	0.70
1848	2.33	2.76	2.34	2.42	5.63	1.30	1880	1.40	1.50	1.00	0.80	15.10	0.70
1849	2.67	1.96	2.05	3.18	3.62	1.04	1881	1.60	1.20	0.90	1.50	14.80	0.80
1850	2.34	1.61	1.51	3.91	5.00	1.09	1882	1.60	1.60	0.90	1.30	16.20	0.80
1851	1.60	2.70	1.70	..	..	..	1883	1.40	1.70	0.90	1.20	16.00	1.00
1852	2.20	3.00	1.40	5.50	4.80	2.40	1884	1.60	1.80	0.70	1.30	16.40	0.90
1853	5.50	6.80	3.20	8.50	12.70	3.50	1885	1.50	2.00	0.80	1.10	16.40	1.10
1854	5.70	6.20	0.50	6.00	11.90	3.10	1886	1.30	13.40	0.80	1.20	17.30	1.00
1855	1.20	3.00	1.10	..	..	..	1887	1.10	11.90	0.80	1.20	18.50	1.20
1856	1.80	4.40	1.30	..	7.50	2.20	1888	1.00	11.10	0.90	1.40	19.50	1.10
1857	2.70	5.90	1.30	4.40	9.20	2.20	1889	1.10	11.30	0.80	1.40	19.50	1.40
1858	2.50	4.50	1.10	3.00	5.80	1.10	1890	1.10	10.70	0.80	1.40	17.70	1.80
1859	2.20	3.80	1.10	2.80	6.60	1.00							

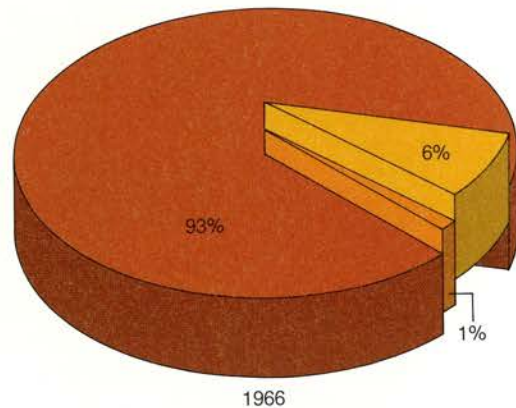
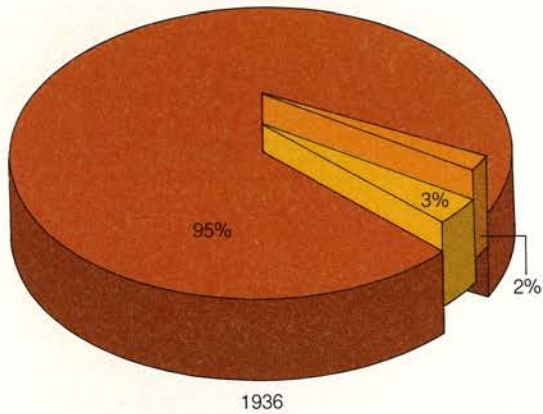
(a) Excludes domestically produced spirits 1838-59 (NSW), until 1881 (Vic).  
 (b) Excludes domestically produced beer until 1886 (NSW), 1862 (Vic).  
 (c) Excludes domestically produced wine until 1843.

SR 113-115 PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF BEER, SPIRITS AND WINE  
AUSTRALIA 1890-1976

Year 31 Dec	Beer	Spirits	Wine
	113	114	115
	gals	gals	gals
1890	13.59	..	1.10
1891	..	..	1.22
1892	..	..	1.02
1893	9.85	..	0.94
1894	..	..	0.81
1895	..	..	1.02
1896	10.76	..	1.26
1897	10.95	..	1.37
1898	11.00	..	1.04
1899	..	..	..
1900	12.00	..	0.88
1901	..	..	..
1902	..	..	..
1903	10.71	..	0.94
1904	..	..	1.12
1905	..	..	..
1906	..	..	..
1907	11.07	0.88	0.84
1908	11.19	0.72	0.50
1909	10.48	0.75	0.50
1910	11.69	0.79	0.50
1911	12.37	0.85	0.50
1912	13.16	0.86	0.50
1913	13.49	0.85	0.50
1914	13.15	0.82	0.50
1915	12.41	0.78	0.50
1916	11.62	0.61	0.50
1917	11.92	0.50	0.50
1918	12.50	0.39	0.50

