



**Australian  
Bureau of  
Statistics**

July 1990

# JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS AUSTRALIA



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**JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS,  
AUSTRALIA  
JULY 1990**

**IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician**

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### ADDITIONAL DATA ON REQUEST

The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request. If you wish to request unpublished data, an order form, together with instructions on how to complete it, can be found on page 19.

### INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Ms Sue Doyle on Canberra (06) 252 7204 or any ABS State office.
  - for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.
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## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### Unemployed persons

In July 1990, the labour force numbered 8,502,300 persons, of whom there were 548,300 unemployed persons taking active steps to find work. Persons looking for full-time work outnumbered those looking for part-time work by almost five to one (see Table 1).

### Duration of current period of unemployment

At July 1990 the average duration of current period of unemployment was 47 weeks. This compares with 31 weeks in July 1980 and 53 weeks in July 1988 (see Table 4).

### Main difficulty in finding work

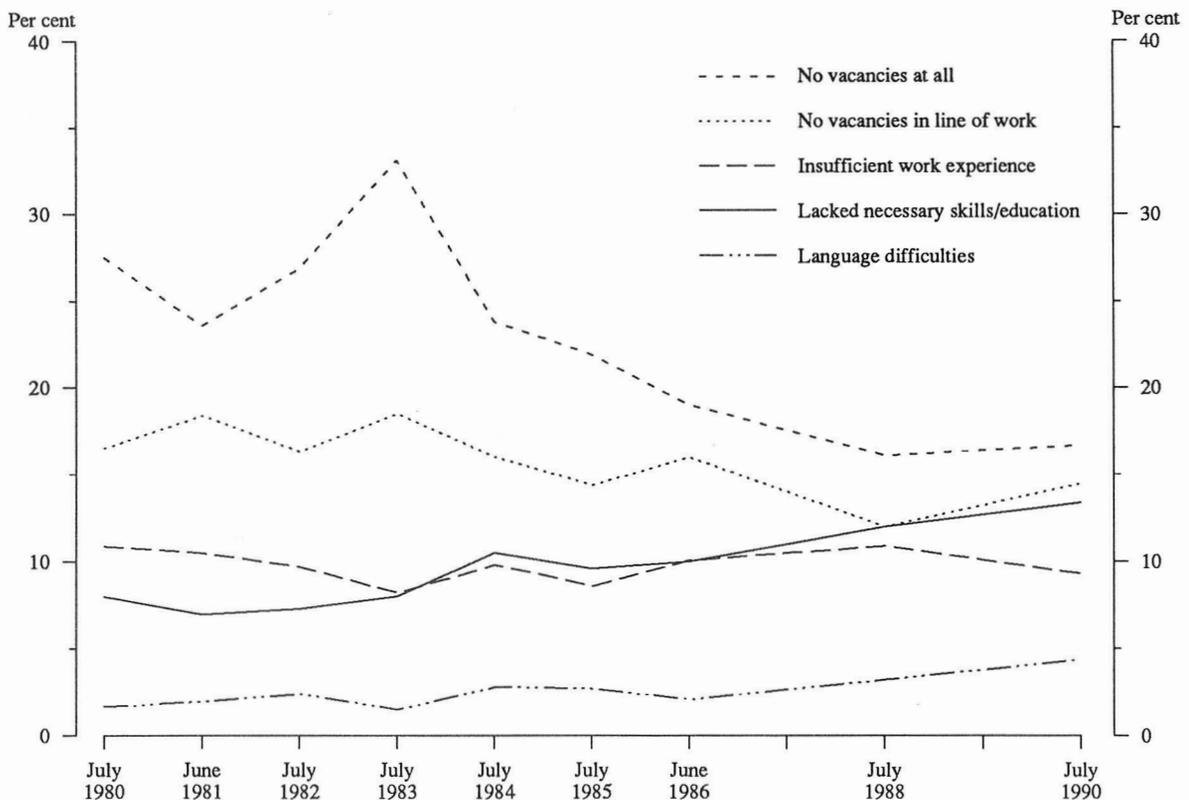
The most frequently reported difficulty in finding work continues to be the belief that there are 'no vacancies at all'. However, the number of persons reporting this as the main difficulty has fallen from 28 per cent ten years ago to 17 per cent in July 1990 (see Table 2 and Diagram 1).

An increasing number of unemployed persons stated that their main difficulty in finding work was because they lacked the necessary skills/education (see Table 2 and Diagram 1).

### Age as a factor

- Almost one half of the 83,900 persons whose reported main difficulty in finding work was 'considered too young or too old by employers' were aged 45 and over (see Table 10).
- The percentage of unemployed persons reporting 'lacked necessary skills/education' or 'insufficient work experience' as their main difficulties in finding work declined with age, from 33 per cent of those aged 15 to 19 years to 9 per cent of those aged 45 years and over (see Table 10).
- Lack of vacancies (either 'no vacancies at all' or 'no vacancies in line of work') was the main difficulty reported by about 3 out of 10 unemployed persons in all age groups under 45 years (see Table 10).

DIAGRAM 1. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: SELECTED MAIN DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK, JULY 1980 TO JULY 1990



Source: Table 2

### The long term unemployed

There were 126,000 persons (23% of total unemployed) whose current period of unemployment (at July 1990) was one year or more. For this group the most frequently reported main difficulties in finding work were 'considered too young or too old by employers', 'lacked the necessary skills/education' and 'no vacancies at all' (see Table 8).

Of the persons reporting 'age' as the main difficulty in finding work, almost 40 per cent had been unemployed for one year or more. Similarly, 44 per cent of persons reporting 'own ill health or injury' and 36 per cent of those reporting 'language difficulties' had been unemployed for one year or more (see Table 8).

A quarter of unemployed males had been looking for work for one year or more compared with 20 per cent of unemployed females (see Table 15).

### Educational attainment

Persons without post-school qualifications had been unemployed for 11 weeks more on average than those with post-school qualifications (52 compared to 41 weeks). Persons without post-school qualifications who did not attend the highest level of secondary school experienced an average duration of unemployment of 56 weeks. In contrast, unemployed persons with a degree had an average duration of unemployment of 32 weeks (see Table 15).

