MARCH 2001

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Australian Bureau of Statistics

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

PEOPLE'S VIEWS AND PRACTICES

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 22 NOV 2001

CONTENTS

■ For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication is the seventh of its type and provides data on environmental behaviour and practices of Australian households and individuals collected in 2001. Respondents were aged 18 years or older. The topics covered include environmental involvement, use of environmentally friendly products, fertiliser and pesticide use, water sources and issues, and visits to World Heritage Areas, National and State Parks.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The data in this publication are derived from a supplement to the Monthly Population Survey. Please refer to Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication for further details about this survey.

DATA COMPARABILITY

A set of changing topics rotate over a period of three years. The topics contained in this publication compare with data collected in May 1992, June 1994 and March 1998. Where applicable those data have been included in this publication for comparison purposes.

Prior to 1997 environment topics were surveyed using a 'personal interview' methodology. From 1997 onwards the 'any responsible adult' methodology was applied. When comparing post-1997 and pre-1997 data readers should be aware that some differences in the data may be explained by the change in methodology rather than real changes over time.

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 occur between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
RSE	Relative standard error
SE	Standard error

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

LIST OF TABLES

WATER SOURCES, USE AND ISSUES

USE OF WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

CHAPTER 1 CONCERNS ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT

MAIN FINDINGS

- Less than two in three Australians (62%) stated that they were concerned about any environmental problems in 2001. This was a decrease from three in four (75%) in 1992.
- Of those who stated concern about environmental problems, less than one in ten (8%) registered their environmental concern by writing letters, telephoning, participating in a demonstration, signing a petition or making some other form of official expression.
- Of those that did register their environmental concern, 37% signed a petition, 33% wrote letters and a further 27% used the telephone. The least favoured method of registration was participation in a demonstration (6%).
- The majority of people who said that they were concerned about environmental problems in 2001 did not belong to any environmental group (93%). Most of those holding environmental group membership were members of non-specific environment groups (62%). Membership in landcare or catchment management groups (36%) were three times larger than that of marine conservation groups (11%).
- One in five Australians (20%) contributed some time or money to help protect the environment in the twelve months prior to March 2001.
- Nearly one in two people (49%) who were not involved in any environmental action stated the lack of time as the main reason for non-involvement. This compares with 45% of people whose main reason was no time in 1998.
- People aged 45–54 were more likely to be concerned about environmental problems (69%) than other age groups. They were also the most likely to register their environmental concern (15%).
- Younger people (18–24) were the most likely to participate in a demonstration (10%) or sign a petition (60%) to register their environmental concern and were more than twice as likely to pursue these options than those aged 55 and over. Younger people also reported the highest membership in environmental groups (9%).
- People aged 35–44 ranked highest in terms of contribution of time or money to environmental protection, with 23% of people in this age group doing so.
- People in the Australian Capital Territory reported the highest level of concern about environmental problems (71%) while those in New South Wales were the least likely to have any environmental concerns (59%).
- Australian Capital Territory residents were the least likely to register their environmental concerns (7%), with Western Australians the most likely to do so (12%).

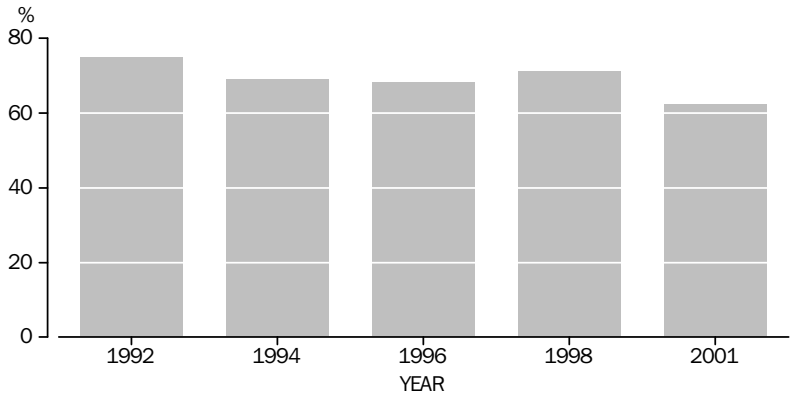
MAIN FINDINGS *continued*

- People in South Australia and Western Australia were the most likely to contribute time or money towards environmental protection, where one in four provided support (both 25%).

CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

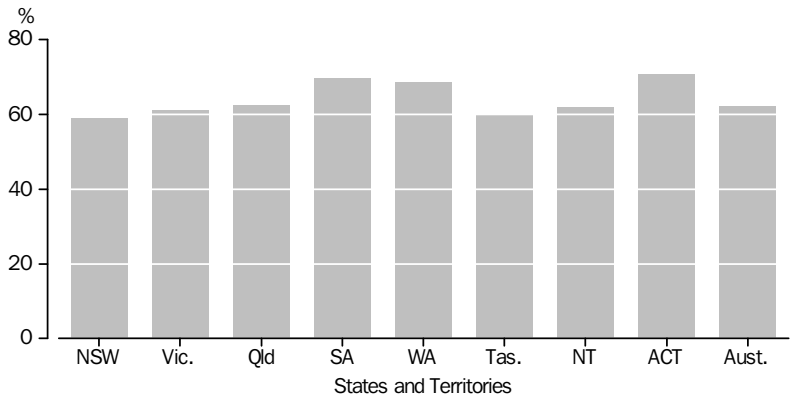
Since 1992, concern about environmental problems has showed a downward trend (the exception being 1998) (table 1.1, graph G1.1). In 1992, 75% of Australians stated that they were concerned about the environment, but the level of concern fell to 62% by March 2001. This trend was consistent across all States and Territories.

G1.1 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS



People in the Australian Capital Territory reported the highest level of concern about the environment (71%), followed closely by South Australia and Western Australia (70% and 69% respectively) (graph G1.2). New South Wales and Tasmania reported the lowest level of concern in 2001 (59% and 60% respectively). Since 1992, Tasmania has consistently reported lower levels of environmental concern than other States and Territories.

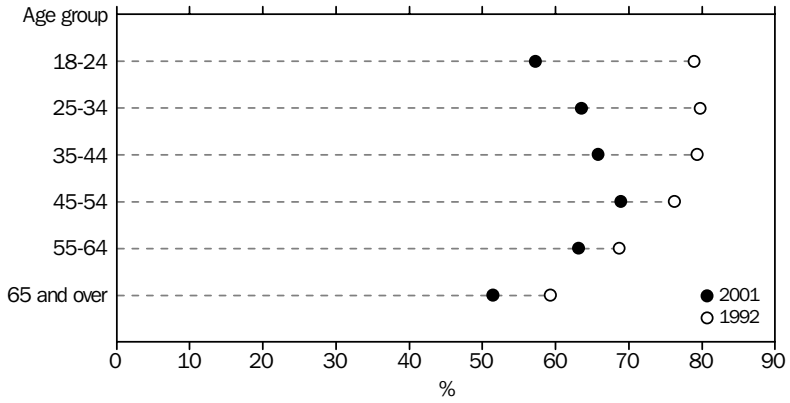
G1.2 LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS



Those aged between 45–54 expressed the most concern about environmental problems (69%) (table 1.2). All age groups showed a decline in environmental concerns since 1992, with younger people (aged 18–24) reporting the greatest decline (from 79% in 1992 down to 57% in 2001) (graph G1.3). People aged 65 and over were the least likely to be concerned about environmental problems (51% in 2001).

CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS *continued*

G1.3 CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, BY AGE

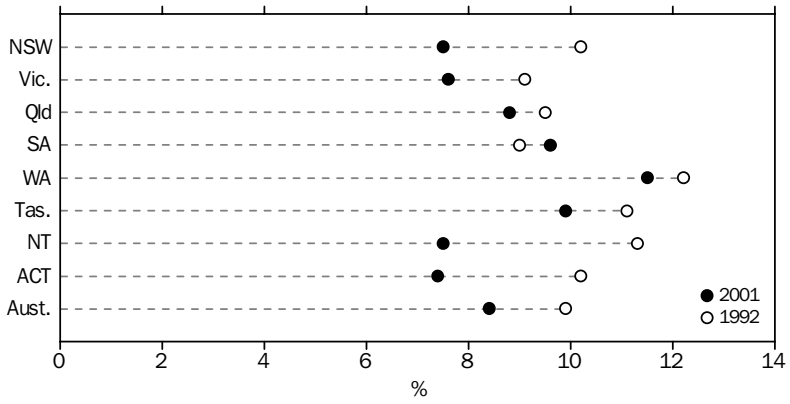


ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT

In the 12 months prior to March 2001, less than one in ten Australians (8%) formally registered their environmental concerns either by writing letters, telephoning, participating in a demonstration, signing a petition or making some other form of official expression (table 1.3).

Registration of environmental concerns by Australians fell across nearly all States and Territories between 1992 and 2001, with New South Wales, Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory reporting the greatest declines (graph G1.4).

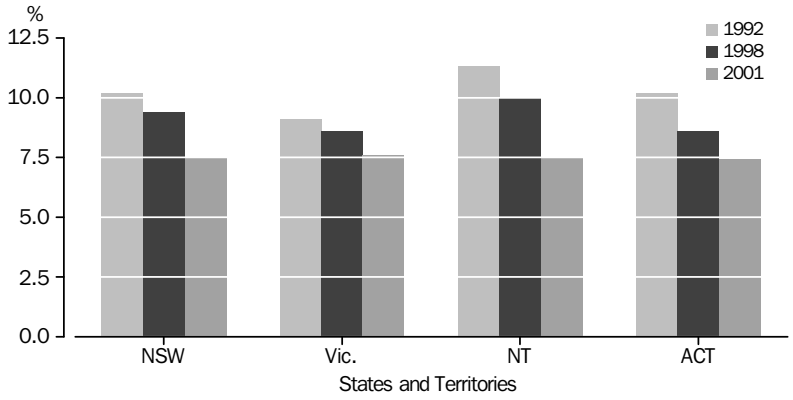
G1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS



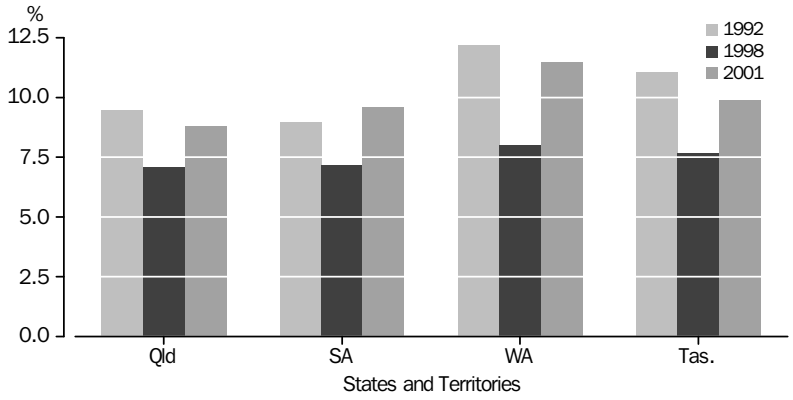
Graphs 1.5 and 1.6 present the proportion of people who reported having registered their environmental concerns in each State and Territory over the past three surveys. Formal registration of environmental concerns trended downwards in New South Wales, Victoria, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory (graph G1.5), but Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania showed a reversal of this trend in March 2001 (graph G1.6).

ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT *continued*

G1.5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED

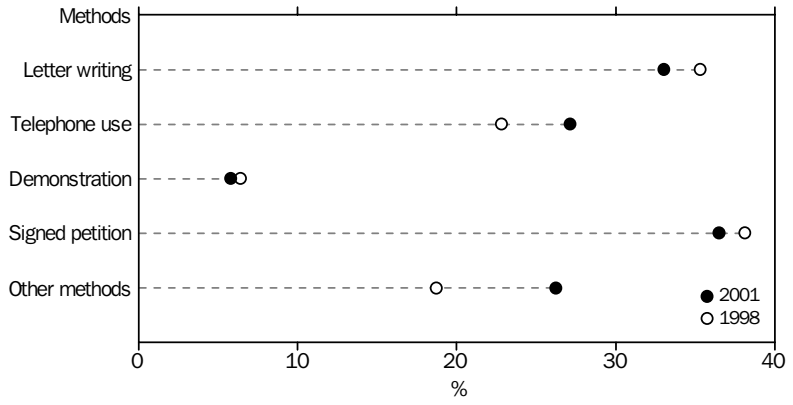


G1.6 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED



A signed petition was still the most favoured method (37%) of registering an environmental concern for those that did so (table 1.5).The next two most popular methods were letter writing (33%) and using the telephone (27%). The least favoured method was attending a demonstration, with only 6% of Australians registering an environmental concern in this manner (graph G1.7).

G1.7 METHOD OF REGISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN



Of those people who registered an environmental concern, Western Australians were far more likely to sign a petition than those from any other State or Territory (51% compared with the Australian average of 37%). They were also less likely to use the

ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT *continued*

telephone to register their concern (16% compared with the Australian average of 27%) (table 1.5).

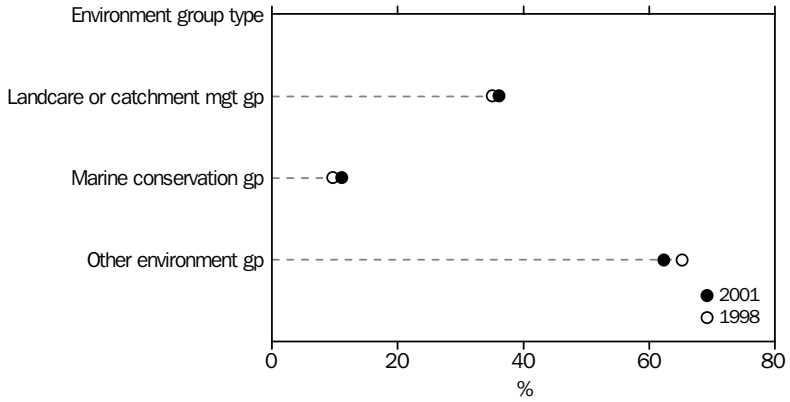
Age had a significant influence on the method of registering an environmental concern (table 1.6). Generally, as Australians got older they preferred to write letters to voice their concern rather than sign petitions. Younger people (18–24) were the most likely to participate in a demonstration (10%) or sign a petition (60%) and were more than twice as likely to pursue these options than those aged 55 and over. They were also the least likely to use the phone to lodge a concern (16%). Using the phone was most popular among the 55–64 age group (34%).

Over nine in ten people (93%) who said that they were concerned about environmental problems did not belong to any environmental group in March 2001 (table 1.7). Membership was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (10%) but lowest in Queensland (6%). All States and Territories recorded some slight increase in environmental group membership with the exception of the Northern Territory which showed a small decline.

Although younger people (18–24) were the least likely to have registered an environmental concern in the 12 months prior to March 2001 (table 1.4), they did however, have the highest membership in environmental groups (9%) (table 1.8). Membership in this age group has increased from 3% in 1998. People aged 65 and over were the least likely to be members (6%).

Of those people who were members of an environmental group, the majority (62%) belonged to non-specific environment groups (table 1.9, graph G1.8). Membership of landcare and catchment management groups (36%) was more than three times larger than that of marine conservation groups (11%).

G1.8 ENVIRONMENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP



Younger Australians (18–24) continued to show the strongest interest in non-specific environmental groups despite a slight drop in proportion (78% in 1998; 75% in 2001) (table 1.10). Those aged 55–64 recorded the highest membership of landcare or catchment management groups (50%).

Of people who were members of an environmental group, Victorians were most likely to be members of landcare or catchment management groups (45%), while Queenslanders ranked first in membership for marine conservation groups (20%). People in the

ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT *continued*

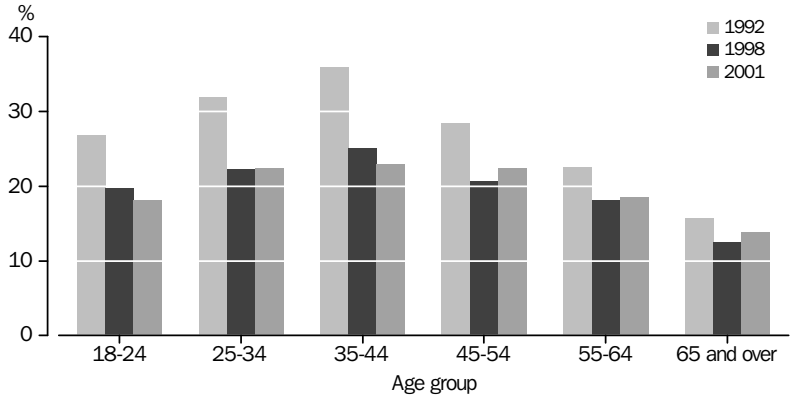
Australian Capital Territory had the lowest participation for both landcare or catchment management groups (19%) and marine conservation groups (4%).

In the 12 months prior to March 2001, one in five Australians (20%) donated some time or money to help protect the environment (table 1.12). This compares with 28% of people who did so in 1992, and 20% in 1998.

People in South Australia and Western Australia were the most likely to contribute time or money towards environmental protection (both 25%). People in the Northern Territory were the least likely to do so (14%).

People aged between 25–54 were more likely to have donated time or money in the twelve months prior to March 2001 (table 1.13, graph G1.9). The oldest and youngest age groups were the least likely to contribute time or money (14% and 18% respectively). Overall, the contribution of time or money towards environmental protection has decreased across all age groups since 1992.

G1.9 DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BY AGE



Some people did not participate in any environmental action at all. That is, they did not register an environmental concern; were not members of an environmental group; and did not donate time or money to help protect the environment. Nearly half of them claimed that they had no time for involvement in any of these environmental actions (49%) (table 1.14, graph G1.10). More people were finding the lack of time a problem since 1998 (45% in 1998; 49% in 2001). Around 12% could not state a main reason for not being involved; 10% claimed age and health related reasons; and 7% did not know how to get involved. Less than 5% of the population stated the main reason as being either no money; not interested; or that they did not think it would make a difference.

Households comprising a couple with dependent child(ren) rated highest for those households stating they had no time for environmental actions (64%), followed by one parent with dependent child(ren) households (57%) (table 1.15). One person households were more likely to cite age or health factors as the main impediment than any other household type (22% compared with 10% for Australia as a whole).

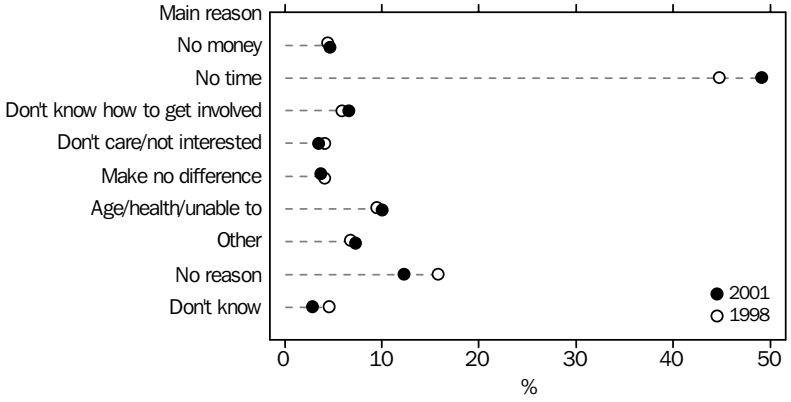
People aged 25–44 continued to rank highest for having no time to spare for environmental actions (62% of 35–44 year olds, and 59% of 25–34 year olds) (table 1.16). This was despite these age groups expressing a greater level of concern about environmental problems than the Australian average (see table 1.2). Younger people

ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT *continued*

(18–24) continued to be the most likely to have no money to spare (7% in 2001) and not knowing how to get involved (9% in 2001). For those aged 65 and over, the major reason for non-involvement in environmental action was due to age or health or inability (47% in 2001).

The Australian Capital Territory was most likely to have residents who cited no time as the main reason for not being involved in environmental actions (58%), and Tasmanians were least likely to make this claim (43%).

