



CHARACTERISTICS OF SMALL BUSINESS

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070 or Chris Price on Canberra 02 6252 5746.

NOTES

This publication presents the results of the Characteristics of Small Business Survey which was conducted in November 1999 as a supplementary topic in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey. The survey, which is a survey of households, addressed a number of aspects of the operations of small business as well as identifying the characteristics of small business operators. The survey covers all private sector, non-agricultural small businesses. Similar surveys were previously conducted in February 1995 and February 1997.

COMMENTS ON THIS PUBLICATION

The ABS welcomes comments and suggestions from users recommending data items for inclusion in future surveys. These comments should be addressed to the Director, Small Business and Service Industries Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Other publications which may be of interest are:
Small Business in Australia, 1999 (Cat. no.1321.0)—biennial

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

More detailed small business statistics from the survey are available on request from the ABS. For example, many of the statistics presented here can be cross classified by broad industry sector, or different cross classifications of data presented can also be provided.

ABBREVIATIONS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a. not available
ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
FTE Full time equivalent

The following symbols, where shown in columns or elsewhere in tables, mean:

— nil or rounded to zero
n.a. not available
* data subject to a relative standard error of between 25% and 50%
** data subject to a relative standard error of greater than 50%

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

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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INTRODUCTION

This publication presents the results of the Characteristics of Small Business Survey which was conducted in November 1999 as a supplementary topic in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey. The survey, which is a survey of households, addressed a number of aspects of the operations of small business as well as identifying the characteristics of small business operators. The survey covers all private sector, non-agricultural small businesses. Similar surveys were previously conducted in February 1995 and February 1997.

The survey covers those persons who consider their main job or second job as operating their own (non-agricultural) business. The businesses included are those businesses that the owners considered their main or second job; it therefore excludes those businesses which are not considered part of the owners' job.

Where comparable, results from both the February 1997 and November 1999 surveys are presented with annual average change measures. Results from the February 1995 Survey are also referenced in the commentary. Users should note that the February 1995 and February 1997 results presented in this edition incorporate revisions applied to previously published data. The main impact of these revisions was on tables relating to the number of operators per business and the gender mix of business operators (tables 2.2 and 2.3). For more information on these revisions refer to paragraphs 14 to 19 in the Explanatory Notes.

Because of the length of time elapsed between the two most recent surveys (33 months) and because the snap-shots were taken at different times of the year (November compared to February), the change statistics may be difficult to interpret. To assist in this interpretation, annual average change statistics are presented where appropriate.

DEFINING A SMALL BUSINESS

During 1999 the ABS conducted a review of the way businesses should be defined by size. This review is reported in detail in *Small Business in Australia* (1321.0). In summary, the review recommended that for statistical purposes, small businesses (excluding agricultural businesses) should be defined on the basis of full-time equivalent (FTE) employment. However, because FTE measures are not available from this survey, the recommended business size categories have been adopted, but based on total employment. This definition is in line with the categories defined in the most recent edition of *Small Business in Australia* (Cat. no. 1321.0) as well as the previous edition of this publication.

DEFINING A SMALL
BUSINESS *continued*

The categories presented in this publication are as follows:

- non-employing businesses—sole proprietorships and partnerships without employees;
- businesses employing 1–4 people; and
- businesses employing 5–19 people.

Note that because operators of all incorporated businesses are considered employees of that corporation, all incorporated businesses will be classified as employing businesses.

Together, these three groups form the small business category—those businesses employing less than 20 people.

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER
ABS DATA

Estimates of the number of businesses operating in Australia can be derived from a number of sources within the ABS. They may relate to a particular point in time or may be presented as an annual average. However, these estimates will not always show the same results. Variations will occur because of differing data sources, differing scope and coverage definitions between surveys, as well as variations due to sampling and non-sampling error. These terms are described in the Explanatory Notes.

The estimates of the number of business operators provided in this publication includes own account workers (sole proprietors and partners of non-employing businesses); employers (operators of unincorporated employing sole proprietorships and partnerships); as well as working directors of incorporated companies. In other ABS publications, information can be found on numbers of own account workers and employers, but working directors of incorporated companies are generally treated as employees of the business and are not identified as business owners or operators.

SECTION 1

CHARACTERISTICS OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

INTRODUCTION

This Section presents information on Australian small business operators, including data on their age, hours worked, qualifications and ethnicity.

The term “business operator” has been used to describe the person or persons who own and run the business. Generally these business operators can be identified as:

- the proprietor of a sole proprietorship;
- the partners of a partnership; or
- the working director(s) of an incorporated company.

There is no standard definition of a small business operator and other ABS publications do not use the term, or provide statistics about small business operators as a group. However, the expression “small business operator” is one that is often used in research and policy debate and is generally taken to include the above group of people.

Where comparable, estimates of operators from February 1997 (the previous iteration of the survey) and November 1999 are presented in the tables, together with the measures of the annual average rate of change to assist with analysis. Estimates of operators from February 1995 are also referenced in the commentary below.

Users should note that revisions have been made to estimates of operators from the February 1995 and February 1997 editions of this publication. For more information on these revisions refer to paragraphs 14 to 19 in the Explanatory Notes.

NUMBER OF OPERATORS

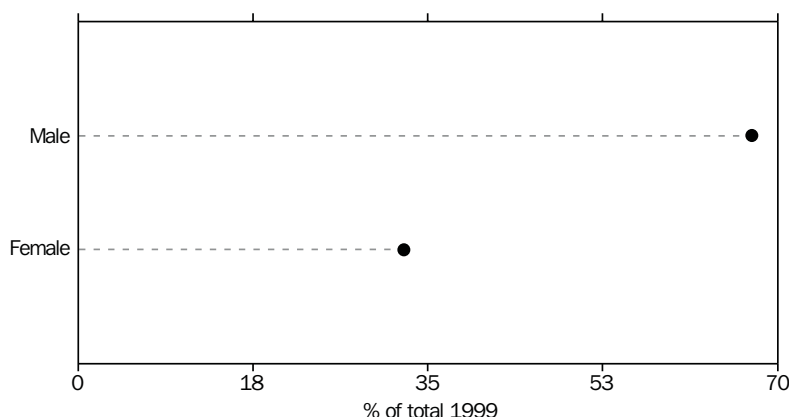
In November 1999 there were an estimated 1,397,900 business operators of the estimated 990,100 small businesses in Australia.

This represented an annual average rate of change of 1.5% in the number of small business operators since the previous survey conducted in February 1997 and average growth of 4% in the number of businesses operated. The reason for the contrasting growth rates between the number of operators and the number of small businesses is that since 1997 there has been strong growth (9% per annum) in the number of single operator businesses while the number of multi operator businesses declined over the period. (This is covered in detail in Chapter 2).

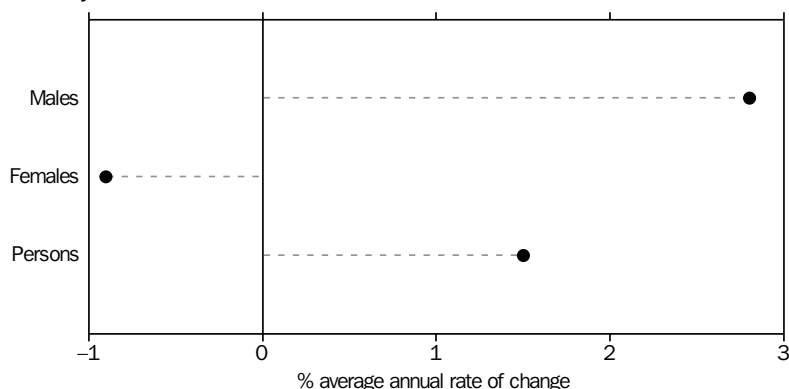
GENDER OF OPERATORS

Of the 1.4 million small business operators, 941,700 (67%) were male and 456,200 (33%) were female. Between February 1997 and November 1999 the number of male operators increased 65,800 which represented an annual average growth rate of 2.8% per annum while over the same period the number of female operators decreased slightly, recording an average decline of 0.9% per annum. This result represents a turnaround from the strong growth recorded in the number of female operators over the two years February 1995 to February 1997 where the number of female small business operators increased by 2.6% per annum.

PROPORTION OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS BY SEX—November 1999



AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH: SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS BY SEX—
February 1997 to November 1999



LOCATION OF OPERATORS

While the distribution of small business operators across States generally reflected the population, growth between February 1997 and November 1999 varied considerably from one State to the next. Strong growth was recorded in the two largest States with New South Wales and Victoria recording average growth of 4% and 3% per annum respectively in the number of small business operators. In New South Wales, the growth was driven by very strong growth in the number of male small business operators (averaging 6% per annum). Over the same period, there was a slight decline in female operators (averaging -0.6% per annum). In Victoria, strong growth was recorded for both male and female operators, both with an average growth rate of 3% per annum.

Modest growth in the number of small business operators was recorded in the two Territories (Northern Territory 1.8% per annum and ACT 1.3%), but other States recorded declines ranging from -0.6% per annum in Queensland to -2.8% per annum in Tasmania. In South Australia and Tasmania there were decreases in both the number of male operators as well as female operators, but in other States the decreases were driven by falling numbers of women operators.

AGE OF OPERATORS

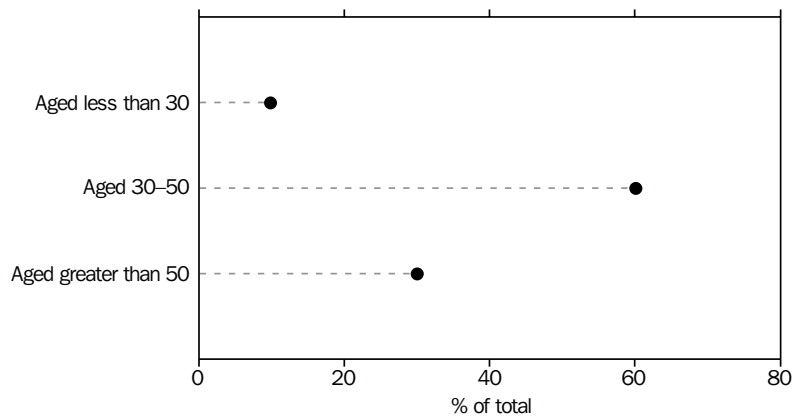
Most small business operators (60%) were aged between 30 and 50 years. The distribution in each age group was as follows:

- 138,600 (10%) were less than 30 years old;
- 840,400 (60%) were aged between 30 and 50 years; and
- 418,900 (30%) were aged greater than 50 years.

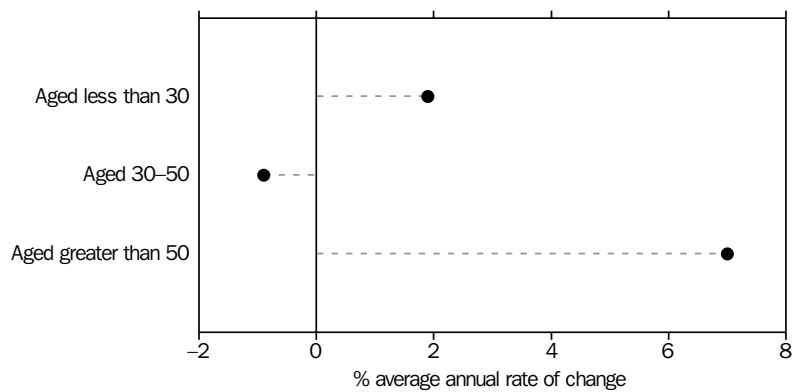
The share of the total operator population held by operators aged 30 to 50 years dropped from 64% to 60% over the 33 month period while the share of the total held by the older operators increased from 26% to 30%. The number of younger operators increased slightly, but their share of the total remained at a similar level (10%).

These data reflect a continuation in some of the trends evident between 1995 and 1997 with strong growth in the number of business operators aged over 50 (up an average 7% per annum between February 1997 and November 1999) and a decline in the number of operators aged between 30 and 50 years (down an average 0.9% per annum). Contrary to previous trends, the number of younger operators (those aged less than 30 years) increased over the period February 1997 to November 1999 (up an average 1.9% per annum).

PROPORTION OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS BY AGE—November 1999



AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH: SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS BY AGE—February 1997 to November 1999



By sex Since February 1997 there have been increases in the proportion of males in both the less than 30 years age group and the group aged between 30 and 50 years (both up 3 percentage points), while in the more than 50 years group, the gender splits have remained the same.

The distribution of small business operators by sex across the age groups at November 1999 was:

- for small business operators aged less than 30 years: 68% were male, 32% were female;
- for small business operators aged between 30 years and 50 years: 66% were male, 34% were female; and
- for small business operators aged more than 50 years: 70% were male, 30% were female.

By State In New South Wales, where growth in the number of small business operators was strongest (up 4% per annum overall), it was the group aged less than 30 years that led this growth (up 12% per annum) followed by those aged more than 50 years (up 10% per annum). This result contrasted with Victoria where the operators less than 30 fell by an average 8% per annum over the same 33 month period. In Victoria operators aged greater than 50 years recorded the strongest growth averaging 10% per annum.

QUALIFICATIONS OF OPERATORS

As shown in table 1.2, at November 1999 the most common qualification held by small business operators was the completion of secondary school (without gaining a degree). There were 531,900 operators (38% of the total) with this qualification; 32% had gained a basic or skilled vocational qualification; 26% had gained a degree or diploma; and 4% had not completed the highest available year of secondary school.

These results reflect little change since February 1997. The proportion of operators with basic or skilled vocational qualifications decreased by 2% over this time period while there was a similar increase in the proportion of small business operators who had completed secondary school without gaining a degree.

By sex At November 1999, male small business operators were more likely to be qualified with a basic or skilled vocational qualification (38%) than their female counterparts (20%). These results for female operators represent an average decline in the number with this qualification of -4% per year since February 1997.

For male operators there was an annual average increase of 6% in the number with only secondary school qualifications over the 33 months to February 1997. The proportion of male operators with basic or skilled vocational qualifications or with a degree or diploma was similar to that recorded in February 1997.

By sex *continued* In summary, the survey showed that for female small business operators:

- 227,300 (50%) had completed the highest available year of secondary school, but did not gain a degree, diploma or vocational qualifications;
- 90,800 (20%) had gained a basic or skilled vocational qualification; and
- 119,700 (26%) had gained either a degree or diploma.

For male small business operators:

- 304,600 (32%) had completed the highest available year of secondary school, but did not gain a degree, diploma or vocational qualifications;
- 361,000 (38%) had gained a basic or skilled vocational qualification; and
- 237,300 (25%) had gained either a degree or diploma.

By State The proportion of business operators in the three qualification categories across the different States and Territories generally followed the trends recorded nationally.

HOURS WORKED BY OPERATORS

Table 1.3 shows details of hour worked by small business operators for both full-time and part-time operators.

Full-time operators Of the 1.4 million small business operators in Australia at November 1999, just over a million (72%) were classified as full-time operators; that is, they usually worked 35 or more hours each week in the business. This proportion is slightly higher than that recorded in February 1997 when 70% were classified as full-time operators.

Of the full-time operators:

- 44% of all operators usually worked between 35 and 50 hours each week;
- 23% of all operators usually worked between 51 and 75 hours; and
- 5% of all operators usually worked more than 75 hours a week.

This distribution is very similar to that recorded in February 1997.

By sex An estimated 806,400 male small business operators worked full time, 86% of all male operators. Of these, just over half (51%) usually worked between 35 and 50 hours a week, a similar proportion to that recorded in the February 1997 survey.

Contrasting with the male operators, only 44% of all female small business operators worked full time. Again, most female full-time operators (66%) usually worked between 35 and 50 hours a week.

By State Across the major States, New South Wales recorded the highest proportion of small business operators that were working full time in their business with 76% working more than 35 hours per week. Other States recorded about 70% of operators as working full time while in the Northern Territory, 80% were full time. The ACT recorded the lowest proportion with 66%.

A similar distribution across the hours worked categories was recorded in each of the States and Territories. The Northern Territory recorded the highest proportion (7%) of all operators in the more than 75 hours worked category, as well as the highest proportion (33%) of all operators usually working between 51 and 75 hours per week. New South Wales recorded the highest proportion (48%) of all operators working between 35 and 50 hours per week.

Part-time operators Part-time operators, those that usually worked less than 35 hours a week in their business, constituted 28% of the 1.4 million small business operators in Australia in November 1999, a slightly smaller proportion than the 30% recorded in February 1997. The overall fall in the number of part-time operators was mainly because of a drop in the number of operators usually working between 1 and 10 hours per week.

There were 256,100 female small business operators working part time in November 1999, slightly below the 1997 level (265,000). However, the female contribution of part-time operators was the same for both periods—65%.

ETHNICITY OF OPERATORS

Table 1.4 shows details of operators born overseas and those born in Australia. In November 1999, an estimated 414,100 (30%) small business operators were born overseas. This was a similar proportion to that recorded in February 1997 with an annual average growth rate of just 1.3% over the 33 month period. This growth rate contrasts with the previous two year period (February 1995 to February 1997, covered in the previous Characteristics of Small Business Survey) where strong growth of 6% per annum in the number of operators born overseas was recorded.

By sex An estimated 291,600 (31%) male small business operators were born overseas compared to 122,500 (27%) females. Over the period February 1997 to November 1999 the number of overseas born male operators increased at an average 3% per annum while, over the same period, the number of overseas born female operators decreased by an average 3% per annum.

By State The States with the highest proportion of small business operators who were born overseas were Western Australia (34%) and New South Wales (33%). Tasmania, with 10% of small business operators born overseas, recorded the lowest proportion.

Looking at the change in numbers of small business operators that were born overseas over period February 1997 to November 1999, increases were recorded in New South Wales (up an average 6% per annum), Victoria (up 2.9% per annum) and Queensland (up 2.3% per annum). All other States and Territories recorded a decrease over the same period with the largest fall occurring in Tasmania where the number of overseas born small business operators fell an average 22% per annum.

NUMBER OF BUSINESSES OPERATED

Table 1.5 provides data on the number of businesses owned by small business operators at November 1999, classified by age and sex.

Perhaps not surprisingly, most operators (93%) were involved in just the one business; a further 6% were involved in two businesses and 1.4% were involved in three or more businesses. Both male and female operators were well represented as multiple business operators with 7% of each involved in more than one business.

Looking at the three age groups for which data are available, there were 61,100 multi business operators aged between 30 and 50 years (62% of the total), 33,400 (34%) were aged 50 or more and the remaining 3,200 (4%) were aged less than 30 years.

1.1

AGE OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|----------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 85.9 | 9.8 | 93.9 | 10.0 | 3.4 |
| Aged 30-50 | 546.6 | 62.4 | 554.3 | 58.9 | 0.5 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 243.5 | 27.8 | 293.5 | 31.2 | 7.3 |
| Total | 875.9 | 100.0 | 941.7 | 100.0 | 2.8 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 46.1 | 9.9 | 44.7 | 9.8 | -1.1 |
| Aged 30-50 | 314.4 | 67.3 | 286.1 | 62.7 | -3.5 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 106.5 | 22.8 | 125.4 | 27.5 | 6.3 |
| Total | 466.9 | 100.0 | 456.2 | 100.0 | -0.9 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 131.9 | 9.8 | 138.6 | 9.9 | 1.9 |
| Aged 30-50 | 861.0 | 64.1 | 840.4 | 60.1 | -0.9 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 349.9 | 26.1 | 418.9 | 30.0 | 7.0 |
| Total | 1 342.8 | 100.0 | 1 397.9 | 100.0 | 1.5 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 22.8 | 8.2 | 33.9 | 10.4 | 15.9 |
| Aged 30-50 | 176.6 | 63.2 | 188.3 | 57.9 | 2.4 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 80.0 | 28.6 | 103.1 | 31.7 | 10.0 |
| Total | 279.4 | 100.0 | 325.2 | 100.0 | 5.9 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 12.3 | 8.7 | 13.1 | 9.4 | 2.5 |
| Aged 30-50 | 98.0 | 69.3 | 86.5 | 62.1 | -4.6 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 31.1 | 22.0 | 39.6 | 28.5 | 9.5 |
| Total | 141.4 | 100.0 | 139.2 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 35.1 | 8.3 | 47.0 | 10.1 | 11.5 |
| Aged 30-50 | 274.5 | 65.3 | 274.7 | 59.2 | 0.0 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 111.1 | 26.4 | 142.7 | 30.7 | 9.8 |
| Total | 420.7 | 100.0 | 464.4 | 100.0 | 3.8 |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 24.7 | 11.0 | 19.8 | 8.1 | -8.0 |
| Aged 30-50 | 142.0 | 63.0 | 148.0 | 60.7 | 1.6 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 58.7 | 26.0 | 76.1 | 31.2 | 10.2 |
| Total | 225.4 | 100.0 | 243.9 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 10.6 | 9.8 | 8.7 | 7.5 | -7.1 |
| Aged 30-50 | 71.5 | 66.6 | 76.8 | 66.2 | 2.7 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 25.3 | 23.6 | 30.6 | 26.4 | 7.4 |
| Total | 107.4 | 100.0 | 116.1 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 35.3 | 10.6 | 28.5 | 7.9 | -7.7 |
| Aged 30-50 | 213.5 | 64.2 | 224.8 | 62.4 | 1.9 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 84.0 | 25.2 | 106.7 | 29.6 | 9.4 |
| Total | 332.8 | 100.0 | 360.0 | 100.0 | 3.0 |

