

How Australians Use Their Time

1997

**W.McLennan
Australian Statistician**

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 16 DEC 1998

ABS Catalogue No. 4153.0

ISBN 0 642 23258 X

© Commonwealth of Australia 1998

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced by any process without permission from the AusInfo. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to the Manager, Legislative Services, AusInfo, GPO Box 84, Canberra, ACT, 2601.

In all cases the ABS must be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of an ABS publication or other product.

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics

INQUIRIES

- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Welfare Section in Canberra on 02 6252 5278 or refer to the back cover of this publication.

CONTENTS

Page

EDITORIAL

Preface	v
Summary of findings	1

TABLES

List of tables	13
Understanding the tables	14
Comparison between 1992 and 1997	17
Necessary time	31
Contracted/committed time	33
Free time	37
Miscellaneous	44

INFORMATION

Explanatory notes	58
Appendix: Nature and purpose comparison	63
Technical notes	65
Glossary	71

PREFACE

How Australians Use Their Time presents selected results from the 1997 Time Use Survey. The survey was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) across all States and Territories and collected information from people aged 15 years and over. Comparisons are provided with results from the 1992 Time Use Survey to show the changes in time use over the five-year period.

Time use surveys collect detailed information on the daily activity patterns of people in Australia. The information is used to examine how people allocate time to activities such as paid and unpaid work and to analyse such issues as gender equality, care giving and balancing family and paid work responsibilities. The balance between paid work, unpaid work and leisure are important for a person's well-being and economic welfare.

Patterns of time use have assumed increasing importance as a means to measure the productive value of households as economic units. The data collected by this latest survey will be used by the ABS to derive a monetary value for all forms of unpaid work to update measures that assist analysis of the national accounts for the household sector.

ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

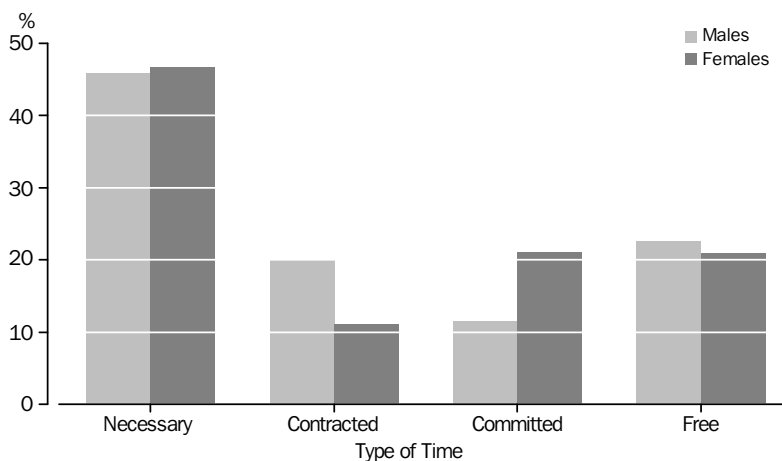
INTRODUCTION

This publication presents a summary of results from the 1997 Time Use Survey. Comparisons are also made with the 1992 Time Use Survey to identify changes in time use over the five years between the two surveys.

The activities on which people spend their time can be divided into four main categories or types of time use (Aas 1982)¹. *Necessary time* describes activities which are performed for personal survival, such as sleeping, eating and personal hygiene. *Contracted time* describes activities such as paid work and regular education where there are explicit contracts which control the periods of time in which the activities are performed. *Committed time* describes activities to which a person has committed him/herself because of previous social or community interactions, such as setting up a household or performing voluntary work. The consequent housework, child care, shopping or provision of help to others are all examples of committed time activities. *Free time* is the amount of time left when the previous three types of time have been taken out of a person's day.

The amount of time that people spend in paid work, education and various necessary activities has an impact on the amount of time available for household tasks and free time activities. While about one-third of the day is spent on sleeping, how people spend the rest of their day is related to their family type, employment status and gender.

COMPARISON OF THE FOUR TYPES OF TIME



In 1997, Australians spent an average of 46% of their time on necessary time activities, 22% on free time activities, 16% on committed time activities and 15% on contracted time activities. The time spent by men and women was similar for necessary time activities and free time activities. Men spent almost twice as much time, on average, as women on contracted time activities (19% compared with 11%), while women spent nearly twice as much time as men on committed time activities (21% compared with 12%) (table 1).

¹ Aas, D, 1982, 'Designs for Large Scale Time Use Studies of the 24 Hour Day', in Z. Staikov (ed), *It's About Time: Proceedings of the International Research Group on Time Budgets and Social Activities*, Sofia, Bulgaria, pp. 17-53.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

INTRODUCTION *continued*

At the broad level of people's time use, there has been little change between 1992 and 1997. Changes observed in the figures for necessary and free time are mainly due to changes in coding (see discussion of socialising on pages 10–11). Some changes are apparent when examining individual categories of time use and when comparing different people within categories. These are discussed in the following pages.

Men and women spend their day in different ways. On an average day in 1997, men spent 20% of their day on recreation and leisure, 18% in employment related activities and 7% on domestic work, while women spent 18% of their day on recreation and leisure, 13% on domestic work, 9% on employment related and 3% on child care (table 1).

NECESSARY TIME

Necessary time is the time devoted to personal care activities such as sleeping, eating and personal hygiene. Both men and women spent, on average, about half of their day on personal care activities (46% and 47% respectively) in 1997 (table 9). More time was spent on personal care activities compared with 1992. There was an increase in the amount of time spent sleeping (17 minutes or 3%) (table 1). There was also an increase of 28 minutes per day in the amount of time spent eating and drinking between 1992 and 1997, but this is due to coding changes (see discussion of socialising on pages 10–11).

Sleeping takes up more time than any other single activity, accounting for 36% of the average day (table 1). Both men and women slept longer at the weekend (by 43 minutes for men and 36 minutes for women) than on weekdays (table 7). Couples with dependent children slept the least amount of time (497 minutes), with men sleeping for slightly less time than women (table 8).

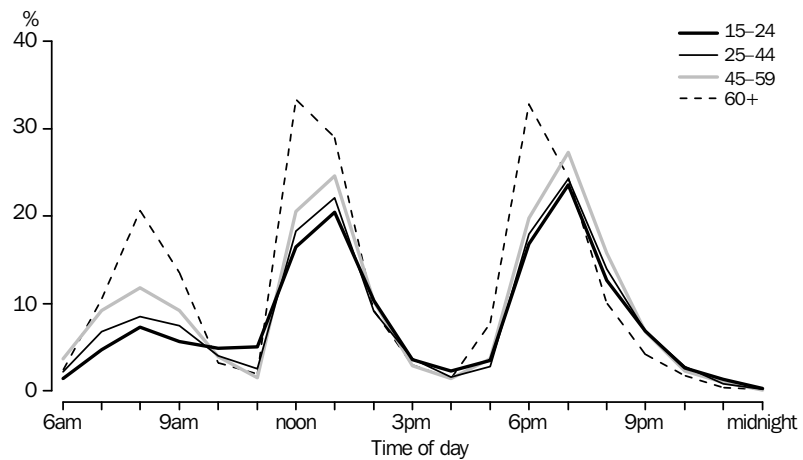
About 3% of the day is allocated to personal hygiene activities. Women spent an average of 8 minutes per day more than men on this activity (table 1). Couples with dependent children spent the least amount of time on personal hygiene activities (42 minutes), which may relate to the competing priorities of other family responsibilities. Female lone persons spent 13 minutes more per day on personal hygiene activities than females in couples with dependent children (table 8).

Eating and drinking, although a necessary part of sustaining life, takes up only 6% of the day (table 1). Couples with non-dependent children spent the most time (108 minutes) on eating and drinking, while couples with dependent children spent the least (86 minutes) (table 8).

There is a distinct pattern of eating meals at particular times of the day rather than continuous snacking. Broad age groups show distinct patterns of eating, with the younger age groups tending to eat at slightly later times of the day and eat over a broader time range (table 24).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

PROPORTION OF PEOPLE EATING MEALS, By Age Group



Overall, 53% of households purchased at least one meal at a restaurant in the two weeks prior to the survey, while 57% purchased at least one takeaway meal. Of households containing couples with non-dependent children, 63% had purchased at least one meal at a restaurant compared with 47% of lone parents. Of households containing couples with dependent children, 76% had bought at least one takeaway meal compared with only 40% of lone persons. Those who spent time eating and drinking in commercial venues spent an average 66 minutes per day in these locations and couples with dependent children were most likely to spend time eating in these locations (see table below).

HOUSEHOLDS PURCHASING MEALS AND TIME SPENT IN COMMERCIAL VENUES

Life stage	Restaurant	Takeaway	Total	Time spent eating and drinking in commercial venues	Number of persons eating and drinking in commercial venues
	%	%	'000	min/d	'000
Couples with dependent children(a)	53.7	75.8	1 612.2	67	2 406.9
Couples with non-dependent children	62.6	65.5	751.2	76	447.2
Lone parents	46.8	63.9	631.6	55	387.2
Couples without children	50.8	43.4	1 650.2	73	1 959.1
Lone persons	48.4	39.9	1 652.2	71	942.3
Other	62.3	70.8	636.3	64	1 487.1
Total	52.9	56.9	6 933.7	66	7 629.7

(a) Couples with dependent children include households containing both children aged 0–14 and unmarried children aged 15 and over.

CONTRACTED AND COMMITTED TIME

EMPLOYMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES

The time spent by employed persons on employment related activities in 1997 was similar to the time spent on these activities in 1992. The time spent working in their main job increased by 10 minutes a day while time spent in other jobs decreased by 30 minutes (table 2). In 1997, men in the 35–44 years age group spent the most time on employment related activities, at around 9 hours a day, while men aged age 65 years and over who were in paid work spent 5 hours and 45 minutes per day on these activities. Women in the 25–34 and 45–54 year age groups, who were in paid work, spent around 7 hours and 30 minutes on employment related activities, and women aged 65 years and over spent 4 hours and 25 minutes on these activities (table 30).

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

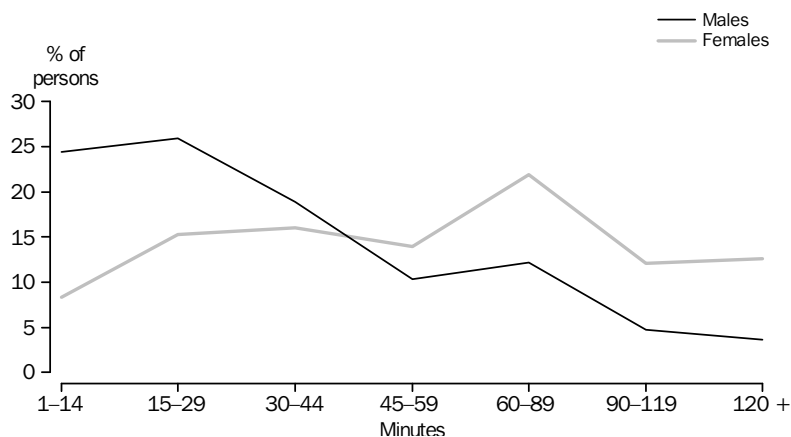
Time spent by students on educational activities decreased by 12 minutes (4%) between 1992 and 1997. However, female students increased their time by 16 minutes while male students reduced their time by 40 minutes. Time spent on homework and study increased for both men and women by 5 and 23 minutes respectively (table 2). The overall time spent on educational activities was similar for men and women. However, the time spent by the different age groups differed, especially in the 45–54 age group, with men spending 2 hours and 30 minutes more on these activities than women in 1997 (table 30).

DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES

The average time that men and women spent on domestic activities has changed little since 1992, with women still spending a substantially greater amount of time than men on these activities. More women than men participated in housework activities (cooking, laundry and other cleaning) in 1997 (63% for men, 90% for women), and women spent 92 minutes more per day than men on these activities (tables 2 and 3).

For all other household related work (including grounds and animal care, and home maintenance), the participation rates were similar for men and women (50% for men, 56% for women) with men spending 37 minutes longer per day on these activities than women (tables 2 and 3).

DISTRIBUTION OF TIME SPENT IN MEAL PREPARATION



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

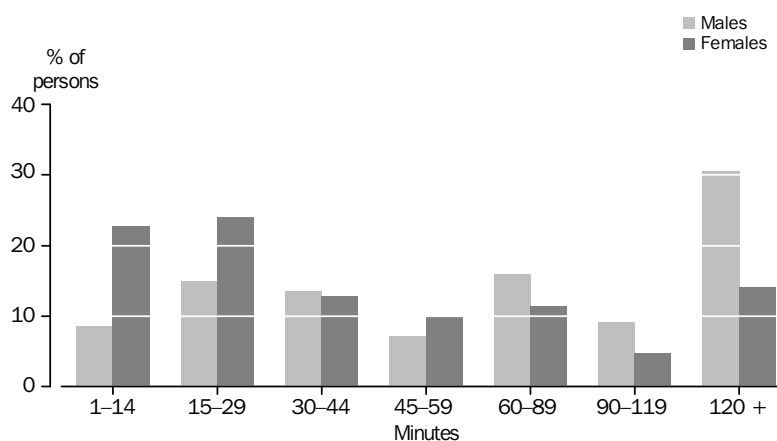
DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES *continued*

Fewer men prepared food than women on an average day (49% and 80% respectively) (table 13), and those who did took considerably less time than women, with 69% spending less than 45 minutes to prepare food compared with 39% of women (table 14). Both sexes spent a similar amount of time on setting and clearing the table (15 minutes for both) and in the associated clean up duties (27 minutes for men and 31 minutes for women) (table 13).

Laundry and housework are a traditionally female role. This is supported by the participation rates for these activities (13% of men and 52% of women for all laundry activities, 21% of men and 63% of women for housework) (table 3). However, men and women who did these activities spent similar amounts of time doing the washing (27 minutes for men, 25 minutes for women), hanging it out (23 minutes for men, 26 minutes for women) and sorting and folding it (20 minutes for men, 22 minutes for women). Ironing is an area where women spent nearly double the amount of time spent by men (47 minutes and 27 minutes respectively). The time spent on housework by those who do these activities is also generally similar between the sexes. Women spent 10 minutes per day longer than men on occasional dry housework (e.g. rearranging furniture, hanging curtains, cleaning cobwebs) and men spent 14 minutes per day longer on occasional wet housework (e.g. cleaning windows, washing carpets, polishing brass/silver) (table 13).

Although the participation rates for grounds and animal care are similar (33% of men and 39% of women), men spent 22 minutes per day more on these activities than women. There are over twice as many men as women doing home maintenance (17% of men and 7% of women) and they were spending longer on these activities, with 31% of men spending 120 minutes or more on home maintenance (tables 2, 3 and 14).

DISTRIBUTION OF TIME SPENT ON HOME MAINTENANCE



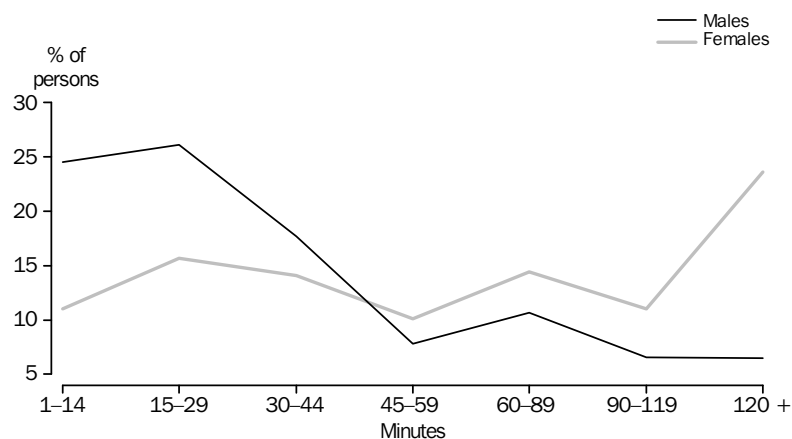
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

CHILD CARE

The overall time spent on all child care activities did not change over the 5 years. However, less time was given to direct care of children (16 minutes less) but more to all other child care activities, especially for playing, reading and talking, which increased by 11 minutes. The participation rate for the care of children and for playing, reading and talking declined almost 3 percentage points between 1992 and 1997. Women continued to do most of the direct care, with men spending more time in other areas such as teaching and playing with children (tables 2 and 3). Men and women spent more time in 1997 playing with children, especially on weekends (20 minutes more per day for men and 11 minutes more for women) than in 1992. Men also spent more time on teaching and helping their children (8 minutes more on weekdays, 18 minutes more on weekend days) than in 1992 (table 7).

