

**PERSONS NOT IN THE
LABOUR FORCE**

AUSTRALIA

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For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Force and Supplementary Surveys Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measure the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics, and measure the characteristics of that potential supply.

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, conducted throughout Australia in September 2013 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Information collected in the survey includes details about whether people not in the labour force wanted to work; reasons why they were not actively looking for work, or were not available for work; and their main activity while not in the labour force.

Many people not in the labour force have some attachment to the labour force. For example, they may want a job, but for a variety of reasons are not actively looking for work even though they are available to start a job. There is an expectation that many of these people could move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions changed.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

The ABS is progressively introducing online data collection to the LFS. For September 2013 online data collection was offered to 56% of the Labour Force sample. Of the households responding to the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, approximately 11% submitted their data online. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

The September 2013 Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey is based on the 2011 Census of Population and Housing based sample, progressively introduced to the LFS from May 2013. For more information see the article in the May 2013 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).



ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
cat. no.	Catalogue number
ILO	International Labour Organization
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

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CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

**PERSONS NOT IN THE
LABOUR FORCE (PNILF)
AGED 15 YEARS AND
OVER**

Persons not in the labour force consists of those who are marginally attached to the labour force, and those who are not. Persons who are marginally attached to the labour force satisfy some, but not all, of the criteria used to classify a person as unemployed.

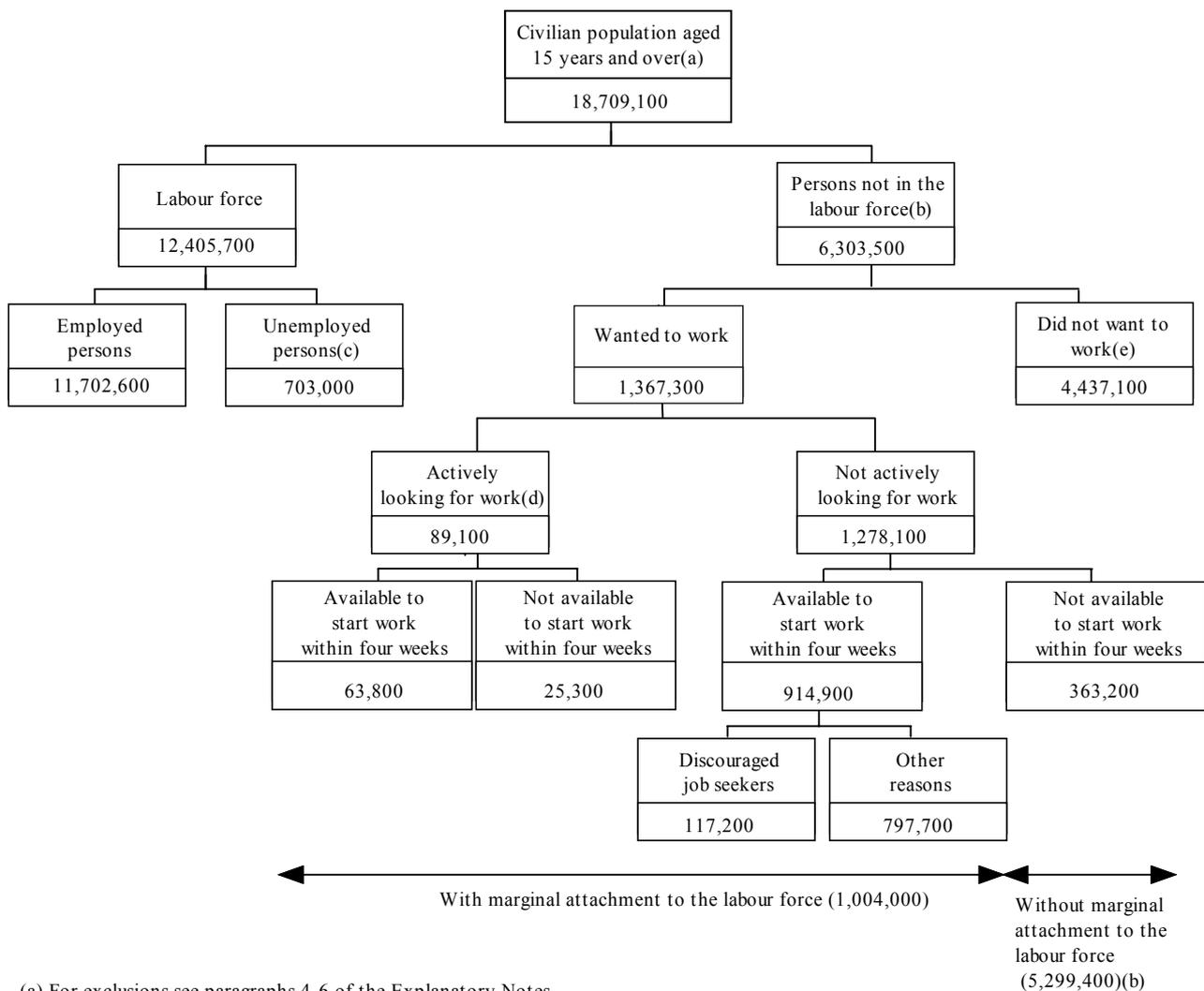
Persons not in the labour force are considered to be marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- wanted to work and were actively looking for work (but, unlike unemployed people, were not available to start work in the reference week); or
- wanted to work and were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks.

Persons not in the labour force are not marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- did not want to work; or
- wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks.

The following diagram presents estimates from the September 2013 PNILF Survey.



(a) For exclusions see paragraphs 4-6 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Includes 499,100 people who were permanently unable to work.

(c) Includes future starters.

(d) Refers to people who were actively looking for work, but were not available to start work in the reference week.

(e) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

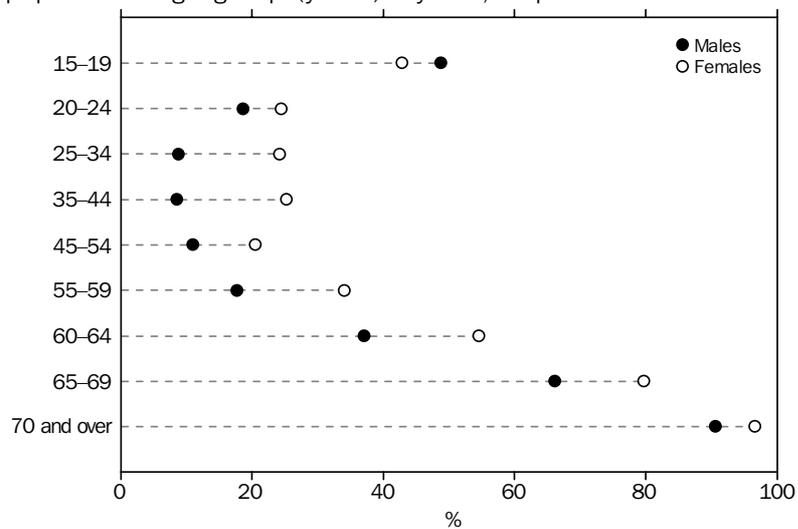
OVERVIEW

In September 2013, the Persons Not in the Labour Force survey found there were 6.3 million people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force. This represented 34% of the civilian population aged 15 years and over, and has remained stable over recent years (Table 1).

Of those people not in the labour force:

- 60% were women;
- 22% wanted to work (23% of women and 20% of men) (Table 1); and
- 16% were aged 15–24 years, 40% were aged 25–64 years and 43% were aged 65 years and over (Table 2).

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Proportion of the civilian population—Age group (years)—By sex, September 2013



The proportion of persons not in the labour force was highest in the age groups most likely to be retired (73% for those aged 65–69 years and 94% for those 70 years and over) and those in the age group coinciding with school study (46% for those aged 15–19 years) (Table 3).

Apart from those aged 15–19 years, there were a higher proportion of women who were not in the labour force than men (Table 3).

The main activity reported for those not in the labour force varied by age. The main activity for those aged 15–24 years was attending an educational institution (81%), while for those 65 years and over, it was retired or voluntarily inactive (53% for 65–69 years and 62% for those 70 years and over) (Table 2).

Across the other age groups (25 to 64 years), the most common main activity for males was own long term health condition or disability (32%). For women the most common main activity was home duties (37%) (Table 2).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2013, there were 1,004,000 people with marginal attachment to the labour force, a significant increase from 918,100 in 2012, representing approximately 16% of people not in the labour force.

Persons not in the labour force are considered to be marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- wanted to work and were actively looking for work but were not available to start work in the reference week (89,100); or
- wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks (914,900).

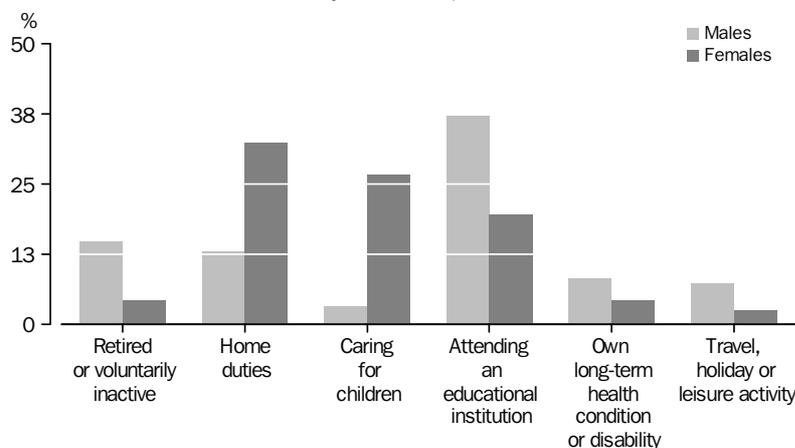
Of those with marginal attachment to the labour force:

- 608,300 (61%) were women;
- 91% were not actively looking for work, but were available to start work within four weeks (Table 1);
- 288,700 (29%) were aged 15–24 years (Table 3); and
- 197,800 (20%) had never held a job (Table 4).

The largest age group of men with marginal attachment to the labour force were 15–19 years (26%), followed by men 25–34 years (14%). By comparison, the two largest age groups of women with marginal attachment to the labour force were 35–44 years (23%) and 25–34 years (23%) (Table 3).

Main activity when not in the labour force

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT, Selected main activity when not in the labour force—By sex, September 2013



The most commonly reported main activity for men with marginal attachment to the labour force was 'Attending an educational institution' (37% of men compared to 20% of women), whereas for women it was 'Home duties' (32% of women compared to 13% of men) and 'Caring for children' (27% of women compared to 3% of men) (Table 4).

Wanted to work but not actively looking

There were 265,400 people not in the labour force because they were caring for children who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work. The majority (95%) were women (Table 9).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Time since last job

In September 2013, 80% (806,200) of people with marginal attachment to the labour force had worked before. Of these people about a third (31%) had worked less than 12 months ago, and a further 22% had worked one to three years ago (Table 4).

