

great significance to Melbourne's future development, but its relative share of the total national growth is expected to be somewhat lessened by the rapid growth of Western Australia and the strongly competitive position of New South Wales.

The decline of primary industries is not likely to have a marked effect on Melbourne, since compensating economic forces should counteract this, and although the plight of the rural industries can increase the population inflow from the country areas, the increase will not be significant. With an expanded market demand, a likely growth in automated production techniques, and more modern factory equipment, manufacturing should continue to show gains in efficiency, output and product range, without occasioning a proportionally large rise in the workforce.

Employment in service industries, such as finance, commerce, community and business services, leisure-based industries, and government departments is expected to expand considerably.

Automation and computers are expected to set up an increased demand for professional and technical workers. White collar workers are expected to increase significantly while the blue collar segment generally will decline, although the component of blue collar skilled workers will increase.

The female work force is expected to continue its rapid increase with a bigger proportion of married women working. Increasing use of automated techniques in manufacturing will require substantial retraining programmes. Certain sections of the work force, such as unskilled migrant workers, with limited knowledge of English, could face difficulties in such conversion programmes.

The average age of the work force is expected to drop slightly, despite the fact that entry to the work force is likely to be delayed because of the higher qualification required in most occupations. This particularly applies to male workers.

### Population Projections

The population projections prepared by the Board for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and quoted in "The Future Growth of Melbourne" report indicated that the population of the Melbourne Statistical Division could reach 3.7 million by 1985 and 5 millions by the year 2000.

It is now becoming evident that the weightings of the various factors used in arriving at population growth estimates have

changed, but the extent of the change is not sufficient to alter the scale of the overall planning problem.

The reason for the change is that the net population inflow into the metropolitan region of recent years has been occurring at a slower rate than previously and it is considered that this trend is likely to continue for some time in the future.

This trend is evident even without the 1971 Census figures, which are not yet available and the figures expressed in the following Figure 3 are the result of the Board's current estimates.

Figure 3

Future Population in Melbourne Statistical Division*	
Year	Population
1985	3,300,000 Minimum 3,500,000 Maximum
2000	4,500,000 Minimum 4,700,000 Maximum

\*Note:—This includes the whole of the metropolitan region and the Mornington Peninsula.

The Government's decision to encourage industrial development in the Westernport region will mean that the population living in that area will increase and to the extent which this occurs, population will settle outside the metropolitan planning region.

As yet this trend is not significant and is not likely to be for some time, but whatever the growth may be it is expected that the population in the planning area will be at least 3 million by 1985 and 4 million by the year 2000.

There is a growing interest in the idea that firm measures should be taken to divert the major growth occurring in the capital cities of Australia to other new or existing centres.

One of the objectives would be to slacken the growth pressures on the capital cities and ease the growing urban problems, and it has been suggested that in the metropolitan region the Board should adopt planning measures to assist this.

While there may be considerable advantages in pursuing



such a policy, it is not within the powers of the Board to initiate such action. It is the function of the State Government to decide how population should be distributed throughout the State and to be effective, decentralization would probably require the involvement of the Federal Government as well.

Until action is taken at these levels, there is no basis for action by the Board.

Melbourne's growth cannot be abruptly stopped and present indications are that notwithstanding all measures which may be carried out beyond the metropolitan area, a population increase of at least two million is likely to occur within that area in the next three decades, even if there are major changes in population policies.

Even the full establishment of five new centres the size of Canberra, with all that this would entail, would only reduce the expected growth by one third.

These population estimates, based on current trends in natural increase and migration, have been produced at a time of major change throughout the world.

A recent survey conducted by the Washington Institute of Urban Studies as reported in the press, has indicated that there has been a dramatic fall in the birthrate in the United States and most Western European countries.

While these changes are unlikely, in themselves, to affect the entry of migrant population into Australia in the short term, if this trend continues it could, in the long term, be of major significance to Australia's capacity to attract migrants.

Further if a similar trend shows up in the Australian birthrate figures this could also have a substantial effect on long term population growth.

Eminent ecologists and scientists, including Dr. Paul Ehrlich and Sir Macfarlane Burnet, maintain that resources are inadequate to provide for the expanding world population, and that action should be taken now to limit population growth in accordance with resource availability.

These issues are of major importance and will certainly receive increasing public attention in the future.

In the long term these and other factors may well change the current population estimates, but for the purpose of present planning policies, it is prudent at this stage to provide for the expected order of population growth and for maximum conservation of resources which lie within the Board's responsibilities.

