

## CHAPTER 5

### PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

Persons not in the labour force represent that group of the population who during a particular week are not employed or unemployed. The main interest being in their potential to participate in the labour force. In addition to analysing persons not in the labour force by their demographic and family characteristics, attention is also focussed on their degree of attachment to the labour force. This is achieved by the concepts of 'marginal attachment to the labour force' and 'discouraged jobseekers'. The various groups of persons either in the labour force or not in the labour force, including those marginally attached to the labour force, are shown schematically in Chart 5.c.

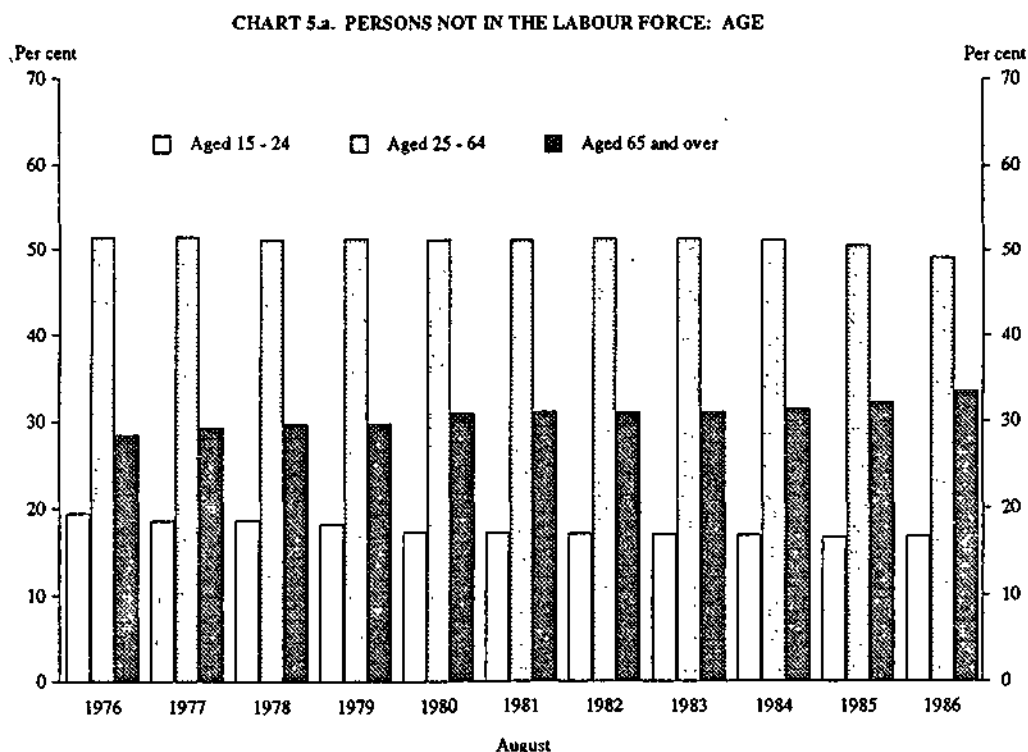
The sources for the statistics in this chapter are the ABS monthly labour force survey and its supplementaries. In particular a survey of persons not in the labour force is conducted twice a year to examine the labour force attachments of persons not in the labour force.

**TABLE 5.1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER: LABOUR FORCE STATUS**  
**SEPTEMBER 1983 TO SEPTEMBER 1986**  
 ('000)

	Sept. 1983	March 1984	Sept. 1984	March 1985	Sept. 1985	March 1986	Sept. 1986(a)
<b>Civilian population aged 15 and over</b>	<b>11,585.5</b>	<b>11,718.5</b>	<b>11,808.0</b>	<b>11,897.3</b>	<b>11,998.5</b>	<b>12,121.7</b>	<b>12,249.5</b>
Employed	6,350.0	6,504.2	6,572.9	6,634.5	6,783.9	6,926.3	7,007.6
Unemployed	718.7	701.0	621.3	671.7	587.7	640.4	631.6
Persons not in the labour force	4,516.8	4,513.2	4,613.8	4,591.1	4,626.9	4,555.1	4,610.3
With marginal attachment	765.6	750.0	726.3	708.3	739.7	707.3	749.4
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	53.8	25.7	56.4	32.1	60.4	35.2	57.2
Available to start work within four weeks	21.9	18.7	26.2	22.2	30.2	25.0	26.9
Not available to start work within four weeks	31.9	7.0	30.2	9.9	30.2	10.2	30.3
Wanted to work but not actively looking for work and available to start work within four weeks	711.8	724.3	669.9	676.3	679.4	672.1	692.1
Discouraged jobseekers	118.2	116.1	93.7	96.0	89.0	96.8	90.5
Other	593.6	608.2	576.2	580.3	590.4	575.3	601.6
Without marginal attachment	3,751.2	3,763.3	3,887.6	3,882.8	3,887.1	3,847.8	3,860.9
Wanted to work but not actively looking for work and not available to start work within four weeks	244.2	224.0	264.1	222.7	265.2	261.4	262.7
Did not want to work	3,225.4	3,275.2	3,365.6	3,399.1	3,380.1	3,340.8	3,345.3
Permanently unable to work	77.3	52.3	56.5	54.4	47.8	51.1	57.2
Institutionalised(b) and boarding school pupils	204.3	211.8	201.4	206.6	194.1	194.4	195.8

(a) Estimates for September 1986 are based on a revised definition of employment introduced in the April 1986 labour force survey. See paragraph 34 of Appendix II for further information. (b) Includes some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and inmates of reformatories, jails etc.

Source: *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (6220.0).