1.1 AGE OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|----------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 13.8 | 8.3 | 16.1 | 9.6 | 6.1 |
| Aged 30–50 | 103.5 | 62.3 | 100.7 | 59.8 | -1.0 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 48.8 | 29.4 | 51.6 | 30.6 | 2.1 |
| Total | 166.1 | 100.0 | 168.3 | 100.0 | 0.5 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 10.2 | 9.9 | 11.8 | 12.2 | 5.5 |
| Aged 30–50 | 66.5 | 64.6 | 57.5 | 59.7 | -5.3 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 26.3 | 25.5 | 27.1 | 28.1 | 1.1 |
| Total | 103.0 | 100.0 | 96.4 | 100.0 | -2.5 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 24.0 | 8.9 | 27.9 | 10.5 | 5.8 |
| Aged 30–50 | 170.0 | 63.2 | 158.2 | 59.7 | -2.7 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 75.1 | 27.9 | 78.7 | 29.7 | 1.8 |
| Total | 269.1 | 100.0 | 264.7 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 8.1 | 12.5 | 8.8 | 13.6 | 3.2 |
| Aged 30–50 | 36.4 | 56.3 | 33.7 | 52.6 | -2.8 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 20.2 | 31.2 | 21.7 | 33.8 | 2.8 |
| Total | 64.6 | 100.0 | 64.2 | 100.0 | -0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 4.2 | 11.1 | 3.7 | 10.7 | -4.7 |
| Aged 30–50 | 24.2 | 64.3 | 20.1 | 58.9 | -6.7 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 9.3 | 24.6 | 10.4 | 30.4 | 4.3 |
| Total | 37.7 | 100.0 | 34.2 | 100.0 | -3.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 12.2 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 12.6 | 0.6 |
| Aged 30–50 | 60.6 | 59.3 | 53.9 | 54.8 | -4.3 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 29.4 | 28.8 | 32.1 | 32.6 | 3.3 |
| Total | 102.3 | 100.0 | 98.4 | 100.0 | -1.5 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 11.7 | 11.5 | 11.6 | 11.3 | -0.5 |
| Aged 30–50 | 65.3 | 64.0 | 62.0 | 60.4 | -1.9 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 25.0 | 24.5 | 29.0 | 28.3 | 5.7 |
| Total | 102.1 | 100.0 | 102.6 | 100.0 | 0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 6.8 | 11.8 | 5.9 | 11.8 | -5.0 |
| Aged 30–50 | 40.2 | 70.0 | 32.0 | 63.6 | -8.2 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 10.4 | 18.1 | 12.4 | 24.6 | 6.8 |
| Total | 57.4 | 100.0 | 50.3 | 100.0 | -4.8 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 18.5 | 11.6 | 17.5 | 11.5 | -2.1 |
| Aged 30–50 | 105.5 | 66.2 | 94.0 | 61.5 | -4.2 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 35.4 | 22.2 | 41.4 | 27.1 | 6.0 |
| Total | 159.5 | 100.0 | 152.9 | 100.0 | -1.6 |

1.1

AGE OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 1.7 | 8.9 | *0.8 | 4.8 | -23.7 |
| Aged 30-50 | 11.9 | 60.3 | 10.7 | 60.2 | -3.8 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 6.1 | 30.8 | 6.2 | 35.0 | 1.0 |
| Total | 19.7 | 100.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 | -3.7 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 0.8 | 8.0 | *0.7 | 7.2 | -4.7 |
| Aged 30-50 | 6.2 | 64.5 | 6.2 | 65.6 | -0.4 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 2.7 | 27.6 | 2.5 | 27.1 | -1.7 |
| Total | 9.7 | 100.0 | 9.4 | 100.0 | -1.1 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 2.5 | 8.6 | 1.5 | 5.6 | -17.1 |
| Aged 30-50 | 18.1 | 61.7 | 16.9 | 62.1 | -2.6 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 8.7 | 29.8 | 8.8 | 32.3 | 0.2 |
| Total | 29.3 | 100.0 | 27.2 | 100.0 | -2.8 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | *1.0 | 15.3 | *1.3 | 18.3 | 13.8 |
| Aged 30-50 | 4.0 | 64.1 | 4.6 | 62.4 | 5.3 |
| Aged greater than 50 | *1.3 | 20.6 | 1.4 | 19.3 | 3.8 |
| Total | 6.3 | 100.0 | 7.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | **0.3 | 7.6 | **0.2 | 6.4 | -12.7 |
| Aged 30-50 | 3.0 | 84.6 | 2.6 | 88.1 | -5.6 |
| Aged greater than 50 | **0.3 | 7.8 | **0.2 | 5.5 | -18.5 |
| Total | 3.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 100.0 | -7.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | *1.2 | 12.5 | 1.5 | 14.9 | 8.8 |
| Aged 30-50 | 7.0 | 71.6 | 7.2 | 69.7 | 0.8 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 1.6 | 15.9 | 1.6 | 15.4 | 0.4 |
| Total | 9.8 | 100.0 | 10.3 | 100.0 | 1.8 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 2.0 | 16.3 | 1.5 | 12.4 | -10.1 |
| Aged 30-50 | 6.9 | 55.8 | 6.4 | 52.0 | -3.1 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 3.5 | 27.9 | 4.4 | 35.6 | 9.2 |
| Total | 12.4 | 100.0 | 12.3 | 100.0 | -0.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 1.0 | 14.9 | *0.7 | 8.9 | -14.1 |
| Aged 30-50 | 4.7 | 68.9 | 4.4 | 57.4 | -2.6 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 1.1 | 16.2 | 2.6 | 33.8 | 37.5 |
| Total | 6.8 | 100.0 | 7.7 | 100.0 | 4.4 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 3.0 | 15.8 | 2.2 | 11.1 | -11.4 |
| Aged 30-50 | 11.7 | 60.5 | 10.8 | 54.0 | -2.9 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 4.6 | 23.7 | 7.0 | 34.9 | 17.1 |
| Total | 19.3 | 100.0 | 20.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 |

1.2

QUALIFICATIONS OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 258.4 | 29.5 | 304.6 | 32.3 | 6.4 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 360.4 | 41.1 | 361.0 | 38.3 | 0.1 |
| Degree or diploma | 228.4 | 26.1 | 237.3 | 25.2 | 1.4 |
| Total(a) | 875.9 | 100.0 | 941.7 | 100.0 | 2.8 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 219.9 | 47.1 | 227.3 | 49.8 | 1.3 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 102.3 | 21.9 | 90.8 | 19.9 | -4.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 124.9 | 26.7 | 119.7 | 26.2 | -1.6 |
| Total(a) | 466.9 | 100.0 | 456.2 | 100.0 | -0.9 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 478.2 | 35.6 | 531.9 | 38.1 | 4.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 462.7 | 34.5 | 451.8 | 32.3 | -0.9 |
| Degree or diploma | 353.3 | 26.3 | 357.0 | 25.5 | 0.4 |
| Total(a) | 1 342.8 | 100.0 | 1 397.9 | 100.0 | 1.5 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 73.7 | 26.4 | 99.7 | 30.6 | 12.0 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 117.6 | 42.1 | 122.7 | 37.7 | 1.6 |
| Degree or diploma | 80.3 | 28.7 | 91.5 | 28.1 | 5.0 |
| Total(a) | 279.4 | 100.0 | 325.2 | 100.0 | 5.9 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 60.6 | 42.9 | 63.8 | 45.9 | 2.0 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 30.7 | 21.7 | 31.2 | 22.4 | 0.6 |
| Degree or diploma | 45.4 | 32.1 | 39.7 | 28.6 | -4.9 |
| Total(a) | 141.4 | 100.0 | 139.2 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 134.4 | 31.9 | 163.5 | 35.2 | 7.6 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 148.4 | 35.3 | 153.9 | 33.1 | 1.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 125.8 | 29.9 | 131.2 | 28.3 | 1.6 |
| Total(a) | 420.7 | 100.0 | 464.4 | 100.0 | 3.8 |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 68.4 | 30.4 | 80.4 | 33.0 | 6.2 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 85.4 | 37.9 | 87.8 | 36.0 | 1.0 |
| Degree or diploma | 64.2 | 28.5 | 66.0 | 27.1 | 1.0 |
| Total(a) | 225.4 | 100.0 | 243.9 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 52.2 | 48.6 | 53.9 | 46.4 | 1.2 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 22.5 | 20.9 | 18.0 | 15.5 | -7.9 |
| Degree or diploma | 28.0 | 26.1 | 39.8 | 34.2 | 14.0 |
| Total(a) | 107.4 | 100.0 | 116.1 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 120.6 | 36.2 | 134.3 | 37.3 | 4.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 107.9 | 32.4 | 105.9 | 29.4 | -0.7 |
| Degree or diploma | 92.3 | 27.7 | 105.8 | 29.4 | 5.3 |
| Total(a) | 332.8 | 100.0 | 360.0 | 100.0 | 3.0 |

(a) Excludes those people who had not completed the highest year of secondary school. At the Australian level this was about 4% of the total.

1.2

QUALIFICATIONS OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 54.3 | 32.7 | 55.8 | 33.1 | 1.0 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 71.5 | 43.0 | 72.1 | 42.9 | 0.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 34.4 | 20.7 | 34.1 | 20.2 | -0.4 |
| Total(a) | 166.1 | 100.0 | 168.3 | 100.0 | 0.5 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 52.5 | 51.0 | 55.3 | 57.4 | 2.0 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 21.7 | 21.0 | 20.7 | 21.5 | -1.6 |
| Degree or diploma | 23.4 | 22.7 | 15.9 | 16.5 | -13.4 |
| Total(a) | 103.0 | 100.0 | 96.4 | 100.0 | -2.5 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 106.9 | 39.7 | 111.1 | 42.0 | 1.5 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 93.1 | 34.6 | 92.9 | 35.1 | -0.1 |
| Degree or diploma | 57.9 | 21.5 | 50.0 | 18.9 | -5.3 |
| Total(a) | 269.1 | 100.0 | 264.7 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 22.6 | 34.9 | 24.8 | 38.7 | 3.6 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 25.6 | 39.7 | 21.9 | 34.1 | -5.8 |
| Degree or diploma | 12.8 | 19.8 | 13.9 | 21.6 | 3.0 |
| Total(a) | 64.6 | 100.0 | 64.2 | 100.0 | -0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 20.2 | 53.5 | 18.7 | 54.6 | -2.9 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 8.4 | 22.3 | 5.9 | 17.3 | -12.3 |
| Degree or diploma | 7.3 | 19.4 | 8.0 | 23.5 | 3.6 |
| Total(a) | 37.7 | 100.0 | 34.2 | 100.0 | -3.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 42.7 | 41.8 | 43.5 | 44.2 | 0.7 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 34.0 | 33.2 | 27.8 | 28.2 | -7.3 |
| Degree or diploma | 20.1 | 19.7 | 21.9 | 22.3 | 3.2 |
| Total(a) | 102.3 | 100.0 | 98.4 | 100.0 | -1.5 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 27.6 | 27.0 | 32.3 | 31.5 | 6.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 45.4 | 44.5 | 42.2 | 41.1 | -2.7 |
| Degree or diploma | 26.5 | 26.0 | 21.6 | 21.0 | -7.5 |
| Total(a) | 102.1 | 100.0 | 102.6 | 100.0 | 0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 24.4 | 42.6 | 26.6 | 52.8 | 3.2 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 14.7 | 25.6 | 10.5 | 20.9 | -11.8 |
| Degree or diploma | 15.3 | 26.7 | 10.5 | 21.0 | -13.1 |
| Total(a) | 57.4 | 100.0 | 50.3 | 100.0 | -4.8 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 52.0 | 32.6 | 58.9 | 38.5 | 4.8 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 60.1 | 37.7 | 52.7 | 34.5 | -4.8 |
| Degree or diploma | 41.9 | 26.3 | 32.1 | 21.0 | -9.5 |
| Total(a) | 159.5 | 100.0 | 152.9 | 100.0 | -1.6 |

(a) Excludes those people who had not completed the highest year of secondary school. At the Australian level this was about 4% of the total.

1.2

QUALIFICATIONS OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 6.2 | 31.7 | 6.3 | 35.2 | 0.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 8.2 | 41.8 | 8.1 | 45.7 | -0.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 4.2 | 21.5 | 3.0 | 16.6 | -12.5 |
| Total(a) | 19.7 | 100.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 | -3.7 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 5.4 | 55.4 | 5.2 | 56.0 | -0.7 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 1.6 | 17.1 | 1.8 | 19.6 | 4.1 |
| Degree or diploma | 2.3 | 24.2 | 2.0 | 20.9 | -6.4 |
| Total(a) | 9.7 | 100.0 | 9.4 | 100.0 | -1.1 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 11.6 | 39.5 | 11.5 | 42.3 | -0.3 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 9.9 | 33.7 | 10.0 | 36.7 | 0.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 6.6 | 22.4 | 4.9 | 18.1 | -10.3 |
| Total(a) | 29.3 | 100.0 | 27.2 | 100.0 | -2.8 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 1.7 | 27.8 | 2.2 | 29.8 | 9.2 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 2.5 | 40.4 | 3.2 | 43.6 | 9.4 |
| Degree or diploma | 1.6 | 25.7 | 1.8 | 24.7 | 4.8 |
| Total(a) | 6.3 | 100.0 | 7.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 1.9 | 53.5 | 1.3 | 45.3 | -12.7 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 1.3 | 35.7 | 0.7 | 24.8 | -19.0 |
| Degree or diploma | 0.4 | 10.8 | 0.7 | 25.2 | 28.0 |
| Total(a) | 3.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 100.0 | -7.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 3.7 | 37.2 | 3.5 | 34.2 | -1.3 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 3.8 | 38.7 | 3.9 | 38.2 | 1.3 |
| Degree or diploma | 2.0 | 20.3 | 2.6 | 24.9 | 10.0 |
| Total(a) | 9.8 | 100.0 | 10.3 | 100.0 | 1.8 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 3.7 | 30.0 | 3.2 | 25.7 | -6.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 4.1 | 33.0 | 3.0 | 24.0 | -11.6 |
| Degree or diploma | 4.3 | 34.2 | 5.5 | 44.7 | 10.1 |
| Total(a) | 12.4 | 100.0 | 12.3 | 100.0 | -0.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 2.6 | 38.7 | 2.4 | 31.1 | -3.8 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 1.4 | 19.9 | 1.8 | 23.8 | 11.7 |
| Degree or diploma | 2.6 | 37.3 | 3.0 | 39.3 | 6.5 |
| Total(a) | 6.8 | 100.0 | 7.7 | 100.0 | 4.4 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 6.4 | 33.1 | 5.5 | 27.8 | -5.1 |
| Basic or skilled vocational | 5.5 | 28.3 | 4.8 | 23.9 | -4.9 |
| Degree or diploma | 6.8 | 35.3 | 8.5 | 42.6 | 8.8 |
| Total(a) | 19.3 | 100.0 | 20.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 |

(a) Excludes those people who had not completed the highest year of secondary school. At the Australian level this was about 4% of the total.

