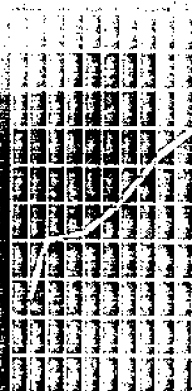




1996

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 20 FEB 1997

# Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices



## NOTES

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a. not available  
\*\* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

.....

### INQUIRIES

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

For further information about these statistics, contact Graeme Oakley on Canberra (06) 252 7369.

T. J. Skinner  
Acting Australian Statistician

# CONTENTS .....

CHAPTER		Page
	1 Environmental views, concerns and issues	
	Main findings .....	5
	Views on environmental protection and economic growth .....	6
	Environmental concerns .....	9
	Environment and social/economic concerns .....	18
	Perceived quality of the environment .....	20
	2 Household waste management	
	Main findings .....	22
	Recycling .....	23
	Hazardous waste .....	30
	3 Motor vehicle ownership and maintenance	
	Main findings .....	32
	Motor vehicle ownership .....	33
	Motor vehicle maintenance .....	37
	4 Use of transport	
	Main findings .....	43
	Transport for shopping trips .....	44
	Transport to work/study .....	46
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
	Explanatory notes .....	55



## CHAPTER 1

## ENVIRONMENTAL VIEWS, CONCERNS AND ISSUES .....

### MAIN FINDINGS

- The percentage of people stating that they consider environmental protection to be as important as economic growth has remained steady at around 70% since 1992.
- Over the past four years, the number of people reporting that they had environmental concerns has decreased (68% in 1996 as opposed to 75% in 1992).
- The survey revealed that the people most concerned about the environment were aged between 35 and 44 years; women (except for the topics of pollution and land degradation); people in professional occupations; those with high incomes, and/or tertiary education.
- Air pollution continues to be the environmental problem of greatest concern for Australians, with 31% of people reporting this as their major concern. This has dropped from 40% in 1992 and 34% in 1994.
- The main social issues of importance to Australians in 1996 were crime (26% of respondents), health (23%), education (15%), unemployment (14%) and environmental problems (9%).
- Most people (44%) reported that they felt that over the last 10 years the quality of the environment had declined. This was followed by those who thought it had stayed much the same (26%). Around 23% believed that the quality of the environment had improved.

## VIEWS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

In 1996, the two Territories recorded the highest percentage of persons who placed environmental protection ahead of economic growth. Compared to previous ABS environment surveys, the proportion of people indicating that environmental protection and economic growth are equally important is similar (70.6% in 1996, 71% in 1994 and 70.3% in 1992). The percentages for environment protection being more important than economic growth are similar, however those indicating priority for economic growth has risen from 6.6% in 1992 to 7.9% in 1996.

## 1.1 RANKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—April 1996

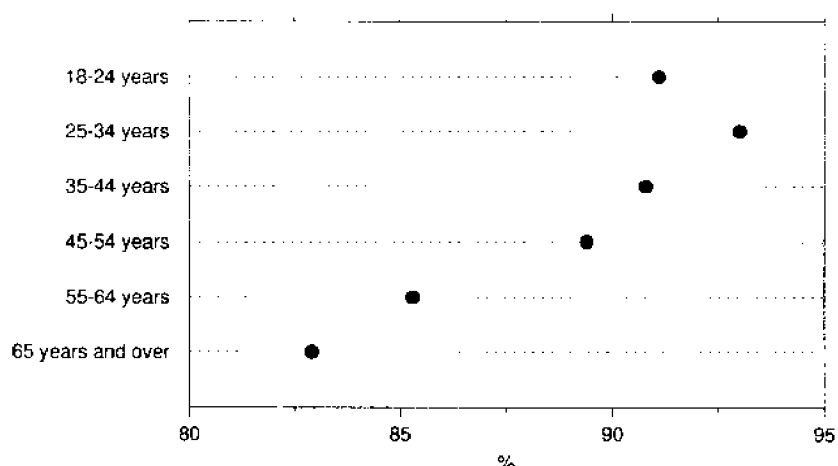
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
APRIL 1996									
Number ('000)									
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	845.0	632.5	375.3	196.5	293.6	53.6	18.6	44.0	2 459.2
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	3 100.0	2 304.1	1 737.6	795.0	868.6	253.9	61.4	149.3	9 269.7
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	365.0	277.8	211.9	64.0	69.1	25.7	**7.4	19.6	1040.8
Can't decide/don't know	167.0	88.8	49.0	34.0	18.5	**6.4	**2.2	**0.4	367.0
Total	4 477.0	3 303.3	2 373.7	1 090.0	1 249.8	339.6	89.7	213.4	13 136.6
Proportion (%)									
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	19.0	19.1	15.8	18.0	23.5	15.8	20.8	20.6	18.7
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	69.2	69.8	73.2	73.0	69.5	74.8	68.5	69.9	70.6
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	8.2	8.4	8.9	5.9	5.5	7.6	**8.3	9.2	7.9
Can't decide/don't know	3.7	2.7	2.1	3.1	1.5	**1.9	**2.5	**0.2	2.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	17.8	16.5	19	18.7	19.9	12.9	20.1	22.2	17.9
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	69.3	71.4	71.3	73.7	72.4	75.8	73.1	69.1	71.0
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	7.8	7.6	6.5	5.4	4.5	7.7	5.5	6.8	7.0
Can't decide/don't know	5.1	4.5	3.2	2.2	3.2	3.6	1.3	1.9	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	19.5	17.5	18.2	20.9	19.3	13.4	19.4	24.4	18.8
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	68.8	69.7	71.0	70.5	73.4	76.8	71.9	70.0	70.3
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	6.7	7.6	6.8	4.6	4.9	6.5	**5.9	**3.6	6.6
Can't decide/don't know	5.0	5.2	3.9	4.0	2.4	3.2	**2.8	**2.0	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

In April 1996, a larger proportion of males stated that environmental protection was less important than economic growth than females. Males were also more likely to say that environmental protection was more important than economic growth. Females more frequently rated both issues as being equally important. People aged 18–24 years rated highest for those who considered environmental protection more important than economic growth (23%). However, people aged between 25 and 34 rated highest for environmental protection being either more important or equally important than economic growth (93%). People in the older age groups (55 and older) were less likely to consider environmental protection as more important than economic growth, consistent with previous surveys.

## 1.2 RANKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—April 1996

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....						Total
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>MALES</b>							
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	23.9	21.1	20.0	18.0	17.1	15.7	19.5
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	64.5	71.4	69.0	69.6	67.8	65.1	68.3
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	9.0	6.2	8.9	9.8	11.4	13.5	9.4
Can't decide/don't know	2.7	1.2	2.1	2.6	3.7	5.7	2.8
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	22.6	16.7	18.6	16.9	14.1	18.2	17.9
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	71.4	76.8	74.1	74.3	71.7	66.5	72.8
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	4.1	5.3	5.5	6.4	9.0	9.6	6.5
Can't decide/don't know	1.9	1.2	1.8	2.4	5.2	5.7	2.8
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	23.2	18.9	19.3	17.5	15.6	17.1	18.7
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	67.9	74.1	71.5	71.9	69.7	65.8	70.6
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	6.6	5.8	7.2	8.1	10.2	11.3	7.9
Can't decide/don't know	2.3	1.2	1.9	2.5	4.5	5.7	2.8
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

### 1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MORE OR EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAN ECONOMIC GROWTH



Managers and administrator occupations rated highest for stating that economic growth was more important than environmental protection.

### 1.4 RANKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—April 1996

	Managers/ administrators	Professionals	Para- professionals	Trades- persons	Sales/personal Clerks service workers	Plant/machine operators/ drivers	Labourers/ related workers	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	12.3	25.7	23.7	18.2	14.9	16.9	20.2	18.7
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	73.1	67.2	71.8	73.9	75.7	73.6	66.9	70.6
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	13.4	6.7	4.1	6.4	8.6	7.7	10.8	7.9
Can't decide/don't know	1.2	**0.3	**0.5	1.5	0.8	1.7	2.1	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

People who held higher degrees, post-graduate degrees or bachelor degrees were more likely to rate environmental protection as more important than economic growth than were people who had other levels of education. This is consistent with results obtained from earlier surveys.



## 1.5 RANKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—April 1996

	Higher degree	Postgraduate diploma	Bachelor degree	Under-graduate diploma	Associate diploma	Skilled vocational qualifications	Basic vocational qualifications	No qualifications	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	38.5	28.8	22.2	18.4	18.6	17.3	16.8	19.5	18.7
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	59.5	67.5	69.9	74.8	73.2	73.1	74.5	69.2	70.6
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	**2.0	3.7	7.8	6.1	7.3	8.3	7.6	9.5	7.9
Can't decide/don't know	**	**	**0.1	**0.6	**0.9	1.3	**1.1	1.8	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

A higher percentage of people on higher incomes rated environmental protection as being of less importance than economic growth than did people in lower income categories.

## 1.6 RANKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160-299	\$300-499	\$500-699	\$700-999	\$1 000-1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Environmental protection is more important than economic growth	18.7	20.4	19.0	18.5	17.7	19.0	18.7	17.2	18.7
Environmental protection and economic growth are equally important	66.1	65.5	69.4	72.8	73.2	73.9	71.1	67.2	70.6
Environmental protection is less important than economic growth	7.2	9.0	8.8	6.7	7.7	6.7	9.4	7.9	7.9
Can't decide/don't know	8.1	5.2	2.9	2.0	1.4	**0.3	0.8	7.7	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

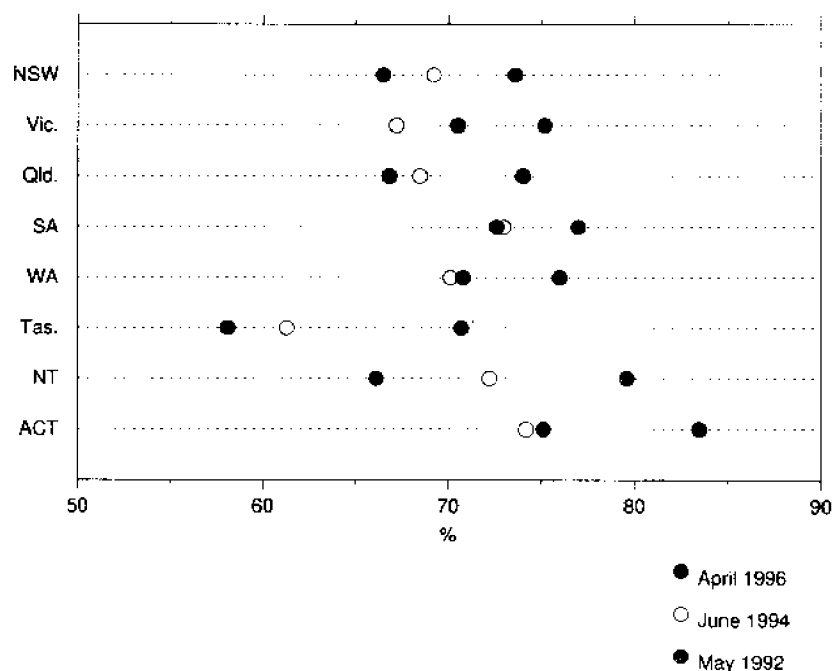
## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

It is estimated that about 68% of persons had environmental concerns in 1996. The Australian Capital Territory had the most people concerned about environmental issues (with 75%) while Tasmania recorded the least (58%). In 1994 the figure was almost the same as 1996 (with 69%). The 1996 and 1994 figures were less than that observed in 1992 (75%). Compared to the 1994 survey, concern about environmental problems has risen in Victoria, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory, and decreased in the other States and Territories.

## 1.7 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
APRIL 1996									
Number ('000)									
Yes	2 979.2	2 328.2	1 585.0	791.6	884.9	197.4	59.3	160.3	8 985.8
No	1 386.1	914.7	758.5	280.8	355.4	139.4	30.4	51.9	3 917.3
Don't know	111.7	60.4	30.2	17.6	9.5	**2.8	**	**1.2	233.5
Total	4 477.1	3 303.3	2 373.7	1 090.1	1 249.8	339.6	89.7	213.4	13 136.6
Proportion (%)									
Yes	66.5	70.5	66.8	72.6	70.8	58.1	66.1	75.1	68.4
No	31.0	27.7	32.0	25.8	28.4	41.0	33.9	24.3	29.8
Don't know	2.5	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.8	**0.8	**	**0.6	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	69.2	67.2	68.5	73.0	70.1	61.3	72.2	74.2	68.9
No	27.8	30.5	29.1	25.6	27.1	37.0	25.3	24.9	28.6
Don't know	2.9	2.2	2.4	1.5	2.8	1.7	2.5	0.9	2.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	73.6	75.2	74.0	77.0	76.0	70.7	79.6	83.5	74.8
No	24.1	22.2	24.0	21.4	21.8	28.2	17.7	14.4	23.0
Don't know	2.3	2.6	1.9	1.5	2.2	1.1	2.7	2.1	2.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## 1.8 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By State and Territory



In 1996, as in 1994 and 1992, air pollution was the environmental problem of greatest concern to Australians. The next most commonly reported concern was ocean and freshwater pollution, and the destruction of trees and ecosystems, all rating at around 24%. Garbage and rubbish disposal rated in fifth place, whereas in the 1994 survey the ozone layer was rated the fifth concern of people. Air pollution was the major concern in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia. Around 32% of people had no specific environmental concerns, compared with 31% in 1994 and 25% in 1992.

## 1.9 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—April 1996

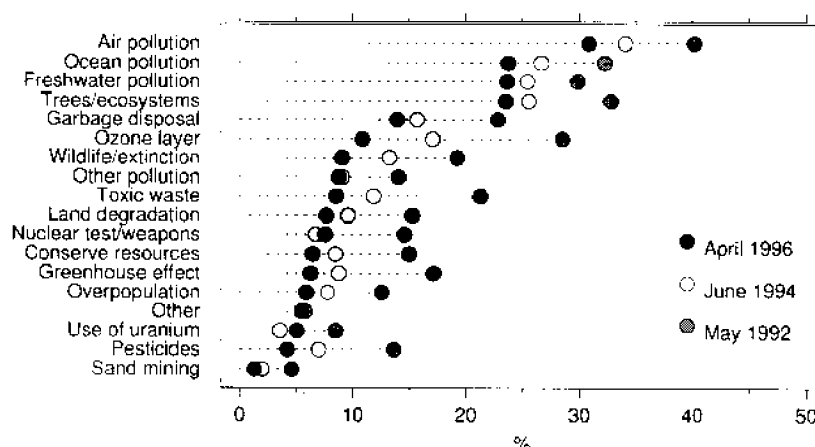
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
APRIL 1996									
Number ('000)									
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	963.2	775.0	597.4	254.6	326.5	81.2	26.9	72.2	3 097.0
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	422.2	289.0	232.4	88.6	102.3	19.7	11.3	29.0	1 194.6
Air pollution	1 474.6	1 120.3	614.6	314.1	387.4	68.8	19.4	61.9	4 061.2
Ocean pollution	1 115.1	718.3	587.6	274.0	287.3	72.4	16.4	53.3	3 124.3
Freshwater pollution	1 104.5	704.3	545.8	341.8	265.1	72.7	16.3	62.2	3 112.7
Other pollution	460.0	232.4	187.6	127.5	99.2	23.9	**7.7	18.5	1 156.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	610.4	535.7	251.9	198.2	165.4	37.1	8.3	29.0	1 836.1
Toxic/chemical waste	350.0	308.7	191.0	103.7	124.1	30.4	**6.5	18.1	1 132.5
Ozone layer	431.5	442.7	222.2	122.1	143.9	31.0	12.7	23.5	1 429.6
Greenhouse effect	294.0	249.8	109.4	55.6	80.0	15.4	**5.4	22.2	831.8
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	321.4	279.9	144.4	76.3	127.7	23.9	**7.8	31.0	1 012.4
Sand mining	80.4	32.0	26.7	**7.4	19.7	**3.5	**0.5	**2.9	173.2
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	249.5	152.2	91.5	60.7	67.5	15.4	10.8	16.2	663.7
Nuclear testing/weapons	392.4	272.4	150.3	52.1	86.8	20.2	**6.8	19.3	1 000.3
Urban development/overpopulation	303.0	164.9	165.1	38.7	66.1	10.5	**7.0	18.5	773.9
Conservation of resources	312.7	200.0	136.1	62.0	84.3	21.2	**7.0	24.4	847.8
Use of pesticides	227.6	121.0	94.5	32.3	40.5	19.4	**4.6	8.5	548.4
Other	253.5	153.2	133.3	56.3	78.9	17.1	**6.9	17.2	716.4
No concerns	1 497.8	975.1	788.8	298.5	364.9	142.2	30.4	53.1	4 150.8
Total	4 477.1	3 303.3	2 373.7	1 090.1	1 249.8	339.6	89.7	213.4	13 136.6
Proportion (%)									
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	21.5	23.5	25.2	23.4	26.1	23.9	30.0	33.8	23.6
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	9.4	8.8	9.8	8.1	8.2	5.8	12.6	13.6	9.1
Air pollution	32.9	33.9	25.9	28.8	31.0	20.3	21.7	29.0	30.9
Ocean pollution	24.9	21.7	24.8	25.1	23.0	21.3	18.3	25.0	23.8
Freshwater pollution	24.7	21.3	23.0	31.4	21.2	21.4	18.1	29.1	23.7
Other pollution	10.3	7.0	7.9	11.7	7.9	7.0	**8.6	8.7	8.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	13.6	16.2	10.6	18.2	13.2	10.9	9.3	13.6	14.0
Toxic/chemical waste	7.8	9.3	8.0	9.5	9.9	9.0	**7.2	8.5	8.6
Ozone layer	9.6	13.4	9.4	11.2	11.5	9.1	14.2	11.0	10.9
Greenhouse effect	6.6	7.6	4.6	5.1	6.4	4.5	**6.1	10.4	6.3
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	7.2	8.5	6.1	7.0	10.2	7.0	**8.6	14.5	7.7
Sand mining	1.8	1.0	1.1	**0.7	1.6	**1.0	**0.5	**1.4	1.3
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	5.6	4.6	3.9	5.6	5.4	4.5	12.1	7.6	5.1
Nuclear testing/weapons	8.8	8.2	6.3	4.8	6.9	6.0	**7.6	9.0	7.6
Urban development/overpopulation	6.8	5.0	7.0	3.5	5.3	3.1	**7.8	8.7	5.9
Conservation of resources	7.0	6.1	5.7	5.7	6.7	6.2	**7.8	11.5	6.5
Use of pesticides	5.1	3.7	4.0	3.0	3.2	5.7	**5.1	4.0	4.2
Other	5.7	4.6	5.6	5.2	6.3	5.0	**7.7	8.1	5.5
No concerns	33.5	29.5	33.2	27.4	29.2	41.9	33.9	24.9	31.6