There were only half as many men as women spending time on direct care for children (which included physical and emotional care) and they spent considerably less time doing the activity. Just over 50% of men who cared for children spent less than 30 minutes per day on this activity, while 7% spent 2 hours or more, compared with 27% of women who spent less than 30 minutes and 24% of women who spent 2 hours or more. For child minding (as a main activity) the pattern of time distribution was similar for men and women (table 14).

DISTRIBUTION OF TIME SPENT IN CARING FOR CHILDREN



Child care is an activity where a substantial amount of the activity takes place at the same time as other activities (simultaneous activity). The average time spent on total child care by participants triples from 2 hours and 4 minutes per day (for child care reported as a main activity) to 6 hours 54 minutes per day (for all child care activities). The proportion of time spent on child care activities as simultaneous activities was similar for both men and women (71% for men and 70% for women) (tables 2 and 5). There was less time spent on the direct caring for children as simultaneous activities than five years ago (39 minutes less), and there has also been a drop in the time spent playing, reading and talking to children (29 minutes less). Women spent more time on each of the child care activities as simultaneous activities than men with the exception of teaching, helping and reprimanding (table 5).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

VOLUNTARY WORK AND CARE

Time spent on voluntary work and care activities includes unpaid voluntary work for community organisations, caring for adults and helping or doing favours for family and friends outside the household. For the whole population, time spent per day on voluntary work and care by women was slightly more than by men (19 minutes for males and 24 minutes for females) (table 1). For the people who participated in these activities, males spent longer on these activities (13 minutes more than females) but fewer men participated in this activity (16% of males and 23% of females).

PARTICIPANTS AVERAGE TIME SPENT ON VOLUNTARY WORK ACTIVITIES(a)

	AVERAGE TIME..		PARTICIPATION RATE.....	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
	Minutes per day	Minutes per day	%	%
Voluntary work and care	117	104	16.2	23.4
Caring for adults	85	75	2.3	4.2
Helping, doing favours	96	78	7.7	12.7
Unpaid voluntary work	128	125	4.3	5.5

(a) Average time and participation rates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

Both males and females spent a similar amount of time on unpaid voluntary work (128 minutes for males and 125 minutes for females). Differences between time spent by males and females were evident in caring for adults and helping or doing favours. Although fewer males participated in these activities, they spent, on average, more time on both of these activities than females (by 10 minutes each for caring for adults and 18 minutes for helping or doing favours).

TOTAL WORK

Total work is defined in this publication to include employment related activities and the activities which make up committed time (domestic work, child care, purchasing of goods and services and voluntary work and care activities). In Australia, more than 101 million hours of work were performed each day by persons aged 15 years and over in 1997. This calculation is based on main activities only.

Men and women spent almost the same average amount of time on total work (425 minutes and 432 minutes respectively). However, women in couples or as lone parents, regardless of their labour force status, spent considerably more time on total work than their male counterparts. Women in a couple with dependent children who work part-time spent, on an average day, nearly an hour longer on total work than men in a similar situation. Men in a couple with dependent children and who are unemployed spent 3 hours and 21 minutes less time on total work than women in a similar situation (table 10).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

TOTAL WORK *continued*

Considerable differences also exist in the type of work done, with men spending a smaller proportion of time on committed time activities and women spending less on employment related activities. Full-time employed men, living in a couple family with dependent children, spent 29% of their total work time on committed time activities. For women in the same situation, the proportion was 49% (table 10).

FREE TIME

Free time is the time allocated to social and community interaction and recreation and leisure. Although the average time spent per day in these activities has decreased over the last five years by 40 minutes, most of this change can be accounted for by differences in coding (see Socialising) (table 1). On average, 316 minutes or 22% of the day is spent on free time as the main activity, with men spending more time than women (328 minutes compared with 304 minutes) (table 19).

As free time activities are often combined (reading and listening to music) or done at the same time as activities in other time categories (e.g. housework and listening to the radio), the analysis in this section applies to the time spent on all activities (e.g. main activities and simultaneous activities). Combining the main and simultaneous activities shows that 551 minutes a day were spent on free time activities, with men and women spending an almost identical amount of time (table 15).

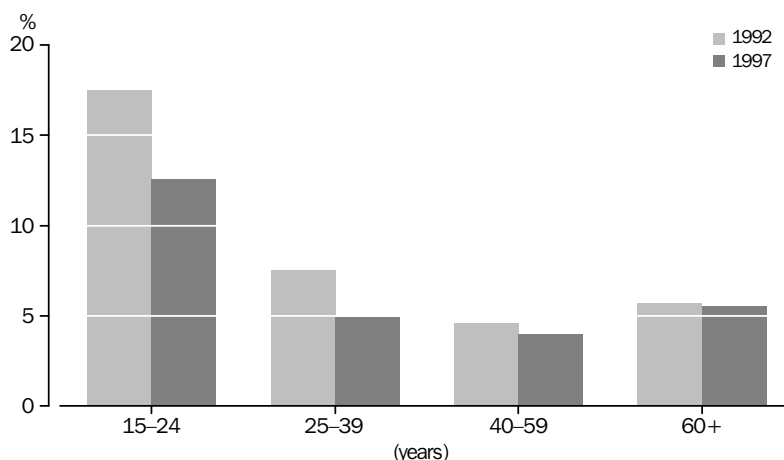
On average, people who lived in rural areas spent less time on free time activities than those who lived in either major urban or other urban areas (508, 555 and 568 minutes respectively). They spent less time in television viewing, reading and participation in 'other free time' activities (which includes relaxing, 'doing nothing', thinking and interacting with pets) (table 16).

The amount of free time available to a person fluctuates as they pass through different phases of their life. For example, on average, partners in couples with dependent children had less free time than people who live alone (469 minutes and 616 minutes respectively) due to other competing priorities and family responsibilities. Not unexpectedly, people who live alone spent a smaller proportion of their free time talking than other groups and a greater proportion on audio visual media and reading (table 17).

SPORT

From 1992 to 1997, there was a marked decline in Australians' involvement in formal and informal sport. On an average day, there was little change in the average time spent but the participation rate for men fell from 12% to 9% and for women from 5% to 4% (table 18).

PARTICIPATION IN SPORT, Persons—Age group



The decline in involvement in sport (for main and simultaneous activities and all persons) between 1992 and 1997 was most noticeable for those aged 15–24 years. The average time spent on sport for 15–24 year olds fell from 22 minutes to 16 minutes a day, while their participation rate fell from 18% to 13%. The 40–59 year age group was the only age group for which there was no decline in average time spent on sport (6 minutes for both 1992 and 1997). The participation rate for this group declined however, from 5% to 4%. The participation rate for those aged 60 years and over remained steady at 6% but their average time declined slightly, from 11 to 9 minutes a day (table 18).

LEISURE

The average amount of time people spent on recreational pursuits decreased by 90 minutes from 1992 to 1997. There was a decrease of 43 minutes in the average time spent on audio visual media (which includes watching television and videos). There was also a decrease in the time spent on talking, from 171 minutes to 162 minutes per day (table 5).

Men and women spend their leisure time in different ways. On an average day, 8% of men participated in computing (as a hobby or playing games), compared with 4% of women, and spent 3 times as long (9 minutes compared to 3 minutes). However, women spent more time than men on handwork and crafts (9 minutes compared with less than 0.5 minutes), and talking (128 minutes compared with 101 minutes) (table 15).

Passive leisure is leisure that involves little, if any, active involvement. It includes activities such as reading, watching television and relaxing. When aggregating main and simultaneous activities, men and women spent similar amounts of time on passive leisure per day (316 minutes and 308 minutes respectively). However, when only main activities were considered, men clearly spent more time on passive leisure than women (181 minutes and 159 minutes respectively) (tables 19 and 20).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

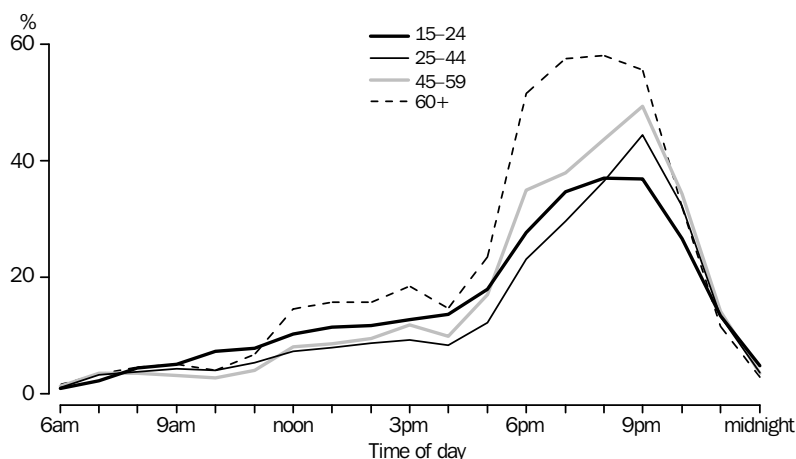
LEISURE *continued*

Passive leisure as a proportion of free time increased steadily with age, moving from around half for 15–24 year olds to two-thirds for those aged 65 and over. This relationship holds for both main activities and all activities (tables 19 and 20).

Time spent reading and the participation rate for reading increased steadily with age. One-third of 15–24 year olds read on an average day, compared with two-thirds of those aged 65 years and over (participation rates can be calculated using the ratio of average time for participants to average time for all persons). Fewer men aged 15–24 years participated in reading than women of the same age (28% compared with 37%) and they spent more time reading newspapers and less time reading books and magazines than young women. The average time spent reading by young male and female participants was very similar, however (68 minutes compared with 65 minutes a day) (tables 20 and 21).

On average, 4 out of every 5 minutes spent on passive leisure involved audio visual media. Television viewing and listening to the radio/CDs accounted for over 90% of this (table 20). Most television viewing occurred between 6 pm and 10 pm. Peak viewing times were 8 pm for 15–24 year olds and those aged 60 years and over, and 9 pm for those aged 25–59 years. A relatively high proportion of persons aged 60 years and over watched television during the afternoon (table 24).

PROPORTION OF PEOPLE WHO WATCHED TELEVISION, Age Groups



SOCIALISING

'Socialising' is a difficult concept to define and to measure. The 1992 and 1997 Time Use Surveys approached the measurement of 'socialising' in different ways. In the 1992 Time Use Survey, the time spent on meeting or visiting someone for a social purpose, was coded to the category 'socialising', regardless of the activity undertaken. Therefore, activities such as visiting a neighbour for a chat or meeting friends for lunch were categorised as 'socialising'. In the 1997 Time Use Survey these activities were coded to their actions, such as talking and eating.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

SOCIALISING *continued*

Consequently, the estimate of time spent on 'socialising' as a main activity in 1997 is much lower than in 1992 (11 minutes compared with 77 minutes) and estimates for time spent on eating and drinking increased (93 minutes in 1997 compared with 64 minutes in 1992) and talking (35 minutes in 1997 compared with 16 minutes in 1992) (table 1). Also, due to this change in coding, some of the time included in free time in 1992 has been included in necessary time in 1997. It is possible however, using broad assumptions, to estimate how much of the time spent talking or eating (and other activities) can be considered to be socialising. One way is to assume that at least a large proportion of all talking and eating that is done with people other than household family members is socialising. A large proportion of the time from these activities was likely to have been coded to 'socialising' in the 1992 Time Use Survey. If the average time spent on these activities while with other people, other than household family members, is taken into account with the 1997 estimate for 'socialising', the result is broadly comparable with the 1992 result for 'socialising'.

TIME SPENT ON ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SOCIALISING

<i>Main activities</i>	1997			1992
	<i>With household family members or alone</i>	<i>With others</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Minutes per day	Minutes per day	Minutes per day	Minutes per day
Eating and drinking	64	37	93	64
Watching TV/videos	105	21	121	107
Talking (including phone)	15	25	35	16
Socialising	1	13	11	77

Overall, Australians tend to socialise with friends rather than extended family members. On average, 73% of time spent 'socialising' was spent with friends in 1997. Many other activities, although not categorised as socialising, often accompany socialising. Sport is a very social activity, with about three-quarters being done with friends. Other activities that are closely associated with socialising are talking, 'eating and drinking' and drinking alcohol/social drinking. In 1997, Australians spent on average over 100 minutes per day on talking and on 'eating and drinking', activities that most often accompany social activity (see tables 4 and 22).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

PERCEPTIONS OF TIME

People at different stages of life face different demands and pressures on their time. Of those people who were members of a couple with dependent children, 53% always or often felt pressed for time. This compares with 37% of couples with non-dependent children and 25% of those without children. There were 41% of lone parents who stated that they always or often felt pressed for time.

WHETHER FEELS PRESSED FOR TIME

<i>Life stage</i>	<i>Always/ Often</i> %	<i>Sometimes</i> %	<i>Rarely/ never</i> %	<i>Not stated</i> %	<i>Total</i> %	<i>Persons</i> '000
Couples with dependent children	53.4	32.7	9.4	4.5	100.0	4 250.7
Couples with non-dependent children 15 years and over	36.7	36.1	23.5	3.9	100.0	806.8
Lone parents(a)	41.3	31.2	22.6	4.9	100.0	653.1
Couples without children	25.2	33.4	36.5	4.9	100.0	359.8
Lone persons	17.2	33.2	45.8	3.8	100.0	1 607.6
Neither parent nor partners (in family households)	28.0	43.8	25.1	3.2	100.0	2 462.3

(a) With dependent and non dependent children.

LIST OF TABLES

Page

	Understanding the tables	14
COMPARISON BETWEEN 1992 AND 1997		
1	Main activities, all persons	17
2	Main activities, participants	19
3	Main activities, participation rates	21
4	All activities, all persons	23
5	All activities, participants	25
6	Main activities, weekday/weekend, all persons	27
7	Main activities, weekday/weekend, participants	29
NECESSARY TIME		
8	Personal care activities, main activities, life stage by sex, all persons	31
9	Personal care activities, main activities, life stage by sex, participants	32
CONTRACTED/COMMITTED TIME		
10	Work activity, main activities, by life stage, by employment status, all persons	33
11	Main activities, by employment status, all persons	34
12	Main activities, by employment status, participants	34
13	Selected domestic activities, main activities, by sex, participants	35
14	Distribution of time for selected work activities, main activities, by sex	36
FREE TIME		
15	Free time, all activities, by sex, all persons	37
16	Free time, all activities, by region, all persons	38
17	Free time, all activities, by lifestage, all persons	39
18	Sport, all activities, all persons	40
19	Passive leisure, main activities, all persons	41
20	Passive leisure, all activities, all persons	42
21	Passive leisure, all activities, participants	43
MISCELLANEOUS		
22	Proportion of time spent with other persons, all activities	44
23	Time spent with other persons, main activities, by age, all persons	45
24	Distribution of time for selected main activities, time of day, by age group ...	46
25	Main activities, location, participants	47
26	Main activities, for whom activities were done, participants	49
27	Main activities, time spent with other persons, participants	51
28	Main activities, summary characteristics, by sex, all persons	53
29	Main activities, age, by sex, all persons	55
30	Main activities, age, by sex, participants	56
31	Main activities, quarter, by sex, all persons	57

UNDERSTANDING THE TABLES

Time use tables are presented differently from most other data tables. The structure of the tables and the conventions used need to be understood in order to correctly interpret the data.

ACTIVITY CATEGORIES

As mentioned earlier in the 'Summary of Findings', the activities on which people spend their time can be divided into four main categories or types of time use (Aas 1982)¹. *Necessary time* describes activities which are performed for personal survival, such as sleeping, eating and personal hygiene. *Contracted time* describes activities such as paid work and regular education, where there are explicit contracts which control the periods of time in which the activities are performed. *Committed time* describes activities to which a person has committed him/herself because of previous social or community interactions, such as setting up a household or performing voluntary work. The consequent housework, child care, shopping or provision of help to others are all examples of committed time activities. *Free time* is the amount of time left when the previous three types of time have been taken out of a person's day.