### Preparedness to move if offered a suitable job

A quarter of unemployed persons reported they would move interstate if offered a suitable job. Nearly

two-thirds reported they would not move interstate and the remainder were either undecided or would move if certain conditions applied (see Table 5).

Unemployed persons were more receptive to moving intrastate than interstate, with 38 per cent prepared to move intrastate if offered a suitable job and 50 per cent not prepared to move (see Table 5).

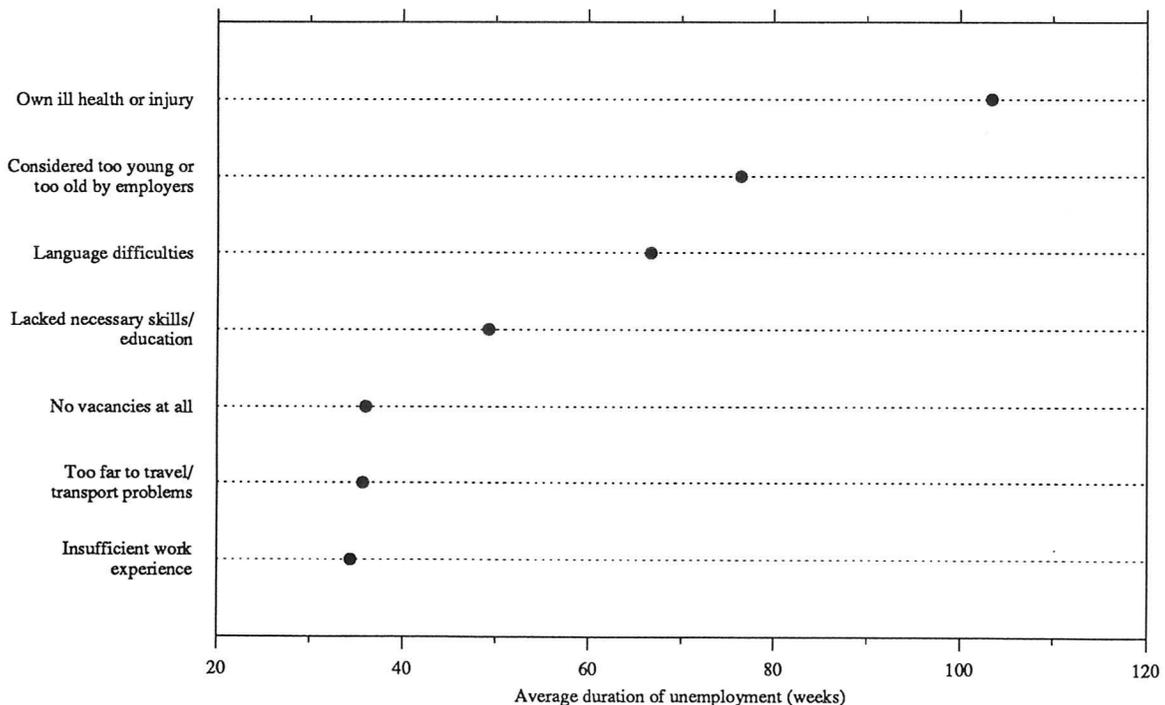
### Active steps taken to find work

In July 1990, of the estimated 548,300 unemployed persons, 415,600 (76%) were registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service. Over the period July 1980 to July 1990, this percentage has been within the range of 73 per cent to 82 per cent (see Table 3).

Of those registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service-

- One quarter were in the 25 to 34 year age group with 22 per cent aged 20 to 24 and 21 per cent aged 15 to 19. These percentages broadly correspond to the age distribution of the unemployed generally (see Table 7).
- More than 9 in 10 were looking for full-time work (see Table 6).
- Only 2 per cent reported that they took no other active steps to find work (see Table 3).

DIAGRAM 2. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY SELECTED MAIN DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK, JULY 1990



Source: Table 8





**TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK AND WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK, JULY 1990**  
(\*000)

Active steps taken to find work	Looking for full-time work			Looking for part-time work			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Registered with the CES and —									
Took no other active steps	*3.0	*3.0	6.0	*1.0	*1.0	*2.0	4.0	4.0	8.0
Contacted prospective employers	231.8	120.6	352.3	8.7	21.0	29.7	240.4	141.6	382.0
Took other active steps	13.8	7.8	21.5	*1.9	*2.2	4.0	15.6	10.0	25.6
Total	248.5	131.4	379.9	11.5	24.2	35.7	260.1	155.6	415.6
Not registered with the CES and —									
Contacted prospective employers	35.9	31.7	67.7	17.2	36.9	54.1	53.1	68.6	121.8
Took other active steps	*3.4	*3.0	6.4	*1.7	*2.9	4.6	5.0	5.9	10.9
Total	39.3	34.7	74.0	18.8	39.8	58.7	58.2	74.5	132.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>287.8</b>	<b>166.1</b>	<b>453.9</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>94.4</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>548.3</b>

**TABLE 7. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK AND AGE, JULY 1990**  
(\*000)

Active steps taken to find work	Age group					Total	
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45 and over		
Registered with the CES and —							
Took no other active steps		*1.5	*1.3	*1.5	*1.6	*2.1	8.0
Contacted prospective employers		81.8	84.2	97.3	61.2	57.6	382.0
Took other active steps		5.2	6.2	4.3	*2.7	7.2	25.6
Total		88.5	91.6	103.1	65.6	66.9	415.6
Not registered with the CES and —							
Contacted prospective employers		33.4	17.9	31.1	20.6	18.8	121.8
Took other active steps		*2.2	*1.9	*1.8	*2.5	*2.6	10.9
Total		35.5	19.8	32.9	23.1	21.4	132.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>124.0</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>548.3</b>

