

POPULATION SURVEY MONITOR

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30am, 11 JULY 1994

The *Population Survey Monitor* is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia. Results are available to clients within six weeks of the completion of interviewing. This publication only contains a small portion of the available information.

THIS QUARTER'S TOPICS

- **Sport and recreation**
This dataset contains information on the sporting and recreation activities of Australians. Activities include organised and social sport, and selected physical activities. Data on gambling activities, attendance and watching/listening to sporting events were also collected.
- **Consumer expectations (Experimental)**
This is an experimental dataset which contains data on the anticipated consumption by households of major items in the September quarter.
- **Botanical Gardens usage**
This dataset contains information on the usage of Botanical Gardens around Australia, the number of persons attending, and reasons for visit(s).
- **Health issues**
This dataset contains information about a number of health issues, including the incidence of smoking, exercising, alcohol consumption and other health issues for persons aged 18 years and over.
- **Asthma Incidence**
This dataset contains information about the incidence of asthma and the number of days spent hospitalised and away from work for persons aged 18 years and over.
- **Work History**
This dataset contains information on persons aged 18 years and over regarding their first and current job since leaving full-time study, years of employment, breaks from employment and perceived barriers to career development.
- **Work Related Health Problems**
This dataset contains information about the number of days absent from work due to a health problem and whether it was work related, the industry in which the health problem occurred and its subsequent impact on employment for persons aged 18 years and over.
- **Working Arrangements**
This dataset contains information about the working details of persons who either work for wages/salary or are self-employed including holiday and sick leave benefits and personal opinions on working conditions.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these statistics, contact Theo Neumann on (08) 237 7303

THIS QUARTER'S KEY POINTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Sport and recreation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25.2% of males and 15.5% of females aged 18 years and over participated in organised sport during the reference week. The highest participation rate for males was in the 18-24 age groups where 34.9% of males participated. The highest participation rates for females were in the 18-24 and 25-34 age groups where 22.1% and 20.8% of females participated respectively. • 9.5% of males aged 18 and over and 5.4% of females cycled for pleasure or exercise in the reference week. |
| Consumer expectations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40.0% of households indicated that they intend to purchase a major item in the September quarter. • 12.3% of households indicated that they intend to go on a holiday worth more than \$500 in the next quarter, and 9.4% intend to pay for home alterations or additions worth more than \$500. |
| Botanical Gardens usage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43.3% of persons aged 18 and over have visited at least one botanical garden in the last 12 months. • The highest attendance rates for females was in the 18-24 year age group where 51.7% of females attended. The highest attendance rates for males was also in the 18-24 year group where 49.3% attended. |
| Health issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27.8% of males and 21.3% of females aged 18 years and over currently smoke. The highest percentage of male smokers was in the 25-34 age group (37.2%) and for females was in the 18-24 age group (27.9%). • 67.9% of males and 47.9% of females consumed an alcoholic drink in the last week. |
| Asthma Incidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14.9% of persons 18 years and over indicated that they had been told by a doctor or a hospital that they suffer from asthma. |
| Work History | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 49.3% of males aged 20-59 and 19.5% of females aged 20-59 who currently have a job or have had a job have never had a break from employment of 3 months or more. |
| Work Related Health Problems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.6% of employed persons stayed away from work for all or most of a day in the last two weeks because of health problems. |
| Working Arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 79.4% of employed persons indicated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall job. |

Estimates of standard errors for the tables contained in this publication are given on page 6.

P Gardner
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician
South Australia

TABLE 1: PERSONS AGED 18 AND OVER: PARTICIPATION IN SELECTED SPORTING, RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES BY AGE AND SEX, MAY 1994.

