



**PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE
AUSTRALIA
(including discouraged jobseekers)
SEPTEMBER 1981**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

Over the two weeks commencing on Monday 7 September 1981, a survey supplementary to the population survey (conducted throughout Australia each month) sought information from persons not in the labour force aged 15 to 64 years. In particular, such persons were asked whether they would like a job and, if so, their reasons for not actively looking for work.

2. Interviewers, carefully chosen and specially trained, obtained information from the occupants of dwellings selected via a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) covering about two thirds of one percent of the population of Australia.

3. Results of similar surveys, the first conducted in November 1975, have been published in previous issues of this publication.

Scope

4. The survey includes all persons not in the labour force aged 15 to 64 years except:

- (a) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (b) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;
- (c) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.
- (d) persons who had actively looked for work but were unable to start a job in survey week for reasons other than their own temporary illness or injury; and
- (e) boarding school students, persons permanently unable to work, some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and inmates of reformatories, jails, etc.

Table 1 illustrates the portion of the civilian population covered by this survey.

Definitions

5. 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 labour force categories appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

6. *Persons who want a job* are those who:

- (a) in the four weeks before the interview week had not looked for work but in the survey answer 'yes' or 'maybe' to the question '*Even though you have not been looking for work would you like a full-time or part-time job now?*', or

- (b) although claiming to have looked for work in the four weeks before the interview week, had not taken active steps to find work.

7. *Active steps to find work* include checking or registering with the Commonwealth Employment Service or other employment agencies, writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer, answering a newspaper advertisement for a job, advertising or tendering for work, contacting friends or relatives and looking on factory or employment service notice boards.

8. *Discouraged*. Comprises persons who want a job but *are not actively looking for work* because they believe any of the following: considered by employers to be too young or too old; language or racial difficulties; insufficient training, skills or experience; no jobs in locality or line of work. See paragraph 14 regarding discontinuities in the series of estimates of discouraged.

9. *Highest ranked reason*. Reasons for not actively looking for work have been ranked in the order of priority shown in Table 9; where more than one reason was given, only the higher or highest ranked has been included in the estimates in Tables 9 to 12. Table 13 includes estimates of the highest ranked reason and the second highest ranked reason (if any).

10. A *regular job* is defined for this survey as paid employment, full-time or part-time, for two weeks or more in any job or business.

11. *Marital status*. Persons are classified as *married* or *not married*, the latter category includes persons who, at the time of the survey, had never married, or were widowed, or divorced.

12. *State capital cities* refers to the 1976 Population Census State Metropolitan Statistical Divisions. *Other areas* therefore include the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and the non metropolitan State Statistical Divisions.

13. *Main English-speaking countries* comprise the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, the United States of America, South Africa and New Zealand.

Discontinuities in the series

14. Estimates for March 1979 and earlier periods are not strictly comparable with those obtained from later surveys because, commencing with the September 1979 survey, the definition of *Persons who want a job* was widened to include those persons referred to in paragraph 6(b), i.e. persons who, although claiming to have looked for work in the four weeks before the interview week, had not taken active steps (as defined above) to find employment. Estimates of the number of such persons for earlier surveys, including those defined as *discouraged* are shown in previous issues of this publication.

15. The scope exclusions for this survey, as listed in paragraph 4, were extended for the September 1980 survey of Persons Not in the Labour Force to exclude 24,900 persons who had a job but had been away from work without pay for four weeks or more up to the end of the survey week. For all other surveys of Persons Not in the Labour Force, such persons were included in the scope of the survey and asked appropriate questions.

Reliability of the estimates

16. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:

- (a) *sampling error*: since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. More information on this topic is given in the Technical note.
- (b) *non-sampling error*: inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

Related publications

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

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Labour Force Experience During the Period February 1980 to February 1981, Australia (6206.0)

Labour Mobility During the Period February 1980 to February 1981, Australia (6209.0)

Persons Looking for Work, Australia, June 1981 (6222.0)

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

Symbols and other usages

- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See Technical note.
- .. not applicable
- n.a. not available
- n.e.c. not elsewhere classified

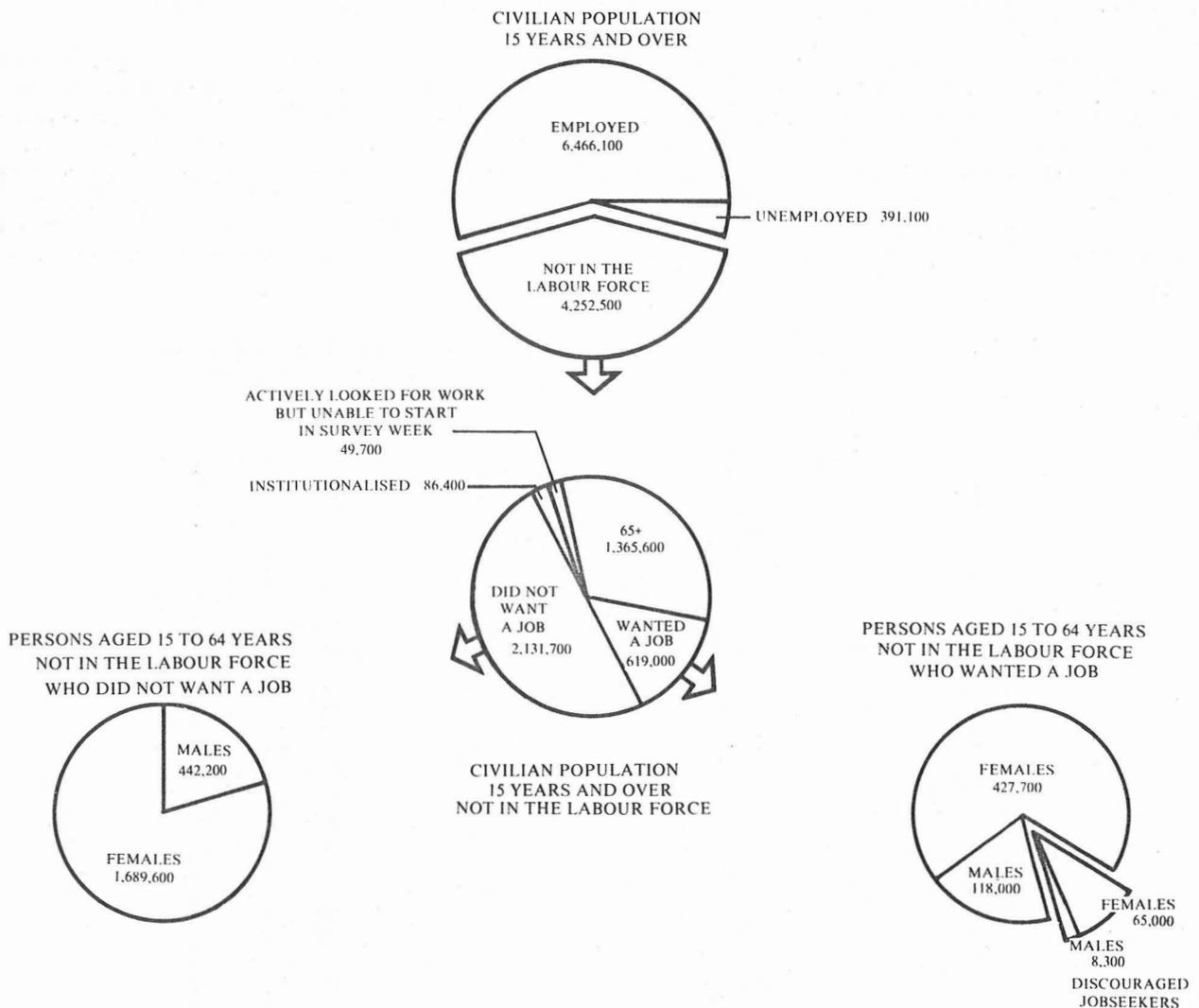
19. Because figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Of the Australian civilian population over 15 years of age, about 58.2 per cent are employed, 3.5 per cent are unemployed, and 38.3 per cent are not in the labour force. The majority of the estimated 2,886,900 persons aged 15 to 64 who are not in the labour force do not want a full-time or part-time job. There is, however, a significant number (619,000) who want a job but are not actively looking for work for various reasons: 73,300 of these people have been classified as discouraged job seekers because of the reasons they gave for not actively looking for work.