G1.10 MAIN REASON FOR NON-INVOLVEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS



1.1 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Yes	2 846.0	2 200.2	1 646.5	783.0	952.6	205.6	67.1	161.3	8 862.3
No	1 834.0	1 249.2	927.9	318.3	399.5	123.5	37.5	62.7	4 952.6
Don't know	141.6	143.0	58.7	21.9	38.6	14.4	*3.9	*4.0	426.2
Total	**4 821.7**	**3 592.3**	**2 633.1**	**1 123.2**	**1 390.7**	**343.4**	**108.5**	**228.0**	**14 241.0**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	59.0	61.2	62.5	69.7	68.5	59.9	61.8	70.7	62.2
No	38.0	34.8	35.2	28.3	28.7	35.9	34.6	27.5	34.8
Don't know	2.9	4.0	2.2	2.0	2.8	4.2	*3.6	*1.7	3.0
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	73.0	70.7	67.5	72.5	72.5	64.6	70.3	76.0	71.1
No	24.1	28.1	31.2	25.3	25.8	34.2	28.6	23.1	26.9
Don't know	3.0	1.2	1.3	2.2	1.7	*1.2	*1.1	*0.9	1.9
APRIL 1996									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	66.5	70.5	66.8	72.6	70.8	58.1	66.1	75.1	68.4
No	31.0	27.7	32.0	25.8	28.4	41.0	33.9	24.3	29.8
Don't know	2.5	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.8	*0.8	—	*0.6	1.8
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	69.2	67.2	68.5	73.0	70.1	61.3	77.2	74.2	68.9
No	27.8	30.5	29.1	25.6	27.1	37.0	25.3	24.9	28.6
Don't know	2.9	2.2	2.4	1.5	2.8	1.7	2.5	*0.9	2.5
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	73.6	75.2	74.0	77.0	76.0	70.7	79.6	83.5	74.8
No	24.1	22.2	24.0	21.4	21.8	28.2	17.7	14.4	23.0
Don't know	2.3	2.6	1.9	1.5	2.2	1.1	2.7	2.1	2.2

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

1.2 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, By age

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

	18–24	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Yes	57.2	63.5	65.8	68.9	63.1	51.4	62.2
No	37.6	32.7	31.7	28.6	34.8	46.6	34.8
Don't know	5.3	3.8	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.1	3.0
MARCH 1998							
Yes	74.1	76.0	77.4	73.9	67.4	52.4	71.1
No	24.7	22.8	21.0	24.4	30.6	43.3	26.9
Don't know	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.0	4.3	1.9
APRIL 1996							
Yes	72.7	72.1	73.2	70.9	64.2	52.9	68.4
No	25.4	26.1	25.4	27.8	33.9	44.7	29.8
Don't know	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.9	2.4	1.8
JUNE 1994							
Yes	73.6	73.4	75.8	71.6	63.0	49.7	68.9
No	24.6	24.2	22.4	26.8	34.1	45.6	28.6
Don't know	1.9	2.3	1.8	1.6	2.9	4.8	2.5
MAY 1992							
Yes	78.9	79.8	79.3	76.2	68.7	59.3	74.8
No	18.8	18.2	19.2	21.9	28.9	37.0	23.0
Don't know	2.3	2.1	1.5	1.8	2.4	3.7	2.2

1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED IN LAST 12 MONTHS, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Yes	352.5	262.4	227.3	105.9	156.0	32.5	*7.8	16.6	1 160.9
No	2 465.5	1 917.0	1 410.4	673.1	784.5	171.3	59.3	143.1	7 624.1
Don't know	28.1	20.8	*8.8	*4.0	*12.2	*1.8	—	*1.6	77.2
No concerns	1 834.0	1 249.2	927.9	318.3	399.5	123.5	37.5	62.7	4 952.6
Total	**4 680.0**	**3 449.3**	**2 574.4**	**1 101.3**	**1 352.1**	**329.0**	**104.6**	**224.0**	**13 814.8**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	7.5	7.6	8.8	9.6	11.5	9.9	*7.5	7.4	8.4
No	52.7	55.6	54.8	61.1	58.0	52.0	56.7	63.9	55.2
Don't know	0.6	0.6	*0.3	*0.4	*0.9	*0.6	—	*0.7	0.6
No concerns	39.2	36.2	36.0	28.9	29.5	37.5	35.9	28.0	35.8
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	9.4	8.6	7.1	7.2	8.0	7.7	10.0	8.6	8.4
No	53.3	52.4	54.4	57.6	58.3	47.0	57.7	60.0	54.1
Don't know	*0.3	0.8	0.7	*0.2	1.1	*0.6	*0.3	—	0.6
No concerns	37.0	38.2	37.8	35.0	32.6	44.7	32.1	31.3	36.9
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	10.2	9.1	9.5	9.0	12.2	11.1	11.3	10.2	9.9
No	63.3	65.7	64.2	68.0	63.5	59.4	68.1	72.7	64.6
Don't know	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3
No concerns	26.4	24.8	26.0	23.0	24.0	29.3	20.4	16.5	25.2

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN REGISTERED IN LAST 12 MONTHS, By age

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
	18–24	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Yes	11.7	12.3	13.2	15.0	13.8	11.8	13.1
No	87.1	86.6	86.0	84.0	85.9	87.5	86.0
Don't know	*1.2	1.1	*0.8	1.0	*0.3	*0.7	0.9
MARCH 1998							
Yes	10.0	13.1	15.5	15.0	14.3	9.9	13.3
No	87.1	85.9	84.0	84.6	85.2	89.6	85.8
Don't know	2.9	1.0	*0.6	*0.4	*0.5	*0.5	0.9
MAY 1992							
Yes	9.9	14.1	16.4	13.5	13.2	10.0	13.2
No	89.8	85.6	83.2	86.3	86.1	89.6	86.4
Don't know	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

1.5 PERSONS WHO REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, By States and Territories(a)

Method	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Letter	134.9	89.0	66.6	26.3	46.5	11.2	*3.4	*5.7	383.6
Telephone	90.5	83.7	75.2	26.5	25.6	*6.4	*2.9	*4.0	314.7
Demonstration	*20.9	*16.8	*10.7	*5.9	*8.7	*2.6	—	*1.3	66.8
Signed petition	115.2	89.2	74.9	41.6	79.4	14.1	*3.4	*5.9	423.6
Other	85.5	67.4	54.1	34.6	47.6	8.9	*0.7	*5.5	304.2
All methods	**352.5**	**262.4**	**227.3**	**105.9**	**156.0**	**32.5**	***7.8**	**16.6**	**1 160.9**
Proportion (%)									
Letter	38.3	33.9	29.3	24.8	29.8	34.4	*44.0	*34.4	33.0
Telephone	25.7	31.9	33.1	25.0	16.4	*19.5	*36.7	*24.1	27.1
Demonstration	*5.9	*6.4	*4.7	*5.6	*5.6	*7.9	—	*8.1	5.8
Signed petition	32.7	34.0	33.0	39.3	50.9	43.4	*43.5	*35.2	36.5
Other	24.2	25.7	23.8	32.7	30.5	27.4	*9.2	*33.0	26.2
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Letter	41.8	29.4	33.0	33.7	31.6	33.4	*26.6	31.2	35.3
Telephone	17.1	25.9	28.1	32.2	21.8	33.1	*9.6	*16.0	22.8
Demonstration	8.6	*4.9	*4.9	*4.2	*3.8	*4.3	*20.4	*12.2	6.4
Signed petition	35.8	40.4	37.8	31.1	42.6	41.7	67.8	38.5	38.1
Other	19.2	19.6	16.1	19.6	18.2	*16.3	*17.6	*21.6	18.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

1.6 PERSONS WHO REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, By age(a)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
Method	*18–24* %	*25–34* %	*35–44* %	*45–54* %	*55–64* %	*65 and over* %	*Total* %
MARCH 2001							
Letter	18.4	32.4	30.7	39.5	33.9	38.3	33.0
Telephone	16.4	30.4	28.4	26.8	34.3	21.4	27.1
Demonstration	*9.9	9.2	*3.4	*4.9	*3.8	*4.4	5.8
Signed petition	59.5	36.8	37.8	35.3	27.4	24.7	36.5
Other	18.9	22.8	23.2	27.9	34.0	32.1	26.2
MARCH 1998							
Letter	29.4	36.4	35.7	32.9	40.0	37.1	35.3
Telephone	15.9	21.7	20.8	21.2	35.2	26.5	22.8
Demonstration	*10.7	9.5	*5.4	*5.1	*5.0	*2.0	6.4
Signed petition	45.1	43.0	42.0	32.4	27.8	33.5	38.1
Other	*12.8	14.5	20.0	27.3	17.1	*14.2	18.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

1.7 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENT, By States and Territories

Environment group member	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Yes	180.7	164.3	97.6	58.9	71.3	15.5	*5.0	15.5	608.9
No	2 665.3	2 035.8	1 548.9	724.1	881.4	190.1	62.1	145.8	8 253.4
All concerned	**2 846.0**	**2 200.2**	**1 646.5**	**783.0**	**952.6**	**205.6**	**67.1**	**161.3**	**8 862.3**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	6.4	7.5	5.9	7.5	7.5	7.6	*7.4	9.6	6.9
No	93.6	92.5	94.1	92.5	92.5	92.4	92.6	90.4	93.1
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	5.8	5.6	4.0	6.4	5.0	6.5	8.4	7.5	5.5
No	94.2	94.4	96.0	93.6	95.0	93.5	91.6	92.5	94.5

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

1.8 PERSONS CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENT, By age

Environment group member	AGE GROUP (YEARS) 18–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Yes	9.2	5.8	7.4	7.2	6.2	5.6	6.9
No	90.8	94.2	92.6	92.8	93.8	94.4	93.1
MARCH 1998							
Yes	3.4	5.6	5.7	6.9	5.8	4.5	5.5
No	96.6	94.4	94.3	93.1	94.2	95.5	94.5

1.9 PERSONS MEMBERS OF ENVIRONMENT GROUP, By States and Territories(a)

Type of group	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Marine conservation group	*12.4	20.4	*19.2	*5.4	*7.6	*1.7	*0.5	*0.6	67.8
Landcare or catchment management group	67.4	73.2	30.8	15.5	23.0	*6.0	*1.3	*3.0	220.3
Any other environment group	111.4	87.2	67.7	41.8	46.3	9.1	*3.6	12.6	379.6
All members	**180.7**	**164.3**	**97.6**	**58.9**	**71.3**	**15.5**	***5.0**	**15.5**	**608.9**
Proportion (%)									
Marine conservation group	*6.9	12.4	*19.7	*9.2	*10.6	*10.7	*9.5	*4.1	11.1
Landcare or catchment management group	37.3	44.6	31.6	26.4	32.2	*38.6	*26.8	*19.1	36.2
Any other environment group	61.6	53.0	69.3	70.9	65.0	58.3	*72.1	80.9	62.3
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Marine conservation group	*8.2	*6.5	*8.3	*19.2	*12.8	*13.6	*10.6	*17.6	9.7
Landcare or catchment management group	40.6	33.6	22.6	37.8	32.4	42.2	*19.9	*36.0	35.1
Any other environment group	62.5	70.7	73.5	50.5	65.0	57.7	*86.2	60.1	65.2

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one group may be specified.

1.10 PERSONS MEMBERS OF ENVIRONMENT GROUP, By age(a)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
	18–24	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
Type of group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Marine conservation group	*12.1	*11.4	13.3	*11.2	*3.0	*13.1	11.1
Landcare or catchment management group	20.3	30.2	38.7	40.8	49.9	40.6	36.2
Any other environment group	75.1	72.1	54.4	59.5	53.1	59.9	62.3
MARCH 1998							
Marine conservation group	*11.9	*8.9	*11.4	*8.0	*11.7	*7.3	9.7
Landcare or catchment management group	*25.2	31.9	32.0	36.0	51.2	36.9	35.1
Any other environment group	77.5	68.6	67.8	60.6	47.9	71.7	65.2

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one group may be specified.

1.11 PERSONS MEMBERS OF ENVIRONMENT GROUP, By household type(a)

	One person	*Couple only*	*Households with members over 15*	*Couple, dependent child(ren)*	*One parent, dependent child(ren)*	*All other households*	*Total*
Type of group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Marine conservation group	*13.1	*9.8	*7.2	*6.1	*8.6	22.5	11.1
Landcare or catchment management group	33.6	36.5	40.3	43.7	*23.4	26.1	36.2
Any other environment group	65.2	65.3	59.1	58.0	*70.8	63.6	62.3
MARCH 1998							
Marine conservation group	*17.4	*10.2	*12.7	*6.5	*7.9	*4.5	9.7
Landcare or catchmnet management group	*26.5	41.4	34.1	30.4	*20.3	44.5	35.1
Any other environment group	70.6	60.2	62.0	70.9	*82.5	58.3	65.2

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one group may be specified.

1.12 DONATED TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Yes	942.3	655.7	509.7	279.6	345.5	72.9	15.0	54.4	2 875.1
No	3 879.4	2 936.7	2 123.5	843.6	1 045.2	270.5	93.5	173.6	11 365.9
Total	**4 821.7**	**3 592.3**	**2 633.1**	**1 123.2**	**1 390.7**	**343.4**	**108.5**	**228.0**	**14 241.0**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	19.5	18.3	19.4	24.9	24.8	21.2	13.8	23.9	20.2
No	80.5	81.7	80.6	75.1	75.2	78.8	86.2	76.1	79.8
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Yes	20.2	19.6	18.6	22.3	22.8	19.1	23.1	23.9	20.2
No	79.8	80.4	81.4	77.7	77.2	80.9	76.9	76.1	79.8
					MAY 1992				
Proportion (%)									
Yes	25.1	26.4	30.8	30.8	33.7	26.1	38.6	36.4	28.0
No	74.9	73.6	69.2	69.2	66.3	73.9	61.4	63.6	72.0

1.13 DONATED TIME OR MONEY TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, By age

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

	18–24	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
				MARCH 2001			
Yes	18.2	22.4	23.0	22.4	18.6	13.8	20.2
No	81.8	77.6	77.0	77.6	81.4	86.2	79.8
				MARCH 1998			
Yes	19.8	22.2	25.0	20.7	18.1	12.5	20.2
No	80.2	77.8	75.0	79.3	81.9	87.5	79.8
				MAY 1992			
Yes	26.8	31.9	36.0	28.4	22.5	15.7	28.0
No	73.2	68.1	64.0	71.6	77.5	84.3	72.0

1.14 PERSONS NOT INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS, By States and Territories

Main reason	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
No money	87.3	67.6	49.2	21.7	23.6	8.6	*5.5	*3.5	267.0
No time	896.6	724.3	520.0	229.1	307.4	55.7	22.5	60.5	2 816.2
Don't know how to get involved	112.7	115.0	91.8	30.1	17.9	*4.7	*1.8	*3.4	377.4
Don't care/not interested	56.0	34.9	55.3	18.1	24.2	*4.7	*2.1	*5.0	200.2
Don't think it will make a difference	64.2	52.3	51.3	*11.9	22.3	*6.0	*0.3	*3.7	211.9
Age/health/unable to	196.6	134.4	100.6	57.7	57.1	16.6	*3.6	*6.1	572.7
Other	125.3	111.6	74.6	30.9	52.3	9.0	*6.4	8.7	419.0
No reason	197.4	215.1	116.5	67.5	69.8	20.1	*5.8	11.7	704.0
Don't know	63.7	32.1	27.7	19.7	*14.1	*4.6	*1.5	*1.9	165.4
All not involved	**1 799.9**	**1 487.2**	**1 087.0**	**486.7**	**588.8**	**130.1**	**49.6**	**104.6**	**5 733.8**
Proportion (%)									
No money	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.0	6.6	*11.1	*3.4	4.7
No time	49.8	48.7	47.8	47.1	52.2	42.8	45.4	57.8	49.1
Don't know how to get involved	6.3	7.7	8.4	6.2	3.0	*3.6	*3.7	*3.2	6.6
Don't care/not interested	3.1	2.3	5.1	3.7	4.1	*3.6	*4.2	*4.8	3.5
Don't think it will make a difference	3.6	3.5	4.7	*2.4	3.8	*4.6	*0.6	*3.5	3.7
Age/health/unable to	10.9	9.0	9.3	11.9	9.7	12.8	*7.3	*5.9	10.0
Other	7.0	7.5	6.9	6.4	8.9	6.9	*13.0	8.3	7.3
No reason	11.0	14.5	10.7	13.9	11.9	15.5	*11.8	11.2	12.3
Don't know	3.5	2.2	2.5	4.1	*2.4	*3.5	*3.0	*1.8	2.9
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
No money	4.7	3.8	4.5	4.9	3.9	3.7	*6.2	*4.1	4.4
No time	45.1	46.2	44.1	42.7	42.4	39.7	55.6	51.8	44.8
Don't know how to get involved	4.8	7.1	6.1	5.9	6.7	4.0	*4.8	*4.0	5.9
Don't care/not interested	3.0	4.4	4.9	5.1	4.7	5.2	*4.0	*3.5	4.1
Don't think it will make a difference	3.1	3.7	4.7	4.3	7.0	4.8	*4.2	5.0	4.1
Age/health/unable to	10.3	9.6	8.8	10.1	7.5	12.3	*6.5	5.7	9.5
Other	6.3	6.1	8.0	6.8	7.8	8.4	*4.6	8.5	6.8
No reason	15.8	16.1	15.0	17.3	15.2	18.7	13.9	15.4	15.8
Don't know	6.9	3.0	3.8	2.9	4.7	*3.1	—	*2.1	4.6

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

1.15 PERSONS NOT INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS, By household type ....

Main reason	*One person*	*Couple only*	*Households with members over 15*	*Couple, dependent child(ren)*	*One parent, dependent child(ren)*	*All other households*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
No money	6.7	3.2	4.0	3.6	12.9	7.1	4.7
No time	35.0	39.6	49.9	64.4	57.0	46.8	49.1
Don't know how to get involved	6.1	5.8	7.3	6.6	*5.0	7.6	6.6
Don't care/not interested	4.2	4.3	3.6	2.6	*3.3	2.9	3.5
Don't think it will make a difference	3.3	3.6	3.9	3.3	*1.4	5.0	3.7
Age/health/unable to	21.7	18.5	7.0	*1.0	*3.1	7.1	10.0
Other	8.1	9.3	6.3	6.4	*7.3	6.2	7.3
No reason	13.2	13.4	13.6	10.1	*8.0	12.5	12.3
Don't know	*1.7	2.2	4.4	2.1	*1.9	4.7	2.9
MARCH 1998							
No money	5.5	3.7	3.6	4.0	*11.2	5.1	4.4
No time	30.8	35.0	46.7	58.9	51.4	44.8	44.8
Don't know how to get involved	7.5	5.8	4.5	6.0	*5.5	6.9	5.9
Don't care/not interested	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.4	*1.3	3.7	4.1
Don't think it will make a difference	4.6	5.5	4.4	2.3	*4.2	3.9	4.1
Age/health/unable to	22.4	16.4	6.2	*1.0	*3.3	7.5	9.5
Other	7.5	7.5	6.7	6.5	*4.3	6.4	6.8
No reason	13.7	17.8	16.5	14.3	16.2	15.7	15.8
Don't know	3.4	4.1	7.3	2.6	*2.7	6.0	4.6

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

1.16 PERSONS NOT INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS, By age

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

Main reason	*18–24*	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
No money	7.2	4.4	4.6	3.3	4.7	4.8	4.7
No time	49.4	59.4	61.6	55.0	40.1	14.8	49.1
Don't know how to get involved	9.2	7.1	6.9	6.4	5.5	4.4	6.6
Don't care/not interested	3.9	2.6	3.0	3.7	4.8	3.7	3.5
Don't think it will make a difference	4.1	2.9	3.8	3.6	5.0	3.3	3.7
Age/health/unable to	*1.8	1.6	1.7	4.7	12.7	47.4	10.0
Other	5.9	7.2	4.9	7.9	10.9	8.3	7.3
No reason	13.0	12.0	11.7	12.6	14.2	10.8	12.3
Don't know	5.6	3.0	2.0	2.9	*2.1	2.4	2.9
MARCH 1998							
No money	5.2	4.6	3.8	3.6	4.5	4.7	4.4
No time	49.5	54.6	58.1	48.4	30.0	12.7	44.8
Don't know how to get involved	7.3	5.7	6.4	6.0	6.7	3.2	5.9
Don't care/not interested	4.1	2.7	4.1	4.1	6.5	4.4	4.1
Don't think it will make a difference	4.5	2.7	2.8	5.1	6.0	5.1	4.1
Age/health/unable to	*1.4	2.0	*1.3	4.1	13.0	45.1	9.5
Other	5.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	8.1	6.8	6.8
No reason	17.0	15.5	14.0	16.5	18.6	14.7	15.8
Don't know	5.3	5.4	2.5	5.2	6.6	3.2	4.6

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

CHAPTER 2 USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, FERTILISERS AND PESTICIDES

MAIN FINDINGS

- In 2001, the most widely used environmentally friendly product in Australian households was refillable containers (51%), followed by the use of recycled paper (48%).
- More than half of all Australian households claimed they never ate organically grown fruit and vegetables (56%) and nearly one in two households did not use unbleached paper (45%) or phosphate-free cleaning products (43%).
- A fair proportion of Australian households used environmentally friendly products occasionally. Nearly a quarter consumed organically grown fruit or vegetables (23%) from time to time, while more than a fifth used recycled paper (22%) sometimes.
- Cost was the single most important factor which prevented households from using environmentally friendly products. Over a third of households (37%) which did not use them believed that these products were more expensive to buy. About 4% of them were not convinced of the environmental benefits.
- Over four in five Australian households used some form of fertiliser when they grew fruit or vegetables in their gardens (85%). Three quarters reported using manure or compost (76%).
- Of the other types of fertilisers used by households, blood and bone was used in over a third of these households (35%), and nitrogen was used by 23%. A large proportion (49%) used unspecified fertiliser.
- Over two-thirds of Australian households did not use any pesticides or weedkillers when growing fruit and vegetables in their gardens (69%).
- People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to use unbleached paper (39%), recycled paper (57%) and refillable containers (61%). Tasmanians were the largest users of phosphate-free cleaning products (30%) and the greatest consumers of organically grown fruit and vegetables (27%).
- People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to perceive environmentally friendly products as being more expensive (45%). They also rated highest for doubting the environmental claims (7%), and for believing that these products were of inferior quality (19%).
- Households in New South Wales were the most frequent users of pesticides or weedkillers (35%), while the lowest level of use was in the Northern Territory (25%).

HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

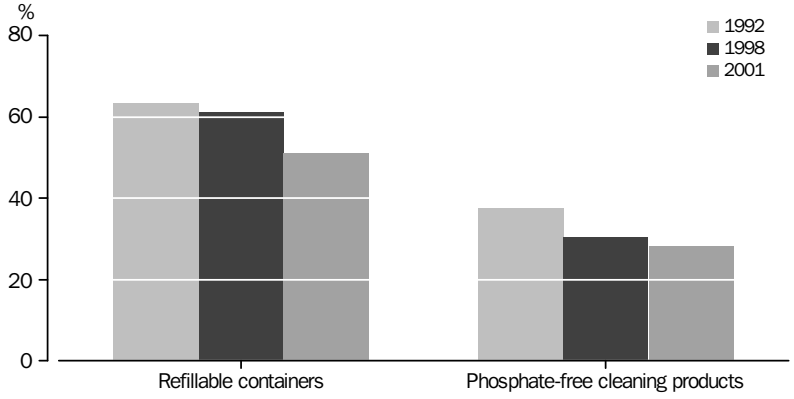
The main environmentally friendly product used by Australian households in 2001 was refillable containers (used by 51% of households). This was down from 61% reported in 1998 (table 2.1). Recycled paper was the second most commonly used environmentally friendly product (48%), followed by unbleached paper (33%).

