

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: PEOPLE'S VIEWS AND PRACTICES

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Bob Harrison on Canberra (02) 6252 7369.

NOTES

- ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION** This publication is the tenth of its type and presents information on environmental behaviour and practices of Australian households and individuals collected in March 2004. Respondents were aged 18 years or older.
- This edition focuses on "Water use and conservation" and covers a range of issues including water sources, water supply, rainwater tanks and water saving measures used in households.
- Other areas covered include: concern about environmental problems and environmental involvement; use of environmentally-friendly products, fertilisers and pesticides; and use of World Heritage Areas, National and State Parks.
- ABOUT THE SURVEY** The data in this publication are derived from a supplement to the Monthly Population Survey. Please refer to the Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication for further details about the survey.
- DATA COMPARABILITY** A set of changing topics rotate over a period of three years. The topics contained in this publication are compared with data collected in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2001. Where applicable those data have been included in this publication to enable comparisons.
- Prior to 1997, environment topics were surveyed using 'personal interview' methodology. From 1997 onwards, the 'any responsible adult' methodology has been applied. When comparing post-1997 and pre-1997 data, readers should be aware that some differences in the data may be explained by the change in methodology rather than the real changes over time.
- ROUNDING** Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may occur between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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INTRODUCTION

This publication presents the results of a survey of environmental practices of Australian households and individuals conducted in March 2004. The topics covered were environmental concerns and involvement; water supply, use and conservation; use of environmentally friendly products, fertilisers and pesticides; and use of World Heritage Areas and National or State Parks. Some of the main findings are outlined below.

MAIN FINDINGS

Environmental concerns and involvement

- In 2004, 8.6 million Australians aged 18 years and over (57%) stated that they were concerned about environmental problems.
- The level of concern about environmental problems has shown a continual decline since 1992, when three-quarter (75%) of Australians stated they had environmental concerns.
- The Australian Capital Territory had the highest level of concern (69%) and the Northern Territory the lowest (46%).
- Those aged between 45–54 years old expressed the most concern about environmental problems (65%), and those 65 years and over the least (47%).
- In the 12 months prior to March 2004, almost 3 million Australians aged 18 years and over (one in five) donated some time or money to help protect the environment. The proportion was unchanged from 1998 and 2001. People in South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to donate time or money towards environmental protection (23%, 24% and 25% respectively).
- In the 12 months prior to March 2004, 7% of Australians aged 18 years and over (over 1 million) formally registered an environmental concern either by writing a letter, telephoning, participating in a demonstration, signing a petition or some other means.
- 13% of people with environmental concerns formally registered an environmental concern (via a letter, telephone, demonstration, signed petition or some other means), and 29% donated time or money to protect the environment. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of people with environmental concerns took neither of these actions.

Water use and conservation

- 93% of Australian households were connected to mains/town water in March 2004. 98% of households in capital cities were connected to mains/town water, compared with 85% of households residing outside of capital cities.
- 80% of Australian households rely on mains/town water as their main source of water for drinking. This rises to 89% for households in capital cities, and drops to 67% for households outside capital cities.

*Water use and
conservation continued*

- Generally, there has been a steady increase in the levels of satisfaction with the quality of mains water for drinking across Australia, from 64% in 1994 to 70% in 2004. Taste (other than being salty) was the single largest problem identified by people dissatisfied with their drinking water (51%). Western Australians nominated this more than any other state (60%), and the Australian Capital Territory residents the least (40%).
- 17% of households sourced water from a rainwater tank in 2004 (9% of households in capital cities and 31% of all other households). Nearly half of all households in South Australia (48%) sourced water from a rainwater tank, with 78% of households outside Adelaide using rainwater tanks.
- 21% of households purchased bottled water in 2004 and 8% of households had it as their main source of drinking water. Between 1994 and 2004, the proportion of households which purchased bottled water increased from 3% to 21%.
- 82% of households had a water conservation device inside their dwelling: 74% of households had dual flush toilets in 2004 (up from 39% in 1994 and 64% in 2001) and 44% of households had reduced flow shower heads (up from 22% in 1994 and 35% in 2001).
- 47% of households engaged in water conservation practices in and around the dwelling. More than half of all households (nearly 54%) reported taking no water conservation steps in the home at all.
- The most popular water conservation measures in the home included using full loads when washing dishes and clothes, and taking shorter showers (18% of households reported doing each of these).
- Recycling and/or reusing water was reported by 16% of households, an increase from 11% in 2001. 28% of the Australian Capital Territory households recycled or reused water, increased from 10% in 2001. These were also popular activities in Victoria and Western Australia (21%, increased from 14% in both states).
- More than 90% of households with gardens reported taking measures in the garden to conserve water.
- The measure reported most often by households to conserve water in the garden was using mulch (58% in 2004, up from 51% in 2001). New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory all reported large increases in the use of mulch as a water conservation measure.
- Watering early in the morning or late in the evening was the second most popular water conservation measure for Australian gardens, at 23%. This was most favoured in South Australia (38%) and the Northern Territory (37%)
- 18% of households used recycled water on the garden, a significant increase from 11% in 2001. States and territories that significantly increased their use of recycled water on the garden since 2001 included New South Wales (9% to 19%); Victoria (13% to 23%); and the Australian Capital Territory (7% to 26%).
- In 2004, 71% of Australian households hand watered their garden, compared with 66% in 2001. There was a corresponding decrease in the use of fixed and movable sprinklers (from 28% in 2001 down to 15% in 2004 for movable sprinklers, and 31% down to 22% for fixed sprinkler systems).
- States and territories that reported an increase in measures to conserve water in the garden since 2001 include New South Wales (86% to 90% of households); Victoria (90% to 93%); South Australia (90% to 93%).

Use of environmentally friendly products, fertilisers and pesticides

- In 2004, almost nine in ten households in Australia (89%) reported that they purchase environmentally friendly products. This was similar to 2001 (90%).
- Recycled paper products (67% of households) and products with refillable containers (65% of households) were the EFPs most commonly purchased by Australian households.
- Most EFPs showed a small decline in their usage, with the purchase of unbleached paper products showing the largest decline (from 63% in 1992 and 51% in 2001 to 46% in 2004).
- Households in the Australian Capital Territory were more likely to purchase all types of EFPs except for organically grown fruit and vegetables.
- Cost remains the most important reason why households do not buy EFPs and this reason has increased over time (31% in 1998; 36% in 2001 and 39% in 2004). This reason was most significant for single parent households (59%).
- In 2004, nearly 3 million households (46%) reported they grow fruit or vegetables in their garden.
- Most of these households (84%) reported that they used some form of fertilisers in this activity; 76% stated they used manure or compost and 40% used other fertilisers.
- Nearly 29% of households use pesticide or weedkiller when growing fruit and vegetables in their gardens.

Use of World Heritage Areas, National and State Parks

- In March 2004, nearly 8 million (52%) Australians aged 18 years and over reported that they had visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the 12 months prior to the survey. This proportion is much less than in 1992 when almost two in three Australians (63%) had visited any one of these areas 12 months prior to the survey.
- People who made a trip to these areas were most likely to be between the ages of 25 and 44 and belong to a household comprising of a couple with dependent children (61%). Least likely to visit a World Heritage Area or a park were persons aged 65 years and over (30%) and those belonging to a single person household (44%).
- Since 1998, the main reason reported for not visiting a World Heritage Area, National or State Park was lack of time (36%-37%); followed by age/health/inability (17%).
- People in Western Australia and the Northern Territory (60%) reported the highest visits to a World Heritage Area, National or State Park; and New South Wales the least (50%).

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents information on the level of environmental concern and involvement reported by Australians aged 18 years and over in March 2004.

Data on concern about environmental problems have been collected by the ABS since 1992. Over this period, Australians' level of concern has shown a continual decline. In March 2004, 57% of Australians aged 18 years and over reported concern about environmental problems, down from a high of 75% in May 1992.

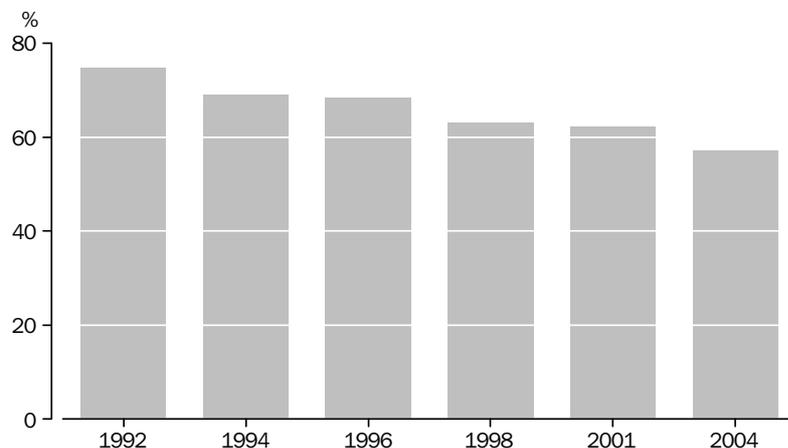
In recent times, issues such as drought, bushfires, water reform and conservation, climate change and native vegetation have featured prominently in the media in various regions of Australia. Overall concern about environmental problems, however, has shown a decline between 2001 and 2004 (from 62% down to 57%). This is despite many areas of Australia being in drought conditions over the past 3 years (see Appendix), resulting in an increased awareness of water use and conservation issues by many Australian households (see Chapter 3 for results of water use and conservation practices by Australian households).

Information on the level of environmental concern and environmental involvement by Australians at March 2004 is compared to results from previous years, as well as detailed breakdowns by age group and capital city/balance of state and territory, where applicable.

Concern about environmental problems

In 2004, 8.6 million Australians (57%) stated that they were concerned about environmental problems (table 2.9). This was a drop from 62% in 2001. Concern about environmental problems has shown a continual decline since 1992, when 75% of Australians expressed concern (graph 2.1).

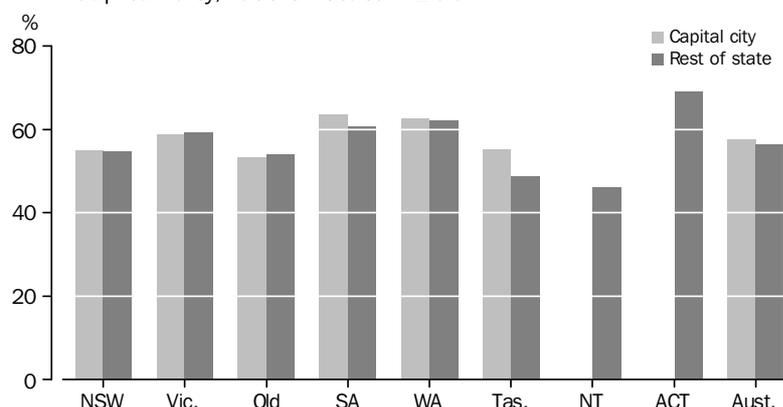
2.1 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS



Concern about environmental problems continued

Generally, the level of concern is similar for people living in capital cities and the rest of the country. The exception is Tasmania, where concern about environmental problems is 55% in Hobart, compared with 49% for the rest of the state (graph 2.2).

2.2 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By capital city/rest of state—2004



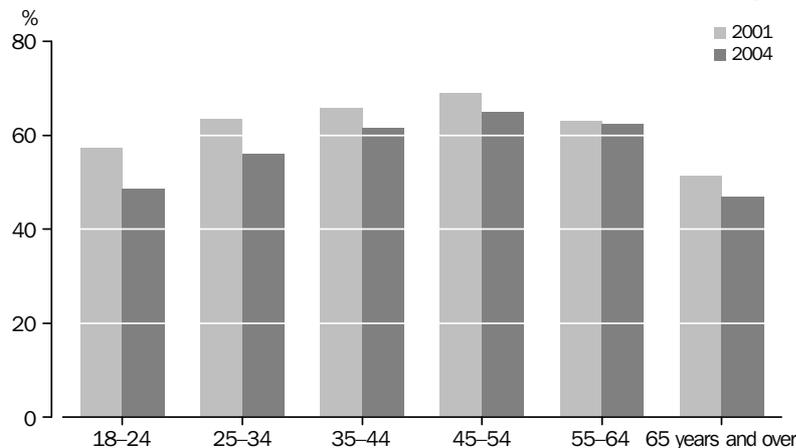
Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

People in the Australian Capital Territory reported the highest level of concern (69%), followed by South Australia and Western Australia (both 63%). All states and territories showed a decline in concern about environmental problems between 2001 and 2004, with the largest drops occurring in Queensland (Brisbane and the rest of the state) – from 63% in 2001 down to 54% in 2004; areas in South Australia outside Adelaide (72% in 2001 down to 61% in 2004); areas in Western Australia outside Perth (71% down to 62%); Hobart (69% down to 55%); and the Northern Territory (62% in 2001 down to 46% in 2004) (table 2.10).

Those aged between 45–54 years expressed the most concern about environmental problems (65%), and those 65 years and over the least (47%) (table 2.11). All age groups showed a decline in environmental concerns between 2001 and 2004, with the younger age groups reporting the largest decline (57% in 2001 down to 49% in 2004 for the 18–24 age group, and 64% down to 56% for the 25–34 age group) (graph 2.3).

Concern about environmental problems continued

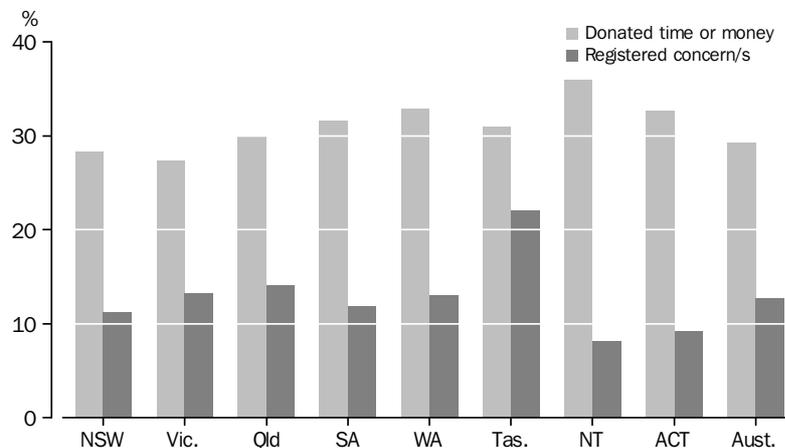
2.3 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By age



Environmental Involvement

Of the 57% of people who are concerned about environmental problems, 13% formally registered an environmental concern (via letter, telephone, demonstration, signed petition or some other means), and 29% donated time or money to protect the environment (graph 2.4). Nearly two-thirds (65%) of people with environmental concerns took neither of these actions (table 2.12).

2.4 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, Environmental actions taken—2004

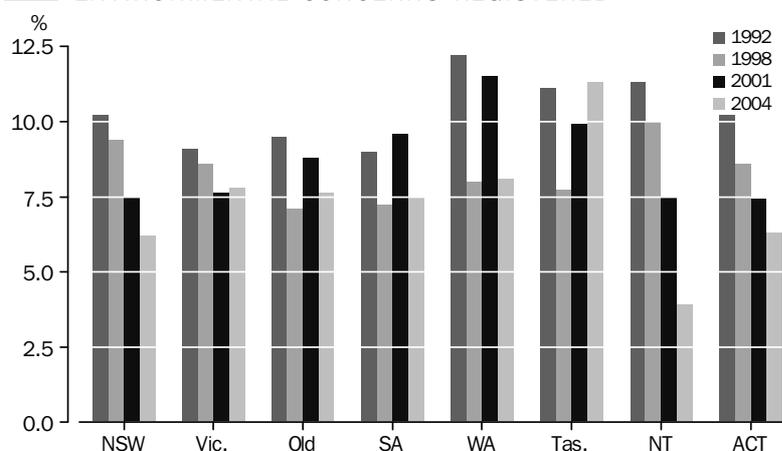


In the 12 months prior to March 2004, 7% of Australians aged 18 years and over (over 1 million) formally registered an environmental concern either by writing a letter, telephoning, participating in a demonstration, signing a petition or some other means. This compared to 8% in 2001 (table 2.13).

Registration of environmental concerns experienced the largest declines in Western Australia (12% in 2001 down to 8% in 2004) and the Northern Territory (8% in 2001 down to 4% in 2004) (graph 2.5). The 55-64 age group was most likely to register an environmental concern in 2004 (10%), and the 18-24 age group the least likely (4% in 2004) (table 2.14).

Environmental Involvement
continued

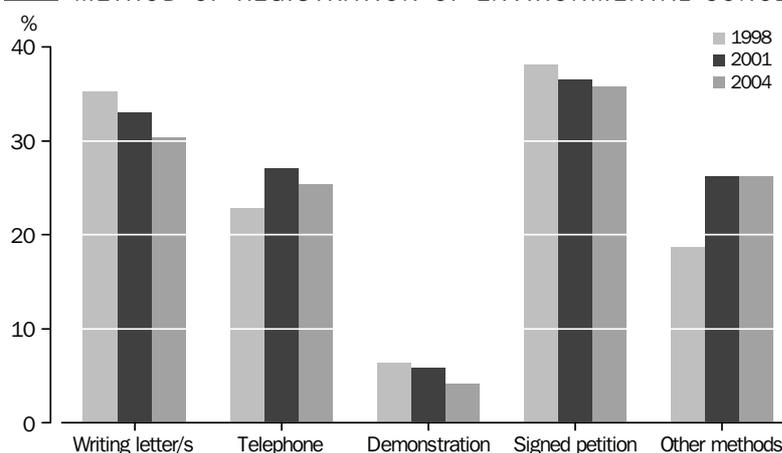
2.5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS REGISTERED



A signed petition was the method used most often to register an environmental concern (36% of those who registered a concern), followed by writing a letter (30%) (graph 2.6). One quarter of those who registered a concern did so by telephone. Just 4% participated in a demonstration, although this figure was 21% in Tasmania.

The method used to register an environmental concern was influenced by age, with older people (65 years and over) more likely to write a letter (39%), and younger people (18–24 year olds) more likely to sign a petition (55%) or participate in a demonstration (15%) (table 2.16).

2.6 METHOD OF REGISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

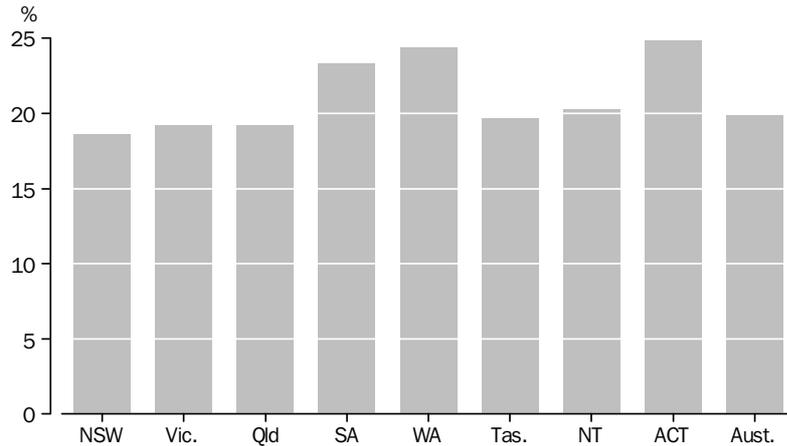


In the 12 months prior to March 2004, almost 3 million Australians aged 18 years and over (one in five) donated some time or money to help protect the environment (table 2.17). The proportion was unchanged from 1998 and 2001.

Environmental Involvement
continued

People in South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to donate time or money towards environmental protection (23%, 24% and 25% respectively) (graph 2.7). People aged between 35–54 years were most likely to donate their time or money (23%), and 65 years and over were least likely (12%) (table 2.18)

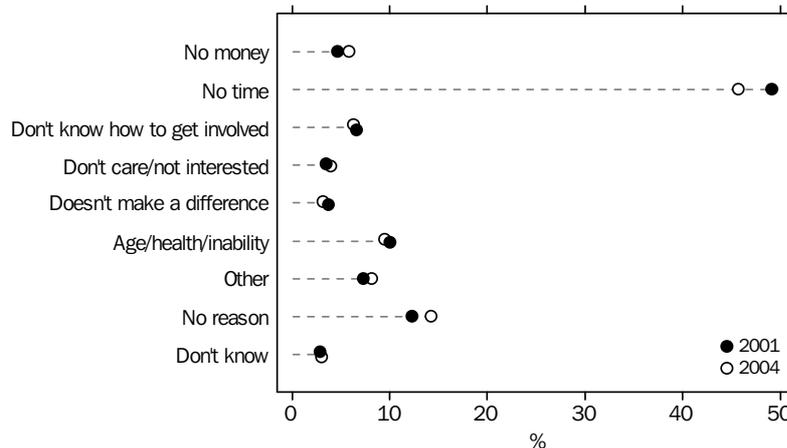
2.7 DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION—2004



Forty-six per cent of people not involved in either registering an environmental concern nor donating time or money to environmental protection claimed they had no time for involvement in these actions (graph 2.8 and table 2.19). This was especially the case for people in the 35–44 age group (59%), and 25–34 year olds (56% had no time).

'No reason' was stated by 14% of people, and one in ten were unable due to age/health. This increased to 41% for people aged 65 years and over. Four per cent of people stated they didn't care or were not interested, with 7% of the youngest age group (18–24) citing this as the main reason (table 2.20).

2.8 MAIN REASON FOR NON-INVOLVEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS



2.9 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—2004

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(a)	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Capital city									
Is concerned	1 758.3	1 642.7	701.3	546.1	692.5	83.1	..	..	5 424.0
Is not concerned	1 301.5	1 072.0	577.6	292.1	387.8	65.9	..	..	3 696.9
Don't know	141.1	77.4	36.0	20.3	24.9	*1.7	..	..	301.4
Total	3 201.0	2 792.1	1 314.9	858.5	1 105.2	150.7	..	..	9 422.3
Balance of state/territory									
Is concerned	1 003.4	599.2	831.4	181.0	234.1	100.5	..	..	3 160.9
Is not concerned	769.5	390.3	658.1	109.8	128.2	101.0	..	..	2 278.1
Don't know	57.7	*20.6	47.6	*7.6	15.0	*4.7	..	..	161.6
Total	1 830.6	1 010.1	1 537.1	298.5	377.3	206.2	..	..	5 600.6
Total state/territory									
Is concerned	2 761.7	2 241.9	1 532.7	727.1	926.6	183.6	48.0	163.2	8 584.9
Is not concerned	2 071.1	1 462.3	1 235.8	401.9	516.0	166.9	51.4	69.7	5 975.0
Don't know	198.8	98.0	83.6	27.9	39.9	*6.3	*5.0	*3.6	463.0
Total	5 031.6	3 802.1	2 852.1	1 157.0	1 482.5	356.9	104.4	236.5	15 022.9
PROPORTION (%)									
Capital city									
Is concerned	54.9	58.8	53.3	63.6	62.7	55.2	..	..	57.6
Is not concerned	40.7	38.4	43.9	34.0	35.1	43.7	..	..	39.2
Don't know	4.4	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.3	*1.1	..	..	3.2
Balance of state/territory									
Is concerned	54.8	59.3	54.1	60.7	62.1	48.8	..	..	56.4
Is not concerned	42.0	38.6	42.8	36.8	34.0	49.0	..	..	40.7
Don't know	3.1	*2.0	3.1	*2.6	4.0	*2.3	..	..	2.9
Total state/territory									
Is concerned	54.9	59.0	53.7	62.8	62.5	51.5	46.0	69.0	57.1
Is not concerned	41.2	38.5	43.3	34.7	34.8	46.8	49.2	29.5	39.8
Don't know	4.0	2.6	2.9	2.4	2.7	*1.8	*4.7	*1.5	3.1

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.. not applicable

(a) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any break down beyond the whole territory.

2.10 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(a)	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
Capital city	54.9	58.8	53.3	63.6	62.7	55.2	..	..	57.6
Balance of state/territory	54.8	59.3	54.1	60.7	62.1	48.8	..	..	56.4
Total state/territory	54.9	59.0	53.7	62.8	62.5	51.5	46.0	69.0	57.1
MARCH 2001									
Capital city	58.0	60.7	62.4	69.1	67.6	69.1	..	..	61.7
Balance of state/territory	60.9	62.8	62.6	71.4	71.2	53.3	..	..	63.1
Total state/territory	59.0	61.2	62.5	69.7	68.5	59.9	61.8	70.7	62.2
MARCH 1998 (b)									
Capital city	63.0	61.2	64.0	65.4	67.4	56.7	..	..	63.2
Balance of state/territory	63.1	63.4	60.6	63.9	67.4	54.3	..	..	62.8
Total state/territory	63.0	61.8	62.2	65.0	67.4	55.3	67.9	68.7	63.1
MARCH 1996									
Capital city	67.1	71.2	67.4	74.1	70.2	56.0	..	..	69.2
Balance of state/territory	65.6	68.7	66.2	68.4	72.4	59.6	..	..	67.1
Total state/territory	66.5	70.5	66.8	72.6	70.8	58.1	66.1	75.1	68.4
JUNE 1994									
Capital city	70.5	68.7	70.5	73.9	71.6	58.6	..	..	70.3
Balance of state/territory	67.0	63.4	66.8	70.1	65.6	63.2	..	..	66.6
Total state/territory	69.2	67.2	68.5	73.0	70.1	61.3	72.2	74.2	68.9
MAY 1992									
Capital city	73.8	75.8	74.3	79.0	75.2	74.5	..	..	75.2
Balance of state/territory	73.3	73.6	73.8	71.6	78.3	68.1	..	..	74.1
Total state/territory	73.6	75.2	74.0	77.0	76.0	70.7	79.6	83.5	74.8

.. not applicable

(a) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any break down beyond the whole territory.

(b) Revised data based on March 1998 Monthly Population Survey. Previous data were based on discontinued Population Survey Monitor.

2.11

PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By age

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March 2004	48.6	55.9	61.6	65.0	62.4	46.9	57.1
March 2001	57.2	63.5	65.8	68.9	63.1	51.4	62.2
March 1998(a)	63.1	66.9	68.3	64.9	60.3	50.9	63.1
March 1996	72.7	72.1	73.2	70.9	64.2	52.9	68.4
June 1994	73.6	73.4	75.8	71.6	63.0	49.7	68.9
May 1992	78.9	79.8	79.3	76.2	68.7	59.3	74.8

(a) Revised data based on March 1998 Monthly Population Survey. Previous data were based on the discontinued Population Survey Monitor.