Year 31 Dec	Beer	Spirits	Wine
	113	114	115
	gals	gals	gals
1919	13.39	0.45	0.50
1920	12.20	0.36	0.50
1921	11.49	0.36	0.50
1922	11.30	0.39	0.50
1923	11.08	0.43	0.50
1924	11.15	0.43	0.50
1925	11.34	0.44	0.50
1926	11.56	0.41	0.50
1927	11.44	0.40	0.50
1928	11.31	0.38	0.50
1929	10.22	0.36	0.50
1930	8.12	0.18	0.82
1931	7.32	0.17	0.82
1932	7.43	0.17	0.82
1933	8.02	0.19	0.82
1934	8.68	0.21	0.82
1935	9.60	0.21	0.36
1936	10.34	0.21	0.36
1937	11.62	0.22	0.36
1938	12.13	0.22	0.65
1939	12.89	0.26	0.36
1940	13.71	0.22	0.36
1941	13.76	0.20	0.36
1942	12.58	0.22	0.36
1943	13.00	0.23	1.17
1944	12.90	0.23	1.18
1945	13.45	0.32	0.96
1946	15.94	0.29	1.09
1947	15.33	0.31	1.37

Year 31 Dec	Beer	Spirits	Wine
	113	114	115
	gals	gals	gals
1948	17.96	0.33	1.41
1949	18.83	0.32	1.50
1950	20.41	0.38	1.61
1951	21.19	0.32	1.80
1952	21.80	0.20	1.36
1953	23.05	0.25	1.39
1954	24.26	0.29	1.11
1955	24.16	0.31	1.17
1956	22.88	0.28	1.15
1957	23.00	0.30	1.10
1958	22.20	0.30	1.10
1959	22.60	0.30	1.20
1960	22.60	0.30	1.10
1961	22.50	0.30	1.10
1962	22.70	0.30	1.20
1963	23.50	0.30	1.20
1964	24.20	0.40	1.20
1965	24.20	0.30	1.30
1966	24.90	0.30	1.50
1967	25.70	0.40	1.70
1968	26.18	0.20	1.83
1969	27.21	0.22	1.96
1970	27.81	0.22	1.91
1971	28.01	0.24	1.98
1972	28.89	0.29	2.18
1973	31.01	0.29	2.46
1974	31.39	0.26	2.71
1975	30.23	0.26	2.93
1976	29.96	..	2.93