Not actively looking for work - Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months

There were 914,900 people who were marginally attached to the labour force but not actively looking for work and available to start work within four weeks. This is a significant increase from 833,700 in 2012. Of these people, 657,200 (72%) indicated that they intended to, or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months, of whom:

- 393,100 (60%) were women;
- 68,400 (10%) were discouraged job seekers (see below); and
- 440,900 (67%) reported that they would prefer to work part-time (Table 5).

Of women with marginal attachment to the labour force who were not actively looking for work and who intended to or might enter the workforce in the next 12 months, 295,700 (75%) preferred part-time work, while 86,300 (22%) preferred full-time work. For men, 145,300 (55%) preferred part-time work and 105,100 (40%) preferred full-time work. The remaining people did not know if they wanted to work full-time or part-time.

The main reasons for those not actively looking for work who stated they intended to, or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months, were that they were currently attending an educational institution (26%) or they were caring for children (16%).

Of those with marginal attachment who were not actively looking for work, 23% reported that they were not intending to enter the labour force in the next 12 months (Table 5).

Discouraged Job Seekers

In September 2013, there were 117,200 discouraged job seekers aged 15 years and over. Historically, the proportion of male discouraged jobseekers has been less than females, however, in 2013 the proportion of male discouraged jobseekers has risen to 53% (62,200) up from 47% (50,200) in 2012 (Table 1).

Discouraged job seekers are those people with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons:

- considered to be too young or too old by employers;
- believes ill health or disability discourages employers;
- lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience;
- difficulties because of language or ethnic background;
- no jobs in their locality or line of work;
- no jobs with suitable hours; or
- no jobs at all.

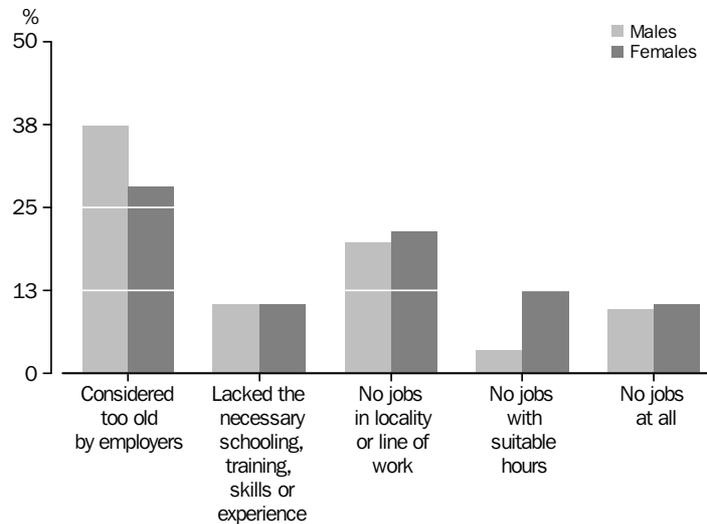
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Discouraged Job Seekers continued

Of the 117,200 discouraged job seekers:

- 66,800 (57%) were aged 55 years and over;
- 55,000 (47%) were women and 62,200 (53%) were men;
- 16,900 (14%) had never had a job (Table 7);
- 68,400 (58%) intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months (Table 7), of whom 66% preferred to work part-time (Table 5);
- 40,500 were not currently looking for work but had looked for work in the previous 12 months (Table 7); and
- 44,900 (38%) did not intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months, of whom 52% stated the main reason they were not actively looking for work was because they were 'Considered too old by employers' (Table 5).

DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS, Selected main reason for not actively looking for work—By sex, September 2013



For all discouraged job seekers, the most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work was 'Considered too old by employers' (33%). This was followed by 'No jobs in locality or line of work' (20%) (Table 5).

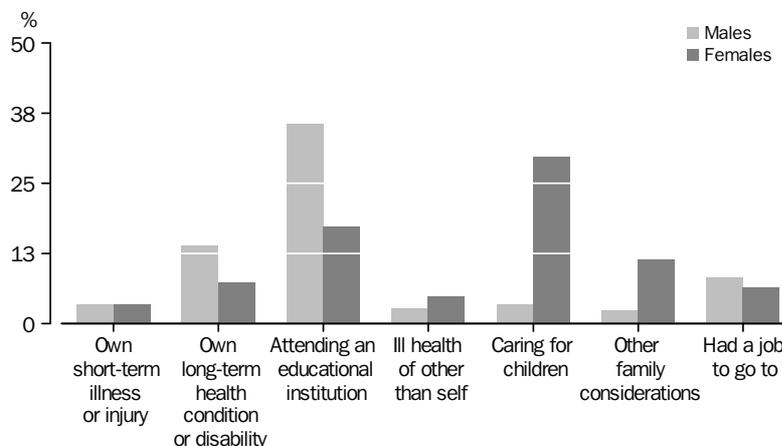
Main reason for not actively looking for work - those who were not discouraged job seekers

There were 797,700 people who were not discouraged job seekers, who wanted to work, but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks. These people accounted for 79% of all people with marginal attachment to the labour force (Table 4). This is a significant increase from 727,200 people in 2012.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Main reason for not actively looking for work - those who were not discouraged job seekers continued

PERSONS WHO WERE NOT DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS, marginally ATTACHED TO THE LABOUR FORCE, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND AVAILABLE, Selected main reason for not actively looking for work—By sex, September 2013



Of the 797,700 people who were not discouraged job seekers, the most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work, by men, was 'Attending an educational institution' (36%), followed by 'Own long-term health condition or disability' (14%). By comparison, the most commonly reported main reason for women was 'Caring for children' (30%), followed by 'Attending an educational institution' (17%) (Table 6).

WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2013, there were 5.3 million people (2.2 million men and 3.1 million women) aged 15 years and over without marginal attachment to the labour force. Of these:

- 84% reported that they did not want to work, or did not know if they wanted to work;
- 7% wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks (Table 1);
- 9% were permanently unable to work;
- 49% were aged 65 years and over (53% of all men and 47% of all women);
- 15% were aged 55–64 years old; and
- 17% never had a job, of whom 59% were women (Table 8).

Main activity when not in the labour force

For those without marginal attachment to the labour force, the most commonly reported main activity when not in the labour force was 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (35%) followed by 'Home duties' (20%) (Table 8).

Time since last job

In September 2013, there were 4.4 million people without marginal attachment to the labour force who had previously had a job. Of these:

- 54% last worked 10 or more years ago; and
- 21% last worked less than 3 years ago (Table 8).

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CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, Labour force status and persons not in the labour force summary variable—By sex—September 2009 to September 2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES					
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 523.8	8 865.5	8 967.6	9 075.5	9 258.6
Persons in the labour force	6 275.3	6 546.7	6 581.6	6 628.7	6 707.3
Employed	5 915.5	6 220.9	6 242.3	6 251.8	6 325.2
Unemployed	359.8	325.8	339.3	376.9	382.1
Persons not in the labour force	2 248.5	2 318.8	2 386.0	2 447.0	2 551.4
With marginal attachment to the labour force	327.6	349.4	351.4	348.8	395.8
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	34.8	32.9	36.7	37.8	41.0
Were available to start work within four weeks	24.4	23.1	23.2	26.9	27.7
Were not available to start work within four weeks	10.4	9.9	13.5	10.8	13.4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	292.8	316.5	314.7	311.0	354.7
Discouraged jobseekers	52.3	39.9	38.3	50.2	62.2
Other	240.5	276.6	276.4	260.8	292.5
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	1 920.9	1 969.3	2 034.6	2 098.2	2 155.6
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	107.3	126.6	126.7	120.9	122.9
Did not want to work(b)	1 604.4	1 637.5	1 677.1	1 698.7	1 776.4
FEMALES					
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 678.5	9 022.2	9 152.2	9 267.6	9 450.5
Persons in the labour force	5 246.7	5 460.3	5 565.7	5 621.1	5 698.4
Employed	4 956.6	5 176.9	5 272.4	5 327.6	5 377.5
Unemployed	290.1	283.4	293.3	293.5	320.9
Persons not in the labour force	3 431.7	3 561.9	3 586.4	3 646.5	3 752.1
With marginal attachment to the labour force	565.5	576.4	587.1	569.3	608.3
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	34.9	41.9	48.4	46.5	48.1
Were available to start work within four weeks	25.5	30.2	36.9	30.5	36.2
Were not available to start work within four weeks	9.4	11.8	11.4	16.1	11.9
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	530.6	534.5	538.7	522.7	560.2
Discouraged jobseekers	59.5	62.3	52.4	56.3	55.0
Other	471.1	472.3	486.3	466.4	505.2
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	2 866.3	2 985.5	2 999.3	3 077.2	3 143.8
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	256.4	239.9	236.6	233.9	240.4
Did not want to work(b)	2 434.0	2 562.0	2 564.4	2 578.4	2 660.7
PERSONS					
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	17 202.3	17 887.7	18 119.7	18 343.3	18 709.1
Persons in the labour force	11 522.0	12 007.0	12 147.3	12 249.9	12 405.7
Employed	10 872.1	11 397.7	11 514.7	11 579.4	11 702.6
Unemployed	649.9	609.2	632.6	670.4	703.0
Persons not in the labour force	5 680.3	5 880.7	5 972.4	6 093.5	6 303.5
With marginal attachment to the labour force	893.1	925.9	938.4	918.1	1 004.0
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	69.7	74.9	85.1	84.3	89.1
Were available to start work within four weeks	49.9	53.2	60.1	57.4	63.8
Were not available to start work within four weeks	19.8	21.7	25.0	26.9	25.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	823.4	851.0	853.4	833.7	914.9
Discouraged jobseekers	111.8	102.1	90.7	106.6	117.2
Other	711.6	748.9	762.7	727.2	797.7
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	4 787.2	4 954.8	5 034.0	5 175.4	5 299.4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	363.7	366.5	363.3	354.9	363.2
Did not want to work(b)	4 038.4	4 199.5	4 241.5	4 277.1	4 437.1

(a) Includes people who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(b) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