Four levels of aggregation are used in this publication. The broad categories are represented by the four types of time. Where it is desirable to look at total work as a single category, employment related activities and committed time have been combined. Other tables which analyse the time use of different subgroups of the population use a list of nine activity categories, representing the major sections of the Australian Time Use activity classification. These are:

Necessary time	1. Personal care activities
Contracted time	2. Employment activities
	3. Education activities
	4. Domestic activities
Committed Time	5. Child care activities
	6. Purchasing activities
	7. Voluntary work and care activities
	8. Social and community interaction
Free time	9. Recreation and leisure

Some tables use a list of 64 activity categories, representing the two-digit level of the classification. Finally, more detailed codes are used where they are pertinent to the analysis. The full classification is available in the *Time Use Survey, Australia — Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0)

¹ Aas, D, 1982, 'Designs for Large Scale Time Use Studies of the 24 Hour Day', in Z. Staiikov (ed), *It's About Time: Proceedings of the International Research Group on Time Budgets and Social Activities*, Sofia, Bulgaria, pp. 17-53.

TYPES OF TABLES

Most tables in this publication include:

- Average time spent by all persons; or
- Average time spent by participants.

They can be further distinguished by the kinds of activities included. These show either:

- Average time spent on main activities; or
- Average time spent on all activities.

Time spent on activities is expressed as the average number of minutes per day.

All Persons

Time use tables for all persons present the average time that would have been spent on a particular activity if it had been done by everyone in a particular population. To calculate average time, the total time for an activity must first be found. This is done by multiplying the time reported by each respondent taking part in a particular activity on a particular day by the number of people represented by that respondent, added to a total. Average time spent on an activity is calculated by dividing total time by the total population in scope and expressed as minutes per day for all persons. This can be represented by the following equation:

$$T_a = \frac{\sum(t \times n)}{P_a}$$

Where:

- T_a = The average time spent by all persons (minutes/day)
- t = The time spent on the activity on a particular day by the respondent
- n = The number of people the respondent represents
- P_a = Population in scope

Average time for all persons provides a basic profile of average time use for the whole population. This profile can be meaningfully compared with subpopulations, between countries and over time. However, this average profile does not represent a day that any individual person would recognise as reflecting a normal day. What this profile presents is a synthetic mean day, five-sevenths of which is drawn from weekdays and two-sevenths from weekends. Where the activities happen to be something that everybody does every day, like sleeping or eating, the figures are likely to look fairly realistic, but not all people engage in all activities, nor do people engage in the same activities every day.

Educational activities, for instance, were reported by about 8% of respondents. When the time spent by these respondents on educational activities is distributed over the whole population, it appears as a small number of minutes per day, equally unrepresentative both of students and of people who do not study at all.

The advantage of 'all persons' tables is that time spent on different activities can be added together because the same population underlies each data cell. All child care categories can be added to produce an estimate of average time for total child care. The minutes per day shown for any particular activity can be multiplied by the total population used, multiplied again by 365 days and converted to hours to give a fair representation of the total hours in 1997 spent on any activity.

UNDERSTANDING THE TABLES *continued*

Participants

Time use tables for participants report the average time spent by only those who performed the activity. For 'participants' tables, the total time is calculated the same way as for 'all persons' tables. Average time is then calculated, by dividing the total time by that part of the total population represented by those who engaged in the activity, and expressed as average minutes per day for participants. This can be represented by the following equation:

$$T_p = \frac{\sum(t \times n)}{p}$$

Where:

- T_p = The average time spent by participants (minutes/day)
- t = The time spent on the activity on a particular day by the respondent
- n = The number of people the respondent represents
- p = Population engaging in the activity

This gives an estimate of the average amount of time that people actually spent on an activity. For example, time spent on voluntary work averaged over the whole population is 6 minutes per day, while for participants it is 132 minutes per day.

Every average time value in a participants table has a different underlying population, so that no calculations can be made within the table unless the relevant population is known. Comparisons should be treated with caution. Taking voluntary work as an example, the average time spent by participating men is 137 minutes a day, while participating women spend 127 minutes. The times spent on average, by all men and women, are 5 and 6 minutes respectively. This means that while participating men spend more time, on average, than participating women for this activity, there are fewer men involved. The same information can be obtained by using participation rates for an activity in conjunction with the average time for participants. Conversely, participation rates can be calculated using the ratio of average time for participants to average time for all persons.

Main Activities

For 'Main activities' tables, only those activities reported as the main activity in a particular time period are tabulated. This is an internationally accepted method for presenting time use data. Some countries only collect data on main activities. For most activity categories, almost all the time spent is reported as a main activity. In this type of table for all persons tables, minutes per day add to 1,440 minutes, the total number of minutes in a day. Main activities data can vary over time, depending on the order in which respondents choose to report simultaneous activities and any coding rules applied.

All Activities

Tables of 'All activities' recognise that people frequently do more than one activity at the same time. Up to two activities (as simultaneous activities) are included in an all activities table. Every activity episode has a main activity, 41% also have a simultaneous activity. Tabulating all activities together slightly increases the time spent on most activities, but for a small number, such as child care and listening to the radio, there is a substantial increase. Because the second activity is simultaneous with the main activity, adding all activities together produces more than the total number of minutes in a day.

1

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), All Persons

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Personal care(c)	618	626	622	658	671	665
Sleeping	499	499	499	517	515	516
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1	1	1
Personal hygiene	47	53	50	43	51	47
Health care	6	8	7	6	7	7
Eating and drinking(d)	64	64	64	91	95	93
Associated travel	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1
Employment related	268	126	196	261	132	196
Main job	225	106	165	226	113	169
Other job	3	1	2	2	1	1
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	1	1	1	1	1	1
Work breaks(e)	11	5	8	—	—	—
Job search	2	1	1	2	1	1
Associated travel	24	11	18	26	14	20
Other	2	1	1	4	2	3
Education	32	28	30	24	28	26
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	15	12	14	11	12	11
Job related training	2	—	1	*1	*1	1
Homework/study/research	10	10	10	9	11	10
Breaks at place of education(e)	2	1	2	—	—	—
Associated travel	4	3	3	3	3	3
Other	—	—	—	1	1	1
Domestic activities	97	182	140	97	180	139
Total housework	37	147	93	40	139	90
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	24	71	48	26	69	48
Laundry and clothes care	4	34	19	5	33	19
Housework	9	42	26	9	37	23
Total other household work	54	31	42	50	36	43
Grounds and animal care(f)	30	22	26	27	23	25
Home maintenance	20	4	12	17	4	10
Household management	3	4	4	7	9	8
Associated travel	4	2	3	3	2	3
Other	3	2	2	4	3	3
Child care	14	49	32	16	45	31
Care of children	6	30	18	4	21	13
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	1	2	1	1	1	1
Playing/reading/talking with child	4	7	6	5	6	5
Minding child	1	3	2	3	5	4
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	—	1	1
Associated travel	2	6	4	2	7	5
Other	—	1	—	2	4	3
Purchasing goods and services	34	55	45	35	54	45
Purchasing goods	17	30	23	16	27	22
Purchasing services	4	7	5	4	6	5
Associated travel	13	18	15	13	18	16
Other	1	1	1	2	2	2

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

1

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), All Persons *continued*

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Voluntary work and care	20	20	20	19	24	22
Support for adults	9	8	9	9	13	11
Unpaid voluntary work	4	5	5	5	7	6
Associated travel	6	6	6	4	4	4
Other	—	1	1	1	1	1
Social and community interaction(c)	103	120	111	42	47	45
Socialising(d)	70	84	77	11	11	11
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	4	5	4	5	6	5
Attendance at sports events	3	2	2	2	1	2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	5	6	6	4	5	5
Community participation	5	6	5	7	9	8
Negative social activities	—	—	—	n.p.	n.p.	—
Associated travel	16	17	16	12	13	13
Other	—	—	—	1	1	1
Recreation and leisure	252	233	242	283	254	268
Sport and outdoor activity	38	24	31	33	20	27
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	11	17	14	18	15	17
Reading	23	23	23	24	26	25
Audio/visual media(d)	126	100	113	143	118	130
Attendance at recreational courses	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other free time	34	40	37	23	20	21
Talking (including phone)(d)	11	21	16	27	44	35
Writing/reading own correspondence	2	3	2	1	2	1
Associated travel	6	4	5	11	7	9
Other	—	—	—	2	1	1
Undescribed	2	2	2	5	5	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

2

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Participants

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Personal care(c)	619	627	623	658	671	665
Sleeping	501	501	501	517	516	516
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	80	72	75
Personal hygiene	49	55	52	46	53	50
Health care	106	101	103	97	86	90
Eating and drinking(d)	68	67	67	94	97	95
Associated travel	20	22	21	16	16	16
Other	63	59	61	45	41	43
Employment related	515	425	482	515	424	480
Main job	473	391	442	483	401	452
Other job	241	206	230	205	194	200
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	190	140	163	246	199	221
Work breaks(e)	46	43	45	32	28	30
Job search	83	66	79	97	59	84
Associated travel	54	45	51	60	53	57
Other	57	44	53	44	31	38
Education	377	313	345	337	329	333
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	309	286	298	296	300	298
Job related training	382	249	350	272	315	292
Homework/study/research	173	159	166	178	182	180
Breaks at place of education(e)	61	57	59	25	30	28
Associated travel	63	59	61	62	67	64
Other	74	55	61	34	30	32
Domestic activities	125	194	163	127	193	164
Total housework	58	159	119	62	154	117
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	42	82	66	45	82	68
Laundry and clothes care	33	61	56	37	62	58
Housework	35	59	53	41	59	54
Total other household work	108	61	84	100	63	80
Grounds and animal care(f)	84	56	69	81	59	69
Home maintenance	92	47	79	99	55	86
Household management	29	25	27	31	28	29
Associated travel	42	32	37	44	39	41
Other	73	43	57	65	38	50
Child care	74	152	124	86	147	124
Care of children	52	108	92	42	90	76
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	36	31	32	47	35	39
Playing/reading/talking with child	45	44	44	60	51	55
Minding child	49	51	51	62	59	60
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	25	32	31
Associated travel	34	44	41	38	46	44
Other	28	24	25	28	32	31
Purchasing goods and services	77	95	87	77	92	86
Purchasing goods	45	58	53	46	58	53
Purchasing services	31	35	33	36	38	37
Associated travel	32	33	33	35	36	35
Other	22	22	22	29	27	28

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Voluntary work and care	101	80	89	117	104	109
Support for adults	89	62	73	95	81	86
Unpaid voluntary work	139	127	132	135	127	130
Associated travel	43	36	39	45	39	42
Other	38	27	31	45	56	51
Social and community interaction(c)	181	184	183	96	88	92
Socialising(d)	151	151	151	115	94	103
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	119	110	114	130	114	120
Attendance at sports events	159	139	150	164	136	152
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	126	92	105	103	86	93
Community participation	35	35	35	33	35	34
Negative social activities	35	24	31	n.p.	n.p.	*12
Associated travel	44	46	45	49	45	46
Other	25	21	22	45	39	41
Recreation and leisure	262	240	251	292	261	276
Sport and outdoor activity	122	94	110	117	88	104
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	97	102	100	108	95	101
Reading	68	63	65	72	66	69
Audio/visual media(d)	162	137	150	172	146	159
Attendance at recreational courses	231	173	191	150	105	123
Other free time	62	63	63	83	72	78
Talking (including phone)(d)	33	39	37	61	69	66
Writing/reading own correspondence	56	41	45	32	34	33
Associated travel	39	38	38	54	49	52
Other	32	28	30	67	34	49

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

3

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Participation Rates

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Personal care(c)	99.8	99.8	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sleeping	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.9	99.9	99.9
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.1	1.9	1.5
Personal hygiene	95.8	97.0	96.4	93.0	95.8	94.4
Health care	5.9	8.2	7.0	5.7	8.7	7.2
Eating and drinking(d)	94.9	95.5	95.2	97.5	98.4	97.9
Associated travel	2.3	1.2	1.7	2.0	0.9	1.5
Other	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.8	2.5
Employment related	52.1	29.6	40.8	50.7	31.1	40.7
Main job	47.5	27.1	37.2	46.8	28.0	37.3
Other job	1.4	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.7
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
Work breaks(e)	23.5	11.4	17.4	0.6	*0.5	0.5
Job search	2.8	0.9	1.8	2.1	1.1	1.6
Associated travel	45.3	25.2	35.1	43.1	26.4	34.7
Other	2.7	1.4	2.0	9.3	7.0	8.2
Education	8.6	8.8	8.7	7.0	8.4	7.7
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	4.9	4.3	4.6	3.6	3.9	3.8
Job related training	0.4	0.1	0.3	*0.4	*0.3	0.3
Homework/study/research	5.7	6.3	6.0	4.8	6.0	5.4
Breaks at place of education(e)	2.8	2.6	2.7	*0.3	0.6	0.4
Associated travel	5.9	5.2	5.6	4.4	4.8	4.6
Other	0.3	0.7	0.5	1.7	2.2	2.0
Domestic activities	77.3	94.1	85.8	76.3	92.8	84.7
Total housework	63.3	92.5	78.1	63.3	90.1	76.9
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	56.3	86.5	71.6	57.5	84.2	71.0
Laundry and clothes care	11.9	56.5	34.4	12.7	52.1	32.7
Housework	26.4	71.1	48.9	21.3	62.6	42.2
Total other household work	50.0	50.1	50.1	50.2	56.2	53.2
Grounds and animal care(f)	35.9	40.3	38.1	33.3	39.0	36.2
Home maintenance	22.1	9.1	15.5	16.7	7.0	11.8
Household management	11.9	16.6	14.3	21.1	30.5	25.9
Associated travel	8.6	6.6	7.6	6.3	6.4	6.4
Other	3.8	3.9	3.8	6.3	7.7	7.0
Child care	18.7	32.3	25.5	19.0	30.5	24.8
Care of children	11.4	27.7	19.6	10.1	23.3	16.8
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	1.7	6.3	4.0	1.7	3.9	2.8
Playing/reading/talking with child	8.8	16.8	12.9	7.7	11.3	9.5
Minding child	1.8	5.1	3.4	4.1	8.2	6.2
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.5	2.9	1.7
Associated travel	6.7	14.5	10.6	5.8	14.5	10.2
Other	0.6	2.8	1.7	6.1	13.8	10.0
Purchasing goods and services	44.6	57.9	51.3	45.0	58.4	51.8
Purchasing goods	37.7	51.2	44.5	34.5	47.4	41.0
Purchasing services	13.6	19.2	16.4	11.3	15.7	13.6
Associated travel	40.2	53.0	46.6	38.5	51.3	45.0
Other	2.4	3.3	2.8	5.4	8.5	7.0

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Voluntary work and care	19.4	25.2	22.4	16.2	23.4	19.8
Support for adults	9.8	13.6	11.8	9.5	15.5	12.6
Unpaid voluntary work	3.2	4.3	3.7	4.0	5.2	4.6
Associated travel	13.7	16.3	15.0	8.4	9.5	8.9
Other	1.2	2.1	1.6	1.7	2.4	2.1
Social and community interaction(c)	56.8	65.0	60.9	43.6	53.5	48.6
Socialising(d)	46.4	55.6	51.1	9.7	12.0	10.9
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	3.2	4.3	3.7	3.6	5.0	4.3
Attendance at sports events	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	4.3	6.3	5.3	4.3	6.2	5.2
Community participation	14.3	16.1	15.2	19.9	27.0	23.5
Negative social activities	0.1	—	0.1	n.p.	n.p.	—
Associated travel	35.5	37.6	36.6	24.7	29.4	27.1
Other	0.5	1.6	1.1	1.5	2.7	2.1
Recreation and leisure	96.1	97.2	96.6	96.8	97.0	96.9
Sport and outdoor activity	31.3	25.3	28.3	28.4	22.8	25.6
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	11.2	16.3	13.8	16.4	16.1	16.3
Reading	33.7	36.4	35.1	33.6	39.6	36.6
Audio/visual media(d)	77.4	73.3	75.3	83.2	80.9	82.0
Attendance at recreational courses	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.8
Other free time	54.6	62.7	58.7	27.9	27.1	27.5
Talking (including phone)(d)	34.7	53.9	44.4	44.3	63.1	53.8
Writing/reading own correspondence	2.9	6.9	4.9	2.9	5.7	4.3
Associated travel	15.8	10.9	13.4	20.0	14.5	17.2
Other	1.0	1.1	1.0	2.3	2.8	2.5

