



HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY

AUSTRALIA

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Jan Gatenby on Canberra 02 6252 6174, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION	This publication presents a summary of the results from the 1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey (HES). The survey collected information on the expenditure, income and characteristics of households resident in private dwellings throughout Australia.
SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES	<p>ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics</p> <p>CAI Computer assisted interviewing</p> <p>HEC Household Expenditure Classification</p> <p>HES Household Expenditure Survey</p> <p>HESCCL Household Expenditure Survey Commodity Code List</p> <p>RSE relative standard error</p> <p>SE standard error</p> <p>* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50%</p> <p>** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50%</p> <p>. . not applicable</p> <p>— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)</p>
EFFECTS OF ROUNDING	Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may exist between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON GOODS AND SERVICES

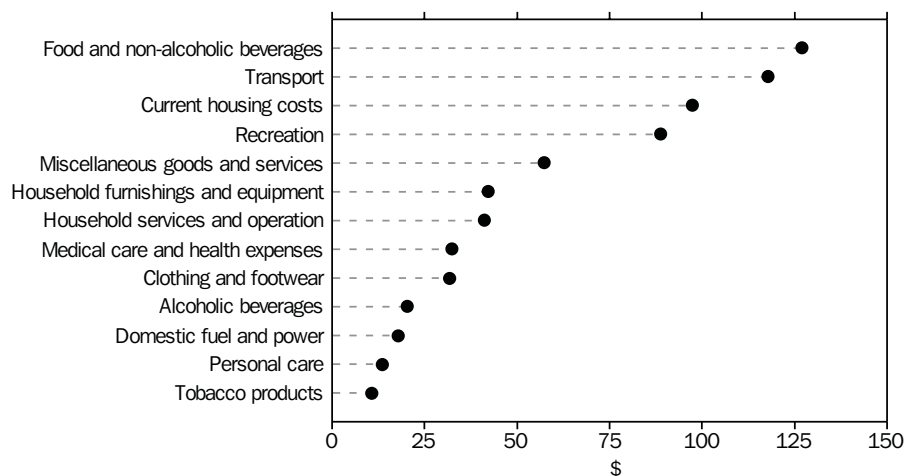
Overview In the 12 months to June 1999, Australian households spent an average of \$699 each week on goods and services. This is an increase of 16% since the previous survey which was conducted in 1993–94. Part of this increase can be attributed to inflation—over the five years since the previous survey, the price of goods and services, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI), rose by 10%. Over the same period, average weekly household income increased by 22% and the average household size was unchanged at 2.6 people.

In 1998–99, the largest broad categories of household expenditure were:

- food and non-alcoholic beverages, with average household expenditure of \$127 per week, representing 18% of total household expenditure on goods and services;
- transport, \$118 per week, 17% of the total; and
- current housing costs, \$97 per week, 14% of the total.

As in 1993–94, these categories together accounted for around half of household expenditure on goods and services. The next highest category was recreation, with average weekly household expenditure of \$89 per week, representing 13% of the total.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON GOODS AND SERVICES



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HOUSEHOLDS

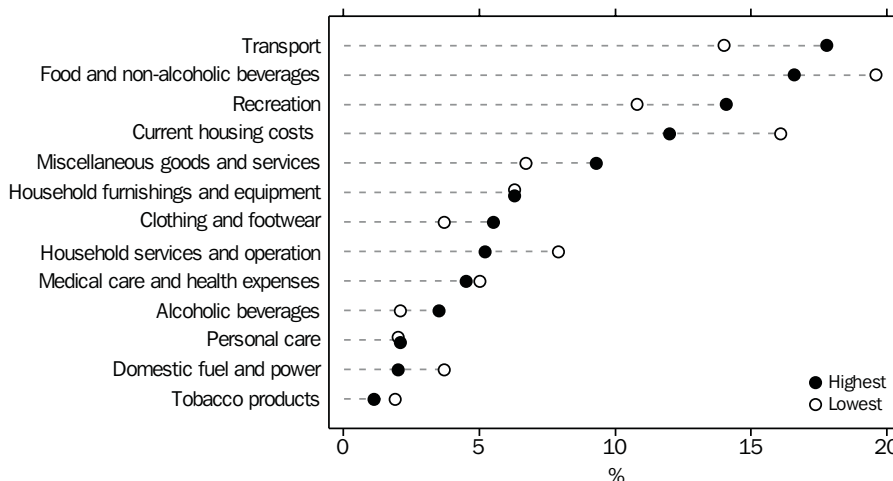
The level and pattern of expenditure differs between households, reflecting characteristics such as income, household composition, household size and location.

Household Income

In 1998–99, households in the lowest income quintile (the lowest 20% of households when ranked according to income) spent on average \$343 per week on goods and services, compared with \$1,171 by households in the highest income quintile.

Household income also affects the composition of a household’s weekly expenditure. For example, food and non-alcoholic drinks accounted for 20% of the expenditure on goods and services of households in the lowest income quintile, compared with 17% for households in the highest income quintile. In general, the proportion spent on housing, household services, and domestic fuel and power also declined as household income rose, while the proportion spent on transport, recreation, clothing and footwear, and alcohol, increased.

PROPORTION OF EXPENDITURE ALLOCATED TO GOODS AND SERVICES BY THE LOWEST AND HIGHEST INCOME QUINTILE GROUPS



Social and demographic characteristics

The level and composition of household income and expenditure is highly related to the social and demographic characteristics of household members.

For example, households in the lowest income quintile were more likely to be lone person households and to rely on government pensions and allowances as their principal source of income. Similarly, households in the highest income quintile were more likely to be couple, one family households and to have employee income as their principal source of income.

Social and demographic characteristics *continued*

Households in which the level of weekly expenditure on goods and services was significantly below the average of \$699 for all households included:

- households relying on government pensions and allowances as their major source of income, with average weekly expenditure of \$365;
- households renting their dwelling from a state or territory housing authority, with average weekly expenditure of \$366;
- lone person households, with average weekly expenditure of \$370; and
- households in which the reference person was 65 years or over, with average weekly expenditure of \$396.

In contrast, households in which the level of expenditure on goods and services was significantly above the average included:

- households purchasing their home, with average weekly expenditure of \$882;
- couple, one family households with children; for example, households consisting of a couple with their dependent and non-dependent children only, had an average weekly expenditure of \$1,185;
- multiple family households, with average weekly expenditure of \$1,194;
- households in which the reference person was a full time employee, with average weekly expenditure of \$880; and
- households in which the reference person was aged 45 to 54 years, with average weekly expenditure of \$876.

Household characteristics can also help to explain the variation in the composition of expenditure. For example, housing costs accounted for only 7% of total expenditure on goods and services of those households who owned their home outright; at the other extreme, households renting from other than a state or territory housing authority spent 23% of their total expenditure on housing.

Location The level of expenditure varied between the six states. Households in New South Wales recorded the highest average weekly expenditure at \$740, followed by those in Victoria at \$718. The lowest expenditure was in Tasmania (\$593 per week).

Expenditure also varied between capital cities and rural areas. The average weekly expenditure of households located in capital cities was \$747, compared with \$616 in rural areas. Capital city households spent considerably more on housing, food, clothing and footwear, and recreation than those in rural areas. The capital city with the highest average weekly household expenditure was Darwin at \$906 per week, followed by Canberra at \$860.

CHANGES SINCE 1993–94

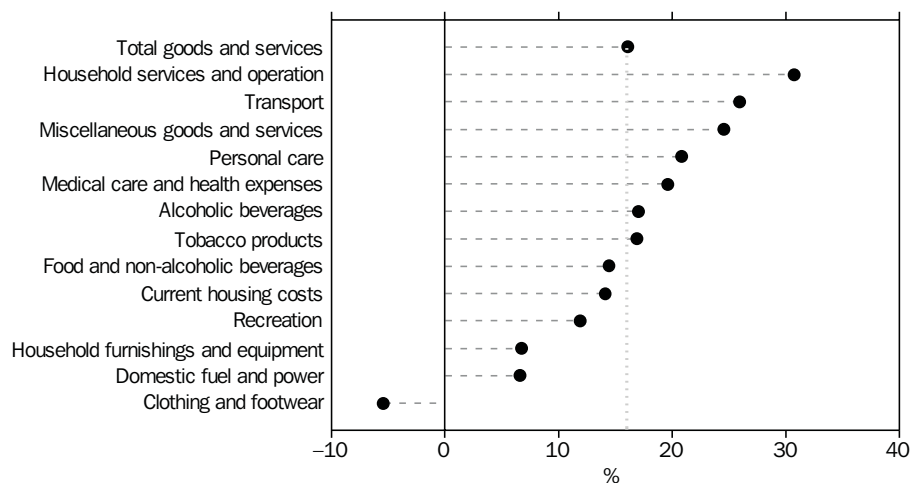
The overall increase in average weekly household expenditure on goods and services between 1993–94 and 1998–99 was \$97 or 16%. Over the same period the price of goods and services, as measured by the CPI, rose by 10%.

The broad expenditure categories recording the largest increases in average weekly expenditure were:

- transport, up \$24 (26%), mainly due to increased spending on motor vehicle purchases (up \$16 or 57%);
- food and non-alcoholic beverages, up \$16 (14%);
- current housing costs, up \$12 (14%), largely due to increased spending on rent (up \$6 or 18%) and repairs and maintenance (up \$3 or 33%); and
- miscellaneous goods and services, up \$11 (25%), partly due to increased spending on education fees (up \$4 or 50%).

At the other extreme, average weekly household expenditure on clothing and footwear declined by \$2 or 5%. Clothing prices, as measured by the CPI, did not change between 1993–94 and 1998–99. Clothing was the only CPI group to record no upward price movement over this period.

INCREASE IN AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON GOODS AND SERVICES, 1993–94 – 1998–99



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1 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Household Income Quintile Group(a)

	Gross income quintile					All households
	Lowest 20%	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Highest 20%	
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)						
Upper boundary of income quintile group (\$)	300	552	884	1 373	..	..
Broad expenditure group						
Goods and services						
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	55.12	72.82	101.19	117.24	140.90	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	12.85	15.87	17.72	19.85	23.08	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	67.15	97.27	122.18	153.67	194.91	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	7.26	12.03	17.37	25.07	40.43	20.43
Tobacco products	6.59	10.61	11.41	12.30	12.81	10.74
Clothing and footwear	12.76	18.44	24.66	39.76	63.94	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	21.73	29.88	38.27	47.47	73.83	42.22
Household services and operation	26.98	32.09	38.53	48.10	60.63	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	17.21	23.83	28.75	39.70	52.91	32.47
Transport	48.15	72.29	105.26	154.80	208.76	117.82
Recreation	37.19	57.74	78.72	105.07	165.50	88.81
Personal care	6.71	9.28	11.48	16.72	24.49	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	23.14	30.44	52.50	71.28	109.21	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	342.85	482.58	648.04	851.03	1 171.40	698.97
Selected other payments						
Income tax	1.82	21.05	105.26	225.09	530.93	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	5.19	7.48	26.81	39.08	59.33	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	3.29	4.05	14.24	28.33	64.96	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS						
Average weekly household income (\$)	159.62	413.96	712.31	1 115.75	1 996.29	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)						
Employee income	11.7	27.6	69.3	83.8	87.2	75.1
Own business income	-16.4	5.3	7.3	6.6	6.7	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	92.4	50.7	14.1	4.6	1.4	12.2
Other	12.3	16.5	9.4	5.0	4.7	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	59	53	42	42	43	48
Average number of employed persons in household	0.2	0.5	1.3	1.8	2.3	1.2
Average number of persons in the household						
Under 18 years	0.21	0.58	0.84	0.90	0.79	0.66
18 to 64 years	0.76	1.18	1.72	2.03	2.47	1.63
65 years and over	0.55	0.59	0.19	0.11	0.07	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>1.52</i>	<i>2.35</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>3.04</i>	<i>3.33</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)						
Owners without a mortgage	53.7	50.8	31.6	29.7	32.5	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	8.6	14.3	33.7	44.6	47.4	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	13.8	7.6	3.0	1.7	0.8	5.4
Renters-other	19.2	24.8	29.3	22.4	18.0	22.7
Other	4.7	2.5	2.4	1.6	1.2	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)						
Couple, one family						
Couple only	19.6	37.4	20.2	23.4	22.7	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	5.0	14.1	31.3	36.8	32.0	23.8
Other couple, one family households	1.6	6.3	9.5	14.9	26.6	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	7.3	14.3	7.0	2.5	1.1	6.4
Other family households	1.6	5.1	7.0	6.3	6.8	5.4
Lone person	63.6	19.2	21.6	11.3	4.8	24.2
Group	1.2	3.6	3.3	4.8	6.1	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)						
Households						
Capital city	827.6	790.6	883.6	954.3	1 076.8	4 533.0
Other urban	426.5	436.1	406.3	341.6	266.7	1 877.2
Rural	* 182.6	* 185.0	* 135.6	* 128.0	* 81.5	712.6
Total households	1 436.8	1 411.7	1 425.4	1 423.9	1 425.0	7 122.8
Persons	2 185.4	3 321.8	3 925.3	4 334.4	4 748.0	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	1 288	1 326	1 361	1 477	1 441	6 893

(a) The quintile groups in this table are 20% groupings of the estimated population when households are ranked in ascending order according to each household's total gross weekly income.

2 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Principal Source of Household Income

	<i>Earned income</i>			<i>Other(a)</i>
	<i>Employee income</i>	<i>Own business</i>	<i>Total</i>	
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)				
Broad expenditure group				
Goods and services				
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	121.26	90.17	118.34	66.72
Domestic fuel and power	19.60	20.51	19.68	17.29
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	152.00	140.10	150.89	106.33
Alcoholic beverages	27.06	23.58	26.73	15.98
Tobacco products	12.47	10.88	12.32	5.55
Clothing and footwear	41.18	35.99	40.69	25.65
Household furnishings and equipment	52.13	42.34	51.21	46.69
Household services and operation	47.73	45.59	47.53	38.58
Medical care and health expenses	37.80	39.89	37.99	43.37
Transport	152.81	117.68	149.52	106.07
Recreation	110.08	97.71	108.92	97.49
Personal care	16.98	13.55	16.66	12.47
Miscellaneous goods and services	74.95	66.97	74.20	55.63
Total goods and services expenditure	866.04	744.97	854.69	637.81
Selected other payments				
Income tax	274.71	207.05	268.37	76.01
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	41.97	34.35	41.26	4.11
Superannuation and life insurance	33.84	39.24	34.34	9.11
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS				
Average weekly household income (\$)	1 216.42	979.91	1 194.25	544.82
Source of income (% of total income)				
Employee income	92.5	13.2	86.4	6.8
Own business income	1.3	78.5	7.3	2.5
Government pensions and allowances	3.8	3.9	3.8	9.6
Other	2.3	4.4	2.5	81.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	41	46	41	63
Average number of employed persons in household	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.3
Average number of persons in the household				
Under 18 years	0.80	0.88	0.81	0.17
18 to 64 years	2.09	1.90	2.07	0.82
65 years and over	0.06	0.11	0.06	0.85
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.95</i>	<i>2.89</i>	<i>2.94</i>	<i>1.84</i>
Tenure type (% of households)				
Owners without a mortgage	26.9	46.3	28.7	81.5
Owners with a mortgage	42.8	35.2	42.1	6.1
Renters from state or territory housing authority	2.2	* 0.7	2.0	2.1
Renters-other	26.1	14.4	25.0	7.5
Other	2.1	* 3.3	* 2.2	* 2.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)				
Couple, one family				
Couple only	20.3	25.0	20.8	44.9
Couple with dependent children only	32.6	39.2	33.2	3.6
Other couple, one family households	16.0	11.0	15.5	5.5
One parent, one family with dependent children	3.8	2.1	3.6	4.2
Other family households	6.8	* 2.9	6.5	1.5
Lone person	15.5	17.7	15.7	37.2
Group	5.0	* 2.2	4.7	3.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)				
Households				
Capital city	2 784.3	212.7	2 997.1	378.3
Other urban	977.9	* 109.9	1 087.7	* 156.6
Rural	320.6	* 99.8	420.4	* 46.2
Total households	4 082.8	422.4	4 505.1	581.1
Persons	12 026.5	1 222.5	13 249.0	1 068.1
Number of households in sample	4 098	422	4 520	545

For footnotes see end of table.