The use of refillable containers and phosphate-free cleaning products in Australian households has waned since 1992 (graph G2.1). The use of unbleached paper and

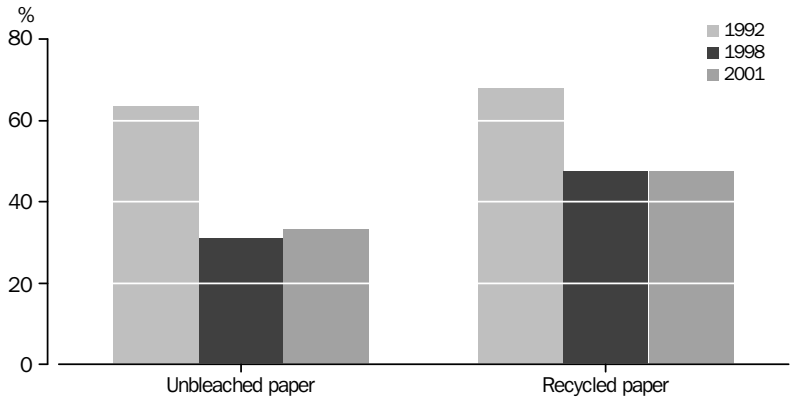
HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS *continued*

recycled paper dropped quite significantly between 1992 and 1998, but has stabilised in 2001 (graph G2.2). Less than one in five households regularly consumed organically grown fruit and vegetables (19%).

G2.1 USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS



G2.2 USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS



The survey also captured those households that used environmentally friendly products occasionally. Nearly a quarter consumed organically grown fruit or vegetables from time to time (23%), while more than a fifth used recycled paper irregularly (22%). Almost one in five households used unbleached paper sometimes (18%), and more than one in ten reported that they used refillable containers (14%) and phosphate-free cleaning products periodically (11%).

More than half of all Australian households claimed they never ate organically grown fruit and vegetables at all (56%) and nearly one in two households did not use unbleached paper (45%) or phosphate-free cleaning products (43%). A third of the households stated that they did not use refillable containers (34%) while slightly more than a quarter said they had never used recycled paper (28%).

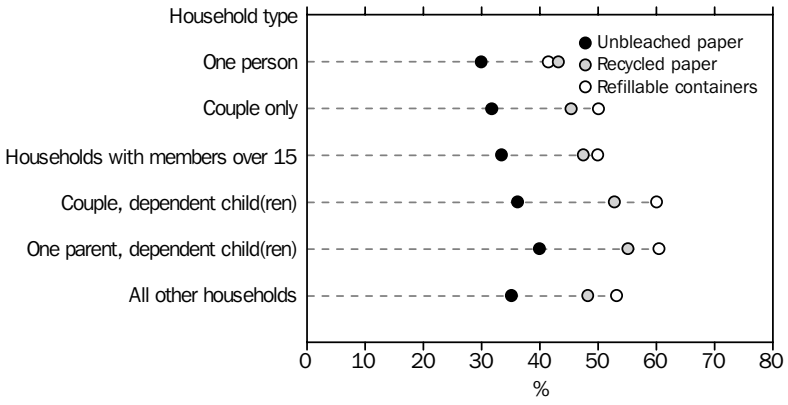
People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to use unbleached paper (39%), recycled paper (57%) and refillable containers (61%). Tasmanians were the largest users of phosphate-free cleaning products (30%) and the greatest consumers of organically grown fruit and vegetables (27%).

HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS *continued*

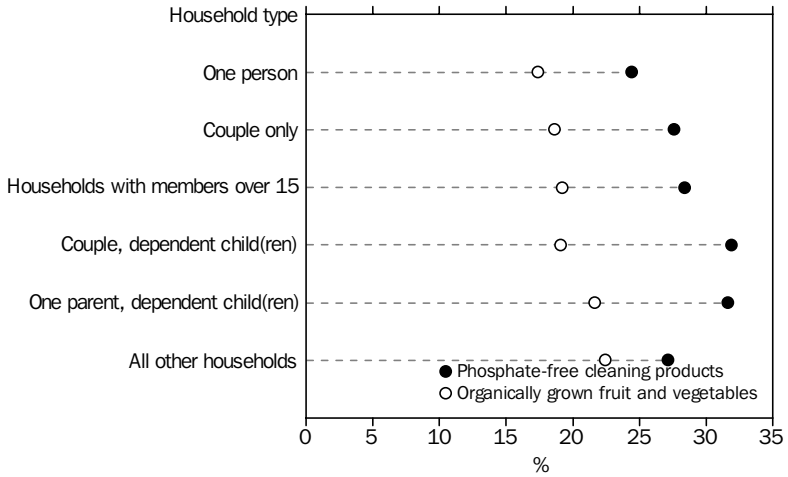
One parent with dependent child(ren) households were the most likely to use unbleached paper (40%), recycled paper (55%) and refillable containers (60%) (table 2.2, graph G2.3). Households with dependent child(ren) were the greatest users of phosphate-free cleaning products (32%) (graph G2.4).

One person households consistently ranked highest for not using any of the surveyed items since 1992.

G2.3 USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE



G2.4 USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE

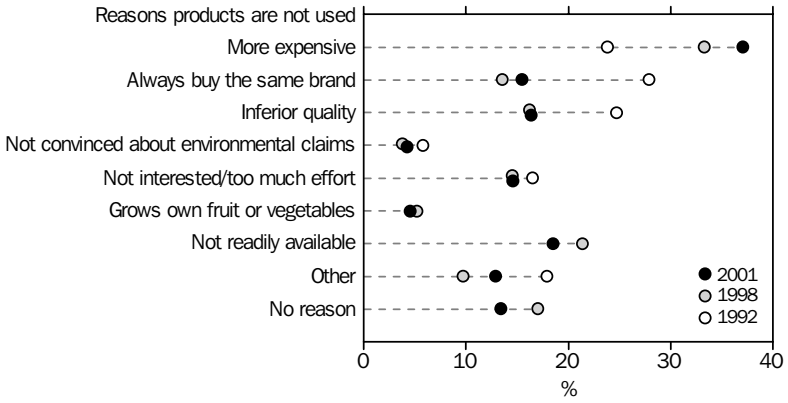


A variety of reasons were given by households for not using environmentally friendly products. Cost was the single most important factor which prevented the use of these products. This reason has gained considerable strength over time (24% in 1992; 33% in 1998; 37% in 2001) (table 2.3, graph G2.5). Cost was twice as important as the lack of availability of these products (19%), which was the second most important reason.

Sixteen percent of Australian households reported that they thought these products were of inferior quality; a further 16% claimed that they always buy the same brand; and 15% of these non-users reported that they were not interested at all or that it took too much effort. About 4% of households not using environmentally friendly products claimed that they were not convinced of the environmental benefits.

HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS *continued*

G2.5 REASONS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS ARE NOT USED



People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to say that environmentally friendly products were more expensive to buy (45%). They also rated highest for believing that these products were of inferior quality (19%) and doubting the environmental claims (7%). Northern Territorians were the most likely to state that these products were not readily available (31%) and they were also the most likely to have little interest in them (17%).

Households comprising one parent with dependent child(ren) were the most likely to nominate cost as the main reason which prevented them from buying environmentally friendly products (45%) (table 2.4). Among the different household types, those living on their own were the least likely to consider expense (33%) and quality (13%) as problems, but they showed the least interest in these products (20%). Couple only households were the most likely not to buy organically grown fruit and vegetables because they grew their own (7%).

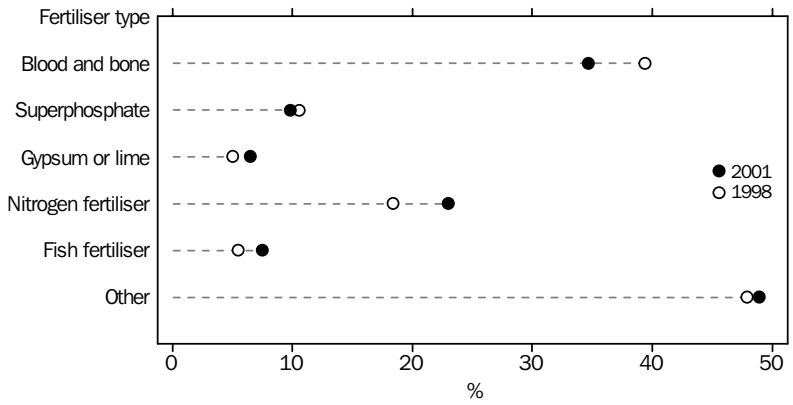
HOUSEHOLD USE OF FERTILISERS AND PESTICIDES/ WEEDKILLERS

In March 2001 over four in five Australian households used some form of fertiliser when they grew fruit or vegetables in their gardens (85%) (table 2.5). Three-quarters of them used manure or compost (76%). Results were similar in 1998.

Of those households that used fertiliser other than manure or compost, blood and bone was used by 35% of these households; and nitrogen fertiliser used by 23% (up from 18% in 1998) (table 2.6, graph G2.6). Superphosphate (10%), fish fertiliser (8%) and gypsum or lime (7%) were less popular. A large proportion of households used unspecified fertiliser in 2001 (49%).

HOUSEHOLD USE OF FERTILISERS AND PESTICIDES/ WEEDKILLERS *continued*

G2.6 FERTILISER TYPE

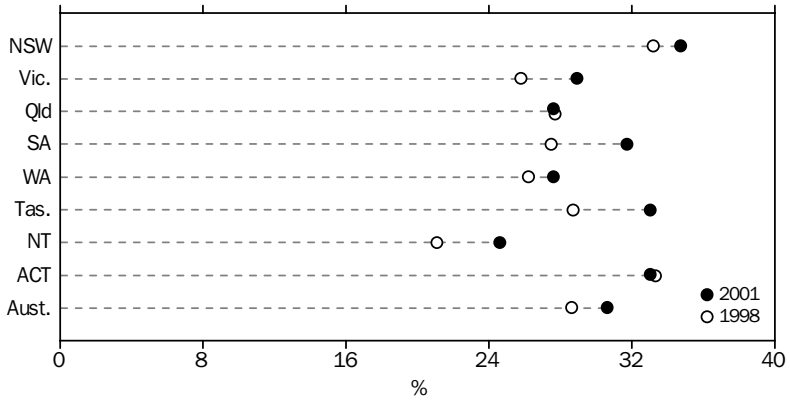


Western Australians were the most likely to use manure or compost (80%), while Northern Territorians were the least likely to apply them (62%). The Northern Territory also registered the highest proportion for not using fertiliser at all (23%).

Of the other types of fertilisers, Tasmanians were the most likely to use blood and bone (57%). The use of superphosphate (15%), gypsum or lime (19%) and nitrogen fertiliser (49%) was highest in the Northern Territory.

Over two-thirds of Australian households did not use any pesticides or weedkillers when growing fruit and vegetables in their gardens (69%) (table 2.7). Households in New South Wales were the most frequent users of pesticides or weedkillers (35%) while the lowest level of use was in the Northern Territory (25%) (graph G2.7). Overall, the use of pesticides or weedkillers showed a slight increase on the 1998 survey (31% in 2001; up from 29% in 1998). The increase was most marked in Tasmania and South Australia.

G2.7 PESTICIDES/WEEDKILLERS USE



2.1 HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
	MARCH 2001								
NUMBER ('000)									
Unbleached paper									
Yes	825.7	602.9	446.5	195.4	234.6	69.5	22.2	47.5	2 444.4
Sometimes/Depends	431.4	332.3	262.4	113.2	125.0	31.0	8.6	21.6	1 325.4
No	1 070.4	801.3	649.3	285.4	345.4	86.1	24.6	50.5	3 313.0
Don't know	96.3	70.4	39.4	21.2	26.8	*4.3	*1.6	*2.0	261.9
Recycled paper									
Yes	1 155.7	850.1	642.8	297.8	354.8	91.0	30.3	69.1	3 491.6
Sometimes/Depends	517.9	404.5	329.6	141.9	165.8	41.6	11.7	25.4	1 638.5
No	680.5	496.8	398.5	158.4	198.4	54.2	14.7	26.0	2 027.6
Don't know	69.7	55.4	26.8	17.1	12.7	*4.0	*0.4	*1.2	187.2
Phosphate-free cleaning products									
Yes	695.9	488.2	394.6	170.5	206.0	57.4	15.3	32.7	2 060.6
Sometimes/Depends	277.2	209.9	171.0	76.7	69.1	20.9	*2.6	11.4	838.7
No	1 037.8	763.0	584.8	250.8	348.5	85.1	27.9	62.7	3 160.7
Don't know	413.1	345.8	247.1	117.1	108.1	27.5	11.2	14.8	1 284.8
Refillable containers									
Yes	1 236.6	859.8	749.8	298.0	398.1	96.6	33.3	74.3	3 746.5
Sometimes/Depends	330.9	262.7	203.7	72.4	74.7	30.5	7.6	11.9	994.5
No	819.5	646.4	434.3	236.1	251.0	60.4	15.5	34.8	2 498.0
Don't know	36.8	38.0	*9.7	8.6	*8.0	*3.3	*0.7	*0.6	105.7
Organically grown fruit and vegetables									
Yes	442.0	363.5	266.3	108.6	134.7	50.5	10.3	24.1	1 400.1
Sometimes/Depends	527.7	453.9	330.2	126.8	150.1	41.4	13.2	26.5	1 669.7
No	1 390.1	941.4	777.2	357.8	431.1	96.2	32.8	69.9	4 096.5
Don't know	64.0	48.1	23.9	22.0	15.9	*2.7	*0.8	*1.1	178.5
Total	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
PROPORTION (%)									
Unbleached paper									
Yes	34.1	33.4	32.0	31.8	32.1	36.4	39.0	39.1	33.3
Sometimes/Depends	17.8	18.4	18.8	18.4	17.1	16.2	15.2	17.7	18.0
No	44.2	44.3	46.5	46.4	47.2	45.1	43.1	41.5	45.1
Don't know	4.0	3.9	2.8	3.4	3.7	*2.3	*2.8	*1.6	3.6
Recycled paper									
Yes	47.7	47.0	46.0	48.4	48.5	47.7	53.1	56.8	47.5
Sometimes/Depends	21.4	22.4	23.6	23.1	22.7	21.8	20.5	20.9	22.3
No	28.1	27.5	28.5	25.8	27.1	28.4	25.7	21.4	27.6
Don't know	2.9	3.1	1.9	2.8	1.7	*2.1	*0.6	*1.0	2.5
Phosphate-free cleaning products									
Yes	28.7	27.0	28.2	27.7	28.1	30.1	26.7	26.9	28.1
Sometimes/Depends	11.4	11.6	12.2	12.5	9.4	10.9	*4.6	9.4	11.4
No	42.8	42.2	41.8	40.8	47.6	44.6	49.0	51.5	43.0
Don't know	17.0	19.1	17.7	19.0	14.8	14.4	19.6	12.2	17.5

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

2.1 HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By States and Territories *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001 *cont.*									
PROPORTION (%) *cont.*									
Refillable containers									
Yes	51.0	47.6	53.7	48.4	54.4	50.6	58.3	61.1	51.0
Sometimes/Depends	13.7	14.5	14.6	11.8	10.2	16.0	13.3	9.8	13.5
No	33.8	35.8	31.1	38.4	34.3	31.6	27.1	28.6	34.0
Don't know	1.5	2.1	*0.7	1.4	*1.1	*1.8	*1.3	*0.5	1.4
Organically grown fruit and vegetables									
Yes	18.2	20.1	19.1	17.7	18.4	26.5	18.0	19.9	19.1
Sometimes/Depends	21.8	25.1	23.6	20.6	20.5	21.7	23.1	21.8	22.7
No	57.4	52.1	55.6	58.2	58.9	50.4	57.5	57.5	55.8
Don't know	2.6	2.7	1.7	3.6	2.2	*1.4	*1.4	*0.9	2.4
MARCH 1998									
PROPORTION (%)									
Unbleached paper									
Yes	31.5	31.2	31.6	29.5	29.5	29.2	32.3	34.2	31.1
Sometimes/depends	20.3	21.8	21.6	21.8	21.3	20.4	16.2	19.7	21.1
No	41.3	42.3	42.8	44.6	45.4	46.9	47.7	44.1	42.7
Don't know	6.9	4.6	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.5	*3.9	*2.0	5.1
Recycled paper									
Yes	47.7	49.9	46.8	47.3	43.5	44.8	46.5	52.4	47.6
Sometimes/depends	22.2	23.4	23.9	23.5	27.2	23.8	20.6	22.9	23.5
No	26.1	23.7	27.0	26.7	27.2	28.4	30.0	23.5	25.9
Don't know	4.0	3.1	2.2	2.4	2.1	3.0	*2.9	*1.1	3.0
Phosphate-free cleaning products									
Yes	33.6	28.1	29.3	28.7	27.8	27.0	28.7	34.5	30.3
Sometimes/depends	12.4	12.0	12.2	12.3	11.6	13.1	13.4	11.5	12.2
No	35.5	39.4	39.8	39.7	47.6	40.0	49.0	42.3	39.1
Don't know	18.5	20.5	18.6	19.3	13.0	19.8	*9.0	11.7	18.4
Refillable containers									
Yes	59.6	61.1	64.4	58.7	61.5	55.8	63.4	66.7	61.0
Sometimes/depends	11.8	11.7	10.7	11.3	10.5	12.9	*7.1	11.0	11.4
No	25.9	25.7	23.2	28.6	26.8	29.5	28.7	21.5	25.7
Don't know	2.8	1.5	1.6	*1.4	*1.3	*1.7	*0.8	*0.8	1.9
Organically grown fruit and vegetables									
Yes	16.5	19.4	16.7	18.5	16.0	21.1	17.1	20.9	17.6
Sometimes/depends	21.4	22.8	23.3	20.0	23.0	22.2	24.0	20.8	22.2
No	57.3	54.9	57.9	58.3	58.2	53.1	56.2	56.9	56.9
Don't know	4.8	3.0	2.0	3.2	2.8	3.6	*2.7	*1.5	3.4
MAY 1992									
PROPORTION (%)									
Unbleached paper									
Yes	60.8	62.6	65.1	65.7	70.0	62.7	56.2	63.3	63.4
No	33.4	31.8	31.5	30.0	27.3	35.2	43.1	33.5	31.9
Don't know	5.8	5.6	3.4	4.3	2.8	2.1	0.7	3.2	4.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

2.1 HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By States and Territories *continued*

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
	MAY 1992 *cont.*								
PROPORTION (%) *cont.*									
Recycled paper									
Yes	67.2	66.1	68.6	69.6	73.7	62.4	64.4	72.7	67.9
No	27.8	29.0	28.2	26.4	22.7	33.8	32.9	24.6	27.7
Don't know	5.1	4.9	3.2	4.0	3.6	3.8	2.7	2.7	4.4
Phosphate-free cleaning products									
Yes	36.4	36.4	40.4	36.2	40.8	41.6	38.3	37.5	37.7
No	36.9	34.3	31.6	31.1	32.9	34.3	40.8	31.6	34.3
Don't know	26.7	29.4	28.0	32.7	26.3	24.1	20.9	30.9	28.0
Refillable containers									
Yes	62.3	60.5	67.0	63.9	65.9	66.7	62.0	66.2	63.3
No	35.3	37.0	31.9	34.6	33.0	32.4	38.0	31.5	34.8
Don't know	2.4	2.5	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	—	2.3	1.9

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

2.2 HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By household type

	One person	*Couple only*	*Households with members over 15*	*Couple, dependent child(ren)*	*One parent, dependent child(ren)*	*All other households*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Unbleached paper							
Yes	29.9	31.7	33.5	36.2	39.9	35.1	33.3
Sometimes/Depends	17.1	18.2	19.1	19.7	14.7	16.6	18.0
No	50.1	46.6	42.6	41.0	41.7	44.1	45.1
Don't know	3.0	3.6	4.8	3.1	3.7	4.3	3.6
Recycled paper							
Yes	43.1	45.4	47.5	52.7	55.1	48.2	47.5
Sometimes/Depends	20.7	23.0	22.1	24.1	21.4	21.4	22.3
No	33.5	29.1	27.0	21.0	21.6	28.2	27.6
Don't know	2.7	2.5	3.4	2.2	*2.0	2.1	2.5
Phosphate-free cleaning products							
Yes	24.4	27.6	28.4	31.9	31.6	27.1	28.1
Sometimes/Depends	10.7	11.9	11.1	12.6	10.9	10.3	11.4
No	48.5	42.0	40.6	39.7	40.8	44.1	43.0
Don't know	16.5	18.4	19.8	15.8	16.6	18.5	17.5
Refillable containers							
Yes	41.5	50.0	49.9	60.0	60.4	53.1	51.0
Sometimes/Depends	13.5	13.0	14.2	13.7	12.6	14.1	13.5
No	43.5	35.2	33.9	25.4	26.1	31.5	34.0
Don't know	1.5	1.8	2.0	0.9	*0.9	*1.2	1.4
Organically grown fruit and vegetables							
Yes	17.4	18.6	19.2	19.1	21.6	22.4	19.1
Sometimes/Depends	21.2	23.9	22.2	23.2	24.5	22.5	22.7
No	59.0	55.5	55.2	55.4	51.6	52.6	55.8
Don't know	2.4	2.0	3.4	2.3	*2.2	2.5	2.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