1.3 HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1-10 hours worked | 35.6 | 4.1 | 32.7 | 3.5 | -3.1 |
| 11-20 hours worked | 50.7 | 5.8 | 41.4 | 4.4 | -7.3 |
| 21-34 hours worked | 55.2 | 6.3 | 61.2 | 6.5 | 3.9 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | <i>141.5</i> | <i>16.2</i> | <i>135.3</i> | <i>14.4</i> | <i>-1.7</i> |
| 35-50 hours worked | 441.9 | 50.4 | 482.3 | 51.2 | 3.3 |
| 51-75 hours worked | 243.0 | 27.7 | 275.2 | 29.2 | 4.8 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 49.5 | 5.7 | 48.9 | 5.2 | -0.5 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | <i>734.4</i> | <i>83.8</i> | <i>806.4</i> | <i>85.6</i> | <i>3.6</i> |
| Total males | 875.9 | 100.0 | 941.7 | 100.0 | 2.8 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1-10 hours worked | 121.1 | 25.9 | 108.8 | 23.8 | -4.0 |
| 11-20 hours worked | 86.5 | 18.5 | 77.6 | 17.0 | -4.0 |
| 21-34 hours worked | 57.4 | 12.3 | 69.7 | 15.3 | 7.6 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | <i>265.0</i> | <i>56.8</i> | <i>256.1</i> | <i>56.1</i> | <i>-1.3</i> |
| 35-50 hours worked | 137.4 | 29.4 | 132.8 | 29.1 | -1.3 |
| 51-75 hours worked | 46.5 | 10.0 | 49.5 | 10.8 | 2.4 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 18.0 | 3.9 | 17.8 | 3.9 | -0.4 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | <i>201.9</i> | <i>43.2</i> | <i>200.1</i> | <i>43.9</i> | <i>-0.3</i> |
| Total females | 466.9 | 100.0 | 456.2 | 100.0 | -0.9 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1-10 hours worked | 156.7 | 11.7 | 141.5 | 10.1 | -3.8 |
| 11-20 hours worked | 137.2 | 10.2 | 119.1 | 8.5 | -5.2 |
| 21-34 hours worked | 112.6 | 8.4 | 130.9 | 9.4 | 5.8 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | <i>406.5</i> | <i>30.3</i> | <i>391.4</i> | <i>28.0</i> | <i>-1.4</i> |
| 35-50 hours worked | 579.2 | 43.1 | 615.1 | 44.0 | 2.3 |
| 51-75 hours worked | 289.5 | 21.6 | 324.7 | 23.2 | 4.4 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 67.6 | 5.0 | 66.7 | 4.8 | -0.5 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | <i>936.3</i> | <i>69.7</i> | <i>1 006.5</i> | <i>72.0</i> | <i>2.7</i> |
| Total persons | 1 342.8 | 100.0 | 1 397.9 | 100.0 | 1.5 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 10.1 | 3.6 | 10.0 | 3.1 | –0.1 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 17.2 | 6.2 | 11.2 | 3.5 | –14.8 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 17.6 | 6.3 | 19.3 | 5.9 | 3.5 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | 44.9 | 16.1 | 40.6 | 12.5 | –3.7 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 140.8 | 50.4 | 180.8 | 55.6 | 9.8 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 78.3 | 28.0 | 89.8 | 27.6 | 5.3 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 15.3 | 5.5 | 14.0 | 4.3 | –3.4 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | 234.5 | 83.9 | 284.6 | 87.5 | 7.5 |
| Total males | 279.4 | 100.0 | 325.2 | 100.0 | 5.9 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 32.0 | 22.7 | 27.0 | 19.4 | –6.2 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 25.6 | 18.1 | 22.1 | 15.9 | –5.3 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 16.1 | 11.4 | 22.8 | 16.4 | 13.9 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | 73.8 | 52.2 | 72.0 | 51.7 | –0.9 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 49.0 | 34.6 | 43.5 | 31.3 | –4.3 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 14.9 | 10.6 | 18.1 | 13.0 | 7.5 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 3.7 | 2.6 | 5.6 | 4.0 | 16.6 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | 67.6 | 47.8 | 67.2 | 48.3 | –0.2 |
| Total females | 141.4 | 100.0 | 139.2 | 100.0 | –0.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 42.1 | 10.0 | 37.1 | 8.0 | –4.6 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 42.8 | 10.2 | 33.4 | 7.2 | –8.9 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 33.7 | 8.0 | 42.1 | 9.1 | 8.7 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | 118.7 | 28.2 | 112.6 | 24.2 | –2.0 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 189.8 | 45.1 | 224.3 | 48.3 | 6.5 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 93.3 | 22.2 | 108.0 | 23.2 | 5.6 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 19.0 | 4.5 | 19.6 | 4.2 | 1.0 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | 302.1 | 71.8 | 351.8 | 75.8 | 5.9 |
| Total persons | 420.7 | 100.0 | 464.4 | 100.0 | 3.8 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 7.9 | 3.5 | 6.6 | 2.7 | –6.5 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 11.9 | 5.3 | 13.2 | 5.4 | 3.9 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 12.6 | 5.6 | 17.4 | 7.2 | 13.1 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | 32.4 | 14.4 | 37.2 | 15.3 | 5.4 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 118.3 | 52.5 | 119.7 | 49.1 | 0.4 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 60.3 | 26.7 | 72.1 | 29.6 | 6.9 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 14.4 | 6.4 | 14.8 | 6.1 | 0.9 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | 193.1 | 85.6 | 206.6 | 84.7 | 2.6 |
| Total males | 225.4 | 100.0 | 243.9 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 31.5 | 29.3 | 32.4 | 27.9 | 1.1 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 19.0 | 17.7 | 19.9 | 17.2 | 1.8 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 14.5 | 13.5 | 16.8 | 14.5 | 5.9 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | 64.9 | 60.5 | 69.2 | 59.6 | 2.4 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 25.4 | 23.7 | 31.3 | 27.0 | 8.1 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 12.2 | 11.4 | 10.7 | 9.2 | –4.9 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 4.8 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 0.8 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | 42.5 | 39.5 | 47.0 | 40.4 | 3.8 |
| Total females | 107.4 | 100.0 | 116.1 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 39.4 | 11.8 | 39.0 | 10.8 | –0.3 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 30.9 | 9.3 | 33.1 | 9.2 | 2.6 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 27.0 | 8.1 | 34.3 | 9.5 | 9.3 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | 97.3 | 29.2 | 106.4 | 29.6 | 3.4 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 143.7 | 43.2 | 151.1 | 42.0 | 1.9 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 72.5 | 21.8 | 82.8 | 23.0 | 5.1 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 19.3 | 5.8 | 19.7 | 5.5 | 0.9 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | 235.5 | 70.8 | 253.6 | 70.4 | 2.8 |
| Total persons | 332.8 | 100.0 | 360.0 | 100.0 | 3.0 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 6.9 | 4.2 | 6.5 | 3.8 | –2.5 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 10.4 | 6.3 | 7.4 | 4.4 | –11.7 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 9.8 | 5.9 | 10.9 | 6.5 | 4.1 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | <i>27.1</i> | <i>16.3</i> | <i>24.8</i> | <i>14.8</i> | <i>–3.3</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 78.1 | 47.1 | 76.8 | 45.6 | –0.6 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 50.3 | 30.3 | 55.9 | 33.2 | 4.0 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 10.5 | 6.3 | 10.8 | 6.4 | 1.1 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | <i>138.9</i> | <i>83.7</i> | <i>143.5</i> | <i>85.2</i> | <i>1.2</i> |
| Total males | 166.1 | 100.0 | 168.3 | 100.0 | 0.5 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 25.8 | 25.0 | 24.9 | 25.8 | –1.4 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 18.8 | 18.2 | 16.9 | 17.5 | –3.9 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 12.2 | 11.8 | 13.4 | 13.9 | 3.7 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | <i>56.7</i> | <i>55.1</i> | <i>55.1</i> | <i>57.2</i> | <i>–1.1</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 29.9 | 29.0 | 26.8 | 27.8 | –4.0 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 10.5 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 10.7 | –0.8 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 5.8 | 5.7 | 4.1 | 4.3 | –12.0 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | <i>46.3</i> | <i>44.9</i> | <i>41.3</i> | <i>42.8</i> | <i>–4.2</i> |
| Total females | 103.0 | 100.0 | 96.4 | 100.0 | –2.5 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 32.7 | 12.2 | 31.3 | 11.8 | –1.6 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 29.2 | 10.8 | 24.3 | 9.2 | –6.6 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 22.0 | 8.2 | 24.3 | 9.2 | 3.9 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | <i>83.9</i> | <i>31.2</i> | <i>80.0</i> | <i>30.2</i> | <i>–1.8</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 108.0 | 40.2 | 103.6 | 39.1 | –1.6 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 60.9 | 22.6 | 66.2 | 25.0 | 3.2 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 16.3 | 6.1 | 14.9 | 5.6 | –3.3 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | <i>185.2</i> | <i>68.8</i> | <i>184.8</i> | <i>69.8</i> | <i>–0.1</i> |
| Total persons | 269.1 | 100.0 | 264.7 | 100.0 | –0.6 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 4.4 | 6.8 | 2.0 | 3.0 | –26.3 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 3.9 | 6.0 | 3.6 | 5.5 | –3.3 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 4.9 | 7.6 | 4.5 | 7.1 | –2.9 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | <i>13.2</i> | <i>20.4</i> | <i>10.1</i> | <i>15.7</i> | <i>–9.7</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 33.5 | 51.9 | 31.5 | 49.1 | –2.3 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 15.3 | 23.6 | 18.8 | 29.3 | 8.2 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 2.6 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 5.9 | 15.0 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | <i>51.4</i> | <i>79.6</i> | <i>54.1</i> | <i>84.3</i> | <i>2.0</i> |
| Total males | 64.6 | 100.0 | 64.2 | 100.0 | –0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 9.4 | 24.9 | 7.5 | 22.1 | –7.9 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 7.8 | 20.7 | 6.6 | 19.4 | –5.9 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 4.1 | 10.9 | 5.3 | 15.6 | 10.3 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | <i>21.3</i> | <i>56.6</i> | <i>19.5</i> | <i>57.1</i> | <i>–3.2</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 12.9 | 34.2 | 9.0 | 26.2 | –12.8 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 2.6 | 6.8 | 4.8 | 14.1 | 26.8 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.9 | 2.4 | 0.9 | 2.6 | –1.4 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | <i>16.4</i> | <i>43.4</i> | <i>14.7</i> | <i>42.9</i> | <i>–4.1</i> |
| Total females | 37.7 | 100.0 | 34.2 | 100.0 | –3.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 13.8 | 13.5 | 9.5 | 9.7 | –13.1 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 11.7 | 11.4 | 10.2 | 10.4 | –5.0 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 9.0 | 8.8 | 9.9 | 10.0 | 3.5 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | <i>34.5</i> | <i>33.8</i> | <i>29.6</i> | <i>30.1</i> | <i>–5.6</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 46.4 | 45.4 | 40.4 | 41.1 | –5.0 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 17.8 | 17.4 | 23.6 | 24.0 | 11.2 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 | 11.1 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | <i>67.8</i> | <i>66.2</i> | <i>68.8</i> | <i>69.9</i> | <i>0.6</i> |
| Total persons | 102.3 | 100.0 | 98.4 | 100.0 | –1.5 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 3.9 | 3.8 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 14.7 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 5.6 | 5.4 | 4.3 | 4.2 | –9.5 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 7.7 | 7.5 | 6.7 | 6.6 | –4.9 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | <i>17.1</i> | <i>16.8</i> | <i>16.6</i> | <i>16.1</i> | <i>–1.2</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 52.3 | 51.2 | 55.5 | 54.1 | 2.3 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 27.9 | 27.4 | 26.7 | 26.0 | –1.7 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 4.8 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | –7.6 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | <i>85.0</i> | <i>83.2</i> | <i>86.0</i> | <i>83.9</i> | <i>0.5</i> |
| Total males | 102.1 | 100.0 | 102.6 | 100.0 | 0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 17.8 | 30.9 | 12.7 | 25.2 | –11.8 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 11.9 | 20.8 | 7.6 | 15.0 | –15.7 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 7.0 | 12.2 | 9.4 | 18.6 | 11.3 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | <i>36.7</i> | <i>64.0</i> | <i>29.6</i> | <i>58.9</i> | <i>–7.7</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 14.4 | 25.0 | 15.3 | 30.4 | 2.4 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 4.2 | 7.4 | 3.9 | 7.7 | –3.4 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 2.1 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 3.0 | –10.7 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | <i>20.7</i> | <i>36.0</i> | <i>20.7</i> | <i>41.1</i> | <i>0.0</i> |
| Total females | 57.4 | 100.0 | 50.3 | 100.0 | –4.8 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 21.6 | 13.6 | 18.3 | 12.0 | –6.1 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 17.5 | 11.0 | 11.8 | 7.7 | –13.7 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 14.7 | 9.2 | 16.1 | 10.5 | 3.4 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | <i>53.8</i> | <i>33.8</i> | <i>46.2</i> | <i>30.2</i> | <i>–5.6</i> |
| 35–50 hours worked | 66.6 | 41.8 | 70.8 | 46.3 | 2.3 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 32.2 | 20.2 | 30.6 | 20.0 | –1.9 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 6.8 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 3.5 | –8.5 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | <i>105.6</i> | <i>66.2</i> | <i>106.7</i> | <i>69.8</i> | <i>0.4</i> |
| Total persons | 159.5 | 100.0 | 152.9 | 100.0 | –1.6 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 1.3 | 6.7 | 1.0 | 5.7 | –9.5 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 0.7 | 3.4 | 0.8 | 4.6 | 7.2 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 1.4 | 7.2 | 1.1 | 6.0 | –10.4 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | 3.4 | 17.3 | 2.9 | 16.2 | –6.1 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 10.2 | 51.7 | 9.0 | 50.7 | –4.4 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 5.2 | 26.3 | 5.1 | 28.5 | –0.8 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.9 | 4.7 | 0.8 | 4.6 | –4.4 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | 16.3 | 82.7 | 14.9 | 83.8 | –3.2 |
| Total males | 19.7 | 100.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 | –3.7 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 2.5 | 26.2 | 2.2 | 23.0 | –5.9 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 1.4 | 14.2 | 2.0 | 21.8 | 16.0 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 1.5 | 15.7 | 0.7 | 7.8 | –24.0 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | 5.4 | 56.1 | 4.9 | 52.5 | –3.5 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 2.9 | 29.9 | 3.1 | 32.9 | 2.5 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 0.9 | 8.8 | 1.0 | 10.5 | 5.5 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.5 | 5.2 | 0.4 | 4.1 | –9.6 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | 4.2 | 43.9 | 4.4 | 47.5 | 1.8 |
| Total females | 9.7 | 100.0 | 9.4 | 100.0 | –1.1 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 3.8 | 13.1 | 3.2 | 11.6 | –7.1 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 2.0 | 7.0 | 2.9 | 10.5 | 13.3 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 2.9 | 10.0 | 1.8 | 6.6 | –16.9 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | 8.8 | 30.1 | 7.8 | 28.7 | –4.5 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 13.1 | 44.5 | 12.1 | 44.6 | –2.8 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 6.0 | 20.5 | 6.0 | 22.3 | 0.2 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 1.4 | 4.9 | 1.2 | 4.4 | –6.2 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | 20.5 | 69.9 | 19.4 | 71.3 | –2.1 |
| Total persons | 29.3 | 100.0 | 27.2 | 100.0 | –2.8 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 0.6 | 9.2 | 0.1 | 1.6 | –44.5 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 0.2 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 1.5 | –20.9 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 2.4 | 15.5 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | 0.9 | 14.4 | 0.4 | 5.5 | –25.8 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 3.1 | 50.0 | 3.3 | 45.2 | 2.4 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 1.6 | 26.3 | 3.1 | 42.5 | 27.3 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.6 | 9.3 | 0.5 | 6.8 | –5.5 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | 5.3 | 85.6 | 7.0 | 94.5 | 10.4 |
| Total males | 6.3 | 100.0 | 7.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 0.5 | 14.8 | 0.4 | 14.4 | –8.0 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 0.3 | 8.7 | 1.0 | 33.5 | 54.0 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 0.9 | 24.0 | 0.3 | 8.6 | –36.7 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | 1.7 | 47.6 | 1.7 | 56.5 | –0.8 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 1.3 | 36.6 | 0.8 | 26.9 | –17.2 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 0.6 | 15.8 | 0.3 | 8.6 | –25.9 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 8.0 | 0.0 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | 1.9 | 52.4 | 1.3 | 43.5 | –13.3 |
| Total females | 3.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 100.0 | –7.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 1.1 | 11.2 | 0.5 | 5.3 | –23.4 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 0.5 | 5.2 | 1.1 | 10.6 | 32.6 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 1.0 | 10.0 | 0.4 | 4.2 | –26.5 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | 2.6 | 26.5 | 2.1 | 20.1 | –8.2 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 4.4 | 45.1 | 4.1 | 40.0 | –2.7 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 2.2 | 22.5 | 3.4 | 32.8 | 17.3 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.6 | 5.9 | 0.7 | 7.1 | 9.2 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | 7.2 | 73.5 | 8.2 | 79.9 | 5.1 |
| Total persons | 9.8 | 100.0 | 10.3 | 100.0 | 1.8 |

1.3

HOURS WORKED BY SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 0.5 | 4.0 | 0.9 | 7.3 | 25.2 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 0.9 | 7.0 | 0.8 | 6.4 | –3.5 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 1.1 | 8.8 | 1.0 | 8.1 | –3.7 |
| <i>Total part-time males</i> | 2.5 | 19.8 | 2.7 | 21.8 | 3.3 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 5.5 | 44.2 | 5.6 | 45.7 | 0.8 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 4.1 | 32.7 | 3.6 | 29.5 | –4.3 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.4 | 3.2 | 0.4 | 3.0 | –3.2 |
| <i>Total full-time males</i> | 10.0 | 80.2 | 9.6 | 78.2 | –1.4 |
| Total males | 12.4 | 100.0 | 12.3 | 100.0 | –0.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 1.6 | 23.6 | 1.7 | 21.5 | 0.8 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 1.7 | 24.9 | 1.5 | 19.5 | –4.8 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 1.1 | 16.2 | 1.0 | 12.8 | –4.4 |
| <i>Total part-time females</i> | 4.4 | 64.8 | 4.1 | 53.8 | –2.6 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 1.6 | 24.0 | 3.0 | 39.4 | 25.7 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 0.6 | 8.7 | 0.4 | 5.4 | –12.9 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.2 | 2.6 | 0.1 | 1.4 | –16.5 |
| <i>Total full-time females</i> | 2.4 | 35.2 | 3.5 | 46.2 | 15.5 |
| Total females | 6.8 | 100.0 | 7.7 | 100.0 | 4.4 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| 1–10 hours worked | 2.1 | 11.0 | 2.6 | 12.8 | 7.3 |
| 11–20 hours worked | 2.6 | 13.3 | 2.3 | 11.4 | –4.4 |
| 21–34 hours worked | 2.2 | 11.4 | 2.0 | 9.9 | –4.1 |
| <i>Total part-time persons</i> | 6.9 | 35.7 | 6.8 | 34.1 | –0.5 |
| 35–50 hours worked | 7.1 | 37.1 | 8.6 | 43.3 | 7.4 |
| 51–75 hours worked | 4.7 | 24.2 | 4.0 | 20.2 | –5.3 |
| More than 75 hours worked | 0.6 | 3.0 | 0.5 | 2.4 | –6.9 |
| <i>Total full-time persons</i> | 12.4 | 64.3 | 13.2 | 65.9 | 2.3 |
| Total persons | 19.3 | 100.0 | 20.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 |

1.4

ETHNICITY OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 608.4 | 69.5 | 650.1 | 69.0 | 2.5 |
| Born overseas | 267.5 | 30.5 | 291.6 | 31.0 | 3.3 |
| Total | 875.9 | 100.0 | 941.7 | 100.0 | 2.8 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 334.6 | 71.7 | 333.7 | 73.1 | -0.1 |
| Born overseas | 132.3 | 28.3 | 122.5 | 26.9 | -2.8 |
| Total | 466.9 | 100.0 | 456.2 | 100.0 | -0.9 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 943.1 | 70.2 | 983.8 | 70.4 | 1.6 |
| Born overseas | 399.8 | 29.8 | 414.1 | 29.6 | 1.3 |
| Total | 1 342.8 | 100.0 | 1 397.9 | 100.0 | 1.5 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 189.8 | 67.9 | 209.3 | 64.4 | 3.7 |
| Born overseas | 89.6 | 32.1 | 115.9 | 35.6 | 10.1 |
| Total | 279.4 | 100.0 | 325.2 | 100.0 | 5.9 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 97.1 | 68.7 | 100.4 | 72.2 | 1.3 |
| Born overseas | 44.2 | 31.3 | 38.7 | 27.8 | -4.8 |
| Total | 141.4 | 100.0 | 139.2 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 286.9 | 68.2 | 309.7 | 66.7 | 2.9 |
| Born overseas | 133.9 | 31.8 | 154.7 | 33.3 | 5.6 |
| Total | 420.7 | 100.0 | 464.4 | 100.0 | 3.8 |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 158.4 | 70.3 | 170.3 | 69.8 | 2.7 |
| Born overseas | 67.0 | 29.7 | 73.6 | 30.2 | 3.6 |
| Total | 225.4 | 100.0 | 243.9 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 76.0 | 70.7 | 83.5 | 71.9 | 3.6 |
| Born overseas | 31.4 | 29.3 | 32.6 | 28.1 | 1.4 |
| Total | 107.4 | 100.0 | 116.1 | 100.0 | 3.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 234.4 | 70.4 | 253.8 | 70.5 | 3.0 |
| Born overseas | 98.4 | 29.6 | 106.2 | 29.5 | 2.9 |
| Total | 332.8 | 100.0 | 360.0 | 100.0 | 3.0 |

1.4

ETHNICITY OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 125.5 | 75.5 | 125.9 | 74.8 | 0.1 |
| Born overseas | 40.6 | 24.5 | 42.5 | 25.2 | 1.7 |
| Total | 166.1 | 100.0 | 168.3 | 100.0 | 0.5 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 78.9 | 76.6 | 70.1 | 72.7 | -4.3 |
| Born overseas | 24.1 | 23.4 | 26.3 | 27.3 | 3.4 |
| Total | 103.0 | 100.0 | 96.4 | 100.0 | -2.5 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 204.4 | 76.0 | 196.0 | 74.0 | -1.6 |
| Born overseas | 64.7 | 24.0 | 68.8 | 26.0 | 2.3 |
| Total | 269.1 | 100.0 | 264.7 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 46.2 | 71.6 | 48.6 | 75.7 | 1.9 |
| Born overseas | 18.4 | 28.4 | 15.6 | 24.3 | -6.0 |
| Total | 64.6 | 100.0 | 64.2 | 100.0 | -0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 28.9 | 76.8 | 26.8 | 78.5 | -2.8 |
| Born overseas | 8.7 | 23.2 | 7.3 | 21.5 | -6.3 |
| Total | 37.7 | 100.0 | 34.2 | 100.0 | -3.6 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 75.2 | 73.5 | 75.4 | 76.7 | 0.1 |
| Born overseas | 27.1 | 26.5 | 22.9 | 23.3 | -6.1 |
| Total | 102.3 | 100.0 | 98.4 | 100.0 | -1.5 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 60.4 | 59.2 | 64.7 | 63.1 | 2.6 |
| Born overseas | 41.6 | 40.8 | 37.9 | 36.9 | -3.5 |
| Total | 102.1 | 100.0 | 102.6 | 100.0 | 0.2 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 38.3 | 66.7 | 36.4 | 72.3 | -1.9 |
| Born overseas | 19.1 | 33.3 | 14.0 | 27.7 | -11.1 |
| Total | 57.4 | 100.0 | 50.3 | 100.0 | -4.8 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 98.8 | 61.9 | 101.1 | 66.1 | 0.9 |
| Born overseas | 60.7 | 38.1 | 51.8 | 33.9 | -5.8 |
| Total | 159.5 | 100.0 | 152.9 | 100.0 | -1.6 |

1.4

ETHNICITY OF SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 15.7 | 79.6 | 15.9 | 89.7 | 0.7 |
| Born overseas | 4.0 | 20.4 | 1.8 | 10.3 | -25.4 |
| Total | 19.7 | 100.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 | -3.7 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 8.1 | 84.3 | 8.4 | 89.6 | 1.2 |
| Born overseas | 1.5 | 15.7 | *1.0 | 10.4 | -15.1 |
| Total | 9.7 | 100.0 | 9.4 | 100.0 | -1.1 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 23.8 | 81.2 | 24.3 | 89.6 | 0.8 |
| Born overseas | 5.5 | 18.8 | 2.8 | 10.4 | -22.3 |
| Total | 29.3 | 100.0 | 27.2 | 100.0 | -2.8 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 4.3 | 69.3 | 5.8 | 78.6 | 11.5 |
| Born overseas | 1.9 | 30.7 | 1.6 | 21.4 | -7.1 |
| Total | 6.3 | 100.0 | 7.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 2.5 | 69.4 | 2.1 | 72.4 | -5.6 |
| Born overseas | *1.1 | 30.6 | *0.8 | 27.6 | -10.6 |
| Total | 3.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 100.0 | -7.0 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 6.8 | 69.3 | 7.9 | 76.8 | 5.8 |
| Born overseas | 3.0 | 30.7 | 2.4 | 23.2 | -8.3 |
| Total | 9.8 | 100.0 | 10.3 | 100.0 | 1.8 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 8.1 | 64.9 | 9.6 | 77.7 | 6.5 |
| Born overseas | 4.4 | 35.1 | 2.7 | 22.3 | -16.0 |
| Total | 12.4 | 100.0 | 12.3 | 100.0 | -0.4 |
| Females | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 4.7 | 69.2 | 5.9 | 77.2 | 8.8 |
| Born overseas | 2.1 | 30.8 | 1.7 | 22.8 | -6.9 |
| Total | 6.8 | 100.0 | 7.7 | 100.0 | 4.4 |
| Persons | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 12.8 | 66.4 | 15.5 | 77.5 | 7.4 |
| Born overseas | 6.5 | 33.6 | 4.5 | 22.5 | -12.9 |
| Total | 19.3 | 100.0 | 20.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 |

1.5

NUMBER OF BUSINESSES OPERATED

| | <u>One business</u> | | <u>Two businesses</u> | | <u>Three businesses or more</u> | | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------------|---------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-----|--------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 91.0 | 97.0 | *2.3 | 2.5 | **0.5 | 0.5 | 93.9 |
| Aged 30—50 | 513.7 | 92.7 | 31.2 | 5.6 | 9.4 | 1.7 | 554.3 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 269.2 | 91.7 | 18.3 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 2.0 | 293.5 |
| Total | 873.9 | 92.8 | 51.9 | 5.5 | 15.8 | 1.7 | 941.7 |
| Females | | | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 44.4 | 99.3 | **0.3 | 0.7 | **0.0 | 0.0 | 44.7 |
| Aged 30—50 | 265.6 | 92.8 | 17.5 | 6.1 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 286.1 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 116.3 | 92.7 | 8.0 | 6.4 | *1.2 | 0.9 | 125.4 |
| Total | 426.2 | 93.4 | 25.9 | 5.7 | 4.1 | 0.9 | 456.2 |
| Persons | | | | | | | |
| Aged less than 30 | 135.4 | 97.7 | 2.7 | 1.9 | **0.5 | 0.4 | 138.6 |
| Aged 30—50 | 779.3 | 92.7 | 48.8 | 5.8 | 12.3 | 1.5 | 840.4 |
| Aged greater than 50 | 385.5 | 92.0 | 26.3 | 6.3 | 7.1 | 1.7 | 418.9 |
| Total | 1300.2 | 93.0 | 77.8 | 5.6 | 20.0 | 1.4 | 1397.9 |

SECTION 2

CHARACTERISTICS OF SMALL BUSINESSES

INTRODUCTION

This section presents selected characteristics of small business operations including details of the ownership structure, business age and the use of computers and the Internet. Data are classified both by State and employer size.

Where comparable, estimates of businesses from February 1997 (the previous iteration of the survey) and November 1999 are presented in the tables, together with measures of the average annual rate of change to assist with analysis.

Users should note that revisions have been made to estimates of businesses from the February 1995 and February 1997 editions of this publication. The revisions to small business operations data are more extensive than those applied to estimates of business operators presented in section 1. The most significant impact is on the tables showing number of operators per business (table 2.2) and gender predominance (table 2.3). For more information on these revisions refer to paragraphs 14 to 19 in the Explanatory Notes.

NUMBER OF BUSINESSES

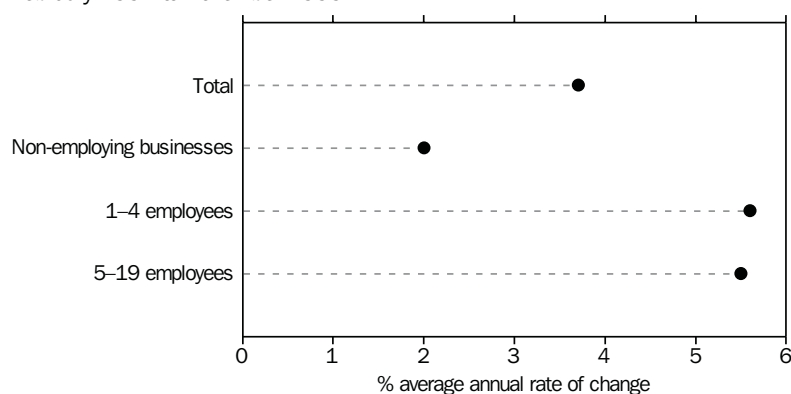
There were an estimated 990,100 small businesses operating in Australia in November 1999. This represented an average increase of 4% per annum over the 33 month period since February 1997.