## Policy Determinants

In dealing with the following sections of this Part and later in the report, frequent reference is made to parts of the metropolitan region which have been used for statistical measurement and these are illustrated in Plan 2. The five Sectors mentioned have been used for this purpose by the Board since 1954 and provide valuable information on trends. In addition each of the four radial Sectors has been further subdivided concentrically because of the different characteristics of these parts.

Reference will be made to a Sector as a whole i.e. East Sector or West Sector (or East or West) or else to parts of a Sector such as Inner East (4) or Suburban South (9). Sometimes reference is made to the Inner Ring comprising parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 or to the Suburban Ring—parts 6, 7, 8 and 9.

In general, the Appendix 2 contains additional data and explanations and should be consulted if more detailed information is desired. The relevant tables are identified within brackets.

## People

At the beginning of the century, one half of Melbourne's total population of half a million people was located in the Central Sector, and the South Sector was the most dominant location for outward growth.

In the following 71 years the major trends in population distribution have been a decline in the Central Sector's population, dating from about the end of the first world war, an increase in the significance of the East Sector and a decline in that of the West Sector. By June 1971 the estimated population in the metropolitan region reached 2,435,000. (At the time of the preparation of this report the 1971 Population Census results were unavailable).

Figures 4 and 5 show the changes in distribution of population during this century, and the more recent growth since 1947.

In broad terms, in addition to the basic growth factors of natural increase and immigration, each sector's growth was influenced through some predominant aspect, which contributed to the general distribution pattern. (Appendix 2.1).

The East Sector's population growth appears to have been

## PLAN 2

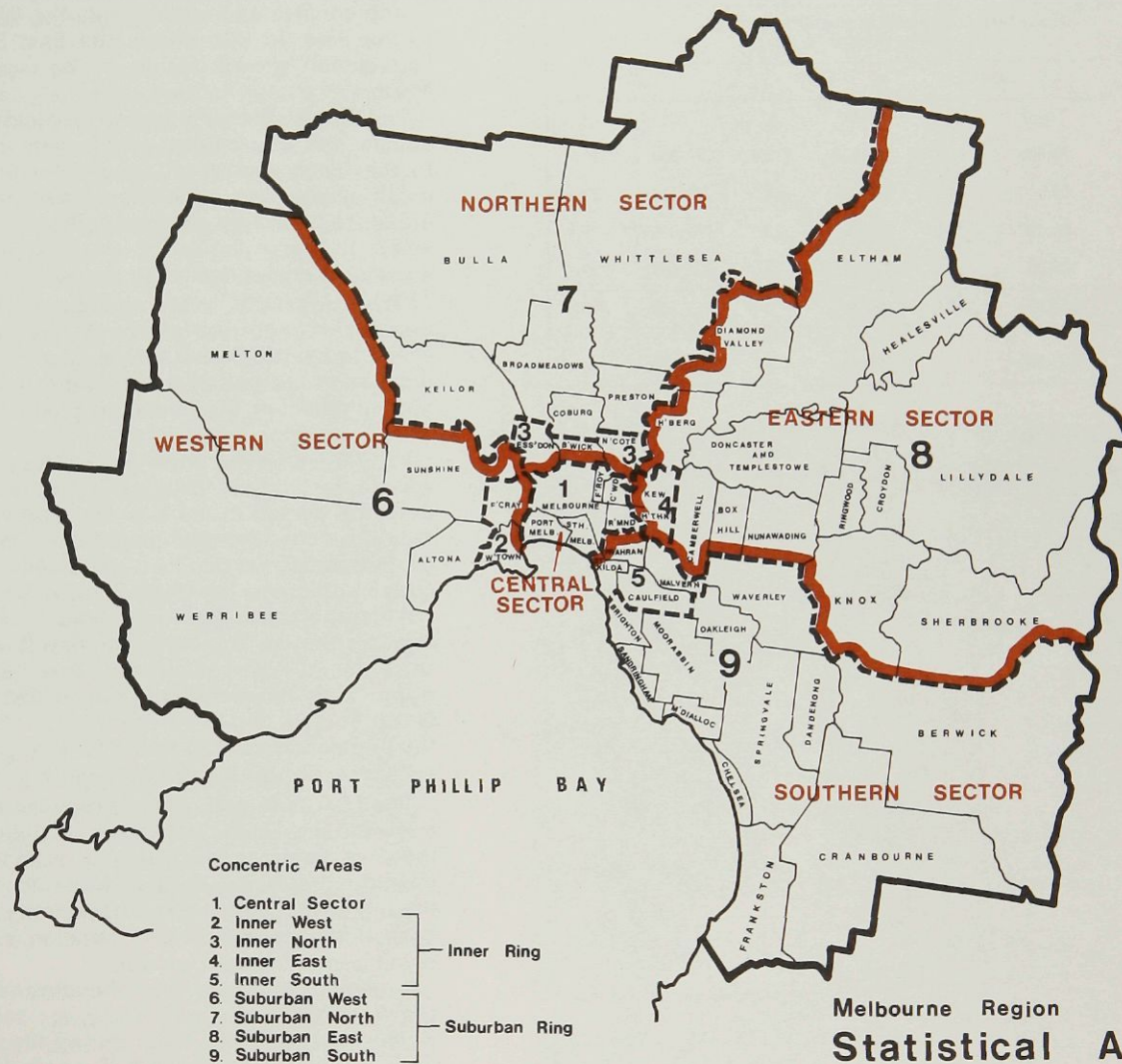
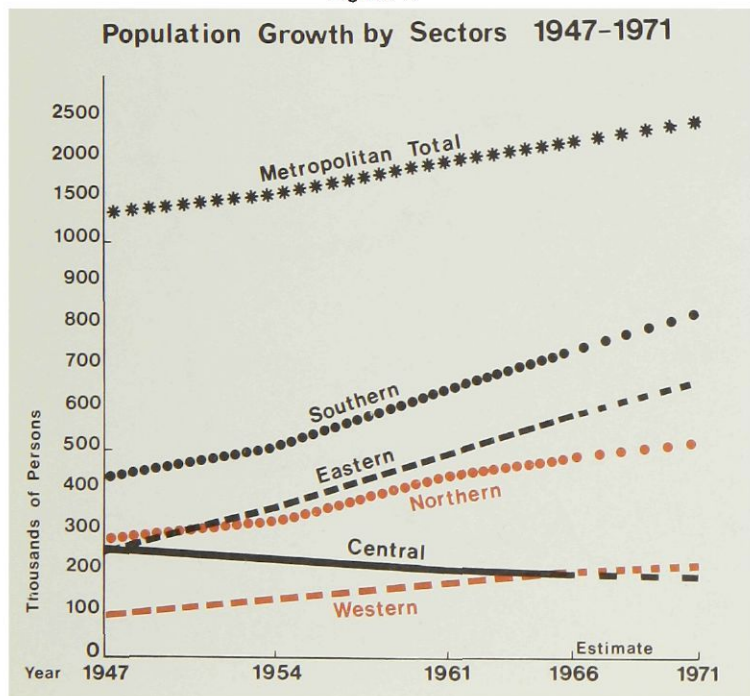