A COMPARISON OF BEER, WINE AND SPIRIT CONSUMPTION, AUSTRALIA  
1936 AND 1966

SR 116-120 ATTENDANCES AT SHOWS, CAPITAL CITIES 1899-1982

Year	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Year	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth
	116	117	118	119	120		116	117	118	119	120
1899	..	33 000	..	..	..	1941	752 933	a	374 231	a	..
1900	..	..	..	34-35 000	..	1942	a	a	a	a	..
1901	..	..	..	40-45 000	..	1943	a	a	a	a	..
1902	..	..	..	50 000	..	1944	a	a	a	a	..
1903	..	..	..	60 000	..	1945	a	a	a	a	..
1904	..	..	..	..	..	1946	a	652 666	509 131	a	..
1905	..	..	..	..	..	1947	1 232 413	585 778	575 076	562 010	115 000
1906	..	..	..	71 000	..	1948	1 098 159	531 214	623 579	534 326	133 713
1907	..	..	..	>75 000	..	1949	1 183 365	306 881	655 948	364 238	156 202
1908	..	..	..	>80 000	..	1950	1 176 544	519 408	708 086	492 156	157 563
1909	..	140 000	..	94 163	..	1951	1 089 626	432 935	579 793	496 551	178 000
1910	..	148 421	..	91 393	..	1952	1 043 006	579 075	689 190	435 884	145 368
1911	..	153 350	..	94 354	..	1953	1 110 195	572 086	689 645	508 006	169 951
1912	..	167 390	..	87 638	..	1954	1 157 462	679 167	663 990	540 373	195 077
1913	294 440	184 637	..	88 381	..	1955	1 100 904	648 137	721 795	370 933	204 356
1914	316 400	99 807	..	63 128	..	1956	1 220 515	588 325	706 560	448 400	193 264
1915	258 660	a	..	a	..	1957	1 044 344	622 060	667 013	368 498	188 738
1916	320 400	107 688	..	a	..	1958	1 047 011	664 709	733 660	429 527	209 000
1917	426 200	162 098	..	97 227	..	1959	1 033 988	653 208	685 718	506 409	215 372
1918	453 900	173 934	..	75 462	..	1960	1 138 705	677 687	680 298	531 860	228 223
1919	a	205 539	..	a	..	1961	1 056 060	714 715	685 028	509 598	225 799
1920	464 000	186 186	..	79 500	..	1962	1 100 353	648 171	649 844	588 885	196 602
1921	473 400	212 916	..	94 645	..	1963	1 110 631	688 543	670 794	593 903	234 341
1922	508 100	230 265	..	131 104	..	1964	1 082 822	708 325	677 851	631 936	235 074
1923	537 200	300 075	..	132 599	..	1965	1 047 596	717 055	679 805	616 548	255 164
1924	610 500	284 984	..	136 609	..	1966	1 052 674	688 663	672 998	607 684	285 141
1925	625 200	318 457	..	133 500	..	1967	1 067 266	738 196	684 266	646 913	282 434
1926	675 940	298 225	..	130 502	..	1968	1 062 708	767 014	621 486	648 921	318 663
1927	554 250	293 129	..	201 000	..	1969	1 059 657	780 139	642 162	595 669	334 545
1928	636 522	274 256	..	258 650	..	1970	1 040 156	810 233	662 219	633 737	347 618
1929	620 730	254 664	337 146	261 800	..	1971	1 010 454	888 409	700 739	622 531	322 959
1930	642 290	219 611	305 236	197 500	..	1972	865 139	916 730	713 537	624 821	393 722
1931	479 848	233 579	260 993	203 200	..	1973	1 091 858	913 834	743 483	619 166	391 768
1932	563 139	264 474	263 701	238 680	..	1974	1 019 529	777 357	718 636	647 025	394 067
1933	533 641	272 176	255 521	236 260	..	1975	905 029	849 564	711 467	611 685	360 977
1934	602 623	224 479	274 755	267 480	..	1976	842 745	847 761	747 731	631 644	395 195
1935	732 416	276 581	264 406	318 300	..	1977	948 792	873 532	803 689	593 797	401 246
1936	678 659	311 289	348 160	318 300	..	1978	868 212	862 926	772 110	610 087	384 671
1937	742 146	250 476	333 750	288 700	..	1979	1 054 251	785 500	825 422	565 115	427 701
1938	1 011 241	420 430	361 677	340 380	..	1980	1 078 589	822 110	804 409	607 393	351 859
1939	850 785	355 071	403 253	317 140	..	1981	1 163 149	802 578	891 232	608 098	373 987
1940	757 819	a	334 719	a	..	1982	1 127 224	865 663	819 624	540 113	..

(a) No show held.

SR 121-122 RADIO LISTENERS' AND TELEVISION VIEWERS' LICENCES, AUSTRALIA 1925-1973

Year 30 June	Radio	Television	Year 30 June	Radio	Television	Year 30 June	Radio	Television
	121	122		121	122		121	122
1925	61 059	..	1942	1 320 073	..	1959	2 263 712	577 502
1926	125 047	..	1943	1 419 793	..	1960	2 283 185	954 995
1927	213 408	..	1944	1 454 302	..	1961	2 255 842	1 217 286
1928	269 760	..	1945	1 479 802	..	1962	2 220 462	1 424 435
1929	300 528	..	1946	1 506 080	..	1963	2 239 786	1 655 325
1930	311 648	..	1947	1 771 247	..	1964	2 301 790	1 882 099
1931	331 128	..	1948	1 832 816	..	1965	2 357 642	2 044 625
1932	369 092	..	1949	1 919 022	..	1966	2 525 951	2 225 674
1933	468 430	..	1950	2 029 628	..	1967	2 538 040	2 405 135
1934	597 989	..	1951	2 109 660	..	1968	2 579 860	2 519 392
1935	720 532	..	1952	1 961 044	..	1969	2 630 212	2 649 457
1936	823 613	..	1953	1 985 655	..	1970	2 670 393	2 757 974
1937	938 331	..	1954	2 041 613	..	1971	2 698 939	2 845 168
1938	1 056 004	..	1955	2 034 676	..	1972	2 757 983	2 938 658
1939	1 129 786	..	1956	2 088 793	..	1973	2 814 469	3 012 833
1940	1 212 260	..	1957	2 107 253	73 909			
1941	1 293 266	..	1958	2 137 865	291 186			