**TABLE 8. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT, JULY 1990**

Main difficulty in finding work	Duration of current period of unemployment (weeks)						Total	Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)
	1 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 52	52 and over			
Own ill health or injury	3.8	4.3	*1.4	*3.6	7.5	16.1	36.7	103.4	31.4
Considered too young or too old by employers	8.5	10.1	7.3	11.7	14.0	32.3	83.9	76.4	26.8
Unsuitable hours	*3.1	*2.9	*1.5	4.4	4.1	*3.0	18.9	29.9	16.5
Too far to travel/transport problems	*3.5	*3.0	*3.0	5.0	7.8	5.8	28.3	35.7	21.9
Lacked necessary skills/education	10.0	9.7	9.7	12.3	13.7	18.1	73.4	49.2	16.8
Language difficulties	4.9	*2.2	*1.6	3.7	*3.0	8.7	24.1	66.7	23.2
Insufficient work experience	6.3	5.9	6.8	9.4	15.2	7.2	50.9	34.4	21.0
No vacancies in line of work	16.3	14.4	11.9	13.4	12.7	10.8	79.5	27.5	9.8
No vacancies at all	15.4	20.5	10.2	13.5	15.4	16.7	91.8	36.0	11.8
Other difficulties(a)	*2.6	5.9	*3.3	6.3	4.8	7.2	30.2	42.6	16.4
No difficulties reported	24.8	*2.7	*1.7	*1.4	*0.2	*0.0	30.8	2.9	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>126.0</b>	<b>548.3</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties with ethnic background.

**TABLE 9. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, JULY 1990**  
 ('000)

<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>	<i>Educational attainment</i>								
	<i>With post-school qualifications</i>				<i>Without post-school qualifications</i>				
	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Trade qualifi- cation/ apprent- iceship</i>	<i>Certificate or diploma</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>	<i>Attended highest level of secondary school available</i>	<i>Did not attend highest level of school available and left at age -</i>		<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Total(c)</i>
					<i>16 and over</i>	<i>15 and under</i>			
Own ill health or injury	*0.0	*3.6	5.3	9.8	*3.3	9.2	12.8	25.2	36.7
Considered too young or too old by employers	*2.8	7.9	12.5	25.3	10.9	14.2	31.3	56.8	83.9
Unsuitable hours	*1.2	*1.1	*2.7	5.2	4.9	*3.2	*2.5	10.6	18.9
Too far to travel/transport problems	*0.6	*2.5	*3.6	7.7	*1.8	9.2	8.7	19.7	28.3
Lacked necessary skills/education	*1.4	*3.0	9.3	14.2	8.7	22.4	24.5	56.1	73.4
Language difficulties	*3.3	*1.9	3.9	9.1	4.0	3.8	6.5	14.6	24.1
Insufficient work experience	4.0	*3.5	11.4	19.6	9.3	9.1	9.3	27.9	50.9
No vacancies in line of work	4.7	14.3	10.9	31.4	10.3	17.7	17.0	45.2	79.5
No vacancies at all	*1.7	7.9	9.5	21.3	10.7	18.1	31.9	60.6	91.8
Other difficulties(d)	*2.2	*2.8	7.6	12.9	4.6	3.9	8.0	16.7	30.2
No difficulties reported	*1.9	3.8	4.7	10.6	4.1	5.8	7.1	17.1	30.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>167.2</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>159.6</b>	<b>350.6</b>	<b>548.3</b>

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined. (c) Includes persons still at school. (d) Includes persons who reported difficulties with ethnic background.

**TABLE 10. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND AGE, JULY 1990**  
 ('000)

<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>	<i>Age group</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-19</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45 and over</i>	
Own ill health or injury	6.5	5.6	8.4	8.3	7.8	36.7
Considered too young or too old by employers	9.6	10.5	10.7	12.4	40.7	83.9
Unsuitable hours	5.8	*3.3	6.0	*3.2	*0.6	18.9
Too far to travel/transport problems	8.7	7.4	7.2	*3.2	*1.8	28.3
Lacked necessary skills/education	23.5	15.9	19.4	8.8	5.9	73.4
Language difficulties	*0.7	*3.0	9.0	5.9	5.5	24.1
Insufficient work experience	17.5	16.2	11.3	3.8	*2.1	50.9
No vacancies in line of work	12.8	17.0	24.9	16.3	8.5	79.5
No vacancies at all	27.0	18.8	22.3	14.4	9.3	91.8
Other difficulties(a)	3.9	7.2	7.7	8.1	*3.3	30.2
No difficulties reported	8.1	6.4	9.1	4.2	*2.9	30.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>124.0</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>548.3</b>

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties with ethnic background.

**TABLE 11. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND BIRTHPLACE, JULY 1990**  
 ('000)

<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>	<i>Born in Australia</i>			<i>Born outside Australia</i>			<i>Total</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Own ill health or injury	17.6	9.0	26.7	7.1	*3.0	10.1	24.7	12.0	36.7
Considered too young or too old by employers	27.8	24.9	52.8	19.9	11.2	31.1	47.8	36.1	83.9
Unsuitable hours	3.7	8.8	12.5	*1.0	5.4	6.4	4.7	14.3	18.9
Too far to travel/transport problems	14.1	5.4	19.5	*3.3	5.5	8.8	17.4	10.8	28.3
Lacked necessary skills/education	34.7	24.6	59.2	9.2	5.0	14.2	43.8	29.6	73.4
Language difficulties	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	15.3	8.8	24.1	15.3	8.8	24.1
Insufficient work experience	16.8	20.2	36.9	6.0	8.0	13.9	22.7	28.1	50.9
No vacancies in line of work	37.6	20.5	58.1	14.6	6.8	21.4	52.2	27.3	79.5
No vacancies at all	45.4	28.4	73.8	11.1	6.9	18.0	56.5	35.3	91.8
Other difficulties(a)	10.5	10.2	20.6	5.9	*3.6	9.5	16.4	13.8	30.2
No difficulties reported	11.5	11.4	23.0	5.3	*2.5	7.8	16.8	14.0	30.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>219.6</b>	<b>163.4</b>	<b>383.0</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>165.3</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>548.3</b>

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties with ethnic background.

