Conversion of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Population Projections to Enrolment Projections

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) have calculated projections of the population of Australian residents aged 18 years and over for each Census Collection District (CD) starting with a base at 30 June 2004 annually through to 30 June 2008. To allow baseline comparison with latest electoral roll counts, interpolation was used to derive 15 November 2005 population. The 30 November 2007 population projections were also calculated by interpolating between 30 June figures.

For most CDs it was assumed that the proportional relationship between electoral enrolments and resident population aged 18+ will continue. Accordingly, the population projections were converted to enrolment projections as follows:

P2005 = ABS projection of residents aged 18+ at 15 November 2005
P2007 = ABS projection of residents aged 18+ at 30 November 2007
E2005 = Enrolled persons at 15 November 2005
E2007 = Projected enrolled persons at 30 November 2007

E2007 = (E2005 / P2005) * P2007

For example, a Census Collection District's figures may be:

P2005 = 471
P2007 = 498
E2005 = 411

E2007 = (411 / 471) * 498
      = 435

Some CDs with very high growth have low enrolment : population ratios due to lags in occupancy and/or change in enrolment address. These ratios were adjusted upwards as the lags work out over time, adjusting to the degree necessary to maintain the overall State enrolment ratio.

In a minority of CDs where enrolments were greater than the baseline population projection, it was assumed that electoral enrolments will grow by the same amount as the population of Australian residents aged 18+, ie:

E2007 = E2005 + (P2007 - P2005)

For example, a Census Collection District's figures may be:

P2005 = 146
P2007 = 228
E2005 = 150

E2007 = 150 + (228-146)
      = 232

Thereafter the Australian Electoral Commission may amend the enrolment projections for certain CDs based on specific local knowledge of the area.