The overall average growth of 4% per annum was driven mainly by the growth in small employing businesses, with both size groups (1–4 employees and 5–19 employees) increasing an average 6% per annum.

Of these 990,100 small businesses:

- 490,300 (50%) were non-employing businesses, up an average 2% per annum since February 1997;
- 379,600 (38%) employed 1–4 people, up an average 6% per annum since February 1997; and
- 120,100 (12%) employed 5–19 people, up an average 6% per annum since February 1997.

AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH: SMALL BUSINESSES—
February 1997 to November 1999



LOCATION OF OPERATION

Small businesses were distributed across States in a similar proportion to small business operators, both reflecting the general population distribution. In terms of growth over the period February 1997 to November 1999, the strongest growth was recorded in the larger States with almost 6% per annum recorded in both New South Wales and Victoria and 2% per annum in Queensland. Little change was recorded in the overall number of small businesses in the other States and Territories.

In New South Wales growth was strongest in those businesses employing 5–19 people (13% per annum) while there was an average 9% per annum increase in the number of businesses employing 1–4 people. In Victoria there was an average 6% growth in businesses employing 1–4 people and a 5% increase per annum in both the non-employing businesses and those businesses employing 5–19 people. Queensland recorded a different trend to the two larger states. While overall growth in the number of small business was only 2% per annum, non-employing businesses increased by 4% per annum and there was an equivalent decline in the 5–19 employer size group.

LENGTH OF OPERATION

Table 2.1 also provides details of the length of operation of small businesses. The statistics relate to the business as operated by the current owners. Where an established business has been taken over, the operations of the previous owner have not been taken into account and the length of operation refers to the length of time the business has been operated by the current owner.

Of the 990,100 small businesses operating in Australia at November 1999:

- 11% had been in operation for less than 1 year;
- 34% had been in operation for 1 year but less than 5 years;
- 22% had been in operation for 5 years but less than 10 years; and
- 33% had been in operation for 10 or more years.

This distribution was very similar to that recorded in February 1997.

By size of business For non-employing businesses, the highest proportion (37%) were aged 1 to less than 5 years. This was also true for businesses employing 1–4 people where 35% of businesses were aged 1 to less than 5 years. In the larger size group (businesses employing 5–19 people), businesses were more likely to be older with 46% of businesses falling into the 10 or more years old category.

Across the different business size groups, the most significant changes in the number of businesses over the period February 1997 to November 1999 occurred in the younger businesses, particularly those less than one year old. There was an average 3% per annum decline in the number of non-employing businesses less than one year old; this was contrasted by very strong growth in businesses employing 5–19 people (up 17% per annum) along with 8% per annum growth in businesses employing 1–4 people.

OPERATORS PER BUSINESS Note that the February 1997 data relating to the number of operators per business and the gender mix of business operators within individual businesses presented in this publication in tables 2.2 and 2.3 reflect significant revisions to those published in the previous edition. The revisions reflect an improvement in the methodology used in deriving the ownership structure of businesses. For more information, refer to paragraphs 14 to 19 in the Explanatory Notes.

In addition to the new methodology, users should be aware that when analysing change over time the Corporations Law in respect of registration of companies changed in December 1995. The revised law allowed one or more persons to form a proprietary company, whereas prior to December 1995 the requirement was for two or more persons.

In November 1999, there were 622,800 (63%) small businesses operating as single operator businesses. This represented an average increase in single operator businesses of 9% per annum since February 1997. Numbers of two operator businesses and businesses with three or more operators both fell by an average 3% per annum over the same period.

By size of business As would be expected, the number of people operating small businesses increased on average as the employer size of the small business increased.

For non-employing businesses:

- 75% had 1 operator (compared to 68% in February 1997);
- 24% had 2 operators (compared to 31% in February 1997); and
- 1.2% had 3 or more operators (compared to 1.3% in February 1997).

For businesses employing 1–4 people:

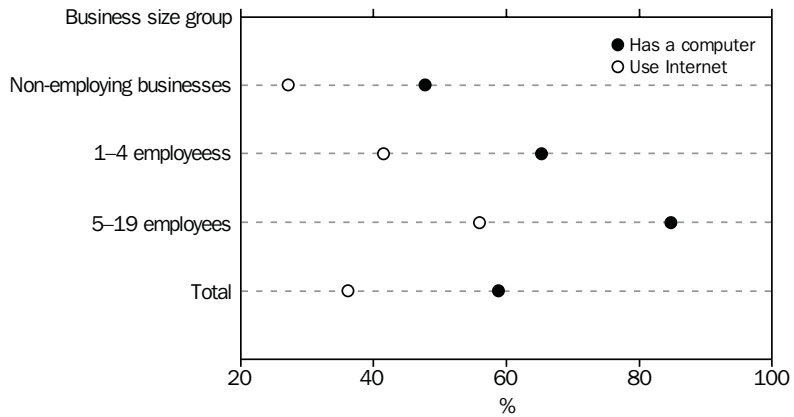
- 57% had 1 operator (compared to 47% in February 1997);
- 41% had 2 operators (compared to 50% in February 1997); and
- 2.4% had 3 or more operators (compared to 3% in February 1997).

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| By size of business <i>continued</i> | <p>For businesses employing 5–19 people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 34% had 1 operator (compared to 28% in February 1997); ■ 55% had 2 operators (compared to 57% in February 1997); and ■ 11% had 3 or more operators (compared to 15% in February 1997). |
| By State | <p>There was some variation across States and Territories with Western Australia and Queensland having a lower proportion of single operator businesses (57% and 58% respectively) than the other States and Territories. These two States also recorded the highest proportion of two operator businesses (41% and 40% respectively).</p> |
| PREDOMINATE GENDER OF OPERATORS | <p>Of the 990,100 small businesses in Australia in November 1999, 527,600 (53%) were operated by an individual male or predominantly by males. This represented an average annual increase of 10% per annum since February 1997.</p> <p>The next most common ownership structure, with 295,100 (30%) businesses, was those operated by equal numbers of males and females. The number of businesses in this group was down significantly on 1997 levels (falling an average 5% per annum) indicating a number of businesses with equal numbers of male and female operators (typically one male and one female) have become predominantly male operated businesses.</p> <p>There were a further 167,300 businesses (17%) operated predominantly by women. In absolute terms, this represented quite strong growth over 1997 levels (averaging 4% per annum), but proportionally the group accounted for 17% of all small businesses in both February 1997 and November 1999.</p> |
| By size of business | <p>The non-employing business group was the most common business size group for both predominantly male operated businesses (52%) and predominantly female operated businesses (66%). Businesses operated by equal numbers of male and female operators were more evenly spread across the three business size categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 36% were non-employing businesses; ■ 45% were employing 1–4 people; and ■ 19% were employing 5–19 people. |
| USE OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET | <p>In the November 1999 survey business operators were asked whether they used a computer in their business operations and whether the business had access to the Internet. These questions were not included in previous surveys, so no comparative data are available.</p> |
| Use of computers | <p>Table 2.4 shows that at November 1999, 59% of small businesses were using computers in their business operations. As the size of the business increased, so too did the likelihood that a business would have a computer. For non-employing businesses only 47% were using computers, while for those employing 5–19 people the proportion was 85%.</p> |

Use of computers *continued*

Only 61% of those businesses with computers (36% of all small businesses) had access to the Internet. Again, the use of the Internet was more common in the larger small businesses: 27% of non-employing businesses had access; 42% of businesses employing 1–4 people had access; while the proportion was 56% for those businesses employing 5–19 people.

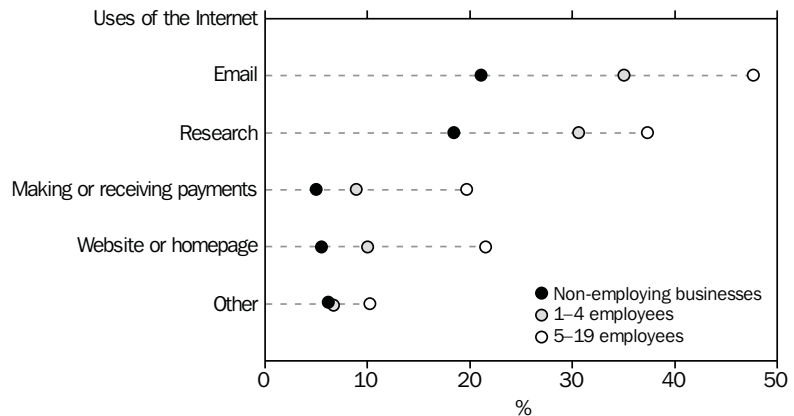
USE OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET—November 1999



Use of the Internet

The most common usage of the Internet was for email (30% of small businesses, or 82% of businesses with the Internet) and research (25% of small businesses, or 70% of those with the Internet). At November 1999, there were only 8% of small businesses involved in direct e-commerce (Making or receiving payments via the Internet). Across the different business size categories, those businesses employing 5–19 people were most likely to be using e-commerce with 20% involved.

USE OF THE INTERNET BY SMALL BUSINESSES—November 1999



By State The proportion of small businesses using computers in their business operations was fairly similar across the different States and Territories. The Australian Capital Territory was a notable exception where 78% of small businesses were using computers, well above the national average of 59%. Northern Territory recorded the lowest proportion with 52% of their small businesses using computers. The overall high proportion of Australian Capital Territory small businesses using computers was due mainly to the relatively high proportion of non-employing businesses with computers (74%), well above the national average of 47%.

Access to the Internet across States and Territories followed a similar pattern to computer usage with levels highest in the Australian Capital Territory and lowest in South Australia.

Uses made of the Internet across States also followed similar patterns to the national distribution with the most common uses in each State or Territory being email and research. E-commerce involvement (making or receiving payments via the Internet) was strongest in the Australian Capital Territory (16% of small businesses involved) but not as popular in South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory, each with 6% of small businesses involved.

2.1

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES BY CURRENT OWNER

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 65.2 | 14.0 | 60.3 | 12.3 | -2.9 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 175.1 | 37.6 | 179.5 | 36.6 | 0.9 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 93.9 | 20.2 | 106.0 | 21.6 | 4.7 |
| 10 or more years | 131.5 | 28.2 | 144.6 | 29.5 | 3.6 |
| Total | 465.7 | 100.0 | 490.3 | 100.0 | 2.0 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 32.0 | 9.8 | 39.6 | 10.4 | 8.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 107.3 | 32.7 | 131.2 | 34.6 | 7.8 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 78.3 | 23.9 | 86.3 | 22.7 | 3.7 |
| 10 or more years | 110.3 | 33.6 | 122.5 | 32.3 | 4.0 |
| Total | 327.9 | 100.0 | 379.6 | 100.0 | 5.6 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 4.2 | 4.1 | 6.4 | 5.3 | 16.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 26.4 | 25.3 | 29.7 | 24.7 | 4.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 28.3 | 27.2 | 29.4 | 24.5 | 1.4 |
| 10 or more years | 45.2 | 43.4 | 54.6 | 45.5 | 7.4 |
| Total | 104.1 | 100.0 | 120.1 | 100.0 | 5.5 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 101.4 | 11.3 | 106.2 | 10.7 | 1.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 308.8 | 34.4 | 340.4 | 34.4 | 3.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 200.5 | 22.3 | 221.7 | 22.4 | 3.8 |
| 10 or more years | 287.0 | 32.0 | 321.7 | 32.5 | 4.4 |
| Total | 897.7 | 100.0 | 990.1 | 100.0 | 3.7 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 15.5 | 10.9 | 17.8 | 12.1 | 5.2 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 57.7 | 40.4 | 51.7 | 35.3 | -4.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 29.1 | 20.4 | 29.7 | 20.2 | 0.7 |
| 10 or more years | 40.3 | 28.3 | 47.4 | 32.3 | 6.2 |
| Total | 142.7 | 100.0 | 146.5 | 100.0 | 1.0 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 6.7 | 5.9 | 15.4 | 10.9 | 36.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 39.0 | 34.6 | 51.0 | 35.9 | 10.6 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 26.1 | 23.1 | 33.1 | 23.3 | 9.4 |
| 10 or more years | 41.0 | 36.3 | 42.4 | 29.9 | 1.3 |
| Total | 112.8 | 100.0 | 142.0 | 100.0 | 9.0 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *1.2 | 3.6 | *3.4 | 7.5 | 48.7 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 8.3 | 25.2 | 12.4 | 27.2 | 16.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 7.4 | 22.5 | 10.4 | 22.7 | 13.6 |
| 10 or more years | 16.0 | 48.7 | 19.4 | 42.5 | 7.6 |
| Total | 32.9 | 100.0 | 45.7 | 100.0 | 13.2 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 23.4 | 8.1 | 36.6 | 11.0 | 18.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 105.0 | 36.4 | 115.2 | 34.5 | 3.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 62.6 | 21.7 | 73.2 | 21.9 | 6.0 |
| 10 or more years | 97.3 | 33.8 | 109.2 | 32.7 | 4.4 |
| Total | 288.3 | 100.0 | 334.2 | 100.0 | 5.7 |

2.1

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES BY CURRENT OWNER—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 14.8 | 13.3 | 12.4 | 9.6 | -6.6 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 41.7 | 37.3 | 44.2 | 34.4 | 2.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 22.5 | 20.1 | 28.1 | 21.9 | 8.8 |
| 10 or more years | 32.8 | 29.3 | 43.6 | 34.0 | 11.2 |
| Total | 111.8 | 100.0 | 128.2 | 100.0 | 5.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 9.1 | 10.7 | 9.7 | 9.6 | 2.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 27.8 | 32.6 | 29.2 | 29.0 | 1.8 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 19.8 | 23.2 | 25.7 | 25.5 | 10.2 |
| 10 or more years | 28.7 | 33.6 | 36.2 | 35.9 | 9.1 |
| Total | 85.5 | 100.0 | 100.7 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *0.8 | 3.2 | *0.7 | 2.4 | -6.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 6.9 | 25.9 | 5.3 | 17.6 | -9.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 8.3 | 31.0 | 8.8 | 29.1 | 2.2 |
| 10 or more years | 10.7 | 39.9 | 15.4 | 51.0 | 14.6 |
| Total | 26.9 | 100.0 | 30.3 | 100.0 | 4.6 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 24.8 | 11.1 | 22.8 | 8.8 | -3.1 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 76.4 | 34.1 | 78.7 | 30.3 | 1.1 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 50.6 | 22.6 | 62.6 | 24.2 | 8.3 |
| 10 or more years | 72.2 | 32.2 | 95.2 | 36.7 | 10.9 |
| Total | 224.1 | 100.0 | 259.3 | 100.0 | 5.6 |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 15.1 | 16.8 | 14.0 | 14.0 | -2.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 28.4 | 31.7 | 38.9 | 39.0 | 12.6 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 20.1 | 22.4 | 21.7 | 21.7 | 3.0 |
| 10 or more years | 26.1 | 29.1 | 25.3 | 25.3 | -1.2 |
| Total | 89.6 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 100.0 | 4.1 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 7.6 | 12.3 | 5.7 | 8.9 | -10.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 18.5 | 29.9 | 25.5 | 40.0 | 12.9 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 17.0 | 27.4 | 12.1 | 19.0 | -11.9 |
| 10 or more years | 18.8 | 30.4 | 20.4 | 32.0 | 3.1 |
| Total | 61.9 | 100.0 | 63.8 | 100.0 | 1.1 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *1.2 | 5.9 | *0.4 | 2.3 | -32.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 5.5 | 26.5 | 5.9 | 31.8 | 2.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 6.5 | 30.8 | 4.6 | 24.8 | -11.9 |
| 10 or more years | 7.7 | 36.8 | 7.6 | 41.1 | -0.4 |
| Total | 21.0 | 100.0 | 18.6 | 100.0 | -4.4 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 23.9 | 13.9 | 20.1 | 11.0 | -6.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 52.4 | 30.4 | 70.4 | 38.6 | 11.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 43.5 | 25.2 | 38.4 | 21.1 | -4.5 |
| 10 or more years | 52.7 | 30.5 | 53.4 | 29.3 | 0.5 |
| Total | 172.5 | 100.0 | 182.3 | 100.0 | 2.1 |

2.1

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES BY CURRENT OWNER—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 6.1 | 15.6 | 5.4 | 13.9 | -4.6 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 16.2 | 41.1 | 11.7 | 30.0 | -11.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 5.1 | 12.9 | 9.0 | 23.0 | 23.7 |
| 10 or more years | 11.9 | 30.3 | 12.9 | 33.2 | 3.1 |
| Total | 39.3 | 100.0 | 39.0 | 100.0 | -0.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 2.0 | 9.6 | 3.0 | 13.2 | 17.1 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 6.7 | 32.3 | 8.1 | 35.6 | 7.8 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 4.5 | 21.9 | 4.4 | 19.1 | -1.4 |
| 10 or more years | 7.5 | 36.3 | 7.3 | 32.1 | -0.9 |
| Total | 20.7 | 100.0 | 22.8 | 100.0 | 3.8 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | **0.3 | 3.9 | **0.3 | 4.7 | 5.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | *1.5 | 19.8 | *1.4 | 19.2 | -2.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.9 | 24.5 | *1.5 | 20.5 | -7.5 |
| 10 or more years | 4.0 | 51.8 | 4.2 | 55.7 | 1.7 |
| Total | 7.7 | 100.0 | 7.5 | 100.0 | -1.0 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 8.4 | 12.4 | 8.8 | 12.6 | 1.6 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 24.4 | 36.0 | 21.3 | 30.7 | -5.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 11.5 | 17.0 | 14.9 | 21.4 | 10.1 |
| 10 or more years | 23.4 | 34.6 | 24.4 | 35.2 | 1.6 |
| Total | 67.7 | 100.0 | 69.4 | 100.0 | 0.9 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 9.6 | 15.5 | 8.5 | 15.1 | -4.1 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 24.8 | 40.0 | 24.5 | 43.3 | -0.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 12.4 | 20.0 | 12.2 | 21.5 | -0.6 |
| 10 or more years | 15.1 | 24.5 | 11.4 | 20.1 | -10.1 |
| Total | 61.8 | 100.0 | 56.6 | 100.0 | -3.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 4.1 | 12.6 | 4.2 | 11.8 | 0.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 10.8 | 32.7 | 12.6 | 35.4 | 6.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 7.8 | 23.7 | 7.6 | 21.5 | -0.8 |
| 10 or more years | 10.2 | 31.0 | 11.2 | 31.3 | 3.3 |
| Total | 33.0 | 100.0 | 35.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *0.4 | 4.1 | *1.3 | 11.0 | 55.9 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 2.8 | 28.9 | 2.2 | 18.9 | -8.1 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 2.2 | 22.8 | 2.8 | 23.6 | 9.3 |
| 10 or more years | 4.3 | 44.2 | 5.5 | 46.5 | 9.9 |
| Total | 9.7 | 100.0 | 11.9 | 100.0 | 7.8 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 14.1 | 13.5 | 14.1 | 13.5 | -0.1 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 38.4 | 36.7 | 39.3 | 37.8 | 0.9 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 22.4 | 21.4 | 22.6 | 21.8 | 0.4 |
| 10 or more years | 29.6 | 28.4 | 28.1 | 27.0 | -2.0 |
| Total | 104.5 | 100.0 | 104.1 | 100.0 | -0.2 |

2.1

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES BY CURRENT OWNER—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.8 | 17.7 | 1.5 | 13.3 | -8.4 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 2.7 | 25.5 | 3.3 | 30.2 | 8.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 2.9 | 27.4 | 3.9 | 35.3 | 11.9 |
| 10 or more years | 3.1 | 29.4 | 2.3 | 21.2 | -10.0 |
| Total | 10.4 | 100.0 | 10.9 | 100.0 | 1.8 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.2 | 18.7 | *0.4 | 6.2 | -33.6 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 1.7 | 27.0 | 1.4 | 21.1 | -8.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.5 | 24.1 | 1.8 | 27.5 | 5.5 |
| 10 or more years | 1.9 | 30.2 | 2.9 | 45.2 | 16.8 |
| Total | 6.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 | 100.0 | 0.4 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *0.2 | 5.2 | — | — | — |
| 1 to less than 5 years | *0.3 | 9.2 | *0.3 | 15.0 | 8.1 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.1 | 35.4 | *0.6 | 28.4 | -17.1 |
| 10 or more years | 1.5 | 50.2 | 1.3 | 56.6 | -5.8 |
| Total | 3.0 | 100.0 | 2.3 | 100.0 | -9.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 3.2 | 16.1 | 1.9 | 9.5 | -18.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 4.7 | 23.5 | 5.0 | 25.5 | 2.8 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 5.4 | 27.5 | 6.3 | 31.9 | 5.4 |
| 10 or more years | 6.5 | 32.8 | 6.5 | 33.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 19.8 | 100.0 | 19.6 | 100.0 | -0.3 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Non-employed businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 0.8 | 21.1 | *0.5 | 13.7 | -18.2 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 1.2 | 31.0 | 1.8 | 51.4 | 16.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 0.6 | 15.4 | *0.6 | 18.1 | 2.0 |
| 10 or more years | 1.2 | 32.5 | *0.6 | 16.8 | -25.0 |
| Total | 3.8 | 100.0 | 3.4 | 100.0 | -3.9 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *0.4 | 19.0 | *0.4 | 12.9 | -4.9 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | *0.6 | 26.8 | 1.2 | 45.7 | 34.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | *0.5 | 21.3 | *0.6 | 23.7 | 14.3 |
| 10 or more years | 0.7 | 33.0 | *0.5 | 17.7 | -13.0 |
| Total | 2.1 | 100.0 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 9.8 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | **0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | *0.5 | 38.9 | *0.7 | 46.7 | 9.1 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | *0.6 | 43.1 | **0.3 | 19.6 | -24.1 |
| 10 or more years | *0.2 | 18.0 | *0.5 | 33.7 | 28.9 |
| Total | 1.3 | 100.0 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 1.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.2 | 16.6 | *0.8 | 10.9 | -13.4 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 2.3 | 31.2 | 3.7 | 48.5 | 19.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.6 | 22.2 | 1.5 | 20.4 | -1.7 |
| 10 or more years | 2.2 | 30.0 | 1.5 | 20.2 | -12.4 |
| Total | 7.3 | 100.0 | 7.6 | 100.0 | 1.5 |