TABLE 12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK AND BIRTHPLACE, JULY 1990 ('000)

<i>All difficulties in finding work</i>	<i>Born in Australia</i>			<i>Born outside Australia</i>			<i>Total</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Own ill health or injury	32.4	15.4	47.8	13.2	6.9	20.1	45.6	22.3	67.9
Considered too young or too old by employers	64.4	57.8	122.2	37.1	22.3	59.4	101.5	80.1	181.5
Unsuitable hours	10.2	22.6	32.8	4.2	10.2	14.4	14.4	32.7	47.2
Too far to travel/transport problems	44.7	28.4	73.1	16.4	15.2	31.6	61.1	43.6	104.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	81.8	58.6	140.4	29.4	19.1	48.4	111.1	77.7	188.8
Language difficulties	*1.7	*1.3	*2.9	22.0	12.6	34.6	23.6	13.9	37.5
Insufficient work experience	58.5	53.2	111.7	21.4	20.9	42.3	79.9	74.1	154.0
No vacancies in line of work	87.5	50.4	137.9	36.0	17.9	53.9	123.5	68.3	191.8
No vacancies at all	88.0	60.9	148.9	28.6	17.1	45.8	116.6	78.0	194.7
Other difficulties(a)	18.5	14.9	33.4	11.1	6.4	17.5	29.5	21.3	50.9

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties with ethnic background.

TABLE 13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS AND AGE, JULY 1990 ('000)

<i>Number of spells of looking for work in the previous twelve months</i>	<i>Age group</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-19</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45 and over</i>	
	MALES					
One	46.6	49.2	63.3	43.3	54.7	257.1
Two or more	14.7	16.3	17.4	6.2	6.5	61.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>61.3</i>	<i>65.5</i>	<i>80.7</i>	<i>49.6</i>	<i>61.2</i>	<i>318.2</i>
	FEMALES					
One	52.2	35.8	48.1	35.1	25.6	196.9
Two or more	10.5	10.1	7.1	3.9	*1.6	33.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>62.7</i>	<i>45.9</i>	<i>55.3</i>	<i>39.1</i>	<i>27.2</i>	<i>230.1</i>
	PERSONS					
One	98.8	85.0	111.5	78.4	80.3	454.0
Two	16.7	18.9	18.2	7.8	5.1	66.7
Three or more	8.5	7.5	6.3	*2.4	*2.9	27.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>124.0</i>	<i>111.4</i>	<i>136.0</i>	<i>88.6</i>	<i>88.3</i>	<i>548.3</i>

TABLE 14. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: FAMILY STATUS AND TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS, JULY 1990 ('000)

<i>Family status</i>	<i>Time spent looking for work in the previous twelve months (weeks)</i>								<i>Total</i>
	<i>1 and under 2</i>	<i>2 and under 4</i>	<i>4 and under 8</i>	<i>8 and under 13</i>	<i>13 and under 26</i>	<i>26 and under 39</i>	<i>39 and under 52</i>	<i>52</i>	
Member of a family	25.7	37.3	51.9	44.8	74.3	69.5	30.0	99.9	433.4
Husband or wife	11.6	19.0	25.9	20.2	35.6	28.3	15.1	56.0	211.5
With dependents present	7.6	14.2	18.0	14.5	23.4	19.2	10.3	35.7	142.9
Without dependents present	4.0	4.7	7.9	5.7	12.2	9.1	4.8	20.3	68.7
Sole parent	*0.8	*2.7	*2.7	*1.9	4.4	*3.0	*0.9	5.7	22.1
Other family head	*1.1	*1.0	*0.8	*0.5	*2.2	*0.8	*0.8	*2.9	10.2
Full-time student aged 15-24(a)	6.5	5.0	7.7	5.1	6.6	5.8	*1.2	4.5	42.3
Other child(b) of married couple or family head	4.8	8.8	13.8	15.5	23.0	29.3	10.7	27.0	132.9
Other relative of married couple or family head	*0.9	*0.8	*1.0	*1.6	*2.5	*2.4	*1.3	3.7	14.3
Not a member of a family	5.6	5.1	12.0	8.0	13.0	13.3	4.3	19.8	81.0
Living alone	*1.0	*0.9	*3.4	*2.5	4.9	4.8	*2.0	11.8	31.4
Not living alone	4.5	4.2	8.6	5.5	8.1	8.6	*2.3	8.0	49.6
Family status not determined	*1.8	*2.5	4.7	4.1	8.0	3.7	*2.9	6.3	34.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>33.0</i>	<i>44.9</i>	<i>68.6</i>	<i>56.8</i>	<i>95.3</i>	<i>86.5</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>126.0</i>	<i>548.3</i>

(a) Excludes persons aged 20 to 24 attending school. (b) Aged 15 and over.