Estimates for August 1986 are based on a revised definition introduced in April 1986. See paragraph 34 of Appendix II for further information.  
 Source: *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

TABLE 5.2. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE : AGE, AUGUST 1966 TO AUGUST 1986  
( ' 000)

August	Age group (years)									Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70 and over	
MALES										
1966	173.4	27.0	16.8	15.0	27.3	25.5	45.2	102.7	217.7	650.6
1967	184.6	35.4	17.5	18.3	29.8	24.8	48.1	103.9	219.4	681.9
1968	204.1	36.5	18.3	16.9	29.6	26.5	47.6	105.2	226.6	711.3
1969	214.9	42.3	18.9	18.6	29.8	27.4	53.9	112.1	232.3	750.4
1970	211.8	41.2	20.7	16.5	29.2	26.6	54.8	116.4	231.8	749.0
1971	227.3	47.8	23.4	17.5	35.1	27.7	59.3	120.0	241.5	799.6
1972	234.8	46.1	22.2	18.8	33.2	28.9	60.6	128.2	241.0	813.8
1973	229.9	51.5	22.7	20.9	40.7	35.9	63.5	134.9	247.8	847.9
1974	245.8	57.2	30.8	21.9	45.3	37.8	75.6	148.6	257.5	920.5
1975	242.2	56.9	33.5	25.6	48.4	37.9	87.4	156.9	267.7	956.6
1976	247.1	52.9	33.0	25.4	47.3	42.1	101.1	174.3	277.0	1,000.1
1977	240.4	51.2	34.3	24.3	53.8	45.5	106.3	180.4	288.8	1,024.9
1978	256.2	62.3	46.3	37.1	66.1	62.6	113.8	189.8	303.4	1,137.7
1979	254.6	60.2	49.1	37.9	68.5	64.8	130.0	198.3	314.2	1,177.6
1980	243.6	59.5	53.5	36.4	66.2	61.0	141.6	203.7	327.6	1,193.2
1981	248.0	56.3	56.9	44.5	67.1	69.7	143.5	208.1	342.4	1,236.6
1982	243.6	70.4	63.4	48.2	77.0	78.0	160.5	218.3	355.3	1,314.6
1983	271.0	69.0	57.2	52.1	74.5	82.0	183.2	216.3	373.8	1,379.2
1984	268.2	70.4	62.3	56.8	77.5	88.1	188.1	215.2	384.8	1,411.5
1985	280.8	68.1	70.1	57.5	78.7	89.3	195.8	216.7	402.7	1,459.7
1986(a)	283.3	72.1	67.1	64.6	80.0	92.1	189.6	229.2	414.5	1,492.4
FEMALES										
1966	191.7	178.4	456.2	459.8	420.2	199.9	184.4	176.4	360.3	2,627.2
1967	200.6	177.9	467.1	448.6	423.6	197.5	186.6	176.8	367.9	2,646.6
1968	212.0	194.2	467.3	439.6	420.5	200.7	193.0	180.4	376.5	2,684.3
1969	232.0	191.4	476.7	428.5	420.0	211.4	205.0	183.7	382.4	2,731.1
1970	234.4	201.3	472.8	408.8	412.5	215.2	208.6	185.9	388.7	2,728.1
1971	253.9	218.2	499.2	381.8	409.3	218.5	213.0	187.3	402.0	2,783.1
1972	249.0	214.1	523.4	379.9	401.4	216.5	222.1	195.1	410.1	2,811.6
1973	259.5	214.4	515.9	366.5	401.6	215.8	230.5	203.7	418.9	2,826.8
1974	268.4	208.1	519.9	357.1	410.8	212.7	241.1	207.5	426.3	2,851.8
1975	255.1	201.1	529.8	350.7	408.7	216.9	247.6	217.1	432.6	2,859.6
1976	276.0	194.9	549.1	352.9	389.9	222.6	252.8	223.3	448.4	2,909.8
1977	264.5	184.4	541.7	351.2	390.3	229.3	252.1	232.2	458.6	2,904.3
1978	270.8	197.8	553.9	350.2	394.7	247.2	263.7	251.6	499.3	3,029.1
1979	288.0	188.6	574.9	358.5	395.9	269.5	264.3	263.6	513.8	3,117.0
1980	260.1	181.1	558.9	357.2	386.3	263.2	268.2	267.0	529.7	3,071.7
1981	272.6	188.7	571.9	378.3	375.7	260.5	284.3	271.8	550.8	3,154.6
1982	276.8	197.0	570.6	402.3	372.8	275.3	301.2	275.8	571.0	3,242.8
1983	270.2	193.4	588.8	421.2	381.4	267.7	303.3	280.8	592.3	3,299.1
1984	280.5	187.5	568.0	430.1	373.4	270.3	313.7	275.2	616.8	3,315.5
1985	281.9	173.9	538.8	416.8	376.8	270.6	320.3	283.9	639.7	3,302.8
1986(a)	286.7	166.7	516.6	396.9	350.6	265.5	315.4	295.3	659.3	3,253.1
PERSONS										
1966	365.1	205.4	473.0	474.8	447.5	225.4	229.6	279.1	578.0	3,277.8
1967	385.2	213.3	484.7	466.9	453.4	222.3	234.7	280.7	587.4	3,328.6
1968	416.1	230.6	485.7	456.5	450.0	227.2	240.6	285.6	603.2	3,395.5
1969	446.9	233.7	495.6	447.2	449.8	238.8	258.9	295.8	614.7	3,481.5
1970	446.2	242.5	493.5	425.3	441.6	241.8	263.5	302.2	620.4	3,477.1
1971	481.1	266.0	522.6	399.3	444.5	246.3	272.3	307.4	643.4	3,582.7
1972	483.9	260.2	545.6	398.7	434.5	245.3	282.7	323.3	651.1	3,625.3
1973	489.3	265.9	538.6	387.4	442.4	251.7	294.0	338.6	666.8	3,674.7
1974	514.2	265.3	550.7	379.1	456.0	250.4	316.8	356.1	683.8	3,772.3
1975	497.3	258.0	563.3	376.3	457.1	254.8	335.0	374.0	700.3	3,816.2
1976	523.1	247.8	582.0	378.2	437.2	264.7	353.9	397.6	725.4	3,909.8
1977	504.9	235.5	576.0	375.5	444.1	274.8	358.4	412.7	747.4	3,929.2
1978	527.0	260.1	600.2	387.4	460.8	309.7	377.5	441.4	802.6	4,166.8
1979	542.5	248.8	624.1	396.3	464.5	334.2	394.3	462.0	828.0	4,294.6
1980	503.7	240.7	612.4	393.6	452.5	324.2	409.8	470.8	857.3	4,264.9
1981	520.7	244.9	628.8	422.8	442.8	330.2	427.9	479.9	893.2	4,391.2
1982	520.4	267.4	634.0	450.5	449.7	353.3	461.7	494.1	926.3	4,557.4
1983	541.2	262.4	646.1	473.3	455.9	349.7	486.5	497.1	966.2	4,678.3
1984	548.7	257.9	630.3	486.9	450.9	358.4	501.8	490.4	1,001.7	4,727.0
1985	562.7	242.0	608.9	474.3	455.5	359.9	516.2	500.6	1,042.5	4,762.5
1986(a)	570.0	238.9	583.7	461.5	430.6	357.6	505.0	524.4	1,073.8	4,745.6