1.9 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—April 1996 *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	26.1	22.4	29.3	24.6	26.3	21.6	34.3	26.7	25.6
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	15.8	11.2	14.9	10.8	10.4	9.9	20.3	11.6	13.3
Air pollution	39.5	34.1	29.2	31.1	29.5	27.0	33.4	27.7	34.1
Ocean pollution	31.9	22.8	25.7	29.0	19.3	26.3	25.0	20.7	26.7
Freshwater pollution	30.2	21.8	22.5	29.5	21.1	24.6	27.0	24.9	25.5
Other pollution	10.9	6.9	9.7	10.7	6.0	7.9	10.2	11.8	9.1
Garbage/rubbish disposal	16.1	16.0	14.7	18.9	13.5	12.4	13.4	16.7	15.7
Toxic/chemical waste	12.0	12.2	13.3	12.0	9.5	10.2	8.9	5.9	11.9
Ozone layer	15.8	18.7	15.6	20.7	17.7	13.1	20.4	18.7	17.1
Greenhouse effect	9.4	9.7	6.9	10.8	6.1	6.2	8.3	9.9	8.8
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	10.3	8.7	9.9	10.5	7.9	8.3	13.6	10.8	9.6
Sand mining	2.5	1.3	3.3	1.3	0.9	0.9	1.6	0.7	2.0
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.2	3.0	2.9	5.9	1.9	3.6
Nuclear testing/weapons	7.8	7.1	6.4	5.1	4.3	5.9	8.0	2.6	6.7
Urban development/overpopulation	9.5	6.4	8.7	5.5	6.4	6.2	11.3	7.3	7.8
Conservation of resources	8.6	8.4	9.4	7.3	6.7	9.3	12.9	8.5	8.5
Use of pesticides	8.2	6.4	7.9	5.4	4.7	5.4	9.5	4.0	7.0
Other	5.5	4.8	7.0	5.5	6.5	4.1	3.0	9.1	5.7
No concerns	30.8	32.8	31.5	27.0	29.9	38.7	27.8	25.8	31.1

MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	32.2	31.0	37.1	31.4	31.2	35.9	35.5	40.5	32.8
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	19.3	20.6	21.3	17.1	13.2	20.0	29.4	19.8	19.3
Air pollution	42.3	43.4	36.9	35.8	34.7	34.0	41.4	44.0	40.2
Ocean pollution	34.4	29.2	36.4	29.4	27.8	34.7	41.7	29.4	32.3
Freshwater pollution	29.9	30.6	31.2	29.1	25.6	30.2	29.6	31.8	29.9
Other pollution	15.2	12.3	15.1	13.6	12.2	16.7	15.9	13.6	14.1
Garbage/rubbish disposal	24.6	22.9	21.7	21.5	19.3	24.5	31.3	22.0	22.9
Toxic/chemical waste	21.5	23.0	21.4	18.5	17.6	22.0	31.2	18.3	21.3
Ozone layer	27.5	31.8	26.2	29.1	25.7	28.1	38.5	34.3	28.6
Greenhouse effect	17.1	20.5	15.2	15.4	12.9	19.2	20.8	19.0	17.2
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	13.4	18.5	16.3	13.8	11.7	16.5	23.4	15.5	15.3
Sand mining	4.9	5.3	5.1	2.7	2.3	5.6	4.5	1.4	4.6
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	8.4	9.9	8.3	7.7	5.9	10.5	11.8	3.9	8.5
Nuclear testing/weapons	14.5	17.9	14.5	11.8	8.9	15.9	22.5	8.3	14.6
Urban development/overpopulation	13.0	12.7	15.0	9.0	9.1	14.0	18.8	12.6	12.6
Conservation of resources	14.9	16.8	15.5	13.3	10.7	16.6	19.4	15.2	15.0
Use of pesticides	12.8	16.1	15.6	10.6	8.4	17.0	27.6	8.1	13.7
Other	5.3	5.2	6.5	7.5	5.9	5.6	10.5	5.2	5.8
No concerns	26.4	24.8	26.0	23.0	24.0	29.3	20.4	16.5	25.2

## 1.10 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS



People in capital cities had a greater concern for air pollution than other urban and rural areas in 1996 (35% against 24%), whereas people in non-urban areas showed a greater concern for land degradation than their city counterparts (10% against 6%). Ocean pollution was higher in the capital cities than other areas, while freshwater pollution and the destruction of trees and ecosystems was of more concern to people in the territories than in the capital cities. People in capital cities also had a higher level of concern for garbage and rubbish disposal than other urban, rural and territory areas.

## 1.11 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—April 1996

	Capital cities	State urban/ rural areas	Territories	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)				
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	1 892.0	1 105.8	99.1	3 097.0
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	712.9	441.4	40.3	1 194.6
Air pollution	2 869.9	1 109.9	81.3	4 061.2
Ocean pollution	2 081.2	973.4	69.7	3 124.3
Freshwater pollution	1 952.1	1 082.2	78.5	3 112.7
Other pollution	753.3	377.3	26.2	1 156.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	1 172.6	626.1	37.4	1 836.1
Toxic/chemical waste	695.0	412.9	24.6	1 132.5
Ozone layer	911.2	482.1	36.3	1 429.6
Greenhouse effect	578.2	226.0	27.6	831.8
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	509.8	463.8	38.8	1 012.4
Sand mining	102.7	67.1	**3.4	173.2
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	406.6	230.1	27.0	663.7
Nuclear testing/weapons	580.5	393.6	26.1	1 000.3
Urban development/overpopulation	482.4	265.9	25.6	773.9
Conservation of resources	517.6	298.7	31.4	847.8
Use of pesticides	283.8	251.5	13.1	548.4
Other	429.1	263.2	24.1	716.4
No concerns	2 519.5	1 547.8	83.5	4 150.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 176.6</b>	<b>4 657.0</b>	<b>303.1</b>	<b>13 136.6</b>
PROPORTION (%)				
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	23.1	23.7	32.7	23.6
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	8.7	9.5	13.3	9.1
Air pollution	35.1	23.8	26.8	30.9
Ocean pollution	25.5	20.9	23.0	23.8
Freshwater pollution	23.9	23.2	25.9	23.7
Other pollution	9.2	8.1	8.6	8.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	14.3	13.4	12.3	14.0
Toxic/chemical waste	8.5	8.9	8.1	8.6
Ozone layer	11.1	10.4	12.0	10.9
Greenhouse effect	7.1	4.9	9.1	6.3
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	6.2	10.0	12.8	7.7
Sand mining	1.3	1.4	**1.1	1.3
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	5.0	4.9	8.9	5.1
Nuclear testing/weapons	7.1	8.5	8.6	7.6
Urban development/overpopulation	5.9	5.7	8.4	5.9
Conservation of resources	6.3	6.4	10.4	6.5
Use of pesticides	3.5	5.4	4.3	4.2
Other	5.2	5.7	7.9	5.5
No concerns	30.8	33.2	27.6	31.6

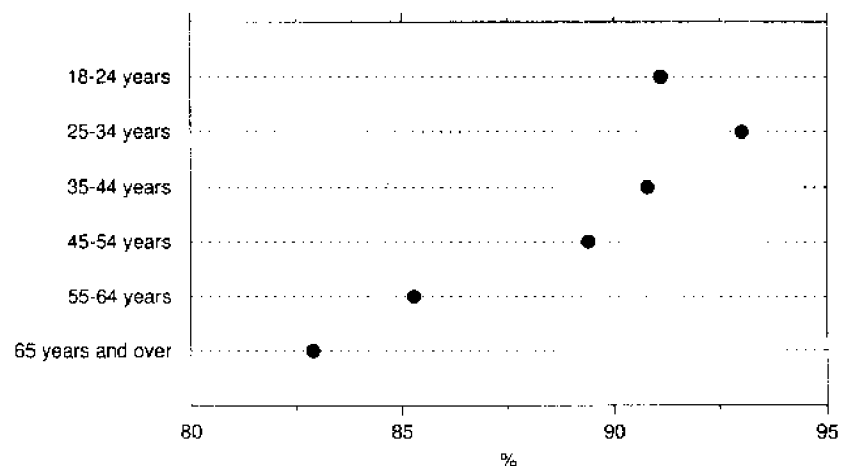
The survey revealed that older people were less concerned about environmental problems than their younger counterparts. A high percentage of those under the age of 44 years indicated that they were concerned about the environment (73%). There was little difference between males and females in terms of environmental concern.

## 1.12 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—April 1996

## AGE GROUP (YEARS).....

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>MALES</b>							
Yes	70.3	73.9	73.1	68.7	63.0	52.0	68.0
No	28.4	24.9	25.9	30.0	35.9	46.1	30.7
Don't know	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.9	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Yes	75.1	70.3	73.2	73.2	65.4	53.6	68.8
No	22.3	27.2	24.8	25.5	31.8	43.6	28.9
Don't know	2.7	2.4	2.0	1.3	2.8	2.8	2.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Yes	72.7	72.1	73.2	70.9	64.2	52.9	68.4
No	25.4	26.1	25.4	27.8	33.9	44.7	29.8
Don't know	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.9	2.4	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## 1.13 NOT CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS



People in the younger age groups generally had a greater concern for the environmental issues surveyed than those in the older age groups. Concern for the ozone layer was highest for those people in the 18–24 age group (17%). This was also the case for the greenhouse effect (10%). People in the 65 years and over age group consistently expressed lower proportions who were concerned for most environmental topics. This group comprised 47% who had no environmental concerns. This compared with only 27% of 18–24 year olds who stated they had no environmental concerns.

**1.14 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—April 1996**

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....						Total
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	28.8	26.3	23.6	24.5	20.7	15.9	23.6
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	11.9	11.2	8.9	8.7	7.8	5.1	9.1
Air pollution	31.3	32.3	35.1	34.0	27.7	21.6	30.9
Ocean pollution	29.1	27.6	28.4	23.6	17.7	11.8	23.8
Freshwater pollution	23.9	25.8	27.6	25.2	21.9	14.8	23.7
Other pollution	10.6	8.2	10.3	9.7	8.3	5.1	8.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	14.3	16.4	16.1	13.9	11.1	9.5	14.0
Toxic/chemical waste	8.9	9.1	10.7	10.2	6.1	4.9	8.6
Ozone layer	17.2	13.9	11.8	9.9	5.6	4.4	10.9
Greenhouse effect	10.0	7.7	6.9	5.9	4.1	2.3	6.3
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	5.5	8.0	9.3	9.9	7.0	5.3	7.7
Sand mining	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.3
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	6.4	5.5	5.5	4.8	4.4	3.3	5.1
Nuclear testing/weapons	10.4	8.8	9.0	7.2	5.3	3.6	7.6
Urban development/overpopulation	4.9	5.8	6.4	7.2	5.9	4.9	5.9
Conservation of resources	5.8	8.3	7.3	6.9	5.9	3.3	6.5
Use of pesticides	2.9	3.8	4.6	5.9	3.6	3.8	4.2
Other	3.5	4.6	6.1	6.7	6.5	5.5	5.5
No concerns	27.3	27.9	26.8	29.1	35.8	47.1	31.6

A greater proportion of females than males were concerned about most topics examined in the survey. The exceptions being ocean pollution, freshwater pollution, other pollution and land degradation.

**1.15 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—April 1996**

	Males	Females	Total
	%	%	%
Destruction of trees/ecosystems/deforestation	23.3	23.8	23.6
Destruction of animals/wildlife/extinction of species	7.8	10.3	9.1
Air pollution	28.9	32.8	30.9
Ocean pollution	24.1	23.5	23.8
Freshwater pollution	24.2	23.2	23.7
Other pollution	9.1	8.6	8.8
Garbage/rubbish disposal	11.3	16.6	14.0
Toxic/chemical waste	8.2	9.0	8.6
Ozone layer	9.2	12.5	10.9
Greenhouse effect	5.9	6.8	6.3
Soil erosion/salinity/land degradation	8.7	6.7	7.7
Sand mining	1.3	1.3	1.3
Uranium mining/use/radioactive materials	5.0	5.1	5.1
Nuclear testing/weapons	7.1	8.1	7.6
Urban development/overpopulation	6.1	5.7	5.9
Conservation of resources	6.3	6.6	6.5
Use of pesticides	3.7	4.6	4.2
Other	5.4	5.5	5.5
No concerns	32.0	31.2	31.6



Generally, people who were managers/administrators, professionals and para-professionals showed a greater concern about environmental problems than trade and manual occupations.

### 1.16 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—April 1996

	Managers/ administrators	Professionals	Para- professionals	Trades- persons	Clerks	Sales/ personal service workers	Plant/ machine operators/ drivers	Labourers/ related workers	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	74.0	85.2	78.0	71.1	72.5	70.4	65.2	64.6	68.4
No	25.5	14.6	21.8	28.2	25.8	27.5	32.9	33.5	29.8
Don't know	**0.5	**0.2	**0.2	0.7	1.7	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Generally, those with a higher level of qualification showed a greater concern about environmental problems than those with basic or no qualifications, a finding reflected in table 1.4 which examines people's priority regarding environmental protection and economic growth. There has been a marginal drop (around 2%) in those with higher qualifications who expressed concern about environmental problems compared with 1992.

### 1.17 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—April 1996

	Higher degree	Postgraduate diploma	Bachelor degree	Under- graduate diploma	Associate diploma	Skilled vocational qualifications	Basic vocational qualifications	No qualifications	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	89.2	91.9	84.6	82.6	77.8	70.1	75.2	73.4	68.4
No	10.7	8.1	14.3	17.1	21.3	29.2	24.2	25.6	29.8
Don't know	**0.1	**	1.1	**0.3	**0.9	0.7	**0.6	**0.9	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Generally, the higher the income of the respondent, the more they indicated they were concerned about environmental problems.

## 1.18 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160–299	\$300–499	\$500–699	\$700–999	\$1 000– 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	59.0	58.9	66.0	67.8	70.8	75.6	79.0	63.7	68.4
No	38.3	39.4	31.8	30.8	27.7	23.2	20.6	31.6	29.8
Don't know	2.8	1.7	2.2	1.4	1.5	1.2	**0.4	4.7	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL/ECONOMIC CONCERNS

In April 1996, Australians indicated that the main social issues of importance to them were crime (26%), health (23%), education (15%), unemployment (14%) and environmental problems (9%). Concern for crime was highest in Western Australia and lowest in the Australian Capital Territory. This was in contrast to concern for environmental problems where the largest percentage of people was observed in the Australian Capital Territory.