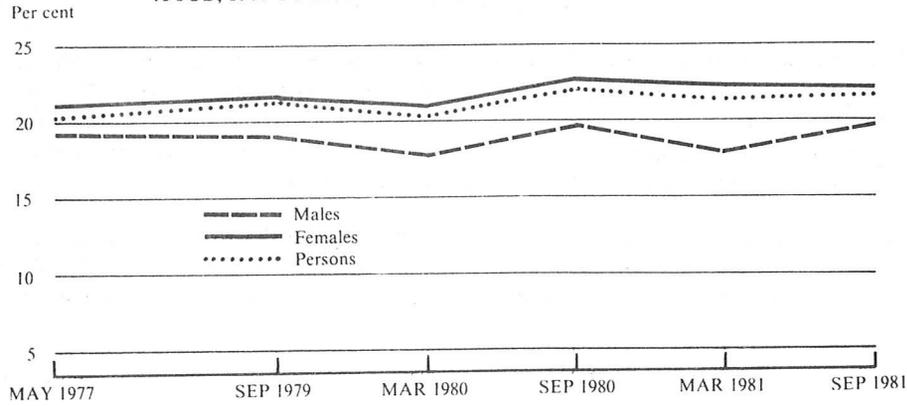
The majority of persons not in the labour force are females, particularly in the 15-64 age group. Although the absolute number of females who want a job (492,700) is much larger than for males (126,300), the proportion of all persons aged 15 to 64 and not in the labour force who want a job is approximately the same for both males and females (19 to 22 per cent).

DIAGRAM 1. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, SUMMARY



As shown in Diagram 2, the proportion of persons aged 15 to 64 and not in the labour force who want a job has remained virtually constant at about 21 per cent since 1977. In fact, the absolute number of persons aged 15 to 64 and not in the labour force has also varied little during this period. Rises in the civilian population aged 15 to 64 during this time have been reflected in rises in the labour force rather than in the persons not in the labour force.

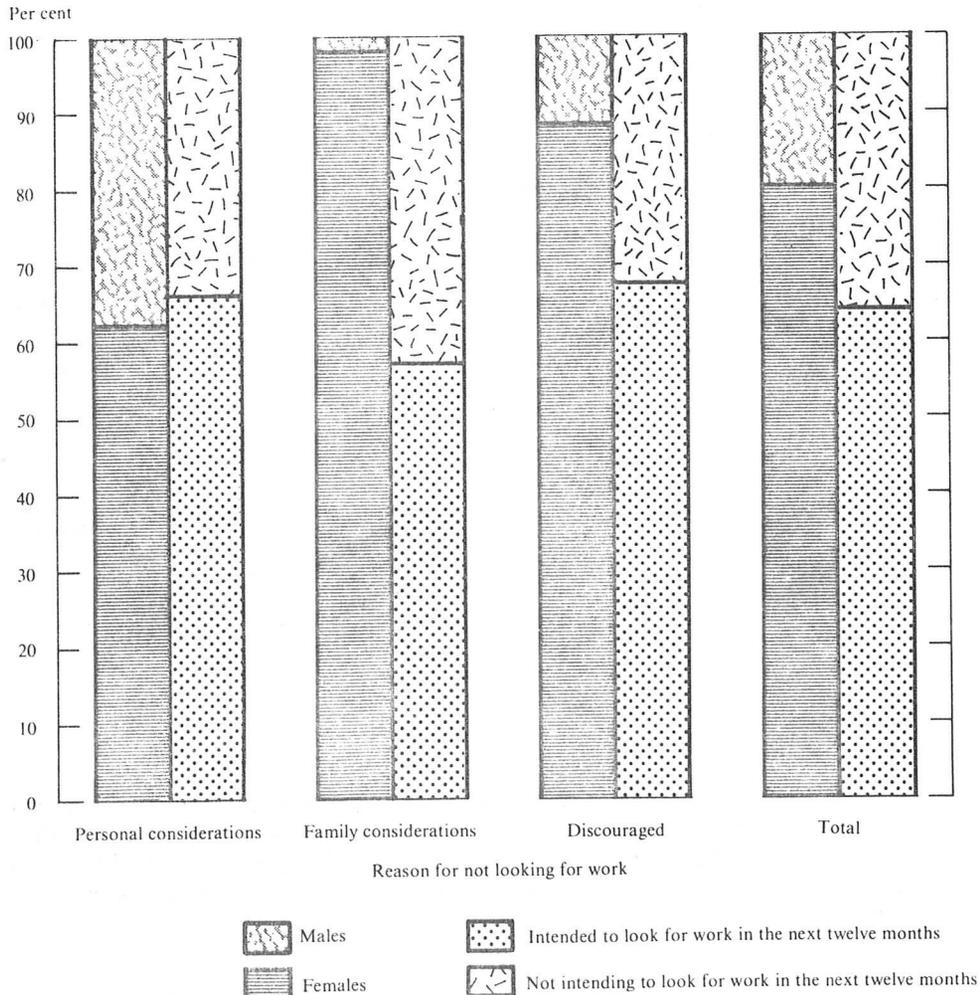
DIAGRAM 2. PROPORTION OF PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB, 1977 TO 1981



The majority of persons not in the labour force who want a job intend to look for work in the next twelve months; they are mostly available to start work but they have usually had no recent labour force experience.

The reasons given for not actively looking for work by those persons who want a job are not the same for males and females. Diagram 3 shows that there is a higher proportion (relative to the other reasons) of males who give personal considerations (particularly attending educational institution) as their reason for not looking for work. These males are predominantly in the 15 to 19 year age group and could be expected to enter the labour force in the near future. This expectation is supported by the relatively high proportion (66 per cent) of persons in this category who intend looking for work in the next twelve months. On the other hand only about 57 per cent of those (mainly females) who give family considerations as their reasons for not actively seeking a job intend to look for work. Such persons with family commitments are likely to be less able to enter the labour force especially at short notice, than are other persons not in the labour force who want a job.

DIAGRAM 3. REASON FOR NOT LOOKING FOR WORK AND INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK OF PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB



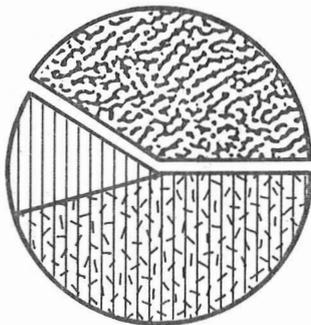
The reasons given for not taking active steps to find work and the likelihood of acceptance by a potential employer may be influenced by a person's labour force experience. Diagram 4 shows that the majority of persons who want a job have neither worked nor looked for work in the previous twelve months although generally they have had a job at some time.

Of the 254,000 persons who have been in the labour force in the previous twelve months, 98,500 persons (about 2 in 5) have had a job but have not looked for work since their last job. A further 49,400 persons (about 1 in 5) have had a job in the previous 12 months and have looked for work since their last job. The remaining 106,100 persons, though having looked for work, did not work in the previous twelve months.

Of the 155,500 persons who have looked for work, only 18,700 have a job to go to while the remaining 136,800 were unsuccessful in their job search. This group includes 43,300 persons who took non-active steps to find work in the four weeks before interview week (see Table 1).

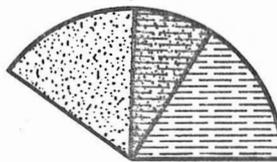
DIAGRAM 4. LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE OF PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB

4a. PERSONS WHO WANT A JOB



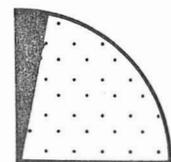
-  254,000 persons were in the labour force some time in the previous 12 months
-  365,000 persons neither worked nor looked for work in the previous 12 months including:
-  287,900 persons who have had a job but more than 12 months ago

4b. PERSONS WITH RECENT LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE



-  98,500 persons who have worked in the previous 12 months but have not looked for work since their last job
-  49,400 persons who having worked in the previous 12 months have looked for work since their last job
-  106,000 persons who looked for work but did not have a job during the 12 months

4c. PERSONS WHO HAVE LOOKED FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS



-  18,700 persons who have a job to go to
-  136,800 persons who have unsuccessfully looked for work

A significant majority of persons not in the labour force who want a job would prefer to work part time. Diagram 5 indicates that a little over 50 per cent of males prefer to work full time whereas females are much more likely to prefer part-time work. In addition, 60 per cent of persons who wanted a job could have started work within the four weeks following the survey week. Females are more likely than males to be available to start work. This can be explained by the fact that the majority of these females would prefer to work part time and are therefore less restricted by personal or family considerations.