TABLE 15. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT, JULY 1990

Educational attainment	Duration of current period of unemployment (weeks)							Total	Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)
	1 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 52	52 and under 104	104 and over			
MALES										
With post-school qualifications(a)	16.6	13.7	11.3	15.4	17.0	9.8	9.8	93.5	40.9	13.7
Degree	*3.3	*1.8	*1.3	*1.9	*2.1	*1.6	*0.9	12.9	35.3	*12.2
Trade qualification/apprenticeship	8.3	7.3	5.9	7.4	7.7	5.2	5.1	46.8	37.2	13.3
Certificate or diploma	4.5	3.8	4.0	5.3	4.9	*2.3	*3.3	28.1	49.4	12.8
Without post-school qualifications(b)	33.8	31.3	19.3	31.2	36.5	20.3	37.9	210.3	59.1	18.9
Attended highest level of secondary school available	7.2	7.4	*3.6	6.7	6.7	*2.9	4.0	38.5	39.8	12.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	26.3	23.9	15.5	24.3	29.9	17.3	33.6	170.7	63.5	20.9
Left at age —										
16 and over	11.2	10.9	8.3	10.5	13.7	5.9	10.0	70.5	45.6	16.4
15 and under	15.2	13.0	7.2	13.7	16.1	11.4	23.6	100.2	76.2	25.3
Still at school	4.6	*3.3	*1.1	*2.2	*1.5	*1.6	*0.3	14.5	19.4	*4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>16.5</b>
FEMALES										
With post-school qualifications(a)	13.9	10.3	8.4	11.8	13.3	8.5	7.6	73.7	39.9	13.1
Degree	*2.0	*1.8	*2.1	*2.0	*1.9	*0.4	*0.6	10.8	27.6	*10.1
Trade qualification/apprenticeship	*1.8	*0.7	*0.3	*1.2	*0.8	*0.1	*0.4	5.3	*56.1	*7.9
Certificate or diploma	9.8	7.6	5.5	8.3	9.7	7.3	5.1	53.4	38.1	15.5
Without post-school qualifications(b)	26.6	19.7	15.8	22.3	27.2	12.7	16.1	140.4	41.8	14.7
Attended highest level of secondary school available	7.1	5.3	*2.2	6.0	8.5	*2.7	*2.3	34.1	32.0	15.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	19.5	14.4	13.4	16.3	18.4	9.8	13.6	105.4	44.9	13.7
Left at age —										
16 and over	8.7	6.4	5.5	7.9	8.6	5.0	4.0	45.9	38.1	12.8
15 and under	10.8	8.0	7.9	8.5	9.8	4.8	9.7	59.4	50.1	15.2
Still at school	3.7	*3.4	*2.5	*1.9	*2.9	*1.2	*0.4	16.1	17.4	7.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>13.3</b>
PERSONS										
With post-school qualifications(a)	30.5	24.0	19.7	27.1	30.3	18.2	17.4	167.2	40.5	13.5
Degree	5.3	*3.6	*3.4	3.9	4.0	*2.0	*1.6	23.7	31.8	11.2
Trade qualification/apprenticeship	10.1	8.0	6.2	8.5	8.4	5.4	5.5	52.2	39.1	12.8
Certificate or diploma	14.3	11.4	9.5	13.5	14.6	9.6	8.5	81.4	42.0	13.5
Without post-school qualifications(b)	60.4	50.9	35.1	53.5	63.7	33.0	54.0	350.6	52.2	16.9
Attended highest level of secondary school available	14.3	12.7	5.8	12.6	15.2	5.6	6.3	72.6	36.1	14.5
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	45.8	38.2	28.9	40.6	48.2	27.1	47.2	276.1	56.4	17.8
Left at age —										
16 and over	19.8	17.2	13.8	18.4	22.3	10.9	14.0	116.5	42.6	14.9
15 and under	26.0	21.0	15.1	22.2	25.9	16.2	33.3	159.6	66.5	20.4
Still at school	8.3	6.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	*2.8	*0.6	30.5	18.4	6.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>548.3</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school and those for whom secondary school qualifications could not be determined.

TABLE 16. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: NUMBER OF OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT AND DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT, JULY 1990

Number of offers of employment	Duration of current period of unemployment (weeks)						Total	Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)
	1 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 52	52 and over			
MALES									
None	45.4	43.1	27.4	41.9	48.3	72.7	278.7	53.8	17.0
One or more	9.6	5.1	4.3	6.9	6.8	6.8	39.5	38.8	12.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>16.5</b>
FEMALES									
None	35.4	26.6	23.2	31.6	37.3	38.6	192.7	39.8	13.9
One or more	8.8	6.8	*3.4	4.4	6.0	7.9	37.4	37.9	11.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>13.3</b>
PERSONS									
None	80.8	69.7	50.7	73.4	85.6	111.2	471.5	48.1	16.2
One	12.2	9.8	5.4	8.6	8.6	9.1	53.7	32.9	11.4
Two or more	6.2	*2.1	*2.3	*2.7	4.2	5.7	23.2	51.0	17.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>84.7</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>126.0</b>	<b>548.3</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>

TABLE 17. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS WHO WERE WAGE OR SALARY EARNERS IN THEIR LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND WHO CEASED THAT JOB IN THE LAST TWO YEARS: AGE AND DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, JULY 1990 ('000)

Age group	Duration of last full-time job						1 and under 5 years	5 years and over	Total
	Under one year (weeks)					Total			
	2 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 26	26 and under 52					
15-19	8.5	8.3	20.5	8.8	46.0	11.0	*0.0	57.0	
20-24	6.4	6.8	21.3	13.7	48.2	23.9	*0.9	73.1	
25-34	5.9	6.4	20.4	18.0	50.7	24.9	6.5	82.1	
35-44	*2.9	*2.9	11.5	6.5	23.8	11.5	7.5	42.8	
45 and over	*2.8	*3.2	6.7	5.8	18.4	9.7	12.8	40.9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>187.2</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>295.9</b>	

TABLE 18. ALL POPULATIONS BY STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, JULY 1990 ('000)

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
<b>Population 1:</b> Unemployed persons	176.0	126.0	108.9	48.8	58.2	17.9	5.2	7.2	548.3
<b>Population 2:</b> Unemployed persons who were wage or salary earners in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	88.0	67.7	64.6	24.0	34.9	8.6	3.4	4.6	295.9

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Introduction

The monthly population survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the July 1990 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. They were asked about their job search experience, including their difficulties in finding work, steps taken to find work and whether they had had offers of employment, as well as about their educational attainment and the particulars of their last job, if any.

### Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) except that it was restricted to unemployed persons excluding those who were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

4. The number of unemployed persons published in *The Labour Force, Australia, July 1990* (6203.0) differs from that published for this survey because persons who were stood down were excluded, as it was inappropriate to ask them about their job search experience. Persons who were stood down comprised 3.5 per cent of all unemployed persons.

### Coverage

5. In the population survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. See *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

### Definitions

6. Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

7. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).

### Results of the survey

8. Estimates of unemployed persons are also published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). However, more detailed information is contained in this publication.

9. Due to the differences in the method of estimation used in this supplementary survey and that used in the labour force survey, there are some small variations between estimates in this publication and those in the corresponding issue of *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

10. The estimates in this publication refer to information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

11. Results of similar surveys, conducted in May 1976, November 1976, annually from May 1977 to June 1986, and July 1988, have been given in previous issues of this publication.

12. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in June 1991.

### Comparability of series

13. It is impracticable to obtain information relating to the whole of the previous twelve months which is strictly comparable with that obtained in the monthly labour force survey for which the reference period is one week. The definitions used in determining duration of current period of unemployment depend on a detailed set of questions. The items *time spent looking for work* and *number of spells of looking for work during the previous twelve months* are based on a more limited set of questions. It is for this reason that the term *looking for work* is used for these items rather than the more precisely defined term *unemployed*.

### Unpublished statistics

14. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to the contact in the Inquiries box at the front of this publication.

### Reliability of the estimates

15. Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. For further information refer to the Technical Note, page 12.

### Related publications

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

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly

*Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia* (6224.0)—issued annually

*Labour Force Experience, Australia* (6206.0)—issued annually

*Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (6220.0)—issued annually

*Underemployed Workers, Australia* (6265.0)—issued irregularly

*Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (6245.0)—issued irregularly

17. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, 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 the Technical Note, page 12.
- . . not applicable
- n.a. not available
- r revised

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

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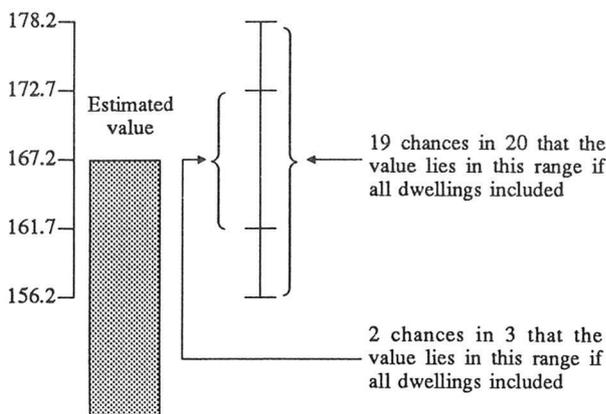
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## TECHNICAL NOTE

Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability, that is, they may differ from those 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 number 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.

2. 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 numbers will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

3. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 15 shows the estimated number of unemployed persons in Australia who had a post-school qualification was 167,200. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000, the standard error for Australia will be between 4,450 and 6,000 in the standard error table and can be approximated as 5,500 (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 161,700 to 172,700 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 156,200 to 178,200. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



4. 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, only estimates with relative standard errors of 25 per cent or less and percentages based on such estimates are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

5. The relative standard errors of estimates of *average duration of unemployment*, and *median duration of unemployment* are obtained by first finding the relative standard error of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the average or median and then multiplying the number so obtained by the following relevant factors:

Average duration of unemployment: 1.3  
Median duration of unemployment: 2.0

6. An example of the calculation of standard errors by the use of those factors is as follows. If an estimate of median duration of unemployment for unemployed males is 19 weeks and the number of unemployed males is estimated as 300,000, from the table on the following page it can be calculated that this estimate (300,000) has a standard error of about 7,100 and therefore a relative standard error of about 2.4 per cent. The *relative standard error* of the estimate of median duration of unemployment is calculated by multiplying this number (2.4) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.0):  $2.4 \times 2.0 = 4.8$  per cent. The *standard error* of this estimate of median duration of unemployment is therefore 4.8 per cent of 19, i.e. about 1. Therefore there are about two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for unemployed males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 18 to 20 weeks and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range 17 to 21 weeks.

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

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

8. Considering the example from paragraph 3 above, the 167,200 persons represent 30.5 per cent of the 548,300 unemployed persons. The standard error of 548,300 is approximately 9,000 so the relative standard error is 1.6 per cent. The relative standard error for 167,200 is 3.3 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is  $\sqrt{(3.3)^2 - (1.6)^2}$  or 2.9 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (30.5%) of 0.9 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed persons who had a post-school qualification is between 29.6 per cent and 31.4 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty that the proportion is within the range 28.7 per cent to 32.3 per cent.

9. Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their 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 subpopulations it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

10. 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 coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. 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.

#### 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)
100			130	120	130	90	130	90	120	121.1
200		230	190	170	180	130	170	130	180	91.7
300	310	290	230	210	230	160	200	150	230	77.5
400	360	340	270	240	260	190	230	180	270	68.6
500	410	380	300	270	290	210	260	190	310	62.3
600	450	420	330	290	320	230	280	210	350	57.6
800	520	480	380	340	360	260	320	240	410	50.7
1,000	580	540	430	380	410	290	350	270	460	45.9
1,300	660	620	490	430	460	330	400	300	530	40.7
1,500	710	660	520	460	490	350	420	320	570	38.2
1,800	770	730	570	500	530	380	460	340	630	35.1
2,000	810	770	600	520	560	400	480	360	670	33.4
2,500	910	850	670	580	620	440	530	400	750	30.1
3,000	990	930	730	630	670	480	580	430	830	27.6
3,500	1,050	1,000	780	680	720	510	620	460	900	25.6
4,000	1,150	1,050	830	720	770	540	660	480	960	24.0
4,500	1,200	1,150	880	760	810	560	700	510	1,000	22.7
5,000	1,250	1,200	920	790	850	590	730	530	1,100	21.5
6,000	1,350	1,300	1,000	860	920	630	790	570	1,200	19.7
8,000	1,550	1,500	1,150	980	1,050	700	910	640	1,350	17.1
10,000	1,750	1,650	1,250	1,050	1,150	760	1,000	700	1,550	15.3
20,000	2,350	2,250	1,700	1,450	1,550	970	1,400	920	2,150	10.7
50,000	3,450	3,300	2,500	2,100	2,250	1,300	2,150	1,300	3,250	6.5
100,000	4,600	4,400	3,350	2,750	2,950	1,550	2,950	1,650	4,450	4.4
200,000	6,100	5,700	4,400	3,550	3,850	1,850	4,100	2,150	6,000	3.0
300,000	7,100	6,700	5,100	4,100	4,450	2,000	4,950	2,450	7,100	2.4
500,000	8,600	8,100	6,200	4,900	5,400	2,200	6,400	2,900	8,700	1.7
1,000,000	11,000	10,300	7,900	6,200	6,900	2,500	8,900	3,600	11,400	1.1

## GLOSSARY

*Active steps taken to find work:* steps taken since beginning to look for work. They comprise: writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering a newspaper advertisement for a job; checking factory or Commonwealth Employment Service noticeboards; being registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.