2.12

PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, Environmental actions taken

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Donated time or money	784.0	615.0	458.3	229.7	305.1	56.8	17.2	53.2	2 519.5
Registered environmental concerns	312.8	296.0	216.5	85.7	120.6	40.4	*3.9	15.0	1 090.8
None of the above	1 856.9	1 463.8	962.8	459.9	573.3	108.1	29.9	102.6	5 557.4
Total persons	2 761.7	2 241.9	1 532.7	727.1	926.6	183.6	48.0	163.2	8 584.9
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	28.4	27.4	29.9	31.6	32.9	30.9	35.9	32.6	29.3
Registered environmental concerns	11.3	13.2	14.1	11.8	13.0	22.0	*8.2	9.2	12.7
None of the above	67.2	65.3	62.8	63.2	61.9	58.9	62.3	62.9	64.7
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	29.4	26.0	26.8	31.7	32.0	30.3	19.5	31.0	28.5
Registered environmental concerns	12.4	11.9	13.8	13.5	16.4	15.8	11.7	10.3	13.1
None of the above	63.2	67.6	66.0	62.2	61.8	63.3	73.9	64.8	64.7
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	28.3	28.3	25.2	29.8	29.0	27.8	29.9	31.1	28.0
Registered environmental concerns	14.9	13.9	11.5	11.1	11.8	13.9	14.7	12.6	13.3
None of the above	63.7	65.0	68.7	64.2	65.2	67.3	63.9	62.9	65.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

2.13

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED IN LAST 12 MONTHS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Registered environmental concerns	313.8	296.0	215.9	86.4	119.4	40.4	3.9	15.0	1 090.8
Did not register environmental concerns	2 430.1	1 935.1	1 306.2	638.8	799.1	142.5	42.3	148.0	7 442.2
Don't know	19.9	*11.9	*9.1	*4.0	*6.6	*0.6	—	—	52.0
No concerns(a)	2 261.2	1 564.7	1 320.9	429.8	557.6	175.2	53.8	74.8	6 438.0
Total persons	5 025.0	3 807.6	2 852.1	1 159.0	1 482.7	358.7	100.0	237.8	15 022.9
Proportion (%)									
Registered environmental concerns	6.2	7.8	7.6	7.5	8.1	11.3	3.9	6.3	7.3
Did not register environmental concerns	48.4	50.8	45.8	55.1	53.9	39.7	42.3	62.2	49.5
Don't know	0.4	*0.3	*0.3	*0.3	*0.4	*0.2	—	—	0.3
No concerns(a)	45.0	41.1	46.3	37.1	37.6	48.8	53.8	31.5	42.9
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Registered environmental concerns	7.5	7.6	8.8	9.6	11.5	9.9	7.5	7.4	8.4
Did not register environmental concerns	52.7	55.6	54.8	61.1	58.0	52.0	56.7	63.9	55.2
Don't know	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.6	—	0.7	0.6
No concerns	39.2	36.2	36.0	28.9	29.5	37.5	35.9	28.0	35.8
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Registered environmental concerns	9.4	8.6	7.1	7.2	8.0	7.7	10.0	8.6	8.4
Did not register environmental concerns	53.3	52.4	54.4	57.6	58.3	47.0	57.7	60.0	54.1
Don't know	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.2	1.1	0.6	0.3	—	0.6
No concerns	37.0	38.2	37.8	35.0	32.6	44.7	32.1	31.3	36.9
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Registered environmental concerns	10.2	9.1	9.5	9.0	12.2	11.1	11.3	10.2	9.9
Did not register environmental concerns	63.3	65.7	64.2	68.0	63.5	59.4	68.1	72.7	64.6
Don't know	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3
No concerns	26.4	24.8	26.0	23.0	24.0	29.3	20.4	16.5	25.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who stated 'don't know' in relation to environmental concerns. (Refer to table 2.9).

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

2.14 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED IN LAST 12 MONTHS, By age

	18 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March 2004	4.1	6.7	7.9	9.1	10.4	5.0	7.3
March 2001	7.1	8.1	8.9	10.6	8.9	6.2	8.4
March 1998	6.3	8.8	10.6	9.7	8.6	5.1	8.4
May 1992	7.8	11.2	13.0	10.3	9.1	5.9	9.9

2.15

METHODS USED IN REGISTERING ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Letter	104.7	91.1	56.2	25.4	34.9	11.1	*1.8	*5.6	330.7
Telephone	57.0	67.0	84.4	23.6	33.1	*6.9	*1.0	*2.5	275.6
Demonstration	*16.0	*11.2	*2.7	*0.6	*4.3	8.6	*0.7	*0.5	44.5
Signed petition	106.5	114.1	68.3	33.8	42.3	20.8	*0.9	*3.8	390.7
Other	80.7	81.3	48.3	20.4	36.5	12.2	*1.5	*5.1	286.0
Total persons^(a)	312.8	296.0	216.5	85.7	120.6	40.4	3.9	15.0	1 090.8
Proportion (%)									
Letter	33.5	30.8	26.0	29.6	28.9	27.5	*46.0	*37.1	30.3
Telephone	18.2	22.6	39.0	27.6	27.5	*17.2	*25.4	*16.4	25.3
Demonstration	*5.1	*3.8	*1.2	*0.7	*3.5	21.2	*17.1	*3.6	4.1
Signed petition	34.1	38.6	31.6	39.5	35.1	51.4	*23.8	*25.2	35.8
Other	25.8	27.5	22.3	23.8	30.3	30.2	*37.2	*34.2	26.2
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Letter	38.3	33.9	29.3	24.8	29.8	34.4	44.0	34.4	33.0
Telephone	25.7	31.9	33.1	25.0	16.4	19.5	36.7	24.1	27.1
Demonstration	5.9	6.4	4.7	5.6	5.6	7.9	—	8.1	5.8
Signed petition	32.7	34.0	33.0	39.3	50.9	43.4	43.5	35.2	36.5
Other	24.2	25.7	23.8	32.7	30.5	27.4	9.2	33.0	26.2
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Letter	41.8	29.4	33.0	33.7	31.6	33.4	26.6	31.2	35.3
Telephone	17.1	25.9	28.1	32.2	21.8	33.1	9.6	16.0	22.8
Demonstration	8.6	4.9	4.9	4.2	3.8	4.3	20.4	12.2	6.4
Signed petition	35.8	40.4	37.8	31.1	42.6	41.7	67.8	38.5	38.1
Other	19.2	19.6	16.1	19.6	18.2	16.3	17.6	21.6	18.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only those persons who formally registered an environmental concern in the last 12 months. (Refer to table 2.13).

2.16

METHODS USED IN REGISTERING ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS(a), By age

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004							
Letter	22.4	26.1	34.9	28.5	29.7	38.9	30.3
Telephone	*15.3	21.0	24.0	28.7	29.1	27.7	25.3
Demonstration	*14.8	*3.0	*1.7	*4.2	*3.3	*4.1	4.1
Signed petition	54.9	43.1	35.1	34.7	24.9	33.5	35.8
Other	26.3	23.2	25.3	27.6	30.0	23.4	26.2
MARCH 2001							
Letter	18.4	32.4	30.7	39.5	33.9	38.3	33.0
Telephone	16.4	30.4	28.4	26.8	34.3	21.4	27.1
Demonstration	9.9	9.2	3.4	4.9	3.8	4.4	5.8
Signed petition	59.5	36.8	37.8	35.3	27.4	24.7	36.5
Other	18.9	22.8	23.2	27.9	34.0	32.1	26.2
MARCH 1998							
Letter	29.4	36.4	35.7	32.9	40.0	37.1	35.3
Telephone	15.9	21.7	20.8	21.2	35.2	26.5	22.8
Demonstration	10.7	9.5	5.4	5.1	5.0	2.0	6.4
Signed petition	45.1	43.0	42.0	32.4	27.8	33.5	38.1
Other	12.8	14.5	20.0	27.3	17.1	14.2	18.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
 (a) Includes only those persons who formally registered an environmental concern in the last 12 months. (Refer to table 2.13).

2.17 DONATED TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Donated time or money	937.9	728.7	548.7	269.4	361.9	70.5	21.2	58.6	2 996.8
Did not donate time or money	4 093.7	3 073.4	2 303.4	887.6	1 120.6	286.4	83.1	177.9	12 026.1
Total persons	5 031.6	3 802.1	2 852.1	1 157.0	1 482.5	356.9	104.4	236.5	15 022.9
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	18.6	19.2	19.2	23.3	24.4	19.7	20.3	24.8	19.9
Did not donate time or money	81.4	80.8	80.8	76.7	75.6	80.3	79.7	75.2	80.1
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	19.5	18.3	19.4	24.9	24.8	21.2	13.8	23.9	20.2
Did not donate time or money	80.5	81.7	80.6	75.1	75.2	78.8	86.2	76.1	79.8
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Donated time or money	20.2	19.6	18.6	22.3	22.8	19.1	23.1	23.9	20.2
Did not donate time or money	79.8	80.4	81.4	77.7	77.2	80.9	76.9	76.1	79.8

2.18 DONATED TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, By age

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March 2004	17.8	20.7	23.4	23.1	20.5	12.4	19.9
March 2001	18.2	22.4	23.0	22.4	18.6	13.8	20.2
March 1998	19.8	22.2	25.0	20.7	18.1	12.5	20.2

2.19 PERSONS NOT INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS, Main reason not involved

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
No money	122.8	87.1	36.4	39.8	23.7	*5.0	*2.7	*6.3	323.8
No time	847.9	643.7	469.0	207.6	264.5	46.7	12.0	50.0	2 541.4
Don't know how to get involved	135.3	111.1	40.5	17.7	35.4	*6.2	—	*4.9	351.0
Don't care/not interested	63.4	55.6	42.2	32.6	16.9	*2.8	*1.4	10.2	225.0
Don't think it will make a difference	41.1	52.4	28.6	14.7	24.4	*6.9	*3.5	*5.1	176.7
Age/health/not able to	189.1	123.7	95.4	46.8	49.6	15.1	*2.7	*6.1	528.3
Other	135.5	120.2	88.1	35.7	51.2	12.3	*5.0	7.2	455.1
No reason	266.3	220.1	132.4	53.6	93.5	10.2	*2.5	11.1	789.7
Don't know	55.5	49.9	30.2	*11.4	*14.1	*3.0	*0.2	*1.9	166.2
Total persons(a)	1 856.9	1 463.8	962.8	459.9	573.3	108.1	29.9	102.6	5 557.4
Proportion (%)									
No money	6.6	6.0	3.8	8.7	4.1	*4.6	*8.9	*6.1	5.8
No time	45.7	44.0	48.7	45.1	46.1	43.2	40.1	48.7	45.7
Don't know how to get involved	7.3	7.6	4.2	3.9	6.2	*5.7	—	*4.7	6.3
Don't care/not interested	3.4	3.8	4.4	7.1	2.9	*2.6	*4.7	9.9	4.0
Don't think it will make a difference	2.2	3.6	3.0	3.2	4.3	*6.4	*11.6	*5.0	3.2
Age/health/not able to	10.2	8.5	9.9	10.2	8.6	14.0	*8.9	*5.9	9.5
Other	7.3	8.2	9.2	7.8	8.9	11.3	*16.7	7.0	8.2
No reason	14.3	15.0	13.8	*11.7	*16.3	9.4	*8.3	10.8	14.2
Don't know	3.0	3.4	3.1	2.5	2.5	*2.8	*0.7	*1.9	3.0
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
No money	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.0	6.6	11.1	3.4	4.7
No time	49.8	48.7	47.8	47.1	52.2	42.8	45.4	57.8	49.1
Don't know how to get involved	6.3	7.7	8.4	6.2	3.0	3.6	3.7	3.2	6.6
Don't care/not interested	3.1	2.3	5.1	3.7	4.1	3.6	4.2	4.8	3.5
Don't think it will make a difference	3.6	3.5	4.7	2.4	3.8	4.6	0.6	3.5	3.7
Age/health/unable to	10.9	9.0	9.3	11.9	9.7	12.8	7.3	5.9	10.0
Other	7.0	7.5	6.9	6.4	8.9	6.9	13.0	8.3	7.3
No reason	11.0	14.5	10.7	13.9	11.9	15.5	11.8	11.2	12.3
Don't know	3.5	2.2	2.5	4.1	2.4	3.5	3.0	1.8	2.9
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
No money	4.7	3.8	4.5	4.9	3.9	3.7	6.2	4.1	4.4
No time	45.1	46.2	44.1	42.7	42.4	39.7	55.6	51.8	44.8
Don't know how to get involved	4.8	7.1	6.1	5.9	6.7	4.0	4.8	4.0	5.9
Don't care/not interested	3.0	4.4	4.9	5.1	4.7	5.2	4.0	3.5	4.1
Don't think it will make a difference	3.1	3.7	4.7	4.3	7.0	4.8	4.2	5.0	4.1
Age/health/unable to	10.3	9.6	8.8	10.1	7.5	12.3	6.5	5.7	9.5
Other	6.3	6.1	8.0	6.8	7.8	8.4	4.6	8.5	6.8
No reason	15.8	16.1	15.0	17.3	15.2	18.7	13.9	15.4	15.8
Don't know	6.9	3.0	3.8	2.9	4.7	3.1	—	2.1	4.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only persons concerned about environmental problems but did not register concern or donate time or money to protect the environment.

2.20 PERSONS NOT INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS(a), Main reason not involved—By age

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004							
No money	10.0	4.9	4.9	4.5	5.7	6.7	5.8
No time	44.6	56.1	59.3	51.7	37.4	15.8	45.7
Don't know how to get involved	8.2	6.4	6.3	5.3	6.2	6.1	6.3
Don't care/not interested	6.7	2.7	2.7	4.0	6.2	3.2	4.0
Don't think it will make a difference	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.4	4.9	4.5	3.2
Age/health/not able to	*0.4	*1.1	2.9	5.1	10.0	41.4	9.5
Other	6.7	7.5	7.0	9.1	10.8	8.0	8.2
No reason	15.1	15.7	10.9	15.8	16.2	12.1	14.2
Don't know	5.5	3.0	3.5	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.0
MARCH 2001							
No money	7.2	4.4	4.6	3.3	4.7	4.8	4.7
No time	49.4	59.4	61.6	55.0	40.1	14.8	49.1
Don't know how to get involved	9.2	7.1	6.9	6.4	5.5	4.4	6.6
Don't care/not interested	3.9	2.6	3.0	3.7	4.8	3.7	3.5
Don't think it will make a difference	4.1	2.9	3.8	3.6	5.0	3.3	3.7
Age/health/not able to	1.8	1.6	1.7	4.7	12.7	47.4	10.0
Other	5.9	7.2	4.9	7.9	10.9	8.3	7.3
No reason	13.0	12.0	11.7	12.6	14.2	10.8	12.3
Don't know	5.6	3.0	2.0	2.9	2.1	2.4	2.9
MARCH 1998							
No money	5.2	4.6	3.8	3.6	4.5	4.7	4.4
No time	49.5	54.6	58.1	48.4	30.0	12.7	44.8
Don't know how to get involved	7.3	5.7	6.4	6.0	6.7	3.2	5.9
Don't care/not interested	4.1	2.7	4.1	4.1	6.5	4.4	4.1
Don't think it will make a difference	4.5	2.7	2.8	5.1	6.0	5.1	4.1
Age/health/not able to	1.4	2.0	1.3	4.1	13.0	45.1	9.5
Other	5.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	8.1	6.8	6.8
No reason	17.0	15.5	14.0	16.5	18.6	14.7	15.8
Don't know	5.3	5.4	2.5	5.2	6.6	3.2	4.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes only persons concerned about environmental problems yet did not register their concern nor donated time or money to protect the environment.

INTRODUCTION

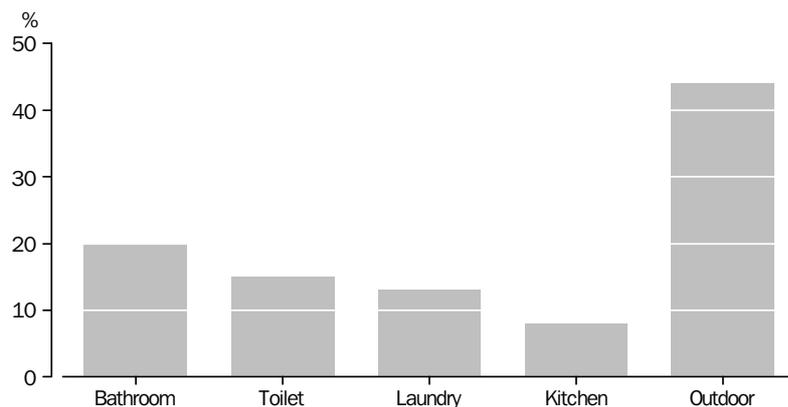
This chapter presents 2004 data on household water supply, use and conservation practices.

By way of background, in 2000-01, total water use by the household sector was 2.2 million ML. This was 280,000 litres per household and accounted for 8.8% of total water consumption in Australia (ABS 2004a).

Over the three years to mid-2004, southeast Australia, where the majority of the population is located, has been in drought conditions (see Appendix). One of the measurable impacts of drought is a reduction in water storage levels. As a result of low levels of water storage, water restrictions were introduced in most capital cities around Australia during 2002-03. These water restrictions varied from voluntary reductions of water use to mandatory restrictions of use. Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Hobart and Canberra all experienced water restrictions during 2002-03. Brisbane had permanent restrictions on the times residents were able to use sprinklers. The only capital city not affected by water restrictions during 2002-03 was Darwin (ABS 2004b).

The level and extent of water restrictions vary across states and territories. For households, these restrictions impact on the use of water outside the house, primarily in the garden. Outdoor water use is the single largest component of domestic water consumption (around 44%, graph 3.1) (ABS 2004a).

3.1 LOCATION OF DOMESTIC WATER USE



Source: *Water Account Australia 2000-01* (cat.no. 4610.0).

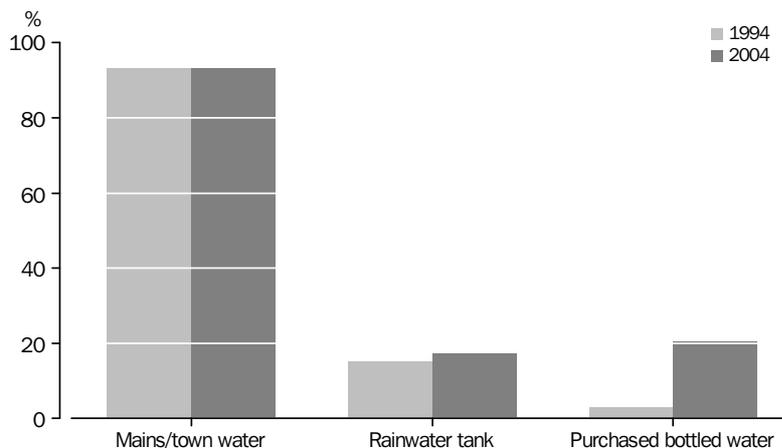
The 2004 data on domestic water supply, use and conservation practices may reflect the impact of the drought and subsequent water restrictions in many regions of Australia in recent times. There was, for example, a large increase in households that nominated supply restrictions as a problem with their mains/town water supply. Nearly one-third of Australian households (32%) stated this as a problem, compared with 7% in 2001.

Sources of water in households

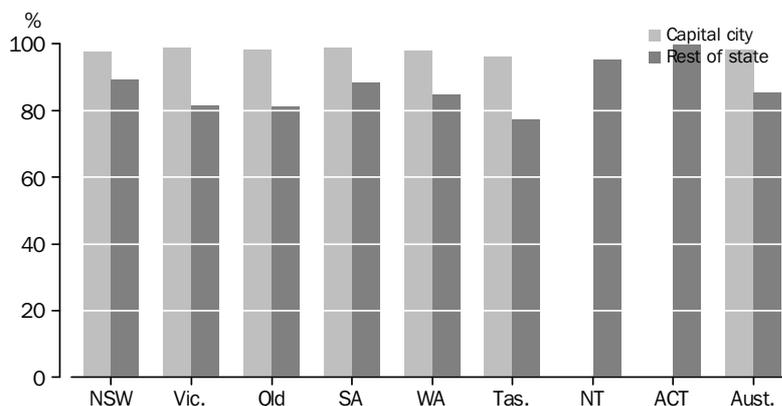
In March 2004, 93% of Australian households were connected to mains or town water. The proportion of households connected to mains/town water has remained steady between 1994 and 2004 (graph 3.2 and table 3.22). Almost all (98%) households in capital cities were connected, compared with 85% of households outside of capital cities (graph 3.3 and table 3.21).

This discrepancy was largest in Tasmania, where 96% of households in Hobart were connected to mains/town water, compared with 77% for the rest of the state.

3.2 SOURCES OF WATER IN DWELLINGS



3.3 HOUSEHOLDS CONNECTED TO MAINS, By capital city/rest of state—2004



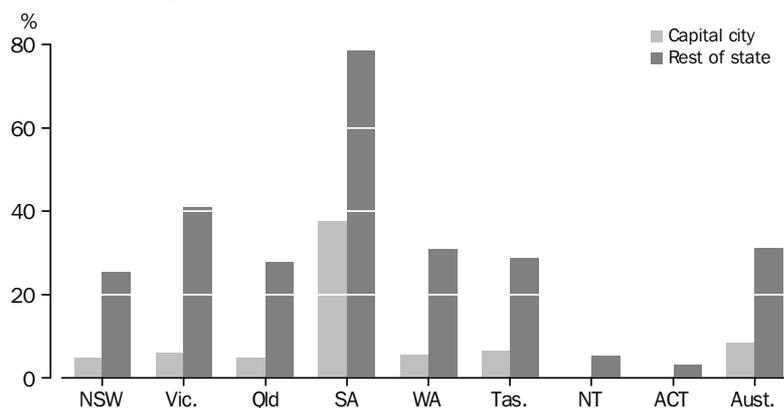
Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

Seventeen per cent of Australian households sourced water from a rainwater tank in 2004. This was similar to 2001 (16%). Rainwater can aid self-sufficiency, providing a back-up supply in case of water restrictions caused by drought, peak supply shortages, or water quality problems. Most states and territories have offered rainwater tank rebates in recent times.

Sources of water in households continued

Nine per cent of households in capital cities sourced water from a rainwater tank, compared with 31% for all other households. Nearly half of all households in South Australia (48%) sourced water from a rainwater tank, and this increased to 78% for households outside Adelaide (graph 3.4).

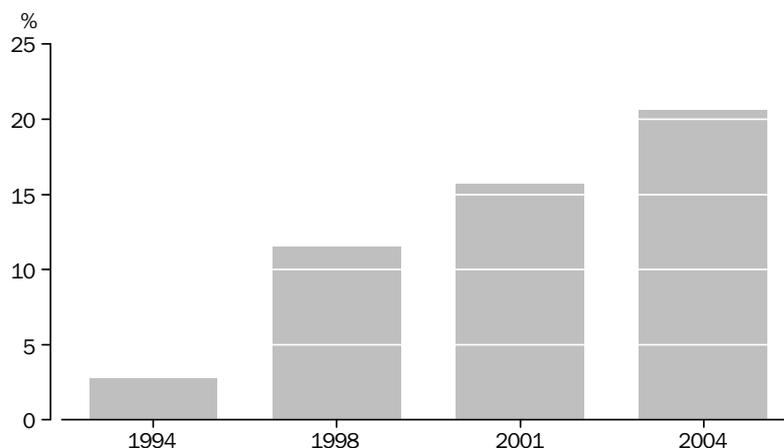
3.4 HOUSEHOLDS WITH RAINWATER TANKS, By capital city/rest of state—2004



Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

The popularity of purchased bottled water continues to rise, with 21% of households using this as a source of water in 2004 compared to 16% in 2001. Between 1994 and 2004, purchased bottled water increased from 3% to 21% (graph 3.5 and table 3.22). One quarter of households in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory used bottled water (25% and 26%, respectively). Most states and territories showed an increase in the use of bottled water, the exception being South Australia where it dropped slightly from 24% in 2001 to 22% in 2004.

3.5 PURCHASED BOTTLED WATER



Twenty-three per cent of Western Australian households source water from a bore or well, compared to the national rate of 6%. Use of bore/well water is more common in Perth (25%) than elsewhere in Western Australia (17%). There are over 130,000 private bore owners in Western Australia. Private bores in Western Australia tap unconfined

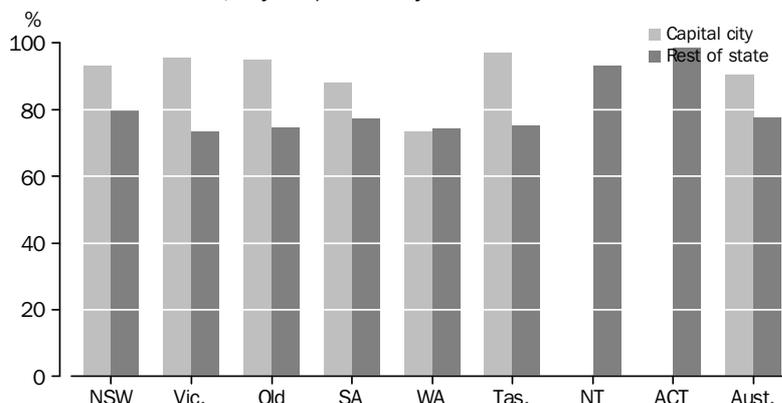
Sources of water in households continued

aquifers, which often contain water with impurities. This water is not always suitable for drinking but can be used for gardens. The main benefit of these bores is the reduced reliance on mains water (Water Corporation 2003).

Eighty-five per cent of Australian households use mains or town water as their main source of water for gardening. This figure was 90% for households in capital cities, and 78% for all other households (graph 3.6 and tables 3.23 and 3.24). The use of mains or town water as the main source of garden water decreased nationally from 88% in 2001 down to 85% in 2004. The use of mains/town water was lowest in Western Australia (74%), where nearly one quarter of all households rely on bore/well water (24%).

Five per cent of Australian households relied on rainwater tanks as their main source of water for gardening in 2004.