## 1.19 MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUES—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Crime	1 200.8	630.7	691.7	241.4	491.0	90.4	25.7	37.8	3 409.5
Defence	18.2	18.7	21.4	10.6	9.3	**1.9	**0.4	**2.9	83.2
Education	637.6	514.0	339.2	165.6	158.6	43.3	17.0	34.8	1 910.1
Environmental problems	396.9	311.2	178.0	109.5	116.5	25.8	**5.4	22.0	1 165.4
Health	1 062.6	858.1	444.9	274.4	202.9	77.6	17.1	40.2	2 977.8
Immigration	144.2	70.9	57.3	12.0	30.8	**2.6	**0.3	**5	323.1
Interest rates	162.2	161.3	139.0	35.9	52.1	13.3	**5	12.1	581.0
Poverty	148.3	149.7	77.2	36.0	46.4	15.0	**3	12.7	488.4
Trade balance	48.2	43.4	37.5	15.1	13.6	**1.9	**1.8	**4.4	165.9
Unemployment	589.3	504.0	352.0	172.4	113.1	61.2	10.7	39.9	1 842.6
Other	68.7	41.4	35.6	17.1	15.4	**6.5	**3.5	**1.6	189.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 477.1</b>	<b>3 303.3</b>	<b>2 373.7</b>	<b>1 090.1</b>	<b>1 249.8</b>	<b>339.6</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>213.4</b>	<b>13 136.6</b>
PROPORTION (%)									
Crime	26.8	19.1	29.1	22.1	39.3	26.6	28.7	17.7	26.0
Defence	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.7	**0.6	**0.4	**1.3	0.6
Education	14.2	15.6	14.3	15.2	12.7	12.7	18.9	16.3	14.5
Environmental problems	8.9	9.4	7.5	10.0	9.3	7.6	**6	10.3	8.9
Health	23.7	26.0	18.7	25.2	16.2	22.9	19.0	18.9	22.7
Immigration	3.2	2.1	2.4	1.1	2.5	**0.8	**0.3	**2.3	2.5
Interest rates	3.6	4.9	5.9	3.3	4.2	3.9	**5.5	5.7	4.4
Poverty	3.3	4.5	3.3	3.3	3.7	4.4	**3.3	6.0	3.7
Trade balance	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.1	**0.6	**2	**2.1	1.3
Unemployment	13.2	15.3	14.8	15.8	9.1	18.0	11.9	18.7	14.0
Other	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.2	**1.9	**3.9	**0.7	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Crime rated highly in all age groups, while education was higher in the younger age groups. Not unexpectedly, health was of greater concern to those in the older age

groups, interest rates to those aged 25–34 years, and unemployment for those aged 18–24 years.

## 1.20 MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUES—April 1996

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....						
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES							
Crime	20.8	27.1	25.0	27.4	29.1	26.4	25.9
Defence	1.6	0.8	**0.3	1.1	**1.0	1.5	1.0
Education	16.6	12.6	17.7	11.2	7.6	5.5	12.4
Environmental problems	12.7	12.3	10.3	7.8	6.4	6.6	9.7
Health	11.2	12.6	12.8	19.4	28.9	38.9	19.2
Immigration	4.0	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.0	3.0	2.9
Interest rates	4.2	10.0	6.5	5.7	3.0	2.2	5.8
Poverty	2.1	3.4	4.0	3.8	3.8	2.9	3.4
Trade balance	1.6	2.5	2.0	2.5	1.6	1.0	2.0
Unemployment	24.9	13.9	15.8	16.9	15.3	9.1	16.0
Other	**0.5	1.5	2.6	1.6	1.2	3.0	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES							
Crime	23.4	25.7	23.8	25.8	30.4	28.6	26.0
Defence	**0.8	**0.1	**0.1	**0.1	**0.4	**0.6	0.3
Education	16.7	21.9	25.3	14.4	7.7	6.8	16.6
Environmental problems	12.8	9.4	8.1	7.4	5.8	4.6	8.1
Health	17.4	21.1	18.8	25.6	34.9	43.8	26.1
Immigration	2.6	1.2	1.6	2.9	1.7	2.4	2.0
Interest rates	2.5	4.8	3.8	3.3	2.1	1.1	3.1
Poverty	3.7	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.8	2.8	4.0
Trade balance	**0.3	**0.4	**0.5	0.7	**1.0	**0.7	0.6
Unemployment	19.3	9.8	12.3	14.3	10.3	7.9	12.1
Other	**0.7	1.1	1.6	1.1	**0.8	0.8	1.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS							
Crime	22.1	26.4	24.4	26.6	29.7	27.6	26.0
Defence	1.2	0.4	**0.2	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.6
Education	16.6	17.3	21.5	12.8	7.7	6.2	14.5
Environmental problems	12.7	10.8	9.2	7.6	6.1	5.5	8.9
Health	14.2	16.9	15.9	22.5	31.9	41.6	22.7
Immigration	3.3	2.2	2.2	2.7	1.8	2.6	2.5
Interest rates	3.4	7.4	5.1	4.5	2.6	1.6	4.4
Poverty	2.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	2.8	3.7
Trade balance	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.7	1.3	0.9	1.3
Unemployment	22.1	11.8	14.1	15.6	12.8	8.4	14.0
Other	0.6	1.3	2.1	1.4	1.0	1.8	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Health was higher amongst people with lower household incomes (i.e. incomes less than \$499 per week), with crime and education higher for those with incomes above \$500 per week.

## 1.21 MOST IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUES—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160-299	\$300-499	\$500-699	\$700-999	\$1 000- 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Crime	23.3	26.5	23.2	27.2	27.5	26.2	23.4	29.1	26.0
Defence	**1.4	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.9	**0.6	0.6
Education	10.7	9.3	13.9	16.3	17.5	15.8	17.2	11.8	14.5
Environmental problems	7.7	6.1	8.2	7.9	8.8	11.2	11.3	10.1	8.9
Health	32.6	34.5	26.7	19.5	18.6	18.1	15.6	20.9	22.7
Immigration	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.1	2.1	3.2	2.6	2.5
Interest rates	**1.7	1.2	3.3	4.8	5.2	6.6	6.2	5.0	4.4
Poverty	4.6	5.4	3.7	4.3	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.7
Trade balance	**0.3	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.5	2.4	2.1	1.3
Unemployment	12.9	11.8	15.6	14.8	14.3	13.8	15.3	12.0	14.0
Other	2.5	1.6	1.8	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.3	2.9	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## PERCEIVED QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

People indicated they believed that the quality of the environment had declined in the last 10 years (44%). This was followed by those who thought it had stayed much the same 26%. Around 23% believed that the environment had improved. Western Australians recorded the highest rate of those who thought the environment had declined (50%), whereas Tasmanians rated highest for those who thought the environment had improved (30%).

## 1.22 QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE LAST 10 YEARS—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Declined	1 941.3	1 378.6	1 072.2	509.6	618.7	130.3	37.3	100.6	5 788.6
Improved	1 060.7	805.1	540.0	233.9	226.3	102.1	19.6	50.8	3 038.4
Stayed much the same	1 144.7	910.0	615.4	288.0	321.4	95.3	27.6	55.3	3 457.8
Don't know	330.4	209.6	146.1	58.6	83.3	11.9	**5.2	**6.7	851.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 477.1</b>	<b>3 303.3</b>	<b>2 373.7</b>	<b>1 090.1</b>	<b>1 249.8</b>	<b>339.6</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>213.4</b>	<b>13 136.6</b>
PROPORTION (%)									
Declined	43.4	41.7	45.2	46.7	49.5	38.4	41.6	47.1	44.1
Improved	23.7	24.4	22.7	21.5	18.1	30.1	21.8	23.8	23.1
Stayed much the same	25.6	27.5	25.9	26.4	25.7	28.1	30.8	25.9	26.3
Don't know	7.4	6.3	6.2	5.4	6.7	3.5	**5.8	**3.1	6.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

More females than males thought that they had observed a decline in the quality of the environment (45% against 43%). A higher proportion of people in younger age groups than older age groups believed that the environment had declined in the last 10 years.

### 1.23 QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE LAST 10 YEARS—April 1996

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....						
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES							
Declined	46.3	43.3	44.8	44.2	38.7	36.8	42.8
Improved	15.4	22.2	21.8	24.9	30.0	24.7	22.9
Stayed much the same	29.0	27.7	27.9	25.9	26.8	31.9	28.1
Don't know	9.3	6.7	5.5	5.1	4.5	6.6	6.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES							
Declined	50.4	46.6	43.7	47.4	43.8	40.1	45.3
Improved	17.1	22.2	25.3	25.8	26.6	23.3	23.4
Stayed much the same	24.8	23.0	24.6	22.5	23.7	29.3	24.6
Don't know	7.7	8.1	6.5	4.3	5.8	7.4	6.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS							
Declined	48.3	45.0	44.2	45.8	41.3	38.6	44.1
Improved	16.2	22.2	23.6	25.3	28.3	23.9	23.1
Stayed much the same	26.9	25.4	26.2	24.2	25.3	30.5	26.3
Don't know	8.5	7.4	6.0	4.7	5.2	7.0	6.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## CHAPTER 2

## HOUSEHOLD WASTE MANAGEMENT .....

### MAIN FINDINGS

- In March 1996 paper was the item most recycled by Australian households (75%), closely followed by glass (73%) and plastic and old clothing/rags (67%).
- Compared with a similar ABS survey in 1992, recycling rates by households for all the items in the survey have risen. For example, paper recycling rose from 55% to 75%.
- The main method used to collect the bulk of recycled material in Australia is collection services from dwellings, with 80% of households using this service for paper and cans, 82% for glass recycling, and 78% for plastic recycling.
- Of those households who gave a reason for not recycling all the items surveyed, the main reasons were a lack of recyclable materials (51%), no services or facilities being available (23%), and lack of interest by the household (14%).
- At the Australian level 91% of households recycle some form of non-hazardous waste, yet only 31% of Australians know of services that are available to specifically dispose of hazardous waste.
- In Australia, the principal method of disposing of hazardous waste from households is via the usual garbage collection from the dwelling (with 62%).

## RECYCLING

In March 1996 paper was the item most recycled by Australian households (75%), closely followed by glass (73%) and plastic and old clothing/rags (67%). Paper recycling was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (98% of households) and lowest in the Northern Territory (39%). Around 9% of households did not recycle any of the items examined in the survey, with the Northern Territory having the highest proportion of such households (20%) and the Australian Capital Territory the lowest (1%). Around 6% of households recycled all of the items surveyed.

Compared with a similar ABS survey in 1992, recycling rates by households for all the items in the survey have risen. Paper recycling has risen from 55% in 1992 to 75% in 1996, plastic recycling rose from 37% in 1992 to 67% in 1996, while the recycling of old clothing/rags has risen marginally to 67% from 63% in 1992. The proportion of households where there is no recycling activity fell from 15% in 1992 to 9% in 1996, with large decreases in the Australian Capital Territory (12% in 1992 to 1% in 1996), Queensland (18% to 8%), Tasmania (19% to 10%), and South Australia (16% to 8%).

## 2.1 ITEMS RECYCLED—March 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 1996									
Number ('000)									
Paper	1 740.2	1 274.1	877.4	405.6	435.7	114.6	17.8	102.8	4 968.3
Glass	1 647.8	1 242.7	945.1	432.4	389.5	124.2	13.8	100.7	4 896.1
Cans	1 273.0	1 024.9	863.0	407.2	374.1	96.8	11.9	92.5	4 143.5
Plastic	1 416.9	1 123.5	931.7	394.8	355.9	114.1	18.2	97.7	4 452.8
Kitchen/food waste	913.5	777.7	570.9	272.4	267.3	101.4	19.9	67.6	2 990.6
Garden waste	1 070.4	869.8	662.6	299.5	287.2	100.0	23.5	73.8	3 387.0
Old clothing/rags	1 475.4	1 118.1	828.7	367.7	419.5	121.2	27.7	80.6	4 438.8
No recycling	225.4	144.1	97.2	47.4	81.0	18.2	9.3	**1.0	623.5
All items recycled	136.7	95.1	85.8	28.7	37.9	9.3	**0.4	16.5	410.4
Total	2 227.3	1 658.1	1 229.9	577.5	643.4	181.7	45.6	104.5	6 667.9
Proportion (%)									
Paper	78.1	76.8	71.3	70.2	67.7	63.1	39.1	98.4	74.5
Glass	74.0	74.9	76.8	74.9	60.5	68.3	30.4	96.4	73.4
Cans	57.2	61.8	70.2	70.5	58.2	53.3	26.2	88.5	62.1
Plastic	63.6	67.8	75.8	68.4	55.3	62.8	39.9	93.5	66.8
Kitchen/food waste	41.0	46.9	46.4	47.2	41.5	55.8	43.7	64.7	44.9
Garden waste	48.1	52.5	53.9	51.9	44.6	55.0	51.6	70.6	50.8
Old clothing/rags	66.2	67.4	67.4	63.7	65.2	66.7	60.8	77.1	66.6
No recycling	10.1	8.7	7.9	8.2	12.6	10.0	20.4	**1.0	9.4
All items recycled	6.1	5.7	7.0	5.0	5.9	5.1	**0.8	15.8	6.2
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Paper	57.5	67.1	37.2	43.4	59.5	38.4	26.7	64.0	54.7
Glass	51.3	70.0	43.3	56.1	56.9	47.2	15.0	55.6	55.3
Cans	39.5	53.7	34.3	52.4	54.2	26.0	20.8	28.7	44.1
Plastic	33.6	47.9	34.6	33.4	35.1	30.2	14.3	33.2	37.3
Kitchen/food waste	30.1	40.6	34.2	39.5	36.7	46.4	37.4	41.2	35.6
Garden waste	41.3	52.1	51.1	47.9	45.7	53.6	49.5	52.9	47.3
Old clothing/rags	58.9	66.8	62.9	62.9	69.3	63.7	52.3	73.7	63.3
No recycling	17.6	10.5	18.1	16.0	12.7	19.0	27.6	12.1	15.3

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one item may be specified.

The main method used to collect recycled material in Australia is collection services from dwellings, with 80% of households using this service for paper and cans, 82% for glass recycling, and 78% for plastic recycling. Garden waste and kitchen/food waste was primarily used to make compost or mulch (with 83% of households composting garden waste and 78% of households composting kitchen and food waste). Paper, glass, cans and plastic collection from dwellings was highest in the Australian Capital Territory.

## 2.2 HOUSEHOLDS WHO RECYCLE, Items Recycled by Method—March 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
<b>PAPER ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	201.3	106.8	86.7	45.6	59.7	15.8	**3.1	11.2	530.2
Collection from house	1 435.2	1 070.6	661.0	312.4	337.9	61.8	**1.2	100.4	3 980.6
Special areas at dump	31.2	37.9	29.8	**6.8	**7.1	12.1	**0.7	**5.1	130.8
Other	208.8	184.3	201.4	89.5	76.3	40.7	**16.3	**14	831.2
Total	1 740.2	1 274.1	877.4	405.6	435.7	114.6	17.8	102.8	4 968.3
<b>GLASS ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	198.5	68.8	70.9	128.9	52.4	23.6	**6.7	**6.6	556.5
Collection from house	1 352.2	1 097.1	793.4	279.7	306.5	72.5	**0.8	97.7	3 999.9
Special areas at dump	44.7	35.2	34.1	**5.3	**6.2	19.5	**1.8	**2.6	149.5
Other	153.8	133.0	135.5	67.6	55.6	20.6	**5.5	**8.3	579.7
Total	1 647.8	1 242.7	945.1	432.4	389.5	124.2	13.8	100.7	4 896.1
<b>CANS ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	200.4	120.1	76.6	176.3	94.8	16.5	8.6	**4.6	697.9
Collection from house	1 031.7	877.0	752.9	228.6	271.4	66.4	**1.5	89.7	3 319.2
Special areas at dump	25.0	20.4	23.2	**4.5	**5.7	14.2	**0.8	**1.3	95.0
Other	36.0	27.1	32.8	14.6	12.9	**2.1	**1.3	**1.5	128.2
Total	1 273.0	1 024.9	863.0	407.2	374.1	96.8	11.9	92.5	4 143.5
<b>PLASTIC ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	138.6	57.8	56.0	87.1	32.5	14.5	**3.9	**6.9	397.2
Collection from house	1 089.7	945.5	759.1	250.6	248.9	70.2	**0.8	92.1	3 456.8
Special areas at dump	29.7	22.2	17.8	**5.2	**4.8	14.7	**0.7	**1.5	96.6
Other	302.5	214.7	222.9	101.9	109.5	23.3	15.1	22.3	1 012.2
Total	1 416.9	1 123.5	931.7	394.8	355.9	114.1	18.2	97.7	4 452.8
<b>KITCHEN/FOOD WASTE ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	**7.8	**6.1	**1.4	**1.0	**0.6	**1.0	**0.2	**0.4	18.5
Collection from house	58.2	44.5	23.2	10.7	**7.2	**2.7	**0.2	**7.3	153.9
Special areas at dump	**4.0	**2.8	**0.4	**0.4	**1.0	**0.9	**0.3	**	9.6
Other	879.0	765.5	578.3	275.8	268.2	101.9	21.0	63.7	2 953.4
Total	913.5	777.7	570.9	272.4	267.3	101.4	19.9	67.6	2 990.6
<b>GARDEN WASTE ('000)</b>									
Central collection points	12.0	16.9	**4.2	**5.9	**4.2	**1.4	**0.4	**1.8	47.0
Collection from house	105.7	89.0	22.7	40.1	25.2	**3.9	**	**7.4	293.9
Special areas at dump	42.4	39.1	25.7	9.1	15.2	**6.7	**2.5	14.8	155.6
Other	966.2	768.8	637.7	265.7	255.8	94.1	20.9	60.8	3 070.0
Total	1 070.4	869.8	662.6	299.5	287.2	100.0	23.5	73.8	3 387.0