*All difficulties in finding work:* all difficulties experienced since beginning to look for work.

*Average duration of current period of unemployment:* the duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.

*Ceased last full-time job:* left or lost last full-time job.

*Certificate or diploma:* completion of an approved certificate or diploma in secretarial or business studies, administration, teaching, nursing, etc.

*CES:* Commonwealth Employment Service.

*Degree:* a bachelor degree (including honours), a graduate or post-graduate diploma, masters degree or a doctorate.

*Duration of current period of unemployment:* the period from the time the person began looking for work to the end of the reference week. Thus this item measures the current (and continuing) period of unemployment rather than a completed spell. For persons who may have begun looking for work while still employed, the duration of current period of unemployment is defined as the period from the time the person last worked full-time for two weeks or more to the end of the reference week. Periods of unemployment are recorded in complete weeks and this results in a slight understatement of duration.

*Educational attainment:* measures the highest educational qualification obtained. Qualifications may include those obtained at other than educational institutions (e.g. nursing qualifications obtained at a hospital).

*Highest level of secondary school available:* the highest level of secondary schooling (or equivalent) offered by the education system at the time the respondent left school.

*Interstate:* between States.

*Intrastate:* within the State.

*Job:* any paid employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.

*Job leavers:* persons who voluntarily ceased their last full-time job.

*Job losers:* persons who involuntarily ceased their last full-time job.

*Looking for work:* persons who were reported as having been out of work and looking for a job.

*Main difficulty in finding work:* the main difficulty experienced since beginning to look for work.

*Main field of study:* for those persons whose highest qualification is a degree, trade qualification/apprenticeship, certificate or diploma, it is the main field of study for that qualification.

*Median duration of current period of unemployment:* the duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

*Number of offers of employment:* the number of separate offers of employment received since beginning to look for work.

*Number of spells of looking for work in the previous twelve months:* the number of different periods, including the current period, during which persons reported having been out of work and looking for a job.

*Other post-school qualifications:* completion of other types of education, e.g. adult education, preparatory/bridging course or hobby course.

*Persons with a post-school qualification:* persons who have obtained a trade qualification, certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification, since leaving school. Respondents indicated which of the following groups best described their highest qualification: Degree; Trade qualification or apprenticeship; Certificate or diploma; Other post-school qualification.

*Still at school:* current school attendance was recorded only for persons aged fifteen to twenty years.

*Time spent looking for work in the previous twelve months:* the total number of weeks persons reported having been out of work and looking for a job, including the weeks in the current period.

*Trade qualification or apprenticeship:* completion of an approved trade/technical apprenticeship in fitting and turning, hairdressing, plumbing, carpentry, etc.

*Unemployed persons:* those persons who were not employed during the reference week (i.e. the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place), had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week, and:

- (a) were available for work in the reference week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week); or
- (b) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

*Usual gross weekly pay:* the amount of usual total weekly pay (i.e. before taxation and other deductions have been made).

## SPECIAL DATA SERVICES

### DATA ITEMS AND HOW TO ORDER SPECIAL TABLES FROM THIS SURVEY

The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request. When ordering special tables from this survey, please ensure you identify the **population(s)** and the **data items(s)** that you require.

This section specifies the data items, categories and populations which relate to the survey and includes an order form for special tables.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates.

#### POPULATIONS

POPULATION 1: Unemployed persons (excluding those who were stood down)

POPULATION 2: Unemployed persons who were wage or salary earners in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years (excluding those who were stood down)

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
1 STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	6B FAMILY STATUS (2)	ALL
New South Wales		Member of a family	
Victoria		Husband or wife	
Queensland		With children aged 0-14 present	
South Australia		Without children aged 0-14 present	
Western Australia		Sole parent	
Tasmania		With children aged 0-14 present	
Northern Territory		Without children aged 0-14 present	
Australian Capital Territory		Other family head	
		Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	
2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Other child(b) of married couple or family head	
Metropolitan		Other relative of married couple or family head	
Non-metropolitan		Not a member of a family	
3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Living alone	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Not living alone	
4 GENDER	ALL	Family status not determined	
Males			
Females		(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.	
5 MARITAL STATUS	ALL	(b) Aged 15 and over.	
Married		7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL	ALL
Not-married		Born in Australia	
6A FAMILY STATUS (1)	ALL	Born outside Australia	
Member of a family		Arrived before 1961	
Husband or wife		Arrived 1961-1970	
With dependents present		Arrived 1971-1980	
Without dependents present		Arrived 1981-1990	
Sole parent		7B BIRTHPLACE (1)	ALL
Other family head		Born in Australia	
Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)		Born outside Australia(a)	
Other child(b) of married couple or family head		Born in main English-speaking countries (b)	
Other relative of married couple or family head		Born in other countries	
Not a member of a family			
Living alone		(a) Includes persons born at sea.	
Not living alone		(b) Comprises United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, U.S.A. and New Zealand.	
Family status not determined			
(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.			
(b) Aged 15 and over.			