DIAGRAM 5. PREFERRED WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AND AVAILABILITY FOR WORK OF PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB

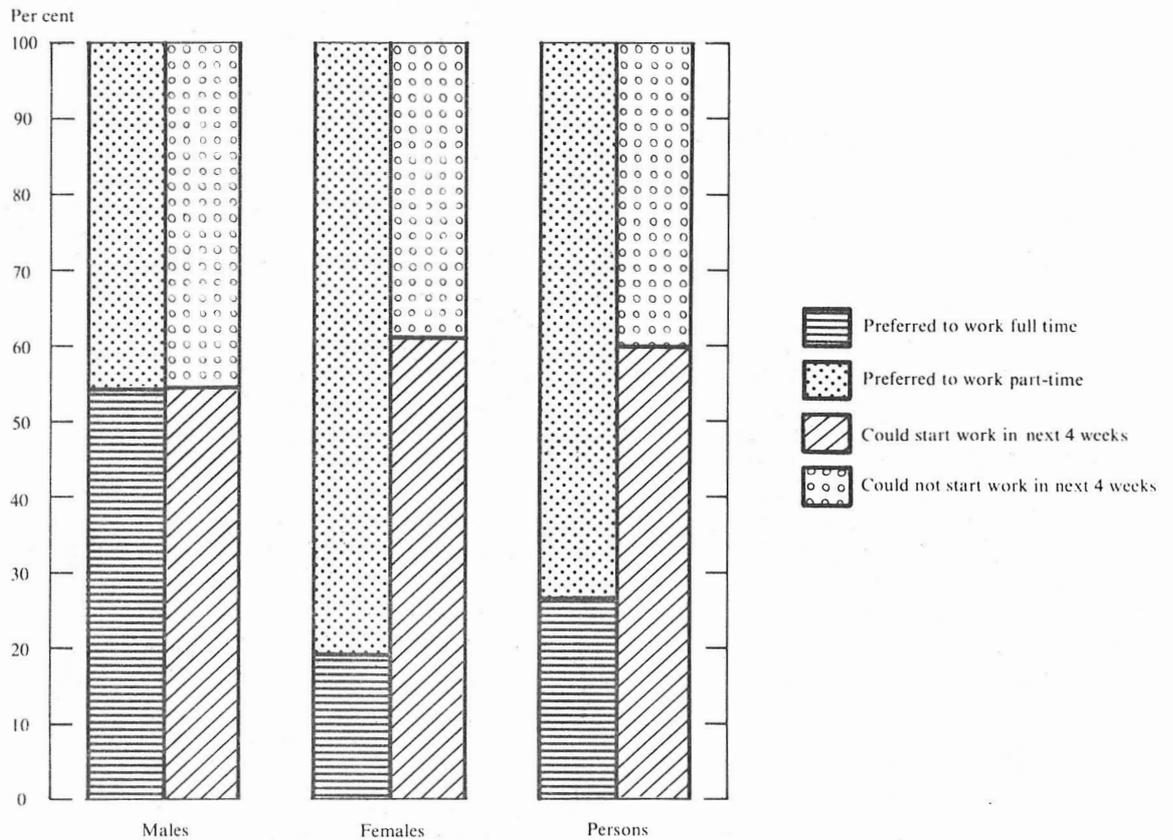


TABLE 1. RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, SEPTEMBER 1981

	Number (' 000)			Per cent of total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	5,486.3	5,623.3	11,109.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employed	4,088.0	2,378.1	6,466.1	74.5	42.3	58.2
Unemployed	209.5	181.6	391.1	3.8	3.2	3.5
Not in the labour force	1,188.9	3,063.6	4,252.5	21.7	54.5	38.3
Aged 65 years and over	544.6	821.0	1,365.6	9.9	14.6	12.3
Aged 15 to 64 years	644.3	2,242.5	2,886.9	11.7	39.9	26.0
Inmate of an institution, permanently unable to work, boarding school student	53.3	33.1	86.4	0.9	0.6	0.8
Had actively looked for work but was unable to start a job in the survey week for reasons other than own temporary illness or injury	22.6	27.1	49.7	0.4	0.5	0.4
Persons included in the supplementary survey(a)	568.5	2,182.3	2,750.8	10.4	38.8	24.8
Persons who do not want a job	442.2	1,689.6	2,131.7	8.1	30.0	19.2
Would not like a job now	437.5	1,675.4	2,112.8	8.0	29.8	19.0
Does not know whether would like a job	4.7	14.2	18.9	0.1	0.3	0.2
Persons who want a job(b)	126.3	492.7	619.0	2.3	8.8	5.6
Have taken steps (non-active) to find a job	10.8	32.5	43.3	0.2	0.6	0.4
Have taken no steps to find a job	115.5	460.2	575.7	2.1	8.2	5.2
Yes, would like a job now	95.1	388.6	483.6	1.7	6.9	4.4
Maybe, would like a job now	20.5	71.6	92.1	0.4	1.3	0.8
Discouraged(c)	8.3	65.0	73.3	0.2	1.2	0.7
Have other reasons for not actively looking for work	118.0	427.7	545.7	2.2	7.6	4.9

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4. (b) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 6. (c) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 8.

TABLE 2. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : SUMMARY, SEPTEMBER 1979 TO SEPTEMBER 1981 (' 000)

	September 1979	March 1980	September 1980(b)	March 1981	September 1981
Persons included in the supplementary survey(a)	2,746.9	2,727.4	2,679.5	2,755.0	2,750.8
Persons who do not want a job	2,136.9	2,151.3	2,057.9	2,147.1	2,131.7
Would not like a job now	2,113.7	2,120.9	2,034.1	2,116.4	2,112.8
Does not know whether would like a job	23.2	30.4	23.8	30.7	18.9
Persons who want a job	609.9	576.1	621.7	607.9	619.0
Have taken steps (non-active) to find a job	42.5	52.3	48.0	46.0	43.3
Have taken no steps to find a job	567.4	523.8	573.6	561.9	575.7
Yes, would like a job now	479.2	458.9	482.5	461.8	483.6
Maybe, would like a job now	88.3	64.9	91.1	100.1	92.1
Discouraged	74.0	76.0	73.7	69.8	73.3
Have other reasons for not actively looking for work	535.9	500.1	548.0	538.1	545.7

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4. (b) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 15, regarding comparability of the September 1980 estimates with other surveys.

TABLE 3. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : OCCUPATION IN
LAST REGULAR JOB (IF ANY) AND AGE, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)

Occupation in last regular job (if any)	Age group (years)							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	
MALES								
Has had a regular job within the last 10 years—								
Professional and technical	*	3.8	3.3	*	*	*	10.2	24.1
Administrative, executive and managerial	*	*	*	*	4.2	5.6	12.3	24.2
Clerical workers	*	3.8	*	*	*	4.1	11.9	28.5
Sales workers	10.0	*	*	*	3.3	*	5.3	25.5
Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	5.2	*	*	*	4.5	5.8	9.8	30.3
Transport and communication	*	4.5	*	*	3.9	7.3	11.5	30.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. and miners, etc.	16.9	14.1	15.3	15.0	24.2	18.9	52.5	156.9
Service, sport and recreation	*	*	*	*	4.3	5.8	10.2	32.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>40.8</i>	<i>29.8</i>	<i>28.5</i>	<i>27.5</i>	<i>48.6</i>	<i>53.0</i>	<i>123.7</i>	<i>351.8</i>
Has not had a regular job within the last 10 years	*	*	*	*	5.2	6.7	9.3	24.7
Has never had a regular job	170.6	12.9	3.9	*	*	*	*	191.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>211.4</i>	<i>42.7</i>	<i>34.1</i>	<i>31.0</i>	<i>55.3</i>	<i>60.1</i>	<i>133.9</i>	<i>568.5</i>
FEMALES								
Has had a regular job within the last 10 years—								
Professional and technical	*	13.5	76.0	25.3	11.4	9.2	9.8	147.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	*	*	5.4	4.2	6.4	*	3.9	23.4
Clerical workers	14.2	44.5	174.8	57.1	34.4	19.3	20.2	364.5
Sales workers	22.1	31.0	53.4	27.1	23.5	17.1	15.6	189.8
Farmers, etc.	*	4.8	6.9	4.5	6.4	3.6	3.9	32.3
Transport and communication	*	*	8.7	5.7	3.9	*	*	24.5
Tradeswomen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. and miners, etc.	5.6	25.0	64.0	41.5	34.7	21.9	13.3	206.0
Service, sport and recreation	7.7	27.6	66.9	42.3	44.8	25.8	26.6	241.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>54.2</i>	<i>148.6</i>	<i>456.1</i>	<i>207.6</i>	<i>165.5</i>	<i>102.4</i>	<i>94.9</i>	<i>1,229.3</i>
Has not had a regular job within last 10 years	*	*	61.8	140.1	162.2	132.4	150.1	646.9
Has never had a regular job	185.3	18.5	16.5	14.9	22.7	20.4	27.8	306.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>239.5</i>	<i>167.4</i>	<i>534.3</i>	<i>362.6</i>	<i>350.4</i>	<i>255.3</i>	<i>272.8</i>	<i>2,182.3</i>
PERSONS								
Has had a regular job within the last 10 years—								
Professional and technical	*	17.3	79.3	27.0	12.9	12.0	20.0	171.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	*	*	5.5	6.1	10.6	8.5	16.2	47.6
Clerical workers	17.1	48.3	177.0	58.3	36.9	23.4	32.2	393.1
Sales workers	32.1	32.6	54.4	28.7	26.9	19.9	20.8	215.3
Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	7.4	6.6	8.4	6.4	10.9	9.4	13.6	62.7
Transport and communication	*	3.4	11.0	8.0	7.8	9.9	13.1	54.5
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. and miners, etc.	22.5	39.1	79.3	56.5	58.9	40.8	65.8	362.9
Service, sport and recreation	12.1	30.5	69.7	44.2	49.1	31.6	36.8	274.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>94.9</i>	<i>178.4</i>	<i>484.6</i>	<i>235.1</i>	<i>214.0</i>	<i>155.4</i>	<i>218.6</i>	<i>1,581.1</i>
Has not had a regular job within last 10 years	*	*	63.5	141.9	167.4	139.1	159.4	671.7
Has never had a regular job	355.9	31.4	20.3	16.6	24.2	20.9	28.7	498.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>450.8</i>	<i>210.1</i>	<i>568.5</i>	<i>393.6</i>	<i>405.7</i>	<i>315.4</i>	<i>406.7</i>	<i>2,750.8</i>