2.2 HOUSEHOLDS WHO RECYCLE, Items Recycled by Method—March 1996 *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
OLD CLOTHING/RAGS ('000)									
Central collection points	1 155.8	811.8	570.4	248.4	301.1	78.8	17.9	66.2	3 250.5
Collection from house	91.8	146.0	33.1	**5.3	27.5	13.2	**0.4	**0.9	318.2
Special areas at dump	**3.4	**2.7	**0.9	**0.7	**0.6	**1.3	**	**	9.6
Other	449.7	328.4	380.4	173.1	150.0	46.0	15.5	25.4	1 568.5
Total	1 475.4	1 118.1	828.7	367.7	419.5	121.2	27.7	80.6	4 438.8
PAPER (%)									
Central collection points	11.6	8.4	9.9	11.2	13.7	13.7	**17.4	10.9	10.7
Collection from house	82.5	84.0	75.3	77.0	77.6	53.9	**7.0	97.6	80.1
Special areas at dump	1.8	3.0	3.4	**1.7	**1.6	10.6	**4.0	**4.9	2.6
Other	11.9	14.4	23.0	22.0	17.6	35.5	**91.4	**13.6	16.7
GLASS (%)									
Central collection points	12.0	5.5	7.5	29.8	13.4	19.0	**48.6	**6.6	11.4
Collection from house	82.1	88.3	83.9	64.7	78.7	58.4	**5.5	97.1	81.7
Special areas at dump	2.7	2.8	3.6	**1.2	**1.6	15.7	**12.9	**2.6	3.1
Other	9.2	10.8	14.4	15.6	14.3	16.5	**39.9	**8.2	11.8
CANS (%)									
Central collection points	15.7	11.7	8.9	43.3	25.3	17.1	72.0	**5.0	16.8
Collection from house	81.0	85.6	87.2	56.1	72.5	68.6	**12.9	96.9	80.1
Special areas at dump	2.0	2.0	2.7	**1.1	**1.5	14.7	**6.4	**1.5	2.3
Other	2.9	2.6	3.8	3.7	3.4	2.1	**10.2	**1.6	3.1
PLASTIC (%)									
Central collection points	9.8	5.1	6.0	22.1	9.1	12.7	**21.3	**7.1	8.9
Collection from house	76.9	84.2	81.5	63.5	69.9	61.5	**4.2	94.2	77.6
Special areas at dump	2.1	2.0	1.9	**1.3	**1.3	12.9	**4.0	**1.6	2.2
Other	21.4	19.1	23.9	25.8	30.8	20.3	82.7	22.9	22.8
KITCHEN/FOOD WASTE (%)									
Central collection points	**0.9	**0.8	**0.2	**0.4	**0.2	**1.0	**0.9	**0.6	0.6
Collection from house	6.4	5.7	4.1	3.9	**2.7	**2.7	**0.9	**10.8	5.1
Special areas at dump	**0.4	**0.4	**0.1	**0.1	**0.4	**0.9	**1.3	**	0.3
Other	96.2	98.4	101.3	101.2	100.4	100.4	105.5	94.3	98.7
GARDEN WASTE (%)									
Central collection points	1.1	1.9	**0.6	**2.0	**1.5	**1.4	**1.7	**2.5	1.4
Collection from house	9.9	10.2	3.4	13.4	8.8	**3.9	**	**10.0	8.7
Special areas at dump	4.0	4.5	3.9	3.1	5.3	**6.7	**10.8	20.1	4.6
Other	90.2	88.4	96.3	88.8	89.1	94.1	89.2	82.4	90.5
OLD CLOTHING/RAGS (%)									
Central collection points	78.3	72.6	68.8	67.6	71.8	65.0	64.8	82.2	73.2
Collection from house	6.2	13.1	4.0	**1.4	6.6	10.9	**1.3	**1.2	7.2
Special areas at dump	**0.2	**0.2	**0.1	**0.2	**0.1	**1.1	**	**	0.2
Other	30.5	29.4	45.9	47.1	35.8	37.9	55.7	31.4	35.3

Collection from the dwelling was the main method used by households to recycle the items surveyed (76%), followed by central collection points (63%) and composting and mulching of waste (54%). Special areas located at dumps were the least used method (with 8% of households). Dwelling collection was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (97%) and lowest in the Northern Territory (9%). Households in South Australia made the greatest use of central collection points (69%) and Queensland the least (58%). The Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania reported the highest use of special areas at dumps (28% and 21% respectively) while Western Australia and South Australia were the lowest (6% and 5% respectively).

## 2.3 HOUSEHOLDS WHO RECYCLE, Recycling Method—March 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
<b>MARCH 1996</b>									
Number ('000)									
Central collection points	1 302.5	913.3	654.0	366.8	360.3	96.5	22.8	68.8	3 785.1
Collection from house	1 524.8	1 277.3	872.8	356.1	384.8	90.5	**3.1	100.8	4 610.2
Special areas at dump	145.9	126.7	104.8	28.1	35.5	34.5	**5.6	29.1	510.2
Compost/mulch	994.9	831.5	656.0	280.3	284.6	101.3	25.1	67.9	3 241.5
Re-use within the household	719.0	530.4	556.0	246.0	237.1	76.1	25.0	42.7	2 432.2
Other	215.6	195.3	141.3	81.3	86.2	24.6	**4.6	**7.0	755.9
Total	2 001.9	1 514.0	1 132.7	530.1	562.4	163.5	36.3	103.5	6 044.4
Proportion (%)									
Central collection points	65.1	60.3	57.7	69.2	64.1	59.0	62.8	66.5	62.6
Collection from house	76.2	84.4	77.1	67.2	68.4	55.3	**8.6	97.4	76.3
Special areas at dump	7.3	8.4	9.3	5.3	6.3	21.1	**15.4	28.1	8.4
Compost/mulch	49.7	54.9	57.9	52.9	50.6	61.9	69.1	65.6	53.6
Re-use within the household	35.9	35.0	49.1	46.4	42.2	46.5	68.9	41.3	40.2
Other	10.8	12.9	12.5	15.3	15.3	15.0	**12.7	**6.7	12.5
<b>MAY 1992</b>									
Proportion (%)									
Central collection points	50.2	47.4	52.7	65.2	60.5	51.9	39.8	69.8	52.5
Collection from house	52.3	70.8	29.8	33.0	47.2	17.9	10.0	37.5	49.4
Special areas at dump	7.4	9.8	11.5	6.5	9.3	22.0	7.8	39.6	9.7
Compost/mulch	38.5	49.1	49.6	46.3	42.6	53.3	49.1	50.9	44.9
Re-use within the household	35.2	43.0	45.7	46.2	48.9	50.3	41.6	49.5	41.9
Other	2.5	2.0	3.0	3.4	4.6	2.3	**2.9	4.1	2.8

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

Of those households who gave a reason for not recycling all the items surveyed, the main reasons were a lack of recyclable materials (51%), no services or facilities being available (23%), and lack of interest by the household (14%). Distance to available facilities was reported as the least reason for not recycling more materials (1.4%). The Australian Capital Territory rated highest for households who considered they did not have enough recyclable material (65%), and lowest for having no services or facilities available (3%), with the Northern Territory the lowest for insufficient material (36%) and highest for a lack of services or facilities (with 40%).

When compared to the 1992 ABS survey, the proportion of households stating that they do not have enough recyclable materials rose substantially from 19.5% in 1992 to 51% in 1996. Households who believe that there are no services or facilities provided to them have also increased from 17% in 1992 to 23% in 1996. Those households who indicated

they were not interested in recycling any or more of the items surveyed increased from 8.7% in 1992 to 13.5% in 1996.

## 2.4 HOUSEHOLDS NOT FULLY RECYCLING. Reasons for Not Recycling—March 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
<b>MARCH 1996</b>									
Number ('000)									
No storage area	126.2	61.0	51.4	20.4	21.8	**4.6	**0.7	**4.5	290.5
Not enough recyclable materials	606.4	467.6	239.4	142.4	163.0	43.0	9.0	30.4	1 701.1
No services/facilities	252.4	145.2	185.1	40.9	109.0	22.2	10.1	**1.3	766.1
Inadequate services/facilities	81.4	47.7	41.3	13.2	36.2	**7.5	**2.9	**1.1	231.5
Uncertain of services/facilities	51.2	63.3	23.8	13.9	13.6	**6.2	**1.6	**1.1	174.7
Other	220.7	210.1	130.0	96.2	97.2	22.7	**7.7	**14.6	799.4
Total	1 100.8	848.8	564.8	285.4	373.0	88.5	25.3	47.1	3 333.8
Proportion (%)									
No storage area	11.5	7.2	9.1	7.1	5.8	**5.2	**2.7	**9.5	8.7
Not enough recyclable materials	55.1	55.1	42.4	49.9	43.7	48.6	35.5	64.5	51.0
No services/facilities	22.9	17.1	32.8	14.3	29.2	25.1	39.8	**2.7	23.0
Inadequate services/facilities	7.4	5.6	7.3	4.6	9.7	**8.5	**11.4	**2.4	6.9
Uncertain of services/facilities	4.7	7.5	4.2	4.9	3.6	**7.0	**6.5	**2.3	5.2
Other	20.1	24.8	23.0	33.7	26.1	25.6	**30.8	**31	24.0
<b>MAY 1992</b>									
Proportion (%)									
No storage area	5.4	3.2	3.0	4.3	2.4	4.6	**4.4	**3.6	4.0
Not enough recyclable materials	21.2	23.7	14.0	13.4	17.6	12.2	15.9	36.6	19.5
No services/facilities	15.0	11.3	28.5	14.7	17.5	18.8	21.7	**2.8	16.6
Inadequate services/facilities	10.1	5.9	9.1	7.4	12.9	9.4	**5.3	**4.8	8.7
Uncertain of services/facilities	4.4	4.7	3.6	4.5	3.6	**3.1	**3.6	**6.4	4.3
Other	15.6	12.0	14.2	16.4	18.5	20.3	16.9	26.1	15.0

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

One person households reported lower rates of recycling for all the items surveyed when compared with households consisting of couples with dependent child(ren). Couple with dependent child(ren) households also recorded the lowest rate of households which did not engage in any recycling activity (5%), while one person households rated highest (with 16%). The couple with dependent child(ren) household type also recorded the highest rates for recycling cans, plastic, kitchen/food waste and old clothing/rags.

## 2.5 ITEMS RECYCLED—March 1996(a)

	One person	Couple only	Households with members over 15	Couple, dependent child(ren)	One parent, dependent child(ren)	All other households	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Paper	68.8	76.9	77.6	77.6	68.2	72.1	74.5
Glass	65.6	77.1	77.9	77.4	67.4	68.8	73.4
Cans	50.8	65.3	66.9	68.6	58.0	58.6	62.1
Plastic	55.8	68.9	69.4	73.9	65.6	65.0	66.8
Kitchen/food waste	32.1	51.2	48.3	52.0	40.6	37.1	44.9
Garden waste	34.7	60.4	56.2	58.9	41.0	40.1	50.8
Old clothing/rags	51.5	70.4	70.4	77.0	70.4	57.9	66.6
No recycling	16.3	6.3	8.3	5.4	11.6	11.6	9.4
All items recycled	2.1	7.5	8.2	8.6	3.3	4.3	6.2

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one item may be specified.

Couple with dependent child(ren) had the highest proportion for re-using recyclable materials within their household (47%), use of central collection points (69%), and special areas at the dump (11%). One person households were the lowest for re-using materials within the household (32%), use of central collection points (53%) and compost and mulching (42%).

## 2.6 HOUSEHOLDS WHO RECYCLE, Recycling Method—March 1996(a)

	One person	Couple only	Households with members over 15	Couple, dependent child(ren)	One parent, dependent child(ren)	All other households	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Central collection points	52.9	64.5	66.6	68.8	65.6	55.1	62.6
Collection from house	77.7	75.3	79.5	74.8	72.3	76.8	76.3
Special areas at dump	5.0	9.2	9.7	10.9	5.7	6.3	8.4
Compost/mulch	41.7	60.2	57.7	59.1	46.3	44.9	53.6
Re-use within household	31.6	41.3	38.0	46.7	45.4	39.3	40.2
Other	11.5	12.8	11.3	14.6	11.4	10.6	12.5

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

For households not fully recycling, one person households rated highest for not having sufficient recyclable materials (63%), with couple with dependent child(ren) households the lowest (with 43%). Both couple only and couple with dependent child(ren) household types were highest for there being no services or facilities provided for recycling (both recording 25.5%).

## 2.7 HOUSEHOLDS NOT FULLY RECYCLING, Reasons Do Not Recycle—March 1996(a)

	One person	Couple only	Households with members over 15	Couple, dependent child(ren)	One parent, dependent child(ren)	All other households	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No storage area	9.9	7.5	7.0	7.8	11.0	11.6	8.7
Not enough recyclable materials	63.4	51.8	48.6	42.7	44.7	45.3	51.0
No services/facilities	19.6	25.5	20.8	25.5	21.3	22.5	23.0
Inadequate services/facilities	4.6	7.1	7.9	8.4	6.4	7.9	6.9
Uncertain of services/facilities	4.4	5.1	3.3	5.8	6.5	7.8	5.2
Other	20.2	20.8	29.4	26.8	27.4	26.1	24.0

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

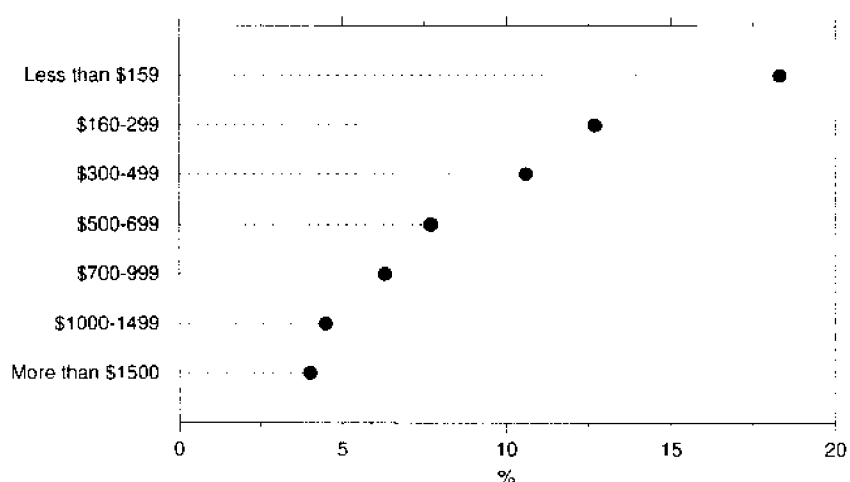
Generally, households with higher incomes recycled more of the items surveyed. Around 84% of households with incomes greater than \$1,500 per week recycled paper compared with 65% of households with incomes of less than \$159 per week. Similarly, 71% of households with incomes of more than \$1,500 per week recycled cans compared with 49% of households with incomes less than \$159 per week. Around 4% of households with incomes of more than \$1,500 per week engaged in no recycling activity compared with 18% of households with incomes of less than \$159 per week.

## 2.8 ITEMS RECYCLED—March 1996(a)

	Less than \$159	\$160-299	\$300-499	\$500-699	\$700-999	\$1 000- 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Paper	64.9	70.9	70.9	74.3	77.7	82.0	84.0	71.6	74.5
Glass	59.8	68.6	68.9	74.6	77.6	81.5	85.4	70.1	73.4
Cans	49.2	55.5	60.2	63.1	67.9	70.6	71.1	57.8	62.1
Plastic	52.7	59.8	63.8	69.0	72.8	76.4	77.1	61.4	66.8
Kitchen/food waste	37.8	42.2	46.2	47.0	45.1	51.0	45.6	41.2	44.9
Garden waste	38.5	45.2	50.2	53.3	52.9	61.4	58.4	44.9	50.8
Old clothing/rags	49.8	59.7	63.9	69.4	71.5	75.6	78.6	61.4	66.6
No recycling	18.3	12.7	10.6	7.7	6.3	4.5	4.0	12.6	9.4
All items recycled	4.1	4.3	6.5	7.4	6.9	7.2	6.8	5.4	6.2

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one item may be specified.

## 2.9 NO RECYCLING, By Household Income



## HAZARDOUS WASTE

At the Australian level, 31% of Australians know of services that are available to specifically dispose of hazardous waste. In contrast, 91% of households recycle some form of non-hazardous waste. About 47% of households dispose of some form of hazardous waste. Households in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory recorded the highest level of awareness (with 43% and 42% respectively), while Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales were marginally below the Australian average.

## 2.10 AWARENESS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES—March 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	645.9	492.4	364.1	198.9	221.9	60.6	19.1	45.3	2 048.2
No	1 581.4	1 165.7	865.8	378.6	421.5	121.1	26.5	59.2	4 619.7
Total	2 227.3	1 658.1	1 229.9	577.5	643.4	181.7	45.6	104.5	6 667.9
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	29.0	29.7	29.6	34.4	34.5	33.4	41.8	43.4	30.7
No	71.0	70.3	70.4	65.6	65.5	66.6	58.2	56.6	69.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

In Australia, the principal method of disposing of hazardous waste from households is via the usual garbage collection from the dwelling (62%). This was followed by waste materials being taken to a business or shop for disposal (and possibly recycling for some items) with 25% of households reporting this method. The least reported method of disposal for the items surveyed was to bury them (2%).