2.1

LENGTH OF OPERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES BY CURRENT OWNER—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Annual average rate of change</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.4 | 23.4 | **0.3 | 5.9 | -42.0 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 2.6 | 41.5 | 3.4 | 59.2 | 11.5 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.3 | 20.6 | *0.9 | 15.0 | -13.4 |
| 10 or more years | 0.9 | 14.5 | 1.2 | 20.0 | 10.0 |
| Total | 6.2 | 100.0 | 5.8 | 100.0 | -2.4 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 0.8 | 15.2 | *0.8 | 14.4 | -3.1 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 2.2 | 40.0 | 2.1 | 38.2 | -2.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 1.1 | 19.3 | 1.0 | 17.6 | -4.5 |
| 10 or more years | 1.4 | 25.5 | 1.6 | 29.8 | 5.0 |
| Total | 5.6 | 100.0 | 5.4 | 100.0 | -1.0 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | *0.1 | 5.6 | **0.1 | 4.8 | 8.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | *0.5 | 27.6 | 1.3 | 53.6 | 47.3 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | *0.4 | 26.0 | *0.4 | 15.8 | -4.8 |
| 10 or more years | *0.7 | 40.8 | *0.6 | 25.9 | -3.2 |
| Total | 1.7 | 100.0 | 2.5 | 100.0 | 14.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 2.4 | 17.8 | 1.2 | 9.0 | -21.9 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 5.3 | 39.1 | 6.8 | 49.9 | 10.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 2.8 | 20.7 | 2.2 | 16.2 | -8.4 |
| 10 or more years | 3.0 | 22.4 | 3.4 | 24.9 | 4.8 |
| Total | 13.4 | 100.0 | 13.7 | 100.0 | 0.6 |

2.2

SMALL BUSINESSES BY NUMBER OF BUSINESS OPERATORS

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 316.3 | 67.9 | 365.3 | 74.5 | 5.5 |
| 2 operators | 143.1 | 30.7 | 118.9 | 24.2 | -6.7 |
| 3 or more operators | 6.2 | 1.3 | 6.1 | 1.2 | -0.7 |
| Total | 465.7 | 100.0 | 490.3 | 100.0 | 2.0 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 155.4 | 47.4 | 216.9 | 57.1 | 13.3 |
| 2 operators | 163.0 | 49.7 | 153.6 | 40.5 | -2.2 |
| 3 or more operators | 9.5 | 2.9 | 9.1 | 2.4 | -1.4 |
| Total | 327.9 | 100.0 | 379.6 | 100.0 | 5.6 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 28.7 | 27.6 | 40.5 | 33.8 | 13.8 |
| 2 operators | 59.6 | 57.3 | 66.1 | 55.1 | 4.0 |
| 3 or more operators | 15.8 | 15.1 | 13.4 | 11.2 | -5.9 |
| Total | 104.1 | 100.0 | 120.1 | 100.0 | 5.5 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 500.5 | 55.8 | 622.8 | 62.9 | 8.5 |
| 2 operators | 365.7 | 40.7 | 338.6 | 34.2 | -2.8 |
| 3 or more operators | 31.5 | 3.5 | 28.7 | 2.9 | -3.4 |
| Total | 897.7 | 100.0 | 990.1 | 100.0 | 3.7 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 103.2 | 72.4 | 111.8 | 76.3 | 3.0 |
| 2 operators | 37.6 | 26.4 | 32.9 | 22.5 | -4.9 |
| 3 or more operators | **1.8 | 1.3 | **1.7 | 1.2 | -1.9 |
| Total | 142.7 | 100.0 | 146.5 | 100.0 | 1.0 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 56.8 | 50.4 | 91.3 | 64.3 | 19.5 |
| 2 operators | 52.8 | 46.8 | 46.8 | 32.9 | -4.4 |
| 3 or more operators | *3.2 | 2.9 | *4.0 | 2.8 | 8.0 |
| Total | 112.8 | 100.0 | 142.0 | 100.0 | 9.0 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 10.0 | 30.4 | 15.9 | 34.9 | 19.0 |
| 2 operators | 17.6 | 53.4 | 25.3 | 55.4 | 14.7 |
| 3 or more operators | 5.3 | 16.1 | *4.4 | 9.7 | -6.3 |
| Total | 32.9 | 100.0 | 45.7 | 100.0 | 13.2 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 170.0 | 59.0 | 219.0 | 65.5 | 10.0 |
| 2 operators | 108.0 | 37.4 | 105.0 | 31.4 | -1.0 |
| 3 or more operators | 10.4 | 3.6 | 10.2 | 3.0 | -0.7 |
| Total | 288.3 | 100.0 | 334.2 | 100.0 | 5.7 |

2.2

SMALL BUSINESSES BY NUMBER OF BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 80.5 | 72.0 | 98.6 | 76.9 | 7.9 |
| 2 operators | 30.0 | 26.8 | 27.9 | 21.8 | -2.6 |
| 3 or more operators | **1.3 | 1.1 | **1.7 | 1.3 | 11.5 |
| Total | 111.8 | 100.0 | 128.2 | 100.0 | 5.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 39.4 | 46.1 | 58.2 | 57.8 | 15.8 |
| 2 operators | 44.0 | 51.5 | 40.7 | 40.4 | -2.9 |
| 3 or more operators | *2.0 | 2.3 | *1.8 | 1.8 | -3.4 |
| Total | 85.5 | 100.0 | 100.7 | 100.0 | 6.4 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 6.8 | 25.3 | 11.6 | 38.1 | 22.0 |
| 2 operators | 16.0 | 59.5 | 14.7 | 48.7 | -3.0 |
| 3 or more operators | 4.1 | 15.1 | *4.0 | 13.2 | -0.7 |
| Total | 26.9 | 100.0 | 30.3 | 100.0 | 4.6 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 126.7 | 56.6 | 168.4 | 65.0 | 11.2 |
| 2 operators | 90.0 | 40.2 | 83.4 | 32.1 | -2.8 |
| 3 or more operators | 7.3 | 3.3 | 7.5 | 2.9 | 0.9 |
| Total | 224.1 | 100.0 | 259.3 | 100.0 | 5.6 |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 54.3 | 60.6 | 70.3 | 70.4 | 10.2 |
| 2 operators | 34.3 | 38.3 | 28.5 | 28.5 | -6.8 |
| 3 or more operators | **1.1 | 1.2 | **1.1 | 1.1 | 2.1 |
| Total | 89.6 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 100.0 | 4.1 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 26.8 | 43.3 | 29.2 | 45.7 | 3.2 |
| 2 operators | 33.4 | 54.0 | 33.9 | 53.2 | 0.6 |
| 3 or more operators | **1.7 | 2.7 | **0.7 | 1.1 | -28.0 |
| Total | 61.9 | 100.0 | 63.8 | 100.0 | 1.1 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 4.7 | 22.4 | 5.6 | 30.0 | 6.6 |
| 2 operators | 13.1 | 62.4 | 10.7 | 57.8 | -7.1 |
| 3 or more operators | *3.2 | 15.2 | *2.3 | 12.2 | -12.0 |
| Total | 21.0 | 100.0 | 18.6 | 100.0 | -4.4 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 85.8 | 49.7 | 105.1 | 57.6 | 7.9 |
| 2 operators | 80.8 | 46.8 | 73.1 | 40.1 | -3.7 |
| 3 or more operators | 5.9 | 3.4 | *4.1 | 2.2 | -13.0 |
| Total | 172.5 | 100.0 | 182.3 | 100.0 | 2.1 |

2.2

SMALL BUSINESSES BY NUMBER OF BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 24.1 | 61.2 | 28.3 | 72.6 | 6.3 |
| 2 operators | 14.7 | 37.3 | 10.1 | 25.8 | -13.2 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.6 | 1.5 | **0.6 | 1.6 | 2.8 |
| Total | 39.3 | 100.0 | 39.0 | 100.0 | -0.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 9.9 | 47.7 | 14.0 | 61.2 | 14.0 |
| 2 operators | 10.2 | 49.5 | 7.8 | 34.0 | -9.8 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.6 | 2.8 | *1.1 | 4.8 | 27.3 |
| Total | 20.7 | 100.0 | 22.8 | 100.0 | 3.8 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | *2.7 | 34.8 | *2.5 | 33.2 | -2.8 |
| 2 operators | 4.1 | 53.5 | 4.1 | 54.9 | -0.1 |
| 3 or more operators | *0.9 | 11.6 | *0.9 | 11.9 | -0.3 |
| Total | 7.7 | 100.0 | 7.5 | 100.0 | -1.0 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 36.6 | 54.1 | 44.8 | 64.6 | 7.9 |
| 2 operators | 29.0 | 42.9 | 22.0 | 31.7 | -10.0 |
| 3 or more operators | 2.0 | 3.0 | *2.6 | 3.8 | 9.4 |
| Total | 67.7 | 100.0 | 69.4 | 100.0 | 0.9 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 39.5 | 63.9 | 40.1 | 70.9 | 0.6 |
| 2 operators | 21.2 | 34.2 | 15.9 | 28.0 | -10.2 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.2 | 1.9 | **0.6 | 1.0 | -22.4 |
| Total | 61.8 | 100.0 | 56.6 | 100.0 | -3.3 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 14.7 | 44.5 | 16.4 | 46.1 | 4.3 |
| 2 operators | 16.7 | 50.7 | 18.1 | 50.8 | 3.0 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.6 | 4.7 | **1.1 | 3.1 | -12.3 |
| Total | 33.0 | 100.0 | 35.6 | 100.0 | 2.9 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | *2.4 | 24.3 | *2.6 | 22.3 | 4.3 |
| 2 operators | 5.8 | 60.0 | 8.2 | 68.6 | 13.4 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.5 | 15.7 | **1.1 | 9.1 | -12.0 |
| Total | 9.7 | 100.0 | 11.9 | 100.0 | 7.8 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 56.6 | 54.1 | 59.2 | 56.9 | 1.7 |
| 2 operators | 43.7 | 41.8 | 42.1 | 40.5 | -1.4 |
| 3 or more operators | 4.2 | 4.1 | *2.8 | 2.7 | -14.7 |
| Total | 104.5 | 100.0 | 104.1 | 100.0 | -0.2 |

2.2

SMALL BUSINESSES BY NUMBER OF BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 7.0 | 67.3 | 8.7 | 79.3 | 8.2 |
| 2 operators | 3.1 | 29.9 | 2.2 | 20.4 | -11.8 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.3 | 2.8 | — | 0.3 | -56.5 |
| Total | 10.4 | 100.0 | 10.9 | 100.0 | 1.8 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 3.7 | 58.8 | 3.3 | 51.5 | -4.4 |
| 2 operators | 2.5 | 38.8 | 2.9 | 44.6 | 5.8 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.2 | 2.4 | **0.3 | 3.9 | 21.1 |
| Total | 6.4 | 100.0 | 6.4 | 100.0 | 0.4 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | *1.0 | 34.6 | *0.8 | 35.8 | -8.8 |
| 2 operators | 1.4 | 45.3 | *1.2 | 52.6 | -4.8 |
| 3 or more operators | *0.6 | 20.1 | **0.3 | 11.6 | -26.6 |
| Total | 3.0 | 100.0 | 2.3 | 100.0 | -9.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 11.8 | 59.6 | 12.8 | 65.2 | 3.1 |
| 2 operators | 6.9 | 35.1 | 6.3 | 32.1 | -3.6 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.0 | 5.3 | *0.5 | 2.8 | -21.4 |
| Total | 19.8 | 100.0 | 19.6 | 100.0 | -0.3 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 3.0 | 78.0 | 2.7 | 79.5 | -3.2 |
| 2 operators | *0.8 | 22.0 | *0.6 | 16.7 | -13.3 |
| 3 or more operators | — | — | *0.1 | 3.8 | — |
| Total | 3.8 | 100.0 | 3.4 | 100.0 | -3.9 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 1.3 | 59.0 | 1.9 | 68.6 | 16.2 |
| 2 operators | *0.8 | 38.1 | *0.8 | 30.0 | 0.4 |
| 3 or more operators | *0.1 | 2.9 | — | 1.4 | -16.2 |
| Total | 2.1 | 100.0 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 9.8 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | *0.6 | 44.8 | *0.6 | 42.8 | 0.2 |
| 2 operators | *0.7 | 55.2 | *0.6 | 45.7 | -5.1 |
| 3 or more operators | — | — | *0.2 | 11.5 | — |
| Total | 1.3 | 100.0 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 1.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 4.8 | 66.3 | 5.2 | 68.7 | 2.9 |
| 2 operators | 2.4 | 32.8 | 2.0 | 26.9 | -5.8 |
| 3 or more operators | *0.1 | 0.9 | **0.3 | 4.4 | 86.5 |
| Total | 7.3 | 100.0 | 7.6 | 100.0 | 1.5 |

2.2

SMALL BUSINESSES BY NUMBER OF BUSINESS OPERATORS—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Annual average rate of change |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 4.7 | 76.4 | 4.7 | 81.5 | — |
| 2 operators | 1.4 | 22.5 | *0.9 | 14.9 | -16.5 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.1 | 1.1 | **0.2 | 3.6 | 52.8 |
| Total | 6.2 | 100.0 | 5.8 | 100.0 | -2.4 |
| 1-4 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 2.9 | 51.2 | 2.7 | 49.3 | -2.4 |
| 2 operators | 2.5 | 45.5 | 2.6 | 48.6 | 1.5 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.2 | 3.4 | **0.1 | 2.1 | -16.5 |
| Total | 5.6 | 100.0 | 5.4 | 100.0 | -1.0 |
| 5-19 employees | | | | | |
| 1 operator | *0.6 | 32.5 | *0.9 | 37.6 | 21.4 |
| 2 operators | 1.0 | 55.8 | 1.2 | 49.6 | 9.8 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.2 | 11.7 | *0.3 | 12.8 | 18.9 |
| Total | 1.7 | 100.0 | 2.5 | 100.0 | 14.9 |
| Total | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 8.1 | 60.3 | 8.3 | 60.8 | 0.9 |
| 2 operators | 4.9 | 36.3 | 4.7 | 34.5 | -1.2 |
| 3 or more operators | *0.5 | 3.4 | *0.6 | 4.7 | 13.8 |
| Total | 13.4 | 100.0 | 13.7 | 100.0 | 0.6 |

2.3

SMALL BUSINESSES BY PREDOMINANCE OF MALE AND FEMALE OPERATORS

| | <i>Predominantly male operators</i> | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Annual average rate of change</i> |
| | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | |
| Total small businesses | 413.0 | 100.0 | 527.6 | 100.0 | 9.6 |
| Home based small business | | | | | |
| Work more hours at home | 59.0 | 14.3 | 76.8 | 14.5 | 10.3 |
| Operated from home | 151.7 | 36.7 | 186.0 | 35.3 | 7.9 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 231.4 | 56.0 | 273.7 | 51.9 | 6.5 |
| 1-4 employees | 138.1 | 33.4 | 198.4 | 37.6 | 14.5 |
| 5-19 employees | 43.5 | 10.5 | 55.6 | 10.5 | 9.6 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 49.7 | 12.0 | 56.0 | 10.6 | 4.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 138.4 | 33.5 | 181.7 | 34.4 | 10.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 90.5 | 21.9 | 121.6 | 23.0 | 11.7 |
| 10 years or more | 134.4 | 32.5 | 168.4 | 31.9 | 8.8 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 358.9 | 86.9 | 466.5 | 88.4 | 10.3 |
| 2 operators | 34.2 | 8.3 | 39.7 | 7.5 | 5.8 |
| 3 or more operators | 19.9 | 4.8 | 21.4 | 4.1 | 2.8 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Has a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 302.8 | 57.4 | n.a. |
| Does not have a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 224.8 | 42.6 | n.a. |
| Internet use | | | | | |
| Has access to the Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 187.7 | 35.6 | n.a. |
| Internet used for | | | | | |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 156.4 | 29.6 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 133.6 | 25.3 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 48.6 | 9.2 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 49.1 | 9.3 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 39.8 | 7.5 | n.a. |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 142.5 | 34.5 | 192.2 | 36.4 | 11.9 |
| Victoria | 109.0 | 26.4 | 140.2 | 26.6 | 9.9 |
| Queensland | 67.2 | 16.3 | 87.1 | 16.5 | 10.2 |
| South Australia | 28.8 | 7.0 | 35.1 | 6.7 | 7.8 |
| Western Australia | 45.5 | 11.0 | 52.5 | 9.9 | 5.5 |
| Tasmania | 10.4 | 2.5 | 9.9 | 1.9 | -1.8 |
| Northern Territory | 3.1 | 0.7 | 4.8 | 0.9 | 18.0 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 6.6 | 1.6 | 5.9 | 1.1 | -4.1 |

2.3

SMALL BUSINESSES BY PREDOMINANCE OF MALE AND FEMALE OPERATORS—*continued*

| | <i>Predominantly female operators</i> | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Annual average rate of change</i> |
| | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | |
| Total small businesses | 150.8 | 100.0 | 167.3 | 100.0 | 4.0 |
| Home based small business | | | | | |
| Work more hours at home | 49.2 | 32.6 | 60.5 | 36.2 | 8.1 |
| Operated from home | 67.2 | 44.5 | 66.7 | 39.8 | -0.3 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 101.3 | 67.2 | 110.6 | 66.1 | 3.3 |
| 1-4 employees | 41.4 | 27.5 | 47.5 | 28.4 | 5.2 |
| 5-19 employees | 8.0 | 5.3 | 9.2 | 5.5 | 5.3 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 26.9 | 17.8 | 29.1 | 17.4 | 3.0 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 61.6 | 40.9 | 66.5 | 39.7 | 2.9 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 31.5 | 20.9 | 33.5 | 20.0 | 2.4 |
| 10 years or more | 30.8 | 20.4 | 38.2 | 22.8 | 8.4 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 140.2 | 92.9 | 156.3 | 93.4 | 4.2 |
| 2 operators | 6.1 | 4.1 | 9.1 | 5.4 | 16.0 |
| 3 or more operators | 3.8 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.2 | -22.1 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Has a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 90.1 | 53.9 | n.a. |
| Does not have a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 77.2 | 46.1 | n.a. |
| Internet use | | | | | |
| Has access to the Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 54.5 | 32.6 | n.a. |
| Internet used for | | | | | |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 42.6 | 25.4 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 38.4 | 22.9 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 8.4 | 5.0 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 12.5 | 7.5 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 10.1 | 6.0 | n.a. |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 49.6 | 32.9 | 53.5 | 32.0 | 2.9 |
| Victoria | 33.1 | 21.9 | 48.4 | 28.9 | 15.4 |
| Queensland | 29.5 | 19.6 | 27.5 | 16.5 | -2.6 |
| South Australia | 11.8 | 7.8 | 14.1 | 8.4 | 6.7 |
| Western Australia | 18.9 | 12.5 | 14.7 | 8.8 | -9.0 |
| Tasmania | 3.1 | 2.0 | 4.0 | 2.4 | 10.3 |
| Northern Territory | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.9 | -11.5 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 2.8 | 1.8 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 10.2 |

2.3

SMALL BUSINESSES BY PREDOMINANCE OF MALE AND FEMALE OPERATORS—*continued*

| | <i>Equal male and female operators</i> | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|----------|----------------------|----------|--|
| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Annual average rate of change</i> |
| | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>%</i> | |
| Total small businesses | 333.9 | 100.0 | 295.1 | 100.0 | -4.5 |
| Home based small business | | | | | |
| Work more hours at home | 56.6 | 17.0 | 44.7 | 15.2 | -8.5 |
| Operated from home | 154.6 | 46.3 | 144.2 | 48.9 | -2.6 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 132.9 | 39.8 | 106.0 | 35.9 | -8.1 |
| 1-4 employees | 148.4 | 44.4 | 133.8 | 45.3 | -3.8 |
| 5-19 employees | 52.6 | 15.8 | 55.3 | 18.7 | 1.9 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 24.8 | 7.4 | 21.1 | 7.2 | -5.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 108.8 | 32.6 | 92.2 | 31.2 | -6.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 78.5 | 23.5 | 66.6 | 22.6 | -6.0 |
| 10 years or more | 121.8 | 36.5 | 115.1 | 39.0 | -2.1 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| 2 operators | 325.4 | 97.5 | 289.8 | 98.2 | -4.3 |
| 3 or more operators | 7.7 | 2.3 | 5.3 | 1.8 | -13.4 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Has a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 189.0 | 64.1 | n.a. |
| Does not have a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 106.0 | 35.9 | n.a. |
| Internet use | | | | | |
| Has access to the Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 115.6 | 39.2 | n.a. |
| Internet used for | | | | | |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 94.5 | 32.0 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 79.1 | 26.8 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 25.0 | 8.5 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 29.1 | 9.9 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 18.3 | 6.2 | n.a. |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 96.3 | 28.8 | 88.4 | 30.0 | -3.1 |
| Victoria | 82.0 | 24.6 | 70.7 | 24.0 | -5.4 |
| Queensland | 75.8 | 22.7 | 67.7 | 22.9 | -4.2 |
| South Australia | 27.1 | 8.1 | 20.1 | 6.8 | -10.5 |
| Western Australia | 40.2 | 12.0 | 36.9 | 12.5 | -3.1 |
| Tasmania | 6.3 | 1.9 | 5.7 | 1.9 | -3.5 |
| Northern Territory | 2.1 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 0.4 | -17.4 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 4.1 | 1.2 | 4.2 | 1.4 | 0.9 |