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4.

TABLE 4. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : WHETHER WOULD LIKE A JOB AND WHETHER INTEND TO LOOK FOR WORK(b), SEPTEMBER 1981 (' 000)

<i>Whether would like a job</i>	<i>Intention to look for work(b)</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>Intending to look</i>	<i>Might look</i>	<i>Would not look</i>	<i>Does not know</i>	<i>Not asked(c)</i>	
MALES						
Yes	62.0	11.9	22.2	*	7.0	105.8
Maybe	5.1	6.4	7.0	*	*	20.5
No	71.5	31.2	325.9	8.8	..	437.5
Does not know	*	*	*	*	..	4.7
Total	139.4	50.4	357.1	13.9	7.7	568.5
FEMALES						
Yes	193.9	71.9	129.2	14.9	11.2	421.1
Maybe	10.3	21.2	35.4	*	*	71.6
No	113.0	65.5	1,474.0	22.9	..	1,675.4
Does not know	*	*	6.8	3.8	..	14.2
Total	319.0	160.5	1,645.4	45.0	12.5	2,182.3
PERSONS						
Yes	255.9	83.8	151.4	17.5	18.3	526.9
Maybe	15.4	27.6	42.4	4.7	*	92.1
No	184.5	96.7	1,799.9	31.7	..	2,112.8
Does not know	*	*	8.7	5.1	..	18.9
Total	458.3	210.8	2,002.5	58.9	20.2	2,750.8

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4. (b) In the next twelve months. (c) Intention to look for work was not asked of persons who would or might like a job but whose reason for not looking for work was that they have a job to go to.

TABLE 5. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : BIRTHPLACE AND WHETHER WOULD LIKE A JOB, SEPTEMBER 1981 (' 000)

<i>Whether would like a job</i>	<i>Born overseas</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>Born in Australia</i>	<i>Main English-speaking countries</i>	<i>Other countries</i>	
Yes	382.7	61.3	82.9	526.9
Maybe	68.7	8.6	14.8	92.1
No	1,605.8	199.2	307.8	2,112.8
Does not know	14.3	*	3.5	18.9
Total	2,071.4	270.3	409.0	2,750.8

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4.

TABLE 6. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : BIRTHPLACE AND WHETHER INTEND TO LOOK FOR WORK(b), SEPTEMBER 1981 ('000)

<i>Intention to look for work(b)</i>	<i>Born overseas</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>Born in Australia</i>	<i>Main English-speaking countries</i>	<i>Other countries</i>	
Intending to look	341.6	48.8	68.0	458.3
Might look	153.0	19.8	38.1	210.8
Would not look	1,520.9	194.5	287.1	2,002.5
Does not know	41.0	5.3	12.6	58.9
Not asked(c)	15.0	*	3.3	20.2
Total	2,071.4	270.3	409.0	2,750.8

(a) For scope see Explanatory notes, paragraph 4. (b) In the next twelve months. (c) See footnote (c), Table 4.

**TABLE 7. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO HAVE HAD A REGULAR JOB :
TIME SINCE LAST REGULAR JOB AND REASON FOR LEAVING IT, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

Reason for leaving last regular job	Time since last regular job							Total
	Under 6 months	6 months and under 1 year	1 year and under 3 years	3 years and under 5 years	5 years and under 10 years	10 years and under 20 years	20 years and over	
MALES								
Dismissed, retrenched	5.2	4.9	7.3	5.5	*	*	*	25.9
Seasonal or temporary job; returned to studies	17.0	33.1	11.4	*	*	*	*	64.4
Retired/did not want to work any longer	14.7	11.5	28.2	20.6	9.5	*	*	87.3
Own ill health or injury	11.5	12.9	44.2	34.6	38.0	16.7	*	160.4
Other reasons	14.1	6.5	6.7	*	4.8	*	*	38.6
Total	62.4	68.9	97.8	67.3	55.5	21.3	3.4	376.6
FEMALES								
Dismissed, retrenched	14.4	8.7	25.7	20.3	24.8	12.1	3.8	109.8
Seasonal or temporary job; returned to studies	34.3	45.8	31.7	14.7	15.2	10.9	4.7	157.3
Retired/did not want to work any longer	15.1	18.9	47.8	31.6	51.6	40.7	16.5	222.2
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	7.4	5.5	12.2	8.1	7.5	*	*	44.7
Own ill health or injury	13.0	9.7	31.6	29.4	39.3	27.5	8.5	159.0
Left to get married	*	*	8.2	13.4	34.1	74.4	211.2	346.3
Pregnancy/to have children	31.3	32.9	89.6	77.0	130.9	88.8	50.0	500.6
To look after family or other persons	11.7	9.7	23.2	17.9	32.1	35.3	21.7	151.7
Travel, changed residence, spouse transferred	13.4	12.0	28.2	23.7	27.2	20.2	8.6	133.4
Other reasons	10.3	6.4	8.2	8.0	10.3	4.4	3.5	51.2
Total	153.5	152.1	306.5	244.1	373.1	317.0	329.9	1,876.2
PERSONS								
Dismissed, retrenched	19.5	13.6	33.0	25.7	27.5	12.5	3.8	135.7
Seasonal or temporary job; returned to studies	51.3	78.9	43.1	17.0	15.7	10.9	4.9	221.7
Retired/did not want to work any longer	29.8	30.5	76.0	52.2	61.1	43.4	16.5	309.5
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	10.9	6.9	13.9	9.3	7.8	*	*	53.0
Own ill health or injury	24.4	22.6	75.8	64.0	77.3	44.2	11.1	319.4
Left to get married	*	*	8.2	13.4	34.1	74.5	211.6	346.8
Pregnancy/to have children	31.4	32.9	89.6	77.4	130.9	89.1	50.0	501.5
To look after family or other persons	11.7	10.4	24.0	18.7	33.4	36.2	21.7	156.1
Travel, changed residence, spouse transferred	17.4	14.3	30.2	24.8	27.6	20.2	8.6	143.0
Other reasons	16.8	8.5	10.4	8.9	13.1	4.5	3.7	66.0
Total	215.9	221.0	404.3	311.4	428.5	338.4	333.3	2,252.8

**TABLE 8. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO INTEND TO LOOK FOR WORK(a) :
AGE AND WHETHER PREFER TO WORK FULL TIME OR PART TIME, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

	Age group (years)							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	
MALES								
Prefer to work full time	70.7	18.0	12.4	8.0	8.2	3.4	*	122.8
Prefer to work part time	32.6	7.4	3.7	3.4	4.6	4.0	5.6	61.3
Total(b)	105.0	26.6	16.3	11.6	13.2	8.0	9.0	189.7
MARRIED FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	*	7.9	16.6	11.2	5.2	*	*	44.3
Prefer to work part time	3.7	24.1	104.1	71.3	33.7	6.7	3.9	247.6
Total(b)	5.7	32.5	123.2	85.5	40.7	8.5	4.0	299.9
NOT-MARRIED FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	74.4	12.5	6.2	3.1	*	*	*	99.0
Prefer to work part time	34.9	12.3	9.0	7.2	6.6	*	3.0	75.7
Total(b)	111.6	25.3	16.0	10.4	9.4	3.2	3.6	179.5
ALL FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	76.1	20.4	22.7	14.3	7.4	*	*	143.3
Prefer to work part time	38.6	36.4	113.1	78.6	40.4	9.3	6.9	323.3
No preference	*	*	3.3	3.0	*	*	*	12.8
Total	117.3	57.8	139.2	95.9	50.1	11.6	7.5	479.4
PERSONS								
Prefer to work full time	146.8	38.4	35.1	22.3	15.6	5.6	*	266.1
Prefer to work part time	71.2	43.9	116.8	81.9	44.9	13.3	12.5	384.6
No preference	4.2	*	3.5	3.2	*	*	*	18.5
Total	222.3	84.4	155.5	107.5	63.3	19.7	16.6	669.1

(a) In the next twelve months. Includes persons who stated that they might look for work. (b) Includes persons who did not state a preference.