3.6 MAINS/TOWN WATER AS MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR GARDENING, By capital city and rest of state—2004



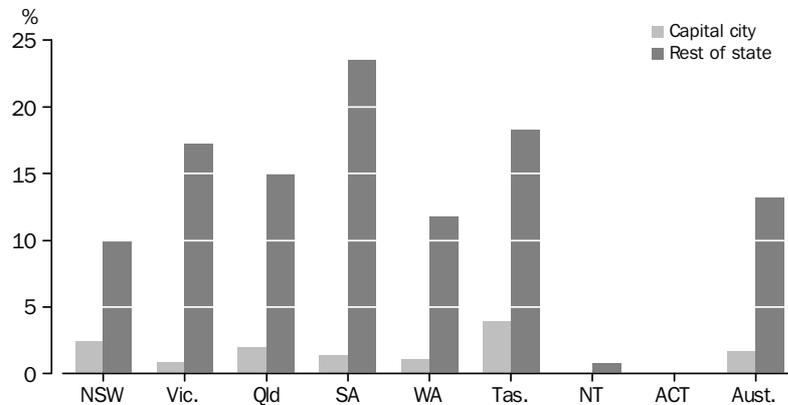
Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

Around 92% of Australian households rely on mains or town water as their main source of water for bathing, showering and washing. Ninety-eight per cent of households in capital cities use this source, compared with 83% outside capital cities (tables 3.25 and 3.26).

Rainwater tanks provide the main source of water for bathing, showering and washing for 6% of households. In areas outside capital cities, 13% of households rely on rainwater tanks for these activities (graph 3.7). For areas in South Australia outside Adelaide this figure increases to nearly one quarter of households (24%).

Sources of water in households continued

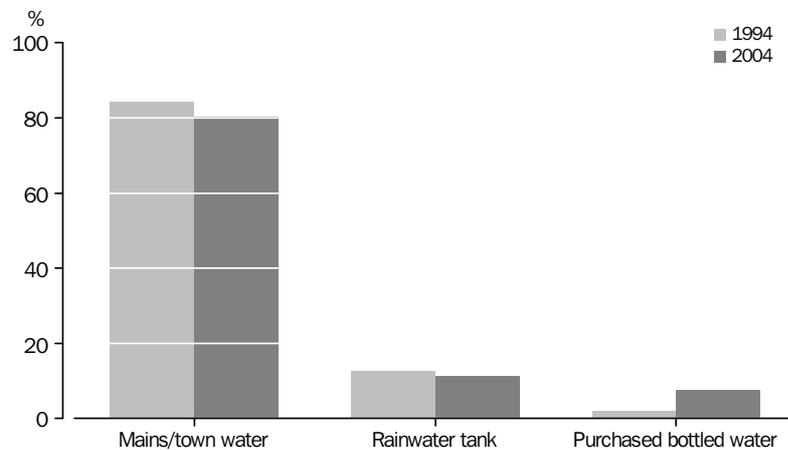
3.7 RAINWATER TANK AS MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR BATHING, SHOWERING AND WASHING, By capital city and rest of state—2004



Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

Nationally, the reliance on mains or town water for drinking has remained at around 80% since 1998, compared to 84% in 1994 (graph 3.8 and tables 3.27 and 3.28). This rises to 89% for households in capital cities, and drops to 67% for households outside capital cities.

3.8 MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR DRINKING

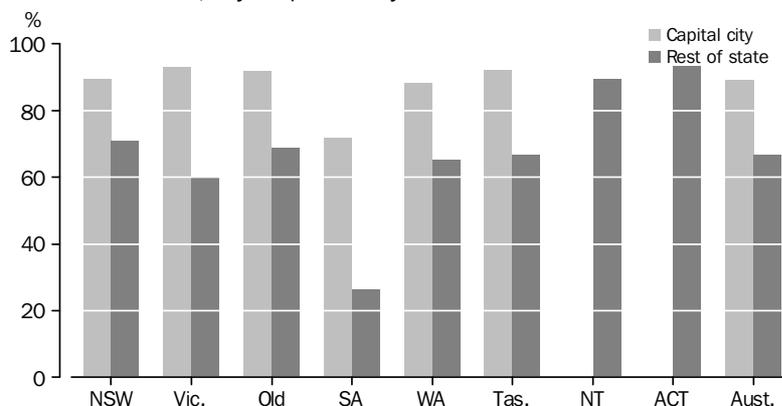


South Australians are least reliant on mains as their main source of water for drinking (60% in 2004) (graph 3.9), although this has increased significantly from 50% in 2001. Over the same period, South Australia's reliance on rainwater tanks as the main source of drinking water has decreased (from 33% in 2001 to 26% in 2004), as has their dependence on purchased bottled water (16% in 2001 down to 13% in 2004).

Overall, 11% of Australian households rely on rainwater tanks as their main source of drinking water, but this increases to nearly one in four (24%) for households outside capital cities (graph 3.10). For areas in South Australia outside Adelaide, this reliance on rainwater tanks goes up to 66%. By contrast, only about one quarter (26%) of these households depend on mains/town water as their main source of drinking water.

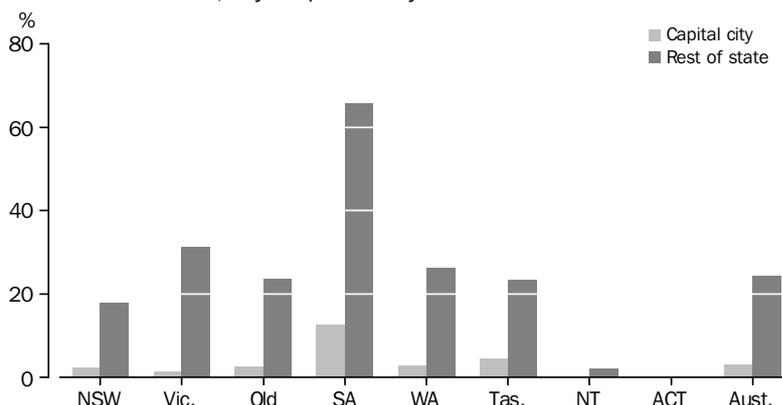
Sources of water in households continued

3.9 MAINS/TOWN WATER AS MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR DRINKING, By capital city/rest of state—2004



Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

3.10 RAINWATER TANKS AS MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR DRINKING, By capital city/rest of state—2004



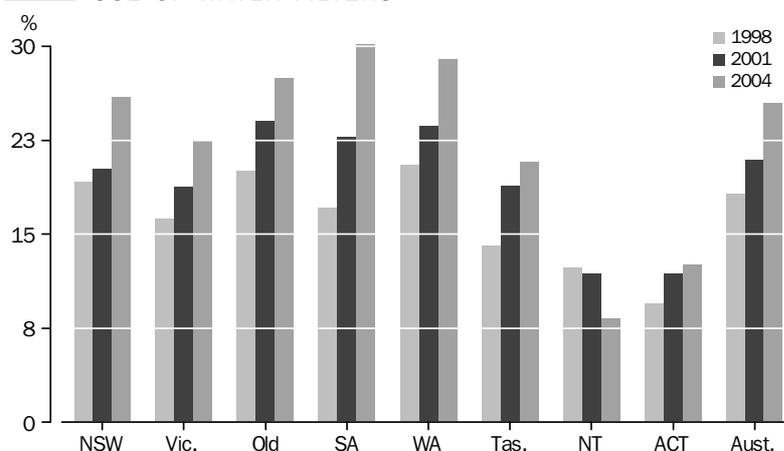
Note: NT and ACT data refers to the whole territory.

Water Quality and Supply

The use of water filters in Australian households has increased since 2001, with more than one quarter of households (26%) now using water filters in drinking water (up from 21% in 2001) (graph 3.11 and table 3.29). This increase in the use of water filters was greatest in South Australia (23% in 2001 to 30% in 2004), and Western Australia (24% in 2001 up to 29% in 2004).

Water Quality and Supply
continued

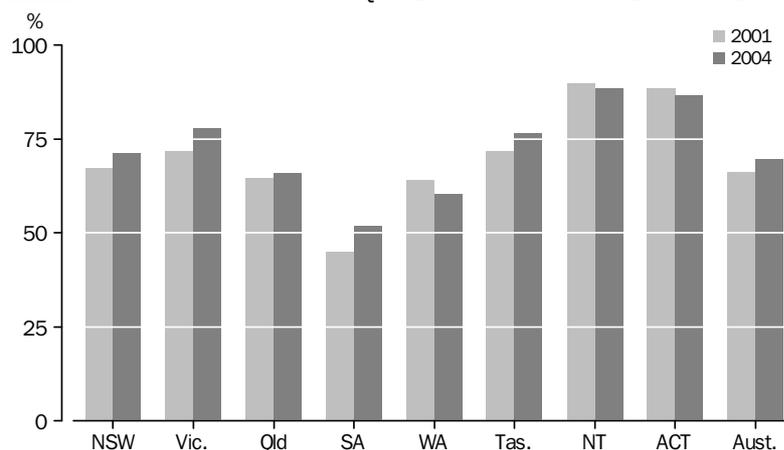
3.11 USE OF WATER FILTERS



There was a general increase in the satisfaction with the quality of mains/town water for drinking, with 70% of people satisfied in 2004 compared with 66% in 2001 (graph 3.12 and table 3.30). The level of satisfaction did vary between states and territories, however, with the Northern Territory (89% of people satisfied) and the Australian Capital Territory (87%) having the highest rates of satisfaction. At 52%, South Australia had the lowest levels of satisfaction.

New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania all reported increased satisfaction with the quality of their mains drinking water since 2001. Generally, there has been an increase in the levels of satisfaction across Australia since 1994 (64% up to 70% in 2004).

3.12 SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF TAP WATER FOR DRINKING



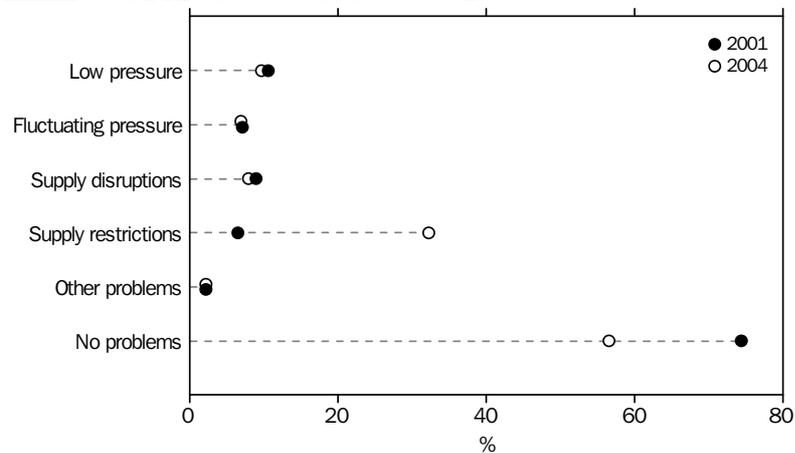
Taste (other than being salty) was the single largest problem identified by people dissatisfied with their drinking water (51%) (table 3.31). Western Australians nominated this more than any other state (60%), and the Australian Capital Territory residents the least (40%). Nearly one-third of Australians (31%) nominated chlorine as a problem with the quality of their drinking water. This was highest in Western Australia (39%) and the Australian Capital Territory (40%).

*Water Quality and Supply
continued*

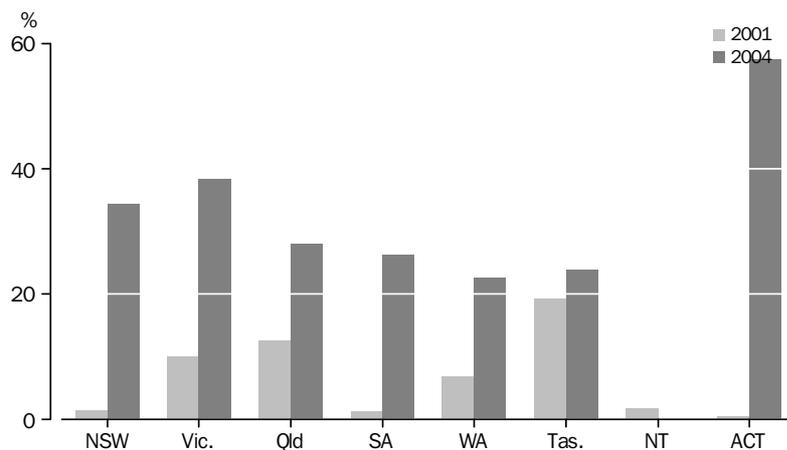
Other problems identified were colour (15%), dirtiness, odour (both 14%), microbial/algae contamination (10%), and 'other' (16%). Microbial/algae contamination rated quite highly in New South Wales (18%), although this was a decrease from 25% in 2001.

There was a large increase in households that nominated supply restrictions as a problem with their mains/town water supply (graph 3.13 and table 3.32). Nearly one-third of Australian households (32%) stated this as a problem, compared with 7% in 2001. Fifty-eight per cent of residents in the Australian Capital Territory cited supply restrictions as a problem, followed by Victoria (38%) and New South Wales (34%) (graph 3.14). This reflects the length and type of water restrictions that have been placed on water use in the different states and territories due to drought conditions.

3.13 PROBLEMS WITH MAINS WATER



3.14 PROBLEMS WITH MAINS WATER SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS



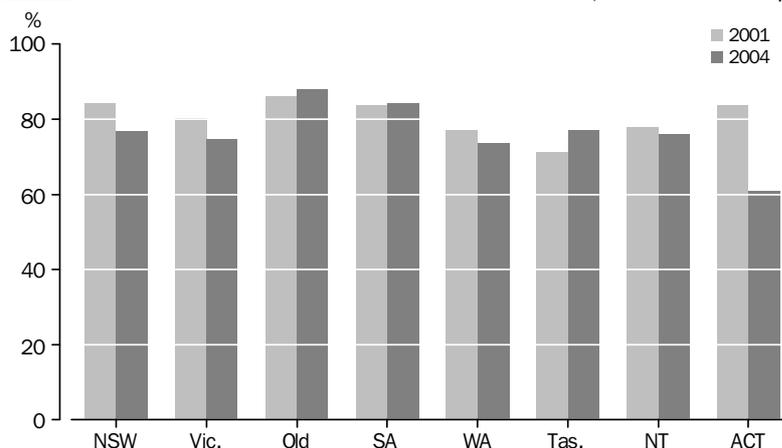
Eighty per cent of households with rainwater tanks reported that the rainwater tanks had enough water supply to serve their needs (graph 3.15 and table 3.33). New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory all reported a decrease in sufficient water supply relative to 2001, with New South Wales,

Water Quality and Supply
continued

Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory the most affected. This is consistent with drought affecting many of these areas.

Thirty-nine per cent of Australian Capital Territory residents with rainwater tanks reported that there was not enough water supply for their needs. Around one-quarter of residents with rainwater tanks in New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory also reported this.

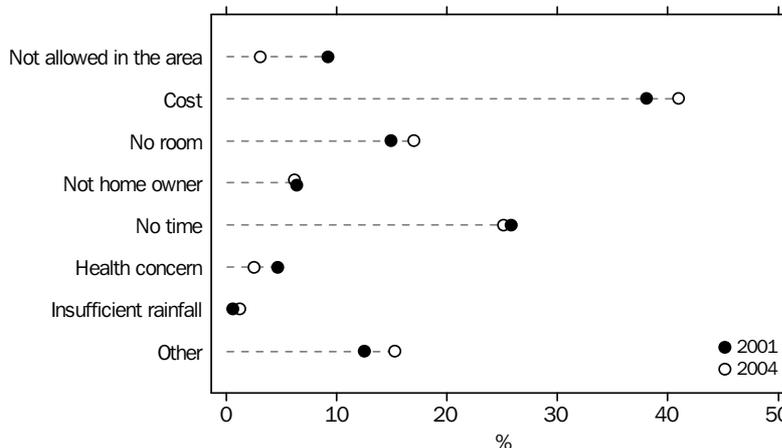
3.15 HOUSEHOLDS WITH RAINWATER TANKS, Sufficient supply



Just over one-third (34%) of households without rainwater tanks had considered installing one. This is up from 25% in 2001 (table 3.34). The largest increases occurred in New South Wales (19% in 2001 to 30% in 2004); Victoria (29% to 41%); and the Australian Capital Territory (30% to 45%).

For those that had considered installing a rainwater tank, cost was the main reason preventing this from occurring (41%) (graph 3.16 and table 3.35). One in four households stated they had no time/hadn't got around to it. No room was reported by 17% of households. Only 3% of households reported they were not allowed to install a tank in the area, down from 9% in 2001.

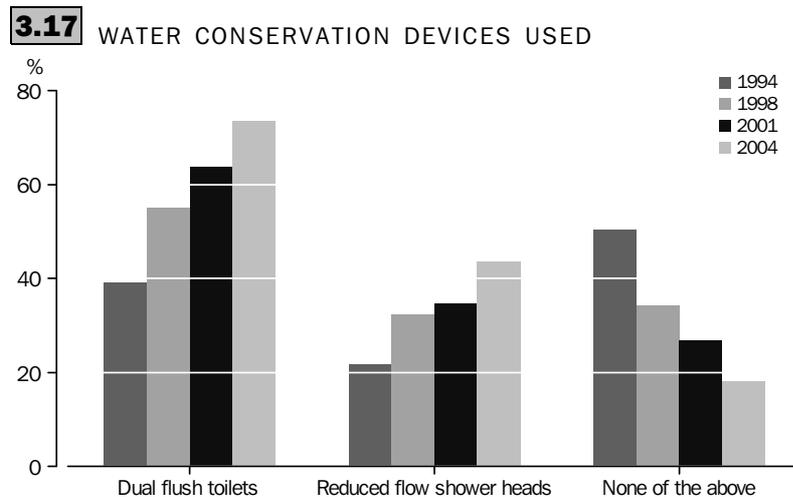
3.16 REASON RAINWATER TANK NOT INSTALLED



Water Conservation

The use of both reduced flow shower heads and dual flush toilets in Australian households continues to grow. Nearly three-quarters of households (74%) had dual flush toilets in 2004, up from 64% in 2001 (table 3.37). Forty-four per cent of households had reduced flow shower heads, up from 35% in 2001. Nearly one in five (18%) Australian households have neither a dual flush toilet nor a reduced flow shower head, down from 27% in 2001.

The use of dual flush toilets and reduced flow shower heads has shown a large increase since 1994 (graph 3.17). This increase was apparent across most states and territories (table 3.37).



Forty-six per cent of Australian households reported a number of water conservation practices used inside and around the dwelling in 2004, although more than half of all households (54%) reported taking no water conservation steps in the home at all (table 3.38).

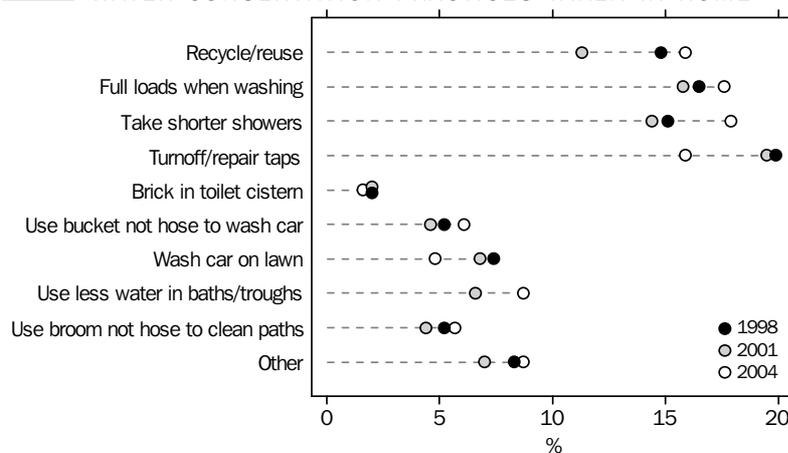
The most popular measures included using full loads when washing dishes and clothes, and taking shorter showers (18% of households reported doing each of these) (graph 3.18). These measures were particularly popular in Victoria, where over one-quarter of households undertook these activities.

Recycling and/or reusing water was reported by 16% of households, up from 11% in 2001. Twenty-eight per cent of Australian Capital Territory households recycled or reused water, up from 10% in 2001. These were also popular activities in Victoria and Western Australia (21%, up from 14% in both states). Sixteen per cent of households also reported turning off or repairing dripping taps to conserve water (down from 20% in 2001).

Other measures employed by less than 10% of households include: washing the car on the lawn; using a bucket to wash the car; using less water in baths etc.; using a broom to clean paths; and putting a brick in the toilet cistern.

Water Conservation
continued

3.18 WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES TAKEN IN HOME



Since 1994, the proportion of Australian households with gardens has steadily declined (87% in 1994, down to 83% in 2004) (table 3.39). More than 90% of households with gardens reported taking measures in the garden to conserve water (table 3.40).

Water restrictions impact on households primarily by limiting their use of water in the garden. States and territories that reported an overall increase in measures to conserve water in the garden since 2001 include New South Wales (86% to 90% of households), Victoria (90% to 93%) and South Australia (90% to 93%).

The measure reported most often by households to conserve water in the garden was using mulch (58% in 2004, up from 51% in 2001) (graph 3.19). New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory all reported large increases in the use of mulch as a water conservation measure.

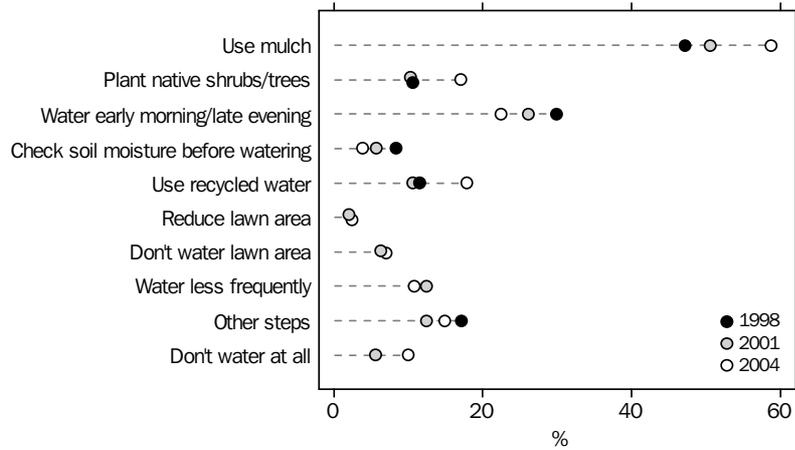
Watering early in the morning or late in the evening was the next most popular water conservation measure for the garden, at 23%. This was most favoured in South Australia (38%) and the Northern Territory (37%). Eighteen per cent of households used recycled water on the garden, a significant increase from 11% in 2001. States and territories that significantly increased their use of recycled water on the garden since 2001 included New South Wales (9% to 19%); Victoria (13% to 23%); and the Australian Capital Territory (7% to 26%).

Seventeen per cent of households reported planting native trees or shrubs as a water conservation measure in 2004, up from 10% in 2001. Over one quarter of households in South Australia and Western Australia reported this (26% and 28%, respectively). Many Australian natives including banksias, grevilleas and eucalypts are low water-use plants. High water-use plants include: lawns, vegetables, fruit trees, exotic shrubs like azaleas and camellias, flowering herbaceous annuals and many bulbs (Australian Greenhouse Office 2004).

Other specific measures include watering less frequently but for longer periods (11%) and not watering at all. This was reported by 11% of households, up from 6% in 2001. Significantly more households in New South Wales (7% to 12%), Victoria (6% to 13%) and the Australian Capital Territory (3% to 8%) reported not watering their gardens at all in 2004, compared to 2001.

Water Conservation
continued

3.19 WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES APPLIED IN GARDEN



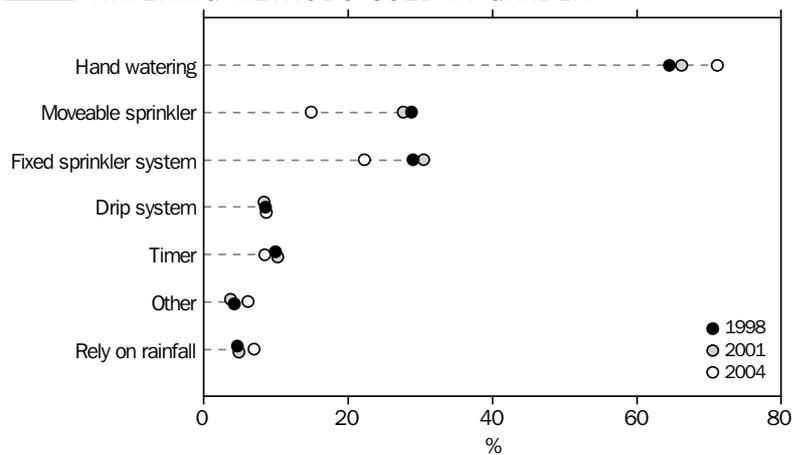
Households may use mulch in the garden for purposes other than water conservation (for example, reducing weeds). In 2004, 72% of Australian households used mulch in the garden for either water conservation and/or for any other purpose. A total of 57% of Australian households planted native trees or shrubs in the garden. Seventeen per cent of households claimed to plant these for water conservation purposes, while nearly half (48%) planted natives for reasons other than water conservation (table 3.42).

Hand watering of the garden was used more often in 2004 than in previous years (graph 3.20 and table 3.43). In 2004, 71% of Australian households hand watered their garden, compared with 66% in 2001. There was a corresponding decrease in the use of fixed and movable sprinklers (from 28% in 2001 down to 15% in 2004 for movable sprinklers, and 31% down to 22% for fixed sprinkler systems). Just over three-quarters of households in New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory used hand watering. This represented a very large increase for the Australian Capital Territory (52% in 2001).

These behaviours are likely to be a direct response to the various water restrictions in place across Australia, which severely restrict the use of these types of sprinkler systems on domestic gardens (including a complete ban on their use in some regions).

