

LEAVERS FROM SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS MAY 1979

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Eric Hubbard on Canberra 526507 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616
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MAIN FEATURES

Note : Survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraph 8 below.

- Over one third (34.0 per cent) of all civilians aged 15 to 25 years in May 1979 had attended an educational institution full time in 1978.
- Of these, 31.1 per cent did not return to full-time education in 1979.
- 95.5 per cent of these leavers were in the labour force in May 1979. Of those in the labour force four out of five (79.3 per cent) were employed – nearly all full time – and one in five (20.7 per cent) was unemployed.
- Over one fifth (21.8 per cent) of persons who left secondary school in 1978 studied full time at a post-school educational institution in 1979.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In May 1979 a survey, based on the monthly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about persons aged 15 to 25 years who had attended full time at a school, university or other educational institution at some time during 1978. Separate information was obtained in respect of persons who had returned to full-time education in 1979 and those who had not returned to full-time education (described in this publication as *leavers*). Similar surveys were conducted in February of each year from 1964 to 1974, in May 1975 and 1976 and in August 1977 and 1978. Results from some earlier surveys are shown in Table 9. However, see paragraphs 6 and 7 regarding the comparability of results.

The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews

generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between 6th and 12th of each month.

Scope of the estimates

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen to twenty five years except :

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia, and
- (e) some patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc. and persons reported as permanently unable to work. Estimates of the numbers of such persons are shown in Tables 1 and 9.

Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *the survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

5. For this survey, *leavers from schools, universities or other educational institutions* are defined as persons who, at the time of the survey, were not attending an educational institution full-time and who had completed or withdrawn from a course they were attending full-time at an educational institution in 1978. *Non-leavers* are defined as persons who were attending an educational institution full-time and who had done so in 1978.

Comparability of series

6. Because the estimates from the surveys in August 1978 and May 1979 are based on revised population estimates derived from the results of the 1976 Population Census (adjusted for

underenumeration) and a new population survey questionnaire, care should be used in comparing estimates with those shown in previous issues of this publication and estimates from earlier surveys shown in Table 9.

7. Other factors affecting comparability are :

- (i) as the surveys cover persons aged 15 to 25 years (15 to 24 years before the 1977 survey), estimates of the number of students are affected by the timing of the surveys. For example, the estimate from a May survey would be higher than that from a February survey because most persons reaching 15 years of age between February and May would be students in May, whereas most reaching 26 in the same period would not, and only a few students would leave in that period.
- (ii) the scope of surveys prior to 1977 was restricted to persons aged 15 to 24 years.
- (iii) for the August surveys the definition of *non-leavers* was changed to include all persons who had attended an educational institution full-time at some time in the current year and not only those who were attending full-time at the time of the survey.
- (iv) before 1975, surveys were conducted in February, i.e. generally before the start of the academic year for tertiary courses, and information was, of necessity, partly a reflection of expectations.
- (v) for surveys conducted in 1971 and earlier years trainee teachers (enrolled at Colleges of Advanced Education and in some cases also at other institutions) were classified as "in the labour force" but for later years have been included in the category "attended an educational institution full-time in the previous year". It is estimated that in August 1971 there were about 7,000 males and 17,000 females who were reclassified in population surveys as not in the labour force.

Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ by chance from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 8. See also paragraph 6 of the Technical Note regarding non-sampling errors.

Related publications

9. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include :

- . *The Labour Force* (6203.0)
- . *Labour Force Experience* (6206.0)
- . *Persons not in the Labour Force* (6220.0)
- . *Persons Looking for Work* (6222.0)
- . *Persons aged 15 to 64 years : Employment Status and Period Since Leaving School* (6225.0)
- . *School Leavers, 1970 to 1974 : Their Employment Status and Education Experience in May 1975* (6226.0)
- . *Employment Status of Teenagers* (6234.0)

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 8 above.
- n.a. Not available.
- .. Not applicable.
- C.A.E. College of Advanced Education.
- T.A.F.E. College of Technical and Further Education.

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 TO 25 YEARS IN MAY 1979 : FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE OR NON-ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN 1978 AND 1979

