



Supporting future care in Tasmania

Meeting the challenge of the ageing population

Janis McKenna

Chief Executive Officer
Carers Tasmania, Hobart,
Australia

Annemarie Ashton

Policy and Research Consultant
Canberra, Australia

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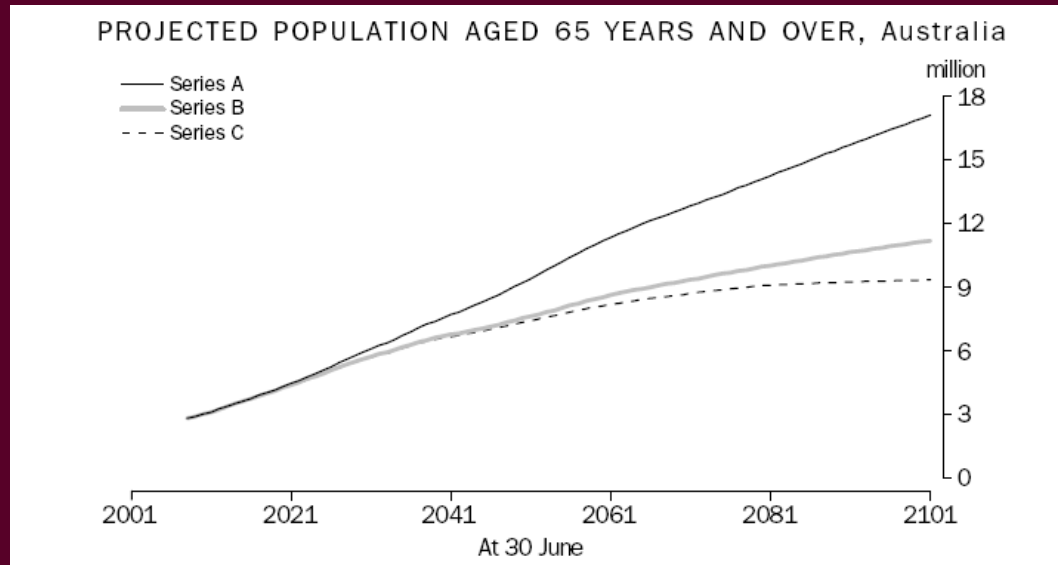
Carers Tasmania support all people who provide unpaid, ongoing care for family members or friends having:

- a disability
- a chronic illness or condition
- a mental illness
- palliative care needs
- or who are aged and frail



Australia faces critical challenges as the population ages

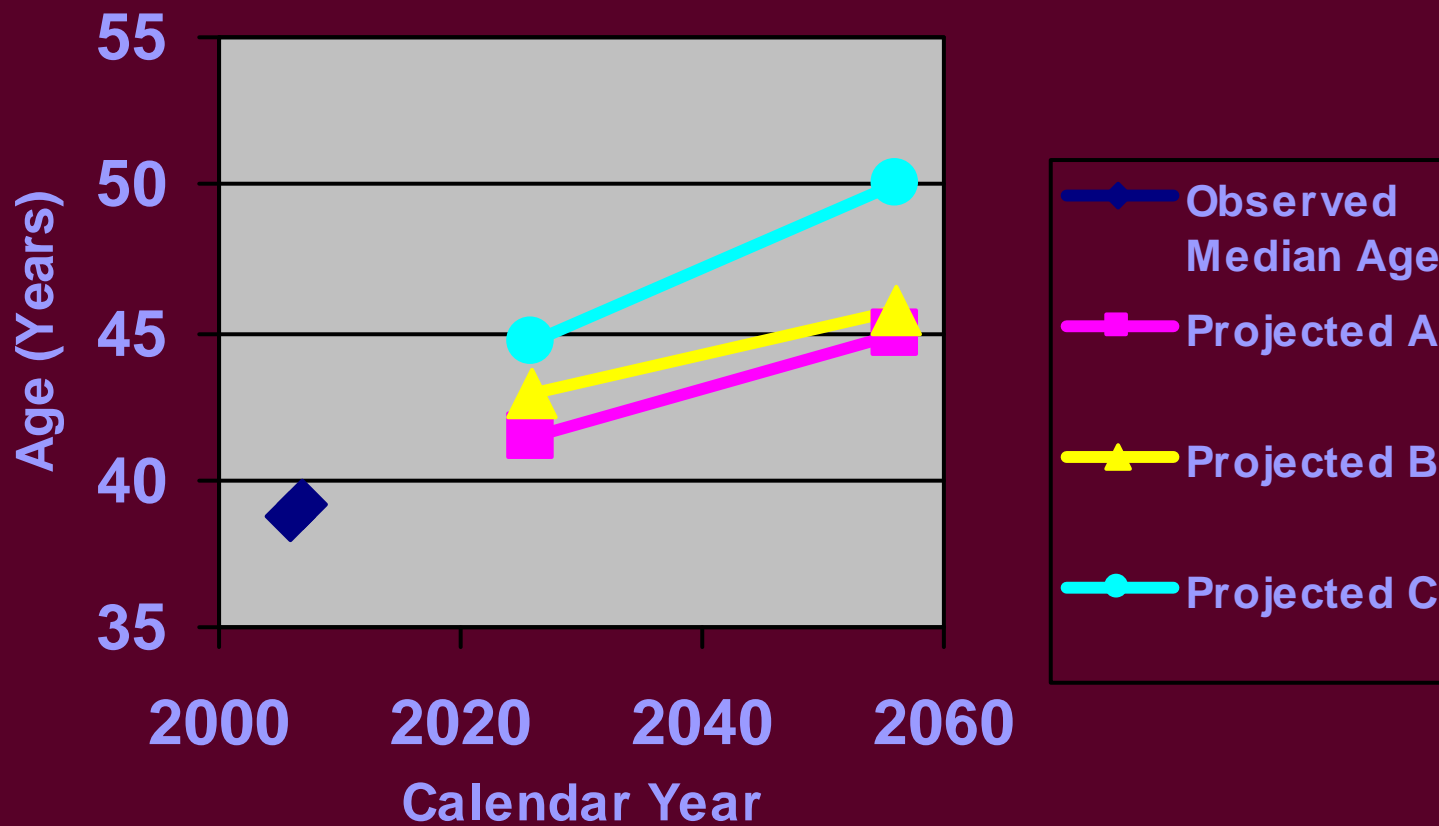
Population projections anticipate huge increases in the proportions of old (65+) and very old (85+) people in Australian society