Water Conservation
continued

3.20 WATERING METHODS USED IN GARDEN



3.21 SOURCES OF WATER IN HOUSEHOLDS—2004

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(a)	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	1 552.1	1 352.0	672.0	464.8	569.8	77.0	..	..	4 687.8
Rainwater tank	78.2	82.1	33.2	177.1	32.1	5.1	..	..	407.8
Purchased bottled water	385.0	252.8	129.9	113.8	120.0	11.6	..	..	1 013.0
Spring	*1.5	*5.0	*0.7	*0.4	*1.6	—	..	..	9.1
Bore/Well	*14.1	*4.9	*8.4	12.8	142.4	*0.2	..	..	182.8
River/creek/dam	*13.4	*6.9	*7.8	*0.4	*2.4	*1.1	..	..	31.9
Other	16.5	*10.4	*5.2	6.9	*4.6	*0.4	..	..	44.0
Total households	1 591.3	1 366.1	684.5	470.1	581.1	80.1	..	..	4 773.2
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	876.8	443.4	660.9	143.9	170.8	90.5	..	..	2 562.4
Rainwater tank	251.3	223.3	227.8	127.9	62.1	33.6	..	..	932.9
Purchased bottled water	253.4	93.1	123.5	25.7	31.6	20.2	..	..	588.1
Spring	*6.4	*6.8	*1.9	*0.7	*0.8	4.3	..	..	20.8
Bore/Well	71.9	30.2	94.8	17.3	34.8	5.0	..	..	257.9
River/creek/dam	63.6	45.0	42.9	*4.7	12.7	12.3	..	..	181.2
Other	21.2	27.7	*10.2	*2.7	*1.6	*1.3	..	..	66.7
Total households	983.6	545.0	813.6	163.1	200.8	117.1	..	..	3 002.2
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	2 429.0	1 795.4	1 332.9	608.6	740.6	167.5	52.2	124.0	7 250.2
Rainwater tank	329.5	305.4	261.0	305.0	94.3	38.7	*2.9	4.0	1 340.7
Purchased bottled water	638.3	345.9	253.4	139.5	151.5	31.8	8.4	32.1	1 601.0
Spring	*7.8	*11.8	*2.5	*1.0	*2.4	4.3	—	—	29.9
Bore/Well	86.0	35.1	103.2	30.1	177.2	5.2	*3.7	*0.2	440.7
River/creek/dam	77.0	51.9	50.7	*5.0	15.1	13.3	—	—	213.1
Other	37.8	38.2	15.4	9.6	*6.2	*1.7	*0.3	*1.6	110.7
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
PROPORTION (%)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	97.5	99.0	98.2	98.9	98.0	96.1	..	..	98.2
Rainwater tank	4.9	6.0	4.8	37.7	5.5	6.4	..	..	8.5
Purchased bottled water	24.2	18.5	19.0	24.2	20.6	14.5	..	..	21.2
Spring	*0.1	*0.4	*0.1	*0.1	*0.3	—	..	..	0.2
Bore/well	*0.9	*0.4	*1.2	2.7	24.5	0.2	..	..	3.8
River/creek/dam	*0.8	*0.5	*1.1	*0.1	*0.4	1.3	..	..	0.7
Other	1.0	0.8	*0.8	1.5	0.8	0.5	..	..	0.9
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	89.1	81.4	81.2	88.2	85.0	77.3	..	..	85.4
Rainwater tank	25.5	41.0	28.0	78.4	30.9	28.7	..	..	31.1
Purchased bottled water	25.8	17.1	15.2	15.8	15.7	17.3	..	..	19.6
Spring	*0.6	1.2	*0.2	*0.4	0.4	3.7	..	..	0.7
Bore/well	7.3	5.5	11.7	10.6	17.3	4.3	..	..	8.6
River/creek/dam	6.5	8.2	5.3	2.9	6.3	10.5	..	..	6.0
Other	2.2	5.1	*1.2	1.7	*0.8	1.1	..	..	2.2
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	94.3	93.9	89.0	96.1	94.7	84.9	95.0	100.0	93.2
Rainwater tank	12.8	16.0	17.4	48.2	12.1	19.6	*5.3	3.2	17.2
Purchased bottled water	24.8	18.1	16.9	22.0	19.4	16.1	15.3	25.9	20.6
Spring	*0.3	*0.6	*0.2	*0.2	*0.3	2.2	—	—	0.4
Bore/well	3.3	1.8	6.9	4.8	22.7	2.6	*6.8	*0.1	5.7
River/creek/dam	3.0	2.7	3.4	*0.8	1.9	6.8	—	—	2.7
Other	1.5	2.0	*1.0	1.5	*0.8	0.9	*0.5	*1.3	1.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any break down beyond the whole territory.

3.22 SOURCES OF WATER IN HOUSEHOLDS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
Mains/town water	94.3	93.9	89.0	96.1	94.7	84.9	95.0	100.0	93.2
Rainwater tank	12.8	16.0	17.4	48.2	12.1	19.6	*5.3	3.2	17.2
Purchased bottled water	24.8	18.1	16.9	22.0	19.4	16.1	15.3	25.9	20.6
Spring	*0.3	*0.6	*0.2	*0.2	*0.3	2.2	—	—	0.4
Bore/well	3.3	1.8	6.9	4.8	22.7	2.6	*6.8	*0.1	5.7
River/creek/dam	3.0	2.7	3.4	*0.8	*1.9	6.8	—	—	2.7
Other	1.5	2.0	1.0	1.5	0.8	*0.9	*0.5	*1.3	1.4
MARCH 2001									
Mains/town water	95.3	93.0	90.1	94.9	95.6	87.3	96.5	100.0	93.6
Rainwater tank	9.7	13.5	17.5	51.8	10.4	17.2	1.3	2.0	15.7
Purchased bottled water	16.9	14.2	12.6	23.6	18.0	9.1	12.0	10.5	15.7
Spring	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	—	0.7	—	—	0.2
Bore/well	2.4	2.0	6.8	4.1	19.9	2.9	3.8	0.1	5.0
River/creek/dam	2.8	5.0	4.9	2.3	1.7	6.1	—	—	3.6
Other	0.4	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.7
MARCH 1998									
Mains/town water	93.0	92.5	89.4	96.1	97.0	87.6	91.9	100.0	92.8
Rainwater tank	12.3	13.9	18.0	53.5	9.8	16.7	5.0	1.2	16.9
Purchased bottled water	10.6	10.4	9.5	20.2	13.7	8.8	9.8	12.9	11.5
Spring	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.7	—	0.9	—	—	0.4
Bore/well	2.4	2.5	8.3	2.9	20.6	2.5	9.1	—	5.3
River/creek/dam	4.5	3.5	4.4	1.8	1.3	6.2	1.0	—	3.6
Other	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.7	—	—	1.0
JUNE 1994									
Mains/town water	94.4	93.4	88.7	95.4	93.6	86.1	95.4	100.0	93.0
Rainwater tank	9.1	12.6	17.7	48.0	11.2	17.9	2.6	0.9	15.2
Purchased bottled water	2.5	1.3	2.1	9.3	3.5	0.6	1.8	1.3	2.8
Spring	0.6	0.5	0.5	2.4	0.6	4.1	0.4	—	0.8
Bore/well	2.2	2.0	7.5	4.4	20.9	2.0	7.5	—	5.1
Other	2.8	2.2	3.4	1.3	2.8	4.7	—	0.3	2.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.23**MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR GARDENING (a)—2004**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT(b)	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	774.8	860.1	439.9	345.7	379.6	62.7	..	..	2 863.0
Rainwater tank	32.1	28.7	9.3	30.1	*2.6	*1.2	..	..	103.9
Spring	*1.5	*1.3	*0.7	—	*0.4	—	..	..	3.8
Bore/well	*8.5	*3.1	*5.6	9.8	134.1	*0.2	..	..	161.3
River/creek/dam	*7.1	*3.8	*4.8	*0.4	*0.9	*0.7	..	..	17.7
Recycled water/greywater	*6.2	*3.0	*3.4	*5.8	—	—	..	..	18.5
Other	*0.7	*0.6	—	*0.7	—	—	..	..	2.0
Total households	831.0	900.7	463.7	392.5	517.6	64.8	..	..	3 170.3
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	542.7	320.4	416.7	104.3	136.2	65.5	..	..	1 715.8
Rainwater tank	43.8	41.8	39.1	11.2	*4.8	7.4	..	..	148.9
Spring	*2.5	*3.9	*1.2	—	*0.4	*2.2	..	..	10.1
Bore/well	51.1	18.3	65.9	12.8	30.9	*3.2	..	..	185.4
River/creek/dam	30.5	29.0	24.4	*4.0	10.3	8.5	..	..	106.8
Recycled water/greywater	*2.3	*9.9	*6.8	*3.0	*0.8	*0.4	..	..	23.7
Other	*5.7	13.9	*3.8	—	—	—	..	..	23.4
Total households	678.5	437.2	557.9	135.3	183.4	87.3	..	..	2 213.9
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	1 317.5	1 180.5	856.6	450.0	515.9	128.3	38.7	91.3	4 578.8
Rainwater tank	75.9	70.5	48.4	41.3	7.4	8.5	—	0.8	252.8
Spring	*3.9	*5.2	*1.9	—	*0.7	*2.2	—	—	14.0
Bore/well	59.7	21.4	71.5	22.6	165.0	*3.4	*2.9	*0.2	346.7
River/creek/dam	37.6	32.9	29.3	*4.4	11.1	9.2	—	—	124.5
Recycled water/greywater	*8.6	12.9	*10.2	8.8	*0.8	*0.4	—	*0.5	42.1
Other	*6.4	14.5	*3.8	*0.7	—	—	—	—	25.4
Total households	1 509.5	1 337.8	1 021.6	527.8	701.0	152.1	41.7	92.8	5 384.2
PROPORTION (%)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	93.2	95.5	94.9	88.1	73.3	96.8	..	..	90.3
Rainwater tank	3.9	3.2	2.0	7.7	*0.5	*1.8	..	..	3.3
Spring	*0.2	*0.1	*0.1	—	*0.1	—	..	..	0.1
Bore/well	*1.0	*0.3	*1.2	2.5	25.9	*0.3	..	..	5.1
River/creek/dam	*0.9	*0.4	*1.0	*0.1	*0.2	*1.1	..	..	0.6
Recycled/greywater	*0.8	*0.3	*0.7	*1.5	—	—	..	..	0.6
Other	*0.1	*0.1	—	*0.2	—	—	..	..	0.1
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	80.0	73.3	74.7	77.1	74.3	75.1	..	..	77.5
Rainwater tank	6.5	9.6	7.0	8.3	*2.6	8.4	..	..	6.7
Spring	*0.4	*0.9	*0.2	—	*0.2	*2.5	..	..	0.5
Bore/well	7.5	4.2	11.8	9.4	16.9	*3.7	..	..	8.4
River/creek/dam	4.5	6.6	4.4	*3.0	5.6	9.8	..	..	4.8
Recycled/greywater	*0.3	*2.3	*1.2	*2.2	*0.4	*0.5	..	..	1.1
Other	*0.8	3.2	*0.7	—	—	—	..	..	1.1
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	87.3	88.2	83.8	85.3	73.6	84.3	93.0	98.4	85.0
Rainwater tank	5.0	5.3	4.7	7.8	1.1	5.6	—	*0.9	4.7
Spring	*0.3	*0.4	*0.2	—	*0.1	*1.5	—	—	0.3
Bore/well	4.0	1.6	7.0	4.3	23.5	*2.2	*7.0	*0.2	6.4
River/creek/dam	2.5	2.5	2.9	*0.8	1.6	6.1	—	—	2.3
Recycled/greywater	*0.6	1.0	*1.0	1.7	*0.1	*0.3	—	*0.5	0.8
Other	*0.4	1.1	*0.4	*0.1	—	—	—	—	0.5

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only households that water their garden.

(b) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any breakdown beyond the whole territory.

3.24

MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR GARDENING (a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
Mains/town water	87.3	88.2	83.8	85.3	73.6	84.3	93.0	98.4	85.0
Rainwater tank	5.0	5.3	4.7	7.8	1.1	5.6	—	*0.9	4.7
Spring	*0.3	*0.4	*0.2	—	*0.1	*1.5	—	—	0.3
Bore/well	4.0	1.6	7.0	4.3	23.5	*2.2	*7.0	*0.2	6.4
River/creek/dam	2.5	2.5	2.9	*0.8	1.6	6.1	—	—	2.3
Recycled/greywater	*0.6	1.0	*1.0	1.7	0.1	*0.3	—	*0.5	0.8
Other	*0.4	1.1	*0.4	*0.1	—	—	—	—	0.5
MARCH 2001									
Mains/town water	91.0	90.3	85.3	89.6	76.6	86.2	95.7	99.4	88.0
Rainwater tank	2.6	2.5	2.9	3.7	1.0	4.0	—	0.6	2.5
Spring	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	—	0.4	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	2.8	1.7	6.2	3.8	20.9	2.2	4.3	—	5.4
River/creek/dam	3.2	4.7	3.7	2.0	1.4	5.7	—	—	3.3
Recycled water/grey water	0.1	0.5	1.4	0.7	0.1	1.0	—	—	0.5
Other	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.5	—	—	0.2
MARCH 1998									
Mains/town water	89.5	90.7	84.1	90.6	75.7	86.4	89.3	100.0	87.5
Rainwater tank	2.4	2.4	2.8	4.7	0.7	5.6	0.4	—	2.5
Spring	0.2	—	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	2.6	2.5	7.1	2.5	22.3	2.0	9.8	—	5.6
River/creek/dam	4.5	3.0	3.7	1.7	1.0	5.6	0.6	—	3.3
Recycled water/greywater	0.7	—	1.2	0.2	—	0.1	—	—	0.5
Other	0.1	1.2	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.1	—	—	0.6
JUNE 1994									
Mains/town water	91.2	92.0	85.3	90.4	75.6	85.6	92.3	99.6	88.6
Rainwater tank	2.5	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.5	4.2	—	0.4	2.8
Spring	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	3.7	0.5	—	0.5
Bore/well	2.6	2.1	7.3	3.8	21.3	1.5	7.2	—	5.4
Other	3.2	2.1	3.6	1.6	2.2	5.0	—	—	2.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only those households that water their garden.

3.25 MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR BATHING, SHOWERING AND WASHING—2004 ...

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(a)	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	1 551.3	1 351.4	670.2	461.4	569.8	77.0	..	..	4 681.2
Rainwater tank	37.7	12.9	13.6	6.7	*6.5	*3.1	..	..	80.5
Spring	*1.5	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	*1.5
Bore/well	*0.8	*1.2	*0.6	*2.0	*4.8	—	..	..	9.4
River/creek/dam	—	*0.6	—	—	—	—	..	..	*0.6
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Total households	1 591.3	1 366.1	684.5	470.1	581.1	80.1	..	..	4 773.2
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	863.1	434.1	651.6	121.3	167.9	90.1	..	..	2 504.3
Rainwater tank	97.8	93.6	121.8	38.3	23.6	21.5	..	..	397.0
Spring	*0.8	*1.3	*0.6	—	*0.4	*1.0	..	..	*4.0
Bore/well	*13.6	*3.9	32.0	*1.6	*7.3	*2.3	..	..	63.0
River/creek/dam	*6.7	*9.4	*5.6	*1.9	*1.6	*2.2	..	..	27.5
Other	*1.6	*2.7	*2.0	—	—	—	..	..	6.4
Total households	983.6	545.0	813.6	163.1	200.8	117.1	..	..	3 002.2
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	2 414.4	1 785.5	1 321.8	582.7	737.7	167.1	52.2	124.0	7 185.4
Rainwater tank	135.5	106.5	135.4	45.0	30.1	24.6	*0.4	—	477.5
Spring	*2.2	*1.3	*0.6	—	*0.4	*1.0	—	—	*5.5
Bore/well	*14.3	*5.1	32.7	*3.6	12.1	*2.3	*2.3	—	72.5
River/creek/dam	*6.7	*10.0	*5.6	*1.9	*1.6	*2.2	—	—	28.1
Other	*1.6	*2.7	*2.0	—	—	—	—	—	6.4
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
PROPORTION (%)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	97.5	98.9	97.9	98.1	98.0	96.1	..	..	98.1
Rainwater tank	2.4	0.9	2.0	1.4	*1.1	*3.9	..	..	1.7
Spring	*0.1	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Bore/well	—	*0.1	*0.1	*0.4	*0.8	—	..	..	0.2
River/creek/dam	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	87.8	79.6	80.1	74.4	83.6	76.9	..	..	83.4
Rainwater tank	9.9	17.2	15.0	23.5	11.8	18.3	..	..	13.2
Spring	*0.1	*0.2	*0.1	—	*0.2	*0.8	..	..	0.1
Bore/well	*1.4	*0.7	3.9	*1.0	3.6	*2.0	..	..	2.1
River/creek/dam	*0.7	*1.7	*0.7	*1.1	*0.8	*1.9	..	..	0.9
Other	*0.2	*0.5	*0.2	—	—	—	..	..	0.2
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	93.8	93.4	88.2	92.0	94.3	84.7	95.0	100.0	92.4
Rainwater tank	*5.3	5.6	9.0	7.1	3.9	12.5	*0.8	—	6.1
Spring	*0.1	*0.1	—	—	—	*0.5	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	*0.6	*0.3	2.2	*0.6	1.6	*1.2	*4.2	—	0.9
River/creek/dam	*0.3	*0.5	*0.4	*0.3	*0.2	*1.1	—	—	0.4
Other	*0.1	*0.1	*0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.1

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any break down beyond the whole territory.

3.26

MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR BATHING, SHOWERING AND WASHING

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
Mains/town water	93.8	93.4	88.2	92.0	94.3	84.7	95.0	100.0	92.4
Rainwater tank	5.3	5.6	9.0	7.1	3.9	12.5	*0.8	—	6.1
Spring	*0.1	*0.1	—	—	—	*0.5	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	*0.6	*0.3	2.2	*0.6	1.6	*1.2	*4.2	—	0.9
River/creek/dam	*0.3	*0.5	*0.4	*0.3	*0.2	*1.1	—	—	0.4
Other	*0.1	*0.1	*0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.1
MARCH 2001									
Mains/town water	94.9	92.5	89.0	90.0	95.5	87.1	96.2	100.0	92.7
Rainwater tank	4.0	6.5	7.6	9.1	2.9	9.2	0.7	—	5.7
Spring	—	—	0.2	—	—	0.2	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	0.3	0.2	2.4	0.6	1.2	1.4	3.2	—	0.8
River/creek/dam	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.4	2.1	—	—	0.7
Other	—	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—
JUNE 1994									
Mains/town water	94.0	93.1	88.1	90.3	92.9	85.7	95.1	100.0	92.2
Rainwater tank	4.5	5.4	8.7	8.2	2.8	9.2	—	—	5.7
Spring	0.3	0.2	0.2	—	0.3	2.5	0.4	—	0.3
Bore/well	0.3	0.7	2.5	0.9	2.7	0.6	4.6	—	1.1
Other	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.9	—	—	0.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.27 MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR DRINKING—2004

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(a)	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	1 423.9	1 271.0	629.8	337.7	512.6	73.8	..	..	4 248.8
Rainwater tank	38.4	19.1	17.5	59.2	15.5	*3.5	..	..	153.3
Purchased bottled water	127.4	74.1	35.9	70.6	46.6	*2.8	..	..	357.5
Spring	*0.7	*1.3	—	*0.4	*0.8	—	..	..	*3.2
Bore/well	*0.8	—	*0.6	*0.3	*3.9	—	..	..	*5.7
River/creek/dam	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Other	—	*0.6	*0.6	*1.9	*1.6	—	..	..	*4.7
Total households	1 591.3	1 366.1	684.5	470.1	581.1	80.1	..	..	4 773.2
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	697.3	327.2	557.9	42.9	130.9	77.9	..	..	1 998.7
Rainwater tank	175.7	170.7	193.4	107.3	52.8	27.3	..	..	728.9
Purchased bottled water	99.0	39.0	49.0	11.5	15.1	7.9	..	..	231.8
Spring	*0.8	*2.1	*0.6	*0.3	—	*1.6	..	..	*5.5
Bore/well	*4.1	*1.3	*8.3	*0.3	*1.6	*1.5	..	..	19.1
River/creek/dam	*1.7	*4.8	*1.8	—	—	*0.4	..	..	8.7
Other	*5.0	—	*2.6	*0.7	*0.4	*0.4	..	..	9.4
Total households	983.6	545.0	813.6	163.1	200.8	117.1	..	..	3 002.2
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	2 121.1	1 598.2	1 187.7	380.6	643.5	151.7	49.1	115.5	6 247.5
Rainwater tank	214.1	189.8	211.0	166.5	68.4	30.9	*1.2	*0.4	882.2
Purchased bottled water	226.4	113.1	84.9	82.1	61.7	10.7	*2.4	7.9	589.3
Spring	*1.6	*3.4	*0.6	*0.7	*0.8	*1.6	—	—	8.7
Bore/well	*4.9	*1.3	*8.9	*0.7	*5.5	*1.5	*2.0	—	24.8
River/creek/dam	*1.7	*4.8	*1.8	—	—	*0.4	—	—	8.7
Other	*5.0	*0.6	*3.2	*2.5	*2.0	*0.4	*0.3	*0.2	14.2
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
PROPORTION (%)									
Capital city									
Mains/town water	89.5	93.0	92.0	71.8	88.2	92.1	..	..	89.0
Rainwater tank	2.4	1.4	2.6	12.6	2.7	*4.4	..	..	3.2
Purchased bottled water	8.0	5.4	5.2	15.0	8.0	*3.5	..	..	7.5
Spring	—	*0.1	—	*0.1	*0.1	—	..	..	*0.1
Bore/well	—	—	*0.1	*0.1	*0.7	—	..	..	*0.1
River/creek/dam	—	—	—	—	—	—	..	..	—
Other	—	—	*0.1	*0.4	*0.3	—	..	..	*0.1
Balance of state/territory									
Mains/town water	70.9	60.0	68.6	26.3	65.2	66.5	..	..	66.6
Rainwater tank	17.9	31.3	23.8	65.8	26.3	23.4	..	..	24.3
Purchased bottled water	10.1	7.2	6.0	7.1	7.5	6.7	..	..	7.7
Spring	*0.1	*0.4	*0.1	*0.2	—	*1.4	..	..	*0.2
Bore/well	*0.4	*0.2	*1.0	*0.2	*0.8	*1.3	..	..	0.6
River/creek/dam	*0.2	*0.9	*0.2	—	—	*0.4	..	..	0.3
Other	*0.5	—	*0.3	*0.4	*0.2	*0.4	..	..	0.3
Total state/territory									
Mains/town water	82.4	83.6	79.3	60.1	82.3	76.9	89.4	93.2	80.3
Rainwater tank	8.3	9.9	14.1	26.3	8.7	15.6	*2.2	*0.3	11.3
Purchased bottled water	8.8	5.9	5.7	13.0	7.9	5.4	*4.3	6.4	7.6
Spring	*0.1	*0.2	—	*0.1	*0.1	*0.8	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	*0.2	*0.1	*0.6	*0.1	*0.7	*0.8	*3.7	—	0.3
River/creek/dam	*0.1	*0.2	*0.1	—	—	*0.2	—	—	0.1
Other	*0.2	—	*0.2	*0.4	*0.3	*0.2	*0.5	*0.1	0.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) No regional split between capital city and balance of state/territory for NT and the ACT as the sample does not support any break down beyond the whole territory.

3.28

MAIN SOURCE OF WATER FOR DRINKING

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
Mains/town water	82.4	83.6	79.3	60.1	82.3	76.9	89.4	93.2	80.3
Rainwater tank	8.3	9.9	14.1	26.3	8.7	15.6	*2.2	*0.3	11.3
Purchased bottled water	8.8	5.9	5.7	13.0	7.9	5.4	*4.3	6.4	7.6
Spring	*0.1	*0.2	—	*0.1	*0.1	*0.8	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	*0.2	*0.1	*0.6	*0.1	*0.7	*0.8	*3.7	—	0.3
River/creek/dam	*0.1	*0.2	*0.1	—	—	*0.2	—	—	0.1
Other	*0.2	—	*0.2	*0.4	*0.3	*0.2	*0.5	*0.1	0.2
MARCH 2001									
Mains/town water	85.0	83.7	79.4	49.9	84.1	80.9	93.3	97.2	80.7
Rainwater tank	7.1	10.5	13.9	33.1	7.3	13.6	1.3	0.5	11.4
Purchased bottled water	7.5	5.4	4.7	16.0	7.4	3.7	2.2	2.3	6.9
Spring	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	0.2	—	—	0.1
Bore/well	0.1	0.1	1.3	0.2	0.8	1.0	3.2	—	0.4
River/creek/dam	0.2	0.1	0.3	—	—	0.6	—	—	0.2
Other	—	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.1	—	—	0.2
MARCH 1998									
Mains/town water	84.6	83.9	78.5	47.3	86.2	80.8	89.8	96.4	80.4
Rainwater tank	10.1	11.6	15.6	37.6	6.5	14.2	3.4	0.2	13.3
Purchased bottled water	4.7	3.6	3.6	13.7	6.6	2.9	0.9	3.4	5.1
Spring	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.4	—	—	0.2
Other	0.5	0.7	2.3	0.8	0.6	1.7	6.0	—	1.0
JUNE 1994									
Mains/town water	89.8	87.6	81.3	53.3	85.8	81.5	92.9	99.1	84.1
Rainwater tank	7.7	11.0	15.6	36.7	8.8	14.9	1.6	—	12.6
Purchased bottled water	1.9	0.7	1.6	7.9	2.9	0.1	1.3	0.9	2.1
Spring	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.8	0.4	—	0.3
Other	0.4	0.6	1.4	0.3	2.4	1.6	3.8	—	0.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.29 USE OF WATER FILTERS IN DRINKING WATER(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Used water filter	609.2	403.2	387.7	166.7	208.9	38.8	*4.4	14.6	1 833.5
Did not use water filter	1 739.2	1 394.8	1 025.5	384.4	511.3	147.7	48.2	101.4	5 352.5
Total households	2 348.4	1 798.0	1 413.2	551.0	720.2	186.6	52.6	116.1	7 186.0
Proportion (%)									
Used water filter	25.9	22.4	27.4	30.2	29.0	20.8	*8.3	12.6	25.5
Did not use water filter	74.1	77.6	72.6	69.8	71.0	79.2	91.7	87.4	74.5
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Used water filter	20.2	18.8	24.0	22.7	23.6	18.9	11.9	11.8	20.9
Did not use water filter	79.8	81.2	76.0	77.3	76.4	81.1	88.1	88.2	79.1
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Used water filter	19.2	16.2	20.1	17.1	20.5	14.1	12.4	9.5	18.2
Did not use water filter	80.8	83.8	79.9	82.9	79.5	85.9	87.6	90.5	81.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Excludes households whose main source of drinking was purchased bottled water.