**TABLE 9. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB : REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a)
AND WHETHER INTEND TO LOOK FOR WORK(b), SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

Highest ranked reason for not actively looking for work	Intention to look for work(b)				Total		
	Intending to look	Might look	Would not look	Does not know	Males	Females	Persons
Has a job to go to	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)	7.7	12.5	20.2
Personal considerations	120.1	45.3	76.0	8.5	95.0	154.9	249.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	31.3	20.2	34.6	4.1	37.3	52.7	90.2
Attending an educational institution	75.1	15.1	21.5	*	51.3	62.2	113.6
Has no need to work	13.7	10.1	19.9	*	6.4	39.8	46.2
Family considerations	79.2	44.9	83.4	8.9	4.1	212.3	216.4
Ill health of other than self	6.2	3.5	4.3	*	*	13.5	14.9
Unable to find child care	12.1	6.7	7.5	*	*	27.6	27.7
Prefer to look after children	44.5	28.6	57.7	5.1	*	134.7	135.9
Spouse disapproves	*	*	4.2	*	*	6.4	6.4
Other family considerations	15.0	5.5	9.7	*	*	30.1	31.4
Discouraged	38.3	11.3	20.9	*	8.3	65.0	73.3
Considered too young or too old by employers	7.3	*	8.3	*	*	15.3	17.8
Language or racial difficulties, lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	7.2	*	*	*	*	10.7	11.8
No jobs in locality or line of work	23.8	7.4	10.3	*	4.8	39.0	43.8
No jobs in suitable hours	4.7	*	*	*	*	8.4	9.2
Other reasons	26.3	6.6	10.0	*	10.1	34.1	44.1
No reason given		3.7	*	*	*	5.5	5.8
Total—							
Males	67.1	18.3	29.3	3.9	126.3	..	..
Females	204.2	93.1	164.6	18.3	..	492.7	..
Persons	271.4	111.4	193.9	22.2	..	..	619.0

(a) Highest ranked reason only. See Explanatory notes, paragraph 9. (b) In the next twelve months. (c) Intention to look for work in the next twelve months was not asked of persons who were not looking for work because they already had a job to go to.

**TABLE 10. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB :
AGE AND REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a), SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

Highest ranked reason for not actively looking for work	Age group (years)							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	
MALES								
Personal considerations(b)	48.0	6.3	6.1	5.3	10.1	7.9	11.3	95.0
Own ill health, disability	*	*	4.7	4.9	9.0	6.4	8.3	37.3
Attending an educational institution	45.1	4.8	*	*	*	*	*	51.3
Discouraged(b)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8.3
Total(b)(c)	56.1	9.8	11.5	10.6	13.3	11.0	14.0	126.3
FEMALES								
Has a job to go to	*	*	4.2	4.5	*	*	*	12.5
Personal considerations(b)	55.9	11.3	23.4	21.8	27.3	9.8	5.3	154.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	*	4.3	11.1	10.4	15.3	6.4	3.0	52.9
Attending an educational institution	53.1	5.4	*	*	*	*	*	62.2
Family considerations(b)	6.0	28.9	97.9	52.5	19.2	5.3	*	212.3
Unable to find child care	*	4.5	17.5	3.7	*	*	*	27.6
Prefer to look after children	4.1	22.0	71.8	31.7	4.7	*	*	134.7
Discouraged(b)	3.0	4.9	14.0	15.3	14.8	8.7	4.4	65.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	*	*	*	*	4.1	5.2	*	15.3
No jobs in locality/line of work	*	*	10.6	11.7	8.3	3.0	*	39.0
No jobs in suitable hours	*	*	3.1	*	*	*	*	8.4
Other reasons(c)	*	*	9.6	11.6	8.2	3.2	*	39.6
Total	70.2	49.9	152.2	106.2	72.7	27.7	13.8	492.7
PERSONS								
Has a job to go to	3.9	*	5.5	4.2	3.8	*	*	20.2
Personal considerations(b)	103.9	17.6	29.6	27.1	37.4	17.7	16.7	249.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	5.0	5.7	15.8	15.2	24.3	12.9	11.3	90.2
Attending an educational institution	98.2	10.2	3.4	*	*	*	*	113.6
Family considerations(b)	6.8	28.9	98.9	53.5	19.6	5.8	*	216.4
Unable to find child care	*	4.5	17.6	3.7	*	*	*	27.7
Prefer to look after children	4.1	22.0	72.5	32.1	4.7	*	*	136.0
Discouraged(b)	4.9	5.4	15.0	16.4	16.1	9.7	5.8	73.3
Considered too young or too old by employers	*	*	*	*	4.4	5.7	3.4	17.8
No jobs in locality/line of work	*	3.0	11.5	12.7	9.2	3.5	*	43.8
No jobs in suitable hours	*	*	3.1	*	*	*	*	9.2
Other reasons(c)	5.6	4.5	11.6	13.0	9.1	3.9	*	49.9
Total	126.4	59.6	163.7	116.7	86.0	38.7	27.9	619.0

(a) Highest ranked reason only. See Explanatory notes, paragraph 9. (b) Includes reasons not shown separately. (c) Includes persons who gave no reason.

**TABLE 11. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB :
REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a) AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

<i>Highest ranked reason for not actively looking for work</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>A. C. T.</i>	<i>Aust.(b)</i>
MALES								
Personal considerations(c)	29.6	28.0	15.4	8.6	8.6	2.6	1.5	95.0
Own ill health, disability	12.0	10.2	6.3	3.8	3.5	1.0	*	37.3
Attending an educational institution	16.2	16.3	7.0	4.1	4.6	1.6	*	51.3
Discouraged	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8.3
<i>Total(c)(d)</i>	<i>38.5</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>11.9</i>	<i>12.2</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>126.3</i>
FEMALES								
Has a job to go to	4.3	4.1	*	*	*	*	*	12.5
Personal considerations	55.3	38.9	26.4	13.1	13.4	4.1	3.2	154.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	18.7	14.1	9.3	4.0	5.0	*	*	52.9
Attending an educational institution	22.9	15.8	9.3	5.0	5.1	2.0	1.7	62.2
Has no need to work	13.6	9.0	7.8	4.1	3.3	1.1	*	39.8
Family considerations(c)	73.6	56.0	29.8	21.4	20.1	7.1	2.7	212.3
Unable to find child care	11.9	5.9	3.6	2.0	2.1	1.5	*	27.6
Prefer to look after children	44.0	36.3	19.3	14.8	13.0	4.2	2.0	134.7
Discouraged(c)	21.8	19.8	8.4	6.5	5.6	2.1	*	65.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	4.5	4.7	*	*	2.0	*	*	15.3
No jobs in locality/line of work	13.8	11.4	5.7	3.3	2.7	1.6	*	39.0
No jobs in suitable hours	4.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	8.4
Other reasons(d)	13.1	9.6	8.6	3.0	3.7	*	*	39.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>170.3</i>	<i>130.7</i>	<i>76.9</i>	<i>45.3</i>	<i>44.4</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>492.7</i>
PERSONS								
Has a job to go to	6.9	5.8	3.2	3.6	*	*	*	20.2
Personal considerations	84.8	66.9	41.7	21.7	22.0	6.7	4.7	249.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	30.7	24.3	15.5	7.9	8.4	2.0	*	90.2
Attending an educational institution	39.2	32.1	16.3	9.0	9.7	3.6	2.7	113.6
Has no need to work	15.0	10.5	9.9	4.8	3.9	1.1	*	46.2
Family considerations(c)	74.8	57.6	30.7	21.6	20.3	7.1	2.8	216.4
Unable to find child care	11.9	5.9	3.6	2.1	2.1	1.5	*	27.7
Prefer to look after children	44.0	37.2	19.6	14.8	13.1	4.2	2.0	136.0
Discouraged(c)	24.9	22.2	9.2	7.8	6.2	2.1	*	73.3
Considered too young or too old by employers	5.0	6.0	*	2.3	2.0	*	*	17.8
No jobs in locality/line of work	16.2	12.2	6.0	4.1	3.2	1.6	*	43.8
No jobs in suitable hours	5.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	9.2
Other reasons(d)	15.0	12.6	10.8	3.9	5.6	*	*	49.9
Total	208.8	167.8	97.8	57.1	56.6	17.5	9.3	619.0

(a) Highest ranked reason only. See Explanatory notes, paragraph 9. (b) Includes the Northern Territory. (c) Includes reasons not shown separately. (d) Includes persons who gave no reason.