Figure 4

Population Growth in the 20th Century (outside the Central Sector)						
	1901		1947		1971	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
West	34,800	13.6	106,600	10.0	226,300	10.1
North	63,400	24.9	239,900	26.5	518,800	23.2
East	50,900	20.0	253,900	23.7	662,300	29.6
South	105,900	41.5	425,500	39.8	830,400	37.1
Total	255,000	100.0	1,069,900	100.0	2,237,800	100.0
Region Total	507,200		1,329,100		2,435,200	

Figure 5



influenced by an internal movement of the more affluent young couples and others, from the West and North Sectors to the East. In this sense, the East Sector experienced an "additional" growth mainly at the expense of the West and North.

The South Sector's strong population growth was partly due to the very marked concurrent industrial development. In the North and West, where the numerical increase was much smaller, the population growth was more substantially influenced through migrant inflows. In the Central Sector, where the total population markedly decreased, losses were somewhat compensated by the high inflow of migrants.

It is evident that, apart from natural growth, immigration has been a very important factor in Melbourne's population growth which has not only led to changes in the composition of the population but has also resulted in a population distribution pattern reflecting the locational choice of certain ethnic groups (Appendix 2.2).

In 1947 the distribution of non-Australian born population was fairly uniform throughout the metropolitan area, when only one person in ten was non-Australian born whereas by 1966 the non-Australian population had reached 25 per cent of the total metropolitan population, with much stronger concentrations in the Central, North and West Sectors.

Although the migrant population has settled in all areas, it appears that certain ethnic groups have their own locational preferences. For example, the migrants of Southern European origin have more strongly concentrated in the Central and North Sectors and additionally in the West Sector. Since 1954 the population settling in the Central Sector has been almost exclusively of Southern European origin.

The U.K. born and other Europeans show a marked preference for the South Sector as a whole and Suburban East; these preferences being largely in accord with the emerging location preference of the Australian born population, although Inner South, where the majority of the new private flats have been erected, lost Australian born population whilst gaining in all migrant groups.

In general, as far as net population changes are concerned, the Australian born population has been leaving the Central Sector and the Inner Ring, during the entire post-war period up to the last Census in 1966. The rate of loss of the Australian born has diminished and there may now be some small gains