3.30

PERSONS WITH MAINS/TOWN WATER, Satisfaction with quality of water(a)

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Satisfied	3 369.5	2 777.9	1 674.7	574.7	842.4	226.8	88.0	204.6	9 758.7
Not satisfied	1 106.6	576.7	721.2	399.3	462.2	53.1	*8.9	22.4	3 350.4
Depends	172.7	142.9	102.9	30.2	72.6	11.5	*1.9	7.5	542.1
Don't drink mains water	92.8	70.3	43.8	105.4	*13.8	*4.9	*0.6	*1.9	333.5
Total persons	4 741.6	3 567.8	2 542.6	1 109.6	1 390.9	296.4	99.4	236.5	13 984.8

Proportion (%)

Satisfied	71.1	77.9	65.9	51.8	60.6	76.5	88.6	86.5	69.8
Not satisfied	23.3	16.2	28.4	36.0	33.2	17.9	*8.9	9.5	24.0
Depends	3.6	4.0	4.0	2.7	5.2	3.9	*1.9	3.2	3.9
Don't drink mains water	2.0	2.0	1.7	9.5	*1.0	*1.7	*0.6	*0.8	2.4

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Satisfied	67.2	71.8	64.5	44.8	64.2	71.7	89.8	88.3	66.4
Not satisfied	26.0	22.2	29.6	42.2	30.3	22.7	7.8	7.8	26.9
Depends	5.0	4.3	3.8	3.1	4.5	*3.7	1.1	3.5	4.3
Don't drink mains water	1.8	1.7	2.1	9.9	*1.0	*1.8	1.3	0.4	2.4

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)

Satisfied	65.7	68.5	64.2	44.5	62.4	73.4	84.0	83.5	64.6
Not satisfied	26.8	23.5	29.8	41.7	30.9	21.3	9.7	11.9	27.6
Depends	5.0	5.2	4.6	3.9	5.3	4.3	6.0	4.1	4.9
Don't drink mains water	2.5	2.7	1.5	10.0	1.5	1.0	0.2	0.6	2.8

JUNE 1994

Proportion (%)

Satisfied	61.2	70.1	64.7	46.4	59.7	74.8	86.1	86.6	63.6
Not satisfied	34.8	27.4	31.6	51.4	35.7	22.7	11.7	11.8	33.0
Depends	4.0	2.5	3.7	2.1	4.6	2.5	2.2	1.6	3.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes (a) For the purpose of drinking.

3.31**PERSONS DISSATISFIED WITH MAINS/TOWN WATER(a), Problems with quality ..**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Salty	*17.1	*13.8	*2.8	16.9	15.2	—	*2.5	*0.4	68.8
Other taste	647.2	337.5	505.6	303.2	329.3	30.2	*5.7	12.6	2 171.4
Colour	241.5	108.6	112.1	48.1	78.1	16.1	*3.6	*6.4	614.5
Chlorine	345.9	262.2	276.5	155.6	213.3	25.6	*1.1	12.8	1 293.0
Dirty	216.8	110.1	133.1	64.1	64.1	10.7	1.7	*2.9	603.6
Odour	198.9	85.2	102.0	82.4	109.0	10.8	—	*3.6	591.9
Microbial/algae contamination	242.6	68.7	83.9	21.4	17.1	*4.3	*0.3	*2.7	440.9
Other	193.4	138.6	143.2	98.7	77.1	8.0	*2.3	*4.9	666.3
Total persons(b)	1 372.1	789.9	867.9	534.9	548.5	69.6	11.4	31.8	4 226.0
Proportion (%)									
Salty	*1.2	*1.7	*0.3	3.2	2.8	—	*22.3	*1.4	1.6
Other taste	47.2	42.7	58.3	56.7	60.0	43.5	*49.9	39.7	51.4
Colour	17.6	13.7	12.9	9.0	14.2	23.1	*31.4	*20.0	14.5
Chlorine	25.2	33.2	31.9	29.1	38.9	36.7	*9.8	40.1	30.6
Dirty	15.8	13.9	15.3	12.0	11.7	15.3	*14.9	*9.3	14.3
Odour	14.5	10.8	11.8	15.4	19.9	15.5	—	*11.2	14.0
Microbial/algae contamination	17.7	8.7	9.7	4.0	3.1	*6.2	*2.3	*8.6	10.4
Other	14.1	17.6	16.5	18.4	14.1	11.4	*20.5	*15.6	15.8
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Salty	1.6	0.3	0.3	4.3	1.5	0.2	4.6	—	1.4
Other taste	46.8	45.4	53.4	60.9	56.1	40.2	25.2	26.5	50.3
Colour	15.1	18.6	13.9	12.9	15.3	16.3	14.5	17.2	15.4
Chlorine	28.8	36.2	34.8	27.3	36.5	34.0	35.8	48.3	32.3
Dirty	17.9	19.8	13.1	11.0	10.3	23.4	12.7	6.9	15.7
Odour	17.1	18.3	12.9	16.9	16.5	16.4	20.2	9.4	16.4
Microbial/algae contamination	25.4	8.8	9.0	6.4	4.6	12.2	4.8	11.8	13.7
Other	10.8	12.7	11.4	16.9	18.8	13.8	24.9	16.5	13.1
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Taste	61.4	58.0	63.3	64.8	67.9	51.2	38.4	37.4	61.7
Colour	16.0	18.0	13.8	19.4	15.2	19.1	36.2	6.6	16.5
Chlorine	32.5	29.5	31.2	22.9	29.8	28.4	30.4	36.8	30.0
Dirty	20.1	18.5	16.3	16.5	13.4	29.0	40.8	17.8	18.1
Odour	15.5	21.0	15.2	17.4	11.9	17.8	4.1	10.8	16.5
Other	14.4	17.5	17.8	18.6	19.1	14.1	25.0	34.7	17.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes persons who don't drink mains/town water.

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one problem may have been specified.

3.32 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MAINS/TOWN WATER, Problems with supply

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Inadequate or low pressure	213.8	149.2	165.3	63.9	75.0	20.8	*3.3	15.1	706.6
Fluctuating pressure	156.2	100.9	122.6	49.3	52.3	11.6	*2.3	10.8	506.0
Supply disruptions	187.6	165.5	119.7	31.8	60.2	10.4	*2.5	5.1	582.8
Supply restrictions	835.1	689.5	373.4	160.2	167.7	40.1	—	71.2	2 337.1
Other water supply problems	52.6	36.9	30.1	11.6	22.9	*2.2	*0.5	*2.6	159.3
No supply problems	1 354.4	932.8	767.4	369.9	470.6	106.3	45.1	46.5	4 093.0
Total households	2 429.0	1 795.4	1 332.9	608.6	740.6	167.5	52.2	124.0	7 250.2

Proportion (%)

Inadequate or low pressure	8.8	8.3	12.4	10.5	10.1	12.4	*6.4	12.2	9.7
Fluctuating pressure	6.4	5.6	9.2	8.1	7.1	6.9	*4.4	8.7	7.0
Supply disruptions	7.7	9.2	9.0	5.2	8.1	6.2	*4.7	4.2	8.0
Supply restrictions	34.4	38.4	28.0	26.3	22.6	23.9	—	57.5	32.2
Other water supply problems	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.9	3.1	*1.3	*0.9	*2.1	2.2
No supply problems	55.8	52.0	57.6	60.8	63.6	63.4	86.3	37.5	56.5

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Inadequate or low pressure	9.0	9.7	14.0	12.4	10.8	12.9	11.7	4.7	10.6
Fluctuating pressure	5.2	6.3	10.2	9.4	8.6	8.5	6.2	5.6	7.2
Supply disruptions	8.0	10.6	10.9	7.2	7.0	10.6	5.9	3.7	9.0
Supply restrictions	1.5	10.0	12.6	1.2	6.8	19.2	1.7	0.4	6.5
Other water supply problems	2.1	1.8	2.4	2.4	3.7	1.5	3.9	1.7	2.2
No supply problems	81.1	71.4	65.7	76.4	73.7	63.0	79.0	87.4	74.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.33 HOUSEHOLDS WITH RAINWATER TANKS, Sufficient supply

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Enough water supply	252.8	228.0	229.1	256.8	69.4	29.8	*2.2	*2.4	1 070.6
Not enough water supply	76.7	77.4	31.9	48.2	24.9	8.9	*0.7	*1.6	270.2
Total households	329.5	305.4	261.0	305.0	94.3	38.7	2.9	4.0	1 340.7
Proportion (%)									
Enough water supply	76.7	74.7	87.8	84.2	73.6	77.0	76.0	60.8	79.8
Not enough water supply	23.3	25.3	12.2	15.8	26.4	23.0	24.0	39.2	20.2
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Enough water supply	84.1	80.2	86.1	83.8	77.1	71.4	77.7	83.6	82.8
Not enough water supply	15.9	19.8	13.9	16.2	22.9	28.6	22.3	16.4	17.2
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Enough water supply	81.6	82.2	86.7	86.7	76.3	75.4	47.8	29.4	83.5
Not enough water supply	18.4	17.8	13.3	13.3	23.7	24.6	52.2	70.6	16.5
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Enough water supply	83.4	82.5	85.4	91.9	80.1	78.4	83.4	34.8	85.6
Not enough water supply	16.6	17.5	14.6	8.1	19.9	21.6	16.6	65.2	14.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

3.34 HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT RAINWATER TANK(a), Whether considered installing a tank

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Considered installing	670.5	649.6	383.5	131.6	232.8	47.0	9.4	53.6	2 178.1
Did not consider installing/re-installing(a)	1 574.8	956.2	853.6	196.5	454.9	111.5	42.7	66.4	4 256.6
Total households	2 245.4	1 605.8	1 237.1	328.1	687.7	158.5	52.1	120.0	6 434.6
Proportion (%)									
Considered installing	29.9	40.5	31.0	40.1	33.9	29.7	18.1	44.7	33.8
Did not consider installing/re-installing(a)	70.1	59.5	69.0	59.9	66.1	70.3	81.9	55.3	66.2
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Considered installing	19.4	28.7	23.7	39.4	26.0	24.8	18.8	30.1	24.5
Did not consider installing/re-installing(a)	80.6	71.3	76.3	60.6	74.0	75.2	81.2	69.9	75.5
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Considered installing	29.4	29.2	30.3	45.1	33.8	23.7	29.7	39.4	30.7
Did not consider installing/re-installing(a)	70.6	70.8	69.7	54.9	66.2	76.3	70.3	60.6	69.3
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Considered installing	25.3	22.0	24.8	51.3	28.6	18.6	10.9	35.2	25.8
Did not consider installing/re-installing(a)	74.7	78.0	75.2	48.7	71.4	81.4	89.1	64.8	74.2

(a) Includes households which have, or at one time had, a rainwater tank which is not in use or had been removed for some reason. Also includes those households whose dwellings are not suited for installation of a rainwater tank (e.g. flat, caravan).

3.35 FACTORS PREVENTING A RAINWATER TANK FROM BEING INSTALLED IN A DWELLING (a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Not allowed in the area	31.3	*9.4	15.6	*1.7	*2.7	*3.8	*1.0	*2.8	68.3
Cost	262.3	278.6	159.2	48.2	100.6	18.9	*3.4	21.0	892.1
No room	107.1	115.1	58.7	28.6	46.8	4.4	*1.0	8.4	370.1
Not home owner/not responsible	39.8	38.6	25.9	12.5	12.5	*1.8	*1.3	*3.0	135.4
No time/haven't gotten around to it	171.1	171.3	95.6	32.7	45.5	14.1	*2.7	13.7	546.8
Health concern/water quality	*15.9	*7.8	*10.3	*4.4	14.2	*1.4	—	*0.2	54.2
Insufficient rainfall	*4.9	*11.2	*3.0	—	*4.8	*0.4	*0.8	*1.9	27.0
Other	113.2	91.9	62.6	14.4	33.3	7.3	*1.8	9.0	333.6
Total households (b)	670.5	649.6	383.5	131.6	232.8	47.0	9.4	53.6	2 178.1

Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in the area	4.7	*1.4	4.1	*1.3	*1.1	*8.2	*10.9	*5.3	3.1
Cost	39.1	42.9	41.5	36.7	43.2	40.2	*35.8	39.1	41.0
No room	16.0	17.7	15.3	21.7	20.1	9.4	*10.4	15.6	17.0
Not home owner/not responsible	5.9	5.9	6.7	9.5	5.4	*3.8	*14.3	*5.5	6.2
No time/haven't gotten around to it	25.5	26.4	24.9	24.9	19.5	29.9	*28.7	25.6	25.1
Health concern/water quality	*2.4	*1.2	*2.7	*3.4	6.1	*2.9	—	*0.3	2.5
Insufficient rainfall	*0.7	*1.7	*0.8	—	*2.1	*0.8	*8.2	*3.6	1.2
Other	16.9	14.2	16.3	11.0	14.3	15.4	18.8	16.8	15.3

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in the area	13.1	11.4	8.6	—	1.2	8.0	18.8	7.4	9.2
Cost	31.2	43.6	41.7	34.7	38.8	36.7	26.3	36.8	38.1
No room	14.8	13.2	12.1	19.5	20.7	9.7	9.5	22.4	14.9
Not home owner/not responsible	8.1	3.8	7.5	5.3	7.9	5.4	12.4	8.0	6.4
No time/haven't gotten around to it	27.9	25.9	25.3	27.7	18.8	28.9	15.5	28.4	25.8
Health concern	2.9	3.0	5.7	9.4	8.7	6.6	10.2	2.9	4.7
Insufficient rainfall	0.3	1.2	0.2	—	0.7	—	—	0.6	0.6
Other	13.6	12.9	9.3	15.9	12.2	11.8	14.0	9.4	12.5

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in the area	11.5	15.4	6.9	0.5	1.1	3.3	11.5	10.3	9.6
Cost	33.6	34.7	44.4	38.1	43.6	42.9	49.5	39.0	37.6
No room	15.8	13.5	9.3	18.8	18.1	7.4	7.7	14.3	14.3
Not home owner/not responsible	—	—	—	0.4	0.3	—	—	0.6	0.1
Water quality	3.5	1.8	6.1	6.7	5.6	5.8	7.7	4.2	4.0
No time	31.9	32.7	30.0	36.5	24.8	38.6	37.0	32.7	31.5
Other	14.4	13.4	16.9	10.8	14.2	14.3	2.4	14.9	14.2

JUNE 1994

Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in the area	14.3	17.2	9.9	0.8	2.3	1.6	23.1	14.2	11.4
Cost	41.5	42.4	48.5	37.2	53.0	45.5	47.0	53.0	44.1
No room	11.8	7.7	10.1	14.8	15.4	6.4	—	12.9	11.1
Not home owner/not responsible	0.2	0.8	—	0.3	—	1.6	—	—	0.3
Other	39.9	39.4	39.9	50.9	37.7	45.9	35.6	36.7	40.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes only those households which have considered installing a rainwater tank.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one reason may have been specified.

3.36 SWIMMING POOL IN HOUSEHOLDS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Filtered	313.1	97.7	240.0	37.7	95.3	5.6	15.0	5.1	809.4
Treated	161.2	63.8	128.4	19.4	56.8	*3.6	8.3	*2.7	444.2
Filtered and treated	137.6	54.2	119.8	17.1	48.6	*2.4	6.9	*2.5	389.2
Neither filtered nor treated	*7.3	*3.1	*4.2	*1.3	*1.5	*0.4	—	—	17.8
No swimming pool	2 230.9	1 800.8	1 245.4	591.7	677.1	190.0	38.5	118.7	6 893.1
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
Proportion (%)									
Filtered	12.2	5.1	16.0	6.0	12.2	2.8	27.3	4.1	10.4
Treated	6.3	3.3	8.6	3.1	7.3	*1.8	15.2	*2.2	5.7
Filtered and treated	5.3	2.8	8.0	2.7	6.2	*1.2	12.6	*2.0	5.0
Neither filtered nor treated	*0.3	*0.2	*0.3	*0.2	*0.2	*0.2	—	—	0.2
No swimming pool	86.6	94.2	83.1	93.5	86.6	96.3	70.1	95.8	88.7
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Filtered	9.8	5.2	14.2	4.2	13.4	2.1	19.3	4.6	9.2
Treated	4.8	2.9	6.8	2.5	7.8	0.8	10.6	2.6	4.7
Filtered and treated	4.2	2.5	6.1	2.3	7.1	0.7	10.3	2.3	4.2
Neither filtered nor treated	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	—	0.3	0.2
No swimming pool	89.4	94.2	84.7	95.3	85.7	97.3	80.4	94.8	90.0
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Filtered	11.0	6.5	15.3	5.5	12.3	2.7	18.0	5.6	10.1
Not filtered	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3
No swimming pool	88.8	93.1	84.4	94.4	87.7	96.7	81.5	94.2	89.7
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Filtered	10.5	6.3	11.6	5.9	10.9	3.4	17.9	5.6	9.1
Not filtered	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1
No swimming pool	89.4	93.6	88.3	94.1	88.9	95.8	81.8	94.2	90.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.37 WATER CONSERVATION DEVICES USED INSIDE A DWELLING

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Dual flush toilet	1 748.0	1 486.9	1 118.7	480.4	629.2	127.2	43.6	87.8	5 721.8
Reduced flow shower heads	1 106.9	795.6	657.0	310.6	371.1	80.7	11.4	51.4	3 384.7
None of the above	572.1	304.0	251.5	87.1	98.8	51.2	10.0	24.4	1 399.0
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	67.9	77.8	74.7	75.9	80.5	64.5	79.4	70.8	73.6
Reduced flow shower heads	43.0	41.6	43.9	49.1	47.5	40.9	20.8	41.5	43.5
None of the above	22.2	15.9	16.8	13.8	12.6	25.9	18.2	19.7	18.0
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	55.5	71.2	62.1	71.8	71.3	58.1	69.2	57.6	63.8
Reduced flow shower heads	33.7	31.7	36.9	36.7	40.1	36.4	29.3	32.7	34.7
None of the above	33.5	22.6	26.2	20.9	20.1	29.0	23.3	31.8	26.8
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	46.2	64.2	53.1	63.2	63.1	48.1	63.0	48.1	55.2
Reduced flow shower heads	30.0	31.7	34.1	33.5	37.7	32.3	28.0	32.6	32.3
None of the above	43.0	27.6	34.3	27.9	25.2	38.4	29.7	38.0	34.3
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	30.5	50.8	31.5	48.2	46.6	31.0	41.6	33.2	39.0
Reduced flow shower heads	19.5	21.2	22.5	26.1	26.1	20.6	14.6	28.6	21.8
None of the above	58.4	41.0	55.4	41.6	42.4	58.2	51.8	49.8	50.3

3.38**WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES INSIDE AND AROUND DWELLING (a)**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Recycle/reuse water	352.9	395.9	166.0	95.0	163.8	21.6	4.8	34.4	1 234.4
Full loads when washing clothes/dishes	391.7	490.8	205.6	89.8	123.4	40.1	8.9	21.9	1 372.2
Take shorter showers	414.3	497.0	231.2	69.1	123.0	29.6	*4.5	24.5	1 393.3
Turn off/repair dripping taps	386.3	331.0	278.1	70.7	107.2	40.4	9.8	13.1	1 236.6
Brick in toilet cistern/other similar device	50.7	30.1	18.5	10.2	8.8	*3.4	*0.5	*3.1	125.4
Use bucket not hose to wash car	174.9	141.1	72.0	28.3	27.7	17.4	*3.6	6.5	471.4
Wash car on lawn	116.4	88.0	83.9	26.9	32.4	21.8	*2.7	4.9	377.0
Use less water in baths/troughs/basins	216.8	224.8	110.6	42.9	52.1	16.7	*0.6	14.2	678.7
Use broom not hose to clean paths	152.3	133.4	71.9	24.3	33.9	16.3	*4.2	5.8	442.0
Other	219.1	182.9	118.0	51.6	77.4	10.9	*4.1	10.2	674.2
No conservation practices taken	1 433.7	846.0	886.5	366.0	421.5	110.5	36.8	60.7	4 161.5
Total households	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
Proportion (%)									
Recycle/reuse water	13.7	20.7	11.1	15.0	20.9	10.9	8.7	27.8	15.9
Full loads when washing clothes/dishes	15.2	25.7	13.7	14.2	15.8	20.3	16.2	17.7	17.6
Take shorter showers	16.1	26.0	15.4	10.9	15.7	15.0	*8.2	19.8	17.9
Turn off/repair dripping taps	15.0	17.3	18.6	11.2	13.7	20.5	17.8	10.5	15.9
Brick in toilet cistern/other similar device	2.0	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.1	*1.7	*0.9	*2.5	1.6
Use bucket not hose to wash car	6.8	7.4	4.8	4.5	3.5	8.8	*6.6	5.3	6.1
Wash car on lawn	4.5	4.6	5.6	4.3	4.1	11.1	*4.9	3.9	4.8
Use less water in baths/troughs/basins	8.4	11.8	7.4	6.8	6.7	8.5	*1.1	11.4	8.7
Use broom not hose to clean paths	5.9	7.0	4.8	3.8	4.3	8.3	*7.6	4.7	5.7
Other	8.5	9.6	7.9	8.2	9.9	5.5	*7.4	8.2	8.7
No conservation practices taken	55.7	44.3	59.2	57.8	53.9	56.0	66.9	49.0	53.5
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Recycle/reuse water	8.9	14.1	9.2	14.0	13.6	14.3	9.1	9.6	11.3
Full loads when washing clothes/dishes	14.0	22.1	13.3	12.3	13.4	17.8	22.2	13.5	15.8
Take shorter showers	12.2	19.3	14.2	10.8	13.8	17.0	7.4	8.6	14.4
Turn off/repair dripping taps	19.3	21.8	23.3	14.4	12.7	17.7	24.3	14.9	19.5
Brick in toilet cistern/other similar device	2.6	1.3	2.2	1.5	1.9	1.2	2.1	2.8	2.0
Use bucket not hose to wash car	4.4	5.7	4.3	4.9	2.9	4.8	5.6	1.4	4.6
Wash car on lawn	8.0	6.9	6.1	4.5	6.2	6.3	9.2	3.8	6.8
Use less water in baths/troughs/basins	6.8	7.3	7.6	4.2	5.2	6.8	5.6	4.1	6.6
Use broom not hose to clean paths	4.9	5.6	4.2	2.8	2.1	3.0	6.5	2.8	4.4
Other	6.5	7.5	6.9	6.7	8.2	6.4	7.8	5.0	7.0
No conservation practices taken	61.5	48.9	54.8	59.5	57.2	56.6	55.1	62.8	56.4
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Recycle/reuse water	14.9	13.8	13.9	16.5	18.4	15.5	11.6	11.6	14.8
Full loads when washing clothes/dishes	16.0	20.4	14.3	12.0	15.5	16.2	21.8	20.1	16.5
Take shorter showers	16.3	14.5	15.4	11.1	16.0	14.4	16.6	13.2	15.1
Turn off/repair dripping taps	21.4	19.8	22.1	14.1	15.5	16.5	30.6	21.4	19.9
Brick in toilet cistern/other similar device	2.9	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.6	2.1	2.2	2.8	2.0
Use bucket not hose to wash car	5.3	5.7	3.6	5.2	6.3	4.5	8.1	4.0	5.2
Wash car on lawn	11.0	6.2	4.2	5.5	5.4	7.0	11.4	6.3	7.4
Use broom not hose to clean paths	7.2	4.9	3.5	2.8	5.0	3.6	8.4	3.7	5.2
Other	7.2	7.4	12.0	7.8	8.7	7.6	3.9	10.0	8.3
No conservation practices taken	50.9	53.5	52.5	58.5	51.0	56.6	50.1	52.2	52.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Excludes water conservation practices in the garden. (Refer to table 3.40).

3.38 WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES INSIDE AND AROUND DWELLING (a) *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Recycle/reuse water	13.3	9.0	16.5	13.2	19.5	11.9	7.7	12.3	13.3
Full loads when washing clothes/dishes	16.3	15.9	15.1	10.5	22.1	18.5	19.0	16.8	16.1
Take shorter showers	16.7	13.3	15.3	12.5	21.9	16.7	13.5	15.9	15.7
Turn off/repair dripping taps	25.3	21.1	29.7	13.1	20.8	23.5	24.5	29.5	23.5
Brick in toilet cistern/other similar device	2.3	1.1	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	—	2.5	1.8
Other	8.9	5.7	10.7	7.2	10.8	5.1	5.2	15.0	8.4
No conservation practices taken	54.6	60.3	47.2	62.6	43.4	55.8	61.6	45.3	54.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Excludes water conservation practices in the garden. (Refer to table 3.40).