2 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Principal Source of Household Income *continued*

	<i>Government pensions and allowances</i>				<i>Total all sources(b)</i>
	<i>Unemployment/sickness/ education allowance</i>	<i>Age/disability pension</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	75.05	42.36	82.84	58.96	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	13.20	12.84	16.30	13.93	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	78.06	72.68	91.98	79.23	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	8.79	7.39	6.95	7.44	20.43
Tobacco products	11.05	6.74	11.75	8.83	10.74
Clothing and footwear	16.49	11.89	17.29	14.13	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	18.49	18.96	24.17	20.47	42.22
Household services and operation	26.82	24.40	35.14	27.97	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	8.59	20.34	12.82	16.50	32.47
Transport	58.74	43.57	55.75	49.28	117.82
Recreation	45.18	36.47	47.13	40.85	88.81
Personal care	6.85	7.31	8.36	7.57	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	20.26	15.23	26.76	19.39	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	387.57	320.17	437.24	364.55	698.97
Selected other payments					
Income tax	2.40	2.07	4.74	2.92	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	4.85	0.87	8.02	3.56	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	1.60	0.47	1.30	0.87	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	271.39	283.72	370.27	308.20	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	6.1	1.6	6.9	4.0	75.1
Own business income	* 0.8	0.4	0.9	0.6	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	91.3	89.9	85.5	88.4	12.2
Other	1.9	8.2	6.7	6.9	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	42	68	45	58	48
Average number of employed persons in household	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.2
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.30	0.03	1.46	0.50	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.72	0.56	1.15	0.90	1.63
65 years and over	0.02	1.03	0.32	0.68	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.04</i>	<i>1.62</i>	<i>2.94</i>	<i>2.08</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	30.2	69.3	28.4	51.7	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	9.7	3.8	17.1	8.6	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	* 13.1	13.7	16.2	14.4	5.4
Renters-other	43.3	10.4	35.3	22.4	22.7
Other	* 3.7	* 2.8	* 2.9	3.0	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	16.7	39.2	9.5	27.2	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	7.7	1.1	23.7	8.8	23.8
Other couple, one family households	9.9	5.3	3.2	5.3	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	3.6	1.0	42.4	13.9	6.4
Other family households	* 7.1	4.1	2.8	4.1	5.4
Lone person	48.6	47.4	18.0	38.7	24.2
Group	* 6.3	1.8	0.4	2.0	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)					
Households					
Capital city	140.2	623.3	350.9	1 114.4	4 533.0
Other urban	* 83.5	349.0	* 165.1	597.6	1 877.2
Rural	* 35.8	* 121.0	* 69.3	226.1	712.6
Total households	259.5	1 093.3	585.3	1 938.1	7 122.8
Persons	530.2	1 773.9	1 718.3	4 022.4	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	226	929	582	1 737	6 893

(a) Includes households where the principal source of income was not earned income or government pensions and allowances. It comprises households where the principal source of income was in the form of superannuation or annuity; interest on financial institution accounts, investments or property rent; scholarships; workers' compensation; accident compensation; maintenance or alimony; or regular income not elsewhere classified. (b) Includes households whose principal source of income was undefined because total income was zero or negative.

3 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By State

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust.(a)
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)							
Broad expenditure group							
Goods and services							
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	111.94	89.88	96.99	77.05	87.46	70.60	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	16.76	21.59	12.99	19.45	18.22	21.57	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	133.07	134.22	116.88	111.06	122.64	108.24	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	21.56	20.32	18.96	16.49	21.83	15.60	20.43
Tobacco products	10.51	10.53	10.52	10.92	11.83	10.33	10.74
Clothing and footwear	34.59	35.54	25.89	27.50	28.48	31.74	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	45.86	39.98	40.65	35.24	41.25	38.73	42.22
Household services and operation	44.01	40.06	40.85	35.22	41.32	31.55	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	33.81	33.90	29.93	31.37	30.68	29.28	32.47
Transport	123.03	130.50	107.46	87.40	114.60	94.69	117.82
Recreation	91.58	90.95	81.18	83.64	86.64	81.30	88.81
Personal care	14.70	14.25	12.01	12.54	13.40	11.03	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	58.89	56.47	54.69	56.37	57.32	48.33	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	740.30	718.19	648.99	604.26	675.68	592.98	698.97
Selected other payments							
Income tax	191.50	190.47	142.12	144.63	179.45	137.43	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	29.23	29.94	24.29	17.66	30.98	20.43	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	24.48	24.83	19.04	17.72	19.89	33.72	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS							
Average weekly household income (\$)	916.78	930.76	778.53	771.07	880.99	751.95	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)							
Employee income	77.1	75.7	72.9	70.4	73.4	67.7	75.1
Own business income	4.5	4.9	6.9	7.3	9.0	9.0	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	11.8	11.5	14.6	15.0	11.3	15.3	12.2
Other	6.6	8.0	5.6	7.4	6.3	8.0	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	48	48	47	49	46	49	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2
Average number of persons in the household							
Under 18 years	0.67	0.66	0.69	0.59	0.65	0.65	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.66	1.68	1.60	1.50	1.62	1.52	1.63
65 years and over	0.32	0.32	0.27	0.33	0.26	0.31	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.65</i>	<i>2.66</i>	<i>2.56</i>	<i>2.42</i>	<i>2.53</i>	<i>2.49</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)							
Owners without a mortgage	41.2	42.9	36.2	38.3	37.6	41.0	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	28.9	31.8	27.6	30.5	29.4	29.0	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.0	3.7	4.7	11.6	5.3	* 10.0	5.4
Renters-other	23.0	19.1	28.9	16.5	24.6	16.1	22.7
Other	2.0	2.5	2.5	* 3.1	* 3.2	* 3.9	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)							
Couple, one family							
Couple only	23.8	26.7	25.4	24.3	21.7	24.6	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	23.6	23.8	25.2	20.6	23.5	25.6	23.8
Other couple, one family households	12.6	13.4	8.7	10.9	12.6	11.0	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	5.7	6.6	7.1	6.0	7.4	6.7	6.4
Other family households	6.7	4.7	5.5	3.9	4.4	3.1	5.4
Lone person	23.3	22.2	24.1	29.6	27.1	26.4	24.2
Group	4.2	2.7	4.0	4.7	3.3	2.7	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)							
Households							
Capital city	1 461.9	1 246.3	613.3	448.1	535.3	78.6	4 533.0
Other urban	733.8	312.8	514.1	* 84.9	144.1	* 69.0	1 877.2
Rural	174.4	* 180.5	* 207.1	* 72.0	* 37.3	* 38.7	712.6
Total households	2 370.1	1 739.6	1 334.5	605.1	716.6	186.3	7 122.8
Persons	6 277.5	4 622.2	3 418.0	1 467.3	1 815.8	463.6	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	2 033	1 369	1 096	564	650	480	6 893

(a) Includes Northern Territory (NT) and Australian Capital Territory (ACT) households. ACT estimates are not shown separately since they are the same as those for Canberra (see Table 4). NT estimates are not shown separately since estimates for the NT other than Darwin are not considered reliable. See paragraph 41 of the Explanatory Notes.

4 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Capital City

	<i>All capital city</i>								
	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>households</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)									
Broad expenditure group									
Goods and services									
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	130.56	99.38	103.89	81.42	88.85	81.10	149.63	112.38	107.40
Domestic fuel and power	16.95	22.47	12.49	19.71	18.19	23.07	22.43	22.38	18.57
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	143.97	143.12	121.27	110.01	124.86	116.43	157.57	140.75	134.58
Alcoholic beverages	22.10	20.42	18.22	15.29	21.85	21.13	35.52	27.66	20.63
Tobacco products	9.85	10.10	9.12	8.94	11.67	10.09	17.16	11.44	10.04
Clothing and footwear	38.89	39.23	29.49	29.39	31.58	31.81	26.66	37.68	35.67
Household furnishings and equipment	49.84	43.35	40.50	34.43	42.11	43.03	54.09	57.01	44.45
Household services and operation	46.91	42.26	43.53	36.19	42.13	33.57	55.65	50.68	43.48
Medical care and health expenses	37.42	36.48	30.93	33.06	31.44	35.15	31.41	36.05	35.03
Transport	128.70	136.84	113.84	84.33	118.89	97.18	141.63	144.45	123.33
Recreation	100.64	98.61	87.02	85.35	90.23	84.15	121.00	120.76	95.88
Personal care	16.48	15.25	13.46	13.18	14.47	12.19	15.26	18.64	15.14
Miscellaneous goods and services	64.39	61.11	63.48	61.02	60.79	57.10	78.38	79.88	62.98
Total goods and services expenditure	806.68	768.60	687.24	612.31	697.05	646.00	906.40	859.77	747.18
Selected other payments									
Income tax	226.95	215.15	161.34	155.86	183.90	152.51	248.39	260.93	202.46
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	34.69	33.49	28.88	18.30	33.44	23.33	37.86	37.02	31.69
Superannuation and life insurance	26.06	26.92	20.81	20.24	21.81	21.06	32.56	36.22	24.73
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS									
Average weekly household income (\$)	1 021.54	1 010.51	843.61	797.49	889.26	807.53	1 196.07	1 137.05	957.17
Source of income (% of total income)									
Employee income	81.0	78.7	75.4	72.9	74.0	69.4	87.8	78.4	78.0
Own business income	2.6	3.8	6.8	5.4	7.9	7.3	4.2	* 5.5	4.4
Government pensions and allowances	9.7	10.3	12.6	14.1	10.9	14.2	6.3	5.1	10.6
Other	6.7	7.2	5.3	7.5	7.2	9.1	1.7	11.1	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	47	48	46	49	46	47	41	45	47
Average number of employed persons in household	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.7	1.4	1.3
Average number of persons in the household									
Under 18 years	0.65	0.65	0.67	0.55	0.60	0.68	0.90	0.67	0.64
18 to 64 years	1.73	1.77	1.64	1.47	1.63	1.58	2.00	1.69	1.69
65 years and over	0.31	0.29	0.26	0.34	0.25	0.28	0.09	0.19	0.29
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.70</i>	<i>2.70</i>	<i>2.57</i>	<i>2.37</i>	<i>2.48</i>	<i>2.55</i>	<i>2.99</i>	<i>2.56</i>	<i>2.62</i>
Tenure type (% of households)									
Owners without a mortgage	38.9	40.8	35.8	38.2	38.8	38.1	11.9	29.4	38.5
Owners with a mortgage	30.4	33.5	28.2	31.3	29.4	29.5	41.3	37.2	31.2
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.8	3.2	5.8	* 11.4	* 4.3	* 13.0	* 14.4	* 5.5	5.6
Renters-other	23.4	20.1	27.7	17.2	24.7	16.7	30.4	26.6	22.7
Other	1.4	2.3	* 2.4	* 1.8	* 2.8	* 2.7	* 2.0	* 1.4	2.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)									
Couple, one family									
Couple only	22.7	24.7	22.3	24.0	20.0	23.2	22.2	24.0	23.0
Couple with dependent children only	24.1	23.9	24.9	19.8	21.6	23.0	34.5	26.7	23.6
Other couple, one family households	12.8	15.1	10.1	10.0	13.5	9.5	10.2	8.7	12.7
One parent, one family with dependent children	4.9	6.5	8.1	6.8	6.8	9.7	8.7	5.7	6.3
Other family households	8.9	5.2	6.1	* 3.8	4.7	* 3.9	* 5.6	* 3.3	6.2
Lone person	21.9	21.8	24.9	30.5	30.2	26.5	13.2	24.1	24.2
Group	4.7	2.9	3.6	* 5.0	3.2	* 4.2	* 5.6	* 7.4	4.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)									
Households	1 461.9	1 246.3	613.3	448.1	535.3	78.6	31.4	118.1	4 533.0
Persons	3 940.1	3 367.6	1 573.2	1 060.1	1 328.8	200.3	93.8	301.7	11 865.5
Number of households in sample	1 327	992	580	420	475	389	335	277	4 795

5 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Broad Geographic Area

	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Total Australia</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)				
Broad expenditure group				
Goods and services				
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	107.40	88.55	57.40	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	18.57	16.20	17.79	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	134.58	110.90	121.07	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	20.63	19.84	20.66	20.43
Tobacco products	10.04	12.15	11.45	10.74
Clothing and footwear	35.67	25.54	24.69	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	44.45	39.85	34.29	42.22
Household services and operation	43.48	37.38	37.35	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	35.03	27.20	30.04	32.47
Transport	123.33	100.90	127.28	117.82
Recreation	95.88	76.72	75.74	88.81
Personal care	15.14	11.36	11.02	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	62.98	47.37	47.41	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	747.18	613.97	616.20	698.97
Selected other payments				
Income tax	202.46	138.99	113.42	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	31.69	22.04	15.97	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	24.73	21.18	16.52	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS				
Average weekly household income (\$)	957.17	760.06	697.27	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)				
Employee income	78.0	70.8	61.6	75.1
Own business income	4.4	6.9	14.3	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	10.6	15.5	16.9	12.2
Other	6.9	6.8	7.3	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	47	48	49	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2
Average number of persons in the household				
Under 18 years	0.64	0.65	0.84	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.69	1.49	1.68	1.63
65 years and over	0.29	0.33	0.30	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.62</i>	<i>2.47</i>	<i>2.82</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)				
Owners without a mortgage	38.5	38.6	49.7	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	31.2	27.3	26.9	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.6	6.3	1.5	5.4
Renters-other	22.7	26.2	14.1	22.7
Other	2.0	1.5	* 7.9	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)				
Couple, one family				
Couple only	23.0	27.4	27.5	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	23.6	22.6	28.8	23.8
Other couple, one family households	12.7	8.6	14.5	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	6.3	7.3	4.8	6.4
Other family households	6.2	4.1	3.2	5.4
Lone person	24.2	25.8	19.8	24.2
Group	4.0	4.3	1.4	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population (*000)				
Households	4 533.0	1 877.2	712.6	7 122.8
Persons	11 865.5	4 639.9	2 009.5	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	4 795	1 534	564	6 893