(a) Estimates for August 1986 are based on a revised definition introduced in April 1986. See paragraph 34 of Appendix II for further information.

Source: The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

TABLE 5.3. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a): FAMILY STATUS, JUNE 1986

	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	— '000—			—per cent—		
<i>Member of a family</i>	1,112.0	2,439.3	3,551.3	22.9	49.9	36.4
Husband or wife	740.4	1,815.6	2,556.0	20.8	52.0	36.2
With dependents present	93.0	852.8	945.8	49.0	46.0	25.2
Without dependents present	647.4	962.8	1,610.2	39.0	58.7	48.8
Not-married family head	35.1	275.7	310.8	33.6	60.6	55.6
With dependents present	9.4	152.8	162.2	23.3	54.8	50.8
Without dependents present	25.7	122.8	148.6	40.1	69.9	61.9
Full-time student aged 15-24	252.7	227.0	479.7	71.1	65.1	68.1
Other child(b) of family head	52.0	39.4	91.3	6.9	8.3	7.4
Other relative	31.9	81.7	113.6	35.2	69.8	54.7
<i>Not a member of a family</i>	176.5	476.6	653.1	23.0	55.5	40.2
Living alone	134.9	429.7	564.6	32.8	72.5	56.2
Not living alone	41.6	46.9	88.5	11.7	17.6	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,288.5</b>	<b>2,916.0</b>	<b>4,204.4</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>37.0</b>

(a) Excludes persons in institutions. (b) Aged 15 and over.

Source: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, June 1986 (6224.0).

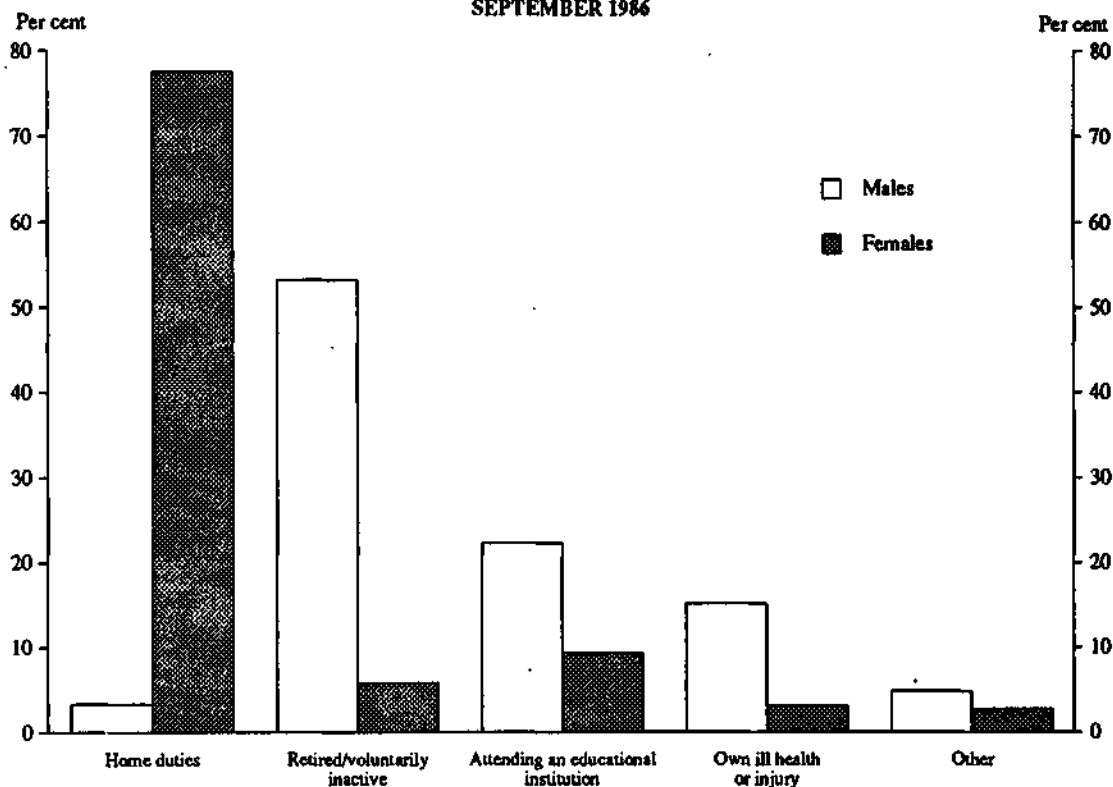
TABLE 5.4. PERSONS OUT OF THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR(a): MAIN ACTIVITY WHEN OUT OF THE LABOUR FORCE, 1979 TO 1986