Main activity when not in the labour force	AGE GROUP (YEARS)								Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70 and over	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*5.1	**1.9	*4.1	18.4	31.6	95.6	217.1	612.6	986.4
Home duties	*6.3	16.9	22.5	26.5	17.7	31.0	31.9	72.2	224.9
Caring for children	**1.8	12.1	*7.7	*6.4	**1.9	**2.6	**0.7	*1.8	34.9
Attending an educational institution	452.5	58.3	11.6	*5.3	**2.5	*4.4	np	np	535.5
Own long-term health condition or disability	23.4	31.9	51.1	74.2	44.8	53.2	40.1	53.9	372.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*3.9	*5.3	*6.0	*8.7	**2.0	*3.2	*4.0	*4.1	37.3
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.2	*3.5	13.5	13.4	*5.4	12.7	*7.4	15.0	74.1
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*7.2	*9.1	*5.0	*3.2	*7.9	15.9	32.0	65.9	146.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.6	**0.9	**2.5	**2.3	*3.9	*4.2	13.0	26.1	54.5
Other	20.1	12.2	12.5	*9.5	*3.8	*5.3	np	np	84.6
Total	525.1	152.1	136.4	167.9	121.7	228.1	356.2	863.9	2 551.4
FEMALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	**1.1	**2.5	*3.5	18.5	39.3	109.0	199.5	592.6	966.1
Home duties	40.1	133.6	166.4	136.8	93.3	105.5	125.9	269.4	1 071.0
Caring for children	50.7	196.6	142.9	22.2	*7.6	*7.4	*9.2	*9.5	446.1
Attending an educational institution	379.6	45.7	27.1	12.6	*3.2	**0.9	np	np	471.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	10.4	15.5	37.6	66.6	41.5	48.3	35.0	71.9	326.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*3.8	*5.5	*4.6	10.4	*3.6	**1.9	*3.2	*5.1	38.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	*2.8	10.5	16.4	35.0	21.6	37.4	23.2	25.1	172.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*9.3	*5.2	*3.7	*4.4	*10.1	17.0	18.1	59.1	126.9
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.5	**1.0	*3.3	*6.9	10.2	13.8	15.7	31.0	83.4
Other	*7.7	*4.7	*4.3	*7.0	*6.5	*6.4	np	np	50.2
Total	506.9	420.9	409.7	320.2	237.0	347.9	435.6	1 073.9	3 752.1
PERSONS									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*6.2	*4.5	*7.6	36.9	70.9	204.7	416.6	1 205.2	1 952.5
Home duties	46.4	150.5	188.8	163.2	111.0	136.5	157.8	341.6	1 295.9
Caring for children	52.5	208.7	150.5	28.5	*9.5	*10.0	*10.0	11.3	481.1
Attending an educational institution	832.1	104.0	38.7	17.9	*5.7	*5.3	**2.3	*1.2	1 007.1
Own long-term health condition or disability	33.8	47.4	88.7	140.8	86.3	101.6	75.2	125.8	699.5
Own short-term illness or injury	*7.7	10.8	10.6	19.1	*5.6	*5.2	*7.2	*9.2	75.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	*5.9	14.0	29.9	48.5	27.0	50.1	30.6	40.1	246.2
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	16.6	14.4	*8.7	*7.6	18.1	32.9	50.0	125.0	273.2
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.1	**1.8	*5.8	*9.1	14.2	18.0	28.7	57.1	137.8
Other	27.8	16.8	16.8	16.5	10.4	11.7	13.4	21.4	134.7
Total	1 032.0	573.0	546.1	488.1	358.7	575.9	791.9	1 937.8	6 303.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

WANTED TO WORK, NOT
ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT
WERE AVAILABLE

	Discouraged job seekers			Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force	Persons not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force (a)
		Other	Total			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%

MALES

State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	20.9	96.5	117.4	135.7	851.3	28.9
Victoria	20.6	74.0	94.6	105.0	641.8	27.8
Queensland	*9.5	51.3	60.8	67.2	496.8	26.7
South Australia	4.2	27.1	31.3	33.4	206.2	30.6
Western Australia	*4.6	29.3	33.9	36.6	236.4	23.0
Tasmania	1.7	8.0	9.7	10.3	70.7	34.9
Northern Territory	np	np	1.3	1.5	15.2	17.2
Australian Capital Territory	np	np	5.8	6.1	33.1	22.3
Age group (years)						
15–19	np	np	97.2	104.1	367.5	48.8
20–24	np	np	36.6	48.2	157.7	18.6
25–34	*6.1	41.4	47.4	53.7	152.1	8.8
35–44	*3.3	24.7	28.0	34.7	136.4	8.5
45–54	*3.6	27.2	30.8	36.4	167.9	11.0
55–59	*5.0	14.4	19.4	20.5	121.7	17.7
60–64	*8.3	18.9	27.1	28.1	228.1	37.1
65–69	11.5	28.3	39.8	41.1	356.2	66.1
70 and over	15.0	13.4	28.4	29.0	863.9	90.6
Relationship in household						
Family member						
Husband, wife or partner	45.1	233.8	278.9	306.9	1 977.7	26.2
Lone parent	**2.4	*7.1	*9.5	10.7	63.1	32.0
Dependent student	np	np	94.2	101.4	370.8	56.2
Non-dependent child	*3.9	31.0	35.0	41.9	155.4	17.0
Other family person	np	np	12.1	13.0	83.6	34.4
Non-family member						
Relationship not determined	15.4	51.5	66.9	76.5	480.8	31.4
	**1.7	*7.2	*9.0	12.4	92.9	50.0
Country of birth						
Born in Australia						
Born in Australia	35.2	215.8	251.0	281.3	1 673.7	26.2
Born overseas						
Born in main English-speaking countries	*9.7	29.7	39.4	43.2	288.5	27.6
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	17.3	47.0	64.3	71.3	588.1	32.2
<i>Total(b)</i>	62.2	292.5	354.7	395.8	2 551.4	27.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>	<i>Proportion not in the labour force(a)</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>			
	'000	'000	'000			
FEMALES						
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	26.2	154.0	180.2	193.4	1 250.6	41.0
Victoria	15.2	131.0	146.2	158.1	939.0	39.7
Queensland	*6.1	103.0	109.1	120.5	718.4	37.9
South Australia	*2.5	36.3	38.8	42.4	295.6	42.5
Western Australia	*3.0	58.5	61.4	67.3	383.0	38.6
Tasmania	1.5	11.5	13.0	13.7	92.6	44.1
Northern Territory	np	np	4.3	4.9	22.6	26.4
Australian Capital Territory	np	np	7.2	8.0	50.2	32.4
Age group (years)						
15–19	np	np	69.8	75.4	309.9	42.9
20–24	np	np	54.0	61.1	197.0	24.4
25–34	*5.2	123.2	128.3	139.1	420.9	24.2
35–44	10.2	121.5	131.6	142.7	409.7	25.2
45–54	*7.7	56.6	64.3	73.3	320.2	20.5
55–59	*4.0	33.8	37.8	40.9	237.0	34.0
60–64	*5.9	24.3	30.2	31.7	347.9	54.6
65–69	*5.5	15.7	21.1	21.1	435.6	79.7
70 and over	11.6	11.4	22.9	22.9	1 073.9	96.6
Relationship in household						
Family member						
Husband, wife or partner	42.6	451.8	494.3	536.8	2 885.1	37.2
Lone parent	33.1	273.8	306.9	330.6	1 968.4	36.7
Dependent student	*5.2	90.1	95.3	105.3	388.4	43.0
Non-dependent child	np	np	59.0	63.7	285.9	43.7
Other family person	**2.3	18.5	20.7	21.9	95.6	17.0
Non-family member						
Relationship not determined	np	np	12.5	15.3	146.9	51.9
Non-family member	11.9	48.4	60.3	65.0	748.1	49.8
Relationship not determined	**0.5	*5.0	*5.5	*6.4	118.9	63.4
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	34.0	344.0	378.0	410.8	2 421.4	37.2
Born overseas	21.0	160.7	181.7	196.9	1 327.8	45.1
Born in main English-speaking countries	*3.0	48.2	51.2	54.0	397.1	39.6
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	18.0	112.5	130.5	143.0	930.6	48.0
<i>Total(b)</i>	55.0	505.2	560.2	608.3	3 752.1	39.7

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>	<i>Proportion not in the labour force(a)</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>			
	'000	'000	'000			
PERSONS						
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	47.1	250.5	297.6	329.0	2 101.8	35.0
Victoria	35.8	205.0	240.8	263.1	1 580.8	33.8
Queensland	15.6	154.3	169.9	187.6	1 215.2	32.3
South Australia	6.7	63.4	70.1	75.8	501.8	36.7
Western Australia	7.5	87.8	95.3	103.9	619.4	30.7
Tasmania	3.1	19.5	22.7	24.0	163.3	39.6
Northern Territory	*0.5	5.1	5.6	6.4	37.8	21.8
Australian Capital Territory	**0.8	12.1	12.9	14.1	83.3	27.5
Age group (years)						
15–19	*8.4	158.6	167.0	179.5	677.3	45.9
20–24	*6.1	84.5	90.6	109.2	354.7	21.5
25–34	11.3	164.5	175.8	192.8	573.0	16.5
35–44	13.5	146.2	159.6	177.4	546.1	16.9
45–54	11.3	83.8	95.1	109.6	488.1	15.8
55–59	*9.0	48.2	57.2	61.4	358.7	25.9
60–64	14.2	43.2	57.4	59.9	575.9	46.0
65–69	17.0	44.0	60.9	62.2	791.9	72.9
70 and over	26.6	24.7	51.3	51.9	1 937.8	93.8
Relationship in household						
Family member	87.7	685.5	773.2	843.8	4 862.8	31.8
Husband, wife or partner	65.3	369.8	435.1	470.6	3 273.1	30.1
Lone parent	*7.6	97.2	104.7	116.0	451.5	41.0
Dependent student	*7.0	146.2	153.2	165.1	656.7	50.0
Non-dependent child	*6.2	49.5	55.7	63.8	251.0	17.0
Other family person	**1.7	22.8	24.5	28.3	230.5	43.8
Non-family member	27.3	99.9	127.2	141.5	1 228.9	40.5
Relationship not determined	**2.3	12.2	14.5	18.8	211.8	56.7
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	69.2	559.8	629.0	692.2	4 095.1	31.8
Born overseas	48.0	237.4	285.4	311.4	2 204.4	37.9
Born in main English-speaking countries	12.7	77.8	90.6	97.1	685.7	33.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	35.3	159.5	194.8	214.2	1 518.7	40.3
Total(b)	117.2	797.7	914.9	1 004.0	6 303.5	33.7

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force—By sex and by marginal attachment