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
<b>7C BIRTHPLACE (2)</b> Born in Australia Born outside Australia (a) Africa America Asia Lebanon Vietnam Other countries in Asia Europe Germany Greece Netherlands Italy Malta Yugoslavia United Kingdom and Ireland Poland Other countries in Europe Oceania New Zealand Other countries in Oceania	ALL	<b>11B ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK</b> Registered with the CES and — Took no other active steps Contacted prospective employers Took other active steps Not registered with the CES and — Contacted prospective employers Took other active steps	ALL
		<b>12 WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTERSTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB</b> Would move interstate Would not move interstate Moving interstate would depend — On job conditions On other conditions Undecided	ALL
		<b>13 WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB</b> Would move intrastate Would not move intrastate Moving intrastate would depend — On job conditions On other conditions Undecided	ALL
		<b>14 NUMBER OF OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT</b> None One or more One Two or more	ALL
		<b>15 ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK</b> Own ill health or injury Considered too young or too old by employers Unsuitable hours Too far to travel/transport problems Lacked necessary skills/education Language difficulties Insufficient work experience No vacancies in line of work No vacancies at all Difficulties with ethnic background Other difficulties	ALL
		<b>16 MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK</b> Own ill health or injury Considered too young or too old by employers Unsuitable hours Too far to travel/transport problems Lacked necessary skills/education Language difficulties Insufficient work experience No vacancies in line of work No vacancies at all Difficulties with ethnic background Other difficulties No difficulties reported	ALL
<b>8 AGE</b> 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55 and over	ALL		
<b>9 WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK</b> Looking for full-time work Looking for part-time work	ALL		
<b>10 DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT</b> 1 and under 4 weeks 4 and under 8 weeks 8 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 and under 104 weeks 104 weeks and over	ALL		
<b>11A ALL ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK</b> Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job Checked factory or Commonwealth Employment Service noticeboards Been registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service Checked or registered with any other employment agency Advertised or tendered for work Contacted relatives or friends	ALL		
(a) Includes persons born at sea.			

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
17 NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS One Two Three or more	ALL	20 MAIN FIELD OF STUDY Degree Administration, business studies, commerce Law Education Medical Science, mathematics, computing Veterinary science, agriculture, forestry Engineering Architecture Social sciences, arts, humanities Other Trade qualification/apprenticeship Metal Service Building Electrical Food and drink Wood and furniture Printing and allied Automotive, mechanical Footwear, clothing, textile Other Certificate or diploma Business, administration, commerce Secretarial, typing, data processing Education, teacher training Nursing Other health, para-medical Science, computing, agriculture Engineering, architecture Transport, communication Arts, social studies, crafts Other Other Without post-school qualifications Still at school	ALL
18 TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS 1 and under 2 weeks 2 and under 4 weeks 4 and under 8 weeks 8 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 weeks	ALL	21 WHETHER HAD WORKED FULL TIME Had never worked full time Had worked full time	ALL
19 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT With post-school qualifications Degree Trade qualification/apprenticeship Certificate or diploma Other Without post-school qualifications Attended highest level of secondary school available Did not attend highest level of secondary school available Left at age— 18 and over 16 or 17 14 or 15 13 and under Never attended school Secondary school qualifications not determined Still at school	ALL	22A INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1) Last full-time job less than 2 years ago Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting Mining Manufacturing Electricity, gas and water Construction Wholesale and retail trade Transport and storage Communication Finance, property and business services Public administration and defence Community services Recreation, personal and other services Has not worked full time in the last 2 years Has never worked	1

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
<b>22B INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25A DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago (a)	
Mining		Less than 1 year	
Manufacturing		2 and under 4 weeks	
Electricity, gas and water		4 and under 8 weeks	
Construction		8 and under 26 weeks	
Wholesale and retail trade		26 and under 52 weeks	
Transport and storage		1 and under 2 years	
Communication		2 and under 5 years	
Finance, property and business services		5 years and over	
Public administration and defence		Has not worked full time in the last two years	
Community services		Has never worked	
Recreation, personal and other services		(a) Includes unpaid voluntary workers.	
<b>23A OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB(1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25B DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago		Less than 1 year	
Managers and administrators		2 and under 4 weeks	
Professionals		4 and under 8 weeks	
Para-professionals		8 and under 26 weeks	
Tradespersons		26 and under 52 weeks	
Clerks		1 and under 2 years	
Salespersons and personal service workers		2 and under 5 years	
Plant and machine operators and drivers		5 years and over	
Labourers and related workers			
Has not worked full time in the last 2 years		<b>26A REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>
Has never worked		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago (a)	
<b>23B OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>	Job loser	
Managers and administrators		Retrenched	
Professionals		Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	
Para-professionals		Own ill health or injury	
Tradespersons		Job leaver	
Clerks		Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
Salespersons and personal service workers		Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	
Plant and machine operators, and drivers		Other	
Labourers and related workers		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
<b>24 USUAL GROSS WEEKLY PAY IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB</b>	<b>2</b>	Has never worked	
Australian currency (\$)		(a) Includes unpaid voluntary workers.	
Under 40		<b>26B REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>
40 and under 80		Job loser	
80 and under 120		Retrenched	
120 and under 160		Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	
160 and under 200		Own ill health or injury	
200 and under 240		Job leaver	
240 and under 280		Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
280 and under 320		Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	
320 and under 360		Other	
360 and under 400		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
400 and under 440		Has never worked	
440 and under 480		(a) Includes unpaid voluntary workers.	
480 and under 520		<b>27 STATUS OF WORKER IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB</b>	<b>1</b>
520 and under 560		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
560 and under 600		Wage or salary earner	
600 and under 640		In own business, with employees	
640 and under 680		In own business, without employees	
680 and under 720		Other	
720 and under 760		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
760 and under 800		Has never worked	
800 and over			
Non-Australian currency			
Payment in kind			

NOTE: More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available.

## SPECIAL DATA REQUEST ORDER FORM

### JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, JULY 1990

Please specify your special data request(s) on the order form provided on the following page.

The following points should be noted when requesting special tables:

1. Table requests will be available on computer printout, floppy disk or microfiche.
2. The current cost of special tables is as follows —

No. of data items (excluding populations)	Cost per table (\$)
2	120
3	150
4	210
5	300
6 or more	negotiable

- NOTE** (i) For tables provided on floppy disk, an additional cost of \$65.00 per disk will be charged;  
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(iii) Prices quoted are subject to revisions.

3. Return the completed order form together with the **address advice** to —

Assistant Director  
Labour Force Supplementary Surveys  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
PO Box 10  
Belconnen ACT 2616

4. The invoiced cost is payable in full within 28 days of supply.
5. Any inquiries about this order should be directed to Ms Sue Doyle on (06) 252 7204.



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Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, July 1990









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