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

4

ALL ACTIVITIES(a), All Persons

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Personal care(c)	644	652	648	670	683	677
Sleeping	501	500	501	517	515	516
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1	1	1
Personal hygiene	47	54	51	43	52	47
Health care	7	9	8	6	8	7
Eating and drinking(d)	87	87	87	102	105	103
Associated travel	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	2	2	2	1	1	1
Employment related	270	127	198	262	132	196
Main job	225	106	165	226	113	169
Other job	3	1	2	2	1	1
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	1	1	1	1	1	1
Work breaks(e)	11	5	8	—	—	—
Job search	2	1	1	2	1	1
Associated travel	24	11	18	26	14	20
Other	3	1	2	5	2	3
Education	33	28	31	24	28	26
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	15	12	14	11	12	11
Job related training	2	—	1	1	1	1
Homework/study/research	10	11	11	9	12	10
Breaks at place of education(e)	2	1	2	—	—	—
Associated travel	4	3	3	3	3	3
Other	—	1	—	1	1	1
Domestic activities	102	195	149	101	191	147
Total housework	38	155	97	42	146	95
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	25	76	50	27	72	50
Laundry and clothes care	4	36	20	5	35	20
Housework	10	44	27	9	39	24
Total other household work	57	35	46	52	39	46
Grounds and animal care(f)	32	25	29	29	25	27
Home maintenance	21	5	13	17	4	10
Household management	4	5	5	7	9	8
Associated travel	4	2	3	3	2	3
Other	3	2	3	4	3	4
Child care	71	190	131	68	166	117
Care of children	9	40	25	5	23	14
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	1	4	2	1	2	2
Playing/reading/talking with child	18	39	29	11	24	18
Minding child	41	100	70	47	103	75
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	—	1	1
Associated travel	2	6	4	2	7	5
Other	—	1	1	2	5	4
Purchasing goods and services	35	56	46	35	55	45
Purchasing goods	17	30	24	16	28	22
Purchasing services	4	7	6	4	6	5
Associated travel	13	18	15	13	18	16
Other	1	1	1	2	3	2

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

4

ALL ACTIVITIES(a), All Persons *continued*

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Voluntary work and care	21	22	21	19	25	22
Support for adults	9	9	9	9	13	11
Unpaid voluntary work	5	6	5	5	7	6
Associated travel	6	6	6	4	4	4
Other	1	1	1	1	1	1
Social and community interaction(c)	106	123	114	43	49	46
Socialising(d)	71	85	78	12	12	12
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	4	5	5	5	6	5
Attendance at sports events	3	2	3	2	1	2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	6	6	6	5	6	5
Community participation	6	7	7	7	10	8
Negative social activities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Associated travel	16	17	16	12	13	13
Other	—	1	—	1	1	1
Recreation and leisure	579	601	590	504	497	501
Sport and outdoor activity	43	27	35	35	21	28
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	17	27	22	21	21	21
Reading	42	42	42	36	37	36
Audio/visual media(d)	299	300	299	261	251	256
Attendance at recreational courses	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other free time	54	55	55	36	27	31
Talking (including phone)(d)	114	141	128	101	128	115
Writing/reading own correspondence	2	4	3	1	2	2
Associated travel	6	4	5	11	7	9
Other	—	—	—	2	1	1
Undescribed	2	2	2	5	5	5
Total	1 862	1 993	1 928	1 734	1 833	1 784

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Personal care(c)	645	653	649	670	683	677
Sleeping	502	502	502	518	516	517
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	80	72	75
Personal hygiene	49	56	53	46	54	50
Health care	106	102	104	99	88	92
Eating and drinking(d)	89	89	89	104	107	105
Associated travel	20	22	21	16	16	16
Other	67	57	62	45	40	42
Employment related	516	426	483	516	424	480
Main job	474	392	444	483	401	452
Other job	237	211	229	205	192	199
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	190	139	163	246	199	221
Work breaks(e)	46	43	45	29	30	30
Job search	82	65	78	99	59	84
Associated travel	54	45	51	60	53	57
Other	60	60	60	47	32	41
Education	377	313	344	341	332	336
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	309	285	298	296	300	298
Job related training	382	249	350	265	319	290
Homework/study/research	174	162	168	181	183	182
Breaks at place of education(e)	61	57	59	25	30	28
Associated travel	63	59	61	62	67	64
Other	55	53	54	46	30	37
Domestic activities	131	205	172	132	205	172
Total housework	60	167	123	65	162	122
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	43	86	69	47	86	70
Laundry and clothes care	34	62	58	40	65	60
Housework	35	61	54	42	61	57
Total other household work	110	67	88	102	67	83
Grounds and animal care(f)	87	60	72	83	63	72
Home maintenance	92	48	79	100	55	86
Household management	31	28	29	32	29	31
Associated travel	42	32	37	44	39	41
Other	67	43	54	65	40	51
Child care	283	510	419	301	488	414
Care of children	73	139	120	45	97	81
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	39	41	41	46	41	43
Playing/reading/talking with child	100	135	122	77	103	93
Minding child	374	464	434	371	479	440
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	25	32	30
Associated travel	34	44	41	38	46	44
Other	28	28	28	30	36	35
Purchasing goods and services	78	95	88	78	93	87
Purchasing goods	45	58	53	46	58	53
Purchasing services	31	35	33	35	38	37
Associated travel	32	33	33	35	36	35
Other	27	24	25	31	29	30

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	1992(b).....			1997.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Voluntary work and care	104	83	92	118	107	111
Support for adults	90	65	76	95	85	89
Unpaid voluntary work	150	127	137	135	127	130
Associated travel	43	36	39	45	39	42
Other	41	33	36	47	56	52
Social and community interaction(c)	181	185	183	98	90	94
Socialising(d)	152	152	152	118	96	106
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	120	109	113	129	114	120
Attendance at sports events	150	127	140	164	133	150
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	125	91	105	103	85	92
Community participation	37	37	37	34	35	34
Negative social activities	35	24	31	*36	*40	37
Associated travel	44	46	45	49	45	46
Other	33	27	29	45	41	42
Recreation and leisure	585	605	595	508	502	505
Sport and outdoor activity	125	94	111	117	87	103
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	103	110	107	107	103	105
Reading	82	76	79	79	73	76
Audio/visual media(d)	314	314	314	277	265	271
Attendance at recreational courses	231	173	191	150	105	123
Other free time	87	81	84	100	82	91
Talking (including phone)(d)	166	176	171	157	167	162
Writing/reading own correspondence	52	45	47	34	35	35
Associated travel	39	38	38	54	49	52
Other	94	85	90	67	34	49

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

6

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Weekday/weekend—All persons

Purpose of activities	WEEKDAY.....				WEEKEND.....			
	1992(b).....		1997.....		1992(b).....		1997.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Personal care(c)	607	619	644	657	646	644	696	706
Sleeping	489	491	505	505	523	517	547	540
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	1	2	n.a.	n.a.	*1	1
Personal hygiene	47	53	43	50	45	54	43	53
Health care	6	9	5	7	6	6	6	9
Eating and drinking(d)	62	64	89	92	68	65	98	101
Associated travel	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2
Employment related	336	160	325	165	103	42	101	50
Main job	283	136	282	141	82	34	86	41
Other job	3	1	2	1	5	1	*1	*1
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	1	1	*1	1	2	2	*1	*1
Work breaks(e)	14	7	—	—	2	1	n.p.	—
Job search	3	1	3	1	—	—	*1	—
Associated travel	31	15	32	17	8	3	9	5
Other	1	1	5	2	2	1	3	1
Education	43	35	30	34	7	10	9	13
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	21	17	15	16	—	—	**1	*1
Job related training	2	—	*1	*1	1	—	n.p.	—
Homework/study/research	12	11	9	11	6	9	7	11
Breaks at place of education(e)	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	n.p.
Associated travel	5	4	4	4	—	—	—	—
Other	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Domestic activities	87	179	86	175	121	191	123	191
Total housework	35	146	38	137	42	150	43	143
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	23	70	26	70	25	74	28	68
Laundry and clothes care	4	34	4	32	4	34	5	35
Housework	8	42	8	36	12	42	10	40
Total other household work	46	28	42	33	74	37	72	43
Grounds and animal care(f)	26	21	23	20	41	27	38	30
Home maintenance	16	3	13	3	30	7	26	5
Household management	3	4	6	9	3	3	9	8
Associated travel	4	2	3	3	3	2	3	2
Other	3	2	4	3	3	2	5	3
Child care	13	53	14	48	15	39	21	38
Care of children	6	32	4	22	7	25	5	18
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	1	2	1	2	1	1	*1	1
Playing/reading/talking with child	4	8	4	5	5	6	7	7
Minding child	1	2	2	4	1	3	4	6
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	—	1	n.a.	n.a.	—	—
Associated travel	2	8	2	8	2	3	2	3
Other	—	1	2	5	—	—	2	3
Purchasing goods and services	34	60	33	55	36	41	40	52
Purchasing goods	15	31	14	27	21	26	21	29
Purchasing services	5	9	5	7	2	2	2	3
Associated travel	13	20	13	18	13	13	16	18
Other	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	2

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	WEEKDAY.....				WEEKEND.....			
	1992(b).....		1997.....		1992(b).....		1997.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Voluntary work and care	16	20	17	24	27	20	24	24
Support for adults	7	8	8	12	13	9	11	14
Unpaid voluntary work	4	6	5	7	6	3	7	5
Associated travel	5	5	4	4	8	8	4	3
Other	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	2
Social and community interaction(c)	73	92	30	38	176	187	72	70
Socialising(d)	48	64	8	9	123	133	19	17
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	3	4	3	4	5	7	8	9
Attendance at sports events	1	1	*1	1	7	4	6	3
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	3	3	2	3	11	12	10	11
Community participation	5	6	7	10	4	4	6	9
Negative social activities	—	—	n.p.	n.p.	—	—	—	—
Associated travel	12	14	8	10	25	26	21	20
Other	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Recreation and leisure	229	220	255	238	308	264	352	292
Sport and outdoor activity	31	20	28	18	56	33	45	25
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	10	16	15	14	13	19	24	19
Reading	22	21	23	24	26	28	28	33
Audio/visual media(d)	115	96	131	113	152	111	175	129
Attendance at recreational courses	1	1	1	1	—	1	*1	*1
Other free time	32	38	21	18	39	44	28	23
Talking (including phone)(d)	12	21	24	41	11	20	34	50
Writing/reading own correspondence	2	3	1	2	1	3	*1	2
Associated travel	5	4	9	6	8	5	15	10
Other	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	1
Undescribed	2	2	5	5	1	2	4	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

7

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Weekday/weekend—Participants

Purpose of activities	WEEKDAY.....				WEEKEND.....			
	1992(b).....		1997.....		1992(b).....		1997.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Personal care(c)	607	619	644	657	650	647	696	706
Sleeping	491	492	505	505	527	521	548	541
Sleeplessness	n.a.	n.a.	81	79	n.a.	n.a.	79	54
Personal hygiene	49	54	45	52	48	56	47	55
Health care	109	104	90	80	100	92	117	100
Eating and drinking(d)	65	66	91	94	74	69	101	103
Associated travel	20	22	16	14	17	24	17	24
Other	55	56	47	39	77	64	39	46
Employment related	539	439	541	440	383	329	372	327
Main job	492	401	503	414	354	314	364	321
Other job	197	182	209	189	341	384	*183	*212
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	145	98	237	214	281	277	*278	*149
Work breaks(e)	46	43	32	30	39	39	n.p.	*19
Job search	84	60	97	54	67	168	91	*104
Associated travel	55	46	61	54	44	35	50	45
Other	49	38	41	30	88	66	55	34
Education	398	345	360	363	211	179	217	202
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	309	287	299	300	345	234	*166	*299
Job related training	367	242	268	315	572	270	n.p.	—
Homework/study/research	169	155	172	180	193	175	200	187
Breaks at place of education(e)	61	57	25	31	66	50	—	n.p.
Associated travel	64	59	62	68	41	55	50	44
Other	85	59	34	29	33	26	*44	42
Domestic activities	114	190	115	188	151	203	154	206
Total housework	55	158	61	152	65	162	66	159
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	40	80	45	82	46	87	47	83
Laundry and clothes care	31	60	35	61	39	63	41	67
Housework	32	59	40	57	40	60	43	62
Total other household work	96	55	88	58	131	77	125	75
Grounds and animal care(f)	77	51	74	54	97	66	97	71
Home maintenance	85	37	90	51	103	66	113	62
Household management	27	24	28	28	38	29	39	30
Associated travel	42	31	42	38	42	34	48	41
Other	69	41	59	36	83	46	80	42
Child care	70	157	77	151	83	136	108	138
Care of children	50	111	39	91	57	103	48	88
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	35	30	43	36	39	32	57	32
Playing/reading/talking with child	41	43	52	48	55	48	75	59
Minding child	46	50	58	56	55	56	69	65
Visiting child care establishment/school	n.a.	n.a.	20	31	n.a.	n.a.	*68	*64
Associated travel	34	45	36	47	33	40	47	43
Other	28	25	26	32	27	21	36	32
Purchasing goods and services	75	97	76	92	82	89	80	95
Purchasing goods	41	57	43	56	53	61	52	63
Purchasing services	33	36	37	38	22	29	30	44
Associated travel	32	34	35	35	31	30	35	37
Other	20	22	31	25	27	18	26	35

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

(e) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes. See Glossary.

(f) See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

7

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Weekday/weekend—Participants *continued*

Purpose of activities	WEEKDAY.....				WEEKEND.....			
	1992(b).....		1997.....		1992(b).....		1997.....	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Voluntary work and care	97	86	116	106	106	70	120	99
Support for adults	79	60	91	80	106	67	102	83
Unpaid voluntary work	127	126	128	129	167	129	149	119
Associated travel	43	35	46	39	42	38	44	39
Other	44	27	39	49	25	27	58	74
Social and community interation(c)	143	150	77	75	246	252	129	117
Socialising(d)	122	125	103	82	196	198	132	114
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	106	97	122	102	143	136	140	131
Attendance at sports events	103	97	131	113	186	164	177	158
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	111	73	76	71	138	110	126	102
Community participation	37	37	33	35	29	31	34	35
Negative social activities	42	28	n.p.	n.p.	15	20	—	—
Associated travel	40	41	43	41	50	55	55	50
Other	23	20	52	37	28	21	33	44
Recreation and leisure	239	226	264	246	319	272	360	299
Sport and outdoor activity	105	82	106	82	157	121	140	99
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	92	99	98	90	107	107	129	106
Reading	66	58	70	61	74	72	76	77
Audio/visual media(d)	150	131	158	140	191	152	207	160
Attendance at recreational courses	202	153	155	101	490	358	134	*133
Other free time	59	60	80	69	70	71	90	81
Talking (including phone)(d)	32	39	55	66	35	40	74	79
Writing/reading own correspondence	50	37	29	30	85	57	47	49
Associated travel	37	35	52	45	42	44	58	56
Other	23	30	51	32	49	18	101	41

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Any differences between the 1992 data in this table and the data published in *How Australians Use Their Time, 1992* (Cat. no. 4153.0) are due to changes to the classification and minor amendments to the data file.

(c) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are partly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use.

(d) Differences between the 1992 and 1997 data are mainly due to coding changes rather than actual changes in time use. See section on Socialising, pp. 10–11.

LIFE STAGES.....

<i>Purpose of activities</i>	<i>Couples with dependent children</i>	<i>Couples with non-dependent children</i>	<i>Lone parents(b)</i>	<i>Couples without children</i>	<i>Lone persons</i>	<i>Neither parents nor partners</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALES							
Personal care activities(c)	624	668	668	678	648	688	658
Sleeping	494	501	534	514	501	563	517
Sleeplessness	*1	**1	—	*1	*2	n.p.	1
Personal hygiene	40	45	37	47	46	40	43
Health care	3	*9	*12	6	8	5	6
Eating and drinking	85	111	84	108	88	81	91
FEMALES							
Personal care activities(c)	637	667	670	687	682	696	671
Sleeping	500	503	511	518	500	553	515
Sleeplessness	1	*2	**1	1	*2	*2	1
Personal hygiene	44	50	49	54	57	54	51
Health care	4	6	15	7	15	5	7
Eating and drinking	87	106	91	106	106	82	95
PERSONS							
Personal care activities(c)	631	667	670	683	666	691	665
Sleeping	497	502	514	516	501	558	516
Sleeplessness	1	*2	**1	1	2	*1	1
Personal hygiene	42	47	47	51	52	46	47
Health care	4	7	15	6	12	5	7
Eating and drinking	86	108	91	107	98	81	93

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) With dependent and/or non-dependent children.