6 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Tenure Type

	Renting from			Other	Other(a)	All households
	Owners without a mortgage	Owners with a mortgage	State/territory housing authority			
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)						
Broad expenditure group						
Goods and services						
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	44.01	136.66	73.14	152.54	28.80	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	18.05	20.96	13.89	14.91	13.57	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	124.85	153.08	81.24	110.63	97.76	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	17.84	24.96	6.26	22.58	18.49	20.43
Tobacco products	7.52	11.49	14.74	14.39	11.10	10.74
Clothing and footwear	31.21	42.00	14.50	25.44	19.12	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	39.46	57.93	17.88	32.72	38.19	42.22
Household services and operation	38.10	51.09	27.56	37.99	33.71	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	39.73	37.10	10.56	19.86	24.03	32.47
Transport	115.10	151.50	38.78	100.88	84.78	117.82
Recreation	92.56	103.81	35.98	77.51	67.71	88.81
Personal care	13.85	16.35	8.11	12.07	7.97	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	51.02	74.59	23.33	55.73	39.09	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	633.30	881.51	365.98	677.25	484.32	698.97
Selected other payments						
Income tax	138.50	269.13	36.97	163.33	111.04	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	..	92.00	..	..	..	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	24.09	31.34	4.05	15.29	16.52	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS						
Average weekly household income (\$)	765.13	1 170.01	415.60	834.98	631.97	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)						
Employee income	59.8	88.4	44.0	79.0	73.0	75.1
Own business income	8.0	4.9	0.9	4.3	* 6.7	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	16.7	5.0	51.9	13.4	14.7	12.2
Other	15.5	1.7	3.1	3.3	* 5.6	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	59	41	50	37	45	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.0	1.7	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.2
Average number of persons in the household						
Under 18 years	0.34	1.07	0.75	0.70	0.44	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.39	2.02	1.27	1.66	1.45	1.63
65 years and over	0.63	0.05	0.30	0.07	0.23	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.36</i>	<i>3.15</i>	<i>2.32</i>	<i>2.42</i>	<i>2.12</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Household composition (% of households)						
Couple, one family						
Couple only	34.9	20.1	12.6	15.8	21.5	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	13.1	44.2	11.6	19.6	16.6	23.8
Other couple, one family households	16.1	12.2	6.5	5.6	6.1	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	2.4	5.2	20.7	12.2	* 2.0	6.4
Other family households	5.8	4.2	* 7.2	5.6	* 6.4	5.4
Lone person	26.6	12.3	40.7	29.6	42.5	24.2
Group	1.1	1.9	* 0.8	11.5	* 4.8	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)						
Households						
Capital city	1 745.3	1 413.5	255.2	1 026.9	92.2	4 533.0
Other urban	725.4	512.6	* 118.9	492.2	* 28.2	1 877.2
Rural	353.8	191.9	* 10.6	100.2	**56.1	712.6
Total households	2 824.5	2 117.9	384.6	1 619.2	176.6	7 122.8
Persons	6 656.4	6 666.2	892.1	3 925.6	374.6	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	2 562	2 188	428	1 549	166	6 893

(a) Comprises households that occupy the dwelling under a life tenure scheme, a rent/buy scheme or rent-free.

7 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Household Composition

	One family households							
	Couple, one family households							
	Couple with dependent children only				Couple with dependent and non-dependent children only		Other couple, one family household(a)	All couple, one family households
	Couple only	One dependent child	Two dependent children	Three or more dependent children		Couple with non-dependent children only		
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)								
Broad expenditure group								
Goods and services								
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	86.40	128.13	124.17	125.64	92.47	77.53	142.73	103.53
Domestic fuel and power	16.85	20.38	22.67	24.37	26.69	24.31	23.68	20.62
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	117.50	144.35	173.90	179.60	234.95	187.51	207.89	153.95
Alcoholic beverages	20.78	20.04	19.35	16.62	46.25	37.56	31.62	23.56
Tobacco products	8.49	11.80	9.10	10.69	18.28	17.40	21.78	11.18
Clothing and footwear	25.99	40.45	50.09	45.38	74.81	49.46	59.22	40.24
Household furnishings and equipment	47.94	55.87	55.24	46.06	62.45	53.86	62.55	51.91
Household services and operation	35.68	54.03	58.74	55.33	63.05	50.43	58.35	47.76
Medical care and health expenses	37.28	35.03	41.58	35.70	52.74	55.07	47.25	40.62
Transport	111.13	141.87	159.86	116.67	223.84	208.59	216.71	143.88
Recreation	89.62	98.62	113.96	115.14	152.43	136.94	150.50	108.14
Personal care	13.77	13.82	16.82	15.03	26.28	24.06	16.99	16.30
Miscellaneous goods and services	47.66	72.09	81.31	87.81	111.07	72.05	104.24	68.72
Total goods and services expenditure	659.09	836.47	926.80	874.04	1 185.32	994.76	1 143.50	830.40
Selected other payments								
Income tax	162.79	255.44	275.79	213.36	296.03	270.94	235.72	219.67
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	25.74	50.22	55.05	45.55	35.73	24.72	* 32.18	36.45
Superannuation and life insurance	21.24	33.57	40.64	30.47	45.70	39.45	26.07	30.40
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS								
Average weekly household income (\$)	826.97	1 116.23	1 193.02	1 065.10	1 486.75	1 360.87	1 276.26	1 057.26
Source of income (% of total income)								
Employee income	69.8	84.3	82.4	78.2	83.2	83.0	72.1	77.8
Own business income	5.9	8.4	8.8	7.4	* 6.3	4.6	* 4.2	6.7
Government pensions and allowances	12.3	5.0	5.1	12.3	7.3	7.6	16.3	9.2
Other	12.1	2.3	3.7	2.0	3.2	4.7	* 7.3	6.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	54	38	39	38	47	56	44	47
Average number of employed persons in household	1.0	1.6	1.6	1.6	2.9	2.4	2.0	1.5
Average number of persons in the household								
Under 18 years	—	0.90	1.90	3.14	1.42	0.05	0.85	0.88
18 to 64 years	1.37	2.09	2.10	2.13	3.30	2.99	2.78	1.99
65 years and over	0.63	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.30	0.63	0.31
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.00</i>	<i>3.00</i>	<i>4.00</i>	<i>5.27</i>	<i>4.73</i>	<i>3.34</i>	<i>4.26</i>	<i>3.18</i>
Tenure type (% of households)								
Owners without a mortgage	56.2	23.4	23.3	17.7	42.5	66.5	38.7	42.2
Owners with a mortgage	24.2	50.6	57.4	56.7	42.6	24.9	28.4	37.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	2.8	2.5	2.1	* 3.6	* 2.4	* 4.0	* 1.0	2.7
Renters-other	14.6	21.6	16.0	19.6	10.1	3.9	30.8	15.5
Other	2.2	* 1.9	* 1.2	* 2.4	* 2.4	* 0.7	**1.2	1.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)								
Households								
Capital city	1 044.6	334.6	471.8	261.2	168.2	301.6	* 105.4	2 687.4
Other urban	514.3	* 130.6	178.1	* 115.5	* 44.8	* 84.4	* 31.5	1 099.2
Rural	195.8	* 58.4	* 70.7	* 76.1	* 30.7	* 48.8	**23.5	504.1
Total households	1 754.7	523.7	720.6	452.8	243.8	434.8	* 160.4	4 290.7
Persons	3 509.4	1 571.0	2 882.5	2 386.8	1 154.2	1 453.4	* 683.4	13 640.6
Number of households in sample	1 713	559	798	483	214	351	124	4 242

For footnotes see end of table.

7 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Household Composition *continued*

	<i>One family households</i>			<i>Non-family households</i>		
	<i>One parent households with dependent children</i>	<i>Other one family households(b)</i>	<i>Multiple family households</i>	<i>Lone person households</i>	<i>Group households</i>	<i>All households</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)						
Broad expenditure group						
Goods and services						
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	106.10	95.73	101.08	70.98	154.82	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	16.79	16.18	25.79	11.59	14.84	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	101.95	130.75	238.34	59.02	130.02	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	8.52	26.15	29.46	10.82	42.64	20.43
Tobacco products	12.87	16.37	20.78	6.62	16.75	10.74
Clothing and footwear	21.96	30.72	59.29	11.72	36.28	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	23.92	27.02	80.34	23.19	42.95	42.22
Household services and operation	42.09	40.10	67.93	23.75	39.63	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	15.60	24.17	45.23	17.63	30.30	32.47
Transport	74.79	124.98	248.93	52.73	136.50	117.82
Recreation	54.05	86.80	117.38	46.72	100.88	88.81
Personal care	10.22	14.69	28.82	6.54	18.29	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	39.40	42.37	130.98	28.77	77.26	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	528.26	676.02	1 194.33	370.07	841.16	698.97
Selected other payments						
Income tax	49.18	154.17	272.60	92.74	237.49	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	14.63	17.07	* 17.36	13.24	14.72	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	7.24	12.80	* 27.35	11.21	15.91	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS						
Average weekly household income (\$)	527.79	881.67	1 552.93	459.95	1 071.91	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)						
Employee income	46.8	74.1	76.6	63.3	87.4	75.1
Own business income	1.4	* 3.7	* 3.0	5.0	* 0.2	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	42.2	18.3	17.1	19.4	7.7	12.2
Other	9.6	3.8	* 3.2	12.3	4.7	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	37	42	42	55	33	48
Average number of employed persons in household	0.6	1.3	2.4	0.4	1.7	1.2
Average number of persons in the household						
Under 18 years	1.72	0.09	1.32	—	0.02	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.20	1.89	3.66	0.64	2.10	1.63
65 years and over	0.03	0.36	* 0.48	0.36	0.12	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.94</i>	<i>2.34</i>	<i>5.47</i>	<i>1.00</i>	<i>2.24</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)						
Owners without a mortgage	14.5	41.4	47.0	43.6	11.6	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	24.2	19.6	34.5	15.1	14.9	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	* 17.4	* 7.8	**5.5	9.1	* 1.2	5.4
Renters-other	43.2	28.3	10.0	27.9	69.1	22.7
Other	* 0.8	* 2.9	**3.0	4.4	* 3.1	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)						
Households						
Capital city	286.2	210.0	* 73.1	1 096.0	180.4	4 533.0
Other urban	* 137.1	* 62.5	**14.0	484.4	* 80.1	1 877.2
Rural	* 34.4	* 12.0	**10.9	141.3	* 9.9	712.6
Total households	457.6	284.4	* 98.0	1 721.7	270.4	7 122.8
Persons	1 346.1	666.2	* 535.7	1 721.7	604.5	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	514	267	74	1 541	255	6 893

(a) Comprises all couple, one family households with other related individuals and/or unrelated individuals present. (b) Comprises one parent, one family households with no dependent children and one family households with no parent/child or couple relationships (e.g. brother and sister one family households).

8 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Principal Source of Income of Reference Person

	<i>Earned income</i>			<i>Other(a)</i>
	<i>Employee income</i>	<i>Own business</i>	<i>Total</i>	
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)				
Broad expenditure group				
Goods and services				
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	122.61	91.64	119.42	67.23
Domestic fuel and power	19.52	20.61	19.63	17.52
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	150.38	144.83	149.81	109.65
Alcoholic beverages	26.91	25.71	26.78	17.13
Tobacco products	12.34	10.96	12.20	6.52
Clothing and footwear	40.52	36.97	40.15	28.59
Household furnishings and equipment	52.55	41.56	51.42	47.67
Household services and operation	47.58	45.60	47.38	38.08
Medical care and health expenses	37.64	38.81	37.76	45.84
Transport	151.15	129.54	148.93	108.77
Recreation	108.75	103.91	108.26	101.50
Personal care	16.89	14.68	16.67	12.72
Miscellaneous goods and services	75.11	72.01	74.79	55.26
Total goods and services expenditure	861.94	776.84	853.19	656.49
Selected other payments				
Income tax	276.67	227.75	271.64	74.22
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	42.78	33.77	41.86	4.04
Superannuation and life insurance	34.70	41.66	35.41	6.02
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS				
Average weekly household income (\$)	1 208.79	1 050.07	1 192.46	545.31
Source of income (% of total income)				
Employee income	93.8	19.0	87.0	12.6
Own business income	0.7	71.8	7.2	-2.5
Government pensions and allowances	3.4	3.7	3.4	11.2
Other	2.1	5.5	2.4	78.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	40	46	41	63
Average number of employed persons in household	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.4
Average number of persons in the household				
Under 18 years	0.81	0.83	0.81	0.17
18 to 64 years	2.04	2.00	2.04	0.89
65 years and over	0.05	0.11	0.05	0.86
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.90</i>	<i>2.94</i>	<i>2.90</i>	<i>1.92</i>
Tenure type (% of households)				
Owners without a mortgage	25.5	47.1	27.7	81.3
Owners with a mortgage	43.8	34.2	42.8	6.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	2.1	* 0.6	2.0	2.1
Renters-other	26.4	15.0	25.2	7.3
Other	2.2	* 3.1	2.3	* 2.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)				
Couple, one family				
Couple only	21.2	23.4	21.5	43.8
Couple with dependent children only	33.9	36.1	34.1	4.2
Other couple, one family households	13.5	16.3	13.8	8.4
One parent, one family with dependent children	3.5	1.9	3.3	3.8
Other family households	6.8	* 3.1	6.4	1.9
Lone person	16.1	16.5	16.1	34.7
Group	5.1	2.7	4.8	3.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)				
Households				
Capital city	2 673.6	237.6	2 911.2	402.8
Other urban	959.2	* 113.2	1 072.4	* 165.5
Rural	310.6	* 101.3	411.9	* 53.2
Total households	3 943.4	452.1	4 395.5	621.5
Persons	11 440.8	1 327.6	12 768.4	1 193.7
Number of households in sample	3 986	446	4 432	578

For footnotes see end of table.

8 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Principal Source of Income of Reference Person *continued*

	Government pensions and allowances			Total	Total all sources(b)
	Unemployment/sickness/ education allowance	Age/disability pension	Other		
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	72.92	42.82	84.66	59.77	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	13.07	13.38	16.38	14.28	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	78.05	76.80	99.83	84.15	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	9.65	7.22	8.54	7.95	20.43
Tobacco products	9.50	7.55	11.60	9.07	10.74
Clothing and footwear	15.28	12.90	20.72	15.65	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	23.06	19.20	23.54	21.06	42.22
Household services and operation	26.86	25.59	35.87	28.96	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	9.49	20.74	13.87	17.14	32.47
Transport	67.34	47.28	61.57	54.33	117.82
Recreation	50.08	38.91	50.92	44.10	88.81
Personal care	8.24	7.56	8.66	7.99	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	21.36	15.94	28.52	20.57	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	404.89	335.91	464.67	385.02	698.97
Selected other payments					
Income tax	9.30	8.78	11.07	9.56	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	5.11	1.86	8.57	4.38	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	2.02	1.35	1.94	1.62	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	293.06	316.94	408.41	342.40	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	18.6	12.6	14.8	14.1	75.1
Own business income	* 0.7	0.3	0.9	0.6	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	77.9	81.2	77.8	79.6	12.2
Other	2.8	5.9	6.5	5.8	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	43	68	45	58	48
Average number of employed persons in household	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.2
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.20	0.05	1.48	0.52	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.73	0.68	1.28	1.00	1.63
65 years and over	0.03	1.00	0.31	0.66	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>1.97</i>	<i>1.73</i>	<i>3.08</i>	<i>2.18</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	33.7	68.3	30.3	52.0	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	9.1	4.5	16.3	8.8	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	* 12.7	13.8	15.0	14.0	5.4
Renters-other	40.7	10.4	36.2	22.4	22.7
Other	* 3.7	* 3.0	* 2.3	2.9	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	18.6	35.6	10.2	25.5	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	6.1	1.4	21.6	8.3	23.8
Other couple, one family households	11.3	9.5	6.1	8.6	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children					
Other family households	* 6.0	4.5	3.4	4.3	5.4
Lone person	48.5	46.1	16.8	37.3	24.2
Group	* 6.2	1.5	0.4	1.8	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)					
Households					
Capital city	141.1	651.4	386.7	1 179.2	4 533.0
Other urban	* 84.8	347.6	173.6	606.0	1 877.2
Rural	* 34.3	* 124.8	* 67.7	226.8	712.6
Total households	260.2	1 123.8	628.1	2 012.0	7 122.8
Persons	511.7	1 944.0	1 931.6	4 387.4	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	225	948	626	1 799	6 893

(a) Includes households where the principal source of income of the reference person was not earned income or government pensions and allowances. It comprises those where the principal source of income was in the form of superannuation or annuity; interest on financial institution accounts, investments or property rent; scholarships; workers' compensation; accident compensation; maintenance or alimony; or regular income not elsewhere classified. (b) Includes households where the principal source of income of the reference person was undefined because his/her total income was zero or negative.