NOTE From September 1974 all requirements for licences were abolished.

SR 123-130 VISITORS TO MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES, AUSTRALIA  
1906-1927

Year 31 Dec	Aust Museum, Sydney	Technology Museums, NSW <sup>a</sup>	Qld Museum, Brisbane	SA Museum, Adelaide	WA Museum & Art Gall, Perth	National Gall, Sydney	Art Gall of SA, Adelaide	Qld Art Gallery, Brisbane
	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1906	146	>200	59	..	66	..	131	40
1907	172	>200	60	80	142	261	..	..
1908	239	>200	59	75	157	292	93	..
1909	214	220	73	75	56	273	93	..
1910	..	240	59	75	81	269	92	..
1911	110	216	58	75	68	287	92	..
1912	222	215	77	80	54	310	97	..
1913	167	220	78	85	76	296	106	..
1914	153	209	79	77	76	286	111	..
1915	161	219	75	82	70	232	242	..
1916	191	233	71	81	82	238	90	..
1917	179	240	70	84	85	228	86	..
1918	216	256	74	88	84	232	94	..
1919	136	241	68	88	96	157	76	..
1920	217	244	90	88	86	231	76	41
1921	225	175	92	86	77	223	87	43
1922	209	127	94	..	69	210	..	42
1923	210	127	102	94	63	235	..	45
1924	261	136	..	91	67	226	79	45
1925	255	..	106	81	82	218	..	39
1926	280	..	156	99	82	218	77	45
1927	284	..	..	99	94	224	86	45

(a) Main centre in Sydney, but some country branches.

SR 131-135 VISITORS TO MUSEUMS AND  
ART GALLERIES, AUSTRALIA 1946-1968

Year 31 Dec	Aust Museum, Sydney	SA Museum, Adelaide	WA Museum & Art Gall, Perth	National Art Gall, Sydney	Qld Art Gallery, Brisbane
	131	132	133	134	135
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1946	189	102	54	187	131
1947	..	..	..	..	..
1948	197	110	64	187	114
1949	..	..	..	..	..
1950	225	120	80	..	114
1951	..	..	..	..	..
1952	247	150	80	..	114
1953	289	150	45	..	159
1954	259	150	..	..	174
1955	261	..	..	..	184
1956	290	180	..	..	183
1957	295	200	..	..	..
1958	300	200	..	..	..
1959	323	200	..	..	..
1960	318	200	..	..	..
1961	332	277	..	..	230
1962	307	200	..	..	..
1963	..	200	..	750	..
1964	353	224	225	..	..
1965	358	190	261	312	..
1966	382	190	196	320	68
1967	382	190	250	350	69
1968	..	195	252	350	125

SR 136 VISITORS TO THE  
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
1942-1983

Year 31 Dec	Visitors	Year 31 Dec	Visitors
	136		136
1942	25 065 <sup>a</sup>	1963	428 557
1943	52 936	1964	488 609
1944	52 283	1965	518 949
1945	53 981	1966	530 753
1946	65 640	1967	528 419
1947	77 405	1968	543 815
1948	79 654	1969	549 835
1949	88 952	1970	586 413
1950	121 607	1971	678 015
1951	157 113	1972	656 629
1952	126 314	1973	677 243
1953	157 585	1974	692 511
1954	212 899	1975	761 746
1955	217 221	1976	743 615
1956	226 296	1977	795 303
1957	254 295	1978	829 481
1958	313 286	1979	734 849
1959	319 159	1980	721 158
1960	322 782	1981	848 122
1961	375 811	1982	1 206 134
1962	385 175	1983	1 300 168

(a) June to Dec only.