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	'000	'000	'000		
MALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	52.4	205.9	258.3	292.5	2 070.3
Under 12 months	*9.0	83.7	92.7	112.9	295.1
1 year and under 3 years	*7.6	50.9	58.4	67.4	286.8
3 years and under 5 years	12.4	25.4	37.7	39.1	196.9
5 years and under 10 years	11.4	24.2	35.6	38.7	361.7
10 years and under 20 years	*9.9	16.8	26.7	27.3	485.9
20 years or more	**2.2	*4.9	*7.1	*7.1	444.0
Never had a job	*9.8	86.6	96.5	103.3	481.1
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	19.2	36.5	55.7	59.2	986.4
Home duties	13.2	30.9	44.1	51.8	224.9
Caring for children	**1.5	*9.9	11.4	12.5	34.9
Attending an educational institution	*8.9	124.0	132.9	146.8	535.5
Own long-term health condition or disability	*3.3	26.2	29.4	32.9	372.8
Own short-term illness or injury	np	np	10.4	11.2	37.3
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.7	*6.8	*8.5	*9.7	74.1
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*6.8	20.0	26.9	28.8	146.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.8	*6.3	*8.1	*10.1	54.5
Other	np	np	27.3	32.8	84.6
<i>Total</i>	62.2	292.5	354.7	395.8	2 551.4
FEMALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	47.9	424.7	472.6	513.7	3 123.5
Under 12 months	*5.4	115.7	121.1	140.9	397.2
1 year and under 3 years	*7.7	94.5	102.2	109.6	389.3
3 years and under 5 years	*7.1	58.7	65.9	70.6	299.1
5 years and under 10 years	*10.0	83.7	93.7	100.3	471.4
10 years and under 20 years	*9.7	55.5	65.2	66.8	582.0
20 years or more	*7.9	16.6	24.5	25.6	984.5
Never had a job	*7.1	80.5	87.6	94.5	628.6
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*9.2	18.1	27.3	27.3	966.1
Home duties	24.9	157.5	182.4	197.0	1 071.0
Caring for children	*7.9	142.0	149.9	162.1	446.1
Attending an educational institution	*4.5	104.1	108.7	118.7	471.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	**2.0	21.2	23.2	26.0	326.8
Own short-term illness or injury	np	np	12.4	13.8	38.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.3	17.0	18.4	20.3	172.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	**1.5	12.8	14.3	15.1	126.9
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**2.3	10.7	13.0	14.6	83.4
Other	np	np	10.5	13.3	50.2
<i>Total</i>	55.0	505.2	560.2	608.3	3 752.1
* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution					
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use					
np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated					

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force—By sex and by marginal attachment *continued*

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	'000	'000	'000		
PERSONS					
Time since last job					
Had a job	100.3	630.6	730.9	806.2	5 193.8
Under 12 months	14.4	199.4	213.8	253.9	692.3
1 year and under 3 years	15.3	145.3	160.6	177.0	676.1
3 years and under 5 years	19.5	84.1	103.6	109.7	496.0
5 years and under 10 years	21.4	107.9	129.3	138.9	833.1
10 years and under 20 years	19.6	72.4	92.0	94.1	1 067.9
20 years or more	*10.1	21.4	31.5	32.7	1 428.4
Never had a job	16.9	167.1	184.1	197.8	1 109.7
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	28.5	54.6	83.0	86.5	1 952.5
Home duties	38.1	188.4	226.5	248.9	1 295.9
Caring for children	*9.4	151.9	161.3	174.7	481.1
Attending an educational institution	13.4	228.1	241.5	265.6	1 007.1
Own long-term health condition or disability	*5.3	47.4	52.7	58.9	699.5
Own short-term illness or injury	**1.4	21.5	22.8	25.0	75.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.1	23.9	26.9	30.0	246.2
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*8.3	32.9	41.2	43.9	273.2
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*4.1	17.0	21.1	24.7	137.8
Other	*5.7	32.1	37.8	46.1	134.7
Total	117.2	797.7	914.9	1 004.0	6 303.5

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PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a), Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and full-time or part-time preference

	INTENTION TO ENTER THE LABOUR FORCE IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE(b)		Total(c)(d)
	<i>Intends to enter</i>	<i>Might enter</i>	<i>Does not intend to enter</i>	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
Sex						
Males	197.5	66.6	77.1	105.1	145.3	354.7
Females	272.5	120.6	135.1	86.3	295.7	560.2
Main reason for not actively looking for work						
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	470.0	187.2	212.2	191.4	440.9	914.9
Discouraged jobseekers	46.1	22.3	44.9	21.8	45.5	117.2
Considered too young by employers	np	np	**2.6	—	**2.3	*4.8
Considered too old by employers	*9.7	*4.0	23.3	*3.0	10.7	38.7
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers	**2.4	*3.5	**1.6	**1.2	*4.8	*7.5
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	np	*3.4	np	*6.3	*4.3	12.3
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	np	**2.3	np	**2.6	*5.1	*8.9
No jobs in locality or line of work	10.8	*4.5	*7.8	*7.1	*7.1	24.0
No jobs in suitable hours	*5.3	np	np	np	np	*9.1
No jobs at all	*4.2	np	np	np	np	11.8
Other	423.9	164.9	167.3	169.6	395.5	797.7
Personal reasons	199.8	88.4	73.8	75.0	202.3	380.4
Own short-term illness or injury	16.4	*6.9	*4.0	*9.7	12.9	27.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	22.5	21.7	28.2	13.6	27.9	78.7
Pregnancy	np	**1.3	np	—	**1.9	*3.4
Attending an educational institution	131.5	40.5	12.5	40.5	124.4	191.8
Other personal reasons	np	18.0	np	11.2	35.3	78.7
Family reasons	117.0	54.4	69.8	41.2	125.9	258.0
Ill health of other than self	13.6	*5.1	*9.6	*4.5	14.2	32.6
Caring for children	73.4	31.6	48.4	23.5	79.4	160.3
Other family considerations	30.0	17.7	11.8	13.2	32.3	65.0
Other reasons	50.5	16.5	20.1	28.9	34.7	90.1
Had a job to go to	50.3	**2.0	**2.3	19.9	28.1	57.0
Did not know	*6.3	*3.6	**1.4	*4.6	*4.5	12.2
Total	470.0	187.2	212.2	191.4	440.9	914.9

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) This table is restricted to those who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks.

(b) Data related to people who intend to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(c) Includes people who 'Did not know' whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(d) Includes people who had 'No preference' for full-time or part-time work or were undecided.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, Main reason for not actively looking for work—By age group and sex

Main reason for not actively looking for work	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						SEX		
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-69	70 and over	Males	Females	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Discouraged jobseekers	14.4	11.3	13.5	11.3	40.1	26.6	62.2	55.0	117.2
Considered too young by employers	**1.6	—	—	—	np	np	np	np	*4.8
Considered too old by employers	np	—	np	**2.6	21.1	14.5	23.2	15.5	38.7
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers	—	np	**1.1	np	*3.6	**1.4	np	np	*7.5
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	*5.2	**1.6	*2.9	np	**1.4	np	*6.5	*5.8	12.3
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	np	*4.6	**2.3	**0.9	np	—	*2.8	*6.1	*8.9
No jobs in locality or line of work	*4.2	**1.9	**2.6	*3.4	*8.2	*3.7	12.3	11.8	24.0
No jobs in suitable hours	—	**2.2	*3.4	**2.0	np	np	**2.2	*6.9	*9.1
No jobs at all	**2.5	np	np	np	*3.6	*3.4	*6.0	*5.8	11.8
Other reasons	243.1	164.5	146.2	83.8	135.4	24.7	292.5	505.2	797.7
Personal reasons	174.0	45.2	34.3	35.7	78.7	12.3	192.5	187.9	380.4
Own short-term illness or injury	*4.1	*2.9	*4.9	*5.6	*8.9	**1.5	10.5	17.3	27.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	*7.9	*9.7	13.4	17.3	28.6	**1.8	41.1	37.6	78.7
Pregnancy	—	*3.4	—	—	—	—	—	*3.4	*3.4
Attending an educational institution	156.0	21.8	*7.8	*3.0	*3.1	—	103.8	87.9	191.8
Other personal reasons	*6.1	*7.3	*8.3	*9.8	38.1	*9.0	37.1	41.6	78.7
Family reasons	28.8	88.4	85.0	29.6	22.0	*4.2	24.7	233.3	258.0
Ill health of other than self	**2.1	*3.3	*6.8	*8.8	*9.3	**2.4	*7.8	24.8	32.6
Caring for children	19.6	67.7	62.9	*8.6	**1.5	—	*9.8	150.5	160.3
Other family considerations	*7.1	17.4	15.4	12.2	11.1	**1.8	*7.0	58.0	65.0
Other reasons	22.3	14.9	12.8	*9.7	24.1	*6.2	45.7	44.5	90.1
Had a job to go to	15.9	14.8	11.4	*5.2	*8.4	**1.3	24.3	32.7	57.0
Did not know	**2.0	**1.2	**2.5	*3.5	**2.2	**0.7	*5.3	*6.8	12.2
Total	257.5	175.8	159.6	95.1	175.5	51.3	354.7	560.2	914.9

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unless otherwise indicated

7

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WERE DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS, Selected characteristics—By sex

	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000
Age group (years)			
15–24	*9.5	*5.0	14.4
25–34	*6.1	*5.2	11.3
35–44	*3.3	10.2	13.5
45–54	*3.6	*7.7	11.3
55–59	*5.0	*4.0	*9.0
60–64	*8.3	*5.9	14.2
65–69	11.5	*5.5	17.0
70 and over	15.0	11.6	26.6
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months			
Had looked for work	23.8	16.7	40.5
Less than 13 weeks ago	17.9	*9.8	27.7
13 weeks to 52 weeks ago	*6.0	*6.9	12.8
Had not looked for work	38.4	38.2	76.7
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months			
Intends to enter	25.6	20.6	46.1
Might enter	12.0	10.3	22.3
Does not intend to enter	23.0	21.9	44.9
Did not know	**1.7	**2.2	*3.9
Time since last job			
Had a job	52.4	47.9	100.3
Under 12 months	*9.0	*5.4	14.4
1 year and under 3 years	*7.6	*7.7	15.3
3 years and under 5 years	12.4	*7.1	19.5
5 years and under 10 years	11.4	*10.0	21.4
10 years and under 20 years	*9.9	*9.7	19.6
20 years or more	**2.2	*7.9	*10.1
Never had a job	*9.8	*7.1	16.9
Total	62.2	55.0	117.2

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

	<i>Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Persons without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	41.9	581.4	715.6	851.3
Victoria	35.5	444.5	536.7	641.8
Queensland	21.5	343.2	429.6	496.8
South Australia	9.5	149.5	172.8	206.2
Western Australia	9.0	175.1	199.8	236.4
Tasmania	3.6	48.6	60.4	70.7
Northern Territory	*0.7	10.1	13.7	15.2
Australian Capital Territory	*1.2	24.0	27.0	33.1
Age group (years)				
15–19	29.5	230.2	263.3	367.5
20–24	17.9	83.2	109.5	157.7
25–34	16.0	66.2	98.4	152.1
35–44	17.3	52.1	101.7	136.4
45–54	13.6	69.8	131.5	167.9
55–59	*6.7	63.0	101.2	121.7
60–64	12.8	133.7	200.0	228.1
65–69	*6.0	287.0	315.2	356.2
70 and over	*3.1	791.2	834.9	863.9
Relationship in household				
Family member	96.1	1 391.6	1 670.7	1 977.7
Husband, wife or partner	41.8	1 011.7	1 164.8	1 304.7
Lone parent	**2.6	36.4	52.4	63.1
Dependent student	32.2	235.6	269.4	370.8
Non-dependent child	13.1	52.9	113.6	155.4
Other family person	*6.3	55.0	70.6	83.6
Non-family member	23.3	318.6	404.3	480.8
Relationship not determined	*3.5	66.2	80.6	92.9
Country of birth				
Born in Australia	90.6	1 123.6	1 392.4	1 673.7
Born overseas	32.2	651.8	762.2	876.6
Born in main English-speaking countries	*6.6	220.1	245.3	288.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	25.7	431.8	516.8	588.1
Time since last job				
Had a job	91.1	1 466.7	1 777.8	2 070.3
Under 12 months	34.1	131.9	182.2	295.1
1 year and under 3 years	22.9	174.9	219.4	286.8
3 years and under 5 years	15.5	118.3	157.8	196.9
5 years and under 10 years	*9.2	275.0	323.0	361.7
10 years and under 20 years	*6.2	393.4	458.6	485.9
20 years or more	*3.1	373.1	436.9	444.0
Never had a job	31.8	309.7	377.8	481.1
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*9.4	859.9	927.3	986.4
Home duties	*7.4	142.9	173.1	224.9
Caring for children	*3.6	16.4	22.4	34.9
Attending an educational institution	52.8	333.2	388.7	535.5
Own long-term health condition or disability	22.7	165.0	339.9	372.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*7.7	11.8	26.1	37.3
Looking after ill or disabled person	*4.7	54.5	64.4	74.1
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.2	111.3	117.5	146.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.5	38.2	44.4	54.5
Other	*5.9	43.2	51.8	84.6
Total(c)	122.9	1 776.4	2 155.6	2 551.4