2.3

SMALL BUSINESSES BY PREDOMINANCE OF MALE AND FEMALE OPERATORS—*continued*

| | <i>Total small business</i> | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | Annual average rate of change |
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| Total small businesses | 897.7 | 100.0 | 990.1 | 100.0 | 3.7 |
| Home based small business | | | | | |
| Work more hours at home | 164.8 | 18.4 | 182.0 | 18.4 | 3.8 |
| Operated from home | 373.5 | 41.6 | 396.9 | 40.1 | 2.3 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 465.7 | 51.9 | 490.3 | 49.5 | 2.0 |
| 1–4 employees | 327.9 | 36.5 | 379.6 | 38.3 | 5.6 |
| 5–19 employees | 104.1 | 11.6 | 120.1 | 12.1 | 5.5 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 101.4 | 11.3 | 106.2 | 10.7 | 1.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 308.8 | 34.4 | 340.4 | 34.4 | 3.7 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 200.5 | 22.3 | 221.7 | 22.4 | 3.8 |
| 10 years or more | 287.0 | 32.0 | 321.7 | 32.5 | 4.4 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 499.1 | 55.6 | 622.8 | 62.9 | 8.7 |
| 2 operators | 365.7 | 40.7 | 338.6 | 34.2 | –2.8 |
| 3 or more operators | 31.5 | 3.5 | 28.7 | 2.9 | –3.4 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Has a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 582.0 | 58.8 | n.a. |
| Does not have a computer | n.a. | n.a. | 408.1 | 41.2 | n.a. |
| Internet use | | | | | |
| Has access to the Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 357.8 | 36.1 | n.a. |
| Internet used for | | | | | |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 293.5 | 29.6 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 251.0 | 25.4 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 82.0 | 8.3 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 90.7 | 9.2 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 68.1 | 6.9 | n.a. |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 288.3 | 32.1 | 334.2 | 33.8 | 5.7 |
| Victoria | 224.1 | 25.0 | 259.3 | 26.2 | 5.6 |
| Queensland | 172.5 | 19.2 | 182.3 | 18.4 | 2.1 |
| South Australia | 67.7 | 7.5 | 69.4 | 7.0 | 0.9 |
| Western Australia | 104.5 | 11.6 | 104.1 | 10.5 | –0.2 |
| Tasmania | 19.8 | 2.2 | 19.6 | 2.0 | –0.3 |
| Northern Territory | 7.3 | 0.8 | 7.6 | 0.8 | 1.5 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 13.4 | 1.5 | 13.7 | 1.4 | 0.6 |

2.4

USE OF COMPUTERS AND ACCESS TO THE INTERNET BY SMALL BUSINESSES

| | <i>Has computer</i> | <i>% of total businesses</i> | <i>Has Internet</i> | <i>% of total businesses</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>no.</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>no.</i> | <i>%</i> |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 232.3 | 47.4 | 132.9 | 27.1 |
| 1-4 employees | 248.0 | 65.3 | 157.7 | 41.5 |
| 5-19 employees | 101.7 | 84.7 | 67.2 | 56.0 |
| Total | 582.0 | 58.8 | 357.8 | 36.1 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 66.4 | 45.3 | 40.7 | 27.8 |
| 1-4 employees | 89.8 | 63.2 | 51.9 | 36.6 |
| 5-19 employees | 37.7 | 82.6 | 25.5 | 55.7 |
| Total | 193.9 | 58.0 | 118.2 | 35.4 |
| VICTORIA | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 56.4 | 43.9 | 33.0 | 25.7 |
| 1-4 employees | 66.3 | 65.8 | 44.9 | 44.5 |
| 5-19 employees | 26.6 | 87.7 | 17.8 | 58.9 |
| Total | 149.2 | 57.6 | 95.7 | 36.9 |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 49.9 | 50.0 | 27.1 | 27.1 |
| 1-4 employees | 43.0 | 67.4 | 28.7 | 44.9 |
| 5-19 employees | 15.4 | 82.9 | 9.7 | 52.0 |
| Total | 108.3 | 59.4 | 65.4 | 35.9 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 18.8 | 48.2 | 10.9 | 28.0 |
| 1-4 employees | 13.6 | 59.6 | 8.0 | 35.1 |
| 5-19 employees | 6.3 | 84.2 | 3.6 | 48.5 |
| Total | 38.7 | 55.9 | 22.6 | 32.6 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 29.7 | 52.4 | 15.0 | 26.6 |
| 1-4 employees | 25.2 | 70.7 | 17.0 | 47.6 |
| 5-19 employees | 10.5 | 88.2 | 7.3 | 61.1 |
| Total | 65.3 | 62.8 | 39.3 | 37.7 |
| TASMANIA | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 5.7 | 51.7 | 2.9 | 26.8 |
| 1-4 employees | 4.2 | 66.0 | 2.6 | 39.9 |
| 5-19 employees | 2.0 | 88.8 | 1.3 | 56.7 |
| Total | 11.9 | 60.6 | 6.8 | 34.6 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 1.2 | 35.2 | 0.7 | 21.4 |
| 1-4 employees | 1.6 | 60.2 | 1.2 | 44.5 |
| 5-19 employees | 1.1 | 76.2 | 0.6 | 45.9 |
| Total | 3.9 | 51.9 | 2.6 | 34.3 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 4.3 | 74.0 | 2.4 | 41.8 |
| 1-4 employees | 4.3 | 78.7 | 3.5 | 64.3 |
| 5-19 employees | 2.1 | 85.1 | 1.4 | 58.2 |
| Total | 10.6 | 77.9 | 7.3 | 53.7 |

2.5

MAJOR USES OF THE INTERNET BY SMALL BUSINESSES

| | <i>Email</i> | <i>Research</i> | <i>Making or receiving payments</i> | <i>Web site or homepage</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total all businesses</i> |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | '000 |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 21.1 | 18.4 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.2 | 490.3 |
| 1-4 employees | 35.0 | 30.6 | 8.9 | 10.0 | 6.7 | 379.6 |
| 5-19 employees | 47.6 | 37.3 | 19.7 | 21.5 | 10.2 | 120.1 |
| Total | 29.6 | 25.4 | 8.3 | 9.2 | 6.9 | 990.1 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 22.1 | 18.9 | 6.7 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 146.5 |
| 1-4 employees | 31.5 | 27.2 | 8.9 | 8.6 | 4.1 | 142.0 |
| 5-19 employees | 47.0 | 34.5 | 22.6 | 21.5 | *7.2 | 45.7 |
| Total | 29.5 | 24.6 | 9.8 | 8.6 | 5.4 | 334.2 |
| VICTORIA | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 20.0 | 15.9 | 3.6 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 128.2 |
| 1-4 employees | 37.8 | 32.7 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 7.7 | 100.7 |
| 5-19 employees | 49.9 | 44.4 | 16.9 | 27.2 | 12.4 | 30.3 |
| Total | 30.4 | 25.8 | 7.7 | 9.7 | 7.2 | 259.3 |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 21.4 | 19.3 | 4.6 | 6.4 | 7.9 | 99.9 |
| 1-4 employees | 36.8 | 31.2 | 5.3 | 10.7 | 11.7 | 63.8 |
| 5-19 employees | 44.9 | 34.5 | 17.1 | 16.6 | *9.2 | 18.6 |
| Total | 29.2 | 25.0 | 6.1 | 9.0 | 9.3 | 182.3 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 19.6 | 18.7 | *2.6 | *3.3 | 5.5 | 39.0 |
| 1-4 employees | 29.1 | 25.3 | *9.0 | *8.6 | *4.1 | 22.8 |
| 5-19 employees | 41.9 | 30.1 | *15.0 | *14.2 | *11.8 | 7.5 |
| Total | 25.2 | 22.1 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 5.8 | 69.4 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 20.0 | 18.5 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 56.6 |
| 1-4 employees | 38.2 | 36.5 | 9.8 | 13.9 | 6.8 | 35.6 |
| 5-19 employees | 52.8 | 36.5 | 24.5 | 17.8 | *14.3 | 11.9 |
| Total | 30.0 | 26.7 | 9.3 | 10.1 | 7.3 | 104.1 |
| TASMANIA | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 20.8 | 23.5 | *5.1 | 8.1 | *4.6 | 10.9 |
| 1-4 employees | 33.0 | 28.9 | *6.9 | 13.8 | **3.0 | 6.4 |
| 5-19 employees | 47.7 | 41.1 | *22.9 | *18.9 | *10.3 | 2.3 |
| Total | 27.9 | 27.3 | 7.8 | 11.2 | *4.7 | 19.6 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | *21.4 | *17.9 | **3.0 | **7.9 | **3.4 | 3.4 |
| 1-4 employees | *38.0 | 44.5 | *13.7 | **9.0 | *14.7 | 2.7 |
| 5-19 employees | *45.9 | *41.3 | — | *30.8 | **7.4 | 1.4 |
| Total | 32.0 | 31.9 | *6.3 | **12.6 | *8.2 | 7.6 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | | |
| Non-employing businesses | 36.1 | 30.1 | *6.3 | *13.1 | *6.5 | 5.8 |
| 1-4 employees | 58.1 | 50.9 | 24.1 | 19.6 | *8.2 | 5.4 |
| 5-19 employees | 46.4 | 44.8 | *20.5 | *24.7 | *23.1 | 2.5 |
| Total | 46.7 | 41.0 | 15.9 | 17.8 | 10.2 | 13.7 |

SECTION 3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION

In this survey, home based businesses have been identified according to two separate but overlapping definitions:

- (i) where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s)—these businesses are referred to as *Businesses operated at home*; and
- (ii) where the business has no other premises owned or rented other than the home(s) of the operator(s)—these businesses are referred to as *Businesses operated from home*.

In the February 1997 edition of this publication data were presented independently for the two groups. However, most users have indicated that they prefer analysis to be done for the home based sector as a whole (i.e. on the combined group). As noted above, when combining figures for the two groups it is not simply a matter of adding the two groups as some overlap does occur. The tables in this section show basic statistics on the two home based business groups separately along with the combined group with most of the detailed data given for the combined group.

In the first edition of this publication (1995), businesses were considered home based if 'one or more of the operators of the business worked more hours at home than away from home'. This definition is similar to the category *Businesses operated at home* (as defined above), but is not strictly comparable.

NUMBER OF HOME BASED BUSINESSES

Home based businesses make up a very large proportion of the total small business picture in Australia. At November 1999 there were an estimated 615,500 home based small businesses which were either operated *from* home or operated *at* home, which represented 62% of all small businesses. These businesses were operated by 811,200 people, which represents 58% of all small business operators. Since February 1997, the number of home based businesses have increased at an average 4% per annum while the number of operators involved only increased at an average 1.4% per annum over the same period. These growth rates were similar to those recorded for small business as a whole.

Looking at the individual forms of home based business, there were 593,200 home based small businesses (96% of all home based small businesses) which were operated *from* home, representing an average increase of 5% per annum since February 1997. These businesses involved 778,800 operators, up an average 2% per annum since 1997.

NUMBER OF HOME BASED
BUSINESSES *continued*

In November 1999, there were 204,300 small businesses (21%) where most of the work was carried out at home (businesses operated at home) involving 267,400 operators. For this category growth was not as strong, with the number of businesses increasing an average 2.2% per annum and the number of operators recording a slight decrease (-0.8%) over the 33 month period.

Because some businesses were operated without other premises other than the home(s) of the operator(s), and at the same time most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s), businesses could be considered home based under both definitions. In November 1999 there were 182,000 of these businesses involving 235,100 operators.

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES

| | <i>Number of businesses</i> | <i>Number of operators</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <i>no.</i> | <i>no.</i> |
| Operated from home | 593.2 | 778.8 |
| Operated at home | 204.3 | 267.4 |
| Operated both from home and at home | 182.0 | 235.1 |
| Operated either from home or at home | 615.5 | 811.2 |
| Total home based and non-home based businesses | 990.1 | 1 397.9 |

OPERATORS OF HOME
BASED BUSINESSES

By gender At November 1999, across all home based small businesses, 563,900 (70%) operators were male. This represented an average increase of 2.8% per annum over the 33 months since February 1997. There were 247,300 female operators of home based businesses which represented an average decline of 1.5% over the same period.

Looking at the two categories separately, males were less dominant in the *at-home* group where they made up 55% of all operators in the group. This compared to the *from-home* group where 70% of operators were male

By age The age distribution of home based small business operators was very similar to the overall distribution for small businesses with 12% aged less than 30; 59% aged between 30 and 50; and 30% more than 50 years old.

By qualifications The qualification profile of home based small business operators was again very similar to the profile for all small business operators, with the largest difference being that 23% of home based operators had a degree or diploma, compared to 26% for all small business operators.

By hours worked Home based operators were more likely to be working part time than other small business operators with 34% usually working less than 35 hours per week. This compares with 28% for all small business operators. Female home based business operators in particular were more likely to work part time in their business than those in other small businesses with 66% working less than 35 hours compared to 56% overall. For home based males, only 20% were working part time; this compared to 14% overall.

Over the 33 month period since February 1997, the number of home based operators working less than 10 hours per week and the number working 10 to 20 hours per week both declined (down an average 5% and 4% per annum respectively). By contrast, there was an increase in the number of operators working longer hours with an average annual increase of 6% in those working 21 to 34 hours and an average 8% increase in those working 51 to 75 hours.

By ethnicity The proportion of home based small business operators that were born overseas was 28%, slightly below the proportion recorded for all small business operators (30%).

Number of businesses operated At November 1999, 94% of home based business operators operated just the one business; this compared with 93% across all small businesses.

By State Home based small business operators were distributed across States and Territories in a similar proportion to small business operators overall, with both reflecting the general population distribution.

In terms of change since February 1997, strongest growth was recorded in the Northern Territory with an average increase of 8% per annum while Victoria recorded an average increase of 5% per annum. At the other end of the scale, the number of home based business operators in Western Australia decreased at an average 5% per annum.

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOME BASED BUSINESSES

Table 3.3 shows a range of characteristics of home based small businesses. Of the 615,500 home based small businesses operating at November 1999, most (64%) were non-employing businesses. In addition, there were 205,600 (33%) home based businesses employing 1–4 people and 16,400 (3%) employing 5–19 people.

In terms of age of business, home based businesses followed a similar distribution pattern to that of total small businesses with:

- 12% aged less than one year old;
- 36% aged 1 to less than 5 years;
- 22% aged 5 to less than 10 years; and
- 30% aged 10 years or more.

| | |
|--|---|
| Operators per business | <p>In November 1999, 70% of home based small businesses were single operator businesses. This proportion was higher than that recorded for small businesses overall where 63% were single operator businesses. Conversely, there was a lower proportion of multi-operator home based small businesses than there were overall with 28% of home based small businesses with two operators (compared to 34% overall) and 1.6% with 3 or more operators (compared to 2.9% overall).</p> |
| Gender predominance in home based businesses | <p>Most home based businesses (57%) were operated predominantly by males, up considerably on the 49% recorded in February 1997.</p> <p>Just over a quarter (26%) of home based businesses were operated by equal numbers of males and females, down an average 7% per annum on February 1997 levels.</p> |
| Use of computers and the Internet | <p>Just over half (54%) of Australia's home based businesses were using computers in their business operations in November 1999. This was slightly below the proportion recorded for all small businesses (59%). About one third (33%) had access to the Internet, again slightly below the proportion for all small business (36%).</p> <p>The most common use being made of the Internet was for email (27% of home based small businesses). Other uses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 23% were using the Internet for research purposes; ■ 7% had a web site or homepage facility; ■ 7% were involved in e-commerce by making or receiving payments via the Internet; and ■ 7% were using the Internet for other purposes. |