The use of the usual household garbage collection system was the main system used to dispose of garden chemicals or containers (66%), paint products or containers (52%), metal cleaners or containers (74%), oven cleaners or containers (87%), fluorescent globes (77%), general types of batteries (86%), and pharmaceuticals (43%). The principal

method used to dispose of car batteries was to take them to a business or shop (41%), while motor oil was primarily taken to a special area at the dump or taken to a business or shop (both 23%).

## 2.11 HOUSEHOLDS DISPOSING HAZARDOUS WASTE, Items Disposed by Method—March 1996(a)

	Garden chemicals	Paint products	Metal cleaners	Oven cleaners	Fluores- cent globes	Car batteries	Other batteries	Motor oil	Pharmace- uticals	Total
NUMBER ('000)										
With usual garbage collection	305.7	397.3	172.6	626.9	530.1	46.0	924.9	70.4	563.2	1 956.6
Special service from house	21.5	61.6	8.1	19.0	27.5	67.4	9.3	30.3	**6.9	195.9
Dump-general area	58.3	187.3	26.7	50.6	83.3	62.0	55.2	43.6	27.7	347.9
Dump-special area	50.4	96.6	13.9	12.7	23.1	163.0	28.6	150.6	**4.6	379.3
Collection point other than dump	16.2	23.2	**6.7	**6.4	**6.3	106.8	24.5	68.3	17.2	207.8
Poured down the drain	**3.5	**7.7	**0.5	**0.8	**	**0.8	**	**2.3	337.1	348.4
Taken to a business/shop	9.2	**7.0	**3.9	**3.1	13.6	338.5	27.4	149.9	386.2	787.3
Buried	**6.3	8.5	**0.9	**2.8	**4.9	12.3	9.3	26.2	16.6	71.5
Other	12.2	14.7	**2.0	**5.3	**5.6	34.4	**6.6	122.5	26.1	207.9
Total	466.6	769.5	231.9	722.4	690.5	823.6	1 079.1	653.8	1 321.2	3 158.7
PROPORTION (%)										
With usual garbage collection	65.5	51.6	74.4	86.8	76.8	5.6	85.7	10.8	42.6	61.9
Special service from house	4.6	8.0	3.5	2.6	4.0	8.2	0.9	4.6	**0.5	6.2
Dump-general area	12.5	24.3	11.5	7.0	12.1	7.5	5.1	6.7	2.1	11.0
Dump-special area	10.8	12.5	6.0	1.8	3.3	19.8	2.7	23.0	**0.3	12.0
Collection point other than dump	3.5	3.0	**2.9	**0.9	**0.9	13.0	2.3	10.5	1.3	6.6
Poured down the drain	**0.7	**1.0	**0.2	**0.1	**	**0.1	**	**0.4	25.5	11.0
Taken to a business/shop	2.0	**0.9	**1.7	**0.4	2.0	41.1	2.5	22.9	29.2	24.9
Buried	**1.3	1.1	**0.4	**0.4	**0.7	1.5	0.9	4.0	1.3	2.3
Other	2.6	1.9	**0.9	**0.7	**0.8	4.2	**0.6	18.7	2.0	6.6

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

Of the containers discussed in the survey, the majority are empty when disposed of by households. Garden chemical containers were reported as empty when disposed of by 90% of respondents, with 76% of paint containers, 94% of metal cleaner containers, and 96% of oven cleaner containers empty when disposed of.

## 2.12 HOUSEHOLDS DISPOSING HAZARDOUS WASTE, Containers Empty—March 1996

	Garden chemical containers	Paint containers	Metal cleaner containers	Oven cleaner containers
	%	%	%	%
Yes	89.7	76.1	94.1	96.0
No	4.7	11.8	3.4	1.3
Varied	3.2	9.7	**1.1	**1.0
Don't know	2.4	2.4	**1.3	1.7

## CHAPTER 3

### MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE .....

#### MAIN FINDINGS

- The survey revealed that the majority of Australian households (87%) have a registered car garaged or parked at their household.
- One person households were the group who were the most likely to have no registered vehicles (36%).
- Of those households with cars, 28% did not have a car with air conditioning.
- More than one-third of households check the oil and/or water levels in their vehicles at least once a week, and 54% check them at least every fortnight.
- Nearly three-quarters (74.6%) of households with motor vehicles service their major vehicle at least once every six months.
- Around 53% of households service their vehicles as frequently as advised by the owners manual.
- For those households that have their major vehicle serviced, just over three-quarters (77%) always have the service performed by a motor mechanic.



## MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERSHIP

The ownership and maintenance of motor vehicles impacts on the environment in many ways, including the environmental issues of atmospheric pollution and energy resource use. How well a vehicle is maintained has a direct effect on the level of its emissions, while vehicles which use unleaded petrol reduce the emission of this toxic metal into the environment.

The survey revealed that 87% of Australian households have at least one registered motor vehicle, while 46% reported that they had two or more registered motor vehicles. New South Wales had the highest proportion of households without motor vehicles (17%), while Western Australia recorded the lowest proportion of such households (with 8.5%).

## 3.1 REGISTERED VEHICLES—April 1996

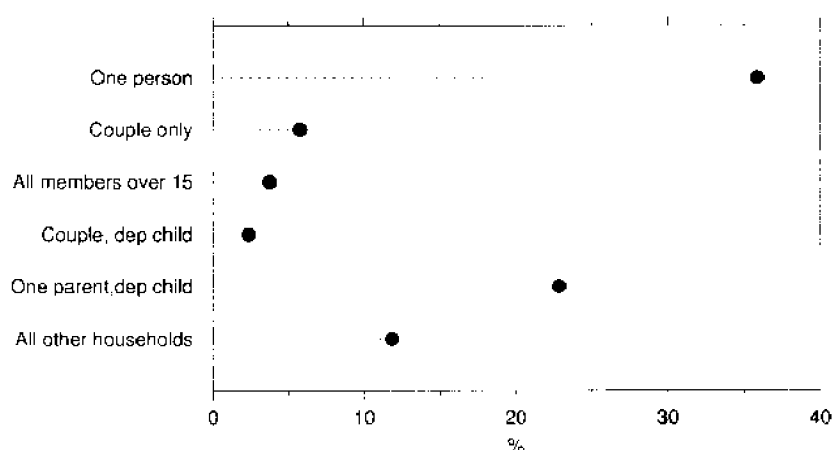
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
None	378.5	182.5	147.1	62.5	55.0	20.7	**4.3	9.1	859.7
One	951.2	630.1	527.4	245.8	261.2	77.3	17.9	40.8	2 751.6
Two	699.7	617.6	420.2	201.4	230.6	58.4	19.2	39.6	2 286.7
Three or more	218.5	234.1	150.6	69.8	101.4	25.9	**5.6	14.8	820.7
Total	2 247.8	1 664.3	1 245.3	579.5	648.2	182.2	47.0	104.3	6 718.7
PROPORTION (%)									
None	16.8	11.0	11.8	10.8	8.5	11.3	**9.1	8.8	12.8
One	42.3	37.9	42.4	42.4	40.3	42.4	38.1	39.1	41.0
Two	31.1	37.1	33.7	34.7	35.6	32.1	40.9	38.0	34.0
Three or more	9.7	14.1	12.1	12.0	15.6	14.2	**11.9	14.2	12.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

One person households rated highest for having no registered vehicles (36%), followed by one parent families with dependent child(ren) (23%). Couple with dependent child(ren) households reported the lowest percentage of households without at least one motor vehicle (2.4%). Conversely, couple with dependent child(ren) households rated highest for households with two vehicles (55%).

## 3.2 REGISTERED VEHICLES—April 1996

	One person	Couple only	Households with members over 15	Couple, dependent child(ren)	One parent, dependent child(ren)	All other households	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
None	35.9	5.8	3.8	2.4	22.9	11.9	12.8
One	57.0	46.6	22.6	30.9	68.8	29.7	41.0
Two	5.8	41.0	36.2	55.2	7.8	35.8	34.0
Three or more	1.3	6.6	37.4	11.6	**0.4	22.6	12.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## 3.3 HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO VEHICLE, By Household Type

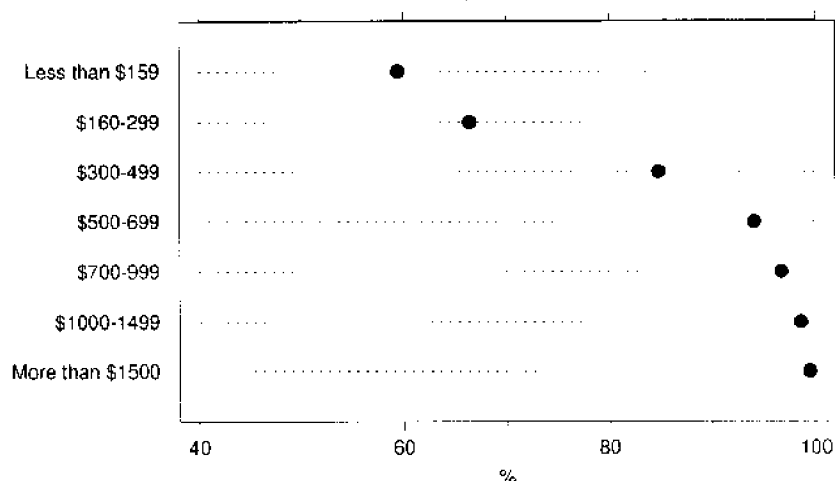


Generally, households with higher incomes possessed a higher number of vehicles. Less than 1% of households where the weekly income was more than \$1,500 reported they had no vehicle compared to 41% for households where the weekly income was less than \$159. In comparison, households where the income was greater than \$1,500 per week had the highest number of households where there were three or more vehicles (31%).

## 3.4 REGISTERED VEHICLES—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160-299	\$300-499	\$500-699	\$700-999	\$1,000- 1,499	More than \$1,500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
None	40.5	33.5	15.2	5.9	3.3	1.4	**0.6	11.9	12.8
One	45.0	54.5	54.6	45.3	35.4	23.9	18.6	31.9	41.0
Two	12.1	10.3	25.0	38.6	48.3	50.9	49.5	36.5	34.0
Three or more	**2.3	1.7	5.2	10.2	13.0	23.7	31.4	19.7	12.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 3.5 HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE OR MORE VEHICLES, By Household Income



Of those households with cars, 28% do not have cars with air conditioning. Tasmania has the greatest proportion of cars without air conditioners (63%), whereas the Northern Territory has the lowest number of cars without air conditioning (20%).

### 3.6 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Air Conditioning—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
None	546.7	361.4	325.0	130.1	165.9	101.3	8.4	27.1	1 665.8
One	941.3	737.0	555.9	273.5	294.4	51.6	20.7	48.0	2 922.3
Two	326.2	329.2	188.8	100.8	113.5	**7.4	12.4	17.8	1 096.0
Three or more	49.2	53.6	28.5	12.3	19.4	**1.0	**1.3	**2.3	167.5
Don't know	**6.1	**0.6	**	**0.4	**	**0.4	**	**	**7.5
Total	1 869.3	1 481.8	1 098.2	517.0	593.2	161.6	42.8	95.2	5 859.0
PROPORTION (%)									
None	29.2	24.4	29.6	25.2	28.0	62.7	19.6	28.4	28.4
One	50.4	49.7	50.6	52.9	49.6	31.9	48.4	50.4	49.9
Two	17.4	22.2	17.2	19.5	19.1	**4.6	28.9	18.7	18.7
Three or more	2.6	3.6	2.6	2.4	3.3	**0.6	**3.1	**2.5	2.9
Don't know	**0.3	**0.0	**	**0.1	**	**0.2	**	**	**0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

For those households with motor vehicles, the distance travelled in the 12 months to April 1996 most reported by households was between 20,000 and 30,000 kilometres (15.7%), followed closely by those households who travelled between 10,000 and 15,000 kilometres (15.6%). More than one in eight households reported that their major vehicle travelled in excess of 30,000 kilometres per year. The Australian Capital Territory reported the highest number of households travelling between 20,000 and 30,000 kilometres (24%), while the Northern Territory recorded the lowest (14%). For those households travelling between 10,000 and 15,000 kilometres both Tasmania and the Northern Territory rated highest (21%).

### 3.7 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Kilometres Travelled in Last 12 Months—April 1996

Kilometres travelled	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Up to 5 000	153.2	86.9	69.0	41.9	32.6	11.2	**2.5	**2.1	399.5
5 000–up to 10 000	215.1	138.2	121.7	60.0	51.5	21.7	**5	**7.8	621.1
10 000–up to 15 000	303.5	218.6	144.9	89.6	99.5	33.4	8.9	15.7	914.0
15 000–up to 20 000	168.4	162.1	98.6	52.6	63.0	11.9	**3.4	8.5	568.4
20 000–up to 30 000	258.9	236.1	190.7	75.3	108.2	22.1	**5.8	22.9	919.9
30 000–up to 50 000	172.8	141.9	113.6	42.4	50.8	13.6	**4.8	11.1	550.9
50 000–up to 75 000	64.0	45.2	33.1	8.6	17.9	**2.6	**1.9	**2.9	176.3
75 000–up to 150 000	16.7	18.3	13.2	**5.1	**5.3	**0.8	**0.4	**0.7	60.5
More than 150 000	**6.0	**3.1	**1.9	**0.7	**	**0.5	**0.2	**	12.3
Bought vehicle in the last 12 months	212.0	186.7	140.9	55.3	78.8	17.4	**6.4	15.9	713.3
Don't know	298.8	244.8	170.6	85.6	85.6	26.3	**3.4	**7.6	922.8
Total	1 869.3	1 481.8	1 098.2	517.0	593.2	161.6	42.8	95.2	5 859.0

**3.7 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Kilometres Travelled in Last 12 Months—April 1996** *continued*

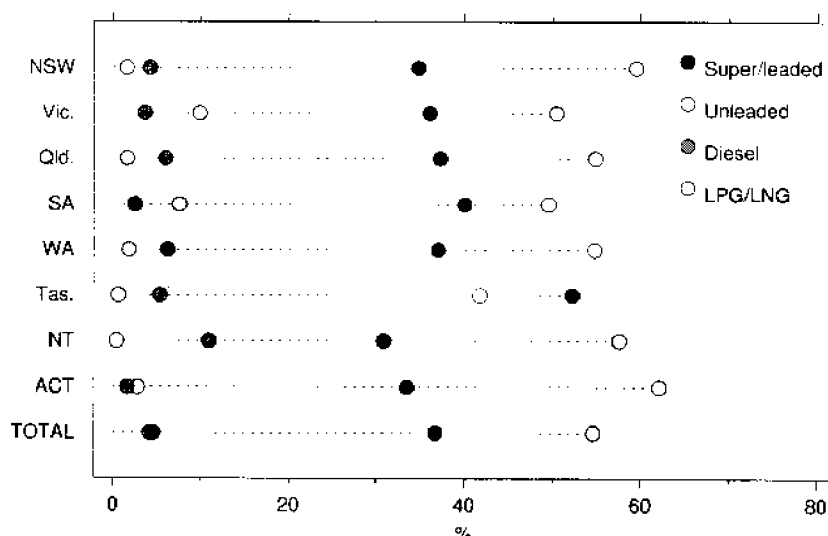
Kilometres travelled	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
PROPORTION (%)									
Up to 5 000	8.2	5.9	6.3	8.1	5.5	6.9	**5.9	**2.2	6.8
5 000–up to 10 000	11.5	9.3	11.1	11.6	8.7	13.5	**11.8	**8.2	10.6
10 000–up to 15 000	16.2	14.8	13.2	17.3	16.8	20.7	20.7	16.5	15.6
15 000–up to 20 000	9.0	10.9	9.0	10.2	10.6	7.4	**8	8.9	9.7
20 000–up to 30 000	13.8	15.9	17.4	14.6	18.2	13.7	**13.6	24.1	15.7
30 000–up to 50 000	9.2	9.6	10.3	8.2	8.6	8.4	**11.3	11.6	9.4
50 000–up to 75 000	3.4	3.1	3.0	1.7	3.0	**1.6	**4.5	**3.1	3.0
75 000–up to 150 000	**0.9	**1.3	**1.2	**1.0	**0.9	**0.5	**0.8	**0.7	**1.1
More than 150 000	**0.3	**0.2	**0.2	**0.1	**	**0.3	**0.4	**	0.2
Bought vehicle in the last 12 months	11.3	12.6	12.8	10.7	13.3	10.8	**14.9	16.7	12.2
Don't know	16.0	16.5	15.5	16.6	14.4	16.3	**8.0	**8.0	15.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Unleaded fuel was used by the highest proportion of those households with motor vehicles (54%), followed by super/leaded fuel (37%). Diesel was used by 4.5% of vehicles, and liquid petroleum and liquid natural gas by 4.2% of vehicles. The Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales were most likely to have unleaded vehicles (62% and 59%), with Tasmania having the highest proportion of lead-fueled vehicles (52%). The Northern Territory recorded the highest proportion of diesel powered vehicles (11%).