(c) Includes associated travel and communication activities.

LIFE STAGE.....

Purpose of activities	Couples with dependent children	Couples with non-dependent children	Lone parents(b)	Couples without children	Lone persons	Neither parents nor partners	Total
MALES							
Personal care	624	668	668	678	647	688	658
Sleeping	494	504	534	515	503	563	517
Sleeplessness	63	*168	—	72	123	n.p.	80
Personal hygiene	42	47	39	50	50	44	46
Health care	96	138	83	69	106	138	97
Eating and drinking	87	113	86	109	90	84	94
Associated travel	16	*14	n.p.	16	17	14	16
Other	34	*12	—	44	*74	*56	45
FEMALES							
Personal care	637	667	670	687	682	696	671
Sleeping	500	505	512	518	500	554	516
Sleeplessness	59	*85	*78	61	76	125	72
Personal hygiene	46	52	52	56	59	57	53
Health care	86	67	150	65	86	81	86
Eating and drinking	88	109	92	107	107	84	97
Associated travel	17	—	*30	14	12	9	16
Other	39	22	91	40	44	26	41
PERSONS							
Personal care	631	667	670	683	666	691	665
Sleeping	497	505	515	516	501	559	516
Sleeplessness	61	110	*78	65	94	109	75
Personal hygiene	44	49	50	53	55	50	50
Health care	90	99	140	67	92	105	90
Eating and drinking	88	111	92	108	99	84	95
Associated travel	16	*14	*27	16	15	13	16
Other	37	19	91	42	53	34	43

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) With dependent and/or non-dependent children.

Life stage and labour force status	MALES.....			FEMALES.....			PERSONS.....		
	Total committed time	Total work	Committed time as a proportion of total work	Total committed time	Total work	Committed time as a proportion of total work	Total committed time	Total work	Committed time as a proportion of total work
Couples with dependent children	188	548	34.3	419	553	75.8	303	551	55.0
Employed full-time	171	589	29.0	299	605	49.4	201	593	33.9
Employed part-time	242	504	48.0	406	563	72.1	385	555	69.4
Not employed	274	310	88.4	506	511	98.6	449	462	97.2
Couples with non-dependent children	184	437	42.1	341	464	73.5	261	450	58.0
Employed full-time	134	557	24.1	268	581	46.1	175	564	31.0
Employed part-time	*256	*426	60.1	313	499	62.7	303	486	62.4
Not employed	252	256	98.4	386	395	97.7	329	336	97.9
Lone parents	245	415	59.0	337	455	74.1	326	451	72.3
Employed full-time	172	506	34.0	219	599	36.6	208	579	35.9
Employed part-time	**347	**448	77.5	330	483	68.3	330	481	68.6
Not employed	*297	*317	93.7	386	388	99.5	377	381	99.0
Couples without children	183	399	45.9	280	412	68.0	232	406	57.1
Employed full-time	128	514	24.9	179	526	34.0	147	518	28.4
Employed part-time	174	370	47.0	278	448	61.4	244	422	57.8
Not employed	253	266	95.1	335	340	98.5	299	308	97.1
Lone persons	198	409	48.2	255	356	71.6	229	380	60.3
Employed full-time	144	531	27.1	178	525	33.9	157	528	29.7
Employed part-time	163	489	33.3	237	396	59.8	205	437	46.9
Not employed	260	266	97.7	286	289	99.0	276	281	98.2
Neither parent nor partner	85	279	30.5	129	277	46.6	104	278	37.4
Employed full-time	74	462	16.0	100	478	20.9	82	467	17.6
Employed part-time	67	182	36.8	104	270	38.5	88	233	37.8
Not employed	105	126	83.3	161	176	91.5	131	149	87.9
Average time(b)	164	425	38.6	300	432	69.4	233	428	54.4

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Total includes visitors and groups households.

11

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Employment Status—All persons

Types of time(b)	MALES.....			FEMALES.....			PERSONS.....		
	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed
Total necessary time	627	669	714	644	659	691	632	662	700
Total work	542	338	232	547	462	355	544	429	308
Total contracted time	408	265	62	345	201	41	388	218	49
Employment related	404	190	17	339	162	6	384	170	11
Education	4	75	45	6	39	34	5	48	38
Total committed time	138	148	215	207	300	349	160	260	297
Domestic	75	77	132	120	169	210	90	144	180
Child care	19	12	12	22	54	53	20	43	37
Purchasing goods and services	30	32	45	51	54	56	36	48	52
Voluntary work and care	14	27	26	14	23	30	14	24	29
Total free time	263	352	443	240	275	353	255	295	388
Social and community interaction	37	48	51	42	48	50	39	48	51
Recreation and leisure	225	304	392	198	226	303	217	247	337
Undescribed	4	*7	6	4	5	7	4	5	6
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) See section in 'Understanding the Tables' on page 14.

12

MAIN ACTIVITIES(a), Employment Status—Participants

Types of time(b)	MALES.....			FEMALES.....			PERSONS.....		
	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed	Employed full-time	Employed part-time	Not employed
Total necessary time	627	669	714	644	659	691	632	662	700
Total work	551	362	259	552	471	366	552	443	326
Total contracted time	549	406	321	505	364	315	536	377	318
Employment related	548	371	218	506	339	169	536	348	197
Education	196	371	368	192	327	352	195	344	359
Total committed time	163	174	242	219	311	359	182	278	316
Domestic	102	107	164	135	183	222	114	167	202
Child care	79	103	110	99	136	174	85	133	162
Purchasing goods and services	70	69	92	85	85	101	76	82	98
Voluntary work and care	105	134	127	75	93	120	93	102	122
Total free time	270	359	445	249	281	356	263	301	390
Social and community interaction	89	96	112	83	82	96	87	86	102
Recreation and leisure	235	313	398	210	233	307	227	254	342

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) See section in 'Understanding the Tables' on page 14.

Selected activities	AVERAGE TIME.....			PARTICIPATION RATE.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Food and drink preparation and service	37	65	54	49.4	80.1	65.0
Setting and clearing the table	15	15	15	3.3	8.0	5.7
Clean up after food preparation and meals	27	31	29	28.7	59.8	44.5
Washing, loading and unloading washing machine	27	25	25	5.3	34.3	20.0
Hanging out and bringing in the washing	23	26	26	6.4	32.3	19.5
Ironing	27	47	44	3.4	20.3	12.0
Sorting, folding clothes	20	22	22	2.6	18.3	10.6
Dry housework	28	30	30	11.6	45.2	28.6
Wet housework	25	27	27	4.3	23.4	14.0
Occasional dry housework	40	50	47	0.8	2.0	1.4
Occasional wet housework	49	35	37	0.6	2.2	1.4
Gardening	82	63	72	16.5	19.8	18.2
Lawn care	72	54	68	4.8	1.3	3.0
Harvesting home produce	33	25	28	0.6	1.2	0.9
Cleaning grounds, garage etc.	63	34	49	5.3	4.7	5.0
Pool care	34	27	31	0.9	*0.5	0.7
Pet, animal care	28	25	26	13.6	21.8	17.7
Home and equipment repairs	86	83	85	4.7	1.3	3.0
Home improvements	178	102	156	2.2	0.8	1.5
Heat, water, power upkeep	52	24	39	3.2	2.6	2.9
Car, boat, bike care	87	47	78	9.1	2.4	5.7
Paperwork, bills	50	36	41	2.8	4.2	3.5
Budgeting, organising rosters, making lists	46	24	30	1.3	3.4	2.4
Recycling	17	14	15	0.7	1.0	0.9
Mail organisation	15	11	12	2.4	5.0	3.7
Packing for a journey, moving	44	35	39	5.0	6.1	5.6
Packing away goods	19	19	19	5.6	14.2	10.0
Disposing of rubbish	16	11	13	3.9	5.3	4.6
Travel associated with domestic activities	44	39	41	6.3	6.4	6.4

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

14

DISTRIBUTION OF TIME FOR SELECTED WORK ACTIVITIES(a), Main Activities

Nature of activities	1-14	15-29	30-44	45-59	60-89	90-119	120	Participants average time(b)	Persons
	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes	minutes and over		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	min/d	'000
MALES									
Domestic	8.0	10.9	9.4	7.1	12.3	8.3	43.9	129	5 308.8
Food preparation and clean up	17.8	23.2	18.4	12.1	15.3	6.6	6.7	46	4 024.4
Food and drink preparation and service	24.4	25.9	18.9	10.3	12.2	4.7	3.6	37	3 427.5
Clean up after food preparation	22.3	41.6	20.8	7.0	6.1	1.3	1.0	27	1 993.2
Laundry and clothes care	25.2	28.5	17.0	8.7	11.2	4.9	4.4	37	887.0
Housework	29.6	22.4	13.8	8.9	13.5	5.2	6.5	41	1 492.1
Grounds and animal care	16.3	14.9	12.0	8.1	16.0	9.6	23.2	81	2 169.7
Garden care(c)	7.1	12.2	14.0	8.6	18.6	12.8	26.9	89	1 333.0
Pet, animal care	41.6	27.6	12.4	5.1	6.7	3.5	3.1	28	941.3
Home maintenance	8.6	15.0	13.5	7.2	16.0	9.2	30.6	107	1 242.0
Household management	37.7	28.6	12.2	5.7	8.3	3.1	4.3	34	1 539.4
Child care	9.1	16.0	13.5	10.6	15.1	11.0	24.7	88	1 338.0
Caring of children	24.5	26.1	17.7	7.8	10.7	6.6	6.5	43	723.2
Minding children	23.0	16.6	13.9	*8.7	15.4	*6.2	16.2	63	304.7
FEMALES									
Domestic	2.2	5.1	4.7	4.6	8.7	8.5	66.3	197	6 616.8
Food preparation and clean up	5.7	11.7	11.8	10.7	20.5	14.8	24.8	85	6 037.7
Food and drink preparation and service	8.3	15.2	16.0	13.9	21.9	12.1	12.6	65	5 701.0
Clean up after food preparation	18.1	35.7	23.2	11.7	8.7	1.7	0.8	31	4 257.2
Laundry and clothes care	10.8	17.5	15.6	12.7	19.1	10.4	13.8	63	3 761.7
Housework	13.5	20.3	16.6	11.1	16.6	9.6	12.3	60	4 505.4
Ground and animal care	22.5	21.7	13.8	9.3	12.3	7.1	13.3	56	2 663.7
Garden care(c)	14.5	20.3	14.9	11.2	14.3	8.4	16.4	64	1 492.0
Pet, animal care	41.2	31.1	11.8	6.1	5.6	1.9	2.4	25	1 549.4
Home maintenance	22.8	24.0	12.9	10.0	11.3	4.8	14.3	56	540.8
Household management	32.6	31.0	15.6	7.4	7.1	2.7	3.6	31	2 290.6
Child care	4.3	7.2	8.2	5.9	13.6	10.3	50.5	151	2 249.8
Caring for children	11.0	15.7	14.1	10.1	14.5	11.0	23.6	89	1 733.1
Minding children	19.2	20.1	12.3	11.4	14.7	6.6	15.9	66	651.4

(a) Percentage of population who reported taking part in a particular activity.

(b) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(c) Garden care includes the activities gardening, lawn care and harvesting home produce.

Purpose of activities	AVERAGE TIME.....			PARTICIPATION RATE.....		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	min/d	min/d	min/d	%	%	%
Social and community interaction	44	49	47	44.3	54.1	49.2
Socialising	12	12	12	10.3	12.5	11.4
Entertainment/attendance at sports event	7	8	7	5.2	6.4	5.8
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	5	6	5	4.4	6.6	5.5
Other social participation	20	24	22	40.1	49.3	44.7
Recreation and leisure	508	502	505	99.1	99.1	99.1
Sport and outdoor activity	35	21	28	29.8	24.5	27.1
Sport—formal and informal	13	4	8	8.8	3.5	6.1
Other sport and outdoor activity	22	17	20	23.8	22.4	23.1
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	20	21	20	18.6	20.5	19.6
Computing	9	3	6	7.6	3.6	5.6
Handwork and crafts	—	9	5	*0.3	7.5	3.9
Other games/hobbies/arts/crafts	10	9	10	12.0	11.4	11.7
Reading	36	37	37	45.6	50.3	48.0
Reading book	7	9	8	8.7	13.5	11.2
Reading magazines	1	3	2	3.3	6.6	5.0
Reading newspapers	16	10	13	31.0	25.7	28.3
Reading—other	11	14	13	14.6	21.1	17.9
Audio/visual media	263	251	257	94.2	94.7	94.5
Watching TV, video	169	161	165	87.2	87.9	87.6
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	82	77	79	56.2	57.6	56.9
Other audio/visual media	12	13	13	11.1	13.4	12.3
Attendance at recreational courses	1	1	1	0.6	1.0	0.8
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing/thinking/worrying	17	20	19	21.1	25.8	23.5
Talking (including phone)	101	128	115	64.6	77.1	70.9
Writing/reading own correspondence	1	2	2	3.2	6.5	4.9
Other free time(c)	33	20	26	37.6	30.7	34.1
Total free time	552	551	551	99.4	99.4	99.4

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time and participation rate estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	AVERAGE TIME.....			PARTICIPATION RATES.....		
	Major urban min/d	Other urban min/d	Rural min/d	Major urban %	Other urban %	Rural %
Social and community interaction	49	45	41	49.9	50.2	45.1
Socialising	12	12	9	11.8	11.8	9.2
Entertainment/attendance at sports event	8	7	5	6.4	5.2	3.8
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	6	4	3	6.1	5.1	3.7
Other social participation	22	22	23	45.0	45.7	42.0
Recreation and leisure	507	523	467	99.2	99.4	98.4
Sport and outdoor activity	26	33	27	26.4	30.3	25.0
Sport—formal and informal	8	11	9	5.8	7.3	6.0
Other sport and outdoor activity	19	23	19	22.8	25.4	21.3
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	20	22	21	19.1	21.6	18.2
Computing	6	5	6	5.7	5.3	5.2
Handwork and crafts	5	6	5	3.7	4.8	3.5
Other games/hobbies/arts/crafts	9	11	10	11.3	13.1	11.2
Reading	38	36	30	49.1	47.6	43.9
Reading book	9	8	6	11.4	10.9	10.4
Reading magazines	2	2	2	5.3	4.4	4.3
Reading newspapers	15	12	10	29.5	28.1	23.7
Reading—other	13	13	12	18.0	18.3	17.0
Audio/visual media	259	264	236	94.8	95.3	91.8
Watching TV, video	164	180	146	87.6	89.8	84.2
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	81	73	82	57.9	54.4	56.2
Other audio/visual media	14	11	8	13.4	10.9	9.3
Attendance at recreational courses	1	*1	—	0.8	*0.9	*0.5
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing/thinking/worrying	19	18	18	23.7	23.6	22.1
Talking (including phone)	116	117	110	71.0	72.1	68.5
Writing/reading own correspondence	2	2	2	5.0	4.8	4.7
Other free time(c)	26	30	21	33.2	38.6	31.3
Total free time	555	568	508	99.5	99.5	98.8

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time and participation rate estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

17

FREE TIME(a)(b), All Activities—By life stage: All persons

<i>Purpose of activities</i>	<i>Couples with dependent children</i>	<i>Couples with non-dependent children</i>	<i>Lone parents(c)</i>	<i>Couples without children</i>	<i>Lone persons</i>	<i>Neither parents nor partners</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
Social and community interaction	41	40	48	45	50	59	46	47
Socialising	8	10	18	12	13	17	11	12
Entertainment/attendance at sports event	5	*5	7	7	7	12	11	7
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	5	6	*3	6	5	6	*1	5
Other social participation	22	19	21	21	24	24	23	22
Recreation and leisure	428	528	451	541	566	542	531	505
Sport and outdoor activity	21	25	21	32	27	38	29	28
Sport—formal and informal	5	8	*3	11	6	15	5	8
Other sport and outdoor activity	17	17	18	21	21	23	24	20
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	12	22	15	24	28	27	16	20
Computing	4	*4	*3	4	4	13	5	6
Handwork and crafts	2	6	*5	8	9	2	*4	5
Other games/hobbies/arts/crafts	6	13	7	11	15	12	8	10
Reading	29	37	30	47	56	26	28	37
Reading book	6	6	8	11	13	7	8	8
Reading magazines	2	1	3	2	2	2	*1	2
Reading newspapers	12	18	9	18	18	7	8	13
Reading—other	9	11	11	15	23	10	11	13
Audio/visual media	213	270	247	270	313	273	262	257
Watching TV, video	137	189	160	179	193	169	160	165
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	70	72	77	82	111	74	82	79
Other audio/visual media	7	10	9	9	9	30	20	13
Attendance at recreational courses	*1	*1	**1	*1	*1	*1	**1	1
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing/thinking/worrying	15	23	16	23	27	14	15	19
Talking (including phone)	119	127	96	117	83	127	120	115
Writing/reading own correspondence	1	2	2	2	3	1	*2	2
Other free time(d)	17	20	24	25	28	35	58	26
Total free time	469	568	500	586	616	601	577	551

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) With dependent and/or non-dependent children.