9 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Occupation Group of Employed Reference Person(a)

	<i>Managers and administrators</i>	<i>Professionals</i>	<i>Associate professionals</i>	<i>Tradespersons and related workers</i>	<i>Advanced clerical and service workers</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	124.69	132.88	123.48	110.71	107.87
Domestic fuel and power	21.97	19.87	20.41	18.53	21.50
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	175.15	161.63	152.11	141.44	164.08
Alcoholic beverages	29.75	28.12	27.41	28.92	28.52
Tobacco products	9.17	7.25	10.29	15.55	11.52
Clothing and footwear	51.45	48.23	43.73	35.69	42.85
Household furnishings and equipment	51.96	60.72	58.75	45.53	47.31
Household services and operation	51.67	52.55	50.08	45.58	50.90
Medical care and health expenses	57.19	48.11	40.67	31.96	48.74
Transport	153.22	164.56	135.65	160.05	136.62
Recreation	145.26	135.17	115.83	85.98	132.44
Personal care	19.99	19.61	18.00	13.68	19.67
Miscellaneous goods and services	97.73	97.97	82.17	64.93	71.03
Total goods and services expenditure	989.20	976.67	878.59	798.55	883.06
Selected other payments					
Income tax	406.76	359.09	285.01	229.48	194.22
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	46.20	48.12	45.76	38.96	51.96
Superannuation and life insurance	59.99	49.84	41.95	21.88	29.34
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	1 550.80	1 391.67	1 224.70	1 081.09	999.31
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	85.8	87.8	85.9	85.4	82.9
Own business income	8.5	6.1	6.9	8.4	* 9.2
Government pensions and allowances	1.5	2.0	2.8	4.4	3.6
Other	4.2	4.1	4.5	1.8	* 4.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	46	41	41	39	43
Average number of employed persons in household	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.78	0.75	0.82	0.81	0.95
18 to 64 years	2.09	1.94	2.02	2.06	2.01
65 years and over	0.12	0.06	0.07	0.04	0.11
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.99</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>2.91</i>	<i>2.91</i>	<i>3.07</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	41.3	26.8	28.7	26.2	34.3
Owners with a mortgage	38.6	44.6	45.9	44.9	45.1
Renters from state or territory housing authority	* 0.4	0.7	1.3	1.8	* 0.1
Renters-other	16.3	25.9	22.7	25.2	18.6
Other	* 3.4	2.0	* 1.4	* 1.9	**1.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	28.3	21.3	23.2	22.0	19.9
Couple with dependent children only	32.7	33.2	36.1	37.0	34.5
Other couple, one family households	18.9	10.7	13.3	11.7	17.6
One parent, one family with dependent children	1.5	4.0	3.5	1.4	* 7.2
Other family households	4.6	3.9	4.5	7.7	* 4.0
Lone person	12.5	20.5	15.7	14.6	15.2
Group	1.4	6.4	3.7	5.5	* 1.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)					
Households					
Capital city	266.2	748.4	436.8	411.7	* 93.4
Other urban	* 55.7	206.6	156.3	216.2	* 32.4
Rural	* 106.1	* 60.5	* 40.5	* 83.5	**13.4
Total households	428.0	1 015.5	633.5	711.4	139.2
Persons	1 278.6	2 793.4	1 842.1	2 069.6	* 427.7
Number of households in sample	453	1 038	673	670	147

For footnotes see end of table.

9 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Occupation Group of Employed Reference Person(a) *continued*

	<i>Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers</i>	<i>Intermediate production and transport workers</i>	<i>Elementary clerical, sales and service workers</i>	<i>Labourers and related workers</i>	<i>Total</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	113.37	110.40	105.30	98.45	117.44
Domestic fuel and power	18.74	20.15	17.70	17.67	19.55
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	136.16	142.31	121.69	128.75	148.28
Alcoholic beverages	24.14	23.70	19.85	21.05	26.28
Tobacco products	12.49	17.15	13.51	16.12	12.02
Clothing and footwear	35.54	32.17	29.01	29.50	39.90
Household furnishings and equipment	42.61	51.85	42.02	41.84	51.02
Household services and operation	43.66	43.49	40.01	38.92	47.09
Medical care and health expenses	30.74	27.49	22.64	22.50	37.54
Transport	127.33	141.55	133.51	127.01	145.95
Recreation	90.36	92.56	75.49	70.42	106.90
Personal care	16.94	13.83	11.44	11.84	16.48
Miscellaneous goods and services	58.83	63.77	55.91	40.44	74.15
Total goods and services expenditure	750.92	780.42	688.06	664.51	842.61
Selected other payments					
Income tax	180.09	206.44	133.63	143.09	258.99
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	31.69	37.15	26.62	25.35	39.96
Superannuation and life insurance	22.64	22.97	13.83	16.88	33.75
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	939.51	1 037.25	798.22	865.78	1 151.91
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	86.7	85.2	79.5	80.3	85.7
Own business income	2.8	6.0	* 7.5	6.2	6.6
Government pensions and allowances	6.3	6.7	9.0	10.8	4.1
Other	4.2	2.2	4.0	2.7	3.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	40	41	40	42	41
Average number of employed persons in household	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.73	1.07	0.61	0.81	0.81
18 to 64 years	1.94	2.16	1.86	2.09	2.01
65 years and over	0.08	0.04	0.07	0.07	0.07
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>3.27</i>	<i>2.54</i>	<i>2.96</i>	<i>2.89</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	28.0	23.2	26.6	28.6	28.5
Owners with a mortgage	39.0	44.0	26.9	33.8	41.6
Renters from state or territory housing authority	2.0	* 6.4	* 4.6	* 4.7	2.2
Renters-other	28.2	23.9	36.7	30.2	25.3
Other	* 2.9	* 2.5	* 5.2	* 2.8	2.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	22.0	20.7	15.4	16.2	21.5
Couple with dependent children only	26.1	42.5	19.9	27.2	33.0
Other couple, one family households	13.4	14.6	13.8	20.4	13.9
One parent, one family with dependent children	8.7	1.2	9.7	7.6	4.4
Other family households	6.6	8.7	* 9.8	* 8.4	6.2
Lone person	17.4	10.1	23.2	16.1	16.4
Group	5.6	2.2	* 8.2	* 4.2	4.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population (*000)					
Households					
Capital city	415.6	274.7	178.1	227.5	3 052.4
Other urban	158.2	* 152.7	* 60.0	* 104.0	1 142.1
Rural	* 38.4	* 45.9	* 18.4	* 65.7	472.3
Total households	612.2	473.2	256.5	397.1	4 666.7
Persons	1 680.8	1 546.0	650.7	1 177.4	13 466.3
Number of households in sample	639	460	261	370	4 711

(a) Occupations were coded using the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)*, second edition, 1997. The groups differ from those used in previous surveys.

10 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Age of Reference Person

	<i>Under 25</i>	<i>25 to 34</i>	<i>35 to 44</i>	<i>45 to 54</i>	<i>55 to 64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)							
Broad expenditure group							
Goods and services							
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	132.08	138.09	121.90	93.72	62.13	44.11	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	14.24	16.95	19.97	20.88	18.22	13.95	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	111.35	121.53	148.54	159.37	122.46	80.71	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	25.92	20.88	22.05	27.85	19.31	9.58	20.43
Tobacco products	13.10	12.52	13.29	12.16	9.87	4.29	10.74
Clothing and footwear	25.04	30.24	39.91	45.19	25.77	16.36	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	40.06	44.25	49.26	48.93	40.21	26.71	42.22
Household services and operation	38.06	44.52	47.07	46.99	38.14	27.98	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	18.61	22.93	33.43	43.78	39.18	28.80	32.47
Transport	114.17	120.42	131.33	156.08	118.80	59.75	117.82
Recreation	82.04	85.82	99.05	115.25	89.03	54.06	88.81
Personal care	12.07	12.87	15.28	18.36	13.21	8.80	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	59.67	53.87	68.57	87.06	50.10	20.83	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	686.41	724.88	809.66	875.61	646.41	395.93	698.97
Selected other payments							
Income tax	149.42	203.21	225.49	269.96	135.90	30.42	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	9.36	40.56	47.00	32.92	11.98	0.96	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	8.85	16.32	30.87	39.82	30.37	1.88	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS							
Average weekly household income (\$)	817.09	956.43	1 047.05	1 187.53	750.04	384.67	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)							
Employee income	85.0	85.0	81.8	82.8	64.0	11.6	75.1
Own business income	-1.3	4.4	6.7	7.1	7.6	3.5	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	12.7	8.7	8.4	5.5	14.9	51.4	12.2
Other	3.7	1.9	3.0	4.6	13.5	33.4	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	22	30	40	49	59	74	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.1	0.2	1.2
Average number of persons in the household							
Under 18 years	0.33	0.95	1.41	0.59	0.11	0.01	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.98	1.78	1.87	2.25	1.99	0.22	1.63
65 years and over	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.08	1.42	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.31</i>	<i>2.75</i>	<i>3.33</i>	<i>2.88</i>	<i>2.18</i>	<i>1.64</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)							
Owners without a mortgage	4.7	8.9	21.9	42.3	65.8	82.2	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	14.9	39.5	49.1	36.6	15.5	3.0	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	* 6.0	5.0	4.6	4.0	7.3	6.9	5.4
Renters-other	70.3	42.7	23.0	14.7	9.6	5.7	22.7
Other	* 4.1	3.8	1.5	2.5	* 1.9	2.3	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)							
Couple, one family							
Couple only	19.8	21.0	8.9	19.5	40.0	43.6	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	8.9	34.9	48.8	23.3	4.6	—	23.8
Other couple, one family households	3.8	1.7	9.7	26.2	19.8	6.5	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	8.1	10.8	11.6	5.0	1.2	0.2	6.4
Other family households	* 18.2	6.3	3.7	5.5	4.9	2.9	5.4
Lone person	16.5	18.8	14.5	19.2	28.7	45.6	24.2
Group	* 24.7	6.4	2.8	1.2	0.9	1.1	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)							
Households							
Capital city	246.8	928.0	1 065.3	908.2	568.7	816.0	4 533.0
Other urban	* 113.8	354.1	420.7	332.3	250.8	405.5	1 877.2
Rural	* 20.4	* 123.2	157.2	* 163.3	* 107.8	* 140.7	712.6
Total households	381.0	1 405.4	1 643.2	1 403.8	927.2	1 362.2	7 122.8
Persons	880.0	3 868.6	5 470.1	4 043.8	2 018.4	2 234.0	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	382	1 378	1 658	1 436	875	1 164	6 893

11 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Labour Force Status of Reference Person

	Employed					Not in the labour force	Total
	Employee			Unemployed			
	Full-time	Part-time	Self-employed				
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)							
Broad expenditure group							
Goods and services							
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	126.35	94.11	88.21	85.55	57.00	97.43	
Domestic fuel and power	19.58	18.75	20.42	14.18	14.71	17.87	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	151.95	133.65	142.56	75.79	87.52	126.99	
Alcoholic beverages	27.64	21.07	23.91	9.19	9.31	20.43	
Tobacco products	12.37	11.49	10.41	11.03	8.05	10.74	
Clothing and footwear	41.17	35.98	36.44	20.20	16.39	31.90	
Household furnishings and equipment	54.33	41.85	40.83	24.26	25.61	42.22	
Household services and operation	47.77	44.05	46.42	30.88	30.12	41.26	
Medical care and health expenses	38.46	29.87	41.21	8.12	24.18	32.47	
Transport	154.03	122.89	121.89	65.63	64.24	117.82	
Recreation	111.73	87.98	98.98	40.36	55.75	88.81	
Personal care	17.07	15.15	14.25	6.27	8.72	13.73	
Miscellaneous goods and services	77.50	56.65	74.24	28.49	25.00	57.31	
Total goods and services expenditure	879.97	713.49	759.76	419.94	426.59	698.97	
Selected other payments							
Income tax	301.66	107.67	169.23	8.39	21.83	176.82	
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	45.62	18.03	30.39	11.04	3.41	27.58	
Superannuation and life insurance	37.83	13.10	32.98	2.19	2.53	22.98	
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS							
Average weekly household income (\$)	1 283.48	710.84	842.77	294.76	367.18	879.22	
Source of income (% of total income)							
Employee income	93.5	73.6	20.1	7.9	11.2	75.1	
Own business income	1.4	1.0	65.2	* 5.1	0.4	5.8	
Government pensions and allowances	2.8	14.8	5.7	77.4	60.0	12.2	
Other	2.3	10.7	9.0	9.6	28.4	6.9	
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
Average age of reference person	40	43	47	38	62	48	
Average number of employed persons in household	1.8	1.7	1.9	0.2	0.1	1.2	
Average number of persons in the household							
Under 18 years	0.82	0.80	0.74	0.65	0.37	0.66	
18 to 64 years	2.07	1.80	1.95	1.54	0.86	1.63	
65 years and over	0.04	0.14	0.13	0.01	0.82	0.30	
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.93</i>	<i>2.74</i>	<i>2.82</i>	<i>2.21</i>	<i>2.04</i>	<i>2.60</i>	
Tenure type (% of households)							
Owners without a mortgage	24.7	32.9	47.5	24.1	64.3	39.7	
Owners with a mortgage	45.1	30.6	32.0	11.7	6.8	29.7	
Renters from state or territory housing authority	1.9	4.7	* 0.9	* 12.9	11.3	5.4	
Renters-other	26.2	28.5	15.5	47.4	15.1	22.7	
Other	2.0	* 3.3	* 4.1	**4.0	2.4	2.5	
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
Household composition (% of households)							
Couple, one family							
Couple only	21.3	20.1	25.0	7.2	32.6	24.6	
Couple with dependent children only	35.4	22.3	30.3	12.8	5.9	23.8	
Other couple, one family households	13.5	13.1	17.9	* 8.1	7.7	11.8	
One parent, one family with dependent children	2.5	14.6	3.7	* 19.8	9.5	6.4	
Other family households	6.7	5.9	3.1	* 4.0	3.8	5.4	
Lone person	15.7	18.8	18.1	44.2	38.5	24.2	
Group	5.0	5.2	2.0	* 3.9	2.0	3.8	
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
Estimated number in population ('000)							
Households							
Capital city	2 384.5	413.8	254.1	109.2	1 371.4	4 533.0	
Other urban	837.9	177.1	* 127.1	* 67.1	668.0	1 877.2	
Rural	250.9	* 76.5	* 144.9	**30.1	210.3	712.6	
Total households	3 473.3	667.3	526.1	206.4	2 249.7	7 122.8	
Persons	10 159.8	1 825.2	1 481.3	455.9	4 592.7	18 514.9	
Number of households in sample	3 522	675	514	199	1 983	6 893	