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 499,100 people (256,300 men and 242,700 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

	<i>Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Persons without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	70.0	897.0	1 057.2	1 250.6
Victoria	80.8	652.9	780.9	939.0
Queensland	39.4	498.6	597.9	718.4
South Australia	13.9	224.5	253.3	295.6
Western Australia	24.0	272.6	315.7	383.0
Tasmania	6.2	65.3	78.9	92.6
Northern Territory	1.8	14.5	17.7	22.6
Australian Capital Territory	4.3	35.3	42.2	50.2
Age group (years)				
15–19	17.8	215.1	234.5	309.9
20–24	25.6	106.3	136.0	197.0
25–34	78.3	193.8	281.8	420.9
35–44	52.5	191.1	267.0	409.7
45–54	24.8	173.2	246.9	320.2
55–59	15.1	152.9	196.1	237.0
60–64	11.5	251.4	316.1	347.9
65–69	*7.0	392.7	414.5	435.6
70 and over	*7.8	984.3	1 051.0	1 073.9
Relationship in household				
Family member	211.1	1 967.6	2 348.3	2 885.1
Husband, wife or partner	139.0	1 398.3	1 637.8	1 968.4
Lone parent	35.6	209.1	283.1	388.4
Dependent student	16.9	203.7	222.2	285.9
Non-dependent child	13.4	46.2	73.6	95.6
Other family person	*6.3	110.3	131.6	146.9
Non-family member	21.5	596.1	683.0	748.1
Relationship not determined	*7.8	97.0	112.5	118.9
Country of birth				
Born in Australia	145.9	1 712.5	2 010.6	2 421.4
Born overseas	94.5	946.2	1 130.8	1 327.8
Born in main English-speaking countries	18.9	301.3	343.2	397.1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	75.6	644.9	787.6	930.6
Time since last job				
Had a job	201.4	2 207.9	2 609.8	3 123.5
Under 12 months	76.7	172.7	256.2	397.2
1 year and under 3 years	46.8	219.7	279.7	389.3
3 years and under 5 years	21.1	188.8	228.6	299.1
5 years and under 10 years	29.6	314.4	371.2	471.4
10 years and under 20 years	16.0	453.9	515.2	582.0
20 years or more	11.1	858.4	958.9	984.5
Never had a job	39.0	452.9	534.1	628.6
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*8.1	884.2	938.8	966.1
Home duties	60.9	754.3	873.9	1 071.0
Caring for children	79.6	201.3	284.0	446.1
Attending an educational institution	37.9	312.3	352.8	471.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	20.8	167.5	300.8	326.8
Own short-term illness or injury	*8.4	12.2	24.3	38.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	14.6	130.2	151.8	172.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.9	103.4	111.8	126.9
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*2.8	61.4	68.8	83.4
Other	**1.3	33.8	36.9	50.2
<i>Total(c)</i>	240.4	2 660.7	3 143.8	3 752.1

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(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 499,100 people (256,300 men and 242,700 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

	<i>Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Persons without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Persons not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	112.0	1 478.4	1 772.8	2 101.8
Victoria	116.3	1 097.3	1 317.6	1 580.8
Queensland	60.9	841.8	1 027.5	1 215.2
South Australia	23.4	374.0	426.1	501.8
Western Australia	33.0	447.7	515.5	619.4
Tasmania	9.8	113.9	139.3	163.3
Northern Territory	2.5	24.6	31.4	37.8
Australian Capital Territory	5.5	59.3	69.2	83.3
Age group (years)				
15–19	47.3	445.2	497.8	677.3
20–24	43.6	189.5	245.5	354.7
25–34	94.3	260.0	380.2	573.0
35–44	69.8	243.2	368.7	546.1
45–54	38.3	243.0	378.4	488.1
55–59	21.7	216.0	297.3	358.7
60–64	24.3	385.1	516.1	575.9
65–69	13.0	679.7	729.7	791.9
70 and over	11.0	1 775.5	1 885.9	1 937.8
Relationship in household				
Family member	307.2	3 359.2	4 019.0	4 862.8
Husband, wife or partner	180.8	2 409.9	2 802.6	3 273.1
Lone parent	38.2	245.6	335.5	451.5
Dependent student	49.1	439.3	491.6	656.7
Non-dependent child	26.5	99.1	187.2	251.0
Other family person	12.6	165.3	202.2	230.5
Non-family member	44.8	914.7	1 087.4	1 228.9
Relationship not determined	11.2	163.2	193.0	211.8
Country of birth				
Born in Australia	236.5	2 836.1	3 403.0	4 095.1
Born overseas	126.7	1 598.0	1 893.0	2 204.4
Born in main English-speaking countries	25.5	521.4	588.5	685.7
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	101.3	1 076.6	1 304.5	1 518.7
Time since last job				
Had a job	292.5	3 674.6	4 387.6	5 193.8
Under 12 months	110.8	304.6	438.4	692.3
1 year and under 3 years	69.7	394.6	499.1	676.1
3 years and under 5 years	36.6	307.1	386.3	496.0
5 years and under 10 years	38.8	589.5	694.1	833.1
10 years and under 20 years	22.2	847.3	973.8	1 067.9
20 years or more	14.3	1 231.4	1 395.8	1 428.4
Never had a job	70.8	762.5	911.8	1 109.7
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	17.5	1 744.1	1 866.0	1 952.5
Home duties	68.3	897.2	1 047.1	1 295.9
Caring for children	83.1	217.7	306.4	481.1
Attending an educational institution	90.7	645.5	741.5	1 007.1
Own long-term health condition or disability	43.5	332.5	640.6	699.5
Own short-term illness or injury	16.1	24.0	50.4	75.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	19.3	184.7	216.2	246.2
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	11.1	214.7	229.3	273.2
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*6.4	99.6	113.2	137.8
Other	*7.2	77.0	88.7	134.7
Total(c)	363.2	4 437.1	5 299.4	6 303.5

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(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 499,100 people (256,300 men and 242,700 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

	NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING BUT AVAILABLE FOR WORK		NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND NOT AVAILABLE FOR WORK(b)		Total
	<i>All reasons for not actively looking for work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not actively looking for work was 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>All reasons not available to start work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not available to start work was 'Caring for children'</i>	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Sex					
Males	11.8	*9.8	*2.7	*2.7	14.5
Females	177.5	150.5	73.4	68.3	250.9
Age group (years)					
15–24	23.1	19.6	*9.4	*8.2	32.5
25–34	75.5	67.7	43.0	42.4	118.5
35–44	77.5	62.9	18.0	16.7	95.5
45 and over	13.2	*10.1	*5.7	*3.7	18.9
Age of youngest child					
0–2 years	94.0	85.1	53.1	52.4	147.2
3–4 years	47.3	41.0	*7.3	*6.7	54.6
5 years	*9.9	*8.0	*8.0	*6.9	17.9
6–12 years	31.5	20.6	*3.1	**1.7	34.5
Relationship in household					
Family member(c)	187.9	158.9	75.7	70.6	263.6
Husband, wife or partner	134.3	113.6	59.7	56.3	193.9
Lone parent	51.9	44.1	12.8	11.8	64.7
Non-family member	**1.4	**1.4	—	—	**1.4
Relationship not determined	—	—	**0.4	**0.4	**0.4
Country of birth					
Born in Australia	126.5	106.6	50.6	48.5	177.2
Born overseas	62.8	53.7	25.5	22.6	88.2
Born in main English-speaking countries	14.9	13.5	*5.6	*5.0	20.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	47.9	40.2	19.9	17.6	67.8
Total(d)(e)	189.3	160.3	76.1	71.0	265.4

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— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work.

(b) People who were not actively looking for work and not available for work were not asked the reasons why they were not actively looking for work. They were only asked the reasons why they were not available.

(c) Includes 'Non-dependent child', 'Dependent student' and 'Other family person'.

(d) Includes Country of birth 'Inadequately described'.

(e) Includes people whose youngest child was 13 years and over, and age of youngest child 'Not applicable'.

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total (a)
	Employee	Own account	Full-time	Part-time	
		worker/Employer/Other (b)			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	337.6	28.5	244.3	109.3	366.1
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	215.2	*6.2	169.0	47.5	221.4
Job was temporary or seasonal	79.5	*5.5	27.1	52.7	84.9
Own business closed down for economic reasons	*3.8	11.6	13.9	**1.4	15.4
Own short-term illness or injury	39.2	*5.2	34.3	*7.7	44.3
Left a job(c)	1 061.6	214.1	995.8	245.3	1 275.7
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	48.2	**1.4	31.1	17.5	49.6
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	*9.8	*9.5	16.7	**2.1	19.3
Retired, did not want to work any longer	502.6	113.3	530.5	75.1	615.9
Own long-term health condition or disability	291.4	47.4	273.4	54.5	338.8
To look after family, house or someone else	49.0	*9.5	40.7	17.0	58.5
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	38.4	*6.6	27.9	14.7	45.0
Returned to studies	np	np	31.5	44.6	77.5
Other	42.3	*9.5	28.4	16.4	51.8
Occupation of last job					
Managers	163.8	73.0	215.0	19.0	236.8
Professionals	201.3	31.3	174.1	53.5	232.6
Technicians and trades workers	267.5	67.4	285.3	42.2	334.9
Community and personal service workers	75.5	*5.4	46.5	31.2	80.9
Clerical and administrative workers	107.7	*5.4	93.5	18.8	113.1
Sales workers	88.6	*8.0	53.7	40.3	96.7
Machinery operators and drivers	193.0	19.9	168.2	38.4	212.9
Labourers	285.5	19.2	182.1	107.7	304.7
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	140.6	*8.4	86.8	57.8	149.1
Less than 13 weeks ago	110.4	*7.4	67.7	46.5	117.9
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	np	np	*8.8	*3.6	12.4
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	np	np	10.2	*7.7	18.8
Had not looked for work	1 254.7	222.6	1 139.4	295.4	1 477.3
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	270.2	25.0	169.0	111.7	295.1
1 year and under 3 years	256.8	29.9	188.3	91.2	286.8
3 years and under 5 years	166.0	30.9	147.3	43.8	196.9
5 years and under 10 years	301.4	60.3	296.6	57.3	361.7
10 years and under 20 years	401.0	84.9	425.0	49.2	485.9
Total	1 395.4	231.0	1 226.2	353.2	1 626.3