Educational institution attended full time in 1978	Attended full time in 1978 : status in May 1979 (a)				Did not attend full time in 1978 (a) ('000)	In hospitals, etc. (b) ('000)	Total aged 15 to 25 years ('000)
	Leavers ('000)	Non-leavers		Total ('000)			
		Number ('000)	Per cent of total				
MALES							
School	109.0	251.2	69.7	360.2	..	n.a.	360.2
University	22.0	42.7	66.0	64.7	..	n.a.	64.7
C.A.E.	11.1	17.6	61.3	28.7	..	n.a.	28.7
T.A.F.E.	12.3	*	*	15.7	..	n.a.	15.7
Other	*	*	*	*	..	n.a.	*
Total	157.7	315.7	66.7	473.4	888.2	12.9	1,374.5
FEMALES							
School	87.3	262.8	75.1	350.1	..	n.a.	350.1
University	11.0	29.5	72.7	40.6	..	n.a.	40.6
C.A.E.	11.5	23.6	67.2	35.1	..	n.a.	35.1
T.A.F.E.	13.0	*	*	17.1	..	n.a.	17.1
Other	7.9	*	*	10.1	..	n.a.	10.1
Total	130.7	322.3	71.1	453.0	890.4	5.3	1,348.7
PERSONS							
School	196.4	513.9	72.3	710.3	..	n.a.	710.3
University	33.0	72.3	68.7	105.3	..	n.a.	105.3
C.A.E.	22.7	41.2	64.5	63.9	..	n.a.	63.9
T.A.F.E.	25.3	7.6	23.2	32.8	..	n.a.	32.8
Other	11.2	*	*	14.2	..	n.a.	14.2
Total	288.4	638.0	68.9	926.4	1,778.6	18.2	2,723.1

(a) Excludes some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and some inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., at the time of the survey, and persons permanently unable to work, who were not asked the survey questions. (b) Estimated numbers of persons for whom the hospital, sanatorium, gaol, reformatory, etc., was regarded as their dwelling and persons who were reported as permanently unable to work. Particulars of attendance at schools, etc., were not obtained in respect of such persons.

TABLE 2. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 25 YEARS IN MAY 1979 (a) : TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED FULL TIME IN 1978, AGE AND BIRTHPLACE ('000)

	Males			Females			Persons		
	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total	Aged 15 to 19 years	Aged 20 to 25 years	Total
	BORN IN AUSTRALIA								
Attended full time in 1978	335.6	63.4	399.0	337.1	44.9	382.0	672.7	108.3	781.0
School	305.1	*	306.4	296.0	*	297.0	601.1	*	603.4
University	15.6	36.7	52.3	11.2	21.0	32.2	26.8	57.7	84.5
C.A.E.	6.5	17.3	23.8	12.6	17.6	30.1	19.0	34.9	53.9
T.A.F.E.	7.8	4.6	12.4	11.4	*	13.9	19.2	7.1	26.3
Other	*	*	*	5.9	*	8.8	6.6	6.2	12.7
Did not attend full time in 1978	222.8	531.1	753.8	201.6	537.4	739.0	424.3	1,068.5	1,492.8
Total	558.4	594.4	1,152.8	538.6	582.3	1,121.0	1,097.0	1,176.8	2,273.8
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA									
Attended full time in 1978	59.4	15.0	74.4	59.1	11.9	71.0	118.5	26.9	145.4
School	53.6	*	53.8	52.7	*	53.1	106.3	*	106.9
University	*	10.0	12.4	*	6.2	8.4	4.6	16.2	20.8
C.A.E.	*	*	4.9	*	*	5.0	*	6.4	9.9
Other (including T.A.F.E.)	*	*	*	*	*	4.5	*	*	7.9
Did not attend full time in 1978	30.5	103.9	134.3	29.5	121.9	151.4	60.0	225.8	285.8
Total	89.9	118.9	208.8	88.6	133.8	222.4	178.5	252.7	431.2
TOTAL									
Attended full time in 1978	395.0	78.4	473.4	396.2	56.8	453.0	791.2	135.2	926.4
School	358.7	*	360.2	348.7	*	350.1	707.4	*	710.3
University	17.9	46.8	64.7	13.4	27.2	40.6	31.3	73.9	105.3
C.A.E.	8.5	20.3	28.7	14.1	21.1	35.1	22.5	41.3	63.9
T.A.F.E.	9.3	6.4	15.7	13.6	*	17.1	22.8	10.0	32.8
Other	*	*	*	6.5	*	10.1	7.2	7.0	14.2
Did not attend full time in 1978	253.2	634.9	888.2	231.1	659.3	890.4	484.3	1,294.3	1,778.6
Total	648.3	713.3	1,361.6	627.3	716.1	1,343.4	1,275.5	1,429.5	2,705.0

(a) Excludes institutionalised persons and persons permanently unable to work.