3.39 HOUSEHOLDS WITH GARDENS

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
March 2004									
Number ('000)	1 913.9	1 656.6	1 239.6	566.9	719.4	178.8	44.0	108.3	6 427.6
Proportion (%)	74.3	86.7	82.7	89.5	92.0	90.7	80.0	87.4	82.7
March 2001 (%)	78.7	87.3	85.1	90.7	92.1	91.4	86.6	90.8	85.0
March 1998 (%)	80.2	90.3	85.9	91.8	91.3	91.7	84.3	88.6	86.3
June 1994 (%)	81.4	91.1	87.2	90.6	94.4	93.1	75.8	93.4	87.4

3.40**HOUSEHOLDS WITH GARDENS, Water conservation measures applied**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Use mulch in the garden(a)	1 032.8	1 040.1	653.9	359.5	497.7	93.1	29.8	71.3	3 778.3
Plant native shrubs or trees(b)	265.6	303.3	118.0	146.3	198.1	24.3	9.8	24.9	1 090.3
Water early morning/late evening	383.8	361.2	217.0	214.1	173.1	52.9	16.3	26.1	1 444.5
Check soil moisture before watering	51.7	68.0	64.8	19.9	28.6	14.0	*1.7	3.9	252.6
Use recycled water	366.2	372.5	172.5	68.2	113.7	22.9	*3.6	28.1	1 147.6
Reduce lawn area	33.6	38.1	15.8	23.4	29.9	5.9	*2.2	6.3	155.1
Don't water lawn area	118.4	195.6	56.3	29.6	15.5	25.4	*0.4	9.0	450.1
Water less frequently but longer periods	177.8	206.4	120.7	71.4	83.3	19.7	*4.1	13.0	696.4
Other steps	257.3	235.5	166.8	114.1	150.1	16.5	*3.3	16.4	960.1
Don't water at all	232.2	220.2	122.2	27.8	11.8	16.3	*1.1	8.6	640.2
No conservation measures applied	189.3	115.8	125.9	38.1	58.2	17.9	*4.2	8.6	557.9
Total households(c)	1 913.9	1 656.6	1 239.6	566.9	719.4	178.8	44.0	108.3	6 427.6
Proportion (%)									
Use mulch in the garden(a)	54.0	62.8	52.7	63.4	69.2	52.1	67.9	65.8	58.8
Plant native shrubs or trees(b)	13.9	18.3	9.5	25.8	27.5	13.6	22.3	23.0	17.0
Water early morning/late evening	20.1	21.8	17.5	37.8	24.1	29.6	37.1	24.1	22.5
Check soil moisture before watering	2.7	4.1	5.2	3.5	4.0	7.9	*3.8	3.6	3.9
Use recycled water	19.1	22.5	13.9	12.0	15.8	12.8	*8.3	25.9	17.9
Reduce lawn area	1.8	2.3	1.3	4.1	4.2	3.3	*5.0	5.8	2.4
Don't water lawn area	6.2	11.8	4.5	5.2	2.2	14.2	*0.9	8.3	7.0
Water less frequently but longer periods	9.3	12.5	9.7	12.6	11.6	11.0	*9.2	12.0	10.8
Other steps	13.4	14.2	13.5	20.1	20.9	9.2	*7.4	15.2	14.9
Don't water at all	12.1	13.3	9.9	4.9	1.6	9.1	*2.4	7.9	10.0
No conservation measures applied	9.9	7.0	10.2	6.7	8.1	10.0	*9.5	7.9	8.7
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Use mulch in the garden(a)	42.2	53.9	50.8	54.0	62.1	52.7	49.5	56.6	50.6
Plant native shrubs or trees(b)	8.1	9.9	5.8	17.0	20.0	8.1	11.2	12.2	10.3
Water early morning/late evening	23.3	29.6	19.3	26.4	36.1	31.2	37.6	26.7	26.2
Check soil moisture before deciding to water	5.6	6.6	5.8	4.9	5.3	4.0	4.2	4.9	5.7
Use recycled water	9.4	12.7	11.0	10.1	9.3	12.2	5.2	7.0	10.6
Reduce lawn area	1.1	2.3	1.4	3.3	3.4	1.5	9.7	4.3	2.0
Don't water lawn area	4.2	12.9	4.4	2.6	1.8	14.9	2.0	5.3	6.3
Water less frequently but for longer periods	10.4	15.1	10.4	12.2	15.4	9.6	14.7	15.2	12.4
Other steps	9.6	11.7	10.8	19.4	19.2	7.6	11.2	15.4	12.4
Don't water at all	6.6	5.8	6.9	4.1	1.0	8.3	5.8	2.9	5.6
No conservation measures applied	13.8	9.9	10.0	10.5	7.3	7.4	10.6	9.3	10.8
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Use mulch in the garden(a)	44.9	46.5	44.2	52.6	54.7	45.2	60.8	58.3	47.2
Plant native shrubs or trees(b)	8.1	9.6	6.3	18.2	22.0	6.7	14.6	14.6	10.6
Water early morning/late evening	32.1	28.8	19.9	27.4	42.4	28.8	48.8	42.3	29.9
Check soil moisture before deciding to water	7.2	10.0	8.4	9.2	7.8	6.3	6.9	9.3	8.4
Use recycled water	12.7	12.2	10.6	9.9	10.3	12.0	10.8	6.1	11.5
Other steps	13.7	18.3	17.3	21.5	20.6	16.7	12.8	20.8	17.2
Don't water at all	6.1	6.9	7.0	3.6	2.1	9.0	4.6	5.5	5.9
No conservation measures applied	11.5	12.4	10.7	11.9	8.7	10.3	8.8	6.1	11.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes only those households which used mulch specifically to conserve water in the garden. (Refer to table 3.41).

(b) Includes only those households which planted native shrubs specifically to conserve water in the garden. (Refer to table 3.42).

(c) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one conservation measure may be specified.

Note: These figures are not comparable to those appearing in previous editions.

3.41 USE OF MULCH IN GARDEN

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Used mulch

To conserve water	1 032.8	1 040.1	653.9	359.5	497.7	93.1	29.8	71.3	3 778.3
Other reasons	724.0	629.8	596.8	177.0	258.0	84.9	25.7	43.8	2 539.9
Total(a)	1 304.6	1 194.0	912.4	400.8	557.9	127.4	34.5	81.7	4 613.3

Did not use mulch

609.3	462.7	327.2	166.2	161.5	51.4	9.4	26.7	1 814.3
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Total households(b)

1 913.9	1 656.6	1 239.6	566.9	719.4	178.8	44.0	108.3	6 427.6
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Proportion (%)

Used mulch

To conserve water	54.0	62.8	52.7	63.4	69.2	52.1	67.9	65.8	58.8
Other reasons	37.8	38.0	48.1	31.2	35.9	47.5	58.5	40.5	39.5
Total(a)	68.2	72.1	73.6	70.7	77.6	71.2	78.6	75.4	71.8

Did not use mulch

31.8	27.9	26.4	29.3	22.4	28.8	21.4	24.6	28.2
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MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Used mulch

To conserve water	42.2	53.9	50.8	54.0	62.1	52.7	49.5	56.6	50.6
Other reasons	47.7	42.1	50.1	33.6	33.4	50.4	46.7	51.4	44.1
Total(a)	65.9	67.3	73.2	67.6	73.0	70.8	68.2	76.1	68.9

Did not use mulch

34.1	32.7	26.8	32.4	27.0	29.2	31.8	23.9	31.1
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MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)

Used mulch

To conserve water	44.9	46.5	44.2	52.6	54.7	45.2	60.8	58.3	47.2
Other reasons	37.2	33.7	42.0	26.0	22.0	38.8	33.4	40.1	34.6
Total(a)	67.3	65.2	72.0	65.5	66.7	70.1	75.2	76.3	67.7

Did not use mulch

32.7	34.8	28.0	34.5	33.3	29.9	24.8	23.7	32.3
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- (a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one reason may be specified. (b) Households with gardens only.

3.42

PLANTING OF NATIVE SHRUBS OR TREES IN GARDEN

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Planted native shrubs or trees									
To conserve water	265.6	303.3	118.0	146.3	198.1	24.3	9.8	24.9	1 090.3
Other reasons	975.5	752.1	698.6	227.5	284.2	91.6	22.9	59.7	3 112.1
Total(a)	1 096.3	908.2	747.5	313.1	401.4	104.1	25.8	67.6	3 664.0
Did not plant native shrubs or trees	817.6	748.4	492.1	253.8	318.0	74.7	18.2	40.7	2 763.6
Total households(b)	1 913.9	1 656.6	1 239.6	566.9	719.4	178.8	44.0	108.3	6 427.6

Proportion (%)

Planted native shrubs or trees									
To conserve water	13.9	18.3	9.5	25.8	27.5	13.6	22.3	23.0	17.0
Other reasons	51.0	45.4	56.4	40.1	39.5	51.2	52.0	55.2	48.4
Total(a)	57.3	54.8	60.3	55.2	55.8	58.2	58.6	62.4	57.0
Did not plant native shrubs or trees	42.7	45.2	39.7	44.8	44.2	41.8	41.4	37.6	43.0

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Planted native shrubs or trees									
To conserve water	8.1	9.9	5.8	17.0	20.0	8.1	11.2	12.2	10.3
Other reasons	53.5	51.1	59.2	46.6	45.6	53.4	39.4	62.3	52.6
Total(a)	57.1	55.6	61.8	56.1	56.8	57.1	44.1	65.8	57.6
Did not plant any native shrubs or trees	42.9	44.4	38.2	43.9	43.2	42.9	55.9	34.2	42.4

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)

Planted native shrubs or trees									
To conserve water	8.1	9.6	6.3	18.2	22.0	6.7	14.6	14.6	10.6
Other reasons	53.7	51.2	58.7	43.7	39.5	51.2	42.9	59.4	51.5
Total(a)	57.3	56.0	61.3	54.6	54.8	54.9	48.9	65.4	57.2
Did not plant any native shrubs or trees	42.7	44.0	38.7	45.4	45.2	45.1	51.1	34.6	42.8

(a) Totals do not equal the items in each column as more than one reason may be specified.

(b) Households with gardens only.

3.43**HOUSEHOLDS THAT WATER THEIR GARDENS(a), Watering methods used**

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Hand watering	1 271.6	1 094.1	752.6	351.4	457.6	106.0	11.9	75.1	4 120.3
Moveable sprinkler	148.3	128.3	231.5	164.1	113.2	54.5	10.7	13.1	863.6
Fixed sprinkler system	132.7	249.7	219.4	164.3	448.4	35.3	19.8	22.4	1 292.0
Drip system	117.5	87.9	73.3	119.3	57.6	17.1	13.8	15.6	502.2
Timer	58.9	76.2	73.5	96.8	155.0	15.0	11.9	5.2	492.5
Other	154.6	99.2	61.0	17.1	16.6	4.7	*1.3	6.2	360.7
Rely on rainfall	172.2	98.6	95.8	11.3	*6.6	10.5	*1.3	6.9	403.2
Total households(b)	1 681.7	1 436.5	1 117.4	539.1	707.6	162.6	42.9	99.7	5 787.4

Proportion (%)

Hand watering	75.6	76.2	67.4	65.2	64.7	65.2	27.7	75.3	71.2
Moveable sprinkler	8.8	8.9	20.7	30.4	16.0	33.5	24.8	13.1	14.9
Fixed sprinkler system	7.9	17.4	19.6	30.5	63.4	21.7	46.2	22.5	22.3
Drip system	7.0	6.1	6.6	22.1	8.1	10.5	32.1	15.7	8.7
Timer	3.5	5.3	6.6	18.0	21.9	9.2	27.7	5.2	8.5
Other	9.2	6.9	5.5	3.2	2.3	2.9	*3.1	6.2	6.2
Rely on rainfall	10.2	6.9	8.6	2.1	*0.9	6.4	*2.9	7.0	7.0

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Hand watering	70.8	69.4	67.1	62.0	53.2	63.1	46.4	52.2	66.2
Moveable sprinkler	26.5	22.8	29.3	43.7	20.3	40.8	30.9	42.4	27.7
Fixed sprinkler system	18.6	30.7	24.3	36.4	66.9	22.7	42.8	40.0	30.5
Drip system	5.5	7.9	6.4	19.9	10.1	10.3	24.2	8.8	8.4
Timer	5.3	7.6	5.8	17.7	30.9	8.0	24.4	12.3	10.3
Other	3.8	4.3	5.0	3.8	2.2	1.8	4.1	0.8	3.8
Rely on rainfall	7.4	4.3	6.5	1.4	0.3	2.9	2.7	3.8	4.9

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)

Hand watering	69.3	66.1	68.0	63.9	46.1	65.7	39.2	46.2	64.5
Moveable sprinkler	26.1	25.9	30.5	40.5	23.7	47.6	25.7	44.9	28.8
Fixed sprinkler system	19.2	30.4	22.9	35.0	58.7	20.0	38.9	41.3	29.0
Drip system	5.8	9.9	7.7	18.2	5.8	7.8	32.5	8.3	8.6
Timer	4.8	9.3	6.0	14.7	28.5	5.9	19.7	15.5	10.0
Other	4.6	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.9	1.8	1.7	4.3
Rely on rainfall	7.0	3.8	6.1	1.8	1.4	4.6	6.0	1.1	4.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Excludes households which don't water their garden *at all*. (Refer to table 3.40).

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one watering method may be specified.

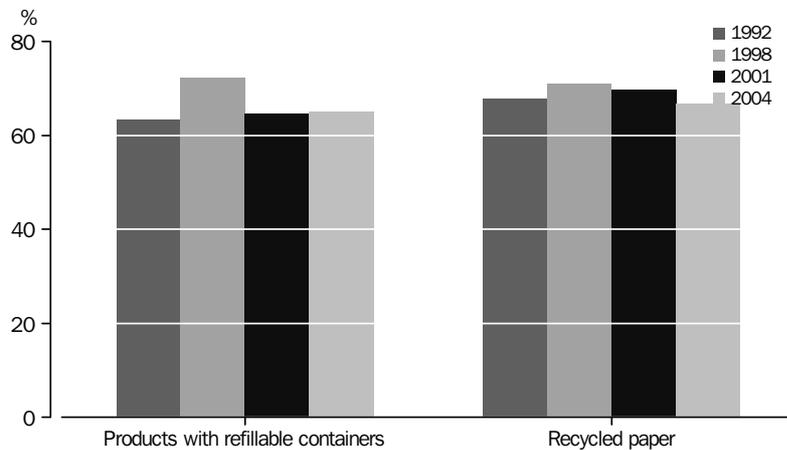
INTRODUCTION

Environmentally friendly products (EFPs) are products that have less impact on the environment and human health compared with other products that serve the same purpose. They are products that may be either made from recycled/recyclable materials (i.e. recycled paper products, products with refillable containers) or products that pay special attention to reducing chemical hazards (i.e. unbleached paper products, phosphate-free cleaning products). Others may focus on efficiency of resource use such as energy or water efficient products.

Household purchase of Environmentally Friendly Products

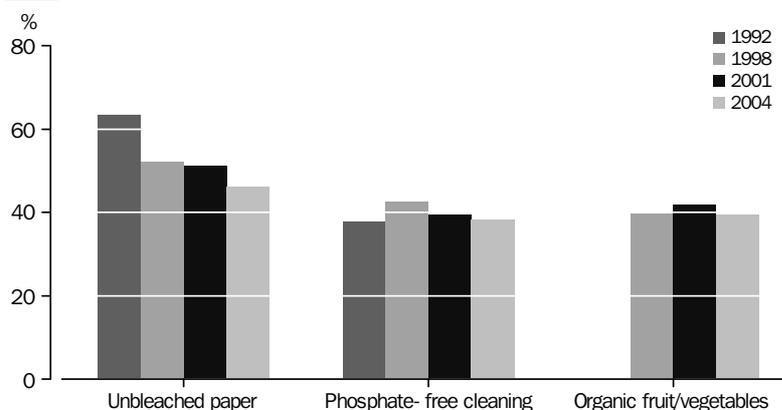
Nine in ten Australian households use at least one type of EFP. Recycled paper products (67%) and products with refillable containers (65%) were the EFPs purchased most often by Australian households (graph 4.1 and table 4.6). This was followed by unbleached paper products (46% of households), organically grown fruit and vegetables (39%) and phosphate-free cleaning products (38%) (graph 4.2).

4.1 HOUSEHOLD PURCHASE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS



Household purchase of Environmentally Friendly Products continued

4.2 HOUSEHOLD PURCHASE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS



Note: No data collected for organic fruit/vegetables in 1992.

The purchase of unbleached paper products by Australian households continued to decline, down to 46% from 51% in 2001. Most other EFPs showed a small decline in their usage between 2001 and 2004, the exception being products with refillable containers (purchased by 65% of households in 2004 and 2001).

Households in the Australian Capital Territory were more likely to purchase all types of EFPs except for organically grown fruit and vegetables (purchased most often in Tasmania). South Australians were the least likely to purchase products with refillable containers (58%) unbleached paper products (42%), recycled paper products (64% along with the Northern Territory) and organically grown fruit and vegetables (35%).

Households with dependent child or children were most likely to use EFPs (94%) (table 4.7). One person households were the least likely to purchase an EFP (84%).

Single parent households were most likely to purchase most of the EFPs including products with refillable containers (76%), unbleached paper products (56%), recycled paper products (78%) and phosphate-free cleaning products (46%). Couple with dependent child or children was the household type next most likely to purchase these products.

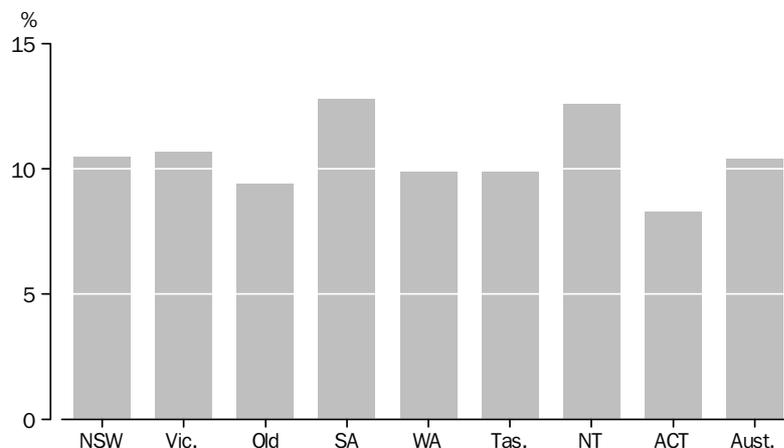
Single parent households reported an increase in their use of all of the above products between 2001 and 2004. This was in contrast to all other household types, which reported a decline in usage of most of the EFPs. One person households purchased all of the EFPs least often.

Households not using Environmentally Friendly Products

Ten per cent of Australian households did not use any EFPs at all. South Australia and the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of households that did not use any of the EFPs (13%); the Australian Capital Territory had the lowest (8%) (graph 4.3).

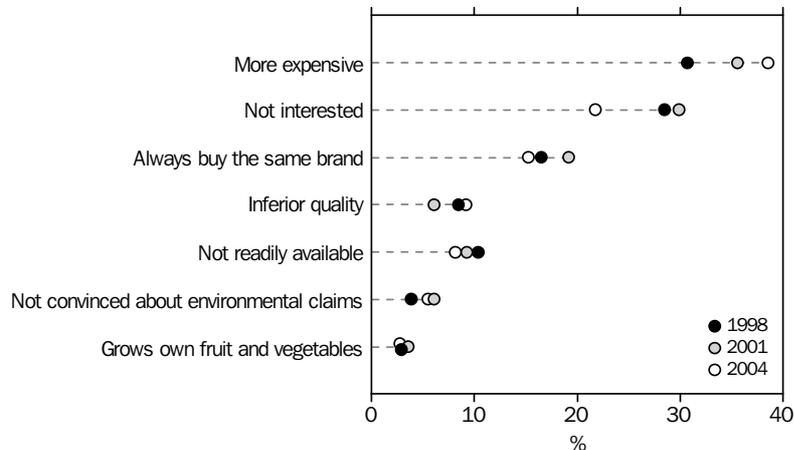
Households not using
Environmentally Friendly
Products continued

4.3 HOUSEHOLDS NOT PURCHASING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS—2004



Cost is the single most important reason why households did not purchase any of the EFPs asked in the survey, and this reason has increased over time (31% in 1998; 36% in 2001 and 39% in 2004) (graph 4.4 and table 4.8). Cost was reported most often by households in the Australian Capital Territory (46%). Fifty-nine per cent of single parent households reported cost as a reason (table 4.9).

4.4 REASONS DO NOT USE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS



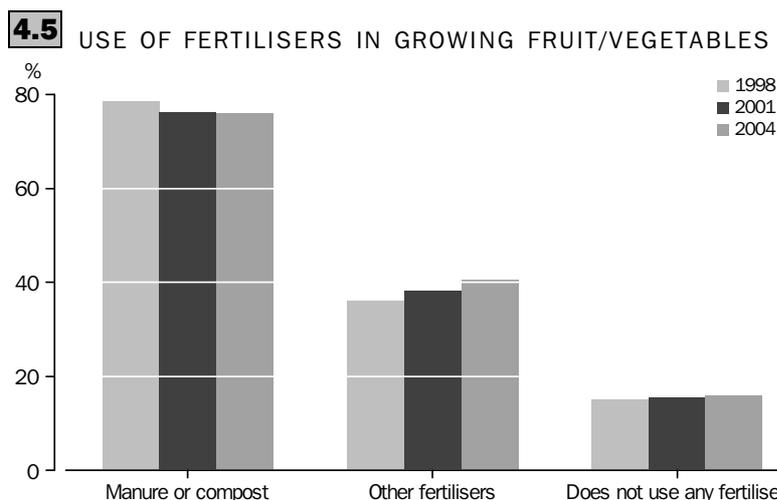
Over one-fifth (22%) of Australian households did not purchase EFPs because they were not interested or found it too much effort. This was a drop from 30% in 2001. Households that expressed no interest in EFPs were highest in Tasmania (35%) and least in New South Wales (16%).

A further 15% of Australian households claimed that they always buy the same brand. Twenty per cent of households stated no reason for not purchasing EFPs while 6% were sceptical of the environmental claims of these products.

Household use of fertilisers and pesticides/weedkiller

Nearly 3 million Australian households (46%) reported they grow fruit or vegetables in their garden (table 4.10). In Tasmania, this figure is 60%.

In growing fruit or vegetables, about 84% of households reported that they used some form of fertilisers in this activity in 2004; 76% stated they used manure or compost and 40% used other fertilisers (graph 4.5 and table 4.11). Manure or compost was most often used in Western Australia and the Northern Territory (both 81%) and least popular in South Australia (69%).



The most popular of the other fertiliser types was blood and bone (37%). Blood and bone is an organic fertiliser containing calcium and phosphorous. Other common types of fertilisers used by households were nitrogen fertiliser (23%), fish fertiliser (12%), superphosphate (10%), and gypsum or lime (5%) (table 4.12).

Most households (72%) did not use any pesticides or weedkiller when growing fruit or vegetables in their gardens. Tasmania had the highest rate of pesticides/weedkiller use in 2004 (33%) with the Northern Territory the lowest (18%) (table 4.13).

Most states and territories showed a decrease in the use of pesticides/weedkiller in the garden compared to 2001. The exceptions were Queensland and Tasmania, which showed a slight or no increase.

4.6 HOUSEHOLD PURCHASE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS(a), By type of product

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Products with refillable containers	1 719.9	1 185.4	1 023.5	364.0	518.3	124.0	36.7	89.3	5 060.9
Unbleached paper products	1 170.9	883.6	725.3	265.1	357.6	101.8	26.6	65.6	3 596.4
Recycled paper products	1 708.9	1 284.0	1 007.8	403.0	525.1	137.1	35.2	87.5	5 188.6
Phosphate-free cleaning products	972.7	725.6	576.2	227.1	307.0	85.7	19.4	55.4	2 969.0
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	994.2	780.5	612.7	220.5	278.9	95.0	25.7	58.1	3 065.4
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	269.8	205.2	141.3	80.9	77.1	19.6	6.9	10.2	811.0
Don't know	*10.4	*10.9	*2.5	*2.0	*3.8	*0.2	*0.2	*0.2	30.3
Total households(b)	2 574.8	1 911.1	1 498.1	633.1	782.0	197.3	55.0	124.0	7 775.4
Proportion (%)									
Products with refillable containers	66.8	62.0	68.3	57.5	66.3	62.9	66.7	72.0	65.1
Unbleached paper products	45.5	46.2	48.4	41.9	45.7	51.6	48.4	52.9	46.3
Recycled paper products	66.4	67.2	67.3	63.7	67.2	69.5	64.0	70.6	66.7
Phosphate-free cleaning products	37.8	38.0	38.5	35.9	39.3	43.4	35.4	44.6	38.2
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	38.6	40.8	40.9	34.8	35.7	48.1	46.7	46.8	39.4
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	10.5	10.7	9.4	12.8	9.9	9.9	12.6	8.3	10.4
Don't know	*0.4	*0.6	*0.2	*0.3	*0.5	*0.1	*0.4	*0.2	*0.4
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Products with refillable containers	64.7	62.1	68.2	60.2	64.6	66.6	71.6	70.9	64.6
Unbleached paper products	51.9	51.8	50.7	50.2	49.1	52.6	54.1	56.8	51.3
Recycled paper products	69.0	69.4	69.6	71.5	71.1	69.5	73.6	77.7	69.8
Phosphate-free cleaning products	40.1	38.6	40.5	40.2	37.6	41.0	31.4	36.3	39.5
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	40.0	45.2	42.7	38.3	38.9	48.2	41.0	41.6	41.8
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	10.8	9.7	8.0	8.5	8.2	10.6	5.8	7.7	9.4
Don't know	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	—	0.3
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Products with refillable containers	71.3	72.8	75.2	69.9	72.0	68.7	70.5	77.7	72.4
Unbleached paper products	51.9	53.1	53.2	51.3	50.8	49.6	48.4	53.9	52.2
Recycled paper products	69.9	73.3	70.8	70.8	70.8	68.6	67.1	75.4	71.1
Phosphate-free cleaning products	46.0	40.2	41.6	41.1	39.4	40.2	42.0	46.0	42.5
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	37.9	42.2	40.0	38.4	39.0	43.3	41.1	41.7	39.7
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	7.0	7.3	7.8	9.4	8.7	11.7	9.7	4.9	7.7
Don't know	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	—	0.5	0.7
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Products with refillable containers	62.3	60.5	67.0	63.9	65.9	66.7	62.0	66.2	63.3
Unbleached paper products	60.8	62.6	65.1	65.7	70.0	62.7	56.2	63.3	63.4
Recycled paper products	67.2	66.1	68.6	69.6	73.7	62.4	64.4	72.7	67.9
Phosphate-free cleaning products	36.4	36.4	40.4	36.2	40.8	41.6	38.3	37.5	37.7
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	10.8	8.8	8.0	7.9	6.3	10.1	11.5	9.7	9.1
Don't know	1.3	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	—	0.8	1.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes households that 'sometimes' purchase environmentally friendly products.

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one product may be specified.

4.7 HOUSEHOLD PURCHASE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS(a), By household type

Type of product	households						Total
	one person	couple only	couple, dependent child(ren)	one parent, dependent child(ren)	households with all members 15 years and over	all other households	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004							
Products with refillable containers	56.7	62.7	74.5	76.3	64.6	66.8	65.1
Unbleached paper products	40.9	45.4	50.1	55.6	47.9	46.3	46.3
Recycled paper products	59.4	66.8	73.2	77.5	67.6	64.2	66.7
Phosphate-free cleaning products	33.0	40.2	41.2	46.3	39.6	33.2	38.2
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	35.6	39.9	40.8	40.6	41.1	42.0	39.4
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	16.0	9.6	6.5	6.1	9.8	10.3	10.4
Don't know	0.4	0.4	*0.3	*0.1	*0.4	0.8	0.4
MARCH 2001							
Products with refillable containers	55.0	63.0	73.7	73.0	64.0	67.3	64.6
Unbleached paper products	47.0	49.9	56.0	54.6	52.6	51.6	51.3
Recycled paper products	63.8	68.4	76.8	76.5	69.6	69.6	69.8
Phosphate-free cleaning products	35.0	39.5	44.4	42.5	39.6	37.4	39.5
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	38.6	42.5	42.3	46.2	41.4	44.9	41.8
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	13.9	8.7	6.2	6.4	8.8	10.0	9.4
Don't know	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3
MARCH 1998							
Products with refillable containers	59.2	71.7	83.1	79.8	73.8	74.6	72.4
Unbleached paper products	46.3	49.9	57.4	61.4	53.2	53.8	52.2
Recycled paper products	62.7	70.5	78.8	76.4	72.2	70.4	71.1
Phosphate-free cleaning products	35.3	42.0	49.6	49.5	42.6	41.3	42.5
Organically grown fruit and vegetables	36.4	40.5	41.8	39.7	39.9	40.9	39.7
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	13.9	7.0	3.6	5.0	6.0	7.5	7.7
Don't know	0.9	0.6	0.5	—	1.3	0.6	0.7
MAY 1992							
Products with refillable containers	47.4	62.1	72.5	70.1	67.1	64.2	63.3
Unbleached paper products	51.8	60.4	72.5	72.9	61.7	66.3	63.4
Recycled paper products	53.3	64.2	80.0	76.5	66.9	70.1	67.9
Phosphate-free cleaning products	26.2	35.7	45.8	45.8	37.9	38.6	37.7
Does not buy any of the EFPs listed	17.6	9.0	4.7	6.7	8.0	7.3	9.1
Don't know	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	1.0	1.3	1.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes households that 'sometimes' purchase environmentally friendly products.