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np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

(c) Includes 'Pregnancy or to have children' and 'To get married'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total(a)
	Employee	Own account	Full-time	Part-time	
		worker/Employer/Other(b)			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	345.9	23.7	161.0	197.5	369.5
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	195.4	*7.7	94.1	104.9	203.0
Job was temporary or seasonal	81.9	**2.5	19.5	61.7	84.4
Own business closed down for economic reasons	*8.2	*8.4	12.0	*4.2	16.6
Own short-term illness or injury	60.4	*5.0	35.4	26.8	65.5
Left a job(c)	1 625.6	160.5	1 015.4	712.7	1 786.1
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	64.8	**2.4	24.8	41.5	67.2
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	*9.6	14.1	14.9	*7.8	23.7
Retired, did not want to work any longer	479.9	68.3	339.0	193.8	548.2
Own long-term health condition or disability	236.8	16.7	145.3	97.8	253.5
To look after family, house or someone else	153.2	15.0	82.1	83.2	168.2
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	106.0	*4.3	55.8	53.3	110.3
Returned to studies	np	np	24.8	52.3	81.4
Other	77.2	*9.5	39.7	41.2	86.6
Occupation of last job					
Managers	126.0	52.7	143.7	30.7	178.6
Professionals	355.6	21.4	227.4	137.7	377.1
Technicians and trades workers	91.7	18.8	68.5	38.8	110.5
Community and personal service workers	286.4	18.7	132.6	163.5	305.1
Clerical and administrative workers	449.2	26.6	310.8	156.1	475.8
Sales workers	295.0	14.7	110.3	185.8	309.8
Machinery operators and drivers	41.2	*3.6	29.3	13.4	44.8
Labourers	307.5	19.1	139.1	176.3	326.6
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	169.0	*9.7	79.6	95.7	178.6
Less than 13 weeks ago	118.4	*4.3	58.3	62.4	122.7
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	np	np	*8.6	10.6	19.7
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	np	np	12.8	22.7	36.2
Had not looked for work	1 794.3	166.1	1 084.7	810.4	1 960.4
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	372.8	24.4	164.4	219.6	397.2
1 year and under 3 years	362.7	26.6	197.5	181.5	389.3
3 years and under 5 years	275.5	23.7	162.7	129.2	299.1
5 years and under 10 years	424.8	46.6	270.0	184.7	471.4
10 years and under 20 years	527.5	54.5	369.8	191.1	582.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1 963.3</i>	<i>175.7</i>	<i>1 164.3</i>	<i>906.1</i>	<i>2 139.0</i>

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(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

(c) Includes 'Pregnancy or to have children' and 'To get married'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB		Total (a)
	Employee	Own account	Full-time	Part-time	
		worker/Employer/Other (b)			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	683.4	52.2	405.2	306.8	735.6
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	410.5	13.9	263.1	152.4	424.4
Job was temporary or seasonal	161.4	*8.0	46.5	114.4	169.4
Own business closed down for economic reasons	12.0	20.0	25.9	*5.6	32.0
Own short-term illness or injury	99.6	10.2	69.7	34.5	109.8
Left a job (c)	2 687.2	374.6	2 011.2	958.0	3 061.7
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	113.0	*3.8	55.8	59.0	116.8
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	19.4	23.6	31.6	*9.9	43.0
Retired, did not want to work any longer	982.5	181.6	869.5	268.9	1 164.1
Own long-term health condition or disability	528.2	64.1	418.7	152.3	592.2
To look after family, house or someone else	202.2	24.5	122.8	100.2	226.7
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	144.3	11.0	83.7	68.0	155.3
Returned to studies	153.7	*5.2	56.3	96.9	159.0
Other	119.5	18.9	68.0	57.6	138.4
Occupation of last job					
Managers	289.8	125.7	358.7	49.8	415.4
Professionals	557.0	52.7	401.5	191.3	609.6
Technicians and trades workers	359.2	86.2	353.7	81.0	445.5
Community and personal service workers	361.9	24.0	179.1	194.7	385.9
Clerical and administrative workers	556.9	32.0	404.3	174.9	588.9
Sales workers	383.7	22.8	164.0	226.0	406.4
Machinery operators and drivers	234.2	23.5	197.6	51.9	257.7
Labourers	593.0	38.4	321.2	284.0	631.3
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	309.6	18.1	166.4	153.5	327.7
Less than 13 weeks ago	228.8	11.8	126.0	108.9	240.6
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	28.7	*3.4	17.4	14.2	32.1
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	52.1	*2.9	23.0	30.4	55.0
Had not looked for work	3 049.0	388.6	2 224.1	1 105.7	3 437.7
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	642.9	49.4	333.4	331.3	692.3
1 year and under 3 years	619.5	56.5	385.8	272.7	676.1
3 years and under 5 years	441.4	54.6	310.0	173.0	496.0
5 years and under 10 years	726.2	106.9	566.5	242.0	833.1
10 years and under 20 years	928.5	139.4	794.8	240.3	1 067.9
Total	3 358.6	406.7	2 390.6	1 259.3	3 765.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

(c) Includes 'Pregnancy or to have children' and 'To get married'.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	851.3	641.8	496.8	206.2	236.4	70.7	15.2	33.1	2 551.4
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	177.6	140.6	88.7	42.9	45.5	13.9	2.2	7.2	518.6
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	135.7	105.0	67.2	33.4	36.6	10.3	1.5	6.1	395.8
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	117.4	94.6	60.8	31.3	33.9	9.7	1.3	5.8	354.7
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	20.9	20.6	*9.5	np	*4.6	1.7	np	np	62.2
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	41.9	35.5	21.5	9.5	9.0	3.6	*0.7	*1.2	122.9
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	*6.0	*4.0	**3.2	np	—	*0.7	np	np	14.5
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	675.0	516.7	414.2	173.2	191.3	62.2	11.7	26.0	2 070.3
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	715.6	536.7	429.6	172.8	199.8	60.4	13.7	27.0	2 155.6
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	530.7	410.5	319.0	131.5	154.2	49.3	8.9	22.2	1 626.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	1 250.6	939.0	718.4	295.6	383.0	92.6	22.6	50.2	3 752.1
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	263.4	238.9	159.8	56.2	91.3	20.0	6.6	12.3	848.6
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	193.4	158.1	120.5	42.4	67.3	13.7	4.9	8.0	608.3
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	180.2	146.2	109.1	38.8	61.4	13.0	4.3	7.2	560.2
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	26.2	15.2	*6.1	np	*3.0	*1.5	np	np	55.0
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	70.0	80.8	39.4	13.9	24.0	6.2	1.8	4.3	240.4
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	79.9	72.8	47.9	np	26.9	5.0	np	np	250.9
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	1 001.7	793.6	619.9	243.4	322.0	82.0	18.4	42.5	3 123.5
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	1 057.2	780.9	597.9	253.3	315.7	78.9	17.7	42.2	3 143.8
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	666.1	535.5	448.1	161.2	230.3	53.2	15.8	28.8	2 139.0
* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution	np	not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated							

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	2 101.8	1 580.8	1 215.2	501.8	619.4	163.3	37.8	83.3	6 303.5
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	441.0	379.4	248.5	99.2	136.8	33.9	8.8	19.6	1 367.3
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	329.0	263.1	187.6	75.8	103.9	24.0	6.4	14.1	1 004.0
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	297.6	240.8	169.9	70.1	95.3	22.7	5.6	12.9	914.9
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers	47.1	35.8	15.6	6.7	7.5	3.1	*0.5	*0.8	117.2
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	112.0	116.3	60.9	23.4	33.0	9.8	2.5	5.5	363.2
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	85.9	76.8	51.0	13.7	26.9	5.8	2.4	2.9	265.4
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	1 676.7	1 310.3	1 034.2	416.6	513.3	144.2	30.1	68.5	5 193.8
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	1 772.8	1 317.6	1 027.5	426.1	515.5	139.3	31.4	69.2	5 299.4
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	1 196.9	946.0	767.1	292.7	384.5	102.5	24.7	51.0	3 765.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey conducted throughout Australia in September 2013 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the monthly LFS who were within scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample design, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about collection methods relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

SCOPE

4 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the Census and estimated populations;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

5 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

6 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in very remote parts of Australia.

COVERAGE

7 The estimates in this publication relate to people covered by the survey in September 2013. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

8 Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample.

9 The September 2013 Persons Not In the Labour Force survey is based on the 2011 Census Population and Housing based sample, progressively introduced to the LFS from May 2013. For more information, see the article in the May 2013 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

10 The initial sample for the September 2013 LFS consisted of 34,104 private dwelling households and special dwelling units. Of the 25,498 private dwelling households and special dwelling units that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 25,186 or 93.3% fully responded to the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. The number of completed interviews obtained from these private dwelling households and special dwelling units (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 14,638.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

- 11** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:
- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information, see the Technical Note.
 - Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

- 12** The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month, and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

- 13** Occupation data are classified according to the ANZSCO – *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1*, (cat. no. 1220.0).

- 14** Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition* (cat. no. 1269.0).

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

- 15** The Labour Force Survey estimates, and estimates from the supplementary surveys, are calculated in such a way as to sum to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. Generally, revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS following the final rebasing of population estimates to the latest five-yearly Census of Population and Housing, or when the need arises.

- 16** From January 2014 Labour Force Estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. However, the estimates in this publication were compiled using the April 2013 revision to the population benchmarks based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

- 17** Changes to the LFS population benchmarks impact primarily on the magnitude of the Labour Force Survey estimates (i.e. employment and unemployment) that are directly related to the underlying size of the population. For more details on population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), and for details about the revisions made, see the article in the April 2013 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) and the article in the November 2012 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0). These revisions have not been applied to previous Persons Not in the Labour Force Surveys.

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

- 18** Persons Not in the Labour Force Surveys conducted up to and including September 1987 included all people aged 15 years and over. From September 1988 to September 2004, the survey excluded all people aged 70 years and over.

- 19** The scope of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was expanded in September 2005 to include all people aged 15 years and over. This change resulted in about 1.6 million extra people coming within the scope of this survey. Users need to exercise caution when comparing the estimates prior to 2005 with subsequent years. Direct comparisons should only be made where the same age ranges are applied.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS *continued*

20 From September 2006, estimates of the number of people not in the labour force because they were caring for children include people whose youngest child was aged 12 years and under. Previously questions relating to the care of children were only asked of people with children aged 11 years and under. This change was made to ensure consistency with other ABS surveys. Users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 9 of this publication with publications prior to September 2006.