Main activity when out of the labour force	Year ended February							
	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
	NUMBER ('000)							
Home duties	2,663.2	2,593.2	2,591.1	2,658.9	2,869.5	2,953.9	2,914.7	2,984.2
Attended an educational institution	821.7	805.0	751.8	765.3	759.6	839.0	863.7	926.9
Own ill health/injury	200.2	219.9	169.6	166.0	230.7	236.3	262.4	310.4
Retired, voluntarily inactive, etc.	1,255.8	1,333.5	1,141.1	1,291.6	1,110.9	1,085.2	1,233.5	1,373.4
Permanently unable to work	65.5	61.3	69.4	69.5	69.0	65.5	59.3	49.8
On strike	78.5	85.3	7.0	21.3	..	..	..	..
Unpaid leave(b)	..	..	..	..	252.4	352.3	366.4	405.1
Other	57.1	68.5	62.4	60.3	166.2	168.3	151.9	169.9
Not asked(c)	..	..	..	613.5	..	..	..	..
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,142.0</b>	<b>5,166.6</b>	<b>4,792.4</b>	<b>5,646.4</b>	<b>5,458.4</b>	<b>5,700.5</b>	<b>5,851.9</b>	<b>6,219.7</b>
	PROPORTION OF TOTAL (per cent)							
Home duties	51.8	50.2	54.1	47.1	52.6	51.8	49.8	48.0
Attended an educational institution	16.0	15.6	15.7	13.6	13.9	14.7	14.8	14.9
Own ill health/injury	3.9	4.3	3.5	2.9	4.2	4.1	4.5	5.0
Retired, voluntarily inactive, etc.	24.4	25.8	23.8	22.9	20.4	19.0	21.1	22.1
Permanently unable to work	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8
On strike	1.5	1.7	0.1	0.4	..	..	..	..
Unpaid leave(b)	..	..	..	..	4.6	6.2	6.3	6.5
Other	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	3.0	3.0	2.6	2.7
Not asked(c)	..	..	..	10.9	..	..	..	..
<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>

(a) Refers to calendar year for 1979 and 1980. For 1981 and 1982 refers to twelve month period beginning February. (b) Included under 'retired, voluntarily inactive, etc.' in 1979-1982. (c) Persons who had had their current job for a year or longer but had only worked for part of the period were not asked their activity when not working.

Source: Labour Force Experience, Australia (6206.0).

CHART 5.b. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY  
SEPTEMBER 1986



Source: Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1986 (6220.0).

TABLE 5.5. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 64 NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE<sup>(a)</sup>: WHETHER ATTENDING AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDING  
MAY 1981 TO MAY 1986  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Type of educational institution attending	May 1981	May 1982	May 1983	May 1984	May 1985	May 1986
<b>MALES</b>						
Attending	257.1	263.5	282.0	293.3	303.7	301.1
School	174.2	174.0	195.1	199.3	212.3	205.0
University	41.2	49.3	44.6	46.4	42.8	39.4
CAE	24.4	19.2	18.5	20.2	24.2	25.5
TAFE/Technical College	13.3	15.0	18.8	20.4	20.1	22.5
Other	*	6.0	5.0	6.9	4.4	8.7
Not attending	352.9	372.7	413.8	416.5	449.2	464.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>610.0</b>	<b>636.2</b>	<b>695.9</b>	<b>709.7</b>	<b>752.9</b>	<b>765.3</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>						
Attending	307.2	307.5	328.2	335.9	336.7	336.5
School	169.0	168.9	186.7	182.8	191.4	187.2
University	38.8	36.1	38.7	41.9	36.2	37.4
CAE	35.2	26.4	29.1	30.4	28.9	26.4
TAFE/Technical College	41.1	51.5	48.2	54.2	60.6	58.8
Other	23.1	24.6	25.5	26.6	19.6	26.7
Not attending	1,947.7	1,981.7	2,000.0	2,009.9	1,990.5	1,872.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,254.9</b>	<b>2,289.2</b>	<b>2,328.2</b>	<b>2,345.8</b>	<b>2,327.2</b>	<b>2,209.1</b>

(a) Excludes persons in institutions and persons permanently unable to work. Estimates may therefore differ from those shown in other tables and charts.

Source: Transition from Education to Work, Australia (6227.0).

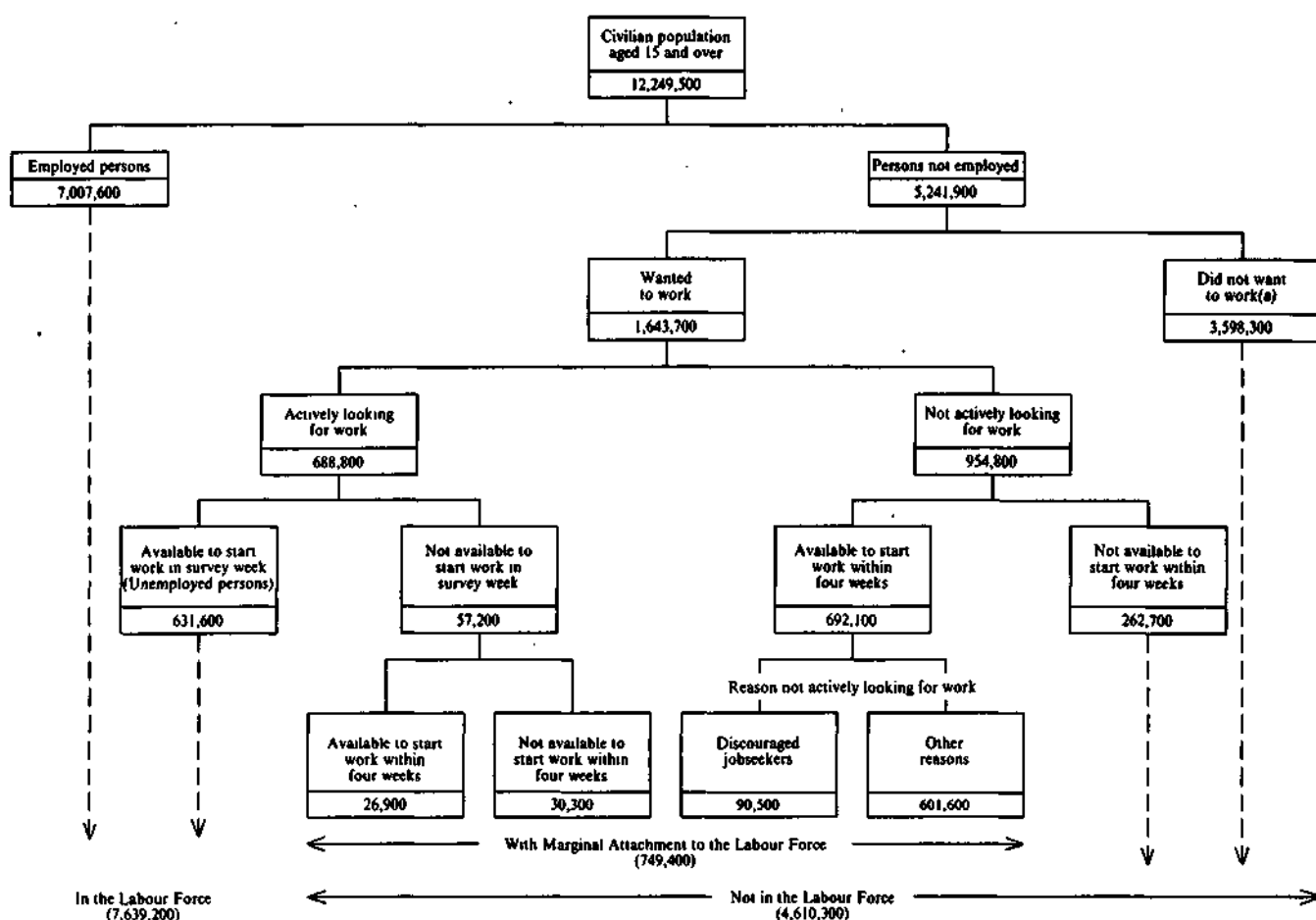
TABLE 5.6. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a): EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND AGE, FEBRUARY 1986