**TABLE 12. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB :
BIRTHPLACE AND REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a), SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

Highest ranked reason for not actively looking for work	Born overseas						Total born over- seas	Total
	Born in Australia	Period of arrival			Main English speaking countries	Other countries		
		Before 1961	1961- 1970	1971- 1981				
FEMALES								
Has a job to go to	9.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	12.5
Personal considerations	118.2	12.9	12.8	11.1	18.1	18.6	36.8	154.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	36.2	6.8	6.6	3.3	6.2	10.5	16.7	52.9
Attending an educational institution	51.5	*	3.7	6.3	5.4	5.3	10.7	62.2
Has no need to work	30.4	5.4	*	*	6.6	*	9.4	39.8
Family considerations	159.9	16.0	18.2	18.1	20.8	31.6	52.3	212.3
Ill health of other than self	9.6	*	*	*	*	*	4.0	13.5
Unable to find child care	19.8	*	*	4.5	*	4.9	7.8	27.6
Prefer to look after children	102.1	8.3	12.8	11.5	12.4	20.2	32.6	134.7
Husband disapproves	5.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	6.4
Other family considerations	23.5	*	*	*	3.4	3.2	6.6	30.1
Discouraged	40.5	7.5	8.8	8.3	10.3	14.2	24.6	65.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	9.3	*	*	*	3.8	*	6.0	15.3
Language or racial difficulties, lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	4.6	*	*	*	*	5.2	6.1	10.7
No jobs in locality or line of work	26.6	3.5	5.4	3.4	5.6	6.9	12.5	39.0
No jobs in suitable hours	6.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	8.4
Other reasons(b)	27.8	3.7	4.3	3.8	5.5	6.2	11.8	39.6
Total	362.1	41.1	46.7	42.8	57.4	73.1	130.6	492.7
PERSONS								
Has a job to go to	15.0	*	*	*	*	*	5.2	20.2
Personal considerations	187.3	21.6	22.4	18.6	27.5	35.1	62.6	249.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	60.4	13.5	11.1	5.1	10.7	19.2	29.8	90.2
Attending an educational institution	92.5	*	8.6	11.3	8.9	12.2	21.1	113.6
Has no need to work	34.5	6.9	*	*	7.9	3.8	11.7	46.2
Family considerations	162.2	17.0	19.0	18.1	21.8	32.4	54.2	216.4
Ill health of other than self	10.3	*	*	*	*	*	4.6	14.9
Unable to find child care	19.9	*	*	4.5	*	4.9	7.8	27.7
Prefer to look after children	102.5	8.9	13.0	11.5	12.6	20.8	33.4	135.9
Spouse disapproves	5.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	6.4
Other family considerations	24.5	*	*	*	3.8	3.2	7.0	31.4
Discouraged	45.0	9.2	9.5	9.6	10.9	17.5	28.3	73.3
Considered too young or too old by employers	11.4	*	*	*	3.8	*	6.4	17.8
Language or racial difficulties, lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	4.8	*	*	*	*	5.8	6.9	11.8
No jobs in locality or line of work	28.7	4.8	6.2	4.0	5.9	9.2	15.0	43.8
No jobs in suitable hours	6.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	9.2
Other reasons(b)	35.2	4.2	4.9	5.7	6.9	7.9	14.8	49.9
Total	451.4	53.6	59.3	54.8	70.0	97.7	167.6	619.0

(a) Highest ranked reason only. See Explanatory notes, paragraph 9. (b) Includes persons who gave no reason.

TABLE 13. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB : HIGHEST RANKED REASON AND SECOND REASON (IF ANY) FOR NOT LOOKING FOR WORK(a), SEPTEMBER 1981 (' 000)

Highest ranked reason for not looking for work	Second reason for not looking for work							Total
	Family considerations			No jobs in locality or line of work	No jobs in suitable hours	Total(b)	No second reason given	
	Prefer to look after children	Spouse disapproves	Total(b)					
FEMALES								
Has a job to go to	*	*	*	*	*	*	11.9	12.5
Personal considerations	8.5	*	17.7	8.4	3.6	47.7	107.2	154.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	3.8	*	8.1	*	*	20.0	33.0	52.9
Attending an educational institution	*	*	*	3.3	*	10.3	51.9	62.2
Has no need to work	4.5	*	8.8	*	*	17.4	22.4	39.8
Family considerations	10.6	3.7	24.6	10.4	9.1	60.2	152.1	212.3
Unable to find child care	8.4	*	9.6	*	*	14.2	13.4	27.6
Prefer to look after children	..	3.6	10.4	6.8	7.0	31.9	102.8	134.7
Other family considerations	..	*	4.7	*	*	14.1	35.9	50.0
Discouraged(b)	..	..	..	5.9	6.0	22.9	42.2	65.0
No jobs in locality or line of work	..	..	..	..	5.1	9.8	29.2	39.0
Other reasons(c)	..	..	..	..	..	*	46.9	48.0
Total	19.3	5.0	43.0	24.7	18.7	132.4	360.3	492.7
PERSONS								
Has a job to go to	*	*	*	*	*	*	18.6	20.2
Personal considerations	8.8	*	19.2	9.8	6.2	62.0	187.9	249.9
Own ill health, disability, pregnancy	3.9	*	8.6	*	*	25.2	65.0	90.2
Attending an educational institution	*	*	*	4.3	4.9	17.9	95.6	113.6
Has no need to work	4.5	*	9.0	*	*	18.9	27.3	46.2
Family considerations	10.6	3.7	25.0	10.7	9.1	61.4	155.0	216.4
Unable to find child care	8.4	*	9.6	*	*	14.3	13.4	27.7
Prefer to look after children	..	3.6	10.5	6.8	7.0	32.4	103.5	135.9
Other family considerations	..	*	4.9	*	*	14.6	38.1	52.7
Discouraged(b)	..	..	..	6.0	6.5	25.8	47.5	73.3
No jobs in locality or line of work	..	..	..	..	5.6	11.1	32.7	43.8
Other reasons(c)	..	..	..	..	..	*	58.1	59.2
Total	19.6	5.0	45.0	26.5	21.8	151.9	467.1	619.0

(a) See Explanatory notes, paragraph 9. (b) Includes reasons not shown separately. (c) Includes persons who gave no reason and persons who answered 'No jobs in suitable hours'.

**TABLE 14. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB :
AGE AND WHETHER PREFER TO WORK FULL TIME OR PART TIME, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

	<i>Age group (years)</i>							<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-19</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55-59</i>	<i>60-64</i>	
MALES								
Prefer to work full time	27.6	5.7	6.8	5.7	6.9	4.2	3.4	60.3
Prefer to work part time	25.2	*	*	*	4.5	4.9	8.3	50.8
<i>Total(a)(b)</i>	<i>56.1</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>10.6</i>	<i>13.3</i>	<i>11.0</i>	<i>14.0</i>	<i>126.3</i>
MARRIED FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	*	5.6	14.3	9.4	6.3	*	*	40.2
Prefer to work part time	3.7	26.3	113.6	81.3	50.6	18.0	7.1	300.6
No preference	*	*	3.7	3.9	*	*	*	12.7
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>5.3</i>	<i>33.7</i>	<i>135.6</i>	<i>97.1</i>	<i>61.5</i>	<i>21.9</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>363.1</i>
NOT-MARRIED FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	31.1	6.1	5.4	*	*	*	*	47.8
Prefer to work part time	30.8	9.1	10.0	7.4	7.6	4.2	4.4	73.7
<i>Total(a)(b)</i>	<i>64.9</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>129.6</i>
ALL FEMALES								
Prefer to work full time	32.5	11.7	19.7	10.9	8.7	3.7	*	88.1
Prefer to work part time	34.5	35.5	123.6	88.7	58.3	22.1	11.5	374.3
No preference	*	*	4.2	3.9	3.6	*	*	16.3
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>70.2</i>	<i>49.9</i>	<i>152.2</i>	<i>106.2</i>	<i>72.6</i>	<i>27.7</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>492.7</i>
PERSONS								
Prefer to work full time	60.2	17.4	26.5	16.6	15.6	8.0	4.2	148.4
Prefer to work part time	59.7	38.1	126.4	91.1	62.8	27.1	19.9	425.1
No preference	*	*	4.7	4.4	4.9	*	3.6	23.1
Not asked(b)	4.8	3.0	6.0	4.7	*	*	*	22.4
Total	126.4	59.6	163.7	116.7	86.0	38.8	27.9	619.0

(a) Includes persons who did not state a preference. (b) Includes persons who have a job to go to and a small number of persons who took only non-active steps to find work. These persons are not asked whether they prefer full-time or part-time work.