21 Following a review of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, a number of changes were implemented in the 2007 cycle. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous years' data. The changes are documented in the following paragraphs 22 to 25.

22 Between September 2001 and September 2006, people who reported in the LFS that they were 'Permanently not intending to work' were not asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. As such, these people were classified as 'Did not want to work'. It is likely, however, that if they had been asked these questions, then some of these people may have been classified differently and may have been included in one of the 'Wanted to work' categories. From September 2007, people who specified that they were 'Permanently not intending to work' were asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work. As a result of this change, there has been a break in time series. Note people who reported that they were permanently unable to work are not asked questions about wanting to work or looking for work. For these people, information is obtained about their last job and their main activity.

23 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'All reasons for not actively looking for work', 'Main reason for not actively looking for work' and 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks' included the category 'Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy'. From September 2007, this category has been split into three separate categories: 'Own short-term illness or injury', 'Own long-term health condition or disability' and 'Pregnancy'.

24 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'Reason for ceasing last job' and 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the categories 'Own ill-health or injury' and 'Own disability or handicap'. From September 2007, these categories were renamed to ensure they were consistent with those in other data items and have been collected as 'Own short-term illness or injury' and 'Own long-term health condition or disability' respectively. While the way interviewers were instructed to code the responses to the relevant categories did not conceptually change, the renaming has caused a break in time series.

25 From September 2007, a new data item, 'All reasons not available to start work within four weeks', has been collected in addition to 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks'.

26 Prior to September 2008, the data item 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the category 'Home duties or caring for children'. From September 2008, this category has been split into two separate categories, 'Home duties' and 'Caring for children'. Care should be taken in interpreting the data in these categories because some people with young children indicated that 'Home duties' was their main activity when not in the labour force, rather than 'Caring for children'.

27 From September 2009, a new response category, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' has been included in the data items 'Main reason not actively looking for work' and 'All reasons not actively looking for work'. This category is not presented in this publication, however, is available on request.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY WITH
PREVIOUS SURVEYS *continued*

28 From September 2009, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' together with 'No jobs in suitable hours' are included with other responses to derive the population group 'Discouraged job seekers'. Prior to September 2009, 'No jobs in suitable hours' was included in the category 'Other'. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing estimates from 2009 with previous years' data. The following table compares categories affected by the changes in 2008 and 2009.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK

	2010		2009		2008	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Discouraged jobseekers	102.1	12.0	111.8	14.9	73.9	9.9
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers (from 2009)	*2.9	*0.3	*5.8	*0.8	—	—
No jobs in suitable hours (from 2009)	10.1	1.2	10.5	1.4	—	—
Other reasons	748.9	88.0	711.6	94.9	676.1	90.1
Personal reasons	373.4	43.9	348.3	46.4	323.5	43.1
Family reasons	242.4	28.5	231.7	30.9	226.7	30.2
No jobs in suitable hours (prior to 2008)	—	—	—	—	*7.6	*1.0
Other reasons	63.9	7.5	64.8	8.6	61.8	8.2
Had a job to go to	59.6	7.0	52.5	7.0	47.0	6.3
Did not know	9.5	1.1	14.2	1.9	9.6	1.3
Total	851.0	100.0	823.4	100.0	750.0	100.0

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

29 From September 2009, the method used to determine whether a respondent prefers full-time or part-time work changed. In 2009, respondents were asked the number of hours they would prefer to work, whereas in previous years, they were asked whether they would prefer to work full-time or part-time. A new data item 'Preferred number of hours' is available. Both data items apply only to people who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 5 of this publication with publications prior to September 2009.

30 From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collections for the LFS. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via face to face or telephone interview. From May 2013 the ABS has commenced the expansion of the offer of online collection to each new incoming rotation group, and from September 2013 offered online self-completion for 56% of the Labour Force Sample. Of the households responding to the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, approximately 11% submitted their data online. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

COMPARABILITY WITH
MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

31 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

32 The Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was first conducted in May 1975 and again in May 1977. From 1979 to 1987 the survey was collected twice a year (March and September). Since then it has been conducted annually in September. Results of previous surveys were published in:

- Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0); and
- standard data service *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6220.0.40.001) for 1994 and 1995 (available in hardcopy only).

NEXT SURVEY

33 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in February 2014, together with the Underemployed Workers topic and Job Search Experience topic. This is part of the 'bridge' for the survey that will be run from February 2015, which will be referred to as the Participation, Job Search and Mobility survey.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

34 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act, 1905*.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Spreadsheets

35 Additional tables with time series data are released in spreadsheet format. These tables are available from the ABS website.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

36 ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0);
- *Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia* (cat. no. 6239.0);
- *Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0);
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001);
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0);
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0); and
- *Microdata: Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia, 2008–2010* (cat. no. 6602.0).

37 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics Page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the person in the survey to whom the data item relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth (2)).

For more information about ABS data available on request, contact National Information and Referral Service in Canberra on 1300 135 070 or via email to <client.services@abs.gov.au> or contact Labour Supplementary Survey Section on (02) 6252 7206 or via email to <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>. The ABS Privacy Policy outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to us.

<i>Population 1:</i>	Persons not in the labour force
<i>Population 2:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work
<i>Population 3:</i>	Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 4:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 5:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers
<i>Population 6:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 7:</i>	Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work
<i>Population 8:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job
<i>Population 9:</i>	Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 10:</i>	Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
1 State or territory of usual residence	All
New South Wales	
Victoria	
Queensland	
South Australia	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	
Northern Territory	
Australian Capital Territory	
2 Area of usual residence	All
State capital city	
Balance of state/territory	
3 Region of usual residence	All
Standard labour force dissemination regions	
4 Sex	All
Males	
Females	
5 Social marital status	All
Married	
Not married	
6 Relationship in household	All
Family member	
Husband, wife or partner	
With dependants	
Without dependants	
Lone parent	
With dependants	
Without dependants	
Dependent student	
Non-dependent child	
Other family person	
Non-family member	
Lone person	
Not living alone	
Relationship not determined	
7A Country of birth and period of arrival	All
Born in Australia	
Born overseas	
Arrived before 1971	
Arrived 1971–1980	
Arrived 1981–1990	
Arrived 1991–2000	
Arrived 2001–2010	
Arrived 2011 to survey date	
7B Country of birth (1)	All
Born in Australia	
Born overseas	
Born in main English-speaking countries	
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	
7C Country of birth (2)	All
Born in Australia	
Born overseas	
Oceania and Antarctica	
North-West Europe	
Southern and Eastern Europe	
North Africa and the Middle East	
South-East Asia	
North-East Asia	
Southern and Central Asia	
Americas	
Sub-Saharan Africa	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
8 Age group (years)	All
15–19	
20–24	
25–34	
35–44	
45–54	
55–59	
60–64	
65–69	
70 and over	
Note: Age collected in single years	
9 Full-time study status (15–24 year olds)	All
Full-time students	
Not full-time students	
Did not know	
10A Persons not in the labour force summary variable	1, 8, 10
With marginal attachment to the labour force	
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	
Were available to start work within four weeks	
Were not available to start work within four weeks	
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
Discouraged job seekers	
Other	
Without marginal attachment to the labour force	
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	
Did not want to work (including did not know)	
Permanently unable to work	
10B Marginal attachment summary variable	3
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	
Were available to start work within four weeks	
Were not available to start work within four weeks	
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
Discouraged job seekers	
Other	
11 Whether wanted to work	1, 8, 10
Wanted to work	
Might want to work	
Did not want to work	
Did not know	
Permanently unable to work	
12 Whether looked for work in the last 12 months	All
Had looked for work	
Less than 5 weeks ago	
5 weeks and less than 8 weeks ago	
8 weeks and less than 13 weeks ago	
13–52 weeks ago	
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	
26 weeks and less than 39 weeks ago	
39–52 weeks ago	
Had not looked for work	
13 Main activity when not in the labour force	All
Retired or voluntarily inactive	
Home duties	
Caring for children	
Attending an educational institution	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Looking after ill or disabled person	
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	
Working in unpaid voluntary job	
Other	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
14A Time since last job	All
Had a job	
Under 12 months	
1 week and under 4 weeks	
4 weeks and under 8 weeks	
8 weeks and under 13 weeks	
13 weeks and under 26 weeks	
26 weeks and under 39 weeks	
39 weeks and under 52 weeks	
1 year and under 3 years	
3 years and under 10 years	
3 years and under 5 years	
5 years and under 10 years	
10 years or more	
10 years and under 20 years	
20 years or more	
Never had a job	
14B Whether had a job in the last 20 years	All
Had a job	
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
15 Reason for ceasing last job	All
Had a job	
Lost a job	
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	
Job was temporary or seasonal	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Own business closed down for economic reasons	
Left a job	
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
Retired, did not want to work any longer	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Returned to studies	
Pregnancy or to have children	
To get married	
To look after family, house or someone else	
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	
Other	
Never had a job	
16 Occupation in last job	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Managers	
Professionals	
Technicians and trades workers	
Community and personal service workers	
Clerical and administrative workers	
Sales workers	
Machinery operators and drivers	
Labourers	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
17A Status in employment in last job (1)	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Employer	
Own account worker	
Employee	
Contributing family worker	
Unpaid voluntary worker	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
17B Status in employment in last job (2)	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Employee	
Own account worker/Employer	
Other	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
18 Full-time or part-time status in last job	All
Last job less than 20 years ago	
Full-time	
Part-time	
Varied/Did not know	
Last job 20 or more years ago	
Never had a job	
19A Intention to enter the labour force	All
Intends to enter	
Might enter	
Does not intend to enter	
Does not know	
Permanently unable to work	
19B Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	All
Intends to enter	
Might enter	
Does not intend to enter	
Does not know	
Permanently unable to work	
20 Full-time or part-time preference	All
Full-time	
Part-time	
Did not know	
Not intending to work	
21 Main reason for not actively looking for work	4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
Discouraged job seekers	
Considered too young by employers	
Considered too old by employers	
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers	
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	
No jobs in locality or line of work	
No jobs in suitable hours	
No jobs at all	
Other	
Personal reasons	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Pregnancy	
Attending an educational institution	
Had no need to work	
Welfare payments or pension may be affected	
Moved house or holidays	
Family reasons	
Ill health of other than self	
Caring for children	
No child care in locality	
No child care available at all	
Cost or too expensive	
Booked out or no places available	
Children too young or too old	
Prefers to look after children	
Quality of child care unsuitable	
Other reasons	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
<p>21 Main reason for not actively looking for work <i>cont.</i> Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks <i>cont.</i> Other <i>cont.</i> Family reasons <i>cont.</i> Other family considerations Other reasons Had a job to go to Did not know</p>	4
<p>22 All reasons for not actively looking for work Discouraged job seekers Considered too young by employers Considered too old by employers Believes ill health or disability discourages employers Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience Difficulties because of language or ethnic background No jobs in locality or line of work No job in suitable hours No jobs at all Other Personal reasons Own short-term illness or injury Own long-term health condition or disability Pregnancy Attending an educational institution Had no need to work Welfare payments or pension may be affected Moved house or holidays Family reasons Ill health of other than self Caring for children Other family considerations Other reasons Had a job to go to Did not know</p>	4
<p>23 Main reason not working due to caring for children No child care in locality No child care available at all Cost or too expensive Booked out or no places available Children too young or too old Prefers to look after children Quality of child care unsuitable Other child care reasons</p>	7
<p>24 Main reason not available to start work within four weeks Personal reasons Own short-term illness or injury Own long-term health condition or disability Pregnancy Studying or returning to studies Moved house or holidays Family reasons Ill health of other than self Unable to find suitable child care Children too young or preferred to look after children On a job-related training program Other reasons</p>	6