Educational attainment	Age group						Total	
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	('000)	(per cent)
	— '000—							
<b>MALES</b>								
With post-school qualifications	25.1	218.7	625.0	572.2	350.2	200.4	1,991.6	47.6
Degree	*	26.0	160.4	150.8	74.8	44.6	456.7	10.9
Trade; technical or other certificate	21.2	185.8	451.7	409.5	268.7	153.4	1,490.4	35.7
Other	*	6.9	12.8	11.9	6.6	*	44.5	1.1
Without post-school qualifications(b)	269.1	312.5	509.3	450.0	330.7	275.6	2,147.4	51.4
Attended highest level of secondary school available	86.7	113.5	147.8	83.3	43.4	27.7	502.4	12.0
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	182.4	199.0	360.8	366.1	285.0	246.1	1,639.5	39.2
Left at age—								
18 and over	*	7.4	15.6	8.3	4.6		36.7	0.9
16 or 17	104.3	112.5	161.0	100.5	44.1	31.8	554.2	13.3
14 or 15	76.8	77.4	174.0	221.4	186.5	156.2	892.3	21.3
13 and under	*	*	10.2	36.0	51.7	56.2	156.4	3.7
Still at school(c)	41.2	*	..	..	..	..	41.5	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>335.5</b>	<b>531.5</b>	<b>1,134.3</b>	<b>1,022.3</b>	<b>680.9</b>	<b>476.0</b>	<b>4,180.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>								
With post-school qualifications	48.1	191.7	356.3	277.0	142.9	59.4	1,075.4	40.6
Degree	*	37.1	106.3	58.8	24.4	10.6	237.7	9.0
Trade; technical or other certificate	44.4	146.0	239.1	205.5	112.7	44.9	792.6	29.9
Other	*	8.5	10.9	12.7	5.8	*	45.1	1.7
Without post-school qualifications(b)	206.4	250.4	344.9	366.5	232.1	112.1	1,512.4	57.1
Attended highest level of secondary school available	79.6	96.7	91.4	48.2	26.1	13.8	355.8	13.4
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	126.8	153.8	252.8	316.5	205.4	97.5	1,152.8	43.6
Left at age—								
18 and over	4.8		7.8	*	*	*	18.0	0.7
16 or 17	73.0	101.8	123.7	92.3	41.4	17.8	449.9	17.0
14 or 15	52.7	47.2	115.0	193.0	132.4	64.9	605.2	22.9
13 and under	*	*	6.3	28.9	29.6	13.5	79.5	3.0
Still at school(c)	58.6	*	..	..	..	..	59.1	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>313.2</b>	<b>442.5</b>	<b>701.2</b>	<b>643.5</b>	<b>375.0</b>	<b>171.5</b>	<b>2,646.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>								
With post-school qualifications	73.3	410.4	981.3	849.2	493.1	259.8	3,067.0	44.9
Degree	*	63.1	266.8	209.6	99.3	55.3	694.4	10.2
Trade; technical or other certificate	65.7	331.9	690.8	615.0	381.4	198.3	2,283.0	33.4
Other	7.2	15.4	23.7	24.6	12.4	6.3	89.6	1.3
Without post-school qualifications(b)	475.6	562.9	854.2	816.5	562.8	387.7	3,659.8	53.6
Attended highest level of secondary school available	166.3	210.2	239.2	131.5	69.5	41.5	858.2	12.6
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	309.3	352.8	613.6	682.7	490.4	343.6	2,792.3	40.9
Left at age—								
18 and over	*	11.4	23.4	10.5	4.6	*	54.7	0.8
16 or 17	177.2	214.3	284.6	192.8	85.5	49.6	1,004.1	14.7
14 or 15	129.5	124.6	289.0	414.4	318.9	221.1	1,497.6	21.9
13 and under	*	*	16.5	65.0	81.3	69.7	235.9	3.5
Never attended school	*	*	*	*	5.4		9.3	0.1
Still at school(c)	99.9	*	..	..	..	..	100.6	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>648.7</b>	<b>974.0</b>	<b>1,835.8</b>	<b>1,665.8</b>	<b>1,055.9</b>	<b>647.5</b>	<b>6,827.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excludes persons in institutions. Estimates may therefore differ from those shown in other tables and charts. (b) Includes persons who never attended school. (c) Aged 15 to 20 only.