12 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Country of Birth of Reference Person

	<i>Australia</i>	<i>United Kingdom and Ireland</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Italy</i>	<i>Germany</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	95.78	97.51	145.81	62.72	105.20
Domestic fuel and power	17.80	17.79	17.56	21.33	16.42
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	125.37	123.85	137.92	138.90	117.85
Alcoholic beverages	21.51	23.93	25.16	15.53	12.92
Tobacco products	11.08	9.76	13.29	10.87	* 11.35
Clothing and footwear	32.08	26.51	28.20	37.38	22.81
Household furnishings and equipment	40.65	49.23	52.73	48.18	41.69
Household services and operation	40.17	44.24	49.81	44.14	42.68
Medical care and health expenses	33.05	33.57	23.51	38.50	31.21
Transport	119.77	107.16	128.83	97.99	90.94
Recreation	90.03	99.25	87.57	65.86	82.95
Personal care	13.78	13.91	12.75	16.85	11.56
Miscellaneous goods and services	56.87	59.53	68.21	46.88	49.08
Total goods and services expenditure	697.94	706.25	791.35	645.13	636.65
Selected other payments					
Income tax	177.68	186.89	265.63	169.71	206.35
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	27.00	26.95	34.44	* 9.82	* 28.05
Superannuation and life insurance	22.59	28.78	30.19	13.64	* 38.72
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	880.66	886.27	1 129.75	932.66	856.31
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	75.6	72.2	77.4	68.7	77.5
Own business income	6.0	5.7	* 7.5	* 6.4	* 8.9
Government pensions and allowances	11.4	13.8	8.4	17.1	9.7
Other	7.0	8.3	* 6.7	* 7.8	* 3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	47	53	43	59	56
Average number of employed persons in household	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.0
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.67	0.49	0.92	0.46	0.30
18 to 64 years	1.59	1.45	1.76	1.85	1.25
65 years and over	0.29	0.42	0.15	* 0.56	* 0.31
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.55</i>	<i>2.36</i>	<i>2.83</i>	<i>2.86</i>	<i>1.87</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	38.7	43.8	19.5	79.5	45.0
Owners with a mortgage	30.5	29.7	24.4	11.8	26.4
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.3	5.0	* 5.3	* 2.8	**7.5
Renters-other	22.7	19.3	49.4	5.2	* 21.1
Other	2.8	* 2.1	**1.5	**0.6	—
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	25.2	32.4	18.0	29.7	22.3
Couple with dependent children only	23.2	21.8	31.1	10.7	19.3
Other couple, one family households	10.4	10.0	* 10.4	* 32.4	* 2.5
One parent, one family with dependent children	7.0	2.8	* 8.6	* 2.1	* 5.0
Other family households	5.4	3.5	* 3.4	**5.9	**1.6
Lone person	24.8	27.0	23.5	18.5	47.8
Group	4.0	2.5	* 5.1	* 0.7	**1.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)					
Households					
Capital city	2 940.3	447.5	109.7	* 115.6	* 53.4
Other urban	1 585.5	126.5	* 39.1	* 6.5	**12.4
Rural	606.8	* 54.0	**7.3	**3.7	**3.7
Total households	5 132.6	628.0	156.1	* 125.8	* 69.6
Persons	13 091.8	1 482.9	441.4	* 360.2	* 129.8
Number of households in sample	4 973	621	157	112	71

12 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Country of Birth of Reference Person *continued*

	<i>Greece</i>	<i>Viet Nam</i>	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total all countries</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)					
Broad expenditure group					
Goods and services					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	73.14	96.90	64.46	106.94	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	22.96	17.06	17.72	17.67	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	152.58	139.39	114.37	134.04	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	9.91	5.64	17.56	13.71	20.43
Tobacco products	* 14.61	* 4.44	* 12.80	8.86	10.74
Clothing and footwear	42.85	29.92	* 16.26	35.68	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	* 18.15	* 25.12	* 61.43	45.81	42.22
Household services and operation	36.70	32.72	29.91	45.18	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	24.14	16.89	42.09	30.18	32.47
Transport	77.40	106.60	105.07	121.76	117.82
Recreation	55.05	60.39	69.46	83.59	88.81
Personal care	13.40	9.88	7.26	13.86	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	37.39	34.39	41.06	62.77	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	578.27	579.34	599.45	720.04	698.97
Selected other payments					
Income tax	117.95	107.26	112.37	159.56	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	* 21.97	* 50.18	* 8.39	32.86	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	* 7.79	* 16.66	* 25.24	21.27	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
Average weekly household income (\$)	811.52	737.65	717.04	837.40	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)					
Employee income	64.7	67.8	61.9	76.2	75.1
Own business income	**6.8	**3.3	**7.1	3.7	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	19.8	25.9	16.8	15.1	12.2
Other	* 8.6	* 3.0	* 14.1	5.0	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	58	43	58	46	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2
Average number of persons in the household					
Under 18 years	0.34	1.19	0.32	0.80	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.99	2.45	1.52	1.93	1.63
65 years and over	* 0.62	* 0.19	* 0.46	0.23	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.95</i>	<i>3.83</i>	<i>2.31</i>	<i>2.95</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)					
Owners without a mortgage	74.5	30.4	58.0	36.3	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	20.4	43.6	* 17.8	29.6	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	**2.1	**8.6	**11.1	6.1	5.4
Renters-other	* 3.1	* 17.4	* 11.3	26.1	22.7
Other	—	—	* 1.8	* 1.9	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)					
Couple, one family					
Couple only	29.6	5.9	39.9	16.1	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	16.6	48.7	11.1	29.6	23.8
Other couple, one family households	* 37.7	* 19.9	* 13.8	16.8	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	* 4.0	* 9.3	**1.5	6.3	6.4
Other family households	**4.8	**5.1	**7.0	7.3	5.4
Lone person	7.3	6.3	26.7	19.4	24.2
Group	—	**4.9	—	4.4	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)					
Households					
Capital city	* 65.6	* 61.3	* 27.3	712.3	4 533.0
Other urban	**0.1	—	**18.3	88.9	1 877.2
Rural	—	—	* 3.9	* 33.2	712.6
Total households	* 65.8	* 61.3	* 49.4	834.4	7 122.8
Persons	* 194.2	* 235.0	* 114.1	2 465.5	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	59	55	50	795	6 893

13 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, By Birthplace and Year of Arrival in Australia of Reference Person

	Born outside Australia - year of arrival				Total born overseas	Total	
	Born in Australia	Before 1989	1989-1993	1994-1996			After 1996
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$)							
Broad expenditure group							
Goods and services							
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	95.78	89.32	144.69	157.03	179.71	101.68	97.43
Domestic fuel and power	17.80	18.47	16.19	16.42	16.11	18.04	17.87
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	125.37	129.82	136.49	122.86	159.75	131.16	126.99
Alcoholic beverages	21.51	18.22	13.31	11.93	25.65	17.64	20.43
Tobacco products	11.08	10.29	6.10	10.66	* 9.43	9.86	10.74
Clothing and footwear	32.08	32.28	27.77	26.56	29.88	31.44	31.90
Household furnishings and equipment	40.65	45.14	48.01	49.33	* 63.10	46.27	42.22
Household services and operation	40.17	42.16	50.82	53.44	54.06	44.05	41.26
Medical care and health expenses	33.05	33.37	24.79	16.20	15.70	30.98	32.47
Transport	119.77	112.27	114.92	93.45	148.15	112.78	117.82
Recreation	90.03	83.47	92.84	82.08	122.30	85.69	88.81
Personal care	13.78	13.64	13.15	12.85	15.10	13.60	13.73
Miscellaneous goods and services	56.87	55.11	65.73	72.83	92.82	58.44	57.31
Total goods and services expenditure	697.94	683.55	754.81	725.65	931.74	701.63	698.97
Selected other payments							
Income tax	177.68	167.27	208.58	199.93	208.18	174.62	176.82
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	27.00	27.37	45.23	* 37.55	* 8.10	29.06	27.58
Superannuation and life insurance	22.59	24.34	22.70	23.05	* 20.70	23.98	22.98
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS							
Average weekly household income (\$)	880.66	863.58	972.37	925.89	793.52	875.52	879.22
Source of income (% of total income)							
Employee income	75.6	71.5	80.6	75.9	100.8	73.7	75.1
Own business income	6.0	6.4	* 4.3	* 5.6	** -21.2	5.2	5.8
Government pensions and allowances	11.4	15.3	11.4	10.4	11.3	14.4	12.2
Other	7.0	6.8	3.7	* 8.1	* 9.1	6.6	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Average age of reference person	47	52	40	39	36	50	48
Average number of employed persons in household	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Average number of persons in the household							
Under 18 years	0.67	0.59	1.08	0.74	0.81	0.66	0.66
18 to 64 years	1.59	1.68	2.05	1.88	2.16	1.74	1.63
65 years and over	0.29	0.38	0.13	* 0.09	* 0.05	0.32	0.30
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.55</i>	<i>2.65</i>	<i>3.26</i>	<i>2.70</i>	<i>3.02</i>	<i>2.72</i>	<i>2.60</i>
Tenure type (% of households)							
Owners without a mortgage	38.7	48.6	20.1	4.2	10.3	42.0	39.7
Owners with a mortgage	30.5	27.6	34.6	29.0	9.6	27.8	29.7
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.3	5.6	* 5.5	* 7.9	**3.1	5.6	5.4
Renters-other	22.7	16.8	37.2	55.4	* 74.0	22.9	22.7
Other	2.8	1.4	**2.6	**3.4	**3.0	1.7	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Household composition (% of households)							
Couple, one family							
Couple only	25.2	24.9	15.9	16.6	15.2	23.2	24.6
Couple with dependent children only	23.2	21.8	48.0	36.0	27.5	25.4	23.8
Other couple, one family households	10.4	16.3	9.8	* 5.8	* 24.1	15.4	11.8
One parent, one family with dependent children	7.0	4.9	* 5.4	* 7.2	* 2.3	5.0	6.4
Other family households	5.4	5.3	* 8.1	**2.2	**2.3	5.3	5.4
Lone person	24.8	24.1	10.4	23.0	17.7	22.4	24.2
Group	4.0	2.7	* 2.3	* 9.2	**11.0	3.3	3.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Estimated number in population ('000)							
Households							
Capital city	2 940.3	1 261.3	181.5	* 91.9	* 58.0	1 592.7	4 533.0
Other urban	1 585.5	253.3	* 15.6	* 13.0	**9.9	291.8	1 877.2
Rural	606.8	98.7	**4.9	**1.1	**1.0	105.8	712.6
Total households	5 132.6	1 613.3	202.0	* 106.0	* 69.0	1 990.2	7 122.8
Persons	13 091.8	4 270.1	658.0	* 286.5	* 208.5	5 423.1	18 514.9
Number of households in sample	4 973	1 565	198	97	60	1 920	6 893

14 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AND CHARACTERISTICS, Comparison Between Surveys

	<i>Average weekly expenditure (\$)</i>				<i>Percentage change in expenditure: 1993-94 to 1998-99</i>	<i>Proportion (%) of total goods and services expenditure</i>				
	<i>1984</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1998-99</i>		<i>1984</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1998-99</i>	
Broad expenditure group										
Goods and services										
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	46.46	71.80	85.38	97.43	14.1	12.8	14.3	14.2	13.9	
Domestic fuel and power	10.56	12.87	16.77	17.87	6.6	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.6	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	71.22	95.83	111.00	126.99	14.4	19.7	19.1	18.4	18.2	
Alcoholic beverages	12.30	16.90	17.46	20.43	17.0	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.9	
Tobacco products	5.73	6.89	9.19	10.74	16.9	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	
Clothing and footwear	23.46	30.73	33.71	31.90	-5.4	6.5	6.1	5.6	4.6	
Household furnishings and equipment	27.69	37.37	39.56	42.22	6.7	7.7	7.4	6.6	6.0	
Household services and operation	15.70	24.11	31.58	41.26	30.7	4.3	4.8	5.2	5.9	
Medical care and health expenses	14.07	21.68	27.14	32.47	19.6	3.9	4.3	4.5	4.6	
Transport	59.00	76.13	93.58	117.82	25.9	16.3	15.1	15.5	16.9	
Recreation	43.13	59.37	79.34	88.81	11.9	11.9	11.8	13.2	12.7	
Personal care	6.60	9.95	11.37	13.73	20.8	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.0	
Miscellaneous goods and services	25.93	39.08	46.02	57.31	24.5	7.2	7.8	7.6	8.2	
Total goods and services expenditure	361.84	502.71	602.11	698.97	16.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Selected other payments										
Income tax	80.07	127.02	136.99	176.82	29.1	..	..	..	..
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	6.49	7.01	20.78	27.58	32.7	..	..	..	..
Superannuation and life insurance	11.51	16.86	22.32	22.98	3.0	..	..	..	..
Household characteristics										
	<i>1984</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1998-99</i>	<i>Percentage change: 1993-94 to 1998-99</i>					
Average weekly household income (\$)	453.60	636.05	723.23	879.22	21.6					
Source of income (% of total income)										
Employee income	71.6	72.3	72.7	75.1	3.3					
Own business income	8.5	9.2	7.5	5.8	-22.7					
Government pensions and allowances	11.3	10.1	13.0	12.2	-6.2					
Other	8.6	8.5	6.8	6.9	1.5					
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>					
Average age of reference person	47	47	47	48	2.1					
Average number of employed persons in household	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	—					
Average number of persons in the household										
Under 18 years	0.86	0.82	0.69	0.66	-4.3					
18 to 64 years	1.70	1.69	1.65	1.63	-1.2					
65 years and over	0.27	0.27	0.29	0.30	3.4					
<i>Total</i>	<i>2.84</i>	<i>2.78</i>	<i>2.63</i>	<i>2.60</i>	<i>-1.1</i>					
Tenure type (% of households)										
Owners without a mortgage	39.4	42.8	41.9	39.7	-5.3					
Owners with a mortgage	32.1	29.9	26.7	29.7	11.2					
Renters from state or territory housing authority	5.7	6.3	7.1	5.4	-23.9					
Renters-other	19.5	18.4	21.6	22.7	5.1					
Other	3.3	2.6	2.7	2.5	-7.4					
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>					
Household composition (% of households)										
Couple, one family										
Couple only	23.9	23.2	25.9	24.6	-5.0					
Couple with dependent children only	29.7	28.4	23.7	23.8	0.4					
Other couple, one family households	13.5	13.1	12.4	11.8	-4.8					
One parent, one family with dependent children	5.0	5.8	6.6	6.4	-3.0					
Other family households	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.4	3.8					
Lone person	19.1	20.3	21.8	24.2	11.0					
Group	4.1	4.2	4.5	3.8	-15.6					
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>					
Estimated number in population ('000)										
Households										
Capital city	3 279.9	3 470.3	4 264.4	4 533.0	6.3					
Other urban	1 340.1	1 492.1	1 787.9	1 877.2	5.0					
Rural	419.2	458.0	564.5	712.6	26.2					
<i>Total households</i>	<i>5 039.2</i>	<i>5 420.4</i>	<i>6 616.8</i>	<i>7 122.8</i>	<i>7.6</i>					
Persons	14 290.9	15 072.9	17 394.6	18 514.9	6.4					
Number of households in sample	9 571	7 405	8 389	6 893	-17.8					

15 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

<i>CPI group</i>	<i>Index numbers(a)</i>				<i>Percentage change in CPI: 1993-94 to 1998-99</i>
	<i>1984</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1998-99</i>	
Food	67.9	93.4	109.4	126.5	15.6
Clothing	67.3	95.1	106.7	106.7	—
Housing	59.8	86.9	94.2	95.8	1.7
Household equipment and operation	70.6	94.8	107.8	113.7	5.5
Transportation	66.3	92.5	113.8	122.1	7.3
Tobacco	57.6	88.7	171.0	249.3	45.8
Alcohol	68.0	93.9	118.0	134.9	14.3
Health and personal care	61.7	93.3	129.0	153.7	19.1
Recreation and education	67.5	94.2	111.9	126.2	12.8
All groups	66.0	92.6	110.4	121.8	10.3

(a) Reference base year 1989-90 = 100.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents summary results from the 1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey (HES). The survey collected detailed information about the expenditure, income and household characteristics of households resident in private dwellings throughout Australia. Appendix 1 outlines the full 1998–99 HES data release program and expected release dates.