(d) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Age groups (years)	AVERAGE TIME.....		PARTICIPATION RATE.....	
	1992	1997	1992	1997
	min/d	min/d	%	%
MALES				
15-24	35	25	26.1	18.4
25-39	14	10	10.2	7.0
40-59	9	8	6.0	5.2
60 years and over	16	14	8.3	8.5
All males	17	13	11.9	8.8
FEMALES				
15-24	8	7	8.6	6.6
25-39	5	3	4.7	2.8
40-59	4	4	3.2	2.7
60 years and over	6	5	3.6	3.0
All females	5	4	4.8	3.5
PERSONS				
15-24	22	16	17.5	12.6
25-39	9	6	7.5	4.9
40-59	6	6	4.6	4.0
60 years and over	11	9	5.7	5.5
All persons	11	8	8.3	6.1

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes formal and informal sport.

19

PASSIVE LEISURE(a)(b), Main Activities—All persons

Purpose of activities	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 and over	Total
MALES							
Passive leisure	178	141	151	168	208	297	181
Reading	12	14	19	23	35	59	24
Reading books	4	3	5	5	7	13	6
Reading magazines	*1	—	1	*1	*1	*1	1
Reading newspapers	3	6	7	12	16	27	10
Other reading	5	5	6	6	11	17	7
Audio/visual media	158	119	122	133	156	209	145
Watching TV	128	103	109	120	140	183	126
Watching video	14	8	5	4	4	4	7
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	6	5	5	7	11	20	8
Other audio/visual media	10	3	3	2	*1	*2	4
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	7	8	10	11	17	29	12
Total free time(c)	379	281	269	293	358	441	328
FEMALES							
Passive leisure	151	119	121	144	189	269	159
Reading	16	15	21	25	36	54	26
Reading books	6	5	8	6	10	14	8
Reading magazines	2	1	1	2	*2	2	2
Reading newspapers	2	4	5	8	10	15	7
Other reading	6	5	7	10	13	22	10
Audio/visual media	125	92	90	105	136	184	118
Watching TV	101	80	78	93	125	160	102
Watching video	12	7	6	5	4	*2	6
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	5	4	4	6	6	20	7
Other audio/visual media	6	2	2	*1	*1	*1	2
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	9	11	10	14	16	31	14
Total free time(c)	319	250	252	278	352	420	304
PERSONS							
Passive leisure	164	130	136	156	199	281	170
Reading	14	15	20	24	35	56	25
Reading books	5	4	6	5	8	14	7
Reading magazines	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
Reading newspapers	3	5	6	10	13	20	8
Other reading	5	5	7	8	12	20	9
Audio/visual media	142	105	106	119	147	195	131
Watching TV	115	91	94	107	133	170	114
Watching video	13	7	5	4	4	3	7
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	6	4	4	6	9	20	8
Other audio/visual media	8	2	3	1	1	1	3
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	8	10	10	12	16	30	13
Total free time(c)	350	265	261	286	355	429	316

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
MALES							
Passive leisure	305	273	297	310	348	416	316
Reading	19	23	33	39	47	75	36
Reading books	5	4	7	6	8	15	7
Reading magazines	1	1	2	2	*1	*2	1
Reading newspapers	6	10	14	21	23	34	16
Other reading	7	8	10	10	15	24	11
Audio/visual media	274	238	249	253	278	306	263
Watching TV	159	141	146	154	179	222	162
Watching video	15	8	5	5	4	4	7
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	72	79	87	88	90	77	82
Other audio/visual media	29	10	10	8	4	4	12
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	9	10	13	14	19	33	15
Thinking/worrying	2	1	3	4	*3	*2	3
Total free time(c)	608	509	504	524	583	621	552
FEMALES							
Passive leisure	305	256	255	300	356	425	308
Reading	24	23	32	38	49	67	37
Reading books	8	6	9	8	12	16	9
Reading magazines	4	2	2	3	3	3	3
Reading newspapers	4	6	9	12	16	19	10
Other reading	9	9	11	15	18	29	14
Audio/visual media	263	218	208	244	286	320	251
Watching TV	145	133	123	148	189	214	154
Watching video	13	8	7	6	5	*2	7
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	72	66	66	83	88	99	77
Other audio/visual media	33	12	12	7	5	5	13
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	14	14	12	16	19	35	18
Thinking/worrying	3	1	3	*2	*1	*2	2
Total free time(c)	592	482	490	539	611	643	551
PERSONS							
Passive leisure	305	264	276	305	352	421	312
Reading	22	23	32	39	48	70	37
Reading books	6	5	8	7	10	15	8
Reading magazines	2	2	2	2	2	3	2
Reading newspapers	5	8	12	17	20	26	13
Other reading	8	8	11	13	16	27	13
Audio/visual media	269	228	229	249	282	314	257
Watching TV	152	136	135	151	184	217	158
Watching video	14	8	6	5	5	3	7
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	72	72	77	85	89	89	79
Other audio/visual media	31	11	11	7	5	4	13
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	12	12	13	15	19	34	16
Thinking/worrying	3	1	3	3	2	2	2
Total free time(c)	601	495	497	532	596	633	551

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

<i>Purpose of activities</i>	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 and over	Total
MALES							
Passive leisure	319	289	306	321	357	417	328
Reading	68	67	71	73	84	109	79
Reading books	84	63	82	74	84	88	80
Reading magazines	31	47	45	45	48	45	43
Reading newspapers	43	46	48	54	55	65	53
Other reading	72	70	69	66	89	95	77
Audio/visual media	293	257	265	269	292	313	279
Watching TV	188	168	169	179	202	236	187
Watching video	152	123	96	109	92	99	120
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	142	146	143	147	151	144	145
Other audio/visual media	120	101	116	97	80	61	107
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	72	66	77	80	79	99	80
Thinking/worrying	64	41	61	110	104	68	71
Total free time(c)	610	513	507	527	588	622	555
FEMALES							
Passive leisure	313	265	265	308	363	427	316
Reading	65	59	63	67	81	102	73
Reading books	68	56	73	62	71	81	69
Reading magazines	50	38	32	39	49	54	43
Reading newspapers	31	36	37	38	41	49	40
Other reading	57	61	55	62	72	94	68
Audio/visual media	276	231	226	260	297	329	265
Watching TV	169	155	150	171	205	230	177
Watching video	111	106	104	99	92	80	103
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	129	115	118	137	152	168	134
Other audio/visual media	111	100	91	77	82	88	99
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	78	64	60	72	76	93	75
Thinking/worrying	60	34	57	58	47	87	57
Total free time(c)	595	488	494	541	613	643	554
PERSONS							
Passive leisure	316	276	285	314	360	422	322
Reading	66	62	67	70	83	105	76
Reading books	74	58	77	67	76	84	73
Reading magazines	44	41	37	42	49	51	43
Reading newspapers	38	42	43	47	49	57	47
Other reading	63	65	61	64	79	95	72
Audio/visual media	284	244	246	265	294	322	272
Watching TV	179	161	160	175	204	233	182
Watching video	130	114	100	103	92	91	111
Listening to radio/CD/records/tapes	135	130	131	142	151	158	140
Other audio/visual media	115	100	101	86	81	76	102
Resting/relaxing/doing nothing	75	65	67	75	78	95	77
Thinking/worrying	62	38	59	86	77	77	64
Total free time(c)	602	500	501	534	600	634	554

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Average time estimates include time spent on communication for the specific activity.

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

Purpose of activities	Alone	Family in household	Family ex household	Family both in and ex household	Family and friends	Friends only	Other	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES								
Eating and drinking	13.7	53.2	1.9	4.8	7.7	8.3	10.3	100.0
Socialising	—	5.7	7.4	11.2	25.2	48.9	1.5	100.0
Sport and outdoor activity	22.5	24.3	1.6	1.6	7.8	37.6	4.6	100.0
Sport—formal and informal	8.4	8.7	1.3	0.5	10.9	63.7	6.4	100.0
Exercise/walking/hiking	38.3	34.6	0.7	1.8	4.9	15.4	4.3	100.0
Other sport and outdoor activity	22.5	31.6	3.0	2.7	7.1	30.2	2.9	100.0
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	17.4	52.9	1.1	3.6	8.3	12.5	4.2	100.0
Audio/visual media	24.8	56.2	1.2	2.4	3.1	5.0	7.4	100.0
Watching TV	16.7	69.3	1.2	3.0	2.8	3.0	4.1	100.0
Watching video	11.9	51.7	0.8	3.3	7.8	19.5	4.9	100.0
Other audio/visual media	39.8	33.9	1.3	1.3	3.3	7.1	13.3	100.0
Drinking alcohol/social drinking	5.5	15.9	0.7	3.3	17.1	47.3	10.3	100.0
Talking (including phone)	2.4	43.6	2.9	7.2	13.9	20.9	9.0	100.0
Writing/reading own correspondence	36.8	58.9	—	1.7	—	—	1.2	100.0
All males	17.4	53.0	1.3	2.3	4.4	6.3	15.2	100.0
FEMALES								
Eating and drinking	15.7	50.0	3.6	5.8	9.6	9.4	6.0	100.0
Socialising	—	5.4	9.0	12.2	31.6	40.4	1.3	100.0
Sport and outdoor activity	15.7	35.7	4.4	2.5	11.4	25.3	4.9	100.0
Sport—formal and informal	2.9	16.5	—	—	19.7	54.6	4.7	100.0
Exercise/walking/hiking	25.5	36.1	2.7	2.3	8.1	18.4	6.9	100.0
Other sport and outdoor activity	9.0	46.9	9.3	3.7	11.3	17.6	2.2	100.0
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	24.4	49.8	1.9	2.2	7.6	11.5	2.6	100.0
Audio/visual media	26.5	57.0	1.7	2.5	3.5	3.9	4.9	100.0
Watching TV	21.7	65.3	1.7	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.3	100.0
Watching video	12.4	56.4	0.9	3.7	10.6	12.4	3.5	100.0
Other audio/visual media	35.8	42.7	1.6	1.8	3.6	5.0	9.5	100.0
Drinking alcohol/social drinking	2.7	16.9	2.2	3.0	26.6	42.9	5.7	100.0
Talking (including phone)	4.4	41.9	6.6	8.3	14.7	18.4	5.7	100.0
Writing/reading own correspondence	35.2	50.0	0.8	2.1	4.2	2.8	4.9	100.0
All females	17.1	57.2	2.0	3.2	5.3	5.5	9.7	100.0
PERSONS								
Eating and drinking	14.8	51.5	2.8	5.3	8.7	8.9	8.1	100.0
Socialising	—	5.6	8.2	11.7	28.5	44.6	1.4	100.0
Sport and outdoor activity	19.9	28.7	2.7	2.0	9.2	32.9	4.7	100.0
Sport—formal and informal	7.0	10.7	1.1	0.6	13.2	61.4	5.9	100.0
Exercise/walking/hiking	32.1	35.3	1.7	2.0	6.5	16.9	5.6	100.0
Other sport and outdoor activity	17.3	37.6	5.5	3.1	8.7	25.3	2.6	100.0
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	21.1	51.3	1.5	2.9	7.9	12.0	3.4	100.0
Audio/visual media	25.6	56.6	1.4	2.5	3.3	4.5	6.2	100.0
Watching TV	19.1	67.3	1.4	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.2	100.0
Watching video	12.2	54.0	0.9	3.5	9.2	16.0	4.2	100.0
Other audio/visual media	37.8	38.3	1.5	1.5	3.4	6.1	11.4	100.0
Drinking alcohol/social drinking	4.8	16.2	1.0	3.2	19.5	46.1	9.2	100.0
Talking (including phone)	3.5	42.6	5.0	7.8	14.4	19.5	7.2	100.0
Writing/reading own correspondence	35.7	52.8	0.9	2.0	2.9	1.9	3.7	100.0
All persons	17.2	55.1	1.6	2.8	4.9	5.9	12.4	100.0

	<i>Couples</i>	<i>Lone parents</i>	<i>Lone persons</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
15–24 YEARS					
Family(b)	978	1 239	*68	839	843
Non-family only	303	*141	535	471	442
Alone	159	*60	838	130	155
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
25–39 YEARS					
Family(b)	1 103	1 153	115	614	945
Non-family only	221	154	405	600	296
Alone	117	134	920	226	200
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
40–59 YEARS					
Family(b)	1 082	951	93	651	947
Non-family only	203	232	327	570	234
Alone	156	257	1 021	219	259
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
60 YEARS AND OVER					
Family(b)	1 267	1 057	120	1 000	919
Non-family only	67	75	129	282	125
Alone	106	308	1 191	159	397
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes family both in and ex household with or without non-family members present.

Time of day (hrs)	EATING MEALS.....				WATCHING TV.....			
	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-59 years	60 years and over	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-59 years	60 years and over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
6 am	1.4	2.2	3.7	2.4	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.6
7 am	4.7	6.8	9.2	10.5	2.3	3.3	3.6	3.4
8 am	7.3	8.5	11.8	20.6	4.4	3.8	3.6	4.6
9 am	5.7	7.5	9.2	13.5	5.1	4.3	3.2	5.1
10 am	4.9	4.0	3.9	3.2	7.3	4.0	2.8	4.1
11 am	5.0	2.5	1.5	1.9	7.8	5.3	4.0	6.8
12 noon	16.5	18.3	20.5	33.3	10.3	7.3	8.1	14.6
1 pm	20.4	22.1	24.6	29.0	11.4	8.0	8.6	15.8
2 pm	10.3	9.1	10.2	9.2	11.7	8.7	9.5	15.7
3 pm	3.6	3.7	2.9	3.0	12.8	9.3	11.8	18.5
4 pm	2.3	1.6	1.4	1.4	13.7	8.3	9.9	14.7
5 pm	3.5	2.8	3.7	7.7	17.9	12.3	17.1	23.5
6 pm	16.8	17.9	19.8	32.8	27.7	23.2	34.9	51.6
7 pm	23.6	24.3	27.3	24.4	34.7	29.6	38.0	57.5
8 pm	12.7	14.0	15.8	10.1	37.0	36.5	43.6	58.0
9 pm	6.9	6.9	6.8	4.2	36.9	44.4	49.3	55.6
10 pm	2.6	2.8	2.3	1.8	26.7	32.2	34.3	32.1
11 pm	1.3	0.8	1.0	0.4	13.4	13.3	14.2	11.6
12 midnight	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	4.9	3.7	3.5	2.9
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Persons	2 595.8	5 592.4	3 168.1	2 698.1	2 595.8	5 592.4	3 168.1	2 698.1

(a) Percentage of population who reported eating or watching TV at each hour of the day.

(b) The 1-5 am time periods have not been included due to the small number of participants.

LOCATION.....