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

4.8 HOUSEHOLDS NOT PURCHASING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS (a), Reasons not purchased

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
More expensive/always buy cheapest	88.5	89.7	62.5	31.5	27.5	6.3	*1.6	4.7	312.5
Always buy the same brand	39.5	27.4	25.3	15.3	11.2	*2.9	*1.4	*1.5	124.5
Inferior quality	22.4	23.3	12.8	6.7	*6.4	*1.0	*0.5	*1.1	74.3
Not convinced they are better for the environment	13.7	*9.5	*7.8	*4.3	*6.6	*0.8	*1.2	*0.8	44.8
Not interested/too much effort	44.0	41.4	40.6	21.0	18.7	6.8	*1.9	*2.5	177.0
Grows own fruit/vegetables	*5.6	*9.7	*0.7	*2.9	*1.9	*1.7	—	*0.2	22.7
Not readily available	19.9	15.1	*9.6	9.6	9.4	*1.1	*1.0	*0.7	66.4
Other	28.1	15.7	11.9	7.3	*7.2	*1.2	—	*1.6	72.9
No reason	70.8	35.8	21.8	10.9	14.2	4.1	*1.1	*1.3	160.0
Total households(b)	269.8	205.2	141.3	80.9	77.1	19.6	6.9	10.2	811.0
Proportion (%)									
More expensive/always buy cheapest	32.8	43.7	44.2	39.0	35.7	32.4	*23.8	46.3	38.5
Always buy the same brand	14.6	13.4	17.9	18.9	14.6	*15.0	*19.8	*14.2	15.3
Inferior quality	8.3	11.3	9.1	8.2	*8.3	*5.3	*7.5	*10.7	9.2
Not convinced they are better for the environment	5.1	*4.6	*5.5	*5.3	*8.6	*4.3	*17.8	*7.7	5.5
Not interested/too much effort	16.3	20.2	28.8	25.9	24.3	35.0	*27.3	*24.3	21.8
Grows own fruit/vegetables	*2.1	*4.7	*0.5	*3.6	*2.5	*8.4	—	*2.2	2.8
Not readily available	7.4	7.4	*6.8	11.9	12.2	*5.5	*15.0	*7.1	8.2
Other	10.4	7.6	8.4	9.0	*9.4	*6.3	—	*15.2	9.0
No reason	26.2	17.4	15.4	13.4	18.5	21.1	16.4	12.4	19.7
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
More expensive/always buy cheapest	31.3	41.0	38.3	33.7	36.8	32.6	11.4	42.1	35.6
Always buy the same brand	19.7	21.3	18.4	15.6	17.0	18.4	9.6	17.7	19.2
Inferior quality	8.0	11.2	10.6	6.7	8.7	12.0	6.5	21.8	9.5
Not convinced they are better for the environment	7.3	6.4	5.3	2.7	4.5	4.0	—	7.8	6.1
Not interested/too much effort	32.8	33.4	23.8	24.3	28.4	17.0	36.0	24.5	29.9
Grows own fruit/vegetables	3.1	4.8	2.4	4.9	1.3	7.0	—	10.4	3.6
Not readily available	9.2	10.4	5.1	17.1	8.2	3.9	17.2	10.6	9.3
Other	8.0	13.3	5.9	9.4	10.4	9.1	—	11.0	9.3
No reason	17.2	11.9	22.7	18.2	19.7	27.2	25.7	14.1	17.3
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
More expensive/always buy cheapest	28.9	33.0	32.3	25.6	32.9	28.2	41.5	31.2	30.7
Always buy the same brand	16.5	21.6	11.9	12.5	16.4	10.3	30.1	35.9	16.5
Inferior quality	6.4	6.0	11.6	9.1	12.1	9.3	8.4	25.7	8.5
Not convinced they are better for the environment	2.7	5.1	4.4	2.0	4.6	5.7	4.3	9.8	3.9
Not interested/too much effort	30.1	29.7	22.3	32.4	28.2	29.0	34.2	27.3	28.5
Grows own fruit/vegetables	1.4	7.1	1.5	1.8	0.6	6.4	—	3.7	2.9
Not readily available	12.0	11.8	10.3	5.1	9.4	3.9	17.9	10.7	10.4
Other	7.6	6.3	8.6	9.6	9.9	6.8	—	3.1	7.8
No reason	21.2	25.1	25.4	21.1	16.7	31.0	9.3	17.6	22.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only households which reported they did not buy any of the listed environmentally friendly products. (Refer to table 4.6).

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column as more than one reason may be specified.

Note: These figures are not comparable with those appearing in previous editions.

4.9 HOUSEHOLDS NOT PURCHASING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS (a), By household type

Reasons products not purchased	households						Total
	one person	couple only	couple, dependent child(ren)	one parent, dependent child(ren)	households with all members 15 years and over	all other households	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004							
More expensive/always buy cheapest	36.6	41.3	38.8	58.6	34.6	38.1	38.5
Always buy the same brand	15.0	16.6	13.6	*15.8	18.0	12.4	15.3
Inferior quality	6.2	11.9	11.6	*2.4	14.2	5.8	9.2
Not convinced they are better for the environment	6.3	6.2	*4.3	—	*5.0	*4.9	5.5
Not interested/too much effort	27.5	18.7	16.1	*22.8	18.1	19.6	21.8
Grows own fruit/vegetables	*1.5	5.9	*1.3	—	*3.2	*2.9	2.8
Not readily available	6.6	12.4	9.5	3.7	8.3	*3.9	8.2
Other	8.2	9.8	7.8	*13.8	7.0	13.1	9.0
No reason	19.1	14.3	25.7	*19.3	21.7	24.7	19.7
MARCH 2001							
More expensive/always buy cheapest	29.9	33.7	48.0	46.3	41.3	31.1	35.6
Always buy the same brand	17.0	23.7	18.6	10.7	21.7	18.0	19.2
Inferior quality	7.7	14.1	8.6	5.4	11.6	5.9	9.5
Not convinced they are better for the environment	5.7	6.9	6.3	9.0	6.5	3.6	6.1
Not interested/too much effort	37.2	23.4	23.1	33.2	30.2	26.9	29.9
Grows own fruit/vegetables	3.2	5.3	3.3	2.2	3.5	2.7	3.6
Not readily available	9.3	11.3	8.4	16.5	7.0	7.0	9.3
Other	11.0	8.2	6.9	8.4	7.4	12.0	9.3
No reason	16.5	15.7	17.1	13.0	17.6	24.6	17.3
MARCH 1998							
More expensive/always buy cheapest	27.1	29.5	41.4	55.1	30.4	30.3	30.7
Always buy the same brand	14.7	18.4	13.8	20.3	21.8	15.5	16.5
Inferior quality	7.2	8.3	10.7	14.0	12.4	6.4	8.5
Not convinced they are better for the environment	1.7	6.0	4.2	—	8.5	4.4	3.9
Not interested/too much effort	35.4	23.6	21.6	18.9	18.7	31.8	28.5
Grows own fruit/vegetables	1.9	5.9	1.1	—	4.9	1.6	2.9
Not readily available	10.4	11.1	7.8	9.8	9.1	12.7	10.4
Other	9.8	7.2	5.4	5.1	7.2	4.5	7.8
No reason	22.3	23.3	23.5	8.4	21.2	27.4	22.6

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes only those households which reported they did not buy any of the listed environmentally friendly products. (Refer to table 4.6).

Note: These figures are not comparable with those appearing in previous editions.

4.10 GROWING FRUIT/VEGETABLES IN THE GARDEN

NSW Vic. Qld SA WA Tas. NT ACT Aust.

MARCH 2004

Number ('000)

Grow fruit/vegetables	815.2	811.9	525.4	304.1	320.9	106.3	18.3	54.9	2 957.0
Does not grow fruit/vegetables	1 098.7	844.7	714.2	262.8	398.5	72.5	25.7	53.4	3 470.6
Total households	1 913.9	1 656.6	1 239.6	566.9	719.4	178.8	44.0	108.3	6 427.6

Proportion (%)

Grow fruit/vegetables	42.6	49.0	42.4	53.6	44.6	59.4	41.6	50.7	46.0
Does not grow fruit/vegetables	57.4	51.0	57.6	46.4	55.4	40.6	58.4	49.3	54.0

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)

Grow fruit/vegetables	43.8	52.8	47.1	55.2	46.7	61.9	41.1	59.0	48.8
Does not grow fruit/vegetables	56.2	47.2	52.9	44.8	53.3	38.1	58.9	41.0	51.2

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)

Grow fruit/vegetables	45.9	56.0	45.0	57.0	44.7	60.9	45.4	54.9	49.8
Does not grow fruit/vegetables	54.1	44.0	55.0	43.0	55.3	39.1	54.6	45.1	50.2

4.11 HOUSEHOLDS GROWING FRUIT/VEGETABLES, Fertiliser use

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Manure or compost	644.6	606.6	388.4	208.4	258.5	79.6	14.7	43.2	2 244.1
Other fertilisers	322.5	300.8	220.3	142.8	140.0	40.0	10.2	22.1	1 198.7
Neither of the above	113.4	146.2	86.8	56.7	34.3	19.3	*1.3	9.0	467.1
Total households	815.2	811.9	525.4	304.1	320.9	106.3	18.3	54.9	2 957.0
Proportion (%)									
Manure or compost	79.1	74.7	73.9	68.5	80.6	74.9	80.6	78.7	75.9
Other fertilisers	39.6	37.0	41.9	47.0	43.6	37.6	55.8	40.3	40.5
Neither of the above	13.9	18.0	16.5	18.6	10.7	18.2	*7.0	16.4	15.8
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Manure or compost	76.1	76.4	75.6	73.1	80.2	78.1	62.2	76.2	76.2
Other fertilisers	36.6	35.6	37.3	46.6	42.3	34.3	42.8	41.0	38.1
Neither of the above	15.3	16.0	17.4	15.0	10.7	17.1	22.8	16.1	15.5
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Manure or compost	82.8	75.9	79.5	72.0	78.4	77.7	79.7	83.3	78.5
Other fertilisers	35.9	30.8	39.4	41.1	39.5	37.8	43.2	39.6	36.1
Neither of the above	11.8	18.0	13.5	19.2	13.0	17.8	13.0	15.3	15.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

4.12

HOUSEHOLDS USING OTHER FERTILISERS(a), Type used

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Blood and bone	92.6	131.5	86.9	52.3	43.6	23.2	5.6	9.3	444.9
Superphosphate	30.7	32.5	25.3	11.1	14.5	4.6	*1.4	5.2	125.2
Gypsum/lime	21.0	*9.3	18.0	*4.7	*4.3	5.3	*1.6	*0.9	65.0
Nitrogen fertiliser	71.4	63.2	45.1	29.9	43.3	7.0	*2.4	7.2	269.4
Fish fertiliser	31.1	42.9	25.2	12.2	23.3	5.7	*1.9	*1.9	144.2
Other	161.1	109.1	105.4	69.2	66.6	14.6	*3.4	5.9	535.2
Total households	322.5	300.8	220.3	142.8	140.0	40.0	10.2	22.1	1 198.7
Proportion (%)									
Blood and bone	28.7	43.7	39.5	36.6	31.1	58.1	54.8	42.0	37.1
Superphosphate	9.5	10.8	11.5	7.7	10.4	11.4	*13.3	23.5	10.4
Gypsum/Lime	6.5	*3.1	8.2	*3.3	*3.1	13.2	*15.6	*4.1	5.4
Nitrogen fertiliser	22.1	21.0	20.5	20.9	30.9	17.5	*23.3	32.8	22.5
Fish fertiliser	9.7	14.3	11.4	8.5	16.7	14.2	*18.5	*8.5	12.0
Other	50.0	36.3	47.8	48.5	47.5	36.4	*32.8	26.8	44.6
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Blood and bone	34.1	40.8	29.6	33.4	25.9	57.4	27.9	36.3	34.7
Superphosphate	10.9	10.3	7.3	10.0	8.9	11.5	14.5	9.0	9.8
Gypsum/lime	8.0	5.9	8.4	6.2	1.5	7.8	18.7	2.9	6.5
Nitrogen fertiliser	26.3	20.2	22.3	18.8	27.5	16.8	49.3	22.5	23.0
Fish fertiliser	6.8	8.1	9.0	3.9	9.6	7.5	5.3	5.9	7.5
Other	46.0	45.9	53.8	55.7	52.9	31.0	37.1	50.5	48.9
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Blood and bone	37.9	42.1	35.4	44.6	29.8	62.5	44.0	35.9	39.4
Superphosphate	9.9	9.3	13.1	9.8	9.7	17.3	18.1	9.1	10.6
Gypsum/lime	3.9	4.7	5.6	5.9	2.1	16.9	6.2	7.0	5.0
Nitrogen fertiliser	16.8	14.4	24.1	16.0	25.4	11.2	26.5	25.6	18.4
Fish fertiliser	3.9	4.8	7.3	4.9	8.7	5.4	8.3	7.1	5.5
Other	49.6	48.1	48.5	46.4	50.1	33.3	38.6	44.7	47.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Excludes manure/compost

4.13 HOUSEHOLDS GROWING FRUIT/VEGETABLES(a), Pesticide/weedkiller use

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Use pesticide/weedkiller	256.5	222.2	150.1	79.5	81.3	35.5	3.3	14.9	843.2
Does not use pesticide/weedkiller	558.7	589.8	375.4	224.6	239.6	70.8	15.0	40.0	2 113.9
Total households	815.2	811.9	525.4	304.1	320.9	106.3	18.3	54.9	2 957.0
Proportion (%)									
Use pesticide/weedkiller	31.5	27.4	28.6	26.1	25.3	33.4	18.2	27.1	28.5
Does not use pesticide/weedkiller	68.5	72.6	71.4	73.9	74.7	66.6	81.8	72.9	71.5
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Use pesticide/weedkiller	34.7	28.9	27.6	31.7	27.6	33.0	24.6	33.0	30.6
Does not use pesticide/weedkiller	65.3	71.1	72.4	68.3	72.4	67.0	75.4	67.0	69.4
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Use pesticide/weedkiller	33.2	25.8	27.7	27.5	26.2	28.7	21.1	33.3	28.6
Does not use pesticide/weedkiller	66.8	74.2	72.3	72.5	73.8	71.3	78.9	66.7	71.4

(a) Includes only households which reported they grow fruit/vegetables in their garden. (Refer to table 4.10).

INTRODUCTION

Australia's national parks and protected areas are key elements of the Australian tourism industry. They receive around 80 million visitors each year and generate substantial economic benefits for the regions. Over 90% of these visitors are Australian residents, the majority of which (around 70%) live in the cities (Tourism & Transport Forum Australia 2004).

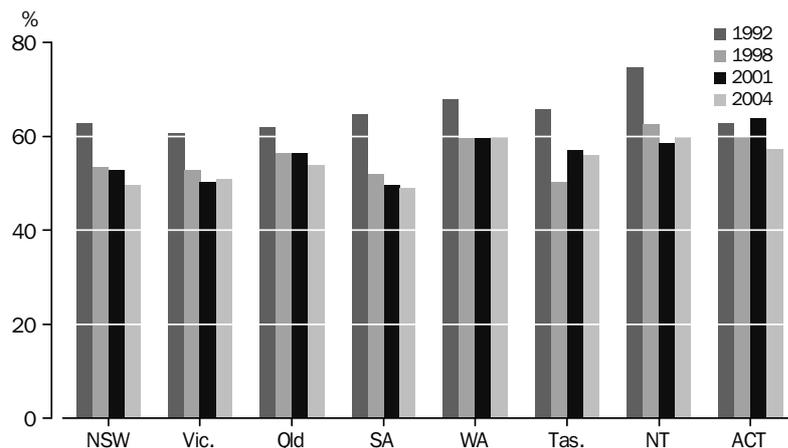
Visits to World Heritage Areas, National and State Parks

In March 2004, nearly 8 million Australians (52%) aged 18 years and over reported that they had visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in Australia in the 12 months prior to the survey (table 5.6). This was a slight decrease on 2001 and 1998 (54%), and significantly lower than levels reported in 1992 (63%).

People in the Northern Territory (61%) and Western Australia (60%) were the most likely to have visited these areas. South Australians were the least likely to engage in this activity (49%) (graph 5.1).

Victoria, Western Australia and the Northern Territory were the only states/territory not to show a decrease in visitation rates between 2001 and 2004. The Australian Capital Territory showed the largest drop in visitation (64% in 2001 down to 57% in 2004).

5.1 PERSONS WHO VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK

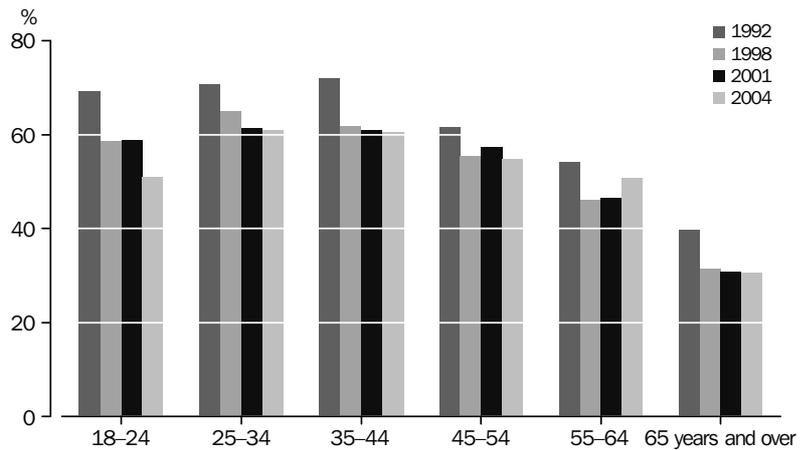


People aged between 25 and 44 were more likely to have visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park, with just over 60% of people in this age group doing so. People aged 65 years and over were least likely to visit these areas (31% in 2004) (graph 5.2 and table 5.7).

Visits to World Heritage Areas, National and State Parks continued

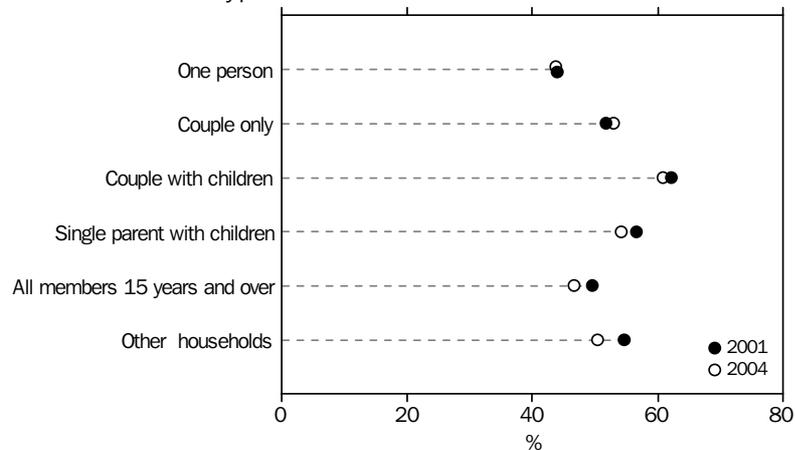
The overall decrease in visitation rates was largely a result of the drop in visitation rates by 18–24 year olds. In March 2004, 51% of people in this age group had visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the previous 12 months, compared to 59% in March 2001. The decrease was most significant in New South Wales (60% down to 48%); Queensland (64% down to 52%); Tasmania (71% down to 51%) and the Australian Capital Territory (62% down to 51%).

5.2 PERSONS WHO VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By age



Households comprising a couple with dependent children were most likely to have visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park (61%), followed by a single parent with dependent children households (56%) and couple only households (53%) (graph 5.3). Over 70% of couple with children households in Western Australia visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the 12 months prior to March 2004 (table 5.8),

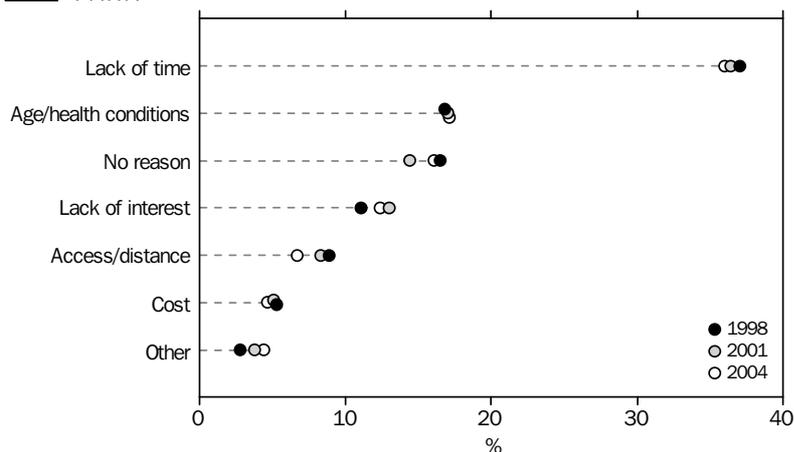
5.3 PERSONS WHO VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By household type



Reasons for not visiting a World Heritage Area, National or State Park

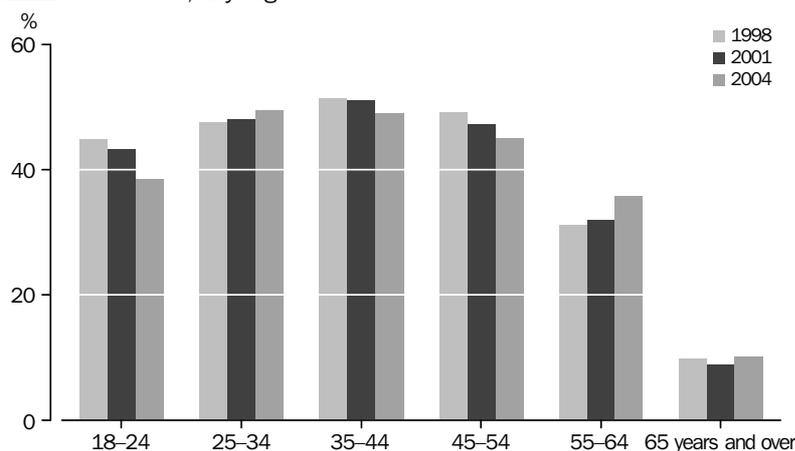
Since 1998, the main reason reported for not visiting a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the 12 months prior to the survey was lack of time (36%-37%) (graph 5.4 and table 5.9). People in the Northern Territory (42%) and the Australian Capital Territory (40%) nominated this as being the main reason more often than other states/territories.

5.4 MAIN REASON FOR NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK



No time is the main reason reported for all age groups except 65 years and over, but the 25–44 age group reported this most often, with nearly 50% of this group stating this as the main reason (graph 5.5 and table 5.10).

5.5 PERSONS STATING NO TIME TO VISIT A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By age



Age/health/inability (17%) was the next most significant factor preventing people visiting these areas. In March 2004, around 53% of people aged 65 years and over nominated this as the main reason. This figure dropped down to 15% for people in the 55–64 age group.

*Reasons for not visiting a
World Heritage Area,
National or State Park
continued*

A significant proportion of Australians also gave no reason for not visiting a park (16%). A lack of interest was cited by 12% of people, most significant among the 18–24 age group (21%).

Other factors of less significance were accessibility (7%) and cost (5%).

5.6 VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Visited a WHA, National or State Park	2 498.0	1 937.8	1 538.3	565.0	893.9	201.3	63.5	135.2	7 832.9
Did not visit a WHA, National or State Park	2 426.1	1 785.0	1 261.6	572.9	559.8	152.0	40.4	99.9	6 897.7
Don't know	107.5	79.3	52.2	19.0	28.8	*3.6	*0.4	*1.4	292.4
Total persons	5 031.6	3 802.1	2 852.1	1 157.0	1 482.5	356.9	104.4	236.5	15 022.9
Proportion (%)									
Visited a WHA, National or State Park	49.6	51.0	53.9	48.8	60.3	56.4	60.9	57.2	52.1
Did not visit a WHA, National or State Park	48.2	46.9	44.2	49.5	37.8	42.6	38.7	42.2	45.9
Don't know	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.9	*1.0	*0.4	*0.6	1.9
MARCH 2001									
Proportion (%)									
Visited a WHA, National or State Park	52.8	50.3	56.5	49.6	59.6	57.1	58.7	63.8	53.6
Did not visit a WHA, National or State Park	45.2	47.1	41.9	49.0	39.3	41.8	40.8	34.8	44.5
Don't know	1.9	2.6	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.5	1.4	1.9
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Visited a WHA, National or State Park	53.4	52.8	56.4	51.9	59.6	50.4	62.7	60.1	54.4
Did not visit a WHA, National or State Park	44.3	44.7	42.0	46.3	38.4	48.0	37.0	38.1	43.6
Don't know	2.3	2.4	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.7	0.3	1.7	2.1
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Visited a WHA, National or State Park	62.9	60.6	61.8	64.8	68.0	65.7	74.7	62.8	62.9
Did not visit a WHA, National or State Park	36.4	38.2	37.7	34.9	31.5	33.9	25.3	35.0	36.3
Don't know	0.7	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.4	—	2.2	0.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Visits covered 12 months prior to the survey.