Source: Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia, February 1986 (6235.0).

**CHART 5.c. RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE TO PERSONS IN OR NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, SEPTEMBER 1986**



(a) Includes institutionalised, boarding school pupils and persons permanently unable to work.

Source: *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1986* (6220.0).

**TABLE 5.7. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE: WHO WANTED TO WORK BUT WERE NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND REASON NOT AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS, SEPTEMBER 1986 ('000)**

Reason not available to start work within four weeks	Intention to look for work in the next twelve months					Type of work preferred*			Total
	Intended to look	Might look	Did not intend to look	Did not know	Not asked(a)	Full-time	Part-time	No preference	
Personal reasons	59.9	29.0	52.9	5.5	5.4	66.0	75.0	11.7	152.7
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	19.2	16.5	32.9	*	4.8	31.1	38.2	7.5	76.8
Studying	37.2	10.3	15.9	*	*	33.5	28.3	*	65.4
At school	27.5	9.1	14.5	*	*	27.0	23.6	*	52.8
Other educational institution	9.7	*	*	*	*	6.5	4.7	*	12.5
Moved house/holidays	*	*	4.1	*	*	*	8.5	*	10.5
Family reasons	14.6	19.2	41.6	4.0	8.5	11.0	70.5	6.5	88.0
Ill health of other than self	*	*	*	*	*	*	7.4	*	9.4
Unable to find suitable childcare	*	*	*	*	*	*	7.7	*	9.9
Children too young/preferred to look after children	10.3	13.6	34.3	*	8.1	8.1	55.3	5.2	68.6
Other reasons	6.3	*	9.8	*	*	5.4	15.2	*	22.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>104.3</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>160.7</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>262.7</b>
Males	28.7	12.1	21.7	*	*	39.9	21.5	6.9	68.3
Females	52.2	39.6	82.6	8.0	12.0	42.5	139.2	12.6	194.4

(a) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of the survey week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

Source: *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1986* (6220.0).

**TABLE 5.8. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE :  
SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, SEPTEMBER 1986  
( '000)**

	Persons who wanted to work and were actively looking for work			Persons who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks			Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force		
	Available to start work within four weeks	Not available to start work within four weeks	Total	Discouraged jobseekers	Other	Total	Males	Females	Persons
<b>Age group—</b>									
15-19	7.1	20.0	27.0	7.1	115.9	123.1	72.7	77.3	150.1
20-24	*	5.3	8.5	*	60.8	63.7	11.6	60.6	72.2
25-34	7.6	*	10.4	12.8	173.0	185.7	13.5	182.7	196.2
35-44	4.7	*	6.0	18.6	127.3	145.9	13.3	138.6	151.9
45-54	*	*	*	13.9	65.8	79.7	11.9	70.7	82.6
55-59	*	*	*	8.7	22.7	31.4	8.8	24.3	33.2
60-64	*	*	*	10.9	17.3	28.2	14.0	14.6	28.6
65 and over	*	*	*	15.6	18.8	34.4	19.5	15.1	34.6
<b>Family status—</b>									
Member of a family	21.9	26.6	48.5	73.5	531.2	604.7	130.7	522.5	653.2
Husband or wife	11.8	4.0	15.8	51.8	343.1	394.8	47.3	363.4	410.7
With dependents present	10.2	*	12.2	26.0	269.3	295.3	16.8	290.7	307.6
Without dependents present	*	*	*	25.7	73.8	99.5	30.4	72.7	103.1
Not-married family head	*	*	4.0	12.1	70.7	82.9	*	83.3	86.9
With dependents present	*	*	*	8.1	65.6	73.7	*	74.4	77.3
Without dependents present	*	*	*	4.1	5.1	9.2	*	8.8	9.6
Full-time student aged 15-24(a)	4.2	20.7	24.9	4.5	98.1	102.6	64.5	63.0	127.5
Other child(b) of family head	*	*	*	*	15.1	18.4	12.3	9.7	22.0
Other relative of family head	*	*	*	*	4.1	6.0	*	*	6.1
Not a member of a family	*	*	*	12.5	33.2	45.7	20.6	28.8	49.4
Living alone	*	*	*	10.7	22.4	33.2	13.8	20.5	34.2
Not living alone	*	*	*	*	10.8	12.5	6.9	8.3	15.2
Not family coded	*	*	5.0	4.4	37.3	41.7	14.1	32.6	46.7
<b>Type of work preferred—</b>									
Full-time	13.0	21.0	34.0	19.4	123.2	142.5	78.3	98.3	176.6
Part-time	12.1	8.5	20.6	64.0	455.1	519.1	78.3	461.4	539.7
No preference	*	*	*	7.1	23.4	30.5	8.8	24.3	33.1
<b>Whether looked for work in the last 12 months(c)—</b>									
Had looked for work	26.9	30.3	57.2	27.1	115.2	142.3	62.9	136.7	199.5
Less than 5 weeks ago	26.9	30.3	57.2	9.6	29.6	39.1	36.5	59.9	96.4
5 and less than 8 weeks ago	..	..	..	6.9	32.3	39.2	9.9	29.4	39.2
8 and less than 13 weeks ago	..	..	..	4.2	21.2	25.4	6.4	19.0	25.4
13 to 52 weeks ago	..	..	..	6.4	32.1	38.5	10.2	28.4	38.5
Had not looked for work	..	..	..	63.4	486.4	549.8	102.5	447.3	549.8
<b>Time since last job—</b>									
Had had a job	21.9	14.1	36.0	81.9	503.3	585.2	110.3	510.9	621.2
Under 12 months	12.0	9.1	21.1	12.9	139.3	152.2	49.9	123.5	173.3
Under 6 months	8.0	*	11.9	6.2	79.9	86.1	29.6	68.4	98.0
6 and under 12 months	4.0	5.2	9.2	6.8	59.4	66.2	20.3	55.1	75.4
1 and under 3 years	4.6	*	8.2	12.1	96.4	108.4	26.4	90.3	116.6
3 and under 5 years	4.5	*	5.7	14.3	71.0	85.3	12.8	75.5	88.2
5 and under 10 years	*	*	*	20.9	98.3	119.2	12.4	109.6	122.0
10 and under 20 years	*	*	*	14.4	75.5	90.0	7.3	83.4	90.7
20 years or more	*	*	*	7.3	22.8	30.1	*	28.8	30.3
Had never had a job	5.0	16.2	21.3	8.6	98.3	106.9	55.1	73.0	128.2
<b>Reason for ceasing last job—</b>									
Had had a job	21.9	14.1	36.0	81.9	492.6	574.5	107.6	502.9	610.5
Job loser	10.5	*	12.8	35.1	144.7	179.8	51.1	141.5	192.6
Retrenched	4.6	*	5.1	15.8	53.7	69.5	18.5	56.1	74.6
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	*	*	4.7	10.2	42.1	52.3	7.3	49.6	56.9
Own ill health or injury	*	*	*	6.8	41.7	48.5	22.0	28.7	50.8
Business closed down for economic reasons	*	*	*	*	7.2	9.6	*	7.0	10.3
Job leaver	11.3	11.9	23.2	46.8	347.9	394.7	56.5	361.4	417.9
Retired/didn't want to work any longer	*	*	*	11.0	33.3	44.3	20.4	24.6	45.0
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	*	*	*	*	8.5	8.6	6.2	5.9	12.1
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	*	*	*	4.3	26.9	31.1	7.3	26.9	34.2
Returned to studies	*	5.9	6.2	*	10.8	11.0	8.0	9.3	17.3
To get married	*	*	*	5.9	30.0	36.0	*	36.6	36.6
Pregnancy/to have children	*	*	*	8.1	142.0	150.1	*	153.1	153.3
To look after family, house or someone else	*	*	*	4.8	29.2	34.0	*	33.2	35.0
To have holiday/to move house/spouse transferred	*	*	*	9.2	44.0	53.2	5.2	51.2	56.3
Business closed down for other reasons	*	*	*	*	10.0	11.8	*	9.0	12.1
Other	*	*	*	*	13.3	14.5	4.2	11.7	15.9
Had never had a job	5.0	16.2	21.3	8.6	98.3	106.9	55.1	73.0	128.2
Not asked(d)	*	*	*	*	10.7	10.7	*	8.0	10.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>90.5</b>	<b>601.6</b>	<b>692.1</b>	<b>165.4</b>	<b>584.0</b>	<b>749.4</b>