3.1 HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY SEX

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| MALES | | | | | |
| Total operators | 523.5 | 100.0 | 563.9 | 100.0 | 2.8 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 152.3 | 29.1 | 147.4 | 26.1 | -1.2 |
| Operated from home | 498.5 | 95.2 | 545.7 | 96.8 | 3.5 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 58.6 | 11.2 | 66.5 | 11.8 | 4.8 |
| 30 to 50 | 325.1 | 62.1 | 325.6 | 57.7 | 0.1 |
| Greater than 50 | 139.8 | 26.7 | 171.8 | 30.5 | 8.0 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 160.3 | 30.6 | 183.9 | 32.6 | 5.3 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 229.8 | 43.9 | 231.2 | 41.0 | 0.2 |
| Degree/diploma | 121.6 | 23.2 | 124.2 | 22.0 | 0.8 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 28.7 | 5.5 | 27.4 | 4.9 | -1.7 |
| 10-20 hours | 40.4 | 7.7 | 35.2 | 6.2 | -5.0 |
| 21-34 hours | 43.0 | 8.2 | 50.5 | 9.0 | 6.2 |
| 35-50 hours | 289.3 | 55.3 | 303.0 | 53.7 | 1.8 |
| 51-75 hours | 99.9 | 19.1 | 124.4 | 22.1 | 8.6 |
| More than 75 hours | 22.2 | 4.2 | 23.3 | 4.1 | 1.8 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 362.1 | 69.2 | 395.1 | 70.1 | 3.3 |
| Born overseas | 161.4 | 30.8 | 168.8 | 29.9 | 1.7 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 483.8 | 92.4 | 530.8 | 94.1 | 3.5 |
| Two businesses | 33.2 | 6.3 | 27.1 | 4.8 | -7.3 |
| Three or more businesses | 6.5 | 1.3 | 6.0 | 1.1 | -3.0 |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 168.4 | 32.2 | 186.8 | 33.1 | 4.0 |
| Victoria | 130.9 | 25.0 | 146.4 | 26.0 | 4.3 |
| Queensland | 102.9 | 19.7 | 113.8 | 20.2 | 3.9 |
| South Australia | 36.2 | 6.9 | 34.9 | 6.2 | -1.4 |
| Western Australia | 63.5 | 12.1 | 60.0 | 10.6 | -2.1 |
| Tasmania | 10.6 | 2.0 | 10.6 | 1.9 | 0.1 |
| Northern Territory | 2.9 | 0.5 | 4.2 | 0.7 | 15.1 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 8.1 | 1.5 | 7.3 | 1.3 | -4.0 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.1 HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY SEX—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| FEMALES | | | | | |
| Total operators | 257.7 | 100.0 | 247.3 | 100.0 | -1.5 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 121.3 | 47.1 | 120.0 | 48.5 | -0.4 |
| Operated from home | 240.0 | 93.1 | 233.2 | 94.3 | -1.1 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 28.1 | 10.9 | 28.6 | 11.6 | 0.6 |
| 30 to 50 | 169.5 | 65.8 | 149.3 | 60.4 | -4.6 |
| Greater than 50 | 60.1 | 23.3 | 69.4 | 28.0 | 5.5 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 123.4 | 47.9 | 123.9 | 50.1 | 0.2 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 55.3 | 21.5 | 52.6 | 21.3 | -1.9 |
| Degree/diploma | 68.2 | 26.5 | 60.1 | 24.3 | -4.6 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 90.4 | 35.1 | 77.1 | 31.2 | -5.8 |
| 10–20 hours | 55.6 | 21.6 | 51.7 | 20.9 | -2.6 |
| 21–34 hours | 30.8 | 12.0 | 34.7 | 14.0 | 4.5 |
| 35–50 hours | 58.5 | 22.7 | 57.8 | 23.4 | -0.4 |
| 51–75 hours | 15.0 | 5.8 | 17.6 | 7.1 | 6.2 |
| More than 75 hours | 7.5 | 2.9 | 8.2 | 3.3 | 3.8 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 179.7 | 69.7 | 186.8 | 75.5 | 1.5 |
| Born overseas | 78.0 | 30.3 | 60.5 | 24.5 | -9.1 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 235.3 | 91.3 | 234.3 | 94.8 | -0.1 |
| Two businesses | 18.8 | 7.3 | 11.8 | 4.8 | -16.0 |
| Three or more businesses | 3.7 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.5 | -36.2 |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 73.5 | 28.5 | 68.9 | 27.9 | -2.4 |
| Victoria | 56.4 | 21.9 | 65.3 | 26.4 | 5.7 |
| Queensland | 61.1 | 23.7 | 55.2 | 22.3 | -3.7 |
| South Australia | 20.0 | 7.8 | 18.4 | 7.5 | -3.0 |
| Western Australia | 35.7 | 13.8 | 26.6 | 10.8 | -10.4 |
| Tasmania | 4.4 | 1.7 | 5.6 | 2.3 | 9.3 |
| Northern Territory | 2.1 | 0.8 | 2.0 | 0.8 | -2.4 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 4.6 | 1.8 | 5.2 | 2.1 | 4.9 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.1 HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY SEX—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| PERSONS | | | | | |
| Total operators | 781.3 | 100.0 | 811.2 | 100.0 | 1.4 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 273.6 | 35.0 | 267.4 | 33.0 | -0.8 |
| Operated from home | 738.5 | 94.5 | 778.8 | 96.0 | 2.0 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 86.7 | 11.1 | 95.0 | 11.7 | 3.5 |
| 30 to 50 | 494.6 | 63.3 | 474.9 | 58.5 | -1.5 |
| Greater than 50 | 199.9 | 25.6 | 241.2 | 29.7 | 7.3 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 283.7 | 36.3 | 307.9 | 38.0 | 3.1 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 285.1 | 36.5 | 283.8 | 35.0 | -0.2 |
| Degree/diploma | 189.8 | 24.3 | 184.3 | 22.7 | -1.1 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 119.1 | 15.2 | 104.5 | 12.9 | -4.8 |
| 10–20 hours | 96.0 | 12.3 | 87.0 | 10.7 | -3.6 |
| 21–34 hours | 73.8 | 9.5 | 85.2 | 10.5 | 5.5 |
| 35–50 hours | 347.8 | 44.5 | 360.9 | 44.5 | 1.4 |
| 51–75 hours | 114.9 | 14.7 | 142.0 | 17.5 | 8.3 |
| More than 75 hours | 29.6 | 3.8 | 31.5 | 3.9 | 2.3 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 541.9 | 69.4 | 581.9 | 71.7 | 2.7 |
| Born overseas | 239.4 | 30.6 | 229.3 | 28.3 | -1.6 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 719.1 | 92.0 | 765.1 | 94.3 | 2.4 |
| Two businesses | 51.9 | 6.6 | 38.9 | 4.8 | -10.3 |
| Three or more businesses | 10.2 | 1.3 | 7.1 | 0.9 | -12.6 |
| State | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 241.9 | 31.0 | 255.7 | 31.5 | 2.1 |
| Victoria | 187.3 | 24.0 | 211.7 | 26.1 | 4.7 |
| Queensland | 164.0 | 21.0 | 169.0 | 20.8 | 1.1 |
| South Australia | 56.3 | 7.2 | 53.3 | 6.6 | -2.0 |
| Western Australia | 99.2 | 12.7 | 86.6 | 10.7 | -4.9 |
| Tasmania | 15.0 | 1.9 | 16.2 | 2.0 | 2.9 |
| Northern Territory | 5.0 | 0.6 | 6.2 | 0.8 | 8.2 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 12.7 | 1.6 | 12.4 | 1.5 | -0.6 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total operators | 781.3 | 100.0 | 811.2 | 100.0 | 1.4 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 273.6 | 35.0 | 267.4 | 33.0 | -0.8 |
| Operated from home | 738.5 | 94.5 | 778.8 | 96.0 | 2.0 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 523.5 | 67.0 | 563.9 | 69.5 | 2.8 |
| Female | 257.7 | 33.0 | 247.3 | 30.5 | -1.5 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 86.7 | 11.1 | 95.0 | 11.7 | 3.5 |
| 30 to 50 | 494.6 | 63.3 | 474.9 | 58.5 | -1.5 |
| Greater than 50 | 199.9 | 25.6 | 241.2 | 29.7 | 7.3 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 283.7 | 36.3 | 307.9 | 38.0 | 3.1 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 285.1 | 36.5 | 283.8 | 35.0 | -0.2 |
| Degree/diploma | 189.8 | 24.3 | 184.3 | 22.7 | -1.1 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 119.1 | 15.2 | 104.5 | 12.9 | -4.8 |
| 10-20 hours | 96.0 | 12.3 | 87.0 | 10.7 | -3.6 |
| 21-34 hours | 73.8 | 9.5 | 85.2 | 10.5 | 5.5 |
| 35-50 hours | 347.8 | 44.5 | 360.9 | 44.5 | 1.4 |
| 51-75 hours | 114.9 | 14.7 | 142.0 | 17.5 | 8.3 |
| More than 75 hours | 29.6 | 3.8 | 31.5 | 3.9 | 2.3 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 541.9 | 69.4 | 581.9 | 71.7 | 2.7 |
| Born overseas | 239.4 | 30.6 | 229.3 | 28.3 | -1.6 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 719.1 | 92.0 | 765.1 | 94.3 | 2.4 |
| Two businesses | 51.9 | 6.6 | 38.9 | 4.8 | -10.3 |
| Three or more businesses | 10.2 | 1.3 | 7.1 | 0.9 | -12.6 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Total operators | 241.9 | 100.0 | 255.7 | 100.0 | 2.1 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 90.0 | 37.2 | 82.1 | 32.1 | -3.4 |
| Operated from home | 225.8 | 93.3 | 246.4 | 96.4 | 3.3 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 168.4 | 69.6 | 186.8 | 73.1 | 4.0 |
| Female | 73.5 | 30.4 | 68.9 | 26.9 | -2.4 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 19.7 | 8.2 | 30.7 | 12.0 | 18.0 |
| 30 to 50 | 160.0 | 66.2 | 144.3 | 56.4 | -3.8 |
| Greater than 50 | 62.1 | 25.7 | 80.7 | 31.6 | 10.3 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 80.2 | 33.2 | 86.1 | 33.7 | 2.7 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 89.5 | 37.0 | 98.4 | 38.5 | 3.6 |
| Degree/diploma | 67.5 | 27.9 | 62.9 | 24.6 | -2.6 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 29.8 | 12.3 | 26.2 | 10.2 | -4.8 |
| 10–20 hours | 30.5 | 12.6 | 25.8 | 10.1 | -6.0 |
| 21–34 hours | 21.6 | 8.9 | 24.7 | 9.6 | 5.0 |
| 35–50 hours | 116.1 | 48.0 | 127.8 | 50.0 | 3.7 |
| 51–75 hours | 35.0 | 14.5 | 41.1 | 16.1 | 6.2 |
| More than 75 hours | 8.8 | 3.6 | 10.1 | 3.9 | 5.3 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 164.8 | 68.1 | 174.8 | 68.4 | 2.2 |
| Born overseas | 77.1 | 31.9 | 80.9 | 31.6 | 1.8 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 222.3 | 91.9 | 243.7 | 95.3 | 3.5 |
| Two businesses | 16.4 | 6.8 | 10.3 | 4.0 | -16.1 |
| Three or more businesses | 3.1 | 1.3 | **1.7 | 0.7 | -20.1 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Total operators | 187.3 | 100.0 | 211.7 | 100.0 | 4.7 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 68.9 | 36.8 | 76.2 | 36.0 | 3.8 |
| Operated from home | 178.3 | 95.2 | 201.4 | 95.2 | 4.7 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 130.9 | 69.9 | 146.4 | 69.1 | 4.3 |
| Female | 56.4 | 30.1 | 65.3 | 30.9 | 5.7 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 24.2 | 12.9 | 20.2 | 9.5 | -6.6 |
| 30 to 50 | 117.7 | 62.9 | 128.6 | 60.8 | 3.4 |
| Greater than 50 | 45.3 | 24.2 | 62.9 | 29.7 | 13.1 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 67.6 | 36.1 | 81.1 | 38.3 | 7.1 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 64.0 | 34.2 | 67.5 | 31.9 | 2.0 |
| Degree/diploma | 48.8 | 26.1 | 54.2 | 25.6 | 4.0 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 29.5 | 15.7 | 28.1 | 13.3 | -1.8 |
| 10–20 hours | 20.1 | 10.7 | 24.5 | 11.6 | 7.7 |
| 21–34 hours | 15.6 | 8.4 | 23.9 | 11.3 | 17.2 |
| 35–50 hours | 86.9 | 46.4 | 90.1 | 42.6 | 1.3 |
| 51–75 hours | 28.4 | 15.2 | 38.8 | 18.3 | 12.4 |
| More than 75 hours | 6.7 | 3.6 | 6.3 | 3.0 | -2.3 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 130.9 | 69.9 | 155.5 | 73.5 | 6.7 |
| Born overseas | 56.4 | 30.1 | 56.2 | 26.5 | -0.1 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 171.9 | 91.8 | 199.8 | 94.4 | 5.8 |
| Two businesses | 12.7 | 6.8 | 9.5 | 4.5 | -10.3 |
| Three or more businesses | *2.6 | 1.4 | *2.4 | 1.1 | -4.0 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Total operators | 164.0 | 100.0 | 169.0 | 100.0 | 1.1 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 48.3 | 29.4 | 48.3 | 28.6 | 0.0 |
| Operated from home | 156.2 | 95.3 | 163.2 | 96.6 | 1.7 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 102.9 | 62.7 | 113.8 | 67.3 | 3.9 |
| Female | 61.1 | 37.3 | 55.2 | 32.7 | -3.7 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 17.3 | 10.5 | 21.3 | 12.6 | 8.2 |
| 30 to 50 | 99.7 | 60.8 | 101.0 | 59.8 | 0.5 |
| Greater than 50 | 47.0 | 28.7 | 46.7 | 27.6 | -0.2 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 68.4 | 41.7 | 71.3 | 42.2 | 1.5 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 60.0 | 36.6 | 63.3 | 37.4 | 2.0 |
| Degree/diploma | 29.8 | 18.2 | 26.8 | 15.9 | -3.8 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 25.3 | 15.4 | 25.2 | 14.9 | -0.1 |
| 10–20 hours | 20.8 | 12.7 | 15.6 | 9.3 | -10.1 |
| 21–34 hours | 17.5 | 10.7 | 16.6 | 9.8 | -2.0 |
| 35–50 hours | 65.5 | 40.0 | 66.7 | 39.4 | 0.7 |
| 51–75 hours | 26.8 | 16.3 | 35.0 | 20.7 | 10.5 |
| More than 75 hours | 8.2 | 5.0 | 10.0 | 5.9 | 7.8 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 123.4 | 75.2 | 125.7 | 74.4 | 0.7 |
| Born overseas | 40.6 | 24.8 | 43.3 | 25.6 | 2.5 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 150.8 | 92.0 | 157.1 | 92.9 | 1.5 |
| Two businesses | 11.9 | 7.2 | 10.1 | 6.0 | -6.0 |
| Three or more businesses | *1.3 | 0.8 | *1.9 | 1.1 | 14.8 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total operators | 56.3 | 100.0 | 53.3 | 100.0 | -2.0 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 24.9 | 44.2 | 21.2 | 39.8 | -5.7 |
| Operated from home | 52.5 | 93.3 | 51.7 | 97.0 | -0.6 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 36.2 | 64.4 | 34.9 | 65.4 | -1.4 |
| Female | 20.0 | 35.6 | 18.4 | 34.6 | -3.0 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 7.6 | 13.5 | 8.1 | 15.1 | 2.4 |
| 30 to 50 | 32.0 | 56.8 | 26.7 | 50.0 | -6.6 |
| Greater than 50 | 16.7 | 29.7 | 18.6 | 34.8 | 4.0 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 24.3 | 43.2 | 24.4 | 45.8 | 0.2 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 19.8 | 35.2 | 14.6 | 27.5 | -10.7 |
| Degree/diploma | 10.0 | 17.7 | 11.3 | 21.2 | 4.8 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 10.9 | 19.4 | 7.5 | 14.1 | -13.0 |
| 10–20 hours | 8.1 | 14.4 | 7.1 | 13.3 | -5.0 |
| 21–34 hours | 5.7 | 10.1 | 6.0 | 11.2 | 1.9 |
| 35–50 hours | 23.2 | 41.3 | 23.4 | 43.9 | 0.3 |
| 51–75 hours | 6.7 | 11.8 | 7.7 | 14.5 | 5.9 |
| More than 75 hours | 1.7 | 3.0 | 1.6 | 3.0 | -1.7 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 40.0 | 71.2 | 39.6 | 74.2 | -0.5 |
| Born overseas | 16.2 | 28.8 | 13.8 | 25.8 | -6.0 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 51.9 | 92.3 | 49.7 | 93.2 | -1.6 |
| Two businesses | 3.6 | 6.3 | 3.2 | 6.0 | -4.0 |
| Three or more businesses | *0.8 | 1.3 | **0.4 | 0.8 | -20.1 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total operators | 99.2 | 100.0 | 86.6 | 100.0 | -4.9 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 28.7 | 28.9 | 26.2 | 30.2 | -3.3 |
| Operated from home | 95.4 | 96.2 | 83.3 | 96.2 | -4.9 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 63.5 | 64.0 | 60.0 | 69.2 | -2.1 |
| Female | 35.7 | 36.0 | 26.6 | 30.8 | -10.4 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 12.9 | 13.0 | 11.8 | 13.7 | -3.2 |
| 30 to 50 | 65.4 | 66.0 | 53.1 | 61.3 | -7.5 |
| Greater than 50 | 20.9 | 21.0 | 21.7 | 25.1 | 1.5 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 31.5 | 31.8 | 32.9 | 38.0 | 1.6 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 40.3 | 40.6 | 27.6 | 31.9 | -13.2 |
| Degree/diploma | 24.8 | 25.0 | 20.2 | 23.3 | -7.5 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 18.2 | 18.4 | 12.7 | 14.6 | -12.7 |
| 10–20 hours | 12.9 | 13.0 | 9.2 | 10.6 | -11.8 |
| 21–34 hours | 9.8 | 9.9 | 11.2 | 12.9 | 4.9 |
| 35–50 hours | 42.0 | 42.4 | 38.4 | 44.4 | -3.3 |
| 51–75 hours | 12.9 | 13.0 | 12.7 | 14.7 | -0.5 |
| More than 75 hours | 3.4 | 3.4 | *2.5 | 2.8 | -11.3 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 58.9 | 59.4 | 57.7 | 66.6 | -0.8 |
| Born overseas | 40.2 | 40.6 | 29.0 | 33.4 | -11.6 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 91.7 | 92.5 | 82.9 | 95.7 | -3.7 |
| Two businesses | 5.5 | 5.6 | 3.5 | 4.0 | -15.8 |
| Three or more businesses | 1.9 | 1.9 | **0.2 | 0.2 | -55.8 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Total operators | 15.0 | 100.0 | 16.2 | 100.0 | 2.9 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 5.8 | 38.5 | 6.2 | 38.3 | 2.7 |
| Operated from home | 13.9 | 92.5 | 14.8 | 91.2 | 2.4 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 10.6 | 70.7 | 10.6 | 65.6 | 0.1 |
| Female | 4.4 | 29.3 | 5.6 | 34.4 | 9.3 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 1.9 | 12.4 | *0.9 | 5.6 | -23.5 |
| 30 to 50 | 8.9 | 59.3 | 10.1 | 62.1 | 4.8 |
| Greater than 50 | 4.2 | 28.3 | 5.2 | 32.2 | 8.1 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 5.0 | 33.3 | 6.6 | 40.9 | 11.1 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 6.1 | 40.6 | 6.3 | 38.8 | 1.1 |
| Degree/diploma | 3.7 | 24.6 | 2.8 | 17.6 | -9.2 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 2.4 | 16.2 | 2.2 | 13.9 | -2.9 |
| 10–20 hours | 1.2 | 7.7 | 2.1 | 13.2 | 25.8 |
| 21–34 hours | 1.8 | 11.7 | *1.2 | 7.5 | -12.9 |
| 35–50 hours | 6.7 | 44.8 | 7.1 | 44.0 | 2.3 |
| 51–75 hours | 2.4 | 16.2 | 2.9 | 17.8 | 6.8 |
| More than 75 hours | 0.5 | 3.4 | *0.6 | 3.6 | 4.9 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 12.1 | 80.6 | 14.5 | 89.8 | 7.2 |
| Born overseas | 2.9 | 19.4 | 1.6 | 10.2 | -19.3 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 14.2 | 94.6 | 14.8 | 91.8 | 1.8 |
| Two businesses | **0.4 | 2.7 | *1.1 | 7.1 | 47.4 |
| Three or more businesses | **0.4 | 2.7 | **0.2 | 1.2 | -24.9 |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Total operators | 5.0 | 100.0 | 6.2 | 100.0 | 8.2 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 2.5 | 50.5 | 2.0 | 31.8 | -9.0 |
| Operated from home | 4.6 | 91.7 | 5.6 | 90.7 | 7.8 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 2.9 | 57.2 | 4.2 | 67.5 | 15.1 |
| Female | 2.1 | 42.8 | 2.0 | 32.5 | -2.4 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | *0.8 | 15.2 | *0.8 | 12.8 | 1.5 |
| 30 to 50 | 3.2 | 64.8 | 4.3 | 70.2 | 11.5 |
| Greater than 50 | *1.0 | 20.1 | *1.1 | 17.0 | 1.7 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 2.0 | 40.4 | 2.2 | 36.3 | 3.9 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 1.9 | 37.7 | 2.7 | 43.8 | 14.6 |
| Degree/diploma | *1.0 | 19.4 | *0.9 | 15.3 | -1.0 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 1.1 | 22.1 | *0.5 | 7.5 | -27.7 |
| 10–20 hours | **0.4 | 7.2 | *0.7 | 11.9 | 30.9 |
| 21–34 hours | **0.4 | 8.4 | **0.3 | 5.1 | -10.4 |
| 35–50 hours | 2.6 | 52.8 | 2.5 | 40.0 | -2.6 |
| 51–75 hours | 0.5 | 9.5 | 1.8 | 28.8 | 64.2 |
| More than 75 hours | — | — | *0.4 | 6.7 | — |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 3.6 | 72.8 | 4.6 | 74.6 | 9.2 |
| Born overseas | 1.4 | 27.2 | 1.6 | 25.4 | 5.4 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 4.6 | 91.7 | 5.7 | 92.1 | 8.4 |
| Two businesses | *0.3 | 5.4 | *0.5 | 7.9 | 24.6 |
| Three or more businesses | 0.1 | 2.9 | — | — | — |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.2

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Total operators | 12.7 | 100.0 | 12.4 | 100.0 | -0.6 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 4.6 | 36.2 | 5.3 | 42.2 | 5.2 |
| Operated from home | 11.9 | 93.7 | 12.3 | 99.0 | 1.5 |
| Sex of operators | | | | | |
| Male | 8.1 | 64.0 | 7.3 | 58.4 | -4.0 |
| Female | 4.6 | 36.0 | 5.2 | 41.6 | 4.9 |
| Age of operators | | | | | |
| Less than 30 | 2.4 | 18.9 | *1.2 | 9.9 | -22.1 |
| 30 to 50 | 7.6 | 60.4 | 6.9 | 55.4 | -3.8 |
| Greater than 50 | 2.6 | 20.7 | 4.3 | 34.8 | 20.7 |
| Qualifications of operators | | | | | |
| Secondary school | 4.6 | 36.5 | 3.2 | 25.9 | -12.7 |
| Basic/skilled vocational | 3.5 | 27.8 | 3.4 | 27.3 | -1.4 |
| Degree/diploma | 4.2 | 33.5 | 5.1 | 41.2 | 7.4 |
| Hours worked by operators | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hours | 1.8 | 14.6 | 2.1 | 16.9 | 5.0 |
| 10–20 hours | 2.1 | 16.9 | 1.8 | 14.7 | -5.7 |
| 21–34 hours | 1.4 | 10.7 | 1.5 | 11.7 | 2.8 |
| 35–50 hours | 4.6 | 36.4 | 4.8 | 38.9 | 1.9 |
| 51–75 hours | 2.3 | 18.4 | 2.1 | 16.9 | -3.7 |
| More than 75 hours | *0.4 | 3.1 | **0.1 | 1.0 | -35.9 |
| Ethnicity of operators | | | | | |
| Born in Australia | 8.1 | 63.9 | 9.5 | 76.5 | 6.3 |
| Born overseas | 4.6 | 36.1 | 2.9 | 23.5 | -15.4 |
| Number of businesses operated | | | | | |
| One business | 11.6 | 91.3 | 11.4 | 91.4 | -0.6 |
| Two businesses | *1.1 | 8.7 | *0.7 | 5.6 | -15.5 |
| Three or more businesses | — | — | **0.4 | 3.0 | — |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators or where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 551.9 | 100.0 | 615.5 | 100.0 | 4.2 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 192.6 | 34.9 | 204.3 | 33.2 | 2.2 |
| Operated from home | 524.2 | 95.0 | 593.2 | 96.4 | 4.7 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 271.2 | 49.1 | 350.7 | 57.0 | 10.1 |
| Predominantly female operators | 88.6 | 16.0 | 106.2 | 17.3 | 7.1 |
| Equal male and female operators | 192.2 | 34.8 | 158.6 | 25.8 | -6.9 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 369.1 | 66.9 | 393.6 | 63.9 | 2.4 |
| 1-4 employees | 165.9 | 30.1 | 205.6 | 33.4 | 8.4 |
| 5-19 employees | 16.9 | 3.1 | 16.4 | 2.7 | -1.2 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 69.7 | 12.6 | 72.9 | 11.8 | 1.7 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 192.5 | 34.9 | 220.7 | 35.9 | 5.3 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 122.5 | 22.2 | 136.4 | 22.2 | 4.1 |
| 10 years or more | 167.3 | 30.3 | 185.5 | 30.1 | 4.0 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 336.4 | 60.9 | 432.7 | 70.3 | 9.9 |
| 2 operators | 205.5 | 37.2 | 173.2 | 28.1 | -6.2 |
| 3 or more operators | 9.4 | 1.7 | 9.5 | 1.6 | 0.7 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 334.7 | 54.4 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 280.8 | 45.6 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 201.5 | 32.7 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 163.9 | 26.6 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 139.6 | 22.7 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 40.2 | 6.5 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 43.0 | 7.0 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 43.5 | 7.1 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| NEW SOUTH WALES | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 176.4 | 100.0 | 196.6 | 100.0 | 4.2 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 62.4 | 35.4 | 62.9 | 32.0 | 0.3 |
| Operated from home | 165.7 | 94.0 | 190.5 | 96.9 | 5.4 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 95.2 | 54.0 | 123.3 | 62.7 | 10.2 |
| Predominantly female operators | 26.6 | 15.1 | 30.1 | 15.3 | 4.7 |
| Equal male and female operators | 54.5 | 30.9 | 43.2 | 22.0 | -8.3 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 113.5 | 64.4 | 113.8 | 57.9 | 0.1 |
| 1-4 employees | 56.1 | 31.8 | 77.4 | 39.4 | 12.9 |
| 5-19 employees | 6.7 | 3.8 | 5.4 | 2.7 | -8.2 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 16.5 | 9.3 | 23.3 | 11.9 | 13.9 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 62.9 | 35.6 | 68.1 | 34.6 | 3.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 40.0 | 22.7 | 43.7 | 22.2 | 3.4 |
| 10 years or more | 57.1 | 32.4 | 61.5 | 31.3 | 2.9 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 112.9 | 64.0 | 144.0 | 73.2 | 9.5 |
| 2 operators | 60.3 | 34.2 | 48.0 | 24.4 | -8.2 |
| 3 or more operators | 2.4 | 1.3 | 4.6 | 2.4 | 28.9 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 105.8 | 53.8 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 90.8 | 46.2 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 64.2 | 32.6 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 54.0 | 27.5 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 43.8 | 22.3 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 15.2 | 7.7 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 10.7 | 5.5 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 12.4 | 6.3 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| VICTORIA | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 135.2 | 100.0 | 162.2 | 100.0 | 7.1 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 51.7 | 38.2 | 58.0 | 35.8 | 4.4 |
| Operated from home | 128.9 | 95.3 | 155.1 | 95.6 | 7.2 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 71.2 | 52.7 | 90.3 | 55.7 | 9.3 |
| Predominantly female operators | 19.4 | 14.4 | 31.0 | 19.1 | 19.1 |
| Equal male and female operators | 44.6 | 33.0 | 40.9 | 25.2 | -3.1 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 85.4 | 63.1 | 102.9 | 63.5 | 7.2 |
| 1-4 employees | 46.3 | 34.2 | 55.3 | 34.1 | 6.9 |
| 5-19 employees | 3.6 | 2.6 | 4.0 | 2.5 | 4.1 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 17.4 | 12.9 | 14.2 | 8.7 | -7.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 46.1 | 34.1 | 55.1 | 34.0 | 7.0 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 31.3 | 23.2 | 36.4 | 22.5 | 5.8 |
| 10 years or more | 40.4 | 29.9 | 56.5 | 34.8 | 13.4 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 86.0 | 63.6 | 115.1 | 71.0 | 11.6 |
| 2 operators | 47.4 | 35.1 | 45.2 | 27.9 | -1.8 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.8 | 1.4 | *1.9 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 86.1 | 53.1 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 76.1 | 46.9 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 54.4 | 33.6 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 43.7 | 26.9 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 36.5 | 22.5 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 10.9 | 6.7 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 12.6 | 7.8 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 11.2 | 6.9 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| QUEENSLAND | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 108.3 | 100.0 | 123.2 | 100.0 | 5.0 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 31.8 | 29.4 | 36.3 | 29.5 | 5.1 |
| Operated from home | 103.8 | 95.8 | 119.2 | 96.7 | 5.3 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 44.0 | 40.6 | 66.0 | 53.6 | 16.5 |
| Predominantly female operators | 18.2 | 16.8 | 18.0 | 14.6 | -0.4 |
| Equal male and female operators | 46.1 | 42.6 | 39.2 | 31.8 | -5.9 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 74.0 | 68.3 | 82.7 | 67.1 | 4.3 |
| 1–4 employees | 31.1 | 28.7 | 37.2 | 30.1 | 6.9 |
| 5–19 employees | 3.2 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 1.6 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 16.1 | 14.8 | 15.4 | 12.5 | -1.5 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 32.6 | 30.1 | 47.7 | 38.7 | 15.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 27.3 | 25.2 | 27.1 | 22.0 | -0.2 |
| 10 years or more | 32.3 | 29.9 | 32.9 | 26.7 | 0.7 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 57.1 | 52.7 | 79.5 | 64.5 | 13.2 |
| 2 operators | 48.6 | 44.9 | 42.0 | 34.1 | -5.3 |
| 3 or more operators | 2.6 | 2.4 | *1.7 | 1.4 | -14.0 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 67.4 | 54.7 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 55.9 | 45.3 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 39.6 | 32.2 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 31.8 | 25.8 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 28.0 | 22.8 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 5.9 | 4.8 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 9.7 | 7.9 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 11.3 | 9.2 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—*continued*