2.2 HOUSEHOLD USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By household type

continued

	One person	*Couple only*	*Households with members over 15*	*Couple, dependent child(ren)*	*One parent, dependent child(ren)*	*All other households*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 1998							
Unbleached paper							
Yes	28.0	29.2	29.9	34.5	36.9	33.9	31.1
Sometimes/depends	18.3	20.7	23.3	22.9	24.4	19.9	21.1
No	47.8	45.4	41.2	38.1	34.0	41.9	42.7
Don't know	5.9	4.7	5.6	4.5	*4.7	4.3	5.1
Recycled paper							
Yes	40.9	45.5	48.0	55.0	53.5	48.4	47.6
Sometimes/depends	21.8	25.1	24.3	23.8	23.0	22.0	23.5
No	33.6	26.6	24.0	19.1	20.3	26.9	25.9
Don't know	3.7	2.9	3.8	2.1	*3.3	2.7	3.0
Phosphate-free cleaning products							
Yes	24.9	30.6	31.3	34.6	34.4	29.0	30.3
Sometimes/depends	10.4	11.4	11.3	15.0	15.1	12.3	12.2
No	44.8	37.8	39.2	34.7	35.4	40.6	39.1
Don't know	19.9	20.3	18.2	15.7	15.1	18.2	18.4
Refillable containers							
Yes	45.4	60.8	63.3	72.6	70.5	63.6	61.0
Sometimes/depends	13.8	11.0	10.5	10.5	9.2	11.0	11.4
No	38.1	26.5	23.8	15.5	19.6	23.8	25.7
Don't know	2.7	1.8	2.4	1.3	*0.7	*1.5	1.9
Organically grown fruit and vegetables							
Yes	15.5	17.9	17.8	18.0	17.9	20.0	17.6
Sometimes/depends	20.9	22.6	22.1	23.7	21.8	20.9	22.2
No	59.5	56.8	56.2	55.4	55.4	55.9	56.9
Don't know	4.1	2.7	3.9	2.8	*4.9	3.2	3.4
MAY 1992							
Unbleached paper							
Yes	51.8	60.4	61.7	72.5	72.9	66.3	63.4
No	41.7	34.6	33.5	24.0	23.8	29.1	31.9
Don't know	6.5	5.0	4.8	3.5	3.2	4.6	4.7
Recycled paper							
Yes	53.3	64.2	66.9	80.0	76.5	70.1	67.9
No	39.8	31.8	28.3	17.3	21.0	25.0	27.7
Don't know	6.9	4.1	4.8	2.7	2.5	4.9	4.4
Phosphate-free cleaning products							
Yes	26.2	35.7	37.9	45.8	45.8	38.6	37.7
No	42.4	34.0	34.3	29.6	29.9	33.5	34.3
Don't know	31.4	30.3	27.7	24.5	24.3	28.0	28.0
Refillable containers							
Yes	47.4	62.1	67.1	72.5	70.1	64.2	63.3
No	50.1	35.9	30.8	26.2	29.2	33.3	34.8
Don't know	2.5	2.0	2.1	1.3	0.8	2.5	1.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

2.3 HOUSEHOLD NOT USING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By States and Territories(a)

Reason products are not used	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
More expensive	668.4	544.7	483.8	167.8	208.4	49.6	15.8	45.2	2 183.6
Always buy the same brand	313.0	232.8	162.2	71.4	89.8	23.9	*5.6	13.0	911.7
Inferior quality	297.6	244.0	192.1	81.5	102.2	23.9	*5.3	19.0	965.3
Not convinced about environment claims	97.6	65.2	42.4	13.3	18.6	*4.6	*2.6	6.8	251.1
Not interested/too much effort	313.9	229.4	141.8	59.4	79.7	16.6	7.8	15.1	863.6
Grows own fruit/vegetables	75.3	83.7	39.3	30.8	22.5	15.2	*1.0	5.9	273.8
Not readily available	387.2	227.9	172.3	119.0	141.4	16.5	14.7	14.8	1 093.7
Other	231.5	209.6	126.8	64.3	92.8	17.2	*3.7	14.6	760.5
No reason	243.9	187.1	151.7	73.1	89.4	28.2	*3.8	12.0	789.1
All reasons	**1 940.6**	**1 424.2**	**1 122.8**	**503.6**	**611.5**	**148.2**	**47.3**	**101.2**	**5 899.5**
Proportion (%)									
More expensive	34.4	38.2	43.1	33.3	34.1	33.4	33.4	44.7	37.0
Always buy the same brand	16.1	16.3	14.4	14.2	14.7	16.1	*11.8	12.9	15.5
Inferior quality	15.3	17.1	17.1	16.2	16.7	16.1	*11.2	18.7	16.4
Not convinced about environment claims	5.0	4.6	3.8	2.6	3.0	*3.1	*5.5	6.7	4.3
Not interested/too much effort	16.2	16.1	12.6	11.8	13.0	11.2	16.6	14.9	14.6
Grows own fruit/vegetables	3.9	5.9	3.5	6.1	3.7	10.3	*2.1	5.9	4.6
Not readily available	20.0	16.0	15.3	23.6	23.1	11.1	31.1	14.6	18.5
Other	11.9	14.7	11.3	12.8	15.2	11.6	*7.8	14.4	12.9
No reason	12.6	13.1	13.5	14.5	14.6	19.0	*8.1	11.8	13.4
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
More expensive	31.3	35.4	36.5	29.9	32.7	26.1	45.8	36.3	33.3
Always buy the same brand	13.6	14.3	12.7	14.2	13.8	10.2	19.2	11.3	13.6
Inferior quality	15.3	16.8	17.6	15.1	15.1	15.2	15.6	20.9	16.2
Not convinced about environment claims	3.8	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.0	4.2	*3.4	5.4	3.8
Not interested/too much effort	14.5	15.7	12.4	14.4	15.8	14.5	*8.4	14.9	14.5
Grows own fruit/vegetables	4.3	8.3	2.9	6.7	3.3	9.3	*0.4	5.9	5.2
Not readily available	23.9	17.0	21.9	22.9	24.4	13.6	26.0	17.3	21.4
Other	9.3	11.1	9.4	9.0	9.7	8.7	*6.4	10.3	9.7
No reason	17.8	17.1	16.4	16.9	14.5	24.4	11.9	15.6	17.0
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
More expensive	23.4	22.4	24.7	26.2	24.7	23.9	33.2	19.9	23.8
Always buy the same brand	31.2	27.9	27.2	27.0	19.9	25.3	20.2	28.7	27.9
Inferior quality	24.6	23.7	25.0	23.5	27.8	28.7	19.6	22.5	24.7
Not convinced about environment claims	7.3	6.4	4.3	3.9	3.4	4.9	4.4	8.2	5.8
Not interested	15.8	17.7	15.2	17.0	17.8	17.6	11.6	17.6	16.5
Other	17.3	16.0	19.0	17.6	22.3	18.4	21.1	18.7	17.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one reason may be specified.

2.4 HOUSEHOLDS NOT USING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCTS, By household type(a)

Reason products are not used	*One person* %	*Couple only* %	*Households with members over 15* %	*Couple, dependent child(ren)* %	*One parent, dependent child(ren)* %	*All other households* %	*Total* %
MARCH 2001							
More expensive	33.2	34.1	38.3	42.2	45.4	36.6	37.0
Always buy the same brand	16.2	16.5	16.8	14.9	10.8	12.6	15.5
Inferior quality	13.4	18.3	18.3	17.7	14.0	15.0	16.4
Not convinced about environment claims	4.0	4.8	4.9	4.0	*3.2	3.8	4.3
Not interested/too much effort	20.2	13.0	13.8	10.8	12.7	15.0	14.6
Grows own fruit/vegetables	3.3	7.3	4.2	4.5	*3.2	3.3	4.6
Not readily available	17.7	18.6	17.3	21.5	15.0	17.5	18.5
Other	14.1	13.2	11.6	11.9	11.3	13.8	12.9
No reason	13.4	13.4	13.5	11.4	15.7	16.3	13.4
MARCH 1998							
More expensive	28.9	29.7	31.0	40.9	46.3	34.1	33.3
Always buy the same brand	14.0	14.6	15.7	11.6	11.8	12.2	13.6
Inferior quality	12.3	18.1	20.0	17.1	14.5	14.2	16.2
Not convinced about environment claims	3.6	3.9	5.6	3.0	*1.8	3.4	3.8
Not interested/too much effort	20.9	14.3	11.5	11.1	10.7	12.8	14.5
Grows own fruit/vegetables	2.9	7.5	7.3	5.3	*2.4	3.5	5.2
Not readily available	19.6	22.3	21.2	24.5	17.6	19.5	21.4
Other	12.1	9.8	8.4	8.5	*7.1	9.9	9.7
No reason	18.7	16.9	16.1	14.6	12.4	22.1	17.0
MAY 1992							
More expensive	17.7	21.0	25.2	27.6	37.9	26.8	23.8
Always buy the same brand	30.0	29.7	28.5	26.5	22.7	23.6	27.9
Inferior quality	17.6	29.7	28.2	27.5	22.0	18.2	24.7
Not convinced about environment claims	5.3	5.8	4.2	6.6	2.7	8.6	5.8
Not interested	25.4	14.7	12.9	11.3	15.6	19.0	16.5
Other	19.3	17.4	17.8	17.3	16.4	18.0	17.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one reason may be specified.

2.5 HOUSEHOLDS GROWING FRUIT/VEGETABLES, By States and Territories(a)

Fertiliser use	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
Manure or compost	635.8	635.6	423.2	225.3	252.3	84.3	12.6	49.7	2 318.9
Other fertilisers	305.7	296.1	209.1	143.6	133.1	37.0	8.7	26.7	1 160.0
No fertilisers used	128.1	133.3	97.5	46.2	33.7	18.4	*4.6	10.5	472.2
Total	**835.5**	**832.3**	**559.9**	**308.1**	**314.6**	**107.9**	**20.3**	**65.2**	**3 043.8**
Proportion (%)									
Manure or compost	76.1	76.4	75.6	73.1	80.2	78.1	62.3	76.2	76.2
Other fertilisers	36.6	35.6	37.3	46.6	42.3	34.3	42.8	41.0	38.1
No fertilisers used	15.3	16.0	17.4	15.0	10.7	17.1	*22.8	16.1	15.5
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
Manure or compost	82.8	75.9	79.5	72.0	78.4	77.7	79.7	83.3	78.5
Other fertilisers	35.9	30.8	39.4	41.1	39.5	37.8	43.2	39.6	36.1
No fertilisers used	11.8	18.0	13.5	19.2	13.0	17.8	*13.0	15.3	15.0

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one reason may be specified.

2.6 HOUSEHOLDS USING OTHER FERTILISERS, By States and Territories(a)

Type used	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Blood and bone	104.2	120.9	62.0	48.0	34.5	21.2	*2.4	9.7	402.9
Superphosphate	33.5	30.6	15.3	14.4	11.8	*4.2	*1.3	*2.4	113.5
Gypsum/lime	24.5	17.4	17.5	8.9	*2.0	*2.9	*1.6	*0.8	75.5
Nitrogen fertiliser	80.5	59.7	46.5	27.0	36.5	6.2	*4.3	6.0	266.8
Fish fertiliser	20.9	24.1	18.8	*5.7	12.7	*2.8	*0.5	*1.6	87.0
Other	140.6	135.8	112.4	80.0	70.4	11.5	*3.2	13.5	567.5
Total	**305.7**	**296.1**	**209.1**	**143.6**	**133.1**	**37.0**	**8.7**	**26.7**	**1 160.0**
Proportion (%)									
Blood and bone	34.1	40.8	29.6	33.4	25.9	57.4	*27.9	36.3	34.7
Superphosphate	10.9	10.3	7.3	10.0	8.9	*11.5	*14.5	*9.0	9.8
Gypsum/lime	8.0	5.9	8.4	6.2	*1.5	*7.8	*18.7	*2.9	6.5
Nitrogen fertiliser	26.3	20.2	22.3	18.8	27.5	16.8	*49.3	22.5	23.0
Fish fertiliser	6.8	8.1	9.0	*3.9	9.6	*7.5	*5.3	*5.9	7.5
Other	46.0	45.9	53.8	55.7	52.9	31.0	*37.0	50.5	48.9
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Blood and bone	37.9	42.1	35.4	44.6	29.8	62.5	*44.0	35.9	39.4
Superphosphate	9.9	9.3	13.1	9.8	*9.7	17.3	*18.1	*9.1	10.6
Gypsum/lime	*3.9	*4.7	*5.6	*5.9	*2.1	16.9	*6.2	*7.0	5.0
Nitrogen fertiliser	16.8	14.4	24.1	16.0	25.4	11.2	*26.5	25.6	18.4
Fish fertiliser	*3.9	*4.8	7.3	*4.9	*8.7	*5.4	*8.3	*7.1	5.5
Other	49.6	48.1	48.5	46.4	50.1	33.3	*38.6	44.7	47.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one type may be specified.

2.7 HOUSEHOLDS GROWING FRUIT/VEGETABLES, by States and Territories

Pesticide/weedkiller use	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
Yes	290.2	240.6	154.6	97.7	86.9	35.6	*5.0	21.5	932.1
No	545.4	591.7	405.3	210.4	227.7	72.3	15.3	43.6	2 111.7
Total	**835.5**	**832.3**	**559.9**	**308.1**	**314.6**	**107.9**	**20.3**	**65.2**	**3 043.8**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	34.7	28.9	27.6	31.7	27.6	33.0	*24.6	33.0	30.6
No	65.3	71.1	72.4	68.3	72.4	67.0	75.4	67.0	69.4
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
Yes	33.2	25.8	27.7	27.5	26.2	28.7	*21.1	33.3	28.6
No	66.8	74.2	72.3	72.5	73.8	71.3	78.9	66.7	71.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

CHAPTER 3 WATER SOURCES, USE AND ISSUES

MAIN FINDINGS

- Over nine in ten Australian households received their domestic water supply from mains or town water (94% in 2001). The next most important sources of water were rainwater tanks and bottled water (both 16%).
- The proportion of households consuming bottled water has increased significantly since 1994 (1994, 3%; 1998, 12%; 2001, 16%).
- Over eight in ten households with rainwater tanks considered that the water supply from their rainwater tanks was sufficient for their needs (83%). Cost was the most important justification provided for not installing a rainwater tank (38%).
- Over one in four Australians were dissatisfied with the quality of tap water for drinking (27%). Half the Australian population nominated taste as the most serious problem affecting mains tap water (52%), followed by chlorine (32%).
- Over one in five Australian households used water filters for their drinking water.
- About one in four Australians (26%) complained that they had experienced problems with the supply of mains water in the 12 months prior to the survey. In March 2001 the most common problem quoted was inadequate or low pressure (11%).
- More than half of Australian households did not adopt any steps to conserve water at home (56%). For those that did, turning off or repairing dripping taps to conserve water was the most common practice reported (20%), followed by having full loads when washing (16%).
- About 64% of households reported using dual flush toilets in 2001. This is a significant increase on previous years (39% in 1992 and 55% in 1998). The use of reduced flow shower heads has also increased, from 32% in 1998 to 35% in 2001.
- Nearly nine in ten households that maintained a garden depended on mains water as the primary source (89%). About 58% of households with a garden reported that they conserved water in the garden.
- Nearly 69% of Australian households with gardens used mulch and around 58% reported planting native trees or shrubs.
- South Australia maintained the highest prevalence of rainwater tanks (52%). About 33% of South Australians used rainwater tanks for their main source of drinking water, which was three times the national average.
- People in South Australia were also the most likely to rely on bottled water for drinking (16%), which was twice the national average. They were the most dissatisfied with the quality of tap water for drinking (42%), to the extent that one in ten persons claimed that they did not drink any tap water at all (10%).
- Victorian households were the most likely to practice water conservation in the home (51%). In contrast the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales were the States and Territories most likely to report taking no water conservation steps in the home (63% and 61% respectively).

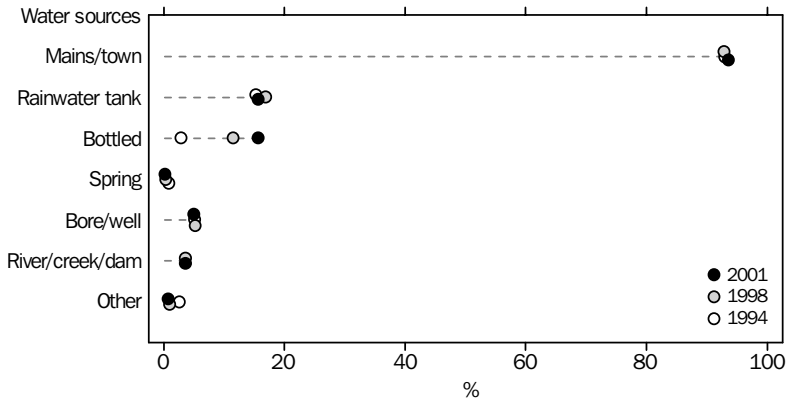
MAIN FINDINGS *continued*

- Dual flush toilets were most likely to be found in South Australia (72%) while reduced flow shower heads were most widespread in Western Australia (40%). Households in New South Wales reported the highest proportion for having neither item (34%).

WATER SUPPLY

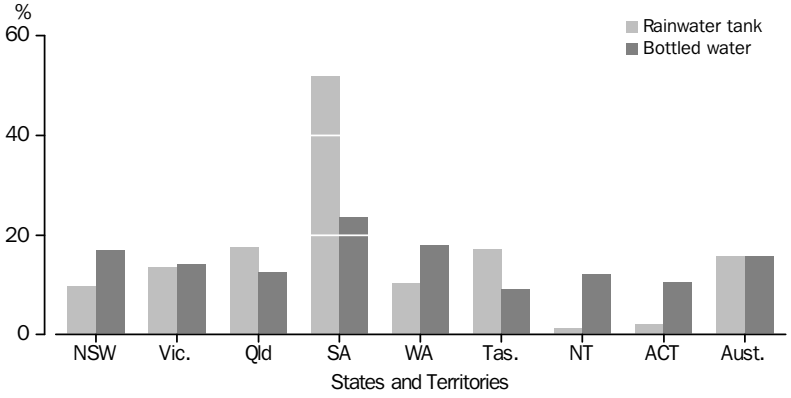
Over nine in ten Australian households were reliant on mains or town water for their domestic water supply (94%) (table 3.1). The next most popular sources were rainwater tanks and bottled water, each used by about 16% of Australian households. Results from the past three surveys showed that the proportion of water sources had remained relatively unchanged, except for bottled water (graph G3.1). The proportion of households using bottled water has increased significantly since 1994 (from 3% in 1994 to 16% in 2001).

G3.1 WATER SOURCES



Mains water was fully established in the Australian Capital Territory (100%). Tasmanians were the least likely to have mains water supply, where 87% of the households were connected to it. South Australia maintained the highest prevalence of rainwater tanks as well as recording the highest dependence on bottled water. Over half of the households surveyed in South Australia had rainwater tanks installed (52%), and just under a quarter relied on bottled water (24%) (graph G3.2). Households in the Northern Territory (1%) and the Australian Capital Territory (2%) were the least dependent on supply from the rainwater tank.

G3.2 SOURCES OF WATER FROM RAINWATER TANK AND BOTTLED WATER



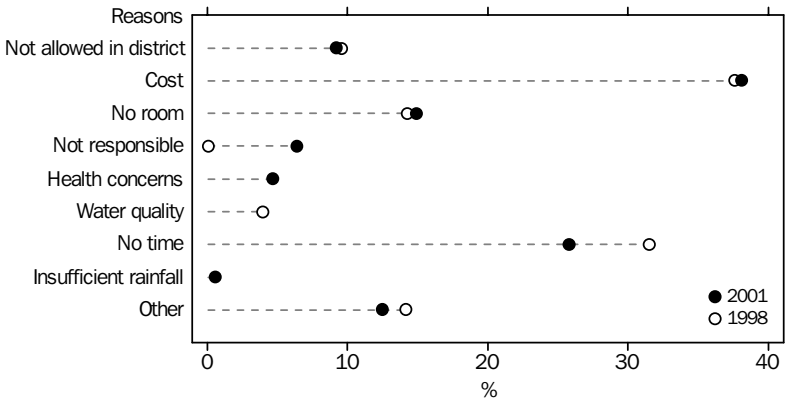
WATER SUPPLY *continued*

Over eight in ten households with rainwater tanks considered that the water supply from their rainwater tanks was sufficient for their needs (83%) (table 3.2). Queensland was most likely to state that the rainwater tank supply was sufficient (86%), and this was least likely to be the case in Tasmania (71%).

Of those households that did not have a rainwater tank, 25% had considered installing one. The principal reason for not doing so was cost (38%) (table 3.3, graph G3.3). The second most important constraint was time (26% in 2001; down from 32% in 1998), followed by a lack of room to accommodate the rainwater tank (15%).

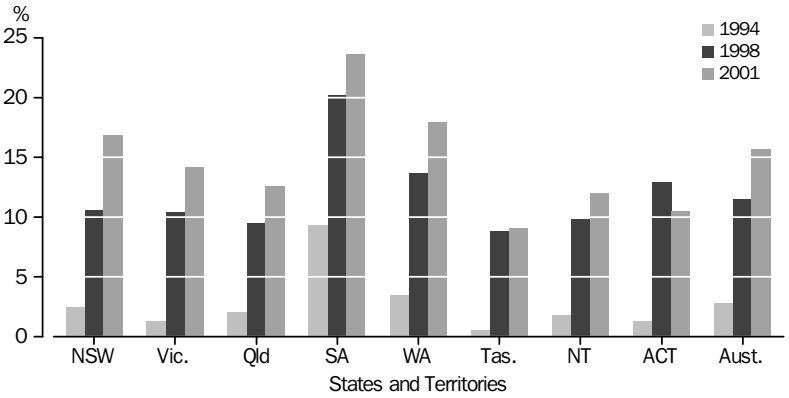
Victorians were the most concerned about cost (44%), while people in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to mention the lack of space (22%).

G3.3 REASONS RAINWATER TANK NOT INSTALLED



Except for the Australian Capital Territory, all States and Territories showed a rising trend in the consumption of bottled water (graph G3.4). Since 1994 South Australia consistently ranked highest for bottled water as a source of water (from 9% in 1994 to 24% in 2001).

G3.4 SOURCE OF WATER FROM BOTTLED WATER



Mains water was the principal source of water for Australian gardens. Nearly nine in ten households that maintained a garden depended on the mains supply (89%) (table 3.4). The bore or well was the second most important source of water for gardens, but only one in twenty households with gardens relied on it (5%).