(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school. (b) Aged 15 and over. (c) Persons who had left a job in the last twelve months were only asked whether they had looked for work since that job. (d) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of survey week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

**TABLE 5.9. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, SEPTEMBER 1983 TO SEPTEMBER 1986**  
(\* 000)

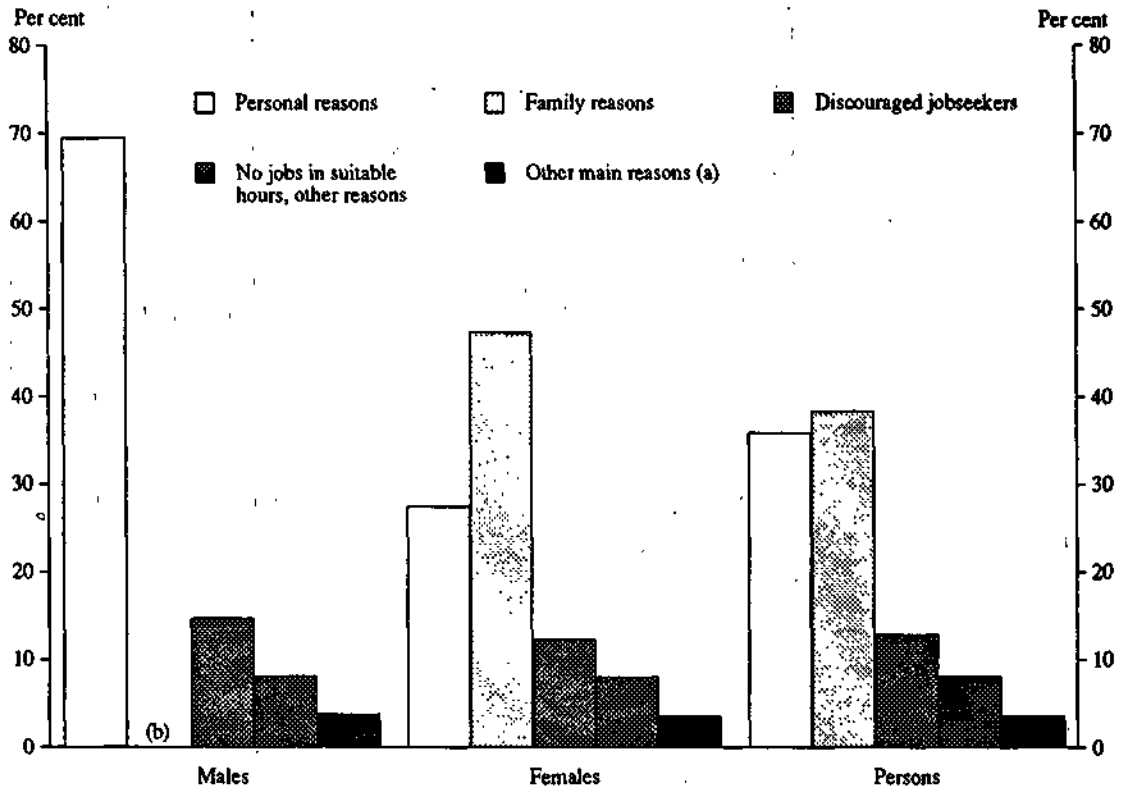
	Sept. 1983	March 1984	Sept. 1984	March 1985	Sept. 1985	March 1986	Sept. 1986
<b>MALES</b>							
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	28.2	12.6	29.2	14.8	24.9	14.0	26.5
Wanted to work but not actively looking for work and available to start work within four weeks	134.6	141.6	133.8	138.5	141.9	145.8	138.9
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>							
Had a job to go to	3.3	3.4	*	*	*	*	*
Personal reasons	90.7	98.4	94.0	94.7	97.5	98.5	96.9
Family reasons	3.4	3.1	4.8	5.3	4.3	*	*
Discouraged jobseekers	26.4	24.8	19.0	19.7	19.5	24.9	20.9
No jobs in suitable hours	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other reasons	7.0	6.1	8.0	7.4	10.6	9.8	10.6
Did not know	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Not asked(a)	*	*	*	4.6	*	*	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>154.2</b>	<b>163.0</b>	<b>153.3</b>	<b>166.8</b>	<b>159.9</b>	<b>165.4</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	25.5	13.1	27.2	17.3	35.5	21.1	30.7
Wanted to work but not actively looking for work and available to start work within four weeks	577.3	582.7	536.1	537.8	537.5	526.3	553.2
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>							
Had a job to go to	8.0	6.9	6.1	5.7	8.4	8.3	7.6
Personal reasons	153.1	167.1	147.8	168.8	158.7	152.5	153.0
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	36.1	37.0	34.8	38.9	39.5	36.3	33.6
Attending an educational institution	43.0	52.1	46.1	54.3	50.9	57.3	55.5
Had no need to work	39.7	40.2	32.9	38.2	34.0	31.0	32.3
Give others a chance	9.7	9.9	8.2	8.5	6.0	4.0	6.4
Welfare payments/pension may be affected	14.4	15.6	13.5	17.6	14.7	14.8	12.9
Moved house/holidays	10.2	12.2	12.3	11.3	13.6	9.2	12.2
Family reasons	273.8	259.4	258.3	232.9	244.1	237.8	263.5
Ill health of other than self	12.6	9.6	14.1	8.7	13.2	12.4	11.0
Unable to find suitable childcare			75.5	72.7	71.8	69.4	71.9
Children too young/preferred to look after children	220.3	210.9	131.6	113.6	124.6	116.3	138.7
Other family considerations	40.9	38.9	37.1	37.9	34.4	39.8	42.0
Discouraged jobseekers	91.8	91.3	74.7	76.3	69.6	71.9	69.6
Considered too young or too old by employers	17.9	22.6	19.3	22.5	22.4	24.3	20.1
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	*	3.5	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.2	*
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	7.2	8.4	7.9	10.0	7.4	9.8	8.6