**TABLE 15. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB: WHETHER PREFER
TO WORK FULL TIME OR PART TIME AND WHETHER COULD START WORK(a), SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

<i>Whether could start work within four weeks</i>	<i>Males</i>			<i>Females</i>			<i>Persons</i>		
	<i>Prefer to work</i>			<i>Prefer to work</i>			<i>Prefer to work</i>		
	<i>Full time</i>	<i>Part time</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Full time</i>	<i>Part time</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Full time</i>	<i>Part time</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
Could start work	33.2	25.3	61.8	51.5	218.2	280.1	84.7	243.5	341.9
Could not start work because—									
Own illness or injury	12.0	7.1	21.5	5.0	16.5	23.6	17.0	23.6	45.1
Attending educational institution	11.7	13.2	25.5	13.8	14.6	28.9	25.4	27.8	54.4
Secondary school	7.6	9.6	17.8	10.9	10.0	21.5	18.5	19.7	39.3
Other	4.1	3.6	7.7	*	4.6	7.4	6.9	8.2	15.1
Personal, family reasons	*	*	*	12.9	97.6	112.9	13.5	98.7	114.6
Other reasons	*	*	3.2	*	8.7	11.9	3.3	10.6	15.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>24.9</i>	<i>23.3</i>	<i>51.9</i>	<i>34.3</i>	<i>137.4</i>	<i>177.3</i>	<i>59.2</i>	<i>160.7</i>	<i>229.2</i>
Does not know whether could start work	*	*	12.6	*	18.7	35.3	4.5	20.9	48.0
Total	60.3	50.8	126.3	88.1	374.3	492.7	148.4	425.1	619.0

(a) Responses to the question 'If offered a job are there any reasons you could not start work in the next four weeks?' (b) Includes persons who have a job to go to and a small number of persons who took only non-active steps to find work. These persons are not asked whether they prefer to work full time or part time.

**TABLE 16. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANT A JOB :
WHETHER HAD LOOKED FOR WORK AND WHETHER HAVE HAD A JOB, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)**

	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>A. C. T.</i>	<i>Australia(a)</i>
MALES								
Has worked in the last 12 months(b)	14.0	11.6	8.1	4.4	4.8	*	*	44.9
Has looked for work since that job	4.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	12.0
Has not looked for work since that job	7.6	7.6	5.4	2.1	3.3	*	*	27.0
Last worked more than 12 months ago(b)	13.2	11.0	6.6	4.1	3.8	*	*	40.1
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8.1
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	10.9	9.1	5.0	3.0	2.8	*	*	31.6
Never worked(b)	11.3	14.5	6.1	3.4	3.6	1.4	*	41.3
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	*	4.7	*	*	*	*	*	10.5
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	8.5	9.8	4.7	2.6	2.5	1.1	*	29.9
Has looked for work	8.9	9.2	4.4	3.5	2.8	*	*	30.7
Has not looked for work	27.0	26.4	15.2	7.6	8.6	1.9	*	88.5
<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>38.5</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>11.9</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>126.3</i>
FEMALES								
Has worked in the last 12 months(b)	35.6	26.2	18.2	8.7	9.1	2.4	*	103.0
Has looked for work since that job	8.4	5.0	4.6	2.6	2.5	*	*	24.3
Has not looked for work since that job	25.0	18.7	12.5	5.3	6.6	1.3	*	71.5
Last worked more than 12 months ago(b)	111.8	86.5	48.9	31.4	30.9	9.9	4.8	325.1
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	22.1	18.5	9.5	5.6	6.2	2.5	*	66.0
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	88.3	67.1	39.2	25.9	24.3	7.4	3.5	256.4
Never worked(b)	22.9	18.1	9.8	5.1	4.4	2.3	1.6	64.6
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	5.8	4.7	*	*	*	*	*	15.9
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	16.7	13.0	7.3	3.6	3.5	1.9	*	47.1
Has looked for work	36.3	28.1	16.4	9.5	9.5	3.7	2.1	106.1
Has not looked for work	129.9	98.7	59.0	34.7	34.4	10.6	5.5	375.0
Not asked whether had looked(c)	4.0	3.9	*	*	*	*	*	11.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>170.3</i>	<i>130.8</i>	<i>76.9</i>	<i>45.3</i>	<i>44.4</i>	<i>14.6</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>492.7</i>
PERSONS								
Has worked in the last 12 months	49.6	37.8	26.3	13.1	13.9	3.0	2.0	147.9
Has looked for work since that job	12.4	7.5	6.5	4.2	3.6	1.2	*	36.3
Has not looked for work since that job	32.6	26.2	17.9	7.4	9.9	1.4	*	98.5
Not asked whether had looked(c)	4.6	4.0	*	*	*	*	*	13.1
Last worked more than 12 months ago(b)	125.0	97.5	55.5	35.5	34.7	10.8	5.2	365.1
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	24.4	20.5	11.0	6.6	7.1	2.7	1.6	74.1
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	99.2	76.1	44.2	28.8	27.1	8.1	3.6	287.9
Never worked(b)	34.3	32.6	16.0	8.5	8.0	3.7	2.2	105.9
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	8.3	9.4	3.3	2.2	*	*	*	26.4
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	25.2	22.7	12.0	6.2	6.0	3.0	*	77.1
Has looked for work	45.2	37.3	20.8	13.0	12.3	4.6	2.9	136.8
Has not looked for work	156.9	125.1	74.2	42.4	42.9	12.5	6.3	463.5
Not asked whether had looked(c)	6.7	5.4	2.9	*	*	*	*	18.7
Total	208.8	167.8	97.8	57.1	56.6	17.5	9.3	619.0

(a) Includes 3,900 persons (2,700 females) in the Northern Territory. (b) Includes persons who were not asked whether they had looked for work, because they already have a job to go to. (c) Because they already have a job to go to.

TABLE 17. DISCOURAGED JOBSEEKERS : SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, SEPTEMBER 1981

	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	(' 000)	(' 000)	(per cent)	(per cent)
Total	65.0	73.3	100.0	100.0
Marital status—				
Married	50.8	55.4	78.2	75.6
Not married	14.3	18.0	22.0	24.6
Age (years)—				
15-19	3.0	4.9	4.6	6.7
20-24	4.9	5.4	7.5	7.4
25-34	14.0	15.0	21.5	20.5
35-44	15.3	16.4	23.5	22.4
45-54	14.8	16.1	22.8	22.0
55-64	13.1	15.5	20.2	21.1
Birthplace—				
Australia	40.5	45.0	62.3	61.4
Main English-speaking countries	10.3	10.9	15.8	14.9
Other countries	14.2	17.5	21.8	23.9
Place of residence—				
New South Wales	21.8	24.9	33.5	34.0
Sydney	9.0	10.9	13.8	14.9
Victoria	19.8	22.2	30.5	30.3
Melbourne	12.8	14.8	19.7	20.2
Queensland	8.4	9.2	12.9	12.6
Brisbane	3.6	4.0	5.5	5.4
South Australia	6.5	7.8	10.0	10.6
Adelaide	4.5	5.6	6.9	7.6
Western Australia	5.6	6.2	8.6	8.5
Perth	3.6	4.1	5.5	5.6
Tasmania	2.1	2.1	3.2	2.9
Hobart	*	*	*	*
State capital cities	34.0	39.7	52.3	54.2
Other areas	31.0	33.6	47.7	45.8
Whether looked for work—				
Has looked for work in the last 12 months	24.7	29.1	38.0	39.7
Has not looked for work in the last 12 months	40.3	44.2	62.0	60.3
Intention to look for work in the next 12 months—				
Intends to look	32.2	38.3	49.6	52.2
Might look	10.1	11.3	15.5	15.4
Would not look	20.0	20.9	30.8	28.5
Does not know	*	*	*	*
Whether could start work in the next four week—				
Could start work	57.4	65.1	88.2	88.8
Could not start work	6.3	6.7	9.8	9.2
Does not know	*	*	*	*
Whether had a job—				
Has never had a regular job	5.8	6.9	8.9	9.4
Has had a regular job	59.3	66.4	91.2	90.6
Time since last regular job—				
Under 6 months	5.8	8.2	8.9	11.2
6 months and under 1 year	4.7	5.9	7.2	8.0
1 year and under 3 years	13.5	15.4	20.8	21.0
3 years and under 10 years	21.7	23.3	33.4	31.8
10 years and under 20 years	8.1	8.1	12.5	11.1
20 years or more	5.6	5.6	8.6	7.6
Reason for leaving last regular job—				
Dismissed, retrenched	8.9	10.0	13.7	13.6
Seasonal/temporary; returned to studies	7.8	9.9	12.0	13.5
Retired, did not need to work any longer	3.9	4.1	6.0	5.6
Own ill health or injury	5.1	6.5	7.8	8.9
Family considerations	18.0	18.0	27.7	24.6
Left to get married	6.9	6.9	10.6	9.4
Left to have children	6.5	6.5	10.0	8.9
Other family considerations	4.5	4.5	6.9	6.1
Travel, changed residence, spouse transferred	8.0	8.2	12.3	11.2
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	3.7	4.7	5.7	6.4
Other reasons	3.9	5.2	6.0	7.1