WATER SUPPLY *continued*

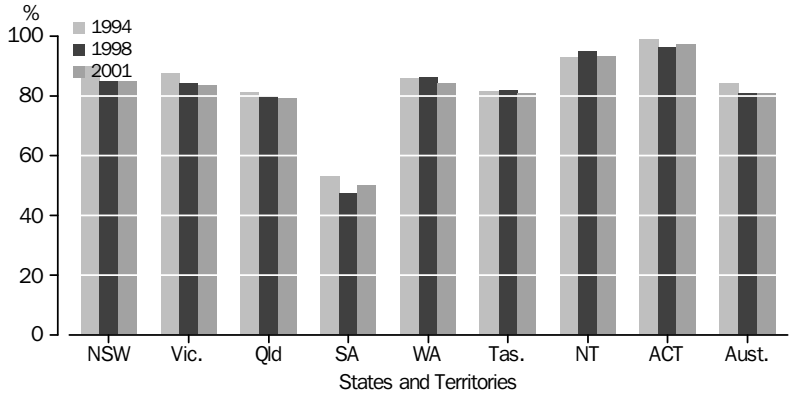
Western Australian households were the least dependent on mains water for gardening (77%), and accounted for the greatest use of bore or well water (21%), which was over four times the national average. The use of recycled water for watering the garden was negligible (less than 1% of households).

As in the past, the principal water source for bathing, showering and washing was mains water (93% in 2001) (table 3.5). Water from the rainwater tank was the next most important source of water for cleaning purposes although it only accounted for 6% of households. All other sources were insignificant.

Although over nine in ten Australian households were connected to the mains water supply (94%) in March 2001 (table 3.1), not all considered it as the main source of drinking water. Only eight in ten stated that the mains supply was their primary drinking source (81%) (table 3.6). Nearly 14% of households with mains water, relied on some other source as their main source of drinking water.

Overall, more Australian households have moved away from mains water as their main source of drinking water since 1994, although the proportion was similar to 1998 (graph G3.5). South Australia was the least reliant on mains water for their primary drinking supply (50%).

G3.5 MAINS WATER SUPPLY AS MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER

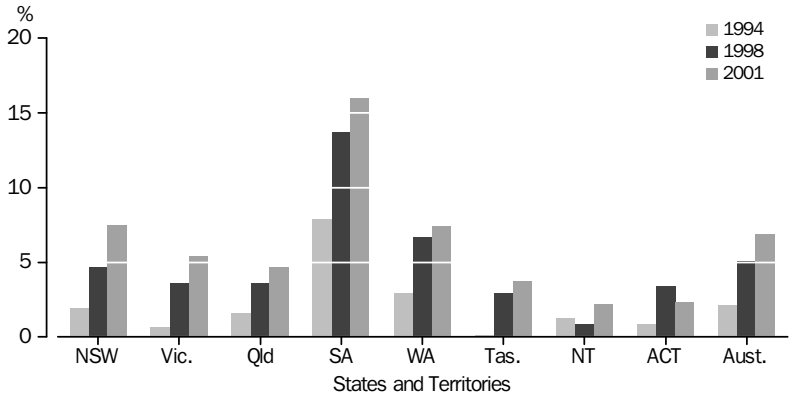


Water sourced from the rainwater tank constituted the second most important source of drinking water for Australian households, with over one in ten dependent on it (11%). South Australians were the largest users of rainwater tank water for their primary drinking water (33%), three times the national average. About 14% of Queenslanders and Tasmanians also used rainwater as their main source of drinking water.

Bottled water has become an increasingly important source of drinking water across Australia since 1994 (7% in 2001; compared with 2% in 1994) (graph G3.6). South Australians were the most likely to rely on bottled water for drinking (16%), which was more than twice the national average. People in New South Wales (8%) and Western Australia (7%) recorded the next highest usage. Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory were the least reliant on bottled water as their main source of drinking water (both 2%).

WATER SUPPLY *continued*

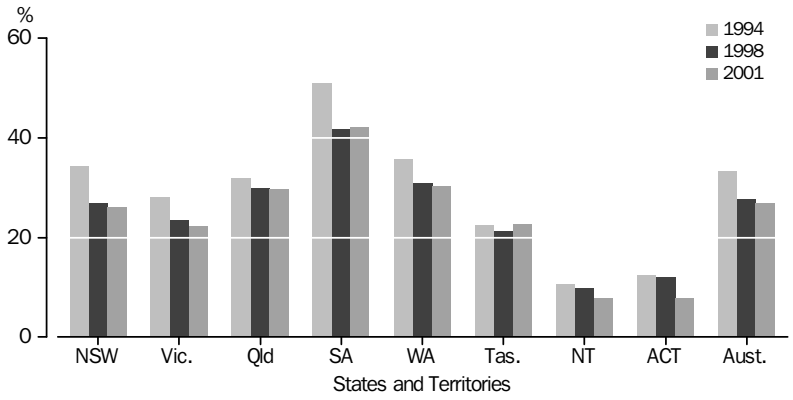
G3.6 BOTTLED WATER AS MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER



WATER QUALITY

In 2001 over a quarter of Australians were not satisfied with the quality of tap water for drinking (27%) (table 3.7). South Australians were the most dissatisfied (42%), to the extent that one in ten persons claimed that they did not drink any tap water at all (10%). This was four times the national average. Dissatisfaction with the quality of tap water for drinking declined in most States and Territories, the exception being South Australia and Tasmania (graph G3.7). People in the Northern Territory were the most satisfied with the quality of tap water for drinking (90%).

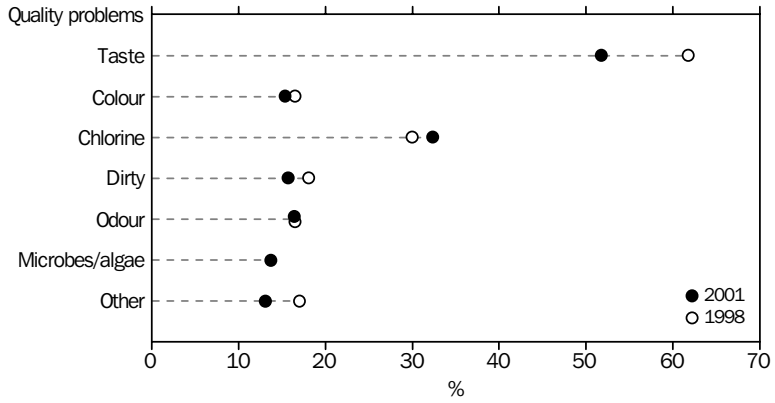
G3.7 DISSATISFACTION WITH TAP WATER QUALITY FOR DRINKING



Several types of problems affected the quality of mains tap water for drinking. Half the Australian population nominated taste as the reason for their dissatisfaction with the water quality (52%) (table 3.8, graph G3.8). About a third stated chlorine as a problem (32%). Other common complaints included: dirty water (16%); odour (16%); colour (15%) and microbial or algae contamination (14%). Since 1998, the proportion of Australians complaining about the different types of problems associated with water quality had declined, except for chlorine, which registered a small increase (30% in 1998; 32% in 2001).

WATER QUALITY *continued*

G3.8 TYPE OF QUALITY PROBLEMS WITH MAINS TAP WATER FOR DRINKING

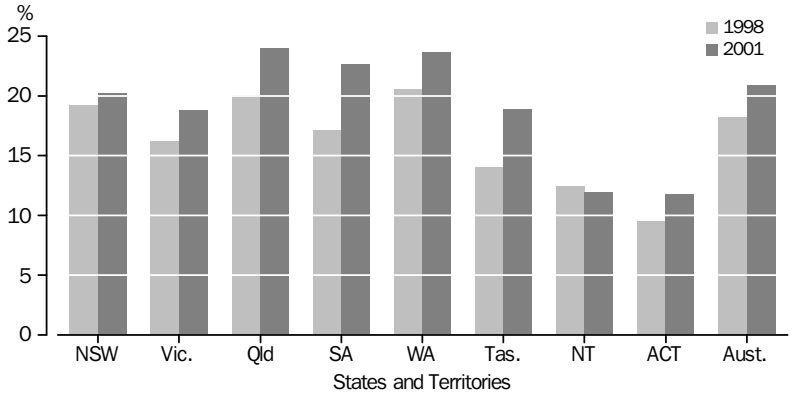


South Australian households registered the highest level of dissatisfaction with taste (65%), followed by Western Australia (58%). Northern Territorians were the most likely to complain that the tap water was salty (5%). About 4% of South Australians also mentioned this problem.

Victorians were more likely to be dissatisfied with the colour (19%) of mains tap water. Tasmanians were most likely to be disappointed with the presence of dirt (23%), and people in New South Wales were the most dissatisfied with microbial or algae contamination (25%).

Over one in five households took the initiative to improve the quality of their drinking water by using water filters (21%) (table 3.9). The proportion of Australian households using water filters has increased across all States and Territories except the Northern Territory. Households in Queensland and Western Australia were the most likely to use water filters (both 24%) while people in the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory were the least likely to do so (12%) (graph G3.9).

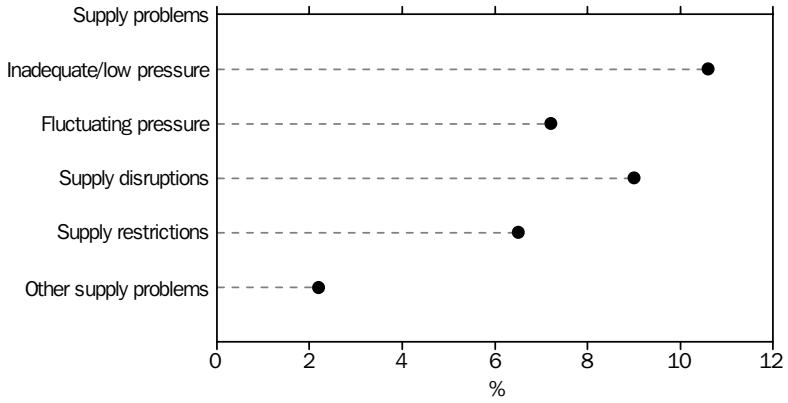
G3.9 WATER FILTERS USED FOR DRINKING WATER



Other than water quality, Australians faced problems with the supply of mains water. One in four Australians(26%) complained that they had experienced problems with the supply in the previous 12 months prior to the survey. The foremost complaint was inadequate or low pressure (11%), with supply disruptions the next most common problem reported (9%) (table 3.10, graph G3.10).

WATER QUALITY *continued*

G3.10 SUPPLY PROBLEMS WITH MAINS WATER



People in Queensland were the most likely to encounter inadequate or low pressure (14%) and fluctuating pressure (10%). Tasmanians reported the highest proportion of supply restrictions (19%), which was nearly three times the national average. People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to have no supply problems (87%).

SWIMMING POOLS

One in ten Australian households had a swimming pool (10% in 2001) (table 3.11). Nearly all of the swimming pools had some form of filtration and/or treatment facility (98%). Tasmanian households were least likely to have a pool (3%), while Northern Territorians recorded the highest proportion for pool ownership (20%), which was twice the national average.

WATER CONSERVATION

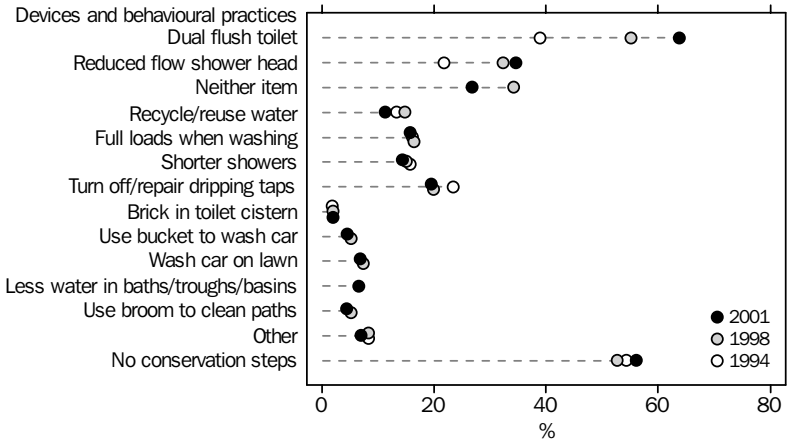
Household water conservation can be achieved through both the use of devices (e.g. dual flush toilet; reduced flow shower head) and behavioural practices (table 3.12, graph G3.11). In relation to water conserving devices, 64% of households had a dual flush toilet (up from 55% in 1998), and 35% of households had a reduced flow shower head (up from 32% in 1998). Just over a quarter of Australian households (27%) did not have either of these items.

Turning off or repairing dripping taps was still the most common behavioural practice reported by Australian households in 2001 (20%). The second most common practice was having full loads when washing (16%), followed by having shorter showers (14%). The overall commitment to saving water in the household by behaviour modification had slipped slightly over the years, with 56% of households reporting that they did not adopt any behavioural practice to conserve water in 2001. This compares with 53% in 1998 and 54% in 1994.

WATER CONSERVATION

continued

G3.11 WATER CONSERVATION METHODS



Dual flush toilets were most likely to be found in South Australia (72%), followed closely by Western Australia and Victoria (both 71%). New South Wales had the lowest proportion (56%). Western Australia had the highest proportion of households with reduced flow shower heads (40%), followed by Queensland and South Australia (both 37%). A relatively large number of New South Wales households had neither items (34%).

Victorian households were the most likely to practice water conservation with just over half (51%) of households reporting taking some steps. This is a significant increase on 1994 figures, when 40% of Victorians took specific water conservation steps. In contrast, several States including New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory have shown a significant decline in households taking water conservation steps (table 3.12).

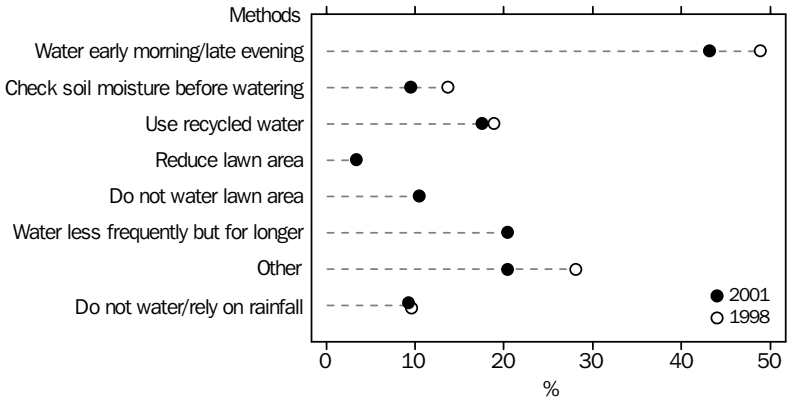
Just over half the Australian households with a garden reported that they conserve water in the garden (58%) with a further 3% reporting using water saving measures sometimes (table 3.13). Home gardeners in Western Australia were the most committed (68%), and those in New South Wales were the least likely to do so (50%).

The main method used by Australian home gardeners to conserve water in the garden was to water either early in the morning or late in the evening when it was cooler (table 3.14, graph G3.12). The next two most common practices were to water less frequently but for longer periods (20%) and to use recycled water (18%). Around one in ten households with a garden reported that they did not bother to water the garden at all but only relied on rainfall (9%).

WATER CONSERVATION

continued

G3.12 WATER CONSERVATION METHODS IN THE GARDEN



Northern Territorians were the most likely to water the garden early in the morning or late in the evening (55%) and also to reduce the lawn area to save on watering (14%). Queenslanders were the most likely to use recycled water (20%) while Tasmanian gardeners were the most likely not to water the lawn area (22%).

Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania were most likely to rely on rainfall and not water their gardens at all (13% of Queenslanders; and 12% for both New South Wales and Tasmania).

Over two-thirds of Australian households with a garden used mulch (69% in 2001) (table 3.15).Nearly three-quarters of those using mulch in the garden did it to conserve water (74%) while over a third mulched to reduce weeds (36%) (table 3.16).

The Australian Capital Territory registered the highest proportion of households that mulched (76%), while New South Wales had the lowest proportion of mulched gardens (66%). Gardeners in Western Australia were the most likely to mulch to conserve water (85%), while Tasmanians were the most likely to mulch to reduce weeds (51%).

Around 58% of households with gardens planted native trees or shrubs, with the highest proportion occurring in the Australian Capital Territory (66%) (table 3.17). Only around 18% of households planted natives for their water conserving attributes (table 3.18). The planting of natives to reduce water use in the garden was most widespread in Western Australia (35%) and least likely in Queensland (9%).

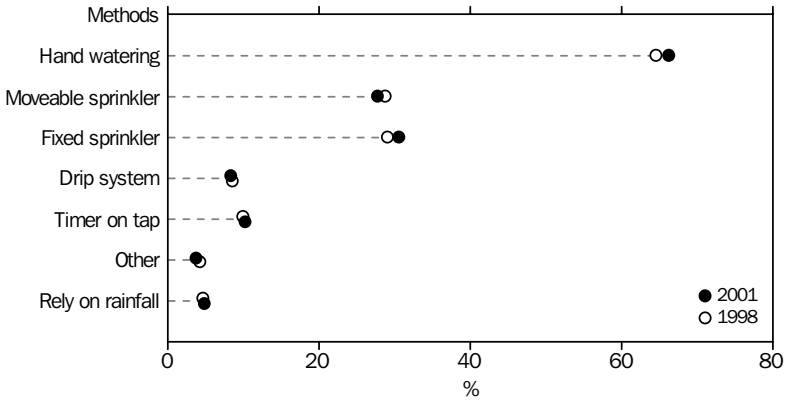
Various methods were employed by Australian households to water the garden. Home gardeners still preferred the manual method over mechanical or automatic systems. The principal method was hand watering, which was used by two in three households (66% in 2001) (table 3.19, graph G3.13). Sprinklers were the next two most popular methods. The fixed sprinkler system was used by 31% of the households, while movable sprinklers were used by 28%.

The more efficient methods of watering the garden were less utilised. Timer on tap was employed by 10% of the households with a garden, while the drip system was installed and used by 8%. Around 5% stated that they relied on rainfall as well. Overall the proportions for all the surveyed methods had remained relatively unchanged since 1998.

WATER CONSERVATION

continued

G3.13 WATERING METHODS IN THE GARDEN



People in New South Wales were the most likely to hand water (71%) and the least likely to use a fixed sprinkler system (19%), drip system (6%) and timer on tap (5%). Western Australians with gardens were far more likely to use a fixed sprinkler system (67%, more than double the national average) and timer on tap (31%, three times the national average).

The drip system was most popular in the Northern Territory (24%) where its use was nearly three times the national average.

3.1 SOURCES OF WATER, By States and Territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Mains/town	2 309.2	1 681.3	1 258.7	583.9	699.9	166.6	55.1	121.6	6 876.3
Rainwater tank	236.0	244.7	244.0	318.6	76.3	32.8	*0.7	*2.5	1 155.7
Bottled	408.6	256.5	176.7	145.0	131.5	17.3	6.8	12.8	1 155.2
Spring	*4.1	*3.0	*6.6	*2.6	—	*1.3	—	—	17.7
Bore/well	59.4	35.5	95.5	25.1	145.5	5.5	*2.2	*0.2	368.7
River/creek/dam	68.1	90.0	69.0	14.1	12.5	11.7	—	—	265.5
Other	*9.7	*12.7	*10.8	*6.4	*6.3	*2.4	*0.2	*0.2	48.6
All households	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	95.3	93.0	90.1	94.9	95.6	87.3	96.5	100.0	93.6
Rainwater tank	9.7	13.5	17.5	51.8	10.4	17.2	*1.3	*2.0	15.7
Bottled	16.9	14.2	12.6	23.6	18.0	9.1	12.0	10.5	15.7
Spring	*0.2	*0.2	*0.5	*0.4	—	*0.7	—	—	0.2
Bore/well	2.4	2.0	6.8	4.1	19.9	2.9	*3.8	*0.1	5.0
River/creek/dam	2.8	5.0	4.9	2.3	1.7	6.1	—	—	3.6
Other	*0.4	*0.7	*0.8	*1.0	*0.9	*1.3	*0.4	*0.2	0.7
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	93.0	92.5	89.4	96.1	97.0	87.6	91.9	100.0	92.8
Rainwater tank	12.3	13.9	18.0	53.5	9.8	16.7	*5.0	*1.2	16.9
Bottled	10.6	10.4	9.5	20.2	13.7	8.8	9.8	12.9	11.5
Spring	*0.5	*0.6	*0.1	*0.7	—	*0.9	—	—	0.4
Bore/well	2.4	2.5	8.3	2.9	20.6	2.5	*9.1	—	5.3
River/creek/dam	4.5	3.5	4.4	1.8	*1.3	6.2	*1.0	—	3.6
Other	0.9	1.4	1.2	*1.0	*0.6	*0.7	—	—	1.0
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	94.4	93.4	88.7	95.4	93.6	86.1	95.4	100.0	93.0
Rainwater tank	9.1	12.6	17.7	48.0	11.2	17.9	2.6	0.9	15.2
Spring	0.6	0.5	0.5	2.4	0.6	4.1	0.4	—	0.8
Bore	2.2	2.0	7.5	4.4	20.9	2.0	7.5	—	5.1
Bottled	2.5	1.3	2.1	9.3	3.5	0.6	1.8	1.3	2.8
Other	2.8	2.2	3.4	1.3	2.8	4.7	—	0.3	2.6

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one source may be specified.