| | <i>February 1997</i> | | <i>November 1999</i> | | <i>Average annual rate of change</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 39.2 | 100.0 | 41.2 | 100.0 | 1.9 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 17.6 | 44.9 | 16.4 | 39.8 | -2.6 |
| Operated from home | 36.9 | 94.1 | 40.1 | 97.2 | 3.1 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 17.4 | 44.5 | 21.8 | 52.9 | 8.8 |
| Predominantly female operators | 7.2 | 18.4 | 9.3 | 22.5 | 9.9 |
| Equal male and female operators | 14.5 | 37.1 | 10.1 | 24.6 | -12.6 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 29.4 | 75.1 | 30.0 | 72.8 | 0.7 |
| 1-4 employees | 9.1 | 23.2 | 10.3 | 25.1 | 5.0 |
| 5-19 employees | *0.7 | 1.7 | *0.9 | 2.1 | 10.1 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 5.5 | 14.1 | 6.8 | 16.4 | 7.8 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 16.4 | 41.9 | 12.7 | 30.8 | -9.2 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 4.9 | 12.6 | 8.8 | 21.3 | 24.2 |
| 10 years or more | 12.3 | 31.4 | 13.0 | 31.5 | 2.0 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 23.1 | 58.9 | 29.9 | 72.6 | 10.2 |
| 2 operators | 15.5 | 39.5 | 10.8 | 26.1 | -12.7 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.6 | 1.6 | **0.5 | 1.3 | -5.3 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 20.5 | 49.6 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 20.8 | 50.4 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 11.7 | 28.3 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 8.8 | 21.3 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 7.6 | 18.5 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 2.1 | 5.1 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | *2.0 | 4.8 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | *2.0 | 4.8 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 68.8 | 100.0 | 65.5 | 100.0 | -1.8 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 19.8 | 28.8 | 20.0 | 30.6 | 0.4 |
| Operated from home | 66.4 | 96.6 | 63.3 | 96.6 | -1.8 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 31.0 | 45.1 | 36.1 | 55.2 | 5.9 |
| Predominantly female operators | 12.1 | 17.6 | 10.9 | 16.6 | -3.8 |
| Equal male and female operators | 25.7 | 37.4 | 18.4 | 28.2 | -11.7 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 50.7 | 73.6 | 46.4 | 70.8 | -3.3 |
| 1–4 employees | 16.3 | 23.7 | 17.7 | 27.0 | 3.1 |
| 5–19 employees | *1.8 | 2.6 | *1.4 | 2.2 | -8.8 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 9.5 | 13.7 | 10.3 | 15.7 | 3.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 26.9 | 39.1 | 26.6 | 40.6 | -0.4 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 13.7 | 19.9 | 13.8 | 21.0 | 0.1 |
| 10 years or more | 18.7 | 27.2 | 14.8 | 22.6 | -8.4 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 41.0 | 59.6 | 44.9 | 68.6 | 3.5 |
| 2 operators | 26.4 | 38.4 | 20.1 | 30.7 | -9.8 |
| 3 or more operators | *1.4 | 2.0 | **0.5 | 0.7 | -32.4 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 38.9 | 59.4 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 26.6 | 40.6 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 21.8 | 33.3 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 17.2 | 26.2 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 15.7 | 24.0 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 3.9 | 5.9 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 4.7 | 7.2 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | 4.8 | 7.4 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| TASMANIA | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 11.0 | 100.0 | 12.6 | 100.0 | 5.2 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 3.9 | 35.3 | 5.0 | 39.8 | 10.2 |
| Operated from home | 10.3 | 94.1 | 11.5 | 91.8 | 4.3 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 6.3 | 57.1 | 6.4 | 50.9 | 0.8 |
| Predominantly female operators | 1.8 | 16.2 | 2.8 | 22.5 | 19.1 |
| Equal male and female operators | 2.9 | 26.7 | 3.3 | 26.6 | 5.1 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 8.0 | 72.8 | 9.5 | 75.6 | 6.8 |
| 1–4 employees | 2.4 | 22.3 | 2.8 | 22.5 | 5.5 |
| 5–19 employees | **0.5 | 4.9 | **0.2 | 1.9 | –26.1 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 2.0 | 18.6 | 1.6 | 12.5 | –9.3 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 3.1 | 28.6 | 3.4 | 27.3 | 3.3 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 2.4 | 21.7 | 4.2 | 33.3 | 23.5 |
| 10 years or more | 3.4 | 31.0 | 3.4 | 26.9 | –0.2 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 7.4 | 67.3 | 9.0 | 72.0 | 7.9 |
| 2 operators | 3.2 | 29.5 | 3.5 | 27.6 | 2.6 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.3 | 3.2 | **0.1 | 0.5 | –48.4 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 7.3 | 57.9 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 5.3 | 42.1 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 3.8 | 30.3 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 3.1 | 24.6 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 3.0 | 24.0 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | *0.7 | 5.8 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 1.3 | 10.5 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | *0.6 | 4.8 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | % |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 3.9 | 100.0 | 5.0 | 100.0 | 9.7 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 1.9 | 49.4 | 1.7 | 33.8 | -4.9 |
| Operated from home | 3.6 | 92.9 | 4.6 | 91.5 | 9.1 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 1.6 | 41.8 | 3.0 | 60.8 | 26.2 |
| Predominantly female operators | 1.3 | 33.3 | 1.2 | 24.8 | -1.7 |
| Equal male and female operators | *1.0 | 24.9 | *0.7 | 14.3 | -10.8 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 2.8 | 72.4 | 3.0 | 59.0 | 1.6 |
| 1-4 employees | 0.9 | 23.7 | 1.6 | 31.1 | 21.6 |
| 5-19 employees | **0.2 | 3.9 | *0.5 | 9.9 | 55.3 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.0 | 24.4 | *0.6 | 12.1 | -15.7 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 0.9 | 23.7 | 2.2 | 43.5 | 37.8 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | *0.9 | 22.4 | *1.1 | 22.4 | 9.7 |
| 10 years or more | *1.2 | 29.6 | *1.1 | 22.0 | -1.7 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 2.9 | 75.1 | 4.0 | 80.5 | 12.6 |
| 2 operators | *0.9 | 23.3 | *0.8 | 16.9 | -2.7 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.1 | 1.6 | **0.1 | 2.6 | 31.2 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 2.0 | 39.3 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 3.0 | 60.7 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 1.4 | 28.3 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 1.2 | 24.8 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 1.3 | 25.9 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | **0.2 | 4.6 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | *0.5 | 10.3 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | *0.5 | 10.4 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

3.3

HOME BASED SMALL BUSINESSES(a), BY STATE—continued

| | February 1997 | | November 1999 | | Average annual rate of change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| | '000 | % | '000 | % | |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | | | | | |
| Total home based small businesses | 9.2 | 100.0 | 9.1 | 100.0 | -0.3 |
| Home based business | | | | | |
| Operated at home | 3.4 | 37.3 | 3.9 | 43.2 | 5.4 |
| Operated from home | 8.6 | 93.3 | 9.0 | 98.7 | 1.8 |
| Gender predominance | | | | | |
| Predominantly male operators | 4.5 | 48.7 | 3.7 | 40.1 | -7.4 |
| Predominantly female operators | 1.9 | 20.7 | 2.9 | 31.4 | 16.5 |
| Equal male and female operators | 2.8 | 30.5 | 2.6 | 28.5 | -2.8 |
| Employer size group | | | | | |
| Non employing businesses | 5.3 | 58.1 | 5.2 | 57.4 | -0.7 |
| 1-4 employees | 3.7 | 39.9 | 3.2 | 35.5 | -4.5 |
| 5-19 employees | **0.2 | 2.0 | *0.6 | 7.0 | 59.1 |
| Age of business | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 1.7 | 18.5 | *0.7 | 7.6 | -28.6 |
| 1 to less than 5 years | 3.6 | 38.8 | 4.8 | 53.0 | 12.1 |
| 5 to less than 10 years | 2.0 | 21.9 | 1.2 | 13.5 | -16.9 |
| 10 years or more | 1.9 | 20.9 | 2.4 | 25.9 | 8.2 |
| Number of operators | | | | | |
| 1 operator | 6.0 | 64.8 | 6.2 | 67.5 | 1.2 |
| 2 operators | 3.0 | 32.9 | 2.8 | 30.9 | -2.6 |
| 3 or more operators | **0.2 | 2.3 | **0.1 | 1.6 | -13.4 |
| Use of computers | | | | | |
| Uses computers | n.a. | n.a. | 6.9 | 75.3 | n.a. |
| Does not use computers | n.a. | n.a. | 2.3 | 24.7 | n.a. |
| Has computer and access to Internet | n.a. | n.a. | 4.6 | 50.1 | n.a. |
| Email | n.a. | n.a. | 4.1 | 45.2 | n.a. |
| Research | n.a. | n.a. | 3.6 | 39.0 | n.a. |
| Making or receiving payments | n.a. | n.a. | 1.3 | 14.2 | n.a. |
| Web site or homepage | n.a. | n.a. | 1.4 | 15.0 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | n.a. | *0.6 | 6.6 | n.a. |

(a) Home based businesses are defined as those businesses where the business has either no other premises owned or rented other than the home of the operators where most of the work of the business was carried out at the home(s) of the operator(s).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The Characteristics of Small Business in Australia Survey was conducted in November 1999 as a supplementary topic to the Labour Force Survey. Similar surveys were conducted previously in respect of February 1995 and February 1997.

2 The Labour Force Survey is designed to regularly collect specific data on demographic and labour force characteristics of the Australian population. From time to time supplementary and special surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out.

DATA COLLECTION METHOD

3 The data were collected by trained interviewers over a two week period. When completing the Labour Force Survey, those people whose main job or second job was operating a small business with less than 20 employees were asked some additional questions relating to the operations of that business.

4 The supplementary survey asked small business operators to provide details on themselves as operators of small businesses and on the operations of their particular business. If there was more than one operator of the same small business in a household only one of the operators was asked to complete the questions relating to the operations of the business.

5 The above method enabled the estimation of two discrete populations:

- Small business operators and their characteristics
- Small businesses and their characteristics

SCOPE OF THE SURVEY

Business size **6** Only those businesses which employ less than 20 people and their operators are included in the survey results.

Industry **7** All businesses identified were classified according to the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (Cat. no. 1292.0).

Industry *continued* **8** The survey included businesses in the following industries:

Mining
Manufacturing
Construction
Wholesale trade
Retail trade
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants
Transport and storage
Communication services
Finance and insurance
Property and business services
Education
Health and community services
Cultural and recreational services
Personal and other services.

Geographical area **9** The survey covered both rural and urban areas in all States and Territories. However, the Jervis Bay Territory and remote and sparsely settled areas were excluded from the survey.

Persons **10** The population for the survey includes all persons aged 15 or over except:

- diplomatic personnel of overseas governments;
- overseas residents temporarily in Australia;
- members of non-Australian defence forces and their dependants stationed in Australia;
- members of the permanent Australian defence forces;
- boarding school students; and
- people in institutions such as hospitals, sanatoria and inmates of jails, reformatories etc.

While these categories of people have an effect on the measurement of labour force levels, their exclusion is not expected to have significant impact on the identification of small businesses.

SURVEY DESIGN

11 As the Characteristics of Small Business Survey is a supplementary survey to the Labour Force Survey, it has the same basic design. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 27,000 houses, flats, etc. for this survey), and covered about one-half of 1% of the population of Australia.

COVERAGE OF THE SURVEY

12 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. The chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the one survey is considered to be negligible.

13 Persons who are away from their usual residence for six weeks or less at the time of the interview are enumerated at their usual residence.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS ESTIMATES

14 Where comparative data are available, this publication presents estimates from both the February 1997 and November 1999 Characteristics of Small Business Surveys. Data from the February 1995 Survey are also presented in the commentary in a number of sections.

15 The February 1995 and February 1997 data published in this edition reflect some significant revisions to those released previously. The revisions impact on both counts of operators and counts of businesses, but are more significant for estimates relating to counts of businesses with particular ownership structures, principally those estimates relating to number of operators per business and the gender mix of operators within businesses.

16 There have been minor revisions to the estimates of the number of small business operators (for February 1997 an increase of a little over 2% at the total level) which reflect an improved treatment of non-response to the survey. However, the most significant revisions apply to the estimates of number of businesses. While the improved treatment of non-response has had some affect on the estimates of the number of businesses, the revisions to business counts arise mainly from the adoption of an improved method of using 'partners per business' data. For February 1995, February 1997 and November 1999 estimates presented in this edition of the publication, partners per business information was applied to each partner selected in the survey. This differs from the method that was used previously for February 1997 where an average partners per business factor was derived by averaging across all businesses and applying that factor to each business unit. It also differs from the method used for February 1995 where a partners per business factor was derived for each business at the household level.

17 At the total level, 1997 estimates of numbers of small businesses have been revised upwards by 6% (897,700 compared to the earlier estimate of 846,300). When sub-classifications, such as the number of operators per business, are examined, the impact of the revisions becomes very significant. For example, this publication shows that in February 1997 an estimated 500,500 businesses had only one operator (table 2.2). This is compared to an estimate of 287,600 businesses published in the previous edition. For two operator businesses, the earlier estimate was 488,000 compared to the revised estimate of 365,700.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS
ESTIMATES *continued*

18 The revisions also had a significant impact on the gender dominance table (table 2.3 in this publication). As is apparent in the above examples, the previous methodology significantly understated the number of single operator businesses and significantly overstated the number of multi-operator businesses. This effect flowed on to the gender predominance table by under-estimating the number of predominantly male and predominantly female businesses (because most businesses in these classes are single operator businesses) and over-estimating the equal male and female operated businesses.

19 Although revisions to estimates from the February 1995 data are not discussed in detail in this publication, summary tables of revised estimates for February 1995 are available on request from the contact officer.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

20 The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error: sampling error and non-sampling error.

Sampling error

21 As 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, the estimates may differ from those that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey.

22 One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard errors (SEs) (see tables A and B), which indicate 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 (67%) that a sample estimate will vary by less than one SE from the estimate that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs.

23 Another measure of the sampling variability is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The RSE is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage of error likely to have occurred due to sampling.

24 As the tables of SEs below (table A and table B) show, the size of the SE increases with the size of the estimate. However, the smaller the estimate the higher the RSE. Thus, larger estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.

25 Very small estimates are subject to large RSEs, so that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs less than 25% are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs between 25% and 50% are preceded by an asterisk (*) to indicate that they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (**), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs less than 25%.

Sampling error *continued*

26 Space does not allow for separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. As a guide, the two tables below provide an average standard error applicable for estimates of the number of small business operators and the number of small businesses for any classification.

27 If the actual value for a particular estimate is not shown in these tables, an approximate SE can be derived by assuming it lies within the range of the SEs shown for the estimates either side of the required value.

A

STANDARD ERRORS FOR SMALL BUSINESS OPERATOR ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate '000 | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | NT | ACT | Aust. | |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 140.0 |
| 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 95.0 |
| 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 76.7 |
| 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 65.0 |
| 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 58.0 |
| 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 51.7 |
| 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 48.6 |
| 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 45.0 |
| 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 42.2 |
| 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 40.0 |
| 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 37.3 |
| 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 35.8 |
| 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 34.6 |
| 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 32.9 |
| 1.5 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 32.0 |
| 1.6 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 30.6 |
| 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 30.0 |
| 1.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 28.9 |
| 1.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 27.9 |
| 2.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 27.5 |
| 2.1 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 26.7 |
| 2.2 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 25.9 |
| 2.3 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 25.2 |
| 2.4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 25.0 |
| 2.5 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 24.4 |
| 3.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 22.0 |
| 3.5 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 20.3 |
| 4.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 18.8 |
| 4.5 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 17.8 |
| 5.0 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 17.0 |
| 6.0 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 15.0 |
| 8.0 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 13.1 |
| 10.0 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 11.5 |
| 20.0 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 8.0 |
| 30.0 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.1 | | 1.1 | 1.1 | 6.5 |
| 40.0 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.2 | | 1.2 | 1.2 | 5.5 |
| 50.0 | 3.2 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.5 | | | | 1.3 | 4.9 |
| 100.0 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.0 | 3.3 | | | | 1.7 | 3.4 |
| 200.0 | 5.4 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 4.4 | | | | 2.2 | 2.3 |
| 300.0 | 6.3 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 4.7 | | | | | 2.6 | 1.9 |
| 400.0 | 7.0 | 6.2 | | | | | | | 2.9 | 1.6 |
| 500.0 | 7.6 | 6.8 | | | | | | | 3.1 | 1.4 |
| 1000.0 | 9.8 | | | | | | | | 4.0 | 1.0 |
| 2000.0 | | | | | | | | | 5.2 | 0.7 |

B

STANDARD ERRORS FOR NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate '000 | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | NT | ACT | Aust. | |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | % |
| 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 |
| 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 70.0 |
| 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 56.7 |
| 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 50.0 |
| 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 44.0 |
| 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 40.0 |
| 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 37.1 |
| 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 35.0 |
| 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 33.3 |
| 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 31.0 |
| 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 30.0 |
| 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 28.3 |
| 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 27.7 |
| 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 26.4 |
| 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 25.3 |
| 1.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 25.0 |
| 1.7 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 24.1 |
| 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 23.3 |
| 1.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 22.6 |
| 2.0 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 22.5 |
| 2.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 21.9 |
| 2.2 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 21.4 |
| 2.3 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 20.9 |
| 2.4 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 20.4 |
| 2.5 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 20.0 |
| 3.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 18.3 |
| 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 16.9 |
| 4.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 16.0 |
| 4.5 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 15.1 |
| 5.0 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 14.0 |
| 6.0 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 13.3 |
| 8.0 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 11.3 |
| 10.0 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 10.0 |
| 20.0 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 0.9 | | 0.8 | 1.5 | 7.3 |
| 30.0 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.7 | | | | 1.8 | 6.0 |
| 40.0 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 1.9 | | | | 2.1 | 5.1 |
| 50.0 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 2.1 | | | | 2.3 | 4.6 |
| 100.0 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.9 | | | | 3.3 | 3.3 |
| 200.0 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 5.2 | 4.4 | 3.9 | | | | 4.7 | 2.4 |
| 300.0 | 5.0 | 5.2 | | | | | | | 5.8 | 1.9 |
| 400.0 | 5.5 | | | | | | | | 6.8 | 1.7 |
| 500.0 | 6.0 | | | | | | | | 7.6 | 1.5 |
| 1000.0 | | | | | | | | | 10.8 | 1.1 |
| 2000.0 | | | | | | | | | 15.4 | 0.8 |

Non sampling errors

28 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the SE, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur due to non-sampling errors.

29 Non-sampling errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or from a complete enumeration. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:

- inability to obtain comprehensive data from all people included in the sample. These errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics of respondents and non-respondents;
- errors in reporting on the part of both respondents and interviewers. These reporting errors may arise through inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of what data are required, inability or unwillingness to provide accurate information and mistakes in answers to questions; and
- errors arising during processing of the survey data. These processing errors may arise through mistakes in coding and data recording.

30 Non-sampling errors are difficult to measure in any collection. However, every effort was made to minimise these errors. In particular, the effect of the reporting and processing errors described above was minimised by careful questionnaire design, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, asking respondents to refer to records whenever possible and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

Survey estimation and weighting procedures

31 Estimates derived from the survey are obtained by using a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by area of residence, age and sex.

32 Two separate weights were used for the survey:

- a person weight used in the estimation of small business operators; and
- a business weight used in the estimation of small businesses.

33 Each person in the sample is assigned a 'weight' which takes into account their probability of selection in the sample from their region, with adjustments to account for under-enumeration at the age and sex level.

34 The 'weights' are also adjusted to reduce the bias introduced by varying levels of non-response in different sub-groups of the population.

35 Business weights are derived from the person weights using partner per business information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
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