**3.8 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Fuel Type—April 1996**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Super/leaded	647.6	530.9	408.4	206.9	219.5	84.4	13.2	31.8	2 142.7
Unleaded	1 107.9	743.8	602.0	255.9	324.0	67.4	24.6	58.9	3 184.6
Diesel	78.3	52.3	66.8	13.1	36.9	8.5	**4.7	**1.5	262.1
LPG/LNG	28.1	145.6	18.4	39.7	11.0	**1.0	**0.2	**2.7	246.6
Other	**7.4	**9.2	**2.5	**1.5	**1.7	**0.4	**	**0.3	23.0
Total	1 869.3	1 481.8	1 098.2	517.0	593.2	161.6	42.8	95.2	5 859.0
PROPORTION (%)									
Super/leaded	34.6	35.8	37.2	40.0	37.0	52.2	30.9	33.4	36.6
Unleaded	59.3	50.2	54.8	49.5	54.6	41.7	57.6	61.9	54.4
Diesel	4.2	3.5	6.1	2.5	6.2	5.2	**11.0	**1.6	4.5
LPG/LNG	1.5	9.8	1.7	7.7	1.8	**0.6	**0.5	**2.9	4.2
Other	**0.4	**0.6	**0.2	**0.2	**0.3	**0.2	**	**0.3	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## 3.9 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Fuel Type



## MOTOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

More than one-third of households check the oil and/or water levels in their vehicles at least once a week, and 54% check them at least every fortnight. Around 6.5% of households reported that they checked the oil and/or water of their main vehicle infrequently.

## 3.10 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Frequency of Oil and/or Water Checks—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Every day	65.1	54.6	42.3	19.1	21.5	9.1	**4.1	**1.1	216.8
At least once a week	652.8	488.9	416.9	156.6	223.9	55.7	14.8	25.0	2 034.4
Every two weeks	279.5	235.3	172.5	77.6	92.8	29.3	**6.8	17.6	911.5
Every three weeks	50.1	48.8	26.9	15.4	15.9	**5.2	**0.7	**3.1	166.0
Once a month	348.5	245.5	197.1	98.8	108.7	29.4	**6.4	20.2	1 054.5
Every two months	100.9	61.7	45.3	27.5	21.2	**7.8	**1.4	**6.6	272.4
Every three months	127.8	102.3	53.4	36.5	28.6	8.4	**2.1	**7.5	366.7
Every six months	55.4	51.5	34.2	20.2	20.5	**3.9	**1.8	**3.6	191.0
Infrequently	123.6	111.9	58.6	35.8	34.7	**6.1	**2.1	**5.5	378.2
Never	40.6	53.3	33.4	19.4	15.6	**3.2	**2.0	**3.5	171.1
Other	25.1	27.9	17.6	10.3	9.8	**3.4	**0.6	**1.6	96.4
Total	1 869.3	1 481.8	1 098.2	517.0	593.2	161.6	42.8	95.2	5 859.0
PROPORTION (%)									
Every day	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.6	5.7	**9.5	**1.2	3.7
At least once a week	34.9	33.0	38.0	30.3	37.7	34.5	34.6	26.2	34.7
Every two weeks	15.0	15.9	15.7	15.0	15.6	18.1	**16.0	18.5	15.6
Every three weeks	2.7	3.3	2.4	3.0	2.7	**3.2	**1.7	**3.2	2.8
Once a month	18.6	16.6	17.9	19.1	18.3	18.2	**15.0	21.2	18.0
Every two months	5.4	4.2	4.1	5.3	3.6	**4.8	**3.2	**6.9	4.6
Every three months	6.8	6.9	4.9	7.1	4.8	5.2	**4.9	**7.8	6.3
Every six months	3.0	3.5	3.1	3.9	3.4	**2.4	**4.1	**3.8	3.3
Infrequently	6.6	7.6	5.3	6.9	5.9	**3.8	**4.9	**5.8	6.5
Never	2.2	3.6	3.0	3.8	2.6	**2.0	**4.6	**3.6	2.9
Other	1.3	1.9	1.6	2.0	1.7	**2.1	**1.5	**1.7	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of those households who indicated that they check the oil and/or water levels of their vehicles, 51% checked them at regular time intervals.

### 3.11 HOUSEHOLDS THAT CHECK OIL/WATER LEVELS, When Checked—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Filling with fuel	498.0	310.0	224.9	66.8	118.1	59.6	**6.7	24.7	1 308.7
Serviced	205.0	187.5	124.9	70.6	64.5	16.1	**5.5	13.8	687.9
Going on long trips	109.0	99.6	83.3	38.5	35.2	11.0	**3.3	**6.9	386.8
Breaks down	**6.7	8.7	**3.0	**5.1	**1.9	**	**0.2	**0.4	26.0
At regular time intervals	902.2	716.2	576.4	282.5	322.2	61.3	22.3	41.5	2 924.7
Other	82.2	96.2	46.7	30.5	32.6	9.7	**2.7	**4.2	304.9
Don't know	25.6	10.3	**5.6	**3.5	**3.1	**0.6	**	**0.2	48.9
<i>Total</i>	1 828.7	1 428.4	1 064.7	497.6	577.6	158.3	40.8	91.7	5 687.9
PROPORTION (%)									
Filling with fuel	27.2	21.7	21.1	13.4	20.4	37.6	**16.5	26.9	23.0
Serviced	11.2	13.1	11.7	14.2	11.2	10.1	**13.6	15.1	12.1
Going on long trips	6.0	7.0	7.8	7.7	6.1	7.0	**8.1	**7.5	6.8
Breaks down	**0.4	0.6	**0.3	**1.0	**0.3	**	**0.5	**0.5	0.5
At regular time intervals	49.3	50.1	54.1	56.8	55.8	38.7	54.7	45.3	51.4
Other	4.5	6.7	4.4	6.1	5.6	6.2	**6.7	**4.6	5.4
Don't know	1.4	0.7	**0.5	**0.7	**0.5	**0.4	**	**0.2	0.9
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Nearly three-quarters (74.6%) of households with motor vehicles serviced their major vehicle at least once every six months. Around 6% of households reported only servicing their vehicle when a problem arose.

### 3.12 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MOTOR VEHICLES, Vehicle Servicing—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
At least once every three months	684.8	539.6	468.5	185.7	208.8	68.8	18.1	39.0	2 213.2
Once every six months	697.2	537.8	381.2	196.8	237.9	50.4	15.8	36.4	2 153.5
Once a year	213.4	163.6	102.6	57.2	53.0	20.7	**3.9	9.7	623.9
Only when there is a problem	110.5	92.2	52.6	30.2	35.9	9.5	**2.8	**3.1	336.9
Other	118.3	126.3	73.6	37.6	47.2	9.1	**1.8	**5.6	419.5
Never serviced	21.5	13.0	14.8	**7.3	**6.6	**2.3	**0.4	**0.9	66.8
Don't know	23.6	9.2	**5.1	**2.3	**3.7	**0.8	**	**0.5	45.2
<i>Total</i>	1 869.3	1 481.8	1 098.2	517.0	593.2	161.6	42.8	95.2	5 859.0
PROPORTION (%)									
At least once every three months	36.6	36.4	42.7	35.9	35.2	42.6	42.2	41.0	37.8
Once every six months	37.3	36.3	34.7	38.1	40.1	31.2	36.9	38.3	36.8
Once a year	11.4	11.0	9.3	11.1	8.9	12.8	**9.0	10.2	10.6
Only when there is a problem	5.9	6.2	4.8	5.8	6.1	5.9	**6.6	**3.3	5.7
Other	6.3	8.5	6.7	7.3	8.0	5.6	**4.2	**5.9	7.2
Never serviced	1.1	0.9	1.3	**1.4	**1.1	**1.5	**1.0	**0.9	1.1
Don't know	1.3	0.6	**0.5	**0.5	**0.6	**0.5	**	**0.5	0.8
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Around 53% of households service their vehicles as frequently as advised by the owner's manual provided with their vehicle. Households in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory were most likely to have their vehicle serviced as recommended by the owner's manual (with 59% and 58% respectively), with Tasmania recording the lowest proportion (46%).

### 3.13 HOUSEHOLDS WITH SERVICED VEHICLES, As Advised in Owners Manual—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	906.1	730.5	567.4	244.5	304.8	69.4	23.4	53.2	2 899.2
No	392.3	334.5	253.1	119.9	139.7	39.0	11.4	22.8	1 312.8
Don't know	439.0	311.6	210.3	115.2	106.1	41.3	**4.7	15.2	1 243.4
Total	1 737.3	1 376.6	1 030.8	479.6	550.7	149.7	39.5	91.2	5 455.4
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	52.2	53.1	55.0	51.0	55.3	46.3	59.2	58.3	53.1
No	22.6	24.3	24.6	25.0	25.4	26.1	28.8	25.0	24.1
Don't know	25.3	22.6	20.4	24.0	19.3	27.6	**12.0	16.6	22.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of those households who do not follow the servicing advice given by the owner's manual, 43.6% have them serviced less frequently than advised. Households in Tasmania were most likely to service their major vehicle less frequently than advised in the manual (52%).

### 3.14 HOUSEHOLDS NOT SERVICING VEHICLES BY OWNERS MANUAL, Service Less Frequently—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	159.6	157.4	105.6	54.8	58.9	20.3	**5.3	9.9	571.8
No	132.1	102.0	89.7	41.5	53.4	13.4	**4.2	**7.8	444.2
Don't know	100.6	75.0	57.8	23.7	27.5	**5.3	**1.9	**5.2	296.8
Total	392.3	334.5	253.1	119.9	139.7	39.0	11.4	22.8	1 312.8
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	40.7	47.1	41.7	45.7	42.1	52.0	**46.4	43.3	43.6
No	33.7	30.5	35.5	34.6	38.2	34.4	**37.2	**34.1	33.8
Don't know	25.6	22.4	22.8	19.8	19.7	**13.6	**16.5	**22.6	22.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

For those households who service their major vehicle, just over three-quarters (77%) always have the service performed by a motor mechanic. This service was used most frequently in the Australian Capital Territory (with 85%).

### 3.15 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SERVICE VEHICLES, Motor Mechanic Always Services Vehicle—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	1 427.1	1 178.0	804.4	382.1	447.8	122.0	30.3	79.9	4 471.6
No	420.8	290.8	279.0	127.6	138.8	37.2	12.1	14.4	1 320.7
Total	1 847.8	1 468.7	1 083.4	509.8	586.6	159.2	42.3	94.3	5 792.3
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	77.2	80.2	74.3	75.0	76.3	76.6	71.5	84.7	77.2
No	22.8	19.8	25.7	25.0	23.7	23.4	28.5	15.3	22.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of those households who do not always have their major vehicle serviced by a motor mechanic, 60% do at some time have servicing work done to the vehicle by a mechanic. The use of mechanics for this work was most likely to occur in the Australian Capital Territory (71%) and least likely to occur in Western Australia (55%).

### 3.16 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SERVICE VEHICLES, Motor Mechanic Ever Services Vehicle—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	273.5	177.2	157.1	71.2	76.5	21.1	**7.7	10.2	794.5
No	147.3	113.6	121.9	56.6	62.3	16.1	**4.4	**4.2	526.2
Total	420.8	290.8	279.0	127.6	138.8	37.2	12.1	14.4	1 320.7
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	65.0	60.9	56.3	55.8	55.1	56.7	**63.7	70.6	60.2
No	35.0	39.1	43.7	44.2	44.9	43.3	**36.3	**29.4	39.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

For those households who have a motor mechanic perform a service on their major vehicle, 33% of households reported that the mechanic worked at a franchised dealer for the make of the vehicle. Households in the Northern Territory were the greatest users of such franchised mechanics (43%), with householders in Tasmania the lowest users (24%).



### 3.17 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MECHANIC-SERVICED VEHICLES, Franchised Dealer Mechanic—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	575.1	423.3	328.8	146.3	181.4	34.5	16.4	34.6	1 740.5
No	1 125.5	931.8	632.7	307.0	342.9	108.6	21.5	55.5	3 525.5
Total	1 700.6	1 355.1	961.5	453.3	524.3	143.1	38.0	90.1	5 266.0
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	33.8	31.2	34.2	32.3	34.6	24.1	43.3	38.4	33.1
No	66.2	68.8	65.8	67.7	65.4	75.9	56.7	61.6	66.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of the householders who have their major vehicle serviced but never use a mechanic, 85% have the vehicle serviced by a member of the household. A further 13.5% have the vehicle serviced by a friend or relative. In this category, the Northern Territory reported the highest number of households where a household member serviced the vehicle (95%), and Tasmania the lowest number of such households (83.2%).

### 3.18 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SERVICE VEHICLES, Other Persons Who Service Vehicle—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Household member	360.6	243.2	237.6	109.4	120.4	30.9	11.5	12.0	1 125.7
Other friend/relative	53.1	43.5	38.3	17.9	17.0	**5.9	**0.4	**2.4	178.5
Don't know	**7.1	**4.1	**3.1	**0.3	**1.4	**0.4	**0.2	**	16.5
Total	420.8	290.8	279.0	127.6	138.8	37.2	12.1	14.4	1 320.7
PROPORTION (%)									
Household member	85.7	83.6	85.2	85.7	86.7	83.2	95.2	83.4	85.2
Other friend/relative	12.6	15.0	13.7	14.0	12.3	**15.8	**3.4	**16.6	13.5
Don't know	**1.7	**1.4	**1.1	**0.2	**1.0	**1.0	**1.5	**	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Households in the higher income brackets were more likely to service their vehicles as advised by the owner's manual. Around 71% of households where the weekly income was greater than \$1,500 reported servicing their major vehicle as advised in the manual, compared to 50% of those with weekly incomes of less than \$159.

### 3.19 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SERVICE VEHICLES, As Advised in Owners Manual—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160- 299	\$300- 499	\$500- 699	\$700- 999	\$1 000- 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	49.9	47.6	48.1	47.0	54.5	58.7	71.1	50.8	53.1
No	26.4	26.3	25.8	28.0	23.6	22.0	15.9	22.8	24.1
Don't know	23.7	26.1	26.1	25.0	21.9	19.3	13.0	26.4	22.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Households with higher incomes use mechanics at franchised dealers for the make of the vehicle in greater proportion than those on lower incomes. Around 56% of households with weekly incomes of greater than \$1,500 use a franchised dealer mechanic, compared with 26% for households where the weekly income is less than \$159.

### 3.20 HOUSEHOLDS WITH MECHANIC-SERVICED VEHICLES, Franchised Dealer Mechanic—April 1996

	Less than \$159	\$160- 299	\$300- 499	\$500- 699	\$700- 999	\$1 000- 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	26.1	27.4	26.1	28.3	31.4	38.3	55.6	34.5	33.1
No	73.9	72.6	73.9	71.7	68.6	61.7	44.4	65.5	66.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## CHAPTER 4

## USE OF TRANSPORT .....

### MAIN FINDINGS

- The majority of households went on shopping trips once a week between Monday and Friday before 5pm (63%); visited one shopping centre (70%); and used a car, truck or van as the principal form of transport (86%). Of those who did not use public transport for these trips, most stated this was because they were unable to carry their shopping purchases (44%) or there was no service available to them (37%).
- The main form of transport to work or study was a car, truck or van as a driver (78%). People who walk or cycle to work or study do so primarily because they live close to their work or educational institution.
- For people not using public transport to get to work/study, the main reason was that there was no service available (36%). People who used public transport did so primarily because they did not own a car (34%) or because of the cost (29%).
- The bus was the form of public transport most widely available (65%) compared with trains (35%) and trams (6%). About 20% of the population said that they did not have access to any form of public transport.
- More than 50% of people who travel to work or study travel less than 13 kilometres.
- People aged between 18–24 years were most likely to use public transport to travel to work or study.
- People on lower incomes made greater use of available public transport systems than those on higher incomes.

## TRANSPORT FOR SHOPPING TRIPS

The choice of transport used to go shopping (or to get to work) relates to environmental issues in that some forms of transport are more efficient in terms of energy usage and emissions when used to carry a large number of people. For example, public transport such as a bus can be more efficient in terms of the energy needed to carry a group of people than if each person travelled alone as the driver of a car.

The survey results show that most households shop at least once a week (72%). Tasmania recorded the highest proportion of households who shopped once per fortnight (with 29%).

## 4.1 SHOPPING TRIPS—March 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Twice or more per week	366.8	318.4	159.8	76.1	121.8	22.4	9.4	21.2	1 095.8
Once per week	1 157.7	971.8	684.9	347.2	368.0	90.7	23.4	52.7	3 696.3
Once per fortnight	496.6	267.5	303.2	111.4	105.4	53.4	9.6	23.8	1 370.9
Once per month	74.3	32.3	30.6	9.7	15.2	**5.1	**0.7	**2.9	170.8
Irregularly	103.4	52.9	40.7	28.3	23.7	**7.1	**2.2	**2.9	261.3
Not done by any household member	28.4	15.2	10.8	**4.9	9.4	**3.0	**0.2	**1.0	72.8
<i>Total</i>	2 227.3	1 658.1	1 229.9	577.5	643.4	181.7	45.6	104.5	6 667.9
PROPORTION (%)									
Twice or more per week	16.5	19.2	13.0	13.2	18.9	12.3	20.7	20.3	16.4
Once per week	52.0	58.6	55.7	60.1	57.2	49.9	51.3	50.4	55.4
Once per fortnight	22.3	16.1	24.7	19.3	16.4	29.4	21.2	22.8	20.6
Once per month	3.3	1.9	2.5	1.7	2.4	**2.8	**1.5	**2.7	2.6
Irregularly	4.6	3.2	3.3	4.9	3.7	**3.9	**4.9	**2.8	3.9
Not done by any household member	1.3	0.9	0.9	**0.8	1.5	**1.6	**0.4	**0.9	1.1
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The majority of households shop at one shopping centre (70%). The range was from 79% (Northern Territory) to 67% (South Australia).