3.2 HOUSEHOLDS WITH RAINWATER TANKS, By States and Territories

Sufficient supply	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Yes	198.5	196.3	210.2	266.9	58.8	23.4	*0.6	*2.1	956.8
No	37.5	48.5	33.8	51.7	17.5	9.4	*0.2	*0.4	198.9
Total	**236.0**	**244.7**	**244.0**	**318.6**	**76.3**	**32.8**	***0.7**	***2.5**	**1 155.7**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	84.1	80.2	86.1	83.8	77.1	71.4	*77.7	*83.6	82.8
No	15.9	19.8	13.9	16.2	22.9	28.6	*22.3	*16.4	17.2
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Yes	81.6	82.2	86.7	86.7	76.3	75.4	47.8	29.4	83.5
No	18.4	17.8	13.3	13.3	23.7	24.6	52.2	70.6	16.5
					JUNE 1994				
Proportion (%)									
Yes	83.4	82.5	85.4	91.9	80.1	78.4	83.4	34.8	85.6
No	16.6	17.5	14.6	8.1	19.9	21.6	16.6	65.2	14.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

3.3 HOUSEHOLDS CONSIDERED INSTALLING RAINWATER TANK, By States and Territories(a)

Reasons not installed	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Not allowed in district/shire/municipality	55.5	51.2	23.6	—	*2.0	*3.1	*2.0	*2.7	140.0
Cost	132.6	195.5	114.0	40.5	66.0	14.4	*2.8	13.2	578.9
No room	62.9	59.0	33.1	22.8	35.2	*3.8	*1.0	8.0	225.9
Not home owner/not responsible	34.2	16.9	20.6	*6.2	13.4	*2.1	*1.3	*2.9	97.6
Health concerns	*12.2	13.5	15.5	11.0	14.8	*2.6	*1.1	*1.0	71.7
No time	118.4	115.9	69.3	32.4	32.1	11.3	*1.6	10.2	391.2
Insufficient rainfall	*1.4	*5.5	*0.6	—	*1.2	—	—	*0.2	*8.9
Other	57.8	57.7	25.4	18.5	20.8	*4.6	*1.5	*3.4	189.8
Total	**424.3**	**448.4**	**273.6**	**116.7**	**170.3**	**39.2**	**10.6**	**35.8**	**1 519.0**
Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in district/shire/municipality	13.1	11.4	8.6	—	*1.2	*8.0	*18.8	*7.4	9.2
Cost	31.2	43.6	41.7	34.7	38.8	36.7	*26.3	36.8	38.1
No room	14.8	13.2	12.1	19.5	20.7	*9.7	*9.5	22.4	14.9
Not home owner/not responsible	8.1	3.8	7.5	*5.3	7.9	*5.4	*12.4	*8.0	6.4
Health concerns	*2.9	3.0	5.7	9.4	8.7	*6.6	*10.2	*2.9	4.7
No time	27.9	25.9	25.3	27.7	18.8	28.9	*15.5	28.4	25.8
Insufficient rainfall	*0.3	*1.2	*0.2	—	*0.7	—	—	*0.6	*0.6
Other	13.6	12.9	9.3	15.9	12.2	*11.8	*14.0	*9.4	12.5
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Not allowed in district/shire	11.5	15.4	6.9	*0.5	*1.1	*3.3	*11.5	*10.3	9.6
Cost	33.6	34.7	44.4	38.1	43.6	42.9	*49.5	39.0	37.6
No room	15.8	13.5	9.3	18.8	18.1	*7.4	*7.7	*14.3	14.3
Not home owner/not responsible	—	—	—	*0.4	*0.3	—	—	*0.6	*0.1
Water quality	*3.5	*1.8	*6.1	*6.7	*5.6	*5.8	*7.7	*4.2	4.0
No time	31.9	32.7	30.0	36.5	24.8	38.6	*37.0	32.7	31.5
Other	14.4	13.4	16.9	*10.8	14.2	*14.3	*2.4	*14.9	14.2

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one reason may be specified.

3.4 MAIN SOURCE OF GARDEN WATER, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Mains/town	1 735.5	1 421.6	1 002.7	488.8	516.7	148.4	47.4	109.5	5 470.5
Rainwater tank	52.1	40.6	34.4	19.3	*6.8	8.3	—	*0.6	162.2
Spring	*1.4	*1.1	*2.3	*0.4	—	*0.6	—	—	*5.8
Bore/well	46.7	24.6	68.2	20.1	139.6	*3.4	*2.0	—	*304.5
River/creek/dam	52.0	67.1	39.2	10.8	9.5	9.0	—	—	187.7
Recycled/grey water	*1.4	*7.0	15.0	*3.9	*0.4	*1.6	—	—	29.3
Other	*4.4	*3.2	*1.7	*0.4	*0.4	*0.8	—	—	10.8
All households	**1 893.5**	**1 565.3**	**1 163.4**	**543.5**	**673.4**	**172.2**	**49.4**	**110.1**	**6 170.8**
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	91.7	90.8	86.2	89.9	76.7	86.2	96.0	99.4	88.7
Rainwater tank	2.8	2.6	3.0	3.6	*1.0	4.8	—	*0.6	2.6
Spring	*0.1	*0.1	*0.2	*0.1	—	*0.3	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	2.5	1.6	5.9	3.7	20.7	*2.0	*4.0	—	4.9
River/creek/dam	2.7	4.3	3.4	2.0	1.4	5.3	—	—	3.0
Recycled/grey water	*0.1	*0.4	1.3	*0.7	*0.1	*0.9	—	—	0.5
Other	*0.2	*0.2	*0.1	*0.1	*0.1	*0.5	—	—	0.2
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	90.9	91.2	85.2	90.0	75.9	86.1	89.6	100.0	88.4
Rainwater tank	2.6	2.7	3.3	5.1	*0.8	6.8	*0.9	—	2.9
Spring	*0.2	—	*0.1	*0.1	—	*0.1	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	2.1	2.2	6.4	2.6	22.0	*1.8	*8.5	—	4.9
River/creek/dam	3.6	2.7	3.2	*1.8	*1.0	5.1	*1.0	—	2.9
Recycled/grey water	*0.5	—	*1.0	*0.2	—	*0.1	—	—	0.4
Other	*0.1	*1.1	*0.7	*0.2	*0.3	*0.1	—	—	0.5
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	91.2	92.0	85.3	90.4	75.6	85.7	92.5	99.7	88.6
Rainwater tank	2.5	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.5	4.2	—	0.3	2.8
Spring	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	3.7	0.6	—	0.5
Bore	2.6	2.1	7.3	3.8	21.3	1.5	7.2	—	5.4
Other	3.2	2.0	3.6	1.6	2.2	5.0	—	—	2.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.5 MAIN SOURCES OF BATH, SHOWER AND WASHING WATER, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
BATHING, SHOWERING AND WASHING									
Number ('000)									
Mains/town	2 300.6	1 671.9	1 243.2	553.9	698.7	166.2	54.8	121.6	6 811.0
Rainwater tank	97.6	116.8	106.2	55.9	21.2	17.6	*0.4	—	415.6
Spring	*0.7	—	*3.4	—	—	*0.4	—	—	*4.5
Bore/well	*7.3	*3.3	33.2	*3.6	*8.4	*2.7	*1.8	—	60.4
River/creek/dam	17.7	13.5	*11.0	*1.1	*3.1	*3.9	—	—	50.3
Other	—	*1.3	*0.6	*0.7	*0.4	—	—	—	*3.0
All households	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	94.9	92.5	89.0	90.0	95.5	87.1	96.2	100.0	92.7
Rainwater tank	4.0	6.5	7.6	9.1	2.9	9.2	*0.7	—	5.7
Spring	—	—	*0.2	—	—	*0.2	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	*0.3	*0.2	2.4	*0.6	*1.2	*1.4	*3.2	—	0.8
River/creek/dam	0.7	0.7	*0.8	*0.2	*0.4	*2.1	—	—	0.7
Other	—	*0.1	—	*0.1	*0.1	—	—	—	—
MARCH 1998									
BATHING AND SHOWERING									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	91.9	91.2	86.8	91.7	96.5	85.9	91.2	100.0	91.2
Rainwater tank	6.0	6.7	7.9	6.8	2.2	11.8	*0.9	—	6.2
Spring	*0.1	—	—	—	—	*0.2	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	1.1	*0.5	4.5	*0.9	*1.2	*0.7	*6.9	—	1.6
River/creek/dam	*0.9	*0.7	*0.6	*0.6	*0.1	*1.5	*1.0	—	0.7
Other	—	*0.8	*0.2	—	—	—	—	—	*0.2
WASHING									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	91.9	91.1	86.5	88.9	96.2	85.9	91.2	99.8	90.8
Rainwater tank	6.1	6.8	8.2	9.4	2.6	11.4	*0.9	*0.2	6.6
Spring	*0.1	—	*0.1	—	—	*0.2	—	—	*0.1
Bore/well	1.2	*0.7	4.3	*0.9	*1.0	*0.6	*6.9	—	1.6
River/creek/dam	*0.8	*0.7	*0.7	*0.6	*0.2	*1.9	*1.0	—	0.7
Other	—	*0.6	*0.2	*0.2	*0.1	—	—	—	*0.2
JUNE 1994									
BATHING, SHOWERING AND WASHING									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	94.0	93.1	88.1	90.3	92.9	85.7	95.1	100.0	92.2
Rainwater tank	4.5	5.4	8.7	8.2	2.8	9.2	—	—	5.7
Spring	0.3	0.2	0.2	—	0.3	2.5	0.4	—	0.3
Bore/well	0.3	0.7	2.5	0.9	2.7	0.6	4.6	—	1.1
Other	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.9	—	—	0.8

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.6 MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER, By States and Territories

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Mains/town	2 060.4	1 512.6	1 109.5	307.2	615.2	154.4	53.2	118.2	5 930.6
Rainwater tank	171.9	190.5	193.8	203.5	53.1	26.0	*0.7	*0.7	840.2
Spring	*0.7	*0.6	*2.4	*1.0	—	*0.3	—	—	*5.0
Bottled	182.2	96.9	65.7	98.4	54.3	7.0	*1.3	*2.8	508.5
Bore/well	*2.2	*1.1	17.6	*1.4	*5.5	*1.8	*1.8	—	31.5
River/creek/dam	*5.6	*1.8	*4.3	—	—	*1.1	—	—	12.8
Other	*0.9	*3.6	*4.3	*3.5	*3.7	*0.2	—	—	16.2
All households	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	85.0	83.7	79.4	49.9	84.1	80.9	93.3	97.2	80.7
Rainwater tank	7.1	10.5	13.9	33.1	7.3	13.6	*1.3	*0.5	11.4
Spring	—	—	*0.2	*0.2	—	*0.2	—	—	*0.1
Bottled	7.5	5.4	4.7	16.0	7.4	3.7	*2.2	*2.3	6.9
Bore/well	*0.1	*0.1	1.3	*0.2	*0.8	*1.0	*3.2	—	0.4
River/creek/dam	*0.2	*0.1	*0.3	—	—	*0.6	—	—	0.2
Other	—	*0.2	*0.3	*0.6	*0.5	*0.1	—	—	0.2
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	84.8	84.1	79.8	47.3	86.4	81.8	95.0	96.4	80.9
Rainwater tank	10.1	11.6	15.9	37.6	6.5	14.3	*3.6	*0.2	13.4
Spring	*0.1	*0.3	*0.1	*0.6	*0.1	*0.4	—	—	*0.2
Bottled	4.7	3.6	3.6	13.7	6.7	2.9	*0.9	*3.4	5.1
Other	*0.3	*0.4	*0.6	*0.7	*0.4	*0.6	*0.5	—	0.4
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Mains/town	89.8	87.6	81.3	53.3	85.8	81.5	92.9	99.1	84.1
Rainwater tank	7.7	11.0	15.6	36.7	8.8	14.9	1.6	—	12.6
Spring	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.8	0.4	—	0.3
Bottled	1.9	0.7	1.6	7.9	2.9	0.1	1.3	0.9	2.1
Other	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.0	1.2	0.4	—	0.5
Bore	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	1.3	0.4	3.4	—	0.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.7 PERSONS WITH MAINS WATER, By States and Territories

Quality of tap water for drinking	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Satisfied	3 089.1	2 410.0	1 521.5	476.1	852.0	213.4	93.4	201.3	8 856.9
Not satisfied	1 193.7	744.3	699.4	449.1	402.1	67.5	*8.1	17.8	3 582.0
Depends	231.6	144.8	89.3	33.5	60.3	11.1	*1.1	8.0	579.6
Don't drink mains water	84.6	57.0	49.0	105.2	*12.9	*5.5	*1.4	*0.9	316.6
Total	**4 599.0**	**3 356.1**	**2 359.2**	**1 063.9**	**1 327.3**	**297.5**	**104.0**	**228.0**	**13 335.0**
Proportion (%)									
Satisfied	67.2	71.8	64.5	44.8	64.2	71.7	89.8	88.3	66.4
Not satisfied	26.0	22.2	29.6	42.2	30.3	22.7	*7.8	7.8	26.9
Depends	5.0	4.3	3.8	3.1	4.5	3.7	*1.1	3.5	4.3
Don't drink mains water	1.8	1.7	2.1	9.9	*1.0	*1.8	*1.3	*0.4	2.4
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Satisfied	65.7	68.5	64.2	44.5	62.4	73.4	84.0	83.5	64.6
Not satisfied	26.8	23.5	29.8	41.7	30.9	21.3	9.7	11.9	27.6
Depends	5.0	5.2	4.6	3.9	5.3	4.3	6.0	4.1	4.9
Don't drink mains water	2.5	2.7	1.5	10.0	1.5	*1.0	*0.2	*0.6	2.8
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Satisfied	61.5	69.3	64.8	47.0	59.9	74.8	88.1	85.6	63.5
Not satisfied	34.3	28.1	31.8	50.9	35.7	22.4	10.5	12.5	33.1
Depends	4.1	2.5	3.4	2.1	4.3	2.8	1.4	1.9	3.3

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

3.8 PERSONS DISSATISFIED WITH MAINS WATER, By States and Territories(a)

Problems with quality	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Salty	24.2	*2.5	*2.2	25.5	*7.2	*0.2	*0.5	—	62.3
Other taste	706.7	429.1	447.4	357.8	266.5	33.8	*2.7	7.1	2 251.0
Colour	227.8	176.3	116.8	75.9	72.8	13.7	*1.5	*4.6	689.4
Chlorine	435.1	342.4	291.6	160.8	173.3	28.6	*3.8	12.9	1 448.3
Dirty	269.7	187.3	110.1	64.5	49.1	19.7	*1.3	*1.8	703.5
Odour	258.5	172.9	108.0	99.6	78.2	13.7	*2.1	*2.5	735.7
Microbial/algae contamination	383.5	83.4	75.0	37.5	21.9	10.2	*0.5	*3.1	615.3
Other	163.3	120.4	95.1	99.4	89.4	11.6	*2.6	*4.4	586.2
Total	**1 509.9**	**946.1**	**837.8**	**587.8**	**475.3**	**84.0**	***10.6**	**26.6**	**4 478.2**
Proportion (%)									
Salty	1.6	*0.3	*0.3	4.3	*1.5	*0.2	*4.6	—	1.4
Other taste	46.8	45.4	53.4	60.9	56.1	40.2	*25.2	26.5	50.3
Colour	15.1	18.6	13.9	12.9	15.3	16.3	*14.5	*17.2	15.4
Chlorine	28.8	36.2	34.8	27.3	36.5	34.0	*35.8	48.3	32.3
Dirty	17.9	19.8	13.1	11.0	10.3	23.4	*12.7	*6.9	15.7
Odour	17.1	18.3	12.9	16.9	16.5	16.4	*20.2	*9.4	16.4
Microbial/algae contamination	25.4	8.8	9.0	6.4	4.6	12.2	*4.8	*11.8	13.7
Other	10.8	12.7	11.4	16.9	18.8	13.8	*24.9	*16.5	13.1
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Taste	61.4	58.0	63.3	64.8	67.9	51.2	38.4	37.4	61.7
Colour	16.0	18.0	13.8	19.4	15.2	19.1	36.2	6.6	16.5
Chlorine	32.5	29.5	31.2	22.9	29.8	28.4	30.4	36.8	30.0
Dirty	20.1	18.5	16.3	16.5	13.4	29.0	40.8	17.8	18.1
Odour	15.5	21.0	15.2	17.4	11.9	17.8	4.1	10.8	16.5
Other	14.4	17.5	17.8	18.6	19.1	14.1	25.0	34.7	17.0

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one problem may be specified.

3.9 WATER FILTERS USED FOR DRINKING WATER, By States and Territories(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Yes	452.7	322.2	320.1	117.2	160.0	34.7	6.6	14.0	1 427.6
No	1 788.9	1 387.8	1 011.8	399.5	517.5	149.1	49.1	104.8	5 408.6
Total	**2 241.7**	**1 710.0**	**1 331.9**	**516.7**	**677.5**	**183.9**	**55.8**	**118.8**	**6 836.2**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	20.2	18.8	24.0	22.7	23.6	18.9	11.9	11.8	20.9
No	79.8	81.2	76.0	77.3	76.4	81.1	88.1	88.2	79.1
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	19.2	16.2	20.1	17.1	20.5	14.1	12.4	9.5	18.2
No	80.8	83.8	79.7	82.9	79.5	85.9	87.6	90.5	81.8

(a) Excludes bottled water.

3.10 HOUSEHOLDS DISSATISFIED WITH MAINS WATER, By States and Territories(a)

Problems with supply	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Inadequate or low pressure	207.9	163.4	176.2	72.5	75.4	21.5	6.5	5.8	729.2
Fluctuating pressure	120.5	106.3	128.6	54.8	60.5	14.2	*3.4	6.8	495.3
Supply disruptions	184.7	178.0	137.1	42.1	49.1	17.7	*3.3	4.5	616.3
Supply restrictions	35.4	167.5	158.0	*6.8	47.3	31.9	*0.9	*0.5	448.5
Other water supply problems	48.8	29.6	29.7	13.8	25.7	*2.6	*2.1	*2.1	154.3
No supply problems	1 872.3	1 199.9	827.0	446.3	515.5	105.0	43.5	106.2	5 115.7
Total	**2 309.2**	**1 681.3**	**1 258.7**	**583.9**	**699.9**	**166.6**	**55.1**	**121.6**	**6 876.3**
Proportion (%)									
Inadequate or low pressure	9.0	9.7	14.0	12.4	10.8	12.9	11.7	4.7	10.6
Fluctuating pressure	5.2	6.3	10.2	9.4	8.6	8.5	*6.2	5.6	7.2
Supply disruptions	8.0	10.6	10.9	7.2	7.0	10.6	*5.9	3.7	9.0
Supply restrictions	1.5	10.0	12.6	*1.2	6.8	19.2	*1.7	*0.4	6.5
Other water supply problems	2.1	1.8	2.4	2.4	3.7	*1.5	*3.9	*1.7	2.2
No supply problems	81.1	71.4	65.7	76.4	73.7	63.0	79.0	87.4	74.4

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one problem may be specified.

3.11 SWIMMING POOLS, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Filtered pool	136.8	48.8	114.3	11.9	46.5	*2.6	*5.1	*2.8	368.8
Treated pool	15.6	*7.5	*10.7	*1.0	*5.4	*0.2	*0.2	*0.4	41.0
Filtered and treated pool	101.5	44.5	84.7	14.2	51.8	*1.4	5.9	*2.8	306.8
Neither filtered nor treated pool	*3.8	*4.8	*3.6	*1.8	*0.8	*0.9	—	*0.4	16.1
No swimming pool	2 166.2	1 701.2	1 184.2	586.3	627.2	185.8	45.9	115.3	6 612.1
Total	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
Proportion (%)									
Filtered pool	5.6	2.7	8.2	1.9	6.4	*1.4	*9.0	*2.3	5.0
Treated pool	0.6	*0.4	*0.8	*0.2	*0.7	*0.1	0.3	*0.3	0.6
Filtered and treated pool	4.2	2.5	6.1	2.3	7.1	*0.7	10.3	*2.3	4.2
Neither filtered nor treated pool	*0.2	*0.3	*0.3	*0.3	*0.1	*0.5	—	*0.3	0.2
No swimming pool	89.4	94.2	84.7	95.3	85.7	97.3	80.4	94.8	90.0
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Filtered swimming pool	11.0	6.5	15.3	5.5	12.3	2.7	18.0	5.6	10.1
No swimming pool	89.0	93.5	84.7	94.5	87.7	97.3	81.9	94.3	89.9
JUNE 1994									
Proportion (%)									
Filtered swimming pool	10.5	6.3	11.6	5.9	10.9	3.4	17.9	5.6	9.1
No swimming pool	89.4	93.7	88.4	94.2	89.1	96.5	82.1	94.4	90.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

3.12 HOUSEHOLD WATER CONSERVATION METHODS(a), By States and Territories(b)

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Dual flush toilet	1 345.7	1 285.8	867.2	441.7	522.0	110.9	39.4	70.1	4 682.9
Reduced flow shower head	817.4	573.5	515.2	225.7	293.2	69.4	16.7	39.7	2 551.0
Neither item	812.9	408.6	365.5	128.7	147.0	55.3	13.3	38.6	1 969.9
Recycle/reuse water	215.3	254.9	128.6	86.0	99.7	27.3	*5.2	11.7	828.8
Full loads when washing	339.8	398.5	185.5	75.5	97.7	34.0	12.7	16.5	1 160.2
Shorter showers	295.3	349.4	198.9	66.2	101.3	32.4	*4.2	10.5	1 058.1
Turn off/repair dripping taps	466.8	393.7	325.7	88.4	93.0	33.8	13.9	18.1	1 433.3
Brick in toilet cistern	63.1	24.3	30.7	9.1	13.9	*2.4	*1.2	*3.5	148.2
Use bucket to wash car	107.1	102.3	60.1	30.4	21.1	9.2	*3.2	*1.7	335.1
Wash car on lawn	193.3	124.7	84.8	27.7	45.2	12.0	*5.3	4.6	497.5
Use less water in baths/troughs/basins	164.5	132.5	105.5	25.8	38.1	13.0	*3.2	5.0	487.7
Use broom to clean paths	118.1	101.2	58.3	17.3	15.7	5.8	*3.7	*3.4	323.5
Other	157.2	136.3	95.8	41.3	60.0	12.2	*4.4	6.1	513.3
No conservation steps	1 486.8	880.1	758.3	364.5	417.6	106.7	31.4	76.3	4 121.7
Total	**2 423.9**	**1 806.9**	**1 397.5**	**615.2**	**731.8**	**190.9**	**57.0**	**121.6**	**7 344.8**
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	55.5	71.2	62.1	71.8	71.3	58.1	69.2	57.6	63.8
Reduced flow shower head	33.7	31.7	36.9	36.7	40.1	36.4	29.3	32.7	34.7
Neither item	33.5	22.6	26.2	20.9	20.1	29.0	23.3	31.8	26.8
Recycle/reuse water	8.9	14.1	9.2	14.0	13.6	14.3	*9.1	9.6	11.3
Full loads when washing	14.0	22.1	13.3	12.3	13.4	17.8	22.2	13.5	15.8
Shorter showers	12.2	19.3	14.2	10.8	13.8	17.0	*7.4	8.6	14.4
Turn off/repair dripping taps	19.3	21.8	23.3	14.4	12.7	17.7	24.3	14.9	19.5
Brick in toilet cistern	2.6	1.3	2.2	1.5	1.9	*1.2	*2.1	*2.8	2.0
Use bucke to wash car	4.4	5.7	4.3	4.9	2.9	4.8	*5.6	*1.4	4.6
Wash car on lawn	8.0	6.9	6.1	4.5	6.2	6.3	*9.2	3.8	6.8
Use less water in baths/troughs/basins	6.8	7.3	7.6	4.2	5.2	6.8	*5.6	4.1	6.6
Use broom to clean paths	4.9	5.6	4.2	2.8	2.1	3.0	*6.5	*2.8	4.4
Other	6.5	7.5	6.9	6.7	8.2	6.4	*7.8	5.0	7.0
No conservation steps	61.3	48.7	54.3	59.2	57.1	55.9	55.1	62.7	56.1
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	46.2	64.2	53.1	63.2	63.1	48.1	63.0	48.1	55.2
Reduced flow shower head	30.0	31.7	34.1	33.5	37.7	32.3	28.0	32.6	32.3
Neither item	43.0	27.6	34.3	27.9	25.2	38.4	29.7	38.0	34.3
Recycle/reuse water	14.9	13.8	13.9	16.5	18.4	15.5	11.6	11.6	14.8
Full loads when washing	16.0	20.4	14.3	12.0	15.5	16.2	21.8	20.1	16.5
Shorter showers	16.3	14.5	15.4	11.1	16.0	14.4	16.6	13.2	15.1
Turn off/repair dripping taps	21.4	19.8	22.1	14.1	15.5	16.5	30.6	21.4	19.9
Brick in toilet cistern	2.9	1.5	1.5	*1.3	1.6	*2.1	*2.2	*2.8	2.0
Use bucket to wash car	5.3	5.7	3.6	5.2	6.3	4.5	*8.1	*4.0	5.2
Wash car on lawn	11.0	6.2	4.2	5.5	5.4	7.0	11.4	6.3	7.4
Use broom to clean paths	7.2	4.9	3.5	2.8	5.0	3.6	*8.4	*3.7	5.2
Other	7.2	7.4	12.0	7.8	8.7	7.6	*3.9	10.0	8.3
No water conservation steps	50.9	53.5	52.5	58.5	51.0	56.6	50.1	52.2	52.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes conservation methods in the garden (see table 3.13).