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
25 All reasons not available to start work within four weeks	6
Personal reasons	
Own short-term illness or injury	
Own long-term health condition or disability	
Pregnancy	
Studying or returning to studies	
Moved house or holidays	
Family reasons	
Ill health of other than self	
Caring for children	
On a job-related training program	
Other reasons	
26 Age of youngest child	7
0–2 years	
3–4 years	
5 years	
6–9 years	
10–12 years	
27 Number of children	7
Aged 0–2 years	
Aged 3–4 years	
Aged 5 years	
Aged 6–9 years	
Aged 10–12 years	
28 Preferred number of hours	All
1–15 hours	
16–29 hours	
30–34 hours	
35–39 hours	
40 hours	
41–44 hours	
45–48 hours	
49 hours or more	
Did not know	
Not intending to work	

APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS LIST

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program and Multi-Purpose Household Survey program collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of labour surveys collected in these programs. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	<i>cat. no.</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Latest issue</i>
Monthly Population Supplementary Surveys			
Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia(a)	6250.0	Irregular	November 2010
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Childhood Education and Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2011
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2012
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2012
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	November 2012
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2013
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2011
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2013
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2013
Pregnancy and Employment Transitions, Australia	4913.0	Irregular	November 2011
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2013
Working Time Arrangements, Australia(c)	6342.0	Irregular	November 2012
Multi-Purpose Household Surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2012–2013
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2012–2013
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2009–2010

- (a) This product replaces the publication Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia (cat. no. 6250.0).
 (b) Latest data available on request July 2001 or see Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation, Australia, Apr to Jul 2007 (Re-issue) (cat. no. 6361.0).
 (c) This product replaces the publication Working Arrangements, Australia (cat. no. 6342.0).

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

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 two chances in three (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.

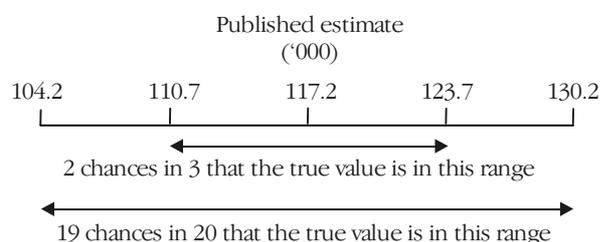
2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. 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.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 1 shows that the estimated number of people in Australia who were discouraged job seekers was 117,200. Since the estimate is between 100,000 and 150,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 6,050 and 7,250 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 6,050 + \left(\left(\frac{117,200 - 100,000}{150,000 - 100,000} \right) \times (7,250 - 6,050) \right) \\
 &= 6,500 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 110,700 to 123,700 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 104,200 to 130,200. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



5 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 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% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g.*3.2) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g.**0.4), are considered too unreliable for general use

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR *continued*

and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

6 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.

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

7 Considering the example from paragraph 3, of the 117,200 people who were discouraged job seekers, 55,000 or 46.9% were females. The SE of 55,000 may be calculated by interpolation as 4,700. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 4,700/55,000=8.5%. The SE for 117,200 was calculated previously as 6,500 which converted to an RSE is 6,500/117,200=5.5%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(8.5)^2 - (5.5)^2} = 6.5\%$$

8 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of discouraged job seekers who were females is 3.0 percentage points (= (46.9/100)x6.5). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who were discouraged job seekers was between 43.9% and 49.9% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 40.9% to 52.9%.

DIFFERENCES

9 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:

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

10 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.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	SE	RSE
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	180	150	200	170	170	110	80	120	140	140.0
200	300	230	330	250	260	160	110	210	240	120.0
300	390	290	440	310	330	200	130	270	320	106.7
500	530	400	600	400	440	250	170	370	460	92.0
700	650	480	730	470	520	290	200	430	580	82.9
1,000	800	580	900	560	620	340	240	500	730	73.0
1,500	990	710	1 120	670	760	400	290	580	940	62.7
2,000	1 150	820	1 300	760	860	440	330	630	1 120	56.0
2,500	1 300	900	1 450	850	950	450	350	650	1 250	50.0
3,000	1 400	1 000	1 600	900	1 050	500	400	700	1 400	46.7
3,500	1 500	1 050	1 700	950	1 100	550	450	750	1 500	42.9
4,000	1 600	1 150	1 800	1 000	1 150	550	500	750	1 650	41.3
5,000	1 800	1 250	2 000	1 100	1 250	600	550	850	1 800	36.0
7,000	2 100	1 450	2 300	1 250	1 450	700	750	1 000	2 150	30.7
10,000	2 400	1 650	2 650	1 400	1 600	850	1 000	1 300	2 500	25.0
15,000	2 800	1 950	3 050	1 650	1 900	1 050	1 400	1 700	3 000	20.0
20,000	3 150	2 150	3 350	1 900	2 150	1 200	1 800	2 000	3 350	16.8
30,000	3 600	2 500	3 900	2 350	2 700	1 500	2 450	2 450	3 850	12.8
40,000	4 000	2 750	4 400	2 750	3 200	1 750	3 000	2 750	4 250	10.6
50,000	4 350	3 000	4 850	3 100	3 650	1 950	3 500	2 950	4 600	9.2
100,000	6 050	4 350	7 150	4 450	5 350	2 700	5 450	3 350	6 050	6.1
150,000	7 700	5 600	9 050	5 350	6 600	3 200	6 900	3 350	7 250	4.8
200,000	9 200	6 650	10 600	6 050	7 600	3 600	..	..	8 300	4.2
300,000	11 600	8 450	13 050	7 100	9 100	4 200	..	..	10 100	3.4
500,000	15 000	11 350	16 500	8 550	11 300	5 000	..	..	13 200	2.6
1,000,000	20 050	16 750	21 650	10 600	14 600	..	..	..	19 550	2.0
2,000,000	24 950	24 200	26 850	12 650	18 250	..	..	..	28 300	1.4
5,000,000	30 000	38 550	32 900	..	..	..	..	..	40 800	0.8
10,000,000	31 800	53 850	..	..	..	..	..	..	49 000	0.5
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52 550	0.4

.. not applicable

T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
Percentage	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
RSE of 25%	9 400	5 000	10 900	4 100	5 100	1 600	900	2 700	10 100
RSE of 50%	2 700	1 300	3 300	1 200	1 500	500	200	1 000	2 600

(a) Refers to the number of people contributing to the estimate

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work	People who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ writing, telephoning or applying to an employer for work;■ answering an advertisement for a job;■ checking noticeboards;■ being registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker;■ checking or registering with any other employment agency;■ advertising or tendering for work; and■ contacting friends or relatives.
Age of youngest child	Age of the youngest child, 12 years and under, in the household.
Available to start work within four weeks	People who were available to start work within four weeks or, for people with children aged 12 years and under, could start work within four weeks if suitable child care was available.
Civilian population	All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence force, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from Census of Population and Housing and estimated resident population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.
Contributing family workers	Persons who work without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.
Did not want to work	People who were not classified as employed or unemployed who answered 'no' when asked if they would like a job.
Discouraged job seekers	People with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ considered to be too young by employers;■ considered to be too old by employers;■ believes ill health or disability discourages employers;■ lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience;■ difficulties because of language or ethnic background;■ no jobs in their locality or line of work;■ no jobs in suitable hours; and■ no jobs at all.
Employed	People aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or■ on strike or locked out; or■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Family	Two or more people, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
Family reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes ill health of someone other than themselves, caring for children and other family considerations.
Full-time preference	People who preferred to work 35 hours or more a week. For this survey, full-time preference is derived by applying data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Full-time or part-time status of last job	The perception of people of whether they worked full-time or part-time in their last job.
Future starters	People waiting to start, within four weeks of the end of the reference week, a new job that they have already obtained (and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then). Under International Labour Organisation (ILO) guidelines, these persons do not have to be actively looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
Had a job to go to	People who were waiting to start a job, but would not be starting within four weeks. Also includes people who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	The intention of people to work or look for work in the 12 months following the interview.
Job	Any paid employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.
Labour force	The civilian population is split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed people) and persons not in the labour force. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Left a job	People who are classified as voluntarily ceasing their last job.
Lost a job	People who are classified as involuntarily ceasing their last job.
Main activity when not in the labour force	The main activity of people who are not in the labour force since they last worked or looked for work (or in the last 12 months if they haven't worked in the last year).
Marginal attachment to the labour force	<p>People who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criterion to be classified as unemployed; or■ were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks. <p>The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.</p> <p>For more information see article Understanding the Australian Labour Force Using ABS Statistics in <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (6202.0).</p>
Main English-speaking countries	The list of main English-speaking countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These

GLOSSARY *continued*

Main English-speaking countries <i>continued</i>	countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States of America.
Occupation of last job	An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication, occupation refers to Major Group as defined by ANZSCO – <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1</i> (cat. no. 1220.0) and relates to persons who have had a job less than 20 years ago only.
Part-time preference	People who preferred to work one to 34 hours a week. For this survey, part-time preference is derived by applying data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Permanently not intending to work	People aged 65 years and over who said they were permanently not intending to work.
Permanently unable to work	This category is used only if a respondent, or a person answering on their behalf, volunteers that he/she or another member of the household is permanently unable to work.
Personal reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes 'own short-term illness or injury' or 'long-term health condition or disability', 'pregnancy', 'attending an educational institution', 'had no need to work', 'welfare payments or pension may be affected', and 'moved house or on holidays'.
Persons in the labour force	People who were classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.
Persons not in the labour force	People who were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined.
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work	People who wanted to work and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were not actively looking for work because they were caring for children, but were available to start work within four weeks; or■ were not actively looking for work and reported that they were not available to start work within four weeks because they were caring for children.
Preferred number of hours	The number of hours people, who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months, would like to work each week.
Reference week	The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.
Status in employment of last job	People who had a job in the last 20 years classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, contributing family workers or unpaid voluntary workers in their last job.
Time since last job	The elapsed time since ceasing the last job.
Unemployed	People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.
Wanted to work	People not in the labour force who were not actively looking for work who answered 'yes' or 'maybe' when asked if they would like a job, as well as those people not in the labour force who were actively looking. It is assumed those people actively looking want a job.

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