## 4.2 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SHOP, More Than One Centre Visited—March 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Yes	634.7	517.1	344.3	191.4	202.0	52.2	9.4	26.6	1 977.7
No	1 564.2	1 125.8	874.8	381.2	431.9	126.6	36.0	76.9	4 617.4
<i>Total</i>	2 198.9	1 642.9	1 219.1	572.6	634.0	178.7	45.4	103.5	6 595.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Yes	28.9	31.5	28.2	33.4	31.9	29.2	20.6	25.7	30.0
No	71.1	68.5	71.8	66.6	68.1	70.8	79.4	74.3	70.0
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The principal time that households shopped was Monday to Friday before 5pm (63%). Tasmania recorded the highest number of households shopping during this time (70%), while the Australian Capital Territory recorded the lowest proportion with 43%. Sunday was the least likely time for households to shop, reported by only 2% of households. Different shopping hours available in each State and Territory will have had an impact on the survey results. People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to have done their shopping on a Saturday afternoon or Sunday (20%).

#### 4.3 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SHOP, Shopping Day—March 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Monday to Friday before 5pm	1 322.7	995.1	814.2	390.3	407.1	125.8	20.0	44.2	4 119.5
Monday to Friday after 5pm	449.1	405.4	225.3	81.5	92.5	34.4	10.0	29.6	1 327.8
Saturday morning	189.7	141.4	110.6	63.7	82.7	10.5	**4.9	8.3	611.7
Saturday afternoon	125.9	88.2	57.7	34.0	46.8	**6.8	**5.8	11.1	376.3
Sunday	111.4	12.8	11.3	**3.2	**5.0	**1.1	**4.7	10.3	159.7
Total	2 198.9	1 642.9	1 219.1	572.6	634.0	178.7	45.4	103.5	6 595.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Monday to Friday before 5pm	60.2	60.6	66.8	68.2	64.2	70.4	44.1	42.7	62.5
Monday to Friday after 5pm	20.4	24.7	18.5	14.2	14.6	19.3	22.0	28.6	20.1
Saturday morning	8.6	8.6	9.1	11.1	13.0	5.9	**10.8	8.0	9.3
Saturday afternoon	5.7	5.4	4.7	5.9	7.4	**3.8	**12.8	10.7	5.7
Sunday	5.1	0.8	0.9	**0.6	**0.8	**0.6	**10.3	9.9	2.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of those households who indicated a member of the household shopped, the main form of transport used to go shopping was a car, truck or van (86%). Around 8% of households walked to the shops. Use of cars, trucks and vans was highest in Western Australia (91%), and lowest in New South Wales (83%). New South Wales also reported the greatest use of trains (0.8%) and buses (4.6%) as a means of transport for shopping trips.

#### 4.4 HOUSEHOLDS WHO SHOP, Main Form of Transport—March 1996

	'000	%
Car/truck/van	5 697.0	86.4
Motorbike or motor scooter	10.6	0.2
Taxi	53.4	0.8
Train	25.5	0.4
Bus	211.8	3.2
Tram	14.9	0.2
Ferry	**	**
Bicycle	19.2	0.3
Walk	547.0	8.3
Other	15.7	0.2

For those households who did not use some form of public transport to go shopping, the principal reason given was that they felt unable to carry the shopping they had purchased (44%). This was followed by no public transport service being available (37%), and people stating that the public transport service available to them took too long (14%). Around 47% of Queensland households stated that there was no public transport service available, compared with 10% of households in the Australian Capital Territory. A large proportion of Canberrans, however, believed that the available services took too long (22%) compared with 10% of Queenslanders.

#### 4.5 HOUSEHOLDS NOT USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR SHOPPING, Reasons—March 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Unable to carry shopping	905.9	653.4	374.4	227.0	248.2	54.7	14.3	63.0	2540.8
No service available	614.8	498.0	520.3	195.0	214.9	69.4	16.0	9.0	2 137.5
Infrequency of service	235.8	133.5	143.3	35.4	75.1	15.5	**7.8	18.9	665.3
Takes too long	270.2	230.9	107.3	77.5	82.6	19.3	**6.2	20.8	814.9
Fares cost too much	55.5	22.6	29.0	10.2	**4.0	**1.8	**0.7	**3.4	127.3
Transport not within walking distance	135.7	109.4	65.0	39.2	45.4	**7.8	**1.5	**6.0	410.0
Drove straight from work/university	86.1	80.9	60.0	22.9	33.8	8.5	**3.1	**6.6	301.7
Other	262.8	199.5	159.9	101.0	109.0	32.6	**7.1	21.5	893.2
Total	1 830.6	1 425.0	1 108.7	513.3	584.3	164.8	41.3	92.9	5 761.0
PROPORTION (%)									
Unable to carry shopping	49.5	45.8	33.8	44.2	42.5	33.2	34.7	67.8	44.1
No service available	33.6	34.9	46.9	38.0	36.8	42.1	38.8	9.7	37.1
Infrequency of service	12.9	9.4	12.9	6.9	12.9	9.4	**18.8	20.3	11.5
Takes too long	14.8	16.2	9.7	15.1	14.1	11.7	**15.1	22.4	14.1
Fares cost too much	3.0	1.6	2.6	2.0	**0.7	**1.1	**1.8	**3.7	2.2
Transport not within walking distance	7.4	7.7	5.9	7.6	7.8	**4.8	**3.6	**6.5	7.1
Drove straight from work/university	4.7	5.7	5.4	4.5	5.8	5.1	**7.5	**7.1	5.2
Other	14.4	14.0	14.3	19.7	18.6	19.8	**17.2	23.1	15.6

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

#### TRANSPORT TO WORK/STUDY

A major finding relating to the impact of transportation to work/study on the environment is that the majority of people travel to work or study as a single driver in a car (about 64%). People in New South Wales are the most likely (22%) to use public transport (primarily trains and buses), as a means of travelling to work or study, while people in Tasmania are the least likely (5%). A larger proportion of Australian Capital Territory residents use the bus system as a means of getting to work or study than for residents in others States and Territories.

## 4.6 PERSONS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK/STUDY, Transport—April 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Train	337.3	183.9	65.8	21.5	46.0	**	**	**	654.5
Bus	235.9	86.5	74.6	57.3	53.0	15.1	**3.6	19.8	545.7
Car/truck/van as driver	1 917.3	1 579.7	1 074.1	486.0	608.2	154.4	56.0	116.3	5 991.9
Car/truck/van as passenger	161.2	108.8	111.0	59.6	73.2	17.5	**6.1	15.4	552.8
Motorbike or motor scooter	27.0	18.2	27.0	12.2	9.0	**1.4	**1.0	**3.4	99.4
Bicycle	54.2	57.6	49.1	23.6	17.6	**4.0	**4.2	**4.9	215.2
Walk	168.3	122.1	87.2	34.7	40.3	20.6	**5.1	9.0	487.4
Other	40.6	80.5	16.5	**5.8	**6.1	**1.5	**2.2	**	153.1
Total	2 610.8	1 965.5	1 356.7	618.8	756.6	193.2	69.3	152.2	7 723.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Train	12.9	9.4	4.8	3.5	6.1	**	**	**	8.5
Bus	9.0	4.4	5.5	9.3	7.0	7.8	**5.2	13.0	7.1
Car/truck/van as driver	73.4	80.4	79.2	78.5	80.4	79.9	80.8	76.4	77.6
Car/truck/van as passenger	6.2	5.5	8.2	9.6	9.7	9.0	**8.8	10.1	7.2
Motorbike or motor scooter	1.0	0.9	2.0	2.0	1.2	**0.7	**1.5	**2.2	1.3
Bicycle	2.1	2.9	3.6	3.8	2.3	**2.1	**6.0	**3.2	2.8
Walk	6.4	6.2	6.4	5.6	5.3	**10.7	**7.4	5.9	6.3
Other	1.6	4.1	1.2	**0.9	**0.8	**0.8	**3.1	**	2.0

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one transport mode may be specified.

Of those people who walk and/or cycle to work or study, the principal reason is the proximity of their home to their place of work or study (62%). This is followed by the exercise and health aspects of walking and/or cycling (36%), followed by cost considerations (14%). Tasmanians were the most likely to use these forms of transport due to the proximity of their home to their place of work or study (68%) and Canberrans the least likely (38%). People in the Northern Territory were most likely to select exercise and health reasons for walking or cycling (64%), and Tasmanians the least likely (23%).

## 4.7 PERSONS WHO WALK/CYCLE TO WORK/STUDY, Reasons—April 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Cost	20.7	13.4	17.3	10.3	**5.7	**	**2.1	**1.2	70.6
Proximity to work/school/college/uni.	93.1	78.9	62.1	23.8	32.1	12.5	**3.4	**4.1	310.0
Exercise/health	65.4	41.3	29.4	16.6	15.0	**4.2	**3.5	**6.6	182.0
No other transport available	15.2	12.2	18.2	**0.5	**2.0	**2.1	**0.4	**1.2	51.7
Other	16.8	18.1	14.2	9.6	**7.1	**4.3	**0.6	**2.6	73.3
Total	155.4	119.1	99.9	42.7	48.4	18.3	**5.6	10.8	500.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Cost	13.3	11.3	17.3	24.0	**11.7	**	**38.6	**11.4	14.1
Proximity to work/school/college/uni.	59.9	66.3	62.2	55.7	66.4	68.1	**62.1	**60.8	36.4
Exercise/health	42.1	34.7	29.4	38.9	30.9	**23.1	**63.5	**	**0.5
No other transport available	9.8	10.2	18.2	**1.1	**4.2	**11.7	**6.3	**10.8	10.3
Other	10.8	15.2	14.2	22.4	**14.7	**23.7	**10.9	**23.6	14.7

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one transport mode may be specified.

Around 83% of people who drove to work or study did not have a passenger in the vehicle. Around 12% took passengers from their own household, and 7% took passengers from other households. Drivers in the Territories were the most likely to have been accompanied by a passenger from their own household (Australian Capital Territory 24% and the Northern Territory 22%).

#### 4.8 PERSONS DRIVING TO WORK/STUDY, Passengers Taken—April 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
From other household	146.7	90.0	64.4	35.7	40.3	11.8	**4.8	8.1	401.8
From own household	212.6	161.4	141.9	53.6	61.5	16.9	11.7	26.1	685.7
None	1 519.4	1 295.2	845.6	380.4	490.4	120.9	38.6	78.2	4 768.6
Total	1 844.6	1 528.2	1 039.2	465.7	582.7	148.5	53.9	109.6	5 766.3
PROPORTION (%)									
From other household	8.0	5.9	6.2	7.7	6.9	8.0	**8.8	7.4	7.0
From own household	11.5	10.6	13.7	11.5	10.6	11.4	21.7	23.9	11.9
None	82.4	84.8	81.8	81.7	84.2	81.5	71.6	71.3	82.7

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one source may be specified.

The major reason why people take passengers from other households with them to work or study was because they work or study either with or nearby to the passenger (49.5%). Environmental concerns was one of the least frequently given reasons for taking passengers from other households (4%). Saving on travel costs was over five times more likely a reason for taking passengers than environmental concerns.

#### 4.9 PERSONS TAKING PASSENGERS FROM OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, Reasons—April 1996(a)

	'000	%
They live nearby or on the way to work/educational institution	134.8	33.5
Work/study with or nearby passenger	198.9	49.5
To save on travel costs	85.1	21.2
Drop children from another household at school	25.9	6.4
As a favour	54.1	13.5
For company or conversation	12.0	3.0
Because of environmental concerns	14.3	3.6
Other	37.5	9.3

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

The major reason people had passengers in their vehicle from the same household when driving to work or study was to drop off children at school (37%). Only 1% of people gave environmental concerns as the reason for taking passengers from their own household.



#### 4.10 PERSONS TAKING PASSENGERS FROM OWN HOUSEHOLD, Reasons—April 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Public transport not suitable	17.1	12.4	13.1	**2.3	**4.9	**1.0	**1.4	**1.6	53.8
Work/study with or nearby passenger	77.4	63.5	38.1	18.4	14.2	**3.5	**2.4	9.9	227.4
Pass by passengers destination	31.1	22.6	27.3	**4.6	16.0	**7.6	**2.1	**6.7	117.9
To save on travel costs	23.3	17.4	21.5	**2.5	**3.0	**2.0	**0.9	**5.5	76.1
Drop children at school	72.5	54.4	58.6	26.5	22.0	**4.0	**5.7	**7.3	251.0
Other	28.7	25.6	14.4	**7.9	9.8	**3.0	**2.8	**3.1	95.3
Total	212.6	161.4	141.9	53.6	61.5	16.9	11.7	26.1	685.7
PROPORTION (%)									
Public transport not suitable	8.0	7.7	9.2	**4.3	**8.0	**6.1	**11.6	**6.0	7.8
Work/study with or nearby passenger	36.4	39.3	26.9	34.4	23.1	**20.8	**20.6	37.7	33.2
Pass by passengers destination	14.6	14.0	19.2	**8.5	26.1	**44.9	**17.9	**25.5	17.2
To save on travel costs	10.9	10.8	15.2	**4.6	**4.9	**11.9	**7.6	**21.0	11.1
Drop children at school	34.1	33.7	41.3	49.4	35.7	**23.5	**49.0	**27.9	36.6
Other	13.5	15.8	10.1	**14.7	15.9	**17.6	**23.9	**12.1	13.9

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

The most common reason that drivers did not take passengers from their own household when driving to work or study was that the passengers worked or studied at a different location or needed to travel in a different direction (37%).

#### 4.11 PERSONS NOT TAKING PASSENGERS FROM OWN HOUSEHOLDS, Reasons—April 1996(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Work/study irregular/different hours	495.7	427.1	301.0	118.4	157.7	35.2	14.0	30.2	1 579.2
Work/study in different location	492.9	494.9	256.9	119.4	198.8	35.1	14.9	30.8	1 643.7
Others do not require transport	561.1	477.6	285.3	142.4	131.3	42.8	13.2	20.0	1 643.8
Others take public transport	45.5	25.3	20.3	9.2	**3.6	**3.0	**0.7	**2.8	110.4
Another vehicle is available	187.0	218.4	141.0	56.9	57.7	24.5	**7.1	20.7	713.2
Reluctant to commit to regular times	45.0	41.5	25.0	15.0	18.9	**1.5	**1.7	**4.7	153.3
Other	66.1	51.6	24.1	**4.7	10.1	**2.0	**1.3	**3.0	162.8
Total	1 453.9	1 187.4	776.6	347.5	439.5	113.5	38.7	72.4	4 429.5
PROPORTION (%)									
Work/study irregular/different hours	34.1	36.0	38.8	34.1	35.9	31.0	36.2	41.7	35.7
Work/study in different location	33.9	41.7	33.1	34.4	45.2	30.9	38.4	42.5	37.1
Others do not require transport	38.6	37.7	36.7	41.0	29.9	37.7	34.2	27.6	37.1
Others take public transport	3.1	2.1	2.6	2.6	**0.8	**2.6	**1.7	**3.9	2.5
Another vehicle is available	12.9	18.4	18.2	16.4	13.1	21.6	**18.3	28.6	16.1
Reluctant to commit to regular times	3.1	3.5	3.2	4.3	4.3	**1.3	**4.5	**6.5	3.5
Other	4.5	4.4	3.1	**1.4	2.3	**1.8	**3.3	**4.2	3.7

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

The most frequent reasons people gave for not taking public transport to work or study were that there was no service available (36%), the travel time was too long (26%), and that their vehicle needed to be available to them during work or study hours (15%). The Australian Capital Territory was least likely to report that no service was available (10%).