Purpose of activities	Own	Someone	Public place	Commercial	Other	Total(b)	Participation rate
	Home	else's home					
	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	%
Personal care	629	160	42	85	59	665	100.0
Sleeping	509	364	248	323	315	517	99.9
Sleeplessness	74	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	—	75	1.5
Personal hygiene	48	27	17	26	18	50	94.4
Health care	91	47	21	67	42	90	7.2
Eating and drinking	72	72	44	66	45	95	97.9
Associated travel	—	—	16	—	—	16	1.5
Other	36	56	n.p.	*31	*18	37	2.0
Employment related	98	126	60	96	453	480	40.7
Main job	156	131	160	119	455	451	37.5
Other job	122	*82	n.p.	*195	208	199	0.7
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	170	*424	*118	*125	254	221	0.6
Work breaks	—	—	—	*19	31	30	0.5
Job search	58	n.p.	120	58	77	84	1.6
Associated travel	—	—	57	—	—	57	34.7
Other	25	*62	*33	67	123	35	7.3
Education	150	193	68	234	292	333	7.7
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	118	*99	*141	—	299	296	3.8
Job related training	*91	—	—	*429	300	294	0.3
Homework/study/research	167	208	169	*74	161	180	5.5
Breaks at place of education	n.p.	—	n.p.	—	29	28	0.4
Associated travel	—	—	64	—	—	64	4.6
Other	22	*84	n.p.	n.p.	55	29	1.9
Domestic activities	156	53	43	29	34	161	84.3
Total housework	119	43	39	20	25	119	77.4
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	67	35	36	16	28	68	71.1
Laundry and clothes care	58	29	*27	n.p.	22	58	32.7
Housework	55	30	*36	*34	32	54	42.3
Total other household work	76	51	43	29	38	81	54.2
Grounds and animal care	65	62	37	48	32	66	33.8
Home maintenance	84	90	69	40	62	85	12.0
Household management	28	29	25	22	34	30	26.3
Associated travel	—	—	41	—	—	41	6.4
Other	58	58	57	32	49	58	4.6
Child care	102	57	49	36	50	124	24.8
Care of children	73	38	24	42	28	76	16.9
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	38	*30	n.p.	n.p.	*44	38	3.0
Playing/reading/talking with child	49	57	43	17	19	52	14.1
Minding child	48	62	70	42	75	60	6.2
Visiting child care establishment/school	*13	16	*44	24	30	31	1.7
Associated travel	—	—	44	—	—	44	10.2
Other	19	13	*14	20	16	19	4.2
Purchasing goods and services	24	52	36	58	18	86	51.8
Purchasing goods	19	57	34	52	17	53	41.6
Purchasing services	27	42	37	36	16	38	14.6
Associated travel	—	—	35	—	—	35	45.0
Other	21	*24	62	34	28	31	4.1

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) This table uses the 'purpose of activity' data item. See paragraph 9 in Explanatory Notes

Purpose of activities	LOCATION.....						Participation rate %
	Own Home min/d	Someone else's home min/d	Public place min/d	Commercial min/d	Other min/d	Total(b) min/d	
Voluntary work and care	70	93	54	66	124	109	19.8
Support for adults	67	92	52	58	68	87	13.0
Unpaid voluntary work	71	87	124	98	138	127	4.9
Associated travel	—	—	42	—	—	42	8.9
Other	47	*28	*56	*39	*167	57	0.6
Social and community interaction	39	101	63	93	132	93	48.7
Socialising	63	102	64	129	130	103	11.1
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	33	104	140	72	130	120	4.3
Attendance at sports events	25	—	105	n.p.	157	151	1.2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	43	143	99	119	116	93	5.3
Community participation	32	46	75	68	80	37	24.0
Negative social activities	*14	—	n.p.	—	—	*13	—
Associated travel	—	—	46	—	—	46	27.1
Other	29	42	38	*117	*77	37	1.3
Recreation and leisure	222	113	89	84	104	279	97.0
Sport and outdoor activity	41	56	105	74	119	104	25.6
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	98	115	105	53	111	101	16.0
Reading	69	65	46	45	37	69	36.6
Audio/visual media	155	118	49	109	91	160	82.3
Attendance at recreational courses	78	*69	121	222	131	125	0.8
Other free time(c)	66	71	55	105	70	75	32.4
Talking (including phone)	50	74	36	47	40	66	53.8
Writing/reading own correspondence	33	35	—	*57	*22	33	4.3
Associated travel	—	—	52	—	—	52	17.2
Other	26	*165	n.p.	*10	*112	32	1.2

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) This table uses the 'purpose of activity' data item. See paragraph 9 in Explanatory Notes

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

FOR WHOM.....

Nature of activities	Self	Family	Friend/neighbour	Community	Other	Total	Participation rate
	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	%
Personal care	651	58	—	—	36	665	100.0
Sleeping	515	182	—	—	132	517	99.9
Sleeplessness	77	20	—	—	—	75	1.5
Personal hygiene	49	17	—	—	18	50	94.4
Health care	90	50	—	—	—	90	7.2
Eating and drinking	86	50	—	—	39	95	97.9
Associated travel	15	18	—	—	22	16	1.5
Other	37	32	—	—	—	37	2.0
Employment related	202	208	86	n.p.	432	480	40.8
Main job	356	351	165	—	428	451	37.5
Other job	144	189	—	—	245	199	0.7
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	224	166	—	—	219	221	0.6
Work breaks	30	n.p.	—	—	28	30	0.5
Job search	84	74	*77	—	*48	83	1.6
Associated travel	50	29	29	—	40	57	34.7
Other	31	47	*108	n.p.	45	35	7.3
Education	334	30	40	78	247	332	7.8
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	296	—	—	—	—	296	3.8
Job related training	263	—	—	—	333	294	0.3
Homework/study/research	181	50	*62	91	*48	179	5.6
Breaks at place of education	29	—	—	—	n.p.	28	0.4
Associated travel	64	18	*11	—	45	64	4.6
Other	29	*20	n.p.	*14	n.p.	29	1.9
Domestic activities	94	136	66	64	25	167	84.9
Total housework	66	110	47	71	39	119	77.4
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	41	65	41	86	31	69	71.6
Laundry and clothes care	43	58	41	36	37	58	33.1
Housework	43	53	53	*68	42	55	42.7
Total other household work	69	68	75	53	21	82	53.0
Grounds and animal care	65	62	52	69	20	67	34.4
Home maintenance	81	83	136	*91	42	92	12.7
Household management	26	30	35	43	19	32	27.3
Associated travel	30	39	30	—	27	41	6.4
Other	58	53	71	*69	58	58	4.7
Child care	50	116	70	92	36	128	25.6
Care of children	36	73	42	n.p.	*13	75	17.5
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	36	38	*90	n.p.	n.p.	39	3.1
Playing/reading/talking with child	38	50	*44	n.p.	*37	53	14.6
Minding child	38	67	85	*127	*92	65	6.8
Visiting child care establishment/school	28	29	n.p.	105	—	38	1.9
Associated travel	28	39	21	—	*10	44	10.2
Other	17	19	*10	*12	n.p.	20	4.3
Purchasing goods and services	70	73	39	22	36	87	52.0
Purchasing goods	46	53	33	27	32	54	42.5
Purchasing services	38	30	13	15	24	38	15.1
Associated travel	32	27	26	—	20	35	45.0
Other	29	32	*10	n.p.	*13	31	4.1

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

FOR WHOM.....

Nature of activities	Self	Family	Friend/neighbour	Community	Other	Total	Participation rate
	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	%
Voluntary work and care	42	61	51	98	51	80	11.6
Support for adults	63	70	60	101	79	72	4.0
Unpaid voluntary work	—	—	—	133	—	133	1.8
Associated travel	35	38	34	26	23	42	8.9
Other	26	28	*13	90	n.p.	57	0.6
Social and community interaction	103	72	43	38	57	94	48.9
Socialising	101	94	—	*79	n.p.	103	11.1
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	125	98	n.p.	140	n.p.	121	4.4
Attendance at sports events	167	107	n.p.	47	n.p.	147	1.3
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	84	62	131	120	*67	93	5.3
Community participation	58	55	*31	35	75	39	24.5
Negative social activities	*13	—	—	—	—	*13	—
Associated travel	42	37	30	—	17	46	27.1
Other	32	37	65	57	n.p.	37	1.3
Recreation and leisure	258	80	64	90	54	282	97.0
Sport and outdoor activity	102	86	—	146	92	107	26.1
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	101	79	89	102	84	104	17.0
Reading	69	33	*52	*35	52	69	36.7
Audio/visual media	154	79	119	*46	97	160	82.3
Attendance at recreational courses	126	*79	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	123	0.8
Other free time(b)	76	49	56	*71	43	75	32.4
Communication	60	41	45	29	26	67	55.1
Associated travel	48	45	35	—	102	52	17.2
Other	51	*65	—	—	—	52	0.3

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

WITH WHOM.....

Purpose of activities	WITH WHOM.....							Total(b) min/d	Participation rate %
	Alone min/d	Family in household min/d	Family ex household min/d	Family both in and ex household min/d	Family and friends min/d	Friends only min/d	Other min/d		
Personal care	252	595	161	203	139	129	172	665	100.0
Sleeping	367	495	345	346	295	367	473	517	99.9
Sleeplessness	93	67	—	*88	n.p.	—	*128	75	1.5
Personal hygiene	37	44	29	30	22	27	34	50	94.4
Health care	100	69	41	108	28	51	118	90	7.2
Eating/ and drinking	48	66	59	63	76	63	47	95	97.9
Associated travel	15	18	n.p.	—	*12	*26	16	16	1.5
Other	24	34	n.p.	31	*38	68	52	37	2.0
Employment related	128	93	156	61	107	149	434	480	40.7
Main job	253	159	265	83	142	288	437	451	37.5
Other job	153	112	n.p.	n.p.	*91	*114	219	199	0.7
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	123	191	*218	*183	*59	n.p.	*210	221	0.6
Work breaks	*22	n.p.	—	—	—	*21	33	30	0.5
Job search	85	49	*41	*44	n.p.	63	62	84	1.6
Associated travel	49	32	30	*32	48	40	47	57	34.7
Other	34	24	*16	22	*13	133	64	35	7.3
Education	101	127	110	72	63	306	209	333	7.7
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	123	128	—	—	n.p.	296	246	296	3.8
Job related training	*106	*120	—	—	—	*117	349	294	0.3
Homework/study/research	140	142	135	77	99	195	165	180	5.5
Breaks at place of education	n.p.	n.p.	—	—	—	30	26	28	0.4
Associated travel	46	28	*34	n.p.	31	46	47	64	4.6
Other	31	23	n.p.	n.p.	*56	35	29	29	1.9
Domestic activities	105	136	72	75	57	55	65	161	84.3
Total housework	85	104	62	63	53	42	53	119	77.4
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	44	62	44	47	43	33	34	68	71.1
Laundry and clothes care	48	53	39	37	36	29	38	58	32.7
Housework	51	49	31	34	36	36	47	54	42.3
Total other household work	58	71	51	56	40	57	53	81	54.2
Grounds and animal care	58	60	47	55	36	35	43	66	33.8
Home maintenance	70	79	91	79	57	89	87	85	12.0
Household management	23	28	20	28	28	42	23	30	26.3
Associated travel	25	32	35	29	20	42	28	41	6.4
Other	55	54	106	45	35	58	65	58	4.6
Child care	23	111	58	66	58	34	34	124	24.8
Care of children	n.p.	73	40	46	34	*36	39	76	16.9
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	—	37	*69	52	31	—	*41	38	3.0
Playing/reading/talking with child	*15	48	53	46	43	42	24	52	14.1
Minding child	—	50	62	67	64	*34	57	60	6.2
Visiting child care establishment/school	*9	19	n.p.	*23	45	51	26	31	1.7
Associated travel	23	32	27	22	23	19	33	44	10.2
Other	21	18	*12	21	17	*10	15	19	4.2
Purchasing goods and services	49	76	78	70	62	63	45	86	51.8
Purchasing goods	39	58	73	66	51	50	35	53	41.6
Purchasing services	23	28	30	29	34	32	42	38	14.6
Associated travel	26	33	33	31	37	33	28	35	45.0
Other	25	35	31	28	20	35	30	31	4.1

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) This table uses the 'purpose of activity' data item. See paragraph 9 in Explanatory Notes

WITH WHOM.....

Purpose of activities	Alone	Family in household	Family ex household	Family both in and ex household	Family and friends	Friends only	Other	Total(b)	Participation rate
	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	min/d	%
Voluntary work and care	46	59	83	80	75	95	90	109	19.8
Support for adults	53	55	88	86	64	83	60	87	13.0
Unpaid voluntary work	63	70	38	49	116	130	136	127	4.9
Associated travel	30	32	33	28	24	34	26	42	8.9
Other	31	53	*46	n.p.	*25	53	95	57	0.6
Social and community interaction	36	52	72	66	96	117	64	93	48.7
Socialising	n.p.	93	69	82	95	108	89	103	11.1
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	64	104	119	100	132	138	94	120	4.3
Attendance at sports events	68	116	*115	103	123	174	140	151	1.2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	43	63	68	72	123	102	93	93	5.3
Community participation	27	32	36	29	34	92	45	37	24.0
Negative social activities	*13	n.p.	—	—	—	—	—	*13	—
Associated travel	32	42	41	36	36	43	32	46	27.1
Other	25	26	*23	*24	47	57	54	37	1.3
Recreation and leisure	142	197	102	102	105	149	114	279	97.0
Sport and outdoor activity	68	70	100	76	113	136	86	104	25.6
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	86	90	82	70	111	114	67	101	16.0
Reading	69	63	50	49	60	40	54	69	36.6
Audio/visual media	130	141	91	94	98	123	135	160	82.3
Attendance at recreational courses	77	68	n.p.	n.p.	*87	160	136	125	0.8
Other free time(c)	64	60	65	56	80	98	65	75	32.4
Talking (including phone)	35	37	55	54	60	67	37	66	53.8
Writing/reading own correspondence	33	31	*49	31	*27	*34	42	33	4.3
Associated travel	35	50	54	45	*36	48	56	52	17.2
Other	22	29	n.p.	*15	*20	110	25	32	1.2

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) This table uses the 'purpose of activity' data item. See paragraph 9 in Explanatory Notes

(c) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

	Personal care	Employment	Education	Domestic	Child care	Purchasing	Voluntary work and care	Social and community interaction	Recreation and leisure(b)
MALES									
Life cycle stages									
Couples with dependent children	624	360	8	94	46	32	16	35	219
Couples with non-dependent children	668	253	**4	119	*2	44	20	36	287
Lone parents	668	*170	—	148	*18	39	*40	43	310
Couples without children	678	216	3	117	3	40	23	40	316
Lone persons	647	211	*8	123	6	43	26	48	325
Neither parent nor partner	688	194	83	45	2	25	13	57	327
Country of birth									
Australia	656	267	25	91	16	32	20	43	285
Other main English-speaking countries	644	260	12	109	18	44	19	36	294
Other	681	235	25	97	19	41	12	46	280
Region									
Major urban	658	258	26	89	17	37	17	45	287
Other urban	661	243	20	99	15	30	24	41	304
Rural	657	301	19	105	14	31	19	35	253
Total annual cash income									
Negative income	625	*474	n.p.	*77	*45	*26	**14	*27	*151
\$1–999	692	*64	*112	95	*8	*20	*24	85	339
\$1 000–1 999	692	*44	216	55	n.p.	*33	*10	24	350
\$2 000–4 999	720	79	164	60	*15	17	*10	47	319
\$5 000–7 499	700	102	*29	104	9	52	22	54	365
\$7 500–9 999	711	60	15	141	11	44	26	42	382
\$10 000–14 999	690	150	*19	116	13	38	21	55	334
\$15 000–19 999	656	263	*8	99	16	31	29	37	293
\$20 000–24 999	651	327	*8	91	15	35	17	36	257
\$25 000–29 999	630	372	*5	83	14	34	15	39	245
\$30 000–34 999	623	378	*4	83	18	29	22	36	242
\$35 000–39 999	632	382	*2	83	19	28	19	41	230
\$40 000–49 999	620	374	*2	88	24	34	18	38	241
\$50 000–79 999	611	403	*5	81	29	33	15	37	222
\$80 000 or more	620	386	**4	85	23	38	*15	42	225
Occupation									
Managers and administrators	626	418	*3	72	22	35	11	37	210
Professional	626	357	8	89	27	37	22	44	225
Associate professional	621	418	*12	66	21	24	14	37	222
Tradespersons and related workers	627	395	*6	72	19	26	11	36	242
Advanced clerical and service workers	635	458	n.p.	*45	*16	*27	**30	*24	184
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	625	370	*19	71	14	35	20	45	239
Intermediate production and transport workers	635	374	*9	90	14	29	15	31	240
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	662	273	67	56	*6	26	16	45	284
Labourers and related workers	655	318	21	77	13	29	25	43	255
Educational qualifications									
Higher degree	636	312	*26	89	39	45	*25	38	229
Post graduate diploma	644	313	**4	105	*26	43	*37	47	218
Bachelor degree	632	322	16	86	25	41	23	45	246
Undergraduate diploma	645	262	n.p.	99	20	43	37	58	276
Associate diploma	629	310	*21	103	22	37	14	40	262
Skilled vocational	642	303	3	110	20	35	18	38	266
Basic vocational	645	316	*15	79	*12	29	*17	55	268
All males	658	261	24	94	16	35	19	43	286