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

3.12 HOUSEHOLD WATER CONSERVATION METHODS(a), By States and Territories(b)

continued

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
					JUNE 1994				
Proportion (%)									
Dual flush toilet	30.5	50.8	31.5	48.2	46.6	31.0	41.6	33.2	39.0
Reduced flow shower head	19.5	21.2	22.5	26.1	26.1	20.6	14.6	28.6	21.8
Recycle/reuse water	13.3	9.0	16.5	13.2	19.5	11.9	7.7	12.3	13.3
Full loads when washing	16.3	15.9	15.1	10.5	22.1	18.5	19.0	16.8	16.1
Shorter showers	16.7	13.3	15.3	12.5	21.9	16.7	13.5	15.9	15.7
Turn off/repair dripping taps	25.3	21.1	29.7	13.1	20.8	23.5	24.5	29.5	23.5
Brick in toilet cistern	2.3	1.1	1.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	—	2.5	1.8
Other	8.9	5.7	10.7	7.2	10.8	5.1	5.2	15.0	8.4
No water conservation steps	54.6	60.3	47.2	62.6	43.4	55.8	61.6	45.3	54.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Excludes conservation methods in the garden (see table 3.13).

(b) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

3.13 HOUSEHOLDS WITH GARDENS, By States and Territories

Conserve water in garden	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Yes	957.6	1 000.9	633.6	351.5	458.0	111.5	32.6	66.1	3 611.8
Sometimes	59.2	58.5	26.3	9.0	10.0	5.5	*1.1	*3.2	172.8
No	891.7	517.5	530.0	197.5	206.3	57.5	15.6	41.1	2 457.3
Total	**1 908.5**	**1 576.9**	**1 189.8**	**558.0**	**674.3**	**174.5**	**49.4**	**110.5**	**6 241.9**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	50.2	63.5	53.2	63.0	67.9	63.9	66.1	59.9	57.9
Sometimes	3.1	3.7	2.2	1.6	1.5	3.2	*2.2	*2.9	2.8
No	46.7	32.8	44.5	35.4	30.6	33.0	31.7	37.2	39.4
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion (%)									
Yes	57.5	59.2	52.3	59.5	66.3	56.5	67.7	66.9	58.3
Sometimes	3.9	2.7	1.9	1.7	*1.7	4.8	*0.6	*2.8	2.8
No	38.6	38.1	45.8	38.8	32.0	38.7	31.7	30.4	38.9

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

3.14 HOUSEHOLDS WHO CONSERVE GARDEN WATER, By States and Territories(a) ...

Methods	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
Water early morning/late evening	445.3	466.0	230.1	147.3	243.4	54.5	18.6	29.5	1 634.7
Check soil moisture before watering	107.6	104.2	68.6	27.2	35.8	7.0	*2.1	5.4	357.9
Use recycled water	180.4	199.9	131.2	56.1	62.4	21.3	*2.6	7.7	661.6
Reduce lawn area	21.1	36.9	16.2	18.4	22.8	*2.6	*4.8	4.8	127.6
Don't water lawn area	79.6	203.4	52.6	14.7	12.4	25.9	*1.0	5.9	395.6
Water less frequently but for longer periods	198.8	238.2	124.3	67.9	103.6	16.8	7.3	16.8	773.8
Other	183.8	185.1	128.5	108.3	129.6	13.3	*5.5	17.0	771.1
Don't water/rely on rainfall	126.4	91.0	82.5	23.1	*6.8	14.5	*2.8	*3.2	350.4
Total	**1 016.8**	**1 059.4**	**659.8**	**360.5**	**468.0**	**117.0**	**33.7**	**69.4**	**3 784.6**
Proportion (%)									
Water early morning/late evening	43.8	44.0	34.9	40.9	52.0	46.6	55.1	42.6	43.2
Check soil moisture before watering	10.6	9.8	10.4	7.5	7.6	6.0	*6.1	7.9	9.5
Use recycled water	17.7	18.9	19.9	15.6	13.3	18.2	*7.7	11.1	17.5
Reduce lawn area	2.1	3.5	2.5	5.1	4.9	*2.2	*14.1	6.9	3.4
Don't water lawn area	7.8	19.2	8.0	4.1	2.7	22.2	*2.9	8.5	10.5
Water less frequently but for longer periods	19.6	22.5	18.8	18.8	22.1	14.4	21.6	24.2	20.4
Other	18.1	17.5	19.5	30.0	27.7	11.3	*16.4	24.5	20.4
Don't water/rely on rainfall	12.4	8.6	12.5	6.4	*1.5	12.4	*8.4	*4.7	9.3
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
Water early morning/late evening	52.2	46.6	36.8	44.9	62.3	47.0	71.5	60.7	48.9
Check soil moisture before watering	11.7	16.1	15.5	15.0	11.4	10.3	*10.1	13.3	13.7
Use recycled water	20.8	19.6	19.5	16.1	15.2	19.5	*15.8	8.8	18.9
Other	22.3	29.6	32.0	35.2	30.3	27.2	18.8	29.9	28.1
Don't water/rely on rainfall	9.9	11.2	12.9	5.8	3.1	14.6	*6.7	7.9	9.6

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

3.15 HOUSEHOLDS WITH GARDENS, By States and Territories

Mulch used in garden	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
Yes	1 257.1	1 060.8	870.7	377.0	492.4	123.5	33.7	84.1	4 299.2
No	651.4	516.2	319.1	180.9	182.0	51.0	15.7	26.4	1 942.7
Total	**1 908.5**	**1 576.9**	**1 189.8**	**558.0**	**674.3**	**174.5**	**49.4**	**110.5**	**6 241.9**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	65.9	67.3	73.2	67.6	73.0	70.8	68.2	76.1	68.9
No	34.1	32.7	26.8	32.4	27.0	29.2	31.8	23.9	31.1
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
Yes	67.3	65.2	72.0	65.5	66.7	70.1	75.2	76.3	67.7
No	32.7	34.8	28.0	34.5	33.3	29.9	24.8	23.7	32.3

3.16 HOUSEHOLDS USING MULCH, By States and Territories(a)

Reason mulch used	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
To conserve water	806.1	849.4	604.7	301.2	418.8	92.0	24.4	62.5	3 159.1
To reduce weeds	504.8	429.8	326.4	85.6	103.6	63.0	14.2	32.0	1 559.5
Other	497.8	279.3	327.4	116.2	135.3	30.6	11.5	30.5	1 428.6
Total	**1 257.1**	**1 060.8**	**870.7**	**377.0**	**492.4**	**123.5**	**33.7**	**84.1**	**4 299.2**
Proportion (%)									
To conserve water	64.1	80.1	69.4	79.9	85.1	74.5	72.6	74.3	73.5
To reduce weeds	40.2	40.5	37.5	22.7	21.0	51.1	42.2	38.0	36.3
Other	39.6	26.3	37.6	30.8	27.5	24.8	34.0	36.3	33.2
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
To conserve water	66.7	71.2	61.4	80.4	82.0	64.6	80.8	76.4	69.8
Other	55.3	51.6	58.2	39.8	32.9	55.5	44.5	52.5	51.2

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each colum because more than one reason may be specified.

3.17 HOUSEHOLDS WITH GARDENS, By States and Territories

Planted natives	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Yes	1 090.3	877.3	735.2	312.8	383.2	99.6	21.8	72.7	3 592.9
No	818.2	699.6	454.6	245.1	291.1	74.9	27.6	37.8	2 648.9
Total	**1 908.5**	**1 576.9**	**1 189.8**	**558.0**	**674.3**	**174.5**	**49.4**	**110.5**	**6 241.9**
Proportion (%)									
Yes	57.1	55.6	61.8	56.1	56.8	57.1	44.1	65.8	57.6
No	42.9	44.4	38.2	43.9	43.2	42.9	55.9	34.2	42.4
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Yes	57.3	56.0	61.3	54.6	54.8	54.9	48.9	65.4	57.2
No	42.7	44.0	38.7	45.4	45.2	45.1	51.1	34.6	42.8

3.18 HOUSEHOLDS WHO PLANT NATIVES, By States and Territories(a)

Reason	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
To conserve water	154.5	156.7	69.1	95.1	135.0	14.1	*5.5	13.5	643.6
Other	1 021.9	805.8	705.0	260.0	307.4	93.1	19.5	68.8	3 281.3
Total	**1 090.3**	**877.3**	**735.2**	**312.8**	**383.2**	**99.6**	**21.8**	**72.7**	**3 592.9**
Proportion (%)									
To conserve water	14.2	17.9	9.4	30.4	35.2	14.1	*25.5	18.6	17.9
Other	93.7	91.8	95.9	83.1	80.2	93.5	89.4	94.7	91.3
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
To conserve water	14.2	17.1	10.3	33.3	40.1	12.1	29.8	22.3	18.6
Other	93.7	91.5	95.7	80.1	72.0	93.4	87.8	90.7	90.1

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one reason may be specified.

3.19 HOUSEHOLDS WHO WATER GARDENS, By States and Territories(a)

Methods	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
				MARCH 2001					
Number ('000)									
Hand watering	1 262.5	1 031.0	742.8	331.9	355.3	101.0	21.6	56.0	3 902.1
Moveable sprinkler	471.4	339.1	324.7	233.6	135.5	65.2	14.4	45.5	1 629.5
Fixed sprinkler system	331.7	456.3	269.1	195.0	446.5	36.4	19.9	42.9	1 797.7
Drip system	98.0	117.5	71.1	106.5	67.3	16.5	11.2	9.4	497.6
Timer on tap	94.1	112.2	63.8	94.5	206.0	12.8	11.4	13.1	608.0
Other	67.5	63.4	55.2	20.2	14.6	*2.9	*1.9	*0.8	226.6
Rely on rainfall	131.9	63.2	71.9	*7.3	*2.2	*4.7	*1.2	4.1	286.5
Total	**1 782.1**	**1 485.9**	**1 107.4**	**534.9**	**667.5**	**160.0**	**46.5**	**107.2**	**5 891.5**
Proportion (%)									
Hand watering	70.8	69.4	67.1	62.0	53.2	63.1	46.4	52.2	66.2
Moveable sprinkler	26.5	22.8	29.3	43.7	20.3	40.8	30.9	42.4	27.7
Fixed sprinkler system	18.6	30.7	24.3	36.4	66.9	22.7	42.8	40.0	30.5
Drip system	5.5	7.9	6.4	19.9	10.1	10.3	24.2	8.8	8.4
Timer on tap	5.3	7.6	5.8	17.7	30.9	8.0	24.4	12.3	10.3
Other	3.8	4.3	5.0	3.8	2.2	*1.8	*4.1	*0.8	3.8
Rely on rainfall	7.4	4.3	6.5	*1.4	*0.3	*2.9	*2.7	3.8	4.9
				MARCH 1998					
Proportion (%)									
Hand watering	69.3	66.1	68.0	63.9	46.1	65.7	39.2	46.2	64.5
Moveable sprinkler	26.1	25.9	30.5	40.5	23.7	47.6	25.7	44.9	28.8
Fixed sprinkler system	19.2	30.4	22.9	35.0	58.7	20.0	38.9	41.3	29.0
Drip system	5.8	9.9	7.7	18.2	5.8	7.8	32.5	8.3	8.6
Timer on tap	4.8	9.3	6.0	14.7	28.5	5.9	19.7	15.5	10.0
Other	4.6	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.9	*1.8	*1.7	4.3
Rely on rainfall	7.0	3.8	6.1	1.8	*1.4	4.6	*6.0	*1.1	4.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

(a) Totals do not equal the sum of items in each column because more than one method may be specified.

CHAPTER 4 USE OF WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

MAIN FINDINGS

- Just over one in two Australians (54%) visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the twelve months prior to March 2001. Visitations had declined from 63% in 1992 to 54% in 1998 and 2001.
- People between the ages of 25 and 44 were most likely to have made a trip (61%) while those aged 65 and over were the least likely to have done so (31%).
- Households with dependent child(ren) recorded the highest proportion of visits to a World Heritage Area, National or State Park. Couples with dependent children ranked highest (62%), followed by one parent with dependent child(ren) households (57%). One person households were the least likely to use these areas (44%).
- The main reason cited for not visiting World Heritage Areas or Parks was no time (36%) followed by age and health factors (17%).
- People aged between 35–44 were most likely to cite the lack of time as the main reason for not visiting these areas (51%) while age and health issues were the prime problems for those aged 65 and over (52%).
- Younger people aged 18–24 rated highest for the lack of interest in visiting these areas (19%).
- People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to have visited a World Heritage Area or Park, with nearly two-thirds stating that they had made a trip (64%). South Australians and Victorians were the least likely to engage in this activity (50%).

VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

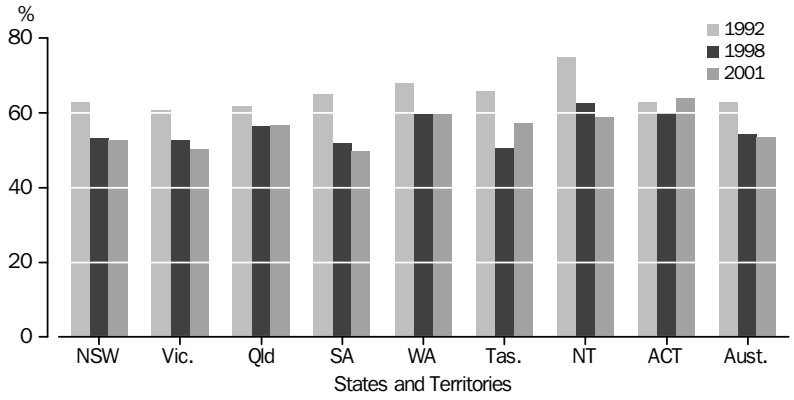
In March 2001 just over one in two Australians over the age of 18 reported that they had visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the twelve months prior to the survey (54%) (table 4.1).

The proportion of Australians participating in this recreation declined between 1992 and 1998 (from 63% down to 54%) but had remained the same between 1998 and 2001 (graph G4.1). This trend occurred across most States and Territories, except for Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

People in the Australian Capital Territory were the most likely to have visited a World Heritage Area or Park, with nearly two-thirds stating that they had made a trip (64%). South Australians and Victorians were the least likely to engage in this activity (50%).

VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS *continued*

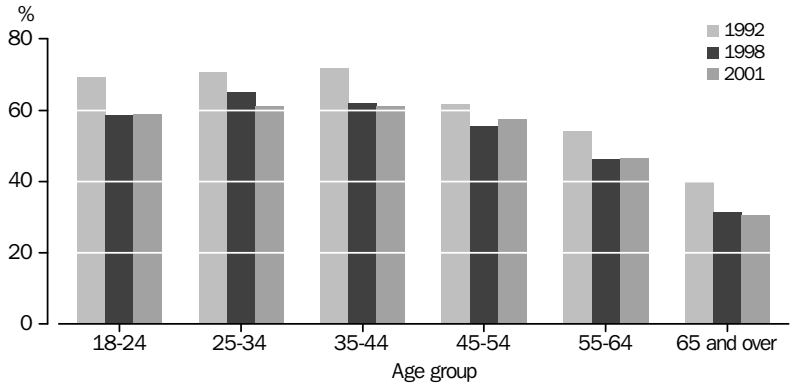
G4.1 VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS



Age was a strong determinant impacting on visits to World Heritage Areas, National or State Parks. Since 1992 outings to these areas tended to decline with age as well as within age groups (table 4.2, graph G4.2).

People between the ages of 25 and 44 were the most likely to have made a visit in the twelve months prior to March 2001 (61%). Australians aged 65 and over were the least likely to enjoy this pastime (31%).

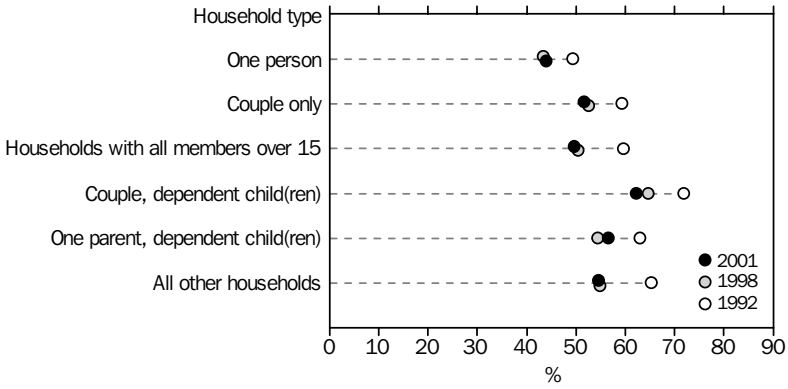
G4.2 VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS, BY AGE



Household type was another factor which influenced visits to World Heritage Areas, National or State Parks. Households with dependent child(ren) were the most likely to have paid a visit. About 62% of couples with dependent child(ren) households had visited these areas, followed by one parent with dependent child(ren) households (table 4.3, graph G4.3). One person households regularly registered the highest likelihood of not making any visit (1992, 50%; 1998 and 2001, 55%).

VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS *continued*

G4.3 VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS, BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE

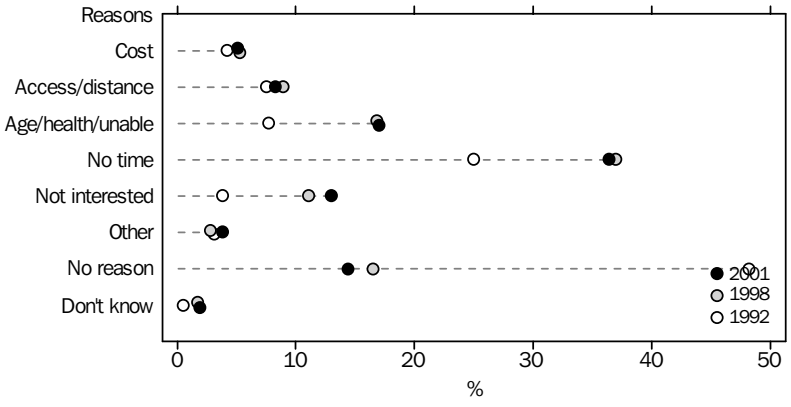


For those who had not visited a World Heritage Area, National or State Park in the twelve months prior to March 2001, the lack of time (36%) was the main reason which prevented them from doing so (table 4.4, graph G4.4). Since 1992 more Australians had no time for this sort of recreation, with the proportion of people nominating a lack of time increasing significantly since the start of the survey (1992, 25%; 1998, 37%; 2001, 36%).

Factors relating to age and health were the next most common reason for not visiting these areas (17%). The lack of interest was cited by 13% of those that made no visits. The proportion for both of these reasons has increased significantly since 1992; age and health reasons have escalated from 8% in 1992 to 17% in 1998 and 2001; while those citing a lack of interest has risen from 4% in 1992 to 11% in 1998 and 13% in 2001.

Problems with access or distance (8%) and the cost incurred (5%) were relatively less important.

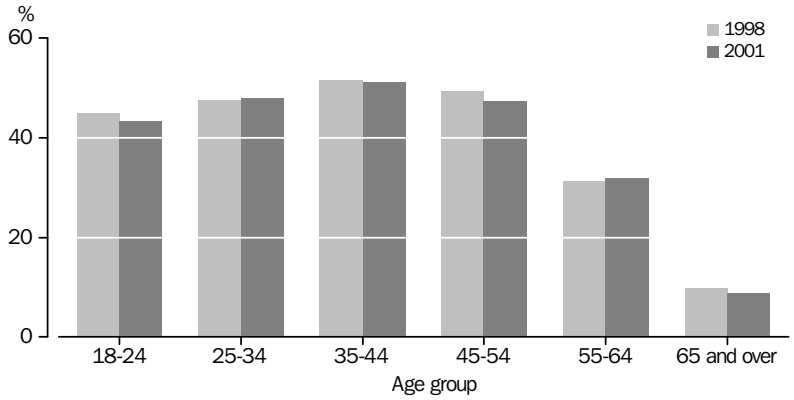
G4.4 MAIN REASON FOR NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK



Reasons for not visiting World Heritage Areas and Parks varied according to age (table 4.5). Those aged 35–44 were the least likely to have the time for such an activity (51% had no time) (graph G4.5). The lack of time was less of an issue for those aged 55 and over (especially 65 and over).