5.7

PERSONS WHO VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK(a),

By age

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
18-24	47.9	51.9	51.5	48.1	57.3	51.7	75.3	50.8	50.9
25-34	58.3	59.0	64.7	53.4	71.0	63.8	60.6	65.7	60.9
35-44	58.9	57.8	61.2	59.7	67.3	67.5	70.7	64.4	60.4
45-55	49.4	54.6	58.5	51.8	63.2	62.8	49.1	59.5	54.6
55-64	53.3	46.7	47.8	50.0	55.2	52.7	60.8	58.8	50.6
65 years and over	26.6	31.1	32.5	29.5	39.3	37.3	31.2	31.8	30.5
MARCH 2001									
18-24	60.0	54.8	63.6	49.8	58.7	71.1	61.3	61.5	58.8
25-34	59.4	57.7	64.7	58.6	68.4	66.0	65.6	73.0	61.2
35-44	62.0	55.5	64.3	57.7	65.7	59.8	64.3	74.4	61.0
45-55	57.1	53.8	59.7	54.1	62.3	63.9	47.1	63.8	57.3
55-64	43.4	45.1	48.1	47.1	54.1	48.4	51.7	55.3	46.4
65 years and over	29.5	30.1	30.3	28.3	38.6	33.8	33.3	36.4	30.7
MARCH 1998									
18-24	55.2	54.9	69.5	57.2	59.2	52.1	62.4	72.3	58.7
25-34	66.4	63.5	63.3	61.9	69.1	62.0	70.2	65.6	64.9
35-44	61.5	58.9	62.6	58.3	71.2	60.2	68.2	69.8	61.9
45-55	54.8	52.5	57.9	59.9	57.6	46.5	66.4	59.8	55.5
55-64	45.1	46.2	50.3	45.0	44.4	40.6	47.4	46.2	46.2
65 years and over	29.5	34.3	28.0	26.7	41.8	35.1	—	24.2	31.3
MAY 1992									
18-24	66.7	66.2	73.2	71.6	75.9	72.9	75.3	65.8	69.2
25-34	71.5	66.5	69.0	74.9	78.0	76.8	71.7	67.5	70.8
35-44	71.5	70.8	72.6	74.4	71.2	76.6	72.6	68.5	71.8
45-55	61.7	60.5	58.4	64.6	64.9	68.2	72.4	60.9	61.6
55-64	55.4	53.4	51.6	52.3	58.3	48.4	100.0	36.6	54.0
65 years and over	42.3	37.3	33.2	41.6	45.5	40.8	75.0	55.8	39.8

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Visits covered 12 months prior to the survey.

5.8 PERSONS WHO VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK(a), By household type

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2004									
One person	43.4	43.9	43.1	40.3	49.5	41.4	63.4	44.2	43.8
Couple only	51.1	52.4	53.0	50.2	58.6	59.1	58.5	61.8	53.0
Couple, dependent child(ren)	59.3	57.5	61.4	58.4	71.4	66.5	60.1	62.6	60.8
One parent, dependent child(ren)	49.9	55.1	53.2	54.8	63.2	58.7	59.1	59.4	54.2
Households with all members 15 years and over	42.5	45.2	50.6	46.7	54.3	56.8	64.9	50.9	46.6
All other households	46.3	52.3	56.0	39.8	58.1	44.8	61.4	57.6	50.4
MARCH 2001									
One person	44.5	38.8	45.8	40.8	50.9	47.1	70.9	55.3	44.0
Couple only	51.2	50.8	52.1	46.0	56.5	54.8	62.2	62.5	51.7
Couple, dependent child(ren)	63.7	55.9	66.5	60.9	65.0	63.5	63.0	73.1	62.2
One parent, dependent child(ren)	59.8	52.4	54.2	49.0	65.6	62.8	62.8	64.9	56.6
Households with all members 15 years and over	45.6	49.2	53.4	46.5	59.7	56.0	34.1	60.3	49.6
All other households	53.6	49.2	59.4	52.9	60.4	62.3	58.4	60.3	54.6
MARCH 1998									
One person	40.7	45.6	41.7	41.9	50.5	39.0	54.6	50.1	43.4
Couple only	51.1	54.9	53.5	43.4	59.8	46.7	66.6	52.4	52.6
Couple, dependent child(ren)	66.9	59.5	66.8	65.1	66.5	63.2	70.0	65.6	64.7
One parent, dependent child(ren)	51.5	50.7	60.3	57.2	59.6	56.1	47.9	57.2	54.4
Households with all members 15 years and over	49.3	47.2	53.6	53.7	54.2	46.8	53.4	66.6	50.4
All other households	51.9	53.6	58.1	53.7	62.2	47.5	62.7	61.2	54.9
MAY 1992									
One person	49.8	46.7	46.8	47.7	55.5	55.1	73.2	64.0	49.4
Couple only	59.4	55.2	58.3	63.6	65.4	59.6	82.9	55.3	59.3
Couple, dependent child(ren)	71.0	70.0	71.2	77.6	74.1	76.2	74.1	71.9	71.8
One parent, dependent child(ren)	59.4	64.6	59.5	68.5	65.0	80.7	82.8	54.4	62.9
Households with all members 15 years and over	61.1	56.2	56.4	62.4	64.8	66.7	78.2	61.9	59.6
All other households	64.7	65.7	65.5	57.6	73.2	60.3	62.0	57.4	65.3

(a) Visits covered 12 months prior to the survey.

5.9 PERSONS NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK, Main reason

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2004									
Number ('000)									
Cost	96.9	95.0	49.7	28.7	35.1	10.2	*1.4	6.7	323.7
Access/distance	164.2	109.0	84.5	50.3	37.2	11.5	*2.1	*5.9	464.6
Age/health/unable	445.7	291.8	219.8	94.8	83.1	31.2	*3.6	11.1	1 181.1
No time	882.5	651.3	446.2	193.0	204.1	47.8	17.5	40.0	2 482.4
Not interested	262.5	215.5	195.2	83.1	65.6	19.2	*4.5	12.0	857.6
Other	99.8	86.0	52.5	22.6	29.2	*5.7	*1.5	*3.0	300.4
No reason	408.0	283.2	187.1	84.4	97.0	24.0	9.6	18.7	1 112.0
Don't know	66.6	53.2	26.6	16.0	*8.5	*2.2	*0.3	*2.6	176.0
Total persons	2 426.1	1 785.0	1 261.6	572.9	559.8	152.0	40.4	99.9	6 897.7

Proportion (%)									
Cost	4.0	5.3	3.9	5.0	6.3	6.7	*3.4	6.7	4.7
Access/distance	6.8	6.1	6.7	8.8	6.6	7.6	*5.1	*5.9	6.7
Age/health/unable	18.4	16.3	17.4	16.5	14.8	20.6	*8.8	11.1	17.1
No time	36.4	36.5	35.4	33.7	36.5	31.5	43.4	40.0	36.0
Not interested	10.8	12.1	15.5	14.5	11.7	12.7	*11.1	12.0	12.4
Other	4.1	4.8	4.2	3.9	5.2	*3.8	*3.7	*3.0	4.4
No reason	16.8	15.9	14.8	14.7	17.3	15.8	23.8	18.7	16.1
Don't know	2.7	3.0	2.1	2.8	*1.5	*1.4	*0.6	*2.6	2.6

MARCH 2001

Proportion (%)									
Cost	4.0	4.6	7.7	4.8	4.5	9.5	13.8	5.4	5.1
Access/distance	8.2	6.9	10.5	8.8	8.4	5.4	17.0	3.3	8.3
Age/health/unable	18.1	17.9	16.1	16.9	12.6	15.3	7.1	14.3	17.0
No time	36.5	37.0	36.0	34.4	38.1	31.3	31.4	37.4	36.4
Not interested	15.2	12.1	11.6	11.5	11.1	14.6	11.7	15.6	13.0
Other	3.4	3.6	4.7	3.3	4.5	2.2	7.5	7.5	3.8
No reason	12.6	15.5	11.7	17.8	18.4	21.8	11.6	16.3	14.4
Don't know	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.4	2.3	—	—	0.3	1.9

MARCH 1998

Proportion (%)									
Cost	4.2	4.6	7.4	5.8	4.7	11.3	9.6	5.3	5.3
Access/distance	9.5	7.9	9.6	6.7	11.8	6.6	8.5	3.2	8.9
Age/health/unable	17.6	18.2	15.1	17.5	12.6	13.3	14.5	19.0	16.8
No time	36.6	37.6	36.8	35.2	39.5	32.0	41.3	39.4	37.0
Not interested	11.7	11.3	9.3	12.8	9.4	13.3	10.8	9.1	11.1
Other	2.7	1.6	4.3	2.8	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.2	2.8
No reason	16.8	16.8	15.6	16.7	15.7	19.0	11.3	19.0	16.5
Don't know	1.0	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.5	1.2	0.7	1.7	1.7

MAY 1992

Proportion (%)									
Cost	3.7	3.6	5.2	6.5	3.9	3.0	—	5.7	4.2
Access/distance	6.9	7.5	7.8	6.9	8.9	9.2	12.9	5.7	7.5
Unable	8.1	7.8	8.2	6.5	7.3	8.7	2.4	4.0	7.7
No time	24.0	25.5	23.7	23.3	27.8	26.4	44.8	34.7	25.0
Not interested	3.9	3.3	4.7	3.1	4.3	3.7	1.4	2.5	3.8
Other	2.7	3.0	4.5	3.1	2.8	3.3	1.4	2.3	3.1
No reason	50.4	48.5	45.6	49.4	44.1	45.6	37.1	45.0	48.2
Don't know	0.3	0.8	0.3	1.1	0.9	0.1	—	—	0.5

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

5.10**PERSONS NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA, NATIONAL OR STATE PARK ,**
By age

Main reason	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
.....							
MARCH 2004							
Cost	5.7	3.3	4.6	5.6	4.7	4.4	4.7
Access/distance	5.4	5.1	6.6	6.5	6.9	8.7	6.7
Age/health/unable	*1.2	1.8	5.0	7.7	15.2	52.8	17.1
No time	38.5	49.4	48.9	45.1	35.8	10.2	36.0
Not interested	20.9	13.3	10.7	11.2	13.4	8.5	12.4
Other	5.1	3.5	2.9	5.2	6.3	3.8	4.4
No reason	17.8	19.8	18.6	16.5	16.2	10.7	16.1
Don't know	5.4	3.8	2.7	2.2	*1.4	1.0	2.6
.....							
MARCH 2001							
Cost	5.7	4.4	5.1	6.2	7.8	3.0	5.1
Access/distance	6.9	9.2	7.4	6.4	8.0	10.5	8.3
Age/health/unable	2.4	2.4	3.7	6.4	17.3	51.5	17.0
No time	43.3	48.1	51.1	47.3	32.0	8.8	36.4
Not interested	19.3	14.3	9.9	13.3	13.4	11.1	13.0
Other	3.3	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.5	3.8	3.8
No reason	12.7	16.0	17.7	14.0	16.4	10.9	14.4
Don't know	6.6	1.9	0.8	2.3	1.7	0.4	1.9
.....							
MARCH 1998							
Cost	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.9	6.0	3.2	5.3
Access/distance	7.7	8.2	7.3	8.0	10.5	10.8	8.9
Age/health/unable	2.5	3.2	2.9	6.1	16.0	51.2	16.8
No time	44.8	47.6	51.5	49.2	31.3	9.8	37.0
Not interested	16.4	11.2	11.4	10.0	12.6	8.0	11.1
Other	1.8	2.7	2.1	3.3	4.8	2.3	2.8
No reason	17.7	20.0	17.2	15.8	17.6	13.1	16.5
Don't know	3.7	1.5	1.8	0.7	1.2	1.5	1.7
.....							
MAY 1992							
Cost	2.8	5.5	5.4	4.4	5.2	2.6	4.2
Access/distance	4.7	5.6	4.3	6.1	7.6	13.3	7.5
Unable	2.0	1.6	2.0	2.9	8.9	21.9	7.7
No time	24.6	34.8	35.5	34.7	22.0	6.0	25.0
Not interested	3.9	1.7	2.8	2.8	4.9	6.0	3.8
Don't know	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.5
Other	1.5	3.2	1.7	3.0	2.5	5.5	3.1
No reason	59.9	47.0	48.1	45.6	48.1	44.5	48.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- INTRODUCTION** **1** This publication presents results from a supplementary survey run in association with the March 2004 Monthly Population Survey.
- METHODOLOGY**
Monthly Population Survey
- 2** The Monthly Population Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.). The sample for a monthly population survey is approximately 30,000 dwellings, however, this would equate to approximately 15,000 dwellings for the March supplementary topic as this was run on a half cluster only (i.e. only half the sample for March 2004). Information was obtained by interviews with responsible adult members of selected households, who answered questions on behalf of the person whose next birthday was closest to the date of the interview. Interviews are conducted face-to-face or by telephone (if acceptable to the respondent). The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).
- 3** Information is collected using computer assisted interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire on a notebook computer. The CAI method was progressively implemented from October 2003 to August 2004, replacing the 'pen and paper' method previously used. CAI for March 2004, as part of the phase-in strategy, was 10% across Australia, with an additional 30% in some states.
- SCOPE**
- 4** The survey covers rural and urban areas across all states and territories of Australia, however the Northern Territory data refers to mainly urban areas. Also excluded were some 175,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.
- 5** Persons aged 18 years and over who were usual residents of private dwellings were included in the surveys except:
- members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
 - certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys;
 - overseas residents in Australia;
 - members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia; and
 - residents of other non-private dwellings such as hospitals, motels and gaols.
- COVERAGE** **6** Coverage rules were applied which aimed to ensure that each person was associated with only one dwelling, and hence had only one chance of selection in each survey.
- DATA COMPARABILITY** **7** A set of changing topics rotate over a period of three years. The topics contained in this publication compare with some data collected in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, and 2001. Where applicable, the data have been included in this publication for comparison purposes.

DATA COMPARABILITY *continued*

8 An important point to note is that the environment topics were surveyed using a 'personal interview' methodology before 1997. From 1997 onwards the 'any responsible adult' methodology has been applied. When comparing post-1997 and pre-1997 data readers should be aware that some differences in the data may be explained by the change in methodology rather than real changes over time.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

- 9** The two types of error possible in an estimate based on a sample survey are:
- Non-sampling error which arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. The most significant of these errors are:
 - misreporting of data items
 - deficiencies in coverage
 - non-response
 - processing errors

Every effort is made to minimise these errors by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient data processing procedures.
 - Sampling error which occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all persons in the survey is given by the standard error (please consult the Technical note).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

10 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications: *Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices* (cat.no.4602.0) – 1992–2003 issues; and *Water Account Australia* (cat. no. 4610.0).

11 Further key references on environmental concerns, water use and conservation, environmentally friendly products and protected areas can be found through the following websites:

Department of the Environment and Heritage (<http://www.deh.gov.au>)

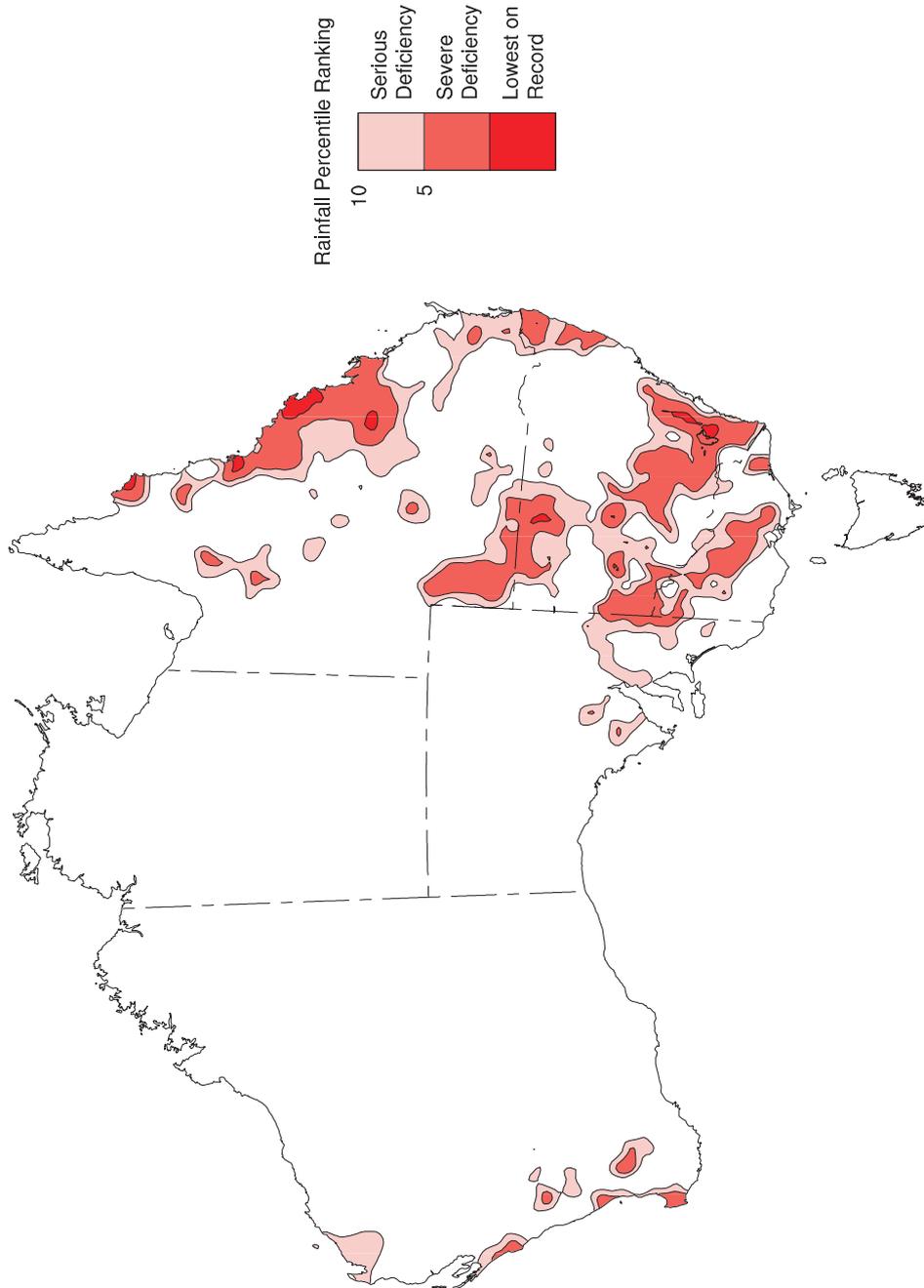
The Australian Greenhouse Office (<http://www.greenhouse.gov.au>)

12 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat.no.1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
Aust.	Australia
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
EFP	environmentally-friendly product
ML	megalitre
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
RSE	relative standard error
SA	South Australia
SE	standard error
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia
WHA	World Heritage Area

RAINFALL DEFICIENCIES – AUSTRALIA
1 OCTOBER 2001 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2004



Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2004.

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about 2 chances in 3 (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, tables of SEs are provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see tables T1 and T2). Each SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the "SE model", which is created using the data collected in this survey. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

3 This publication contains estimates for persons and households. Table T1 gives SEs for estimates of households, while SEs for estimates of persons are presented in T2. Tables containing estimates of households are found in Chapters 3 and 4, while Chapters 2 and 5 contains estimates of persons.

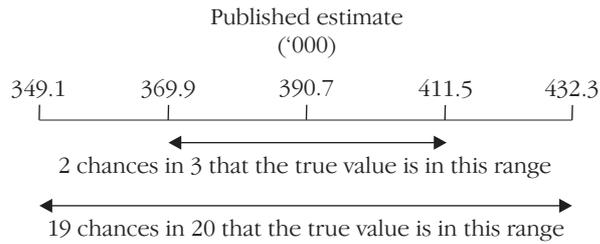
CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

4 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 2.15 shows that the estimated number of persons in Australia who used signed petition as a means of registering an environmental concern was 390,700. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000, table T2 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 18,550 and 23,550 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 SE &= \text{lower estimate} + \left[\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \right] \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \\
 &= 18,550 + \left(\frac{390,700 - 300,000}{500,000 - 300,000} \right) \times (23,550 - 18,550) \\
 &= 20,818 \\
 &= 20,800 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

5 Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the value that would have been produced if all persons had been included in the survey will fall within the range 369,900 to 411,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 349,100 to 432,300. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR *continued*



6 Similarly, SEs are calculated for household level estimates using table T1 instead of table T2. For example, table 3.23 shows that the estimated number of households in Victoria who have mains/town water as main source of water for gardening was 1,180,500. This estimate is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000, so the SE for this estimate will be between 16,800 and 18,100, and can be approximated using the same interpolation formula as above, with the resulting SE being 17,000 (rounded to the nearest 100).

7 Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the value that would have been produced if all households in the population had been included in the survey will fall within the range 1,163,500 to 1,197,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 1,146,500 to 1,214,500.

8 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs so that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *1.8) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

9 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)^2] - [RSE(y)^2]}$$

10 For example, in table 2.15, the estimate for the total number of persons aged 18 years and over, who registered an environmental concern in Australia was 1,090,800. The estimated number of persons who used signed petition as a means of registering that concern was 390,700, so the proportion of persons in Australia who registered an environmental concern by signed petition is 390,700/1,090,800 or 35.8%. The SE of the total number of persons in Australia registering an environmental concern may be calculated by interpolation as 33,026 or 33,000 rounded to the nearest 100. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 33,000/1,090,800 = 3.1%. The SE for the number of persons in Australia who registered environmental concerns by signed petition was calculated above as 20,800, which converted to a RSE is 20,800/390,700 = 5.3%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $RSE = \sqrt{(5.3)^2 - (3.1)^2} = 4.3\%$ giving a SE for the proportion (35.8%) of 1.5 percentage points (=35.8*0.043).

11 Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the proportion of persons in Australia who registered an environmental concern by means of signed petition is between 34.3% and 37.3% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 32.8% to 38.8%.

12 Similarly, SEs can be calculated for household level estimates using the same formula.

DIFFERENCES

13 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

14 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

NON-SAMPLING ERROR

15 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the SE, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfect reporting by respondents, errors made in collection such as in recording and coding data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. It is not possible to quantify non-sampling error, but every effort is made to reduce it to a minimum. This is done by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

T1 STANDARD ERRORS FOR HOUSEHOLD LEVEL ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	90	50	100	90	130	60	90	70	100
200	180	100	170	170	210	110	160	140	170
300	250	150	240	230	270	160	220	190	220
500	380	250	360	330	380	240	310	280	320
700	500	340	460	420	480	310	390	350	400
1,000	650	470	590	540	590	410	490	450	500
1,500	880	670	790	700	760	540	630	570	650
2,000	1 080	850	950	840	900	650	740	680	770
2,500	1 250	1 000	1 100	950	1 000	750	850	750	900
3,000	1 450	1 150	1 250	1 050	1 150	850	900	850	1 000
3,500	1 600	1 300	1 350	1 150	1 250	900	1 000	900	1 100
4,000	1 750	1 450	1 500	1 250	1 350	1 000	1 050	1 000	1 200
5,000	2 000	1 700	1 700	1 450	1 500	1 100	1 200	1 100	1 350
7,000	2 500	2 150	2 100	1 700	1 800	1 300	1 400	1 250	1 650
10,000	3 100	2 750	2 550	2 050	2 150	1 550	1 650	1 450	2 000
15,000	3 900	3 500	3 200	2 500	2 650	1 850	1 900	1 700	2 500
20,000	4 550	4 150	3 700	2 850	3 000	2 050	2 150	1 850	2 950
30,000	5 650	5 200	4 500	3 400	3 600	2 350	2 450	2 050	3 650
40,000	6 550	6 000	5 200	3 800	4 100	2 550	2 650	2 200	4 250
50,000	7 300	6 700	5 750	4 150	4 550	2 750	2 850	2 300	4 750
100,000	9 950	9 000	7 750	5 300	6 000	3 150	3 400	2 600	6 700
150,000	11 800	10 500	9 050	6 000	7 000	3 350	3 700	2 700	8 150
200,000	13 150	11 550	10 100	6 500	7 750	3 450	3 850	2 700	9 300
300,000	15 250	13 000	11 600	7 200	8 900	3 550	—	2 750	11 200
500,000	18 100	14 750	13 650	8 050	10 500	3 550	—	—	14 000
1,000,000	22 050	16 800	16 550	9 100	12 850	—	—	—	18 650
2,000,000	26 050	18 100	19 400	9 950	15 350	—	—	—	24 500
5,000,000	30 750	18 500	22 850	—	—	—	—	—	34 200
10,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43 150

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

NON-SAMPLING ERROR

continued

T2 STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSON LEVEL ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	260	240	210	160	130	110	110	160	120
200	400	370	340	260	230	190	220	250	200
300	520	480	440	350	310	260	320	310	270
500	720	670	600	490	450	370	480	420	400
700	880	820	740	600	570	470	620	500	510
1,000	1 090	1 010	910	750	730	590	790	610	650
1,500	1 390	1 290	1 160	960	960	760	1 020	760	860
2,000	1 640	1 520	1 370	1 140	1 150	910	1 210	890	1 050
2,500	1 850	1 700	1 550	1 300	1 350	1 050	1 350	1 000	1 200
3,000	2 050	1 900	1 700	1 450	1 500	1 150	1 500	1 100	1 350
3,500	2 250	2 100	1 850	1 550	1 650	1 250	1 600	1 200	1 500
4,000	2 450	2 250	2 000	1 650	1 750	1 350	1 700	1 250	1 650
5,000	2 750	2 550	2 250	1 900	2 000	1 500	1 850	1 400	1 900
7,000	3 350	3 050	2 700	2 250	2 450	1 800	2 100	1 650	2 350
10,000	4 050	3 650	3 300	2 700	2 950	2 100	2 400	2 000	2 950
15,000	5 000	4 550	4 050	3 250	3 650	2 550	2 650	2 400	3 750
20,000	5 800	5 250	4 700	3 700	4 250	2 900	2 800	2 750	4 450
30,000	7 150	6 400	5 700	4 450	5 150	3 400	3 000	3 300	5 600
40,000	8 250	7 400	6 550	5 000	5 900	3 800	3 050	3 800	6 550
50,000	9 200	8 200	7 300	5 500	6 500	4 100	3 100	4 150	7 400
100,000	12 850	11 350	10 000	7 150	8 700	5 100	3 050	5 600	10 750
150,000	15 500	13 600	12 000	8 250	10 150	5 750	2 900	6 650	13 200
200,000	17 700	15 450	13 550	9 100	11 300	6 200	2 800	7 450	15 250
300,000	21 200	18 350	16 050	10 350	12 950	6 800	—	8 750	18 550
500,000	26 450	22 650	19 750	12 000	15 250	7 500	—	—	23 550
1,000,000	35 300	29 850	25 850	14 350	18 500	—	—	—	32 050
2,000,000	46 450	38 650	33 250	16 750	21 800	—	—	—	42 800
5,000,000	65 500	53 300	45 400	—	—	—	—	—	60 950
10,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77 950

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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