No jobs in locality or line of work	30.8	34.1	23.4	27.4	21.6	22.9	27.8
No jobs at all	33.5	22.8	19.7	12.4	14.0	10.7	9.7
No jobs in suitable hours	14.3	20.8	17.4	15.8	15.6	16.4	15.4
Other reasons	20.2	22.0	21.4	22.3	25.6	24.8	30.3
Did not know	7.4	7.9	3.6	8.7	7.2	7.8	5.8
Not asked(a)	8.7	7.3	6.8	7.2	8.3	6.7	8.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>602.8</b>	<b>595.8</b>	<b>563.3</b>	<b>555.1</b>	<b>573.0</b>	<b>547.4</b>	<b>584.0</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	53.8	25.7	56.4	32.1	60.4	35.2	57.2
Wanted to work but not actively looking for work and available to start work within four weeks	711.8	724.3	669.9	676.3	679.4	672.1	692.1
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>							
Had a job to go to	11.4	10.3	8.8	9.1	11.2	11.7	9.9
Personal reasons	243.8	265.5	241.8	263.5	256.2	251.0	249.9
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	61.9	62.2	60.6	65.8	69.1	63.0	56.5
Attending an educational institution	82.9	104.8	93.4	104.9	102.3	111.1	106.9
Had no need to work	50.5	49.5	41.5	44.7	41.3	38.2	40.0
Give others a chance	11.2	11.0	9.3	9.1	6.2	4.5	7.4
Welfare payments/pension may be affected	22.1	21.7	17.4	24.2	19.6	19.6	21.3
Moved house/holidays	15.2	16.3	19.6	14.7	17.8	14.7	17.8
Family reasons	277.2	262.5	263.1	238.2	248.4	241.4	267.3
Ill health of other than self	13.4	10.1	15.2	11.0	14.8	12.9	11.6
Unable to find suitable childcare			76.3	73.6	72.5	70.1	72.6
Children too young/preferred to look after children	222.4	212.1	132.9	115.0	126.1	117.5	140.2
Other family considerations	41.4	40.3	38.7	38.6	34.9	40.9	43.0
Discouraged jobseekers	118.2	116.1	93.7	96.0	89.0	96.8	90.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	29.0	34.5	26.9	31.0	32.2	37.6	31.3
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	*	3.8	5.7	4.7	5.0	5.2	4.0
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	8.4	10.0	8.9	11.2	8.9	11.5	10.2
No jobs in locality or line of work	38.2	40.7	29.0	33.0	26.0	29.1	33.3
No jobs at all	39.7	27.1	23.2	16.1	16.8	13.4	11.7
No jobs in suitable hours	15.1	22.9	19.3	17.7	18.4	17.5	16.5
Other reasons	27.2	28.2	29.5	29.7	36.4	34.6	40.9
Did not know	8.1	9.5	4.2	10.3	8.0	9.0	6.6
Not asked(a)	10.9	9.3	9.5	11.9	12.0	10.1	10.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>765.6</b>	<b>750.0</b>	<b>726.3</b>	<b>708.3</b>	<b>739.7</b>	<b>707.3</b>	<b>749.4</b>

(a) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of the survey week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

Source: *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1986* (6220.0).



**CHART 5.d. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS: MAIN REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, SEPTEMBER 1986**



(a) Includes "Had a job to go to," and "Not asked."

(b) Estimate subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses.

Source: Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1986 (6220.0).