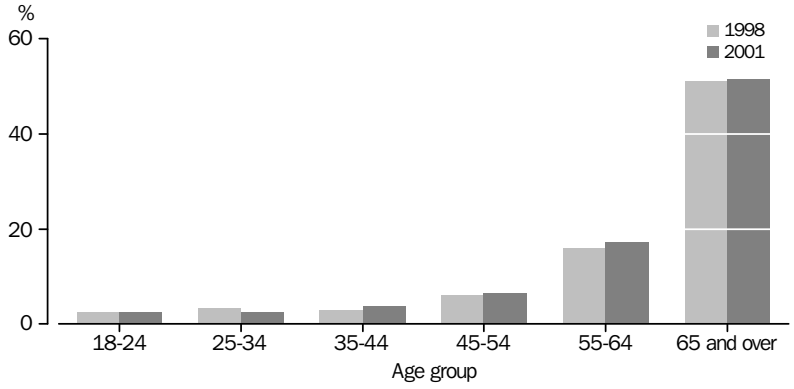
VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS *continued*

G4.5 NO TIME TO VISIT A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, BY AGE



As Australians got older, age and health issues became more prominent in deterring visits to World Heritage Areas and Parks (graph G4.6). Those aged 65 and over were most severely impacted by this problem (52%). This age group also recorded the highest proportion for having difficulty with access or distance (11%).

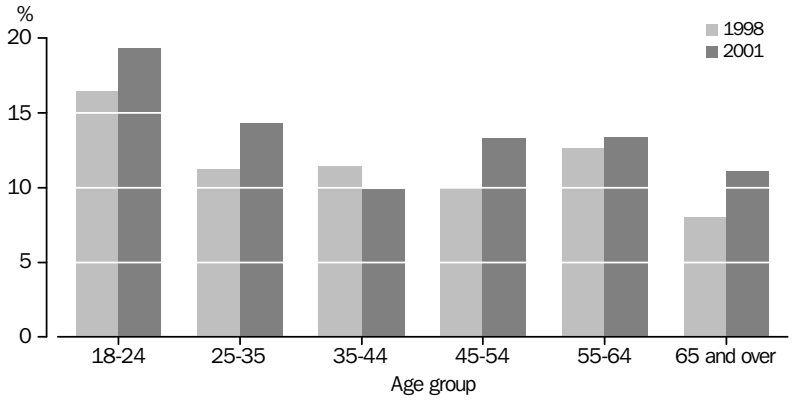
G4.6 PREVENTING VISIT OF A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, DUE TO AGE, HEALTH OR INABILITY



Younger people aged 18–24 rated highest for the lack of interest in visiting a World Heritage Area, National or State Park (19%) (graph G4.7). Overall, the lack of interest in visiting World Heritage Areas, National or State Parks has increased across all age groups since 1998, except for those aged 35–44.

VISITS TO WORLD HERITAGE AREAS, NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS *continued*

G4.7 NO INTEREST IN VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, BY AGE



4.1 VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By States and Territories

	NSW	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
					MARCH 2001				
Number ('000)									
Yes	2 548.1	1 806.8	1 488.4	557.4	828.3	196.0	63.7	145.5	7 634.2
No	2 179.6	1 692.2	1 102.9	550.3	546.7	143.5	44.3	79.3	6 338.7
Don't know	94.0	93.3	41.8	15.5	15.7	*4.0	*0.6	*3.2	268.1
Total	**4 821.7**	**3 592.3**	**2 633.1**	**1 123.2**	**1 390.7**	**343.4**	**108.5**	**228.0**	**14 241.0**
Proportion(%)									
Yes	52.8	50.3	56.5	49.6	59.6	57.1	58.7	63.8	53.6
No	45.2	47.1	41.9	49.0	39.3	41.8	40.8	34.8	44.5
Don't know	1.9	2.6	1.6	1.4	1.1	*1.2	*0.5	*1.4	1.9
					MARCH 1998				
Proportion(%)									
Yes	53.4	52.8	56.4	51.9	59.6	50.4	62.7	60.1	54.4
No	44.3	44.7	42.0	46.3	38.4	48.0	37.0	38.1	43.6
Don't know	2.3	2.4	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.7	*0.3	*1.7	2.1
					MAY 1992				
Proportion(%)									
Yes	62.9	60.6	61.8	64.8	68.0	65.7	74.7	62.8	62.9
No	36.4	38.2	37.7	34.9	31.5	33.9	25.3	35.0	36.3
Don't know	0.7	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.4	—	2.2	0.8

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

4.2 VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By age

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
	18–24	*25–34*	*35–44*	*45–54*	*55–64*	*65 and over*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Yes	58.8	61.2	61.0	57.3	46.4	30.7	53.6
No	37.9	36.9	37.3	40.9	52.3	67.9	44.5
Don't know	3.3	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.9
MARCH 1998							
Yes	58.7	64.9	61.9	55.5	46.2	31.3	54.4
No	37.9	32.8	36.5	42.8	52.0	66.6	43.6
Don't know	3.4	2.2	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1
MAY 1992							
Yes	69.2	70.8	71.8	61.6	54.0	39.8	62.9
No	30.0	28.3	27.5	37.6	45.4	59.2	36.3
Don't know	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.8

4.3 VISITED A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By household type

	One person	*Couple only*	*Households with members over 15*	*Couple, dependent child(ren)*	*One parent, dependent child(ren)*	*All other households*	*Total*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MARCH 2001							
Yes	44.0	51.7	49.6	62.2	56.6	54.6	53.6
No	54.8	47.2	47.4	35.9	42.0	43.0	44.5
Don't know	1.1	1.1	3.0	1.8	*1.4	2.4	1.9
MARCH 1998							
Yes	43.4	52.6	50.4	64.7	54.4	54.9	54.4
No	54.8	46.0	47.0	33.8	44.2	41.3	43.6
Don't know	1.8	1.4	2.6	1.5	*1.5	3.8	2.1
MAY 1992							
Yes	49.4	59.3	59.6	71.8	62.9	65.3	62.9
No	49.7	40.1	39.6	27.4	36.5	33.7	36.3
Don't know	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.8

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

4.4 PERSONS NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By States and Territories

Main reason	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Aust.*
MARCH 2001									
Number ('000)									
Cost	88.0	77.1	85.2	26.7	24.8	13.6	*6.1	*4.3	325.7
Access/distance	179.7	116.4	116.3	48.6	46.2	7.7	*7.5	*2.6	525.0
Age/health/unable	395.6	303.1	177.5	93.2	69.0	21.9	*3.2	11.3	1 074.7
No time	795.8	626.4	397.0	189.5	208.4	44.9	13.9	29.7	2 305.5
Not interested	331.1	205.3	128.1	63.5	60.6	21.0	*5.2	12.4	827.0
Other	74.8	61.5	52.3	18.2	24.5	*3.1	*3.3	*5.9	243.7
No reason	275.7	262.7	129.1	97.8	100.4	31.2	*5.1	12.9	915.0
Don't know	39.0	39.8	*17.4	*12.9	*12.8	—	—	*0.3	122.3
All reasons	**2 179.6**	**1 692.2**	**1 102.9**	**550.3**	**546.7**	**143.5**	**44.3**	**79.3**	**6 338.7**
Proportion (%)									
Cost	4.0	4.6	7.7	4.8	4.5	9.5	*13.8	*5.4	5.1
Access/distance	8.2	6.9	10.5	8.8	8.4	5.4	*17.0	*3.3	8.3
Age/health/unable	18.1	17.9	16.1	16.9	12.6	15.3	*7.1	14.3	17.0
No time	36.5	37.0	36.0	34.4	38.1	31.3	31.4	37.4	36.4
Not interested	15.2	12.1	11.6	11.5	11.1	14.6	*11.7	15.6	13.0
Other	3.4	3.6	4.7	3.3	4.5	*2.2	*7.5	*7.5	3.8
No reason	12.6	15.5	11.7	17.8	18.4	21.8	*11.6	16.3	14.4
Don't know	1.8	2.4	*1.6	*2.4	*2.3	—	—	*0.3	1.9
MARCH 1998									
Proportion (%)									
Cost	4.2	4.6	7.4	5.8	4.7	11.3	*9.6	*5.3	5.3
Access/distance	9.5	7.9	9.6	6.7	11.8	6.6	*8.5	*3.2	8.9
Age/heath/unable	17.6	18.2	15.1	17.5	12.6	13.3	14.5	19.0	16.8
No time	36.6	37.6	36.8	35.2	39.5	32.0	41.3	39.4	37.0
Not interested	11.7	11.3	9.3	12.8	9.4	13.3	*10.8	9.1	11.1
Other	2.7	1.6	4.3	2.8	3.8	3.4	*3.4	*3.2	2.8
No reason	16.8	16.8	15.6	16.7	15.7	19.0	*11.3	19.0	16.5
Don't know	*1.0	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.5	*1.2	*0.7	*1.7	1.7
MAY 1992									
Proportion (%)									
Cost	3.7	3.6	5.2	6.5	3.9	3.0	—	5.7	4.2
Access/distance	6.9	7.5	7.8	6.9	8.9	9.2	12.9	5.7	7.5
Age/heath/unable	8.1	7.8	8.2	6.5	7.3	8.7	2.4	4.0	7.7
No time	24.0	25.5	23.7	23.3	27.8	26.4	44.8	34.7	25.0
Not interested	3.9	3.3	4.7	3.1	4.3	3.7	1.4	2.5	3.8
Other	2.7	3.0	4.5	3.1	2.8	3.3	1.4	2.3	3.1
No reason	50.4	48.5	45.6	49.4	44.1	45.6	37.1	45.0	48.2
Don't know	0.3	0.8	0.3	1.1	0.9	0.1	—	—	0.5

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

4.5 PERSONS NOT VISITING A WORLD HERITAGE AREA OR PARK, By age

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

Main reason	*18–24* %	*25–34* %	*35–44* %	*45–54* %	*55–64* %	*65 and over* %	*Total* %
MARCH 2001							
Cost	5.7	4.4	5.1	6.2	7.8	3.0	5.1
Access/distance	6.9	9.2	7.4	6.4	8.0	10.5	8.3
Age/health/unable	*2.4	2.4	3.7	6.4	17.3	51.5	17.0
No time	43.3	48.1	51.1	47.3	32.0	8.8	36.4
Not interested	19.3	14.3	9.9	13.3	13.4	11.1	13.0
Other	3.3	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.5	3.8	3.8
No reason	12.7	16.0	17.7	14.0	16.4	10.9	14.4
Don't know	6.6	1.9	*0.8	2.3	*1.7	*0.4	1.9
MARCH 1998							
Cost	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.9	6.0	3.2	5.3
Access/distance	7.7	8.2	7.3	8.0	10.5	10.8	8.9
Age/heath/unable	*2.5	3.2	2.9	6.1	16.0	51.2	16.8
No time	44.8	47.6	51.5	49.2	31.3	9.8	37.0
Not interested	16.4	11.2	11.4	10.0	12.6	8.0	11.1
Other	*1.8	2.7	2.1	3.3	4.8	2.3	2.8
No reason	17.7	20.0	17.2	15.8	17.6	13.1	16.5
Don't know	3.7	*1.5	1.8	*0.7	*1.2	1.5	1.7

* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and should be used with caution

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents results from a supplementary survey run in association with the March 2001 Monthly Population Survey.

METHODOLOGY

Monthly Population Survey

2 The Monthly Population Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (approximately 37,000 houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.). The proportion of Australian dwellings selected this way is approximately 0.5%. For this survey, half the private dwelling sample (i.e. 18,500 dwellings) was used. Information was obtained by interviews with responsible adult members of selected households, who answered questions on behalf of the person whose next birthday was closest to the date of the interview. The information obtained related to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).

SCOPE

3 The survey covers rural and urban areas across all States and Territories of Australia, however the Northern Territory data refers to mainly urban areas. Also excluded were some 175,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia. The exclusion of these persons 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 persons account for over 20% of the population.

4 Persons aged 18 years and over who were usual residents of private dwellings were included in the surveys except:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys;
- overseas residents in Australia;
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia; and
- residents of other non-private dwellings such as hospitals, motels and gaols.

COVERAGE

5 Coverage rules were applied which aimed to ensure that each person was associated with only one dwelling, and hence had only one chance of selection in each survey.

DATA COMPARABILITY

6 A set of changing topics rotate over a period of three years. The topics contained in this publication compare with data collected in March 1998. Where applicable, the data have been included in this publication for comparison purposes.

7 An important point to take note is that the environment topics were surveyed using a 'personal interview' methodology before 1997. From 1997 onwards the 'any responsible adult' methodology was applied. When comparing post-1997 and pre-1997 data readers should be aware that some differences in the data may be explained by the change in methodology rather than real changes over time.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

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

- Non-sampling error which arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. The most significant of these errors are:
  - misreporting of data items
  - deficiencies in coverage
  - non-response
  - processing errors

9 Every effort is made to minimise these errors by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient data processing procedures.

- Sampling error which occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all persons in the survey is given by the standard error (please consult the Technical Notes).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

10 Users may also wish to refer to the following publication:
Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices
(Cat. no. 4602.0) — 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000 issues.

11 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications and Products (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and the Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see tables T1 and T2). Each SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the "SE model", which is created using the data collected in this survey. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

3 This publication contains estimates for households and persons. Table T1 gives SEs for estimates of households, while SEs for estimates of persons are presented in T2. Tables containing estimates of households are found in Chapters 2 and 3 (except for tables 3.7 and 3.8 which contain person level estimates), while Chapters 1 and 4 contain estimates of persons.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

4 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of households is as follows. Table 3.12 shows that the estimated number of households in NSW who took no water conservation steps within the dwelling was 1,486,800. Since this estimate is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000, table T1 shows that the SE for NSW will lie between 24,650 and 30,250 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\textit{SE of estimate} =$$

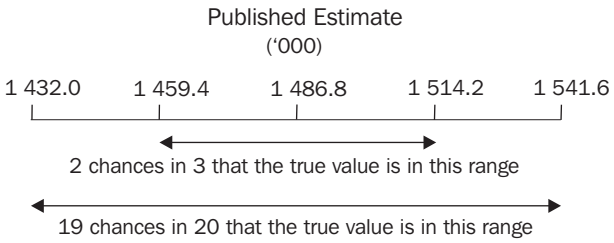
$$\textit{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\textit{size of est.} - \textit{lower est.}}{\textit{upper est.} - \textit{lower est.}} \right) \times (\textit{upper SE} - \textit{lower SE}) \right)$$

$$= 24,650 + \left(\frac{1,486,800 - 1,000,000}{2,000,000 - 1,000,000} \right) \times (30,250 - 24,650)$$

$$= 27,376$$

5 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 1,459,400 to 1,514,200 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 1,432,000 to 1,541,600. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR *continued*



6 Similarly, SEs are calculated for person level estimates using table T2 instead of table T1. For example, table 3.7 shows that the estimated number of persons in Australia who were satisfied with the quality of their drinking water obtained from the mains supply was 8,856,900. This estimate is between 5,000,000 and 10,000,000, so the SE for this estimate will be between 55,700 and 69,250, and can be approximated using the same interpolation formula as above, with the resulting SE being 66,200 (rounded to the nearest 100).

7 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all persons in the population had been included in the survey will fall within the range 8,790,700 to 8,923,100 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 8,724,500 to 8,989,300.

8 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs so that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

9 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

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

10 For example, in table 3.12, the estimate for the total number of households in NSW is 2,423,900. The estimated number of households in NSW who took no water conservation steps within the dwelling was 1 486,800, so the proportion of households in NSW who took no water conservation steps within the dwelling is 1,486,800/2,423,900 or 61.3%. The SE of the total number of households in NSW may be calculated by interpolation as 31 317. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 31,317/2,423,900 = 1.3%. The SE for the number of households in NSW who took no water conservation steps within the dwelling was calculated above as 27,400, which converted to a RSE is 27,400/1,486,800 = 1.8%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $RSE = \sqrt{(1.8)^2 - (1.3)^2} = 1.2\%$ giving a SE for the proportion (61.3%) of 0.7 percentage points (=61.3*0.012).

11 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of households in NSW who took no water conservation steps within the dwelling is between 60.6% and 62.0% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 59.9% to 62.7%.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES *continued*

12 Similarly, SEs can be calculated for person level estimates using the same formula.

DIFFERENCES

13 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x–y) may be calculated by the following formula:

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

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

NON-SAMPLING ERROR

15 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the SE, 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.

T1 STANDARD ERRORS FOR HOUSEHOLD LEVEL ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	*NSW*	*Vic.*	*Qld.*	*SA*	*WA*	*Tas.*	*NT*	*ACT*	*Australia*
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	100	60	150	110	130	60	60	70	200
200	180	130	250	180	210	120	130	130	300
300	250	190	330	250	280	180	200	180	370
500	380	300	470	360	400	270	310	260	500
700	490	400	590	460	510	350	420	330	600
1,000	640	530	750	580	640	460	550	420	730
1,500	860	740	970	760	820	600	720	550	910
2,000	1 050	920	1 160	910	970	730	870	650	1 070
2,500	1 250	1 100	1 350	1 050	1 100	850	1 000	750	1 200
3,000	1 400	1 250	1 500	1 150	1 250	950	1 100	800	1 350
3,500	1 550	1 400	1 650	1 250	1 350	1 000	1 150	900	1 450
4,000	1 700	1 500	1 750	1 350	1 450	1 100	1 250	950	1 550
5,000	1 950	1 800	2 000	1 550	1 650	1 250	1 350	1 050	1 750
7,000	2 400	2 200	2 400	1 850	1 950	1 500	1 550	1 250	2 100
10,000	3 000	2 800	2 900	2 250	2 350	1 750	1 750	1 450	2 500
15,000	3 800	3 550	3 600	2 750	2 850	2 100	1 900	1 750	3 100
20,000	4 500	4 200	4 150	3 150	3 300	2 350	1 950	1 950	3 550
30,000	5 600	5 200	5 050	3 750	3 950	2 700	2 050	2 200	4 400
40,000	6 500	6 000	5 750	4 250	4 450	2 950	2 050	2 400	5 050
50,000	7 250	6 700	6 350	4 650	4 900	3 150	2 000	2 550	5 650
100,000	10 150	9 150	8 500	6 050	6 400	3 700	1 850	3 000	7 950
150,000	12 150	10 750	10 000	6 950	7 400	3 950	1 650	3 250	9 650
200,000	13 700	11 950	11 150	7 600	8 150	4 150	1 500	3 400	11 050
300,000	16 150	13 700	12 850	8 600	9 300	4 300	1 300	3 550	13 400
500,000	19 550	16 000	15 250	9 800	10 800	4 400	1 000	3 650	16 950
1,000,000	24 650	19 000	18 800	11 500	12 850	4 300	650	3 650	23 250
2,000,000	30 250	21 650	22 600	13 000	14 950	4 000	400	3 500	31 700
5,000,000	37 800	24 100	27 750	14 600	17 400	3 350	150	3 100	47 250
10,000,000	43 250	24 950	31 400	15 350	18 950	2 750	100	2 650	63 350

T2 STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSON LEVEL ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	50	50	230	170	150	110	40	200	140
200	110	110	360	280	250	180	100	300	230
300	160	160	470	360	330	250	160	370	310
500	270	270	640	510	480	350	280	490	450
700	370	370	790	630	600	450	390	580	580
1,000	510	510	980	780	770	560	540	690	740
1,500	730	730	1 240	1 000	990	730	760	850	970
2,000	930	940	1 460	1 190	1 190	870	960	980	1 180
2,500	1 100	1 150	1 650	1 350	1 350	1 000	1 150	1 100	1 350
3,000	1 300	1 300	1 850	1 500	1 500	1 100	1 300	1 200	1 550
3,500	1 500	1 500	2 000	1 650	1 650	1 200	1 450	1 250	1 700
4,000	1 650	1 650	2 150	1 750	1 800	1 300	1 550	1 350	1 850
5,000	1 950	1 950	2 450	2 000	2 050	1 500	1 800	1 500	2 100
7,000	2 500	2 500	2 900	2 400	2 500	1 800	2 150	1 750	2 600
10,000	3 250	3 200	3 500	2 900	3 000	2 150	2 600	2 050	3 200
15,000	4 350	4 200	4 250	3 550	3 750	2 650	3 050	2 450	4 050
20,000	5 250	5 000	4 900	4 100	4 300	3 050	3 400	2 800	4 800
30,000	6 850	6 400	5 950	5 000	5 250	3 700	3 850	3 300	5 950
40,000	8 150	7 550	6 800	5 700	6 050	4 200	4 100	3 700	6 950
50,000	9 350	8 500	7 550	6 350	6 650	4 600	4 300	4 050	7 850
100,000	13 700	12 000	10 200	8 550	9 000	6 100	4 600	5 300	11 150
150,000	16 900	14 400	12 100	10 150	10 600	7 100	4 600	6 150	13 550
200,000	19 450	16 200	13 600	11 350	11 850	7 850	..	6 850	15 550
300,000	23 400	18 900	15 950	13 300	13 750	9 000	..	7 900	18 700
500,000	29 000	22 400	19 300	16 000	16 400	10 500	..	..	23 350
1,000,000	37 500	27 150	24 650	20 200	20 300	..	..	..	31 050
2,000,000	46 650	31 450	30 950	25 050	24 600	..	..	..	40 450
5,000,000	58 700	35 550	40 700	..	..	..	..	..	55 700
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69 250
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77 950

.. not applicable

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