Selected activities	AGE (years)						Total (<i>'000's</i>)	
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over		
MALES (Per cent)								
Organised sport	34.9	29.9	27.3	21.7	16.5	15.5	25.2	1562
Exercising at a gym/health/fitness centre	17.5	12.3	5.3	1.8	2.5	0.0	7.0	435
Cycling for pleasure or exercise	15.4	11.9	8.4	9.9	2.5	6.1	9.5	587
Swimming for pleasure or exercise	10.7	5.7	4.1	2.8	2.5	2.1	4.8	296
Bushwalking or hiking	6.5	7.6	7.0	4.5	4.2	4.7	6.0	370
Fishing	5.1	14.4	8.6	4.5	6.8	2.6	7.6	472
Listen to sport on the radio	19.7	25.6	29.2	22.6	26.9	28.1	25.4	1577
Total Males (<i>'000's</i>)	940	1343	1298	1057	724	835		6198
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Organised sport	22.1	20.8	16.0	10.4	11.1	9.8	15.5	993
Exercising at a gym/health/fitness centre	11.4	13.0	9.3	5.4	5.2	1.3	8.0	513
Cycling for pleasure or exercise	7.3	5.2	9.2	4.2	3.4	1.8	5.4	348
Swimming for pleasure or exercise	3.4	4.6	4.0	3.5	4.1	2.8	3.8	244
Bushwalking or hiking	5.3	7.0	10.4	8.7	3.9	1.3	6.5	415
Fishing	5.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	0.0	0.7	2.0	129
Listen to sport on the radio	14.8	12.8	11.4	14.1	14.1	16.7	13.8	886
Total Females (<i>'000's</i>)	927	1378	1325	1028	717	1045		6419

* Participation is based on Sporting, Physical and Recreational activities undertaken in the week prior to survey week.

TABLE 2: PERSONS AGED 20-59 YEARS WHO HAVE HAD A JOB: NUMBER OF EMPLOYMENT BREAKS TAKEN BY AGE AND SEX, MAY 1994.

Age (years)	NUMBER OF BREAKS						Total (<i>'000's</i>)	
	No breaks	One	Two	Three	Four or more	Don't know		
MALES (Per cent)								
20-24	44.7	30.3	5.3	11.7	4.6	3.4	100.0	573
25-34	45.2	24.2	11.2	9.3	9.5	0.6	100.0	1343
35-44	53.5	24.0	13.1	3.5	5.8	0.2	100.0	1298
45-54	53.0	29.8	8.1	3.2	1.0	4.9	100.0	1055
55-59	46.0	22.2	15.3	4.9	10.8	0.7	100.0	384
Total	49.3	26.0	10.6	6.2	6.1	1.8	100.0	4654
FEMALES (Per cent)								
20-24	49.3	32.1	9.3	3.4	5.0	0.9	100.0	598
25-34	20.5	33.4	25.5	12.7	5.5	2.4	100.0	1321
35-44	11.0	30.4	25.1	12.7	16.5	4.3	100.0	1312
45-54	9.7	35.1	23.6	16.1	11.4	4.1	100.0	994
55-59	24.1	20.5	20.1	16.7	10.6	8.0	100.0	362
Total	19.5	31.7	22.5	12.5	10.3	3.5	100.0	4586

* A break is 3 months or more away from employment.

TABLE 3: HOUSEHOLDS INTENDING TO PURCHASE IN SEPTEMBER 1994 QUARTER: ITEM TO BE PURCHASED, MAY 1994.

Item	('000's)	Per cent
A brand new car	125	2.0
A secondhand car	391	6.2
Household item worth more than \$200	1238	19.7
Home alterations or additions worth more than \$500	592	9.4
Landscaping worth more than \$500	266	4.2
A holiday worth more than \$500	772	12.3
A personal computer	170	2.7
Any other item worth more than \$500	273	4.3
Not intending to purchase	3780	60.0
Total (Households)*	6298	

The total is larger than the number of households as many households intend to purchase more than one item.

TABLE 4: PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: HEALTH ISSUES BY AGE AND SEX, MAY 1994.