Source: ABS (2008) Population projections 2006 – 2101 Cat No 3222.0

Median ages will continue to rise

Observed and Projected Median Age for Tasmania^[1]



^[1] Chart based on data from ABS (2008)
Population Projections Australia 2006 – 2101 Cat No 3222.0

Caring, Ageing and Participation: A Comparison

<i>Category</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Australia</i>
Total carers ^[1]	69,500	2.5 million
Carers as a percentage of population ^[2]	15%	13%
Median population age ^[3]	39	37
Proportion of population aged 55+ ^[4]	27.2%	24.3%
Carers not in the workforce ^[5]	48.3%	33%
Carers living in outer regional or remote areas ^[6]	36%	12%

^[1] ABS (2003) *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers* Cat No 4430.0.

^[2] *ibid*

^[3] ABS (2006) *2006 Census Quickstats: Tasmania*

^[4] *ibid*

^[5] ABS (2003) *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers* Cat No 4430.0.

^[6] *ibid*

Report on the Profile of Carers Tasmania – IMC Link Research



- Profile of Tasmanian carers
- Future of informal care
- Economic value of caring in Tasmania
- Social contribution of carers

Profile of the 'typical' respondent

More likely to be:

- A primary carer
- Female
- Aged 45+
- Providing 40+ hours of care per week



1 in 3 Tasmanian carers live in rural or outer regional areas

The future of informal care in Tasmania

- The number of people requiring assistance with a core activity, such as communication, mobility or self-care, will increase by 42-57% by 2028
- Profound and severe core activity limitations are projected to increase by 33-40% to over 54,000 people by 2028.
- The number of carers is anticipated to increase by between 8 to 19% to a total of 80-88,000 in 2028 - of this - around 17-18,000 will be primary carers

Economic value of informal care to Tasmania

- Calculations based upon replacement cost of informal care with formal care, including opportunity cost of lost earnings and foregone tax contributions
- IMC-Link estimates carers work is of between **\$23-24 million per week** value to the Tasmanian economy (which equals \$1.23-1.26 billion per annum)

Source: IMC-Link/Carers Tasmania *Report on the profile of Carers Tasmania* (pending publication November 2008)

Social contribution of carers

- Informal caring is inextricably linked with shared values of the importance of helping and supporting family and friends in need
- Research findings suggest that Carers Tasmania is connecting with carers most at risk of 'social capital poverty'



Source: IMC-Link/Carers Tasmania *Report on the profile of Carers Tasmania* (pending publication November 2008)

Principles for future development of services to support care

1. Reduction of isolation through re-connecting individuals with community
2. Building networks of specialist support with reciprocal links to mainstream services
3. Building capacity in communities identified most at risk

Further Information

Carers Tasmania

Head Office

"Westella" 181 Elizabeth Street Hobart

T: (03) 6231 5507



Outreach Offices

Launceston & Burnie

Website

<http://www.carerstas.org>