TABLE 3. NON-LEAVERS : EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED FULL TIME
IN 1978 AND MAY 1979
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Educational institution attended full time in 1978</i>	<i>Educational institution attended full time in 1979</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>School</i>	<i>University</i>	<i>C.A.E.</i>	<i>T.A.F.E.</i>	<i>Other</i>	
MALES						
School	231.3	8.3	5.0	6.4	*	251.2
University	*	40.9	*	*	*	42.7
C.A.E.	*	*	16.9	*	*	17.6
T.A.F.E.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	231.3	49.7	24.0	9.7	*	315.7
FEMALES						
School	227.9	9.1	10.5	10.4	4.9	262.8
University	*	28.2	*	*	*	29.5
C.A.E.	*	*	23.1	*	*	23.6
T.A.F.E.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	227.9	37.7	35.0	15.0	6.7	322.3
PERSONS						
School	459.2	17.3	15.5	16.8	5.0	513.9
University	*	69.1	*	*	*	72.3
C.A.E.	*	*	40.0	*	*	41.2
T.A.F.E.	*	*	*	6.1	*	7.6
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	459.2	87.3	59.0	24.6	7.8	638.0

TABLE 4. LEAVERS : TIME OF LEAVING, MAY 1979
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Time of leaving</i>	<i>Persons aged 15-19 years</i>			<i>Persons aged 15-25 years</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
January-June 1978	13.7	12.0	25.7	19.9	15.5	35.4
July-October 1978	13.4	11.5	25.0	16.4	13.7	30.1
November 1978	41.1	41.4	82.5	58.7	52.3	111.0
December 1978 (a)	54.6	42.4	97.0	62.7	49.3	112.0
Total	122.7	107.4	230.1	157.7	130.7	288.4

(a) Includes a small number of persons who left school, university, etc., in early 1979.

TABLE 5. LEAVERS : AGE AT TIME OF LEAVING, MAY 1979
(^{'000})

Age at time of leaving (years)	Attended school in 1978			Attended any educational institution (a) in 1978		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
14	*	*	5.6	*	*	5.6
15	31.0	20.6	51.6	31.7	21.4	53.0
16	42.9	30.3	73.3	45.1	35.3	80.3
17	20.9	23.7	44.6	24.3	30.0	54.3
18	10.4	8.5	18.9	14.9	14.8	29.7
19	*	*	*	8.7	5.8	14.6
20 and over	*	*	*	30.5	20.4	51.0
Total	109.0	87.3	196.4	157.7	130.7	288.4

(a) Includes schools.

TABLE 6. LEAVERS : EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND BIRTHPLACE, MAY 1979

State	Employment status				Total leavers			
	Employed (^{'000})	Unemployed (^{'000})	Total in the labour force (^{'000})	Not in the labour force (^{'000})	Aged 15-19 years (^{'000})	Aged 20-25 years (^{'000})	Total	
							Number (^{'000})	Participation rate (a) (per cent)
MALES								
New South Wales	41.7	8.1	49.7	*	41.4	11.5	52.8	94.1
Victoria	35.2	7.4	42.6	*	31.3	12.1	43.4	98.1
Queensland	21.7	3.8	25.5	*	21.9	4.4	26.3	97.0
South Australia	11.0	4.1	15.1	*	13.0	*	15.3	98.5
Western Australia	10.9	*	12.3	*	9.9	3.2	13.1	94.0
Tasmania	3.7	*	4.6	*	4.0	*	4.6	100.0
<i>Australia (b)</i>	<i>125.9</i>	<i>26.1</i>	<i>152.2</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>122.7</i>	<i>35.0</i>	<i>157.7</i>	<i>96.4</i>
Born in Australia	111.1	23.1	134.3	4.6	108.6	30.3	138.9	96.7
Born outside Australia	14.8	*	17.7	*	14.1	4.7	18.8	94.1
FEMALES								
New South Wales	30.6	11.2	41.9	*	35.9	7.5	43.4	96.4
Victoria	24.3	6.4	30.7	*	27.2	6.5	33.7	91.2
Queensland	13.6	4.5	18.1	*	15.3	4.1	19.4	93.6
South Australia	8.1	4.7	12.8	*	11.9	*	13.3	95.8
Western Australia	10.8	*	13.1	*	11.4	*	13.8	94.5
Tasmania	3.4	*	4.4	*	3.9	*	4.6	97.4
<i>Australia (b)</i>	<i>92.5</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>123.4</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>107.4</i>	<i>23.3</i>	<i>130.7</i>	<i>94.4</i>
Born in Australia	80.1	24.8	104.9	5.9	92.2	18.6	110.8	94.7
Born outside Australia	12.4	6.1	18.5	*	15.3	4.7	19.9	92.8
PERSONS								
New South Wales	72.3	19.3	91.6	4.7	77.3	19.0	96.3	95.2
Victoria	59.5	13.8	73.3	*	58.5	18.6	77.1	95.1
Queensland	35.4	8.3	43.7	*	37.2	8.5	45.7	95.5
South Australia	19.1	8.8	27.9	*	24.8	3.8	28.6	97.2
Western Australia	21.8	3.6	25.4	*	21.3	5.6	26.9	94.2
Tasmania	7.1	1.9	9.0	*	7.9	*	9.2	98.7
Australian Capital Territory	*	*	2.7	*	*	*	2.9	95.5
<i>Australia (c)</i>	<i>218.4</i>	<i>57.0</i>	<i>275.4</i>	<i>13.1</i>	<i>230.1</i>	<i>58.3</i>	<i>288.4</i>	<i>95.5</i>
Born in Australia	191.2	48.0	239.2	10.5	200.8	48.9	249.7	95.8
Born outside Australia	27.1	9.1	36.2	*	29.4	9.4	38.8	93.4

(a) Leavers in the labour force as a percentage of total leavers. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes the Northern Territory.