	AGE (years)						65 and over	Total ('000's)
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64			
MALES (Per cent)								
Exercised in the last 2 weeks	67.5	54.9	63.5	58.0	56.0	60.2	60.0	3719
Currently smoke	30.3	37.2	31.7	24.8	19.8	14.5	27.8	1722
Consumed an alcoholic drink last week	57.7	67.2	71.8	73.8	70.3	65.2	67.9	4210
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Exercised in the last 2 weeks	61.3	67.6	65.8	64.1	59.8	51.0	62.2	3991
Currently smoke	27.9	24.6	22.4	19.1	21.6	11.6	21.3	1366
Consumed an alcoholic drink last week	54.2	49.1	56.5	45.5	47.7	32.5	47.9	3076

TABLE 5: PERSONS AGED 18 AND OVER: WHETHER VISITED AT LEAST ONE BOTANICAL GARDEN IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY AGE AND SEX, MAY 1994.

Visited at least one botanical garden	AGE (years)						65 and over	Total ('000's)
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64			
MALES (Per cent)								
Yes	49.3	43.1	42.2	37.7	36.0	30.2	40.4	2502
No	50.7	56.9	57.8	62.3	64.0	69.8	59.6	3696
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Yes	51.7	48.9	48.6	40.3	45.9	40.6	46.2	2964
No	48.3	51.1	51.4	59.7	54.1	59.4	53.8	3455

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction	<p>The Population Survey Monitor (PSM) is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia of approximately 2000 households. The PSM has been introduced to meet the needs of government agencies and non profit organisations. It is a user-funded survey where clients pay to include the topic of their choice. Each survey asks a set of core questions of each usual resident aged 15 years and over within the selected household. Questions for each client's topic can be asked of a randomly selected person or a particular person within the selected household.</p>																		
Scope/Coverage	<p>The survey covers rural and urban areas across all States and Territories of Australia except sparsely settled areas. All persons living in non-private dwellings are excluded. All usual residents in private households are included in the PSM.</p>																		
Sample size	<p>For each quarterly survey, an initial sample of approximately 2,700 private dwellings is chosen. This sample is considered sufficient to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed information for Australia; • relatively detailed data for capital city/ urban/ rural areas for Australia; <p>at an acceptable level of accuracy and reliability after allowing for sample loss through factors such as vacant dwellings inadvertently selected in the sample, non-contacts, persons out of scope etc.</p>																		
Expected Sample Distribution	<p>Details of the approximate sample distribution for a quarterly PSM are set out below:</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">New South Wales</td> <td style="text-align: right;">482</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Victoria</td> <td style="text-align: right;">416</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Queensland</td> <td style="text-align: right;">340</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Australia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">241</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Western Australia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">254</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tasmania</td> <td style="text-align: right;">136</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td> <td style="text-align: right;">44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Australian Capital Territory</td> <td style="text-align: right;">87</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Total</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">2000</td> </tr> </table>	New South Wales	482	Victoria	416	Queensland	340	South Australia	241	Western Australia	254	Tasmania	136	Northern Territory	44	Australian Capital Territory	87	 Total	2000
New South Wales	482																		
Victoria	416																		
Queensland	340																		
South Australia	241																		
Western Australia	254																		
Tasmania	136																		
Northern Territory	44																		
Australian Capital Territory	87																		
 Total	2000																		
Data Collection	<p>Information is obtained in the PSM by face to face interviews with adult members of selected households. Interviewers for the PSM are obtained from a panel of trained interviewers who have extensive experience in conducting household surveys.</p> <p>The willing co-operation of selected households is sought. Measures taken to encourage respondent co-operation and maximise response include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to selected households by letter, accompanied by an information brochure, explaining that their dwelling has been selected for the survey, the purposes of the survey, its official nature and the confidentiality of the information collected. • Through call-backs and follow-up at selected dwellings every effort is made to contact the occupants of each selected dwelling and to conduct the survey in those dwellings. 																		

Estimation Procedures

Estimates obtained from the survey are derived using a complex ratio estimation procedure that ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the total population by age, sex and area (rather than to the age-sex-area distribution within the sample itself). The estimation procedure is designed to adjust estimates in such a way as to reduce any non-response bias by adjusting the weights of responding persons' records in each age-sex-area cell to compensate for under-enumeration in that cell.