## 4.12 PERSONS NOT TAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO WORK/STUDY, Reasons—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
No service available at all	656.6	485.6	504.1	161.2	195.4	62.7	20.4	11.1	2 097.2
Takes too long	476.6	543.9	153.2	125.5	130.2	21.7	12.3	51.1	1 514.4
Infrequency of service	239.4	209.1	134.1	58.2	96.0	29.6	8.2	24.7	799.3
Reliability of service	92.3	115.4	38.6	27.1	15.8	**5.1	**1.5	17.5	313.1
Carry tools/equipment	177.3	112.7	69.3	33.8	34.0	10.0	**2.1	9.5	448.7
Vehicle needed during work hours	313.3	222.9	134.5	74.1	87.2	18.6	**7.2	25.1	883.0
Vehicle needed before/after work/study	105.5	133.8	70.2	53.0	53.3	16.5	**7.1	28.1	467.5
Use company/employer's car	111.0	102.1	49.7	24.9	34.6	**8.0	**3.7	**6.8	340.7
Comfort/privacy	176.1	186.1	68.3	58.4	44.6	14.3	11.3	23.9	583.0
Concerned about own personal safety	69.9	76.5	38.6	19.4	14.0	**1.9	**0.6	**3.1	224.1
Fares cost too much	56.8	79.4	33.1	17.7	9.8	**1.8	**1.1	16.2	215.8
Other	96.5	79.4	43.6	51.0	49.2	**7.9	**3.7	**9.0	340.3
Total	1 855.7	1 530.4	1 034.1	465.7	583.2	148.5	54.7	109.6	5 782.0
PROPORTION (%)									
No service available at all	35.4	31.7	48.7	34.6	33.5	42.2	37.3	10.1	36.3
Takes too long	25.7	35.5	14.8	26.9	22.3	14.6	22.4	46.6	26.2
Infrequency of service	12.9	13.7	13.0	12.5	16.5	19.9	14.9	22.5	13.8
Reliability of service	5.0	7.5	3.7	5.8	2.7	**3.4	**2.7	15.9	5.4
Carry tools/equipment	9.6	7.4	6.7	7.3	5.8	6.7	**3.8	8.7	7.8
Vehicle needed during work hours	16.9	14.6	13.0	15.9	15.0	12.5	**13.2	22.9	15.3
Vehicle needed before/after work/study	5.7	8.7	6.8	11.4	9.1	11.1	**13.0	25.7	8.1
Use company/employer's car	6.0	6.7	4.8	5.3	5.9	**5.4	**6.8	**6.2	5.9
Comfort/privacy	9.5	12.2	6.6	12.5	7.6	9.6	20.6	21.8	10.1
Concerned about own personal safety	3.8	5.0	3.7	4.2	2.4	**1.3	**1.2	**2.9	3.9
Fares cost too much	3.1	5.2	3.2	3.8	1.7	**1.2	**2.1	14.8	3.7
Other	5.2	5.2	4.3	10.9	8.5	**5.4	**6.6	8.2	5.9

The major reason that people gave for using public transport to get to work or study was that they did not own a car (34%). This was followed by cost (29%) and parking problems (23%). Environmental concern was only reported by 5% of people as a reason for using public transport.

## 4.13 PERSONS USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT, Reasons—April 1996

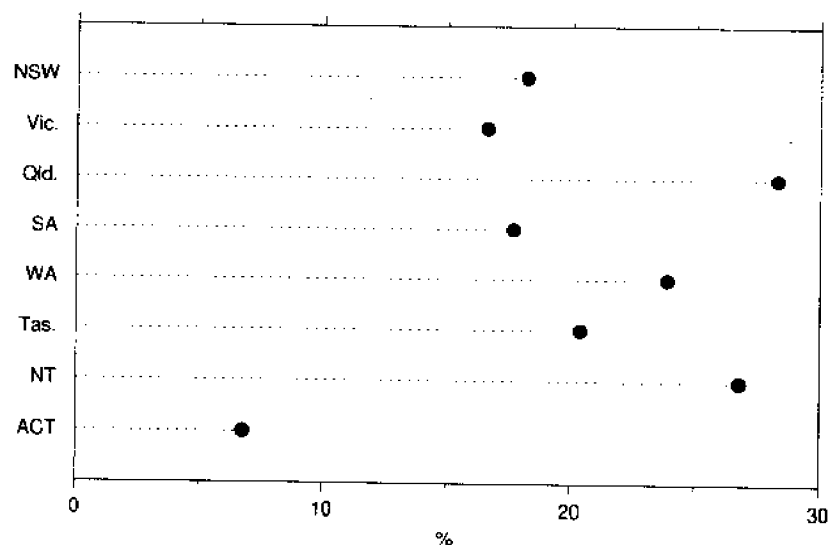
	'000	%
Don't own car	312.5	34.1
Partner uses car	68.1	7.4
Cost	263.3	28.7
Time taken	117.9	12.9
Parking problems	207.9	22.7
Proximity of home to public transport	164.0	17.9
Frequency of service	51.1	5.6
Personal safety	8.6	0.9
Environmental concerns	46.4	5.1
Habit	**5.7	**0.6
Other	205.0	22.4

Approximately one in five people in Australia reported that they had no public transport options. Around 28% of Queenslanders (the highest proportion) stated that they had no public transport available to them. The availability of rail services was more prominent in Victoria and New South Wales (with 46% and 44% respectively), whereas bus services were more prominent in the Australian Capital Territory (93%).

#### 4.14 PUBLIC TRANSPORT AVAILABILITY—April 1996

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Bus	1 269.3	855.4	509.7	357.2	394.1	103.5	34.4	130.2	3 653.7
Train	863.1	684.6	195.5	87.5	145.2	na	na	na	1 975.9
Tram	na	339.0	na	9.2	na	na	na	na	351.9
Ferry	41.1	na	13.9	na	**3.5	**0.9	na	na	59.3
None	355.4	245.8	241.1	80.7	133.8	26.5	13.1	9.5	1 105.9
Don't know	50.6	38.3	34.3	8.2	10.4	na	**1.4	**0.6	143.8
Total	1 950.3	1 479.9	851.7	456.3	560.9	130.0	48.9	140.0	5 618.0
PROPORTION (%)									
Bus	65.1	57.8	59.8	78.3	70.3	79.6	70.4	93.0	65.0
Train	44.3	46.3	23.0	19.2	25.9	na	na	na	35.2
Tram	na	22.9	na	2.0	na	na	na	na	6.3
Ferry	2.1	na	1.6	na	**0.6	**0.7	na	na	1.1
None	18.2	16.6	28.3	17.7	23.9	20.4	26.8	6.8	19.7
Don't know	2.6	2.6	4.0	1.8	1.9	na	**2.8	**0.4	2.6

#### 4.15 PUBLIC TRANSPORT AVAILABILITY—April 1996



More than 50% of people who travel to work or study travel less than 13 kilometres. People in the Australian Capital Territory travel further to get to work or study than people in Tasmania and the Northern Territory. In the Australian Capital Territory 68% travelled more than eight kilometres. In Tasmania this distance was reported by 47% of people while in the Northern Territory the figure was 42%.

## 4.16 PERSONS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK/STUDY, Distance Travelled—April 1996

Kilometres travelled	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Less than 3	324.3	225.4	211.7	70.9	97.4	36.2	12.6	10.7	989.1
3 to less than 8	575.0	360.7	303.9	169.3	156.7	56.6	26.6	31.6	1 680.5
8 to less than 13	429.7	340.2	233.8	118.6	127.0	28.4	8.2	28.4	1 314.2
13 to less than 18	288.3	275.5	147.5	69.5	103.9	18.2	**7.5	25.0	935.5
18 to less than 23	208.5	229.7	121.6	63.3	76.2	12.1	**1.9	19.1	732.4
23 to less than 38	341.5	242.2	173.4	63.2	92.4	16.6	**5.0	28.1	962.2
38 to less than 50	111.5	95.9	41.4	16.6	19.0	**5.7	**1.0	**1.6	292.8
50 or more	118.0	90.2	56.3	14.8	30.2	9.0	**5.2	**1.3	324.9
Varies	214.0	105.7	67.1	32.7	53.8	10.4	**1.4	**6.5	491.5
Total	2 610.8	1 965.5	1 356.7	618.8	756.6	193.2	69.3	152.2	7 723.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Less than 3	12.4	11.5	15.6	11.5	12.9	18.8	18.1	7.0	12.8
3 to less than 8	22.0	18.4	22.4	27.4	20.7	29.3	38.4	20.8	21.8
8 to less than 13	16.5	17.3	17.2	19.2	16.8	14.7	11.8	18.6	17.0
13 to less than 18	11.0	14.0	10.9	11.2	13.7	9.4	**10.9	16.4	12.1
18 to less than 23	8.0	11.7	9.0	10.2	10.1	6.3	**2.8	12.6	9.5
23 to less than 38	13.1	12.3	12.8	10.2	12.2	8.6	**7.1	18.4	12.5
38 to less than 50	4.3	4.9	3.1	2.7	2.5	**2.9	**1.4	**1.0	3.8
50 or more	4.5	4.6	4.1	2.4	4.0	4.7	**7.5	**0.9	4.2
Varies	8.2	5.4	4.9	5.3	7.1	5.4	**1.9	**4.3	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Around 77% of people take about 40 minutes or less to get to their destination.

## 4.17 PERSONS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK/STUDY, Time Taken—April 1996

Minutes	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
Less than 3	83.6	89.9	67.3	26.8	46.5	16.0	**2.5	**0.7	333.4
3 to less than 8	352.5	221.0	233.1	78.5	123.0	39.2	23.4	15.9	1 086.6
8 to less than 13	346.2	243.0	249.5	104.5	110.2	36.6	13.5	19.6	1 123.1
13 to less than 18	329.4	278.9	182.3	97.4	93.6	29.4	9.3	40.1	1 060.4
18 to less than 23	286.3	250.2	147.2	75.9	105.4	22.9	**6.8	26.5	921.1
23 to less than 38	460.9	370.6	246.3	129.3	136.8	24.7	**5.2	32.0	1 405.8
38 to less than 60	349.9	279.6	113.9	54.0	61.2	12.2	**3.4	9.2	883.5
60 or more	184.2	118.2	51.9	19.1	23.5	**2.9	**3.5	**1.6	405.0
Varies	217.7	114.2	65.2	33.2	56.4	9.2	**1.7	**6.6	504.2
Total	2 610.8	1 965.5	1 356.7	618.8	756.6	193.2	69.3	152.2	7 723.1
PROPORTION (%)									
Less than 3	3.2	4.6	5.0	4.3	6.1	8.3	**3.6	**0.5	4.3
3 to less than 8	13.5	11.2	17.2	12.7	16.3	20.3	33.7	10.4	14.1
8 to less than 13	13.3	12.4	18.4	16.9	14.6	19.0	19.5	12.9	14.5
13 to less than 18	12.6	14.2	13.4	15.7	12.4	15.2	13.3	26.3	13.7
18 to less than 23	11.0	12.7	10.8	12.3	13.9	11.9	**9.8	17.4	11.9
23 to less than 38	17.7	18.9	18.2	20.9	18.1	12.8	**7.4	21.0	18.2
38 to less than 60	13.4	14.2	8.4	8.7	8.1	6.3	**5.0	6.1	11.4
60 or more	7.1	6.0	3.8	3.1	3.1	**1.5	**5.1	**1.1	5.2
Varies	8.3	5.8	4.8	5.4	7.5	4.8	**2.5	**4.3	6.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

People aged between 18–24 years were most likely to use public transport to travel to work or study. Around 14% of 18–24 year olds used the train, and 14% of this age group also used the bus. In comparison, 7% of the 65 years and over age group used the train, and 2% of the 65 and over group used the bus. The 18–24 year olds were also the greatest users of bicycles (5%).

#### 4.18 PERSONS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK/STUDY, Transport—April 1996

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....						Total
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Train	14.0	7.8	7.7	5.7	6.5	**7.1	8.5
Bus	14.3	5.8	5.4	4.6	5.2	**2.4	7.1
Car/truck/van as driver	63.6	79.8	82.3	82.2	78.1	80.2	77.6
Car/truck/van as passenger	10.9	6.3	5.5	6.8	7.7	**3.5	7.2
Motorbike or motor scooter	0.8	1.8	1.3	1.5	**0.2	**1.0	1.3
Bicycle	4.9	3.0	2.3	1.4	1.8	**	2.8
Walk	9.6	4.8	5.2	6.1	6.7	**10.1	6.3
Other	2.5	2.1	1.1	2.5	1.8	**2.6	2.0

Around 31% of females considered that public transport took too long, compared with 23% of males. More males (11%) than females (3%) stated that they did not take public transport because they had to carry equipment or tools. Males were also more likely to need their vehicle during working or studying hours than females (19% compared to 10%).

#### 4.19 PERSONS NOT TAKING PUBLIC TRANSPORT, Reasons—April 1996

	Males	Females	Persons
	%	%	%
No service available at all	35.6	37.2	36.3
Takes too long	23.1	30.5	26.2
Infrequency of service	12.1	16.2	13.8
Overloading of service	0.7	0.8	0.7
Reliability of service	4.5	6.7	5.4
Carry tools/equipment	11.0	3.4	7.8
Vehicle needed during work hours	19.2	9.8	15.3
Vehicle needed before/after work/study	5.7	11.4	8.1
Use company/employer's car	8.8	1.9	5.9
Comfort/privacy	8.4	12.4	10.1
Concerned about own personal safety	1.1	7.7	3.9
Fares cost too much	2.7	5.2	3.7
Other	5.3	5.0	5.2

People on lower incomes made greater use of public transport than those on higher incomes. People with high incomes were most likely to use a car as a driver. Around 23% of people with incomes of less than \$159 per week used the train, compared with 9% of those whose incomes were greater than \$1,500 per week. People with low household

incomes also reported a higher usage of bicycles, with 4% of people with incomes less than \$159 per week using a bicycle compared with 2% of those with weekly incomes of \$1,500.

#### 4.20 PERSONS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK/STUDY, Transport—April 1996(a)

	Less than \$159	\$160-299	\$300-499	\$500-699	\$700-999	\$1 000- 1 499	More than \$1 500	Not stated/ known	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Train	23.3	10.6	8.5	6.9	7.6	8.8	9.2	9.2	8.5
Bus	12.7	10.3	8.7	6.3	6.5	5.1	7.1	11.1	7.1
Car/truck/van as driver	59.0	65.5	70.9	77.3	79.8	80.9	81.1	73.7	77.6
Car/truck/van as passenger	**3.7	7.9	8.5	7.1	6.6	7.7	6.0	7.4	7.2
Motorbike or motor scooter	**0.6	**1.0	1.3	1.4	1.9	0.8	1.3	**0.6	1.3
Bicycle	**4.1	4.3	3.6	3.5	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.8	2.8
Walk	**6.4	11.7	10.7	6.1	5.9	4.6	4.7	6.8	6.3
Other	**4.6	**1.1	1.8	2.2	1.1	2.6	1.7	2.8	2.0

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one transport mode may be specified.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES .....

### INTRODUCTION

**1** The monthly population survey comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains results of a supplementary survey run in association with both the March and April 1996 labour force surveys conducted throughout Australia.

### POPULATION SURVEY

**2** The population survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (approximately 37,000 houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.). The proportion of Australian dwellings selected this way is approximately 0.5%. For this survey, half the private dwelling sample (i.e. 18,500 dwellings) was used. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).

**3** The respondents to the labour force survey who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. For this sub-set, questions were asked of the household representative aged 15 years or more (March data), and 18 years or more whose birthday was closest to the date of the interview (April data). The information collected referred to aspects of recycling, hazardous waste disposal, motor vehicle ownership and maintenance, and use of transport.

### SCOPE

**4** The scope of the survey included all persons aged 15 years and over, except where a member of the household was out of scope and coverage for questions relating to the household, members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia.

### COVERAGE

**5** In the labour force survey, 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. The coverage rules are, necessarily, a balance between theoretical and operational considerations. Nevertheless, the chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the survey is considered to be negligible.

### RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

**6** Two types of error are possible in an estimate-based sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error. The sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included

in the survey, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

**7** The smaller the estimate the higher the relative standard error. Very small estimates are subject to high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) which detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less, and percentages based on such estimates, are considered sufficiently reliable for such purposes.

**8** The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents, errors made in collection such as in recording and coding of data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample.

**9** 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 operation procedures.

#### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**10** Users may also wish to refer to the following publication:

*Environmental Issues—People's Views and Practices* (4602.0), 1992 and 1994

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and the Release Advice are available from any ABS office.





## For more information . . .

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products available from all ABS Offices.

### ABS Products and Services

Many standard products are available from ABS bookshops located in each State and Territory. In addition to these products, information tailored to the needs of clients can be obtained on a wide range of media by contacting your nearest ABS Office. The ABS also provides a Subscription Service for standard products and some tailored information services.

### National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

*Steadycom P/L: premium rate 25c/20 secs.*

This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year, for a range of important economic statistics including the CPI.

### Internet

<http://www.abs.gov.au>

A wide range of ABS information is available via the Internet, with basic statistics available for each State, Territory and Australia. We also have Key National Indicators, ABS product release details and other information of general interest.

## Sales and Inquiries

Keylink      STAT.INFO/ABS  
X.400      (C:Australia,PUB:Telememo,O:ABS,FN:STAT,SN:INFO)  
Internet      stat.info@abs.telememo.au

National Mail Order Service      (06) 252 5249  
Subscription Service      1800 02 0608

	Information Inquiries	Bookshop Sales
SYDNEY	(02) 9268 4611	(02) 9268 4620
MELBOURNE	(03) 9615 7755	(03) 9615 7755
BRISBANE	(07) 3222 6351	(07) 3222 6350
PERTH	(09) 360 5140	(09) 360 5307
ADELAIDE	(08) 8237 7100	(08) 8237 7582
CANBERRA	(06) 252 6627	(06) 207 0326
HOBART	(03) 6222 5800	(03) 6222 5800
DARWIN	(08) 8943 2111	(08) 8943 2111



Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