2 The statistics presented in this publication are intended to present a broad overview of data items collected during the 1998–99 HES. Emphasis has been given to highlighting the differing household expenditure patterns and levels revealed when average weekly household expenditure is cross-classified by various household characteristics (e.g. income levels and sources, geographic location and family composition of the household) and reference person characteristics.

3 The *1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0), expected to be released in September 2000, will assist users in evaluating and interpreting results from this survey.

4 The 1998–99 HES is similar to the 1993–94 survey. The main differences are:

- while the paper diary was retained, a computer assisted interviewing (CAI) technique was used to collect data from households and individuals. This reduced the possibility of sequencing errors and enabled some issues to be clarified through a series of edits at the time of interview, resulting in higher quality of input processing;
- the survey weighting process for the 1998–99 HES used more independent household and person estimates as benchmarks;
- extra detail was collected, or improved collection and/or processing methods were introduced, for information on mobile phones, taxes and fees on financial institution accounts, education, disability, loans, industry of employment, tenure, landlord type, gambling and income in-kind;
- new questions on financial stress and certain lump sum payments were included;
- the definition of dependent children aged 15 years and over has changed. It now includes full-time students aged 15–24 years who have a parent in the household (but no partner or child of their own). In previous surveys it included full-time students aged 15–20 years who had a parent or other relative in the household (but no partner or child of their own);

- a Household Expenditure Classification was introduced to replace the HES Commodity Code List (HESCCL) used in earlier Household Expenditure Surveys. While a different numbering system is used, the basic classification is similar to the HESCCL, with little movement across categories at the broadest level of the classification. At the detailed level, extra items have been created to cover new technologies, such as digital video disk players. In addition, 'not further defined' items have been separated from 'not elsewhere classified' items. See the *1998-99 User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0) for more information and a concordance between the old and new classifications.

5 The 1998-99 HES commenced field enumeration throughout Australia in July 1998. Field enumeration was completed in June 1999. Further information concerning the 1998-99 survey and the five earlier surveys conducted in 1974-75, 1975-76, 1984, 1988-89 and 1993-94 can be obtained from the *1998-99 User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0).

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

6 The concepts and definitions of income, expenditure and households in the HES are described in the following section. Refer to the Glossary for the definitions of other HES terms.

Households

7 The household is the basic unit of analysis in the HES. It is defined as a group of people who usually live in the same dwelling and make common provision for living essentials.

8 Households therefore have the following characteristics:

- they may consist of one or more persons or groups of persons such as families;
- they must live wholly within one physical dwelling. A group of people who make common provision for living essentials but are living in two separate dwellings are in two separate households;
- lodgers, who receive accommodation only (not meals) are treated as a separate household; and
- boarders, who receive accommodation and meals, are treated as part of the household.

9 The household is adopted as the basic unit of analysis because it is assumed that sharing of the use of goods and services occurs at this level. If smaller units, say persons, are adopted, then it is difficult to know how to attribute to individual household members the use of shared items such as food, accommodation and household goods.

- Expenditure **10** The HES estimates of expenditure on goods and services refer to:
- *the cost of acquiring goods and services.* The cost of those goods and services acquired during the reference period regardless of whether the household paid for or consumed them during the period;
 - *the cost of goods and services used for private purposes.* Costs associated with investments and business were excluded from estimates of expenditure;
 - *net or out-of-pocket expenditure.* Refunds and reimbursements (such as Medicare refunds, factory rebates, trade-ins and reimbursements from employers) were deducted from expenditure;
 - *some expenditure in-kind.* Costs of selected goods and services provided free or at a reduced cost by employers to employees for their own private use were included in estimates of expenditure. Only incidental items such as food and motor vehicle fuel reported in the diaries were included; provision of vehicles, housing and assistance with telephone calls were excluded but are available separately if required;
 - *expenditure during and prior to the 1998–99 financial year.* Most types of expenditure were collected for the 1998–99 financial year but less frequent and often large expenditures were collected on a ‘recall’ basis. For those items, households were asked to recall expenditures over a period ranging from their last payment to two years (e.g. for house purchases).
- 11** Estimates of selected other payments (income tax, mortgage repayments (selected dwelling) and superannuation and life insurance) are also provided.
- 12** Estimates of *average weekly expenditure* do not refer to a given week. Average weekly expenditure was calculated by dividing expenditure by the number of weeks in the recall period or reporting period over which it was collected.
- 13** Expenditure was classified according to the Household Expenditure Classification. A copy of the classification is included in the *1998–99 User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0).
- Income **14** Although the HES is primarily a survey of household expenditure, household income estimates are produced to help explain variations in expenditure levels and patterns and to identify groups of special interest (e.g. households with low incomes).

Income *continued* **15** HES estimates of income refer to:

- *gross receipts*, that is, income prior to the payment of personal income tax;
- *usual receipts*, that is, the income which was most frequently received over a given period rather than the income which was actually received;
- *cash receipts that were regular and recurring*; and
- *selected employee income in-kind*, as described under expenditure in-kind above.

16 Receipts which were excluded from income because they were not cash, regular or recurring consisted of the following:

- *capital transfers received* such as:
 - inheritances and legacies;
 - non-recurring gifts from other households;
 - capital repayment of loans from other households;
 - maturity payments received on life insurance policies; and
 - lump sum compensation for injuries.
- *capital gains and losses*, such as profit from buying and selling shares unless as a business.
- *receipts from running down assets* (excluding receipts from pension funds), such as:
 - withdrawals from savings; and
 - loans and credit obtained.
- most *income in-kind*, such as:
 - the value of home-produced goods unless received from own business; and
 - non-monetary gifts from other households.

See description of expenditure in-kind, above, for inclusions.

17 Estimates of *weekly income* do not refer to a given week. Income was collected using a number of different reporting periods, such as the last financial year for own business and property income and last pay for wages and salaries and other sources of private income. Reported income was divided by the number of weeks in the reporting period to obtain weekly income.

Income <i>continued</i>	<p>18 Income was collected according to source. Main sources of income include employee income, own business income, government pensions and allowances and other income (including property income such as rent, interest and dividends and other transfer income such as regular recurring receipts from superannuation and child support).</p>
Difference between income and expenditure	<p>19 The HES provides information about both the income and the expenditure of households, but it would be misleading to regard the difference between average weekly income and the sum of the items of average weekly expenditure as shown in the tables in this publication as a measure of saving.</p> <p>20 First, to be properly understood, the concept of household saving needs to be articulated along with the concept of household wealth (assets less liabilities), and all forms of income and expenditure need to be measured and classified consistently with these concepts. The HES does not attempt to do this. For example, it does not provide information about capital gains or windfall gains such as inheritances. Rather, it focuses on the regular and recurring forms of income; expenditure on current consumption of goods and services; the major component of regular current transfers (income tax); and two major items of expenditure which can be regarded as investment ('mortgage repayments—principal (selected dwelling)' and 'superannuation and life insurance'). The two items of investment expenditure are included in the HES because they are a significant regular commitment of many households which have to be financed from regular income.</p> <p>21 Second, there are significant timing differences between the different components of income and expenditure collected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ expenditure does not cover all current payments because expenditure was collected on an acquisitions basis; ■ income does not cover all current receipts because it was collected on a usual receipts basis; ■ expenditure does not cover a common reference period. Expenditure estimates for different items refer to different periods; and ■ income does not cover a common reference period. Income estimates for different sources of income refer to different periods.

Difference between income and expenditure *continued*

22 The timing problem is likely to be greatest for households for which the major source of income is unincorporated business activity. Recorded income will relate to the previous financial year, while expenditure will mostly relate to a period within the current financial year. If business profitability is significantly different between the two years, then there may be a significant discrepancy between the recorded income and expenditure components which do not reflect the saving pattern of the household. While such differences will disappear to a certain extent through summing across households, there may still be an impact on aggregate estimates if, for example, all farmers had a bad season in one year and a good season in the following year. More importantly, there will be a definite impact on the quintile analysis of HES data.

23 *HES income and expenditure estimates therefore do not balance for individual households or for groups of households and the difference between income and expenditure cannot be considered to be a measure of saving.*

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

Scope **24** Only residents of private dwellings in Australia were in scope. Private dwellings were houses, flats, home units, caravans, garages, tents and other structures that were used as places of residence at the time of interview. These were distinct from special dwellings which included hotels, boarding houses and institutions. Residents of special dwellings were excluded because of differences in their lifestyle and accommodation. Also excluded were households containing foreign defence force staff, foreign diplomats or diplomatic staff.

Coverage **25** Information was collected from usual residents of private dwellings in all areas of Australia except remote and sparsely settled areas, where:

- *usual residents* were residents who regarded the dwelling as their own or main home. Others present were considered to be visitors and were not asked to participate in the survey.
- *remote and sparsely settled areas* were areas in which there were less than 0.06 dwellings per square kilometre.

DATA COLLECTION

26 Information for each household was collected using:

- a household computer assisted interview questionnaire which collected information on household characteristics, expenditure common to all household members (e.g. health service payments), and irregular or infrequent expenditure (e.g. household appliances and holidays overseas);
- an individual computer assisted interview questionnaire which collected information on income and other personal characteristics; and
- a personal diary in which people recorded their expenditure over two weeks.

DATA COLLECTION *continued*

27 Sample copies of the above documents are available for purchase—see appendix 1.

SURVEY DESIGN AND ESTIMATION

Sample design

28 The sample was designed to produce reliable estimates for households resident in private dwellings aggregated for Australia, for each state and for the capital cities in each state and territory. Of the selected dwellings, there were 8,908 in the scope of the survey, of which 6,893 (77%) were included as part of the final estimates.

Responding households

29 Of the households selected in the sample, there were 2,015 which did not contribute to the values of HES expenditure or income. Such households included those who could not be contacted, had language problems, refused to participate, or were affected by death or illness of a household member. Also excluded were those in which the reference person or spouse did not respond to key questions in the survey such as income.

Imputation

30 Of the households which provided most of the required HES information but were unable, or unwilling, to provide all of it, some were able to be retained in the sample and their missing values deduced or imputed.

31 For some of these households, missing information could be deduced using additional information supplied on the questionnaire (such as prices for given quantities and types of bread and milk purchased from given types of outlets).

32 In the remainder of cases, the missing information was imputed. Imputation is the process of replacing missing values with substitute values during processing. Imputation was carried out at two levels:

- where a value was missing for a particular item, the missing value was replaced with a value which had been reported by another person or household with similar characteristics; and
- where questionnaires or diaries were missing for a person in the household (other than the reference person or spouse) the missing information was replaced with whole questionnaires or diaries of another individual from a household with similar composition and characteristics.

33 In either case, the record providing the missing information is known as the *donor* record. Donors were selected so that, as far as possible, the information they provided would be an appropriate proxy for the information that was missing. Depending on which values were being imputed, donors were taken from the pool of complete households or individual records with complete information for the block of questions in which the missing information was located.

Imputation *continued* **34** To better match donors to recipient records, both sets of records were ordered according to characteristics (such as number of adults and children present) associated with the blocks of variables being imputed. For example, recipients with missing information were matched with donors who fell into the same classes as themselves. The classes were fairly broad so that sufficient numbers of donors could be found in similar classes to the recipients.

Final sample **35** The sample on which estimates were based, or the *final* HES sample, is composed of households for which all necessary information is available. The information may have been wholly provided at the interview or may have been completed through imputation for partially responding households. The 1998–99 HES final sample includes approximately 600 households which had at least one imputed value. Over 40% of these households, in fact, had only a single value missing.

N1 HES FINAL SAMPLE: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS—1998–99

	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Balance of state/territory</i>	<i>Total</i>
New South Wales	1 327	706	2 033
Victoria	992	377	1 369
Queensland	580	516	1 096
South Australia	420	144	564
Western Australia	475	175	650
Tasmania	389	91	480
Northern Territory	335	89	424
Australian Capital Territory	277	—	277
Australia	4 795	2 098	6 893

Weighting **36** Expansion factors, or weights, are values by which information for sample households is multiplied to produce estimates for the whole population.

37 Initial weights, based on the sample design, were equal to the inverse of the probability of selection. Weights for each member of the household were the same as the weight for the household itself.

38 In previous surveys, these initial weights have been adjusted to account for non-response. For the 1998–99 HES the demographic and geographic information available for non-respondents was analysed to determine whether a strong relationship existed between household non-response and its demographic and geographic characteristics. No strong relationship was detected so no adjustment to the initial weights to account for non-response was required.

Benchmarking **39** To adjust for under-enumeration and to align survey estimates with independent population estimates, the weights were calibrated against person and household benchmarks. Using an iterative procedure, the weights were adjusted so that person and household estimates conformed with external person and household benchmarks. The two person benchmarks which were used are: state/territory population estimates by seven age categories (including 65 years and over); and labour force status estimates (from *Labour Force Survey* data) by capital city/balance of state or territory by sex by five age categories. The two household benchmarks were: nine categories of household composition (including lone person households) by capital city/balance of state or territory; and state by capital city/balance of state or territory.

40 The household benchmarks were based on provisional estimates of numbers of households in Australia. The benchmarks were adjusted to include households and persons residing in private dwellings only and therefore do not, and are not intended to, match estimates of the total Australian resident population published in other ABS publications.

41 The benchmarks do not include some 175,000 people living in sparsely settled areas. The exclusion of these people will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such people account for over 20% of the population. HES estimates for the Northern Territory other than Darwin are not considered reliable, and so only Darwin estimates are shown separately in this publication.

Estimation **42** Estimates produced from the survey are usually in the form of averages (e.g. average weekly household expenditure on clothing and footwear), or counts (e.g. total number of households who own their dwelling). For counts, the estimate was obtained by summing the weights of the responding households in the required group (e.g. those households owning their dwelling). Averages were obtained by adding the weighted household values, and then dividing by the estimated number of households. For example, average weekly expenditure on clothing and footwear by Victorian households is the weighted sum of the average weekly expenditure of each selected household in Victoria who reported such expenditure, divided by the estimated number of households in Victoria. Note that the denominator is the total number of households and not just the number of households which have reported expenditure on the particular item.