Expansion factors or 'weights' are inserted into responding person's records to enable the data provided by these persons to be expanded to provide estimates relating to the whole population within the scope of the survey.

Reliability of estimates

The two types of error possible in an estimate based on a sample survey are:

- Non sampling error which arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. The most significant of these errors are: misreporting of data items; deficiencies in coverage; non-response; and processing errors. Every effort is made to minimise these errors by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures.
- Sampling error which occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all establishments in the survey is given by the standard error, see below.

Standard Errors

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 in-scope units had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

The standard errors for some statistics are relatively high and users are advised to exercise caution in interpreting these statistics. Users interested in obtaining further information should contact the number shown in the Inquiries box on page 1 of this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS FOR ALL PUBLICATION TABLES

Size of estimate ('000's)	Standard Error ('000's)
100	23
200	31
500	45
800	56
1000	59
2000	76
5000	105

Example using the standard error table

Table 1 on Page 3 shows that the estimated percentage of males aged between 25 and 34 who played organised sport during the reference week is 29.9%. This represents about 402,000 males. The standard error table above shows that the standard error on an estimate of this size is approximately 40,000. This means that there are two chances in three that the true figure is in the range 362,000 to 442,000 and nineteen chances in twenty that the true figure is in the range 322,000 to 482,000.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS - CORE DATA ITEMS

Age	Age is the age of the person at their last birthday.
Birthplace	A person's birthplace is the country where the person was born.
Dependents	All family members under 15 years of age; family members aged 15 to 19 attending school or aged 15 to 24 attending a tertiary educational institution full time, except those classified as husbands, wives, sole parents or other family heads.
Dwelling structure	This classifies the type of structure of the private dwellings selected in the survey. The information is recorded by the interviewer. A dwelling is classified as one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate house • Semi-detached/ row or terrace house/ town house • Other flat/ unit / apartment • Other dwelling structure
Employed	Persons 15 and over who, during the reference week: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business or on a farm; or b) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm; or c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were on leave; or d) were employers, self-employed persons or unpaid family helpers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Household	A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, ie at other times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but not meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of family and non-family members.
Income	Income is the gross annual income before tax and superannuation are deducted. This includes such things as family allowance, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, wages, salary, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest received, business or farm income and workers compensation expenses.
Labour force status	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Marital status	Persons are classified as married if they are reported as being married (including de facto) and their spouse was a usual resident of the household at the time of the survey.
Nature of occupancy	Households are classified as renting, purchasing or owning the private dwelling in which they live.
Not in the labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily out of the workforce, studying, recovering from illness or injury, caring for an aged/ill/disabled person, or doing unpaid voluntary work.
Occupation	Classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 1986 (ABS Catalogue No. 1222.0).
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 and over who were not employed during the reference week, and had actively looked for full time or part time work at any time in the last four weeks up to the end of the reference period and were available to work in the reference week.

August 1994 Survey

Topics to be included Sport and recreation participation
Consumer expectations
Health risk factors
Asthma incidence
Occupation Study
Disabilities Compensation
Domestic Pets
Film Classifications
Work Related Health Problems

Key dates Closing dates for topics 9 Jul 1994
Interviewing commences 23 Aug 1994.
Standard output available 11 Oct 1994.

November 1994 Survey

Topics to be included Sport and recreation participation
Consumer expectations
Health risk factors
Asthma incidence
Health Index

Key dates Closing dates for topics 7 Oct 1994
Interviewing commences 21 Nov 1994.
Standard output available 9 Jan 1995.

Space is still available for topics on the November 1994 survey.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSM please contact:

John Palmer, Project Director, on (08) 237 7312
or
Theo Neumann, Senior Consultant, on (08) 237 7303
Fax: (08) 237 7376

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GPO BOX 2272
ADELAIDE SA 5001