TABLE 18. FEMALES NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE : WHETHER WOULD LIKE A JOB, NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM RESPONSIBLE, SEPTEMBER 1981
(' 000)

<i>Number and age of children for whom responsible</i>		<i>Would like a job</i>			<i>Total</i>
		<i>If child care available(a)</i>	<i>Other(b)</i>	<i>Would not like a job(c)</i>	
<i>Under 6 years</i>	<i>6-11 years</i>				
None	1	11.3	46.2	96.0	153.5
	2	7.0	35.7	59.2	101.8
	3 or more	*	7.1	11.1	20.3
	<i>Total</i>	<i>20.4</i>	<i>89.0</i>	<i>166.3</i>	<i>275.6</i>
1	none	30.3	47.8	128.1	206.2
	1	18.1	27.7	57.1	102.9
	2	7.9	14.8	31.9	54.7
	3 or more	*	*	5.8	9.4
	<i>Total</i>	<i>58.2</i>	<i>92.1</i>	<i>222.9</i>	<i>373.1</i>
2	none	22.9	33.8	92.3	149.0
	1	7.0	7.8	31.2	46.0
	2 or more	3.2	3.3	11.6	18.1
	<i>Total</i>	<i>33.1</i>	<i>44.8</i>	<i>135.1</i>	<i>213.1</i>
3 or more	none	5.8	5.5	15.3	26.7
	<i>Total</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>8.2</i>	<i>22.8</i>	<i>39.9</i>
Total	none	59.1	87.1	235.7	381.9
	1	38.4	82.7	189.3	310.3
	2	18.3	54.1	101.7	174.1
	3 or more	4.8	10.3	20.4	35.5
	Total	120.5	234.1	547.1	901.7

(a) Comprises 108,200 females who initially stated that they would not like a job or did not know whether they would, but later stated that they would or might like a job if they had child care available for all their children under 12 years of age, and 12,300 females (6,300 responsible only for children under 6 years of age) who stated that they would or might like a job and whose *only reason* for not looking for work was that they were unable to find child care. (b) Comprises females who would or might like a job and whose reasons for not looking for work either do not include nonavailability of child care or include some other reason in conjunction with nonavailability of child care.

(c) Comprises females who would not like a job or do not know whether they would, even if child care was available.

TABLE 19. FEMALES NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WOULD LIKE A JOB IF CHILD CARE WAS AVAILABLE(a): SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, SEPTEMBER 1981 (' 000)

	<i>Responsible for—</i>			<i>Total</i>
	<i>Children aged 0-5 years only</i>	<i>Children aged 6-11 years only</i>	<i>Children aged 0-5 years and 6-11 years</i>	
Total	59.1	20.4	41.0	120.5
Age of female responsible (years)—				
15-24	20.7	*	*	23.3
25-34	32.6	6.7	30.2	69.5
35 and over	5.8	13.3	8.7	27.8
Marital status—				
Married	51.7	17.9	39.4	109.0
Not married	7.4	*	*	11.5
Place of residence—				
New South Wales	25.0	7.7	17.1	49.9
Sydney	16.0	4.4	11.7	32.1
Victoria	10.9	4.8	8.3	24.1
Melbourne	7.1	4.0	6.7	17.8
Queensland	6.7	*	6.5	16.2
Brisbane	*	*	*	6.4
Other areas	3.9	*	4.2	9.8
South Australia	4.7	*	4.0	10.8
Adelaide	3.3	*	2.9	7.5
Western Australia	7.0	*	2.5	11.8
Perth	4.7	*	*	7.8
Tasmania	2.8	*	*	4.1
State capital cities	34.7	12.3	25.7	72.7
Other areas	24.3	8.1	15.4	47.8
Birthplace—				
Australia	46.3	14.4	26.5	87.2
Overseas	12.8	6.0	14.5	33.4
Main English-speaking countries	6.5	*	5.3	13.0
Other overseas countries	6.3	4.9	9.2	20.4
Period of arrival in Australia—				
Before 1961	*	*	3.9	8.4
1961 to 1970	5.3	*	5.0	12.9
1971 to September 1981	5.8	*	5.2	12.1
Preferred work arrangements—				
Full-time work	9.6	*	4.1	16.1
Part-time work	47.7	17.2	34.5	99.4
No preference	*	*	*	5.0

(a) See footnote(a) to Table 18.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

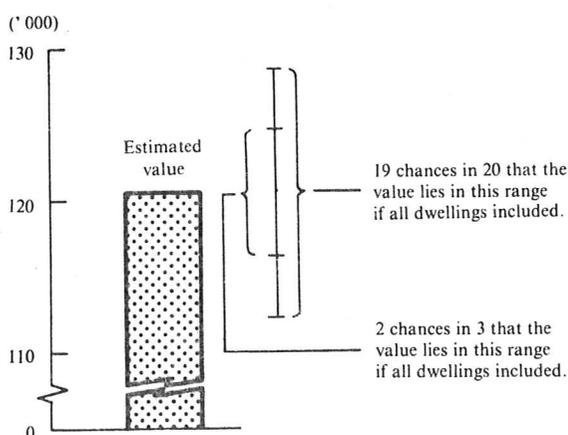
The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age and sex, rather than to the corresponding distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability: that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three 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, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application is given on the following page. Since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics these figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

4. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 19 on the previous page shows the estimated number of females in Australia who are not in the labour force and who would like a job but are responsible for children is 120,500. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000 the standard error for Australia will be between 3,900 and 5,100 in the standard error table and can be approximated as 4,100 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 116,400 to 124,600 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 112,300 to 128,700. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



5. As can be seen from the standard error table, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the standard error table have not been published. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. The formula for the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is given below:

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

7. Considering the example from paragraph 4 above, of the 120,500 females who want a job only 16,100 or 13.4 per cent want full-time work. The standard error of 16,100 is approximately 1,800 so the relative standard error is 11.2 per cent. The relative standard error for 120,500 is 3.4 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(11.2)^2 - (3.4)^2}$ or 10.7 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (13.4 per cent) of 1.4 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females responsible for children but wanting a full-time job is between 12.0 per cent and 14.8 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion is within the range 10.6 per cent to 16.2 per cent.

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

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

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

9. 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 interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of 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 only a sample.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
									—number—		Relative standard error (per cent)
1,000						250				
1,500						300		390		
2,000				460	460	340	470	440		
2,500			630	510	510	380	510	480		
3,000			690	550	560	410	550	510	800	26.7
3,500	920	910	740	590	590	430	590	540	860	24.6
4,000	980	960	780	620	630	460	620	560	920	23.0
4,500	1,000	1,000	820	650	660	480	650	590	970	21.6
5,000	1,100	1,100	860	680	690	500	680	610	1,000	20.0
6,000	1,200	1,200	930	730	750	530	740	650	1,100	18.0
10,000	1,500	1,400	1,200	900	920	640	910	750	1,400	14.0
20,000	2,000	1,900	1,500	1,200	1,200	810	1,200	910	2,000	10.0
50,000	3,000	2,700	2,200	1,600	1,700	1,100	1,700	1,100	2,900	5.8
100,000	3,900	3,500	2,800	2,100	2,100	1,300		1,300	3,900	3.9
200,000	5,000	4,400	3,600	2,600	2,600	1,500			5,100	2.6
300,000	5,800	5,000	4,100	2,900	2,900				6,000	2.0
500,000	6,900	5,800	4,800	3,300	3,300				7,200	1.4
1,000,000	8,500	7,000	5,900						9,100	0.9
2,000,000	10,000	8,400							11,000	0.6
5,000,000									15,000	0.3

Note. Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published, see paragraph 5 on page 21.