43 Income tax payments were estimated for all households using taxation criteria for 1998–99 and the income and other characteristics of household members reported in the survey.

Reliability of estimates **44** The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error.

Non-sampling error **45** Non-sampling error can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or from a complete collection. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:

- inability to obtain data from all households included in the sample. Although a non-response adjustment to the sampling weights was not necessary (see paragraph 38), some bias may remain;
- 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.

46 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 by extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data collection and processing.

47 The error due to non-response was minimised by:

- re-visiting all initially non-responding households in order to explain the importance of their cooperation to the project; and
- ensuring the weighted file is representative of the population by calibrating to benchmarks.

Sampling error **48** The HES estimates are based on a sample of possible observations. Hence, they are subject to sampling variability and estimates may differ from the figures that would have been produced if information had been collected for all households. Further information on sampling error is given in appendix 2.

PUBLICATION AND
DISSEMINATION OF DATA

49 Information about the range of data to be made available from the 1998–99 HES is given in appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

1998–99 HES DATA RELEASE PROGRAM

1 This appendix describes the range of data to be made available from the 1998–99 HES in both published and unpublished form. More detailed information can also be obtained by telephoning the HES contact officer on Canberra 02 6252 7031.

PUBLICATIONS

2 The publications to be produced from the 1998–99 HES are listed below. Publication tables can also be provided in spreadsheet format. The number of publications is less than the number produced from previous surveys but information previously available in publications can be produced if required.

User Guide (Cat no. 6527.0) \$25.00—Describes the 1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey (HES) definitions, concepts, methodology and estimation procedures. It also contains the *Household Expenditure Classification*, a list of the HES output data items, and the relative standard errors of estimates. Expected to be released in September 2000.

Summary of Results (Cat. no. 6530.0) \$20.00—Contains summary tables of the 1998–99 HES results. Includes tables of expenditure on broad categories of goods and services by household income quintile group; principal source of income; state of residence; household composition; tenure type; and characteristics of the reference person.

Detailed Expenditure Items (Cat. no. 6535.0) \$26.00—Contains tables of expenditure at the finest level of detail for goods and services (over 400 categories). Tables are cross classified by income quintile and state of residence. Data for Canberra and Darwin are also included. Expected to be released in September 2000.

The Effects of Government Benefits and Taxes on Household Income (Cat. no. 6537.0) \$27.00—Describes the results of a study which uses HES data, in conjunction with other data such as government finance statistics to calculate the effects of government benefits and taxes on household income. Provides estimates of government cash benefits received (e.g. age pension and unemployment benefits), personal taxes paid, indirect benefits received (from government spending on health, education and housing) and indirect taxes paid (e.g. petrol and alcohol taxes) for households, classified by selected characteristics. Expected to be released in mid 2001.

UNPUBLISHED DATA

3 The expenditure data in the HES are presented in the published tables as average weekly expenditure for all households for various population groups.

4 The published data is only a small portion of the data collected in the survey. It is also not the only way the HES expenditure data can be presented.

5 A wide range of data items is available for specific data requests. The detailed list of possible data items is contained in an appendix of the *1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: User Guide* (Cat. no. 6527.0).

6 The main expected areas of interest are:

- detailed expenditure items;
- general household characteristics;
- household income;
- income and personal characteristics of household members;
- details of separate mortgages held by the household;
- data relating to personal loans;
- government benefits and income taxes; and
- details for geographic areas.

SUPPORTING MATERIAL

7 Other material is available to assist clients in analysing 1998–99 HES data. This includes:

- samples of the household and individual questionnaires, and a HES diary;
- the *Household Expenditure Classification* (HEC) and a concordance between the 1998–99 HEC and the classification used in earlier surveys; and
- the HEC coding list, which lists the products included in the detailed HEC codes.

8 These products are available either electronically or in hard copy form.

CONFIDENTIALISED UNIT RECORD FILES (CURFS)

9 For clients wanting to produce their own tabulations and conduct manipulations of survey estimates (e.g. applying equivalence scales), a confidentialised file can be supplied.

10 To protect the confidentiality of individual persons and households some data items are removed from the file and the level of detail for some items is reduced.

CONFIDENTIALISED UNIT
RECORD FILES (CURFS)

continued

11 Two types of confidentialised unit record files will be available:

- a file containing HES estimates only, which is expected to be released in October 2000;
- a file containing HES estimates combined with the estimates produced in the study of the effects of government benefits and taxes on household income.

12 The combined file will only be available some months after the release of the HES confidentialised unit record file. While each of the files is priced at \$8,000, clients purchasing the initial HES CURF who wish to also receive the later file incorporating the results of the study of the effects of government benefits and taxes on household income, will only be charged \$500 for the second file.

13 Clients wishing to register interest in these data files should telephone the HES contact officer on 02 6252 7031.

WORKING PAPERS

14 A series of working papers is proposed, which will provide further analysis of the results of the survey. The first of these, which will be available later this year, will identify and explain the differences between the 1998–99 HES estimates and 1998–99 Australian System of National Accounts household data.

15 Clients interested in receiving these working papers should telephone the HES contact officer on 02 6252 7031.

APPENDIX 2

INTRODUCTION

SAMPLING VARIABILITY

1 The HES estimates are based on a sample of possible observations. Hence, they are subject to sampling variability and estimates may differ from the figures that would have been produced if information had been collected for all households.

2 A measure of sampling variability, and the extent to which an estimate may vary from the true figure, is the standard error (SE). The standard error measures the likely difference between an estimate based on a sample and a true estimate that would have been derived had all the population households been surveyed.

3 There are two major factors which influence a standard error.

- *Sample size*—The larger the sample size, the more accurate the estimate and the smaller the standard error. Thus we expect more accurate estimates at the Australia level than at state level due to the larger sample size involved.
- *Variability of item values between households*—If the reported values for all households are similar, then the likely difference between the estimate based on a sample and the true figure is small and this is reflected by a small standard error. For example, the standard error for weekly expenditure on bread is very low relative to the estimated expenditure, because most households have reported expenditures of a similar value. Estimates of average expenditure on bread produced from the HES are therefore considered to be very reliable. Standard errors for the purchase of motor cycles are, however, quite high relative to average expenditure, reflecting the fact that despite the longer recall period, households reported highly variable values for expenditure on motor cycles (many reported no expenditure, while a small number reported high amounts). HES estimates of motor cycle expenditure are therefore less reliable and so are subject to higher relative standard error.

4 There are about 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all households had been surveyed, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

5 The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with higher relative standard errors are included in some HES publications, because they are the best estimates available. In this publication, estimates with an RSE of 25% to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) and those with an RSE of more than 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **6.1) to indicate that they should be used with caution.

NON-SAMPLING ERROR

6 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfect reporting by respondents, errors made in collection such as in recording and coding data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. It is not possible to quantify non-sampling error, but every effort is made to reduce it to a minimum. This is done by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

CALCULATING RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

7 The ABS has calculated the relative standard errors for a variety of the estimates shown in the publication, using a technique known as Jackknife. Regression models were then fitted to the relative standard errors that had been calculated using the Jackknife technique, to smooth the results, and to summarise them into a form which is concise enough to publish. The outcome of this work is published in each HES publication, where data are provided to enable relative standard errors to be calculated for each estimate shown in the publication.

8 Table A2.1 on the next page shows the relative standard error for each item, at the Australia level. Note that the relative standard error for *Other capital housing costs* is over 20% at the Australia level, and the item has therefore not been separately included in the tables of this publication.

9 To obtain the relative standard error for an estimate at any other level (e.g. for a state, or for an income quintile) the value in table A2.1 must be adjusted to take account of the smaller size of the sample contributing to that particular estimate. Because the sample size is smaller, the relative standard error will be larger. The first step in making this adjustment is to look up the number of sampled households contributing to the estimate for the item: the 'Number of households in sample' from a particular state, or income quintile, will be shown in the table which contains the estimate of interest.

10 The relative standard error for an estimate can be calculated by multiplying the relative standard error for the item at the Australian level (found directly from table A2.1), by an adjustment factor (found from graph A2.2) which compensates for the smaller sample size.

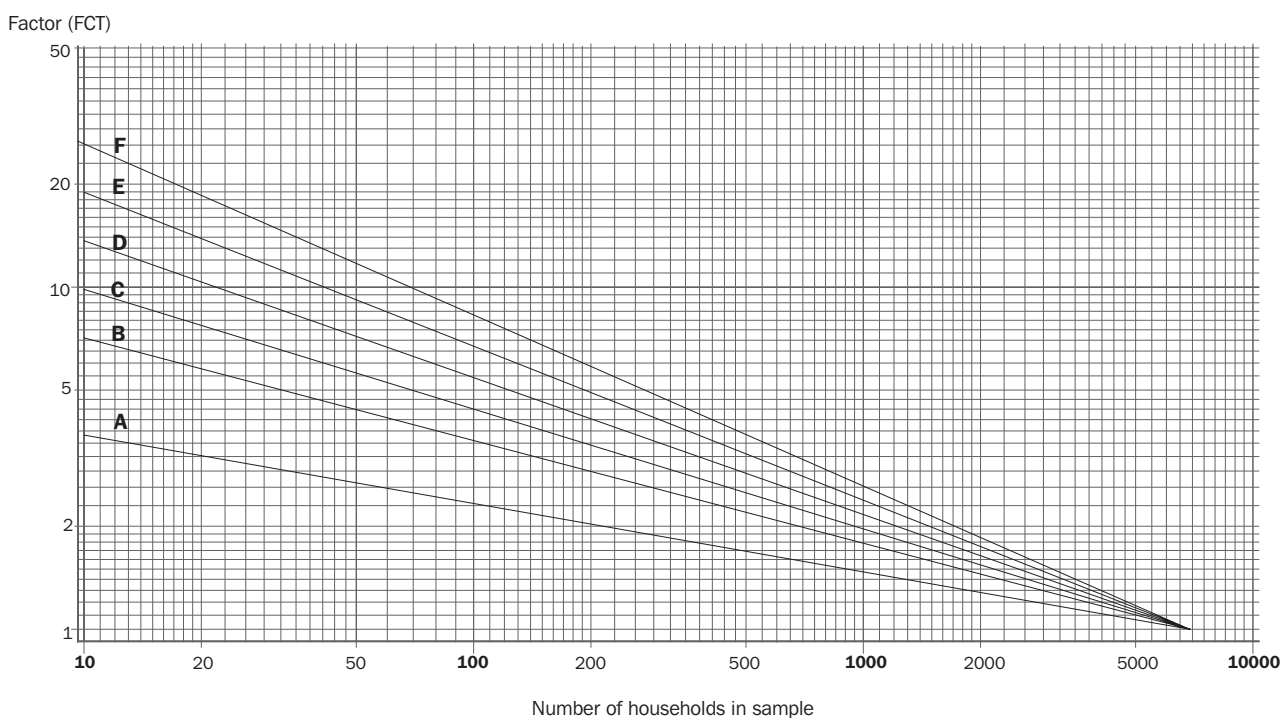
11 In theory, each different item requires a different adjustment factor. However, to prevent graph A2.2 from becoming illegible, the items have been formed into six groups (labelled A–F). Within each group of items, the theoretical adjustment factors are similar enough that a common adjustment factor can be used in practice. Table A2.1 indicates the group to which each item belongs.

A2.1 1998-99 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

	<i>Relative standard error (%) for Australia</i>	<i>Factor line</i>	<i>Sample size where RSE =25%</i>
Broad expenditure group			
Goods and services			
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	1.28	E	10
Domestic fuel and power	0.73	F	6
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.70	F	6
Alcoholic beverages	2.08	F	48
Tobacco products	2.56	F	73
Clothing and footwear	2.14	F	51
Household furnishings and equipment	3.16	E	70
Household services and operation	1.37	E	11
Medical care and health expenses	2.01	E	26
Transport	2.28	E	34
Recreation	1.54	F	27
Personal care	2.23	E	32
Miscellaneous goods and services	2.34	E	36
Total goods and services expenditure	0.87	E	4
Selected other payments			
Income tax	1.52	D	7
Mortgage repayments-principal (selected dwelling)	4.18	E	130
Other capital housing costs	20.64	B	3 638
Superannuation and life insurance	4.50	D	95
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS			
Average weekly household income (\$)			
Not categorised by quintile	0.90	F	9
First quintile	1.00	F	11
Second quintile	0.25	F	1
Third quintile	0.21	E	1
Fourth quintile	0.15	F	1
Fifth quintile	0.45	F	3
Source of income (% of total income)			
Employee income	1.04	F	12
Own business income	6.32	E	325
Government pensions and allowances	2.50	E	42
Other	4.16	F	191
<i>Total</i>	<i>1.35</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>21</i>
Average age of reference person	0.39	F	2
Average number of employed persons in household(a)	0.98	F	11
Average number of persons in the household			
Under 18 years	1.91	F	41
18 to 64 years	0.66	F	5
65 years and over(a)	3.23	F	115
Tenure type (% of households)			
Owners without a mortgage	1.88	F	40
Owners with a mortgage	2.17	F	52
Renters from state or territory housing authority	8.95	D	529
Renters-other	2.55	F	72
Other	10.31	E	962
Household composition (% of households)			
Couple, one family			
Couple only	2.22	F	42
Couple with dependent children only	2.16	F	40
Other couple, one family households	4.06	F	140
One parent, one family with dependent children	4.95	F	208
Other family households	7.29	F	450
Lone person(a)	1.94	F	32
Group	8.11	E	433
Estimated number in population ('000)			
Households			
Capital city(a)	5.45	D	154
Other urban	10.72	C	614
Rural	14.71	C	1 516
Total households(a)	3.42	F	129
Persons(a)	4.51	E	154

(a) This estimate for Australia is a benchmark total. RSEs for benchmark values should not be referenced from this publication. See paragraphs 15-17 for more details.

A2.2 FACTOR (FCT) TO USE IN RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR CALCULATIONS



CALCULATING RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

continued

12 Graph A2.2 plots the adjustment factor for each of these 6 groups (A–F) of items, against sample size. The adjustment factor for a particular estimate can be read off this graph, once the sample size contributing to the estimate, and the group to which the item belongs have been determined. In brief, the procedure for calculating the relative standard error for a particular estimate is as follows:

- from tables containing estimates in the relevant publication, look up the number of sampled households contributing to the estimate for the item;
- using table A2.1, look up the Australian relative standard error, R, for that item and the letter of the factor line corresponding to the item;
- using the factor line graph, read off the value of the factor, FCT, for the number of sampled households for the particular item;
- the relative standard error is calculated using the following equation:

$$RSE = FCT * R\%$$

where

R = the relative standard error of the estimate for Australia and is given in table A2.1; and

FCT = a factor based on the number of sampled households and is given in graph A2.2.

CALCULATING RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

continued

13 An example of the calculation of a relative standard error is given below. Table 1 shows that the estimate of average household expenditure on transport for the fourth income quintile group is \$154.80. The relative standard error on this group is calculated as follows.

- From table 1 the number of sampled households is 1,477.
- From table A2.1 the Australian RSE is 2.28% and the factor line required is E.
- Looking up line E on graph A2.2, when the number of sampled households is 1,477 the factor E is approximately 2.0.
- The RSE is thus: $2.0 * 2.28\% = 4.56\%$.