TABLE 7. EMPLOYED LEAVERS : INDUSTRY, MAY 1979
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Industry division</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	11.3	*	12.5
Manufacturing	34.6	9.1	43.7
Construction	12.5	*	13.1
Wholesale and retail trade	28.3	28.2	56.6
Transport, storage and communication	6.3	*	9.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	10.7	13.4	24.1
Community services (a)	8.7	22.0	30.6
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	6.3	9.3	15.6
Other (b)	7.3	6.0	13.2
Total	125.9	92.5	218.4
Full-time workers	115.4	75.9	191.3
Part-time workers	10.5	16.5	27.1

(a) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (b) Comprises mining; electricity, gas and water; and public administration and defence (civilians only).

TABLE 8. EMPLOYED LEAVERS : OCCUPATION, MAY 1979
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Occupation group</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Professional and technical	14.1	18.8	33.0
Administrative, executive, managerial and clerical	13.7	35.2	48.9
Sales	9.8	17.3	27.1
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	12.7	*	14.2
Transport and communication	*	*	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, labourers (n.e.c.) and miners, etc.	67.5	7.0	74.5
Service, sport and recreation	6.3	10.8	17.1
Total	125.9	92.5	218.4

TABLE 9. PERSONS AGED 15 TO 25 YEARS (a) : FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE OR NON-ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, 1972 TO 1979

	<i>Attended an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)</i>			<i>Did not attend an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)</i>			<i>Total ('000)</i>
	<i>Leavers ('000)</i>	<i>Non-leavers</i>		<i>In hospitals, etc. (c) ('000)</i>	<i>Total ('000)</i>		
		<i>('000)</i>	<i>Per cent of total</i>				
MALES							
Feb. - 1972	101.2	262.8	72.2	364.0	744.6	11.6	1,120.1
1973	114.8	281.0	71.0	395.9	719.2	15.6	1,130.7
1974	119.4	283.3	70.3	402.7	722.7	12.1	1,137.5
May - 1975	123.1	316.0	72.0	439.2	726.0	12.5	1,177.7
1976	137.1	316.8	69.8	453.9	729.2	13.4	1,196.4
Aug. - 1977	118.1	368.4	75.7	486.5	828.3	15.2	1,330.0
1978	133.0	379.7	74.1	512.6	839.5	12.3	1,364.4
May - 1979	157.7	315.7	66.7	473.4	888.2	12.9	1,374.5
FEMALES							
Feb. - 1972	92.0	225.4	71.0	317.3	774.1	7.0	1,098.4
1973	103.7	245.2	70.3	348.9	750.2	8.3	1,107.3
1974	109.9	246.9	69.2	356.8	753.7	*	1,114.3
May - 1975	115.3	283.6	71.1	398.9	748.0	4.3	1,151.2
1976	120.1	292.3	70.9	412.4	745.9	4.3	1,162.5
Aug. - 1977	108.9	359.3	76.7	468.1	827.0	7.3	1,302.4
1978	123.1	358.9	74.5	482.0	856.4	*	1,342.6
May - 1979	130.7	322.3	71.1	453.0	890.4	5.3	1,348.7
PERSONS							
Feb. - 1972	193.1	488.2	71.7	681.3	1,518.7	18.6	2,218.5
1973	218.5	526.2	70.7	744.7	1,469.4	23.9	2,238.0
1974	229.4	530.2	69.8	759.6	1,476.5	15.8	2,251.8
May - 1975	238.4	599.6	71.5	838.1	1,474.0	16.8	2,328.9
1976	257.2	609.0	70.3	866.3	1,475.0	17.6	2,358.9
Aug. - 1977	226.9	727.7	76.2	954.6	1,655.2	22.6	2,632.4
1978	256.0	738.6	74.3	994.7	1,695.9	16.4	2,707.1
May - 1979	288.4	638.0	68.9	926.4	1,778.6	18.2	2,723.1

(a) Aged 15 to 24 years for surveys up to May 1976. (b) See note (a) to Table 1. (c) See note (b) to Table 1.

NOTE. See page 1, paragraphs 6 and 7, regarding comparability of series.