14 The estimate of average weekly expenditure for transport at the fourth quintile income level is \$154.80. Therefore the SE for this fourth quintile estimate is $RSE * estimate = 0.0456 * \$154.80 = \$7.06$. From here we can deduce that there are about 2 chances in 3 that the true value lies within \$7.06 of the estimate (or between \$147.74 and \$161.86) and 19 chances in 20 that it lies within \$14.12 of the estimate (or between \$140.68 and \$168.92).

STANDARD ERRORS FOR BENCHMARKED ESTIMATES

15 As outlined in paragraphs 39 and 40 of the Explanatory Notes, estimates derived from the survey were obtained using a complex regression estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independently estimated distributions of the population, also called benchmark totals.

16 The relative standard error of benchmark totals, and benchmark totals by quintile, should not be referenced from this publication. (All benchmark totals are footnoted "a" in table A2.1.) An indication of the quality of some household benchmark totals may be found in *Household Estimates 1986, 1991-94* (Cat. no. 3229.0). Person benchmark totals are not subject to sampling error, but are subject to non-sampling error.

17 The Australia-level relative standard errors of benchmark values are provided only as a means of calculating non-benchmark total estimates. For example, the average number of people aged over 65 years in a household is a benchmark total, so its Australian RSE should not be referenced from this publication; its Australian RSE in table A2.1 should only be used to calculate the RSE of non-benchmark estimates, such as the average number of people aged over 65 years living in a couple only household.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERRORS FOR DERIVED STATISTICS

18 Many figures of interest may be derived by taking sums, differences and ratios of the tabulated data.

19 Approximate standard errors for these 'derived estimates' can be calculated using the formulae below in which x_1 and x_2 are estimates and $SE(x_1)$ and $SE(x_2)$ are the standard errors of x_1 and x_2 . Exact standard errors for these 'derived estimates' have not been published, although they could be calculated upon request.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD
 ERRORS FOR DERIVED
 STATISTICS *continued*

20 Note: The approximate formulae are derived assuming the correlation between x_1 and x_2 is zero. Correlation, in this context, is a statistical estimate which measures the linear relationship between x_1 and x_2 and takes values in the range $[-1,1]$. The correlation will be exactly zero if the two estimates are based on independent subgroups of the sample (e.g. different states or income groups). Two estimates of the same subgroup will be positively correlated if large values of the items are likely to occur together (e.g. estimates of expenditure on transport are likely to be correlated with estimates of expenditure on purchase of vehicles because purchase of vehicles is a large part of the expenditure included in expenditure on transport).

Converting between relative
 standard error (RSE) and
 standard error (SE)

21 The relative standard error is the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate. Formulae for converting standard errors to relative standard errors and the relative standard errors to standard errors are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RSE}(x_1) &= (\text{SE}(x_1) * 100) / x_1 \\ \text{SE}(x_1) &= (x_1 * \text{RSE}(x_1)) / 100 \end{aligned}$$

22 Returning to the expenditure on transport example, average expenditure on transport (x_1) at the fourth income quintile level was \$154.80 and the RSE was equal to 4.56%. Therefore, the standard error ($\text{SE}(x_1)$) was equal to $(\$154.80 * 4.56) / 100 = \7.06 .

Calculating the standard
 error for summed estimates

23 New items or categories of expenditure can be derived by combining existing ones. The approximate standard error of the estimate is:

$$\text{SE}(x_1 + x_2) = \sqrt{(\text{SE}(x_1))^2 + (\text{SE}(x_2))^2}$$

24 For example, if we wanted to create a new category of expenditure, say of expenditure on transport and personal care, then to calculate the standard error of the new category we would need to know the standard error of expenditure on both transport and personal care. At the Australia level, the estimate for expenditure on transport (\$117.82) and personal care (\$13.73) can be obtained from table 1. Calculation of the standard error for the combined estimate of transport and personal care would be as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Given that } x_1 &= \text{average expenditure on transport} \\ \text{and } \text{SE}(x_1) &= (x_1 * \text{RSE}(x_1))/100 \\ &= (\$117.82 * 2.28)/100 \\ &= \$2.69 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and that } x_2 &= \text{average expenditure on personal care} \\ \text{and } \text{SE}(x_2) &= (x_2 * \text{RSE}(x_2))/100 \\ &= (\$13.73 * 2.23)/100 \\ &= \$0.31 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then} \\ \text{SE}(x_1 + x_2) &= \sqrt{(2.69)^2 + (0.31)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{7.24 + 0.10} \\ &= \$2.71 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating the standard error for summed estimates
continued

25 Note that if there was a non-zero correlation between x_1 and x_2 then the standard error for a sum would be:

$$SE(x_1 + x_2) = \sqrt{(SE(x_1))^2 + (SE(x_2))^2 + 2 * r * SE(x_1) * SE(x_2)}$$

where r is the sample correlation coefficient.

26 Thus, if the two estimates are positively correlated (i.e. $r > 0$) then the standard error will be underestimated; similarly if there is a negative correlation (i.e. $r < 0$) then the standard error will be overestimated.

Calculating the standard error for the difference between estimates

27 The standard error of the difference can be used to determine whether two estimates are significantly different, that is, whether the difference is unlikely to be due to sampling variability. If the difference between estimates is twice the standard error of the difference, then the estimates are said to be statistically different at the 95% confidence level.

28 The approximate standard error of the difference between estimates is:

$$SE(x_1 - x_2) = \sqrt{(SE(x_1))^2 + (SE(x_2))^2}$$

29 As can be seen, the approximate standard error of the difference involves the same calculations as the standard error of the sum. This approximation is accurate provided that the two estimates have zero correlation. If correlation exists then we obtain the standard error formula of

$$SE(x_1 - x_2) = \sqrt{(SE(x_1))^2 + (SE(x_2))^2 - 2 * r * SE(x_1) * SE(x_2)}$$

30 In this case a positive correlation will produce an overestimate of standard error whilst a negative correlation will produce an underestimate.

Calculating the standard error of the ratio of estimates

31 Two items can be compared by calculating the ratio of one to the other.

32 For example, researchers may want to express expenditure on petrol (expenditure code 10010301) as a percentage of total expenditure on transport costs (the sum of all expenditure codes beginning with 10).

33 The relative standard error of the percentage or proportion can be approximated using the formula:

$$RSE(x_1 / x_2) = \sqrt{(RSE(x_1))^2 + (RSE(x_2))^2}$$

34 As can be seen, this formula is similar to that used for calculating sums and differences between estimates, except that relative standard errors are used in the formula in place of the standard errors.

GLOSSARY

Age	Person's age at last birthday.
Average weekly expenditure	Value obtained by dividing the estimated weekly expenditure of a group of households by the estimated number of households in the group.
Average weekly income	Value obtained by dividing the estimated weekly income of a group of people/households by the estimated number of people/households in the group.
Broad expenditure group	The broadest level of the Household Expenditure Classification used in the 1998–99 survey. A list of the detailed expenditure items making up each broad expenditure group is included in the 1998–99 issue of <i>Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: User Guide</i> (Cat. no. 6527.0).
Capital cities	Australia's six state capital city statistical divisions, the Darwin Statistical Division and the Canberra Statistical Division.
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	A general measure of price inflation for the household sector in Australia. Specifically, it provides a measure of changes, over time, in the cost of a constant basket of goods and services acquired by capital city households in Australia.
Couple, one family household	A one family household consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ one couple only; or▪ one couple, with their dependent and/or non-dependent children only; or▪ one couple, with or without children, plus other relatives; or▪ one couple, with or without children and other relatives, plus unrelated individuals.
Couple	Two people in a registered or de facto marriage, who usually live in the same household.
Dependent children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All people aged under 15 years; and▪ people aged 15–24 years who are full-time students, have a parent in the household and do not have a partner or child of their own in the household.
Diary	A notebook in which each person aged 15 years and over who was usually resident in the selected dwelling recorded his or her daily expenditure over two weeks.

Employed person A person aged 15 years and over who, during the week prior to the interview:

- worked one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (includes employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked one hour or more, without pay, in a family business or on a family farm; or
- had a job, business or farm but was not at work because of holidays, sickness or other reason.

Employee An employed person who, for most of his/her working hours:

- works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wages or salary, or is paid a retainer fee by his/her employer and works on a commission basis, or works for an employer for tips, piece-rates or payment in kind; or
- operates his or her own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employee income The sum (prior to deductions for income tax, etc) of:

- usual weekly pay, including the amounts usually received from:
 - wages and salaries,
 - tips and commissions,
 - piecework payments,
 - penalty payments and shift allowances,
 - remuneration for time not worked e.g. sick pay, and
 - workers' compensation paid through the payroll;
- average weekly receipts from regular bonuses; and
- average weekly value of selected in-kind income from employers.

Expenditure The cost of goods and services acquired during the reference period for private use, whether or not those goods were paid for or consumed. Expenditure is net of refunds. For example, payments for health services are net of any refunds received or expected to be received. Expenditure is classified according to the 610 detailed items of the *Household Expenditure Classification*.

Family Two or more people, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who usually live in the same household. A separate family is formed for each married couple, or for each set of parent-child relationships where only one parent is present.

Full-time worker	An employed person who usually works 35 hours or more a week in total for all jobs.
Government pensions and allowances	<p>Receipts from the government under social security and related government programs. These are classified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Age/disability pensions (includes Age Pension and Disability Support Pension); ■ Unemployment/education/sickness allowances (includes Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance, Austudy/Abstudy Payment, Mature Age Allowance and Sickness Allowance); or ■ Other (includes Family Allowance, Parenting Payment, overseas pensions, Veterans Affairs pensions, etc.).
Group household	A household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all people are aged 15 years and over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.
Household	A group of related or unrelated people who usually live in the same dwelling and make common provision for living essentials; or a lone person who makes provision for his or her own living essentials without combining with any other person.
Household composition	Classifies households into three broad groupings based on the number of families present (one family, multiple family and non-family). One family households are further disaggregated according to the type of family (such as couple family or one parent family) and according to the number of dependent and non-dependent children, other relatives and unrelated individuals present. Non-family households are disaggregated into lone person households and group households.
Household Expenditure Classification (HEC)	The expenditure classification used in the <i>1998–99 Household Expenditure Survey</i> . At the most detailed level it consists of 610 items. At the broadest level it consists of 17 broad expenditure groups. All broad groups except <i>other capital housing costs</i> are presented in this publication. While the detailed classification is different from that used in the 1993–94 survey, there have been only minor changes at the broad expenditure group level. A copy of the classification is included in the 1998–99 issue of <i>Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: User Guide</i> (Cat. no. 6527.0).
Household questionnaire	Used to collect information on household characteristics, on irregular or infrequently occurring expenditure items and regular expenditure items common to all household members. Households were asked to recall expenditures over a period ranging from their last payment to two years (e.g. for house purchases).

Income	Regular and recurring receipts from all sources, prior to deductions for income tax, etc. Excludes lump-sum receipts, windfall gains and withdrawals from savings. Income from <i>Own business</i> and <i>Other regular income</i> can be negative. Most information about income is obtained on a current basis, though some relates to the previous financial year.
Income tax	This item was estimated for all households using taxation criteria for 1998–99 and the income and other characteristics of household members reported in the survey.
Individual questionnaire	Used to collect information from each person aged 15 years and over on individual details such as income, education and labour force status.
Labour force status	Classifies all people aged 15 years and over according to whether they were employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.
Lone person household	A household consisting of a person living alone.
Multiple family household	A household containing two or more families. Unrelated individuals may also be present.
Negative expenditure	Occurs if a household's receipts for a good or service (e.g. refunds, trade-ins, sales or successful insurance claims), over a specific period, exceeds the cost of acquisitions. For example, if a household sold a car in the previous 12 months and did not buy a replacement car or they bought a less expensive car, this household would report negative expenditure on cars.
Negative income	Occurs if the operating costs of an unincorporated business or rental property exceed the owner's gross receipts during the previous financial year.
Non-dependent children	All people aged 15 years and over who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ do not have a spouse or offspring of their own in the household; ■ have a parent in the household; and ■ are not full-time students aged 15–24 years.
Non-family household	Consists of unrelated people only. A non-family household can be either a person living alone or a group household.
Not in the labour force	People not in the categories of employed or unemployed. It includes people who were keeping house (unpaid), retired people, people engaged only in unpaid voluntary work and those who had a job but had not yet started work in it.

Occupation	Coded for all employed people aged 15 years and over, using the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)</i> , second edition, 1997 (Cat. no. 1220.0).
One family household	A household containing only one family. Unrelated individuals may also be present.
One parent, one family household	A one family household comprising a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child. The household may also include other relatives and unrelated individuals.
Other urban areas	All urban areas which had a population of 1,000 people or more at the time of the 1996 Population Census, excluding the capital cities.
Own business income	The profit or loss that accrues to people as owners of, or partners in, unincorporated enterprises. Profit/loss consists of the value of the gross output of the enterprise after the deduction of operating expenses (including depreciation). Losses occur when operating expenses are greater than gross receipts and are treated as negative income.
Part-time worker	An employed person who usually works less than 35 hours per week.
Principal source of income	The source from which the person/household receives the most income. For example, if a household receives \$1,000 employee income, \$900 own business income and \$450 property income, the principal source of income would be employee income. If the total income of the person/household is zero or negative, the principal source is undefined.
Quintiles (income)	Groupings that result from ranking all households in the population in ascending order according to each household's income and then dividing the population into five equal groups.
Reference person	<p>The reference person for each household is chosen by applying the selection criteria below to all usual residents aged 15 years and over from the top down until a single appropriate reference person is identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage; ■ a lone parent; ■ the person with the highest income; and ■ the eldest person. <p>For example, in a couple, one family household the partner with the highest income is generally the reference person. However if both partners have the same income, the reference person is the eldest.</p> <p>In households containing more than one family, the reference person is selected from the primary family. The primary family is the family which contains dependent children. If there is more than one family with dependent children, or there are no dependent children present in the household, then the primary family is the first family identified during the interview.</p>

Relative standard error (RSE)	The standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate for which it was calculated. It is a measure which is independent of both the size of the sample, and the unit of measurement and as a result, can be used to compare the reliability of different estimates. The smaller an estimate's RSE, the more likely it is that the estimate is a good proxy for that which would have been obtained if the whole population had been surveyed.
Rural areas	Localities with a population of less than 1,000 people at the time of the 1996 Population Census; and non-urban areas.
Saving	The part of household income that is not directly used up or transferred as part of household current consumption. Measures of saving cannot be validly derived from HES results.
Self-employed	An employed person who, for most of his/her working hours, works for his/her own unincorporated business (with or without hiring employees) or works without pay in a business operated by a relative.
Standard error	A measure of the likely difference between estimates obtained in a sample survey and estimates which would have been obtained if the whole population had been surveyed. The magnitude of the standard error associated with any survey is a function of sample design, sample size and population variability.
Statistical division	The largest spatial units of the main structure of the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification</i> (Cat. no. 1216.0).
Tenure type	The nature of a household's right to occupy the dwelling in which they usually live. Tenure is determined according to whether someone in the household: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ owns the dwelling outright; ■ owns the dwelling but has a mortgage or loan secured against it; ■ is paying rent to live in the dwelling; or ■ has some other arrangement to occupy the dwelling (such as under a life tenure scheme, a rent/buy scheme or rent-free).
Unemployed person	A person aged 15 years and over who was not employed during the week prior to the interview, had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks prior to the interview date, and would have been available to start work in the week prior to the interview.
Year of arrival in Australia	The year a person (born outside Australia) first arrived in Australia from another country, with the intention of staying in Australia for one year or more.

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