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

	<i>Personal care</i>	<i>Employment</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Child care</i>	<i>Purchasing</i>	<i>Voluntary work and care</i>	<i>Social and community interaction</i>	<i>Recreation and leisure(b)</i>
FEMALES									
Life cycle stages									
Couples with dependent children	637	133	6	219	120	60	20	44	195
Couples with non-dependent children	667	124	—	240	*6	67	28	42	264
Lone parents	670	118	14	186	76	52	23	48	240
Couples without children	687	133	6	195	4	52	29	48	282
Lone persons	682	100	*11	163	4	53	35	48	338
Neither parent nor partner	696	148	133	68	5	43	12	57	273
Country of birth									
Australia	670	134	27	172	45	53	26	48	259
Other main English-speaking countries	658	127	19	187	50	59	21	43	270
Other	681	124	38	191	41	53	20	48	239
Region									
Major urban	672	137	32	166	44	56	22	49	257
Other urban	672	112	21	188	46	49	28	46	273
Rural	663	141	19	208	50	51	28	45	228
Total annual cash income									
Negative income	651	*103	—	*206	*136	*63	*43	*50	*189
\$1–999	685	*31	117	177	*47	49	*26	38	267
\$1 000–1 999	647	*37	*45	216	115	59	26	57	235
\$2 000–4 999	683	38	66	178	97	52	21	49	250
\$5 000–7 499	678	58	38	192	57	59	31	53	270
\$7 500–9 999	711	22	9	209	20	48	33	46	336
\$10 000–14 999	673	95	20	185	45	60	28	50	275
\$15 000–19 999	651	169	16	179	63	54	18	42	241
\$20 000–24 999	655	251	*8	155	41	52	19	46	208
\$25 000–29 999	650	275	*5	159	41	50	15	47	198
\$30 000–34 999	640	301	*4	126	36	55	18	46	212
\$35 000–39 999	623	313	*13	131	28	62	20	43	204
\$40 000–49 999	640	294	*10	137	30	60	26	34	208
\$50 000–79 999	646	290	n.p.	136	*11	57	29	56	206
\$80 000 or more	689	*238	n.p.	165	*71	*44	*16	*56	156
Occupation									
Managers and administrators	670	239	*15	205	*42	56	*12	41	157
Professional	636	262	14	147	48	58	25	43	203
Associate professional	642	301	*9	139	36	58	14	52	188
Tradespersons and related workers	656	267	n.p.	143	40	58	*10	38	218
Advanced clerical and service workers	645	229	**3	169	51	59	26	49	208
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	651	263	16	140	34	51	19	46	213
Intermediate production and transport workers	653	290	n.p.	145	*25	57	*9	35	216
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	668	208	70	116	27	42	20	44	240
Labourers and related workers	666	228	*10	162	27	48	22	45	227
Educational qualifications									
Higher degree	660	*149	*27	160	57	58	*38	57	230
Post graduate diploma	622	253	*25	142	63	50	39	46	200
Bachelor degree	649	211	27	144	46	62	28	49	221
Undergraduate diploma	649	153	*8	191	52	56	28	52	250
Associate diploma	669	213	33	148	63	49	19	42	201
Skilled vocational	664	160	*7	181	56	56	21	48	242
Basic vocational	666	153	*8	179	43	63	25	47	252
All females	671	132	28	177	45	54	24	48	257

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory notes.

AGE (YEARS).....

<i>Purpose of activities (major level)</i>	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
MALES							
Personal care	688	642	625	635	674	715	658
Employment related	192	357	352	331	193	28	261
Education	97	14	6	*5	—	—	24
Domestic	39	71	92	104	135	165	94
Child care	2	26	38	12	6	3	16
Purchasing goods and services	25	30	30	39	46	49	35
Voluntary work and care	12	13	24	16	24	30	19
Social and community interaction	53	40	37	40	46	41	43
Recreation and leisure(b)	326	242	233	2 53	314	400	286
Undescribed	5	4	4	5	*4	7	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
FEMALES							
Personal care	691	653	642	661	682	711	671
Employment related	150	178	165	175	65	*5	132
Education	123	15	10	*4	**2	—	28
Domestic	71	161	206	208	226	214	177
Child care	20	107	80	14	10	5	45
Purchasing goods and services	45	53	59	63	56	48	54
Voluntary work and care	13	17	21	31	44	28	24
Social and community interaction	56	44	44	46	55	43	48
Recreation and leisure(b)	263	206	209	233	297	377	257
Undescribed	8	6	3	5	*4	7	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
PERSONS							
Personal care	689	648	633	648	678	713	665
Employment related	172	265	259	253	131	15	196
Education	110	14	8	5	*1	—	26
Domestic	55	117	148	156	179	193	136
Child care	11	67	59	13	8	4	31
Purchasing goods and services	35	42	44	51	50	49	45
Voluntary work and care	13	15	23	23	33	29	22
Social and community interaction	55	42	40	43	50	42	45
Recreation and leisure(b)	295	223	221	243	305	387	271
Undescribed	7	5	4	5	4	7	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

AGE (YEARS).....

<i>Purpose of activities (major level)</i>	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65 and over	Total
MALES							
Personal care	688	642	625	635	674	715	658
Employment related	475	537	541	521	473	345	515
Education	367	294	207	339	*69	*52	337
Domestic	67	99	116	129	161	182	124
Child care	58	91	89	75	76	73	86
Purchasing goods and services	68	71	68	84	89	91	77
Voluntary work and care	91	108	142	102	112	138	117
Social and community interaction	107	98	87	94	102	99	98
Recreation and leisure(b)	337	252	240	263	324	403	295
FEMALES							
Personal care	691	653	642	661	682	711	671
Employment related	418	448	405	441	385	265	424
Education	377	249	202	189	*360	*62	329
Domestic	91	173	213	214	235	223	191
Child care	154	185	133	89	78	100	147
Purchasing goods and services	85	88	89	101	96	99	92
Voluntary work and care	70	92	90	124	126	117	104
Social and community interaction	96	80	79	92	101	94	89
Recreation and leisure(b)	271	216	216	240	303	379	264
PERSONS							
Personal care	689	648	633	648	678	713	665
Employment related	449	503	489	490	449	326	480
Education	373	269	204	254	*219	59	333
Domestic	80	142	169	176	199	206	161
Child care	136	155	115	82	77	90	124
Purchasing goods and services	78	81	81	94	92	95	86
Voluntary work and care	79	98	112	116	120	126	109
Social and community interaction	101	88	82	93	102	97	93
Recreation and leisure(b)	304	234	228	251	314	389	279

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

<i>Purpose of activities (major level)</i>	<i>January– February</i>	<i>April– May</i>	<i>June– July</i>	<i>October– November</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALES					
Personal care	649	668	668	650	658
Employment related	276	232	272	264	261
Education	16	25	16	37	24
Domestic	98	98	85	94	94
Child care	14	16	16	19	16
Purchasing goods and services	37	31	37	34	35
Voluntary work and care	22	18	17	18	19
Social and community interaction	41	46	39	45	43
Recreation and leisure(b)	283	300	287	273	286
Undescribed	4	6	4	6	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
FEMALES					
Personal care	663	673	681	666	671
Employment related	142	119	138	128	132
Education	16	38	20	38	28
Domestic	173	179	172	182	177
Child care	48	45	41	45	45
Purchasing goods and services	57	51	54	54	54
Voluntary work and care	28	23	23	23	24
Social and community interaction	47	48	44	52	48
Recreation and leisure(b)	263	258	260	245	257
Undescribed	2	6	7	7	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440
PERSONS					
Personal care	656	671	674	658	665
Employment related	208	175	204	195	196
Education	16	31	18	38	26
Domestic	136	139	129	138	136
Child care	31	31	29	32	31
Purchasing goods and services	47	41	46	45	45
Voluntary work and care	25	21	20	20	22
Social and community interaction	44	47	42	48	45
Recreation and leisure(b)	273	278	273	259	271
Undescribed	3	6	5	7	5
Total	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440	1 440

(a) Units are average time shown in minutes per day.

(b) Includes interaction with pets. See paragraph 10 in the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents statistics compiled from data collected by a questionnaire and two day diary in the 1997 Time Use Survey. The 1997 survey was the second time use survey conducted in Australia. The first such survey was conducted in 1992.

2 The major aims of the 1997 Time Use Survey were:

- to measure the daily activity patterns of people in Australia to establish a basic Australian time use profile;
- to study the differences in patterns of paid work and unpaid household and community work by sex and other characteristics;
- to make comparisons with the 1992 survey to identify changes in patterns of time use;
- to measure the productive activities of households; the ABS will, again, derive a monetary value for time spent on all forms of unpaid work to update measures that assist analysis of the national accounts for the household sector.

3 The survey also provides information on time spent caring for people with disabilities and frail older people, caring for children, community participation, including voluntary work, leisure activities, fitness and health activities, travel, use of technology, and outsourcing of domestic tasks.

CONDUCT OF THE SURVEY

4 The survey was conducted over four 13-day periods in 1997, as follows:

- Monday 27 January to Saturday 8 February 1997;
- Monday 21 April to Saturday 3 May 1997;
- Monday 23 June to Saturday 5 July 1997;
- Monday 27 October to Saturday 8 November 1997.

CHANGES SINCE THE 1992 SURVEY

5 The main differences from the 1992 survey in the data collected were:

- the introduction of a 'for whom' column to the diary;
- an additional question which placed labour force data from the diaries into the context of a working week;
- the introduction of 'time stress' questions which aimed to identify why people feel they are rushed or have too much time;
- collection of data on the presence of selected household durables/appliances in the household;
- collection of information on the ways in which households purchase time from others (i.e. meals out, takeaway food, child care, and a number of other domestic services etc.);
- tertiary activities (e.g. the third of three activities being done concurrently) were no longer coded;
- the age and sex of children aged under 15 years were collected;
- details of modes of communication and use of technology were collected;
- details about who people speak to on the phone were no longer collected.

6 In addition, the 1997 Time Use Survey used new ABS standard collection modules in the questionnaire. These modules covered topics such as income, education and the labour force. Notwithstanding these changes, a high level of comparability with 1992 survey results has been achieved.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

CHANGES SINCE THE 1992 SURVEY *continued*

7 A new activity classification was used for the 1997 survey. This defines activities in terms of the nature (or action) of the activity and removes additional concepts of who the activity was done with or for to supplementary classifications. The main effects on the data are that socialising and voluntary work are coded to the activity taking place (e.g. eating, preparing food). The 'purpose of the activity' information, shown in the tables, is derived using the 'for whom' data in conjunction with the new activity classification (see appendix 1).

8 This 'purpose of activity' information allows comparison of data on voluntary work and care activities with 1992. Direct comparisons for socialising are more complex, but can be derived using 'who with' data, providing assumptions are made about the concept of socialising.

9 Communication in 1997 was coded in a different way from 1992 because of the changes made to the activity classification. In 1997, the communication/technology supplementary classification allows the coding of communication episodes to the activity being discussed. For example, if the respondent recorded that he or she phoned his or her daughter to ask her to bring in the washing, this would be coded to 'bringing in and hanging out the washing' with a communication/technology code of 'phone'. To allow for direct comparisons with 1992 data (tables 1–7), the 'purpose of the activity' data for these episodes of communication have been reclassified to correspond with the 1992 communication codes which are contained in the 'other' category in each major group in the tables. The 'purpose of the activity' data is classified (using the 1997 activity classification) for all other tables except tables 1–7, 14 and 26.

10 In the 1997 classification 'Pet care' was split into two categories 'Pet care' and 'Interaction with pets'. The first of these categories was included in 'Grounds and animal care' in Domestic Activities and 'Interaction with pets' is included in 'Other free time' in Recreation and Leisure. This is how these categories are represented in tables 8–31. To maintain comparability with 1992, both categories ('Pet care' and 'Interaction with pets'.) are include in 'Grounds and animal care' in Domestic Activities for tables 1–7.

SCOPE

11 Information was collected from usual residents in private dwellings, except:

- certain non-Australian diplomatic personnel;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

12 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.

COVERAGE RULES

13 Coverage rules were designed to ensure that, as far as possible, persons remaining within the scope of the survey had only one chance of being selected. Usual residents of selected private dwellings were included in the survey if they were staying at, or had stayed at, the selected dwelling for any part of that quarter's enumeration period.

14 Usual residents who were absent from the dwelling for the whole collection fortnight were excluded.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COVERAGE RULES *CONTINUED*

15 Visitors who usually lived in a private dwelling were included in the survey only if they had not been at their own usual dwelling for any part of the enumeration period.

SAMPLE SELECTION

16 Over 4,500 households (8,600 people) were included in the sample. A special sample design was used to ensure even coverage of days of the week in each collection period.

17 The survey was conducted on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats etc.). Area-based selection ensures that all sections of the population living in private dwellings are represented. The sample was selected to ensure that each dwelling had an equal probability of selection.

18 All persons within the selected dwellings were included in the survey, subject to scope and coverage provisions. The selection methods were designed to achieve, as far as practical, a known and equal chance of selection for each person. Different States and regions were allocated sample roughly in proportion to their population so that accurate national estimates could be obtained. A detailed description of the sample design can be found in the *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0)

METHODOLOGY

19 Information was obtained in the Time Use Survey partly by interview and partly by self-completion diaries. Trained ABS interviewers collected information from an adult member of the selected household for all persons aged 15 years or more in the household. A diary was then left for each of these persons to record their activities over two specified days.

20 A household form and personal questionnaire were completed at the initial visit, with information provided by a responsible adult member of the household. The interviewer instructed the contact person on when and how to complete the diary and provided a diary for each person in scope in the household.

21 The household form was used to collect basic demographic data (sex, age, birthplace) and details of the relationship between individuals in each household. This form was also used to apply scope and coverage rules and to record details of calls by the interviewer to the household and the subsequent response status of the household (e.g. fully responding, refusal, vacant dwelling).

22 The personal questionnaire concentrated on further demographic and socio-economic information about each household person in scope, to identify population groups. To ensure consistency of approach, interviewers were instructed to ask the interview questions exactly as worded in the questionnaire, including those used in association with 'prompt cards'.

23 The diary was designed to collect information on a respondent's activities, their nature, timing and duration. Instructions and two completed sample pages at the beginning of the diary gave respondents an idea of the type of information and level of detail required. The diary was divided into two separate days, with fixed intervals of five-minutes covering 24 hours from 12 am. Five columns with question headings organised responses into main and simultaneous activities, for whom the activity was done, who else was there and where the activity took place. Diaries were collected by the interviewer on a return visit.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

DATA PROCESSING

24 The diaries required an intensive clerical process. The processing task involved sorting the reported activities into episodes, editing where necessary and recording episodes into a database using a tailored microcomputer system. An episode contains the following elements:

- a start and finish time;
- a main activity;
- a simultaneous activity;
- a person or group 'for whom' the activity is done;
- a location;
- a mode of transport for travel items;
- a technology/communication code where relevant;
- who was with the respondent; and
- the age and health details of any household people present.

25 The data entry system contained a look-up list of activities and detailed category screens to make it easier for consistency in coding. There were also interactive range and logical edits. These detected unacceptable values and ensured that certain fields were appropriately coded. Diary coding was also checked regularly to ensure correct and consistent coding. A more detailed description of data processing can be found in the *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0).

DATA ITEMS

26 Basic demographic and socio-economic characteristics were collected. These included age, sex, birthplace, employment, education and income. Information on the activities in which people engaged and the time they spent on them was collected by diary. The activity list in the tables indicate the type of activity information collected. Further disaggregation is possible for some items depending on the participation rate. A complete activity classification and more detailed description of data items is available in the *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0).

ESTIMATION PROCEDURES

27 Estimates obtained from the survey were derived using a complex ratio estimation procedure. This ensures that survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the total population by sex, age, employment and region (rather than the sex, age, employment and region within the sample itself). Population distributions appropriate to each collection period were used in the estimation process. An adjustment to weights was carried out to deal with differences in non-response and sampling fractions for each State.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

28 Information presented in this publication is essentially as reported by survey respondents. There may have been some instances of under-reporting as a consequence of survey respondents being unwilling to report particular activities, for example, smoking, personal hygiene, criminal activities.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

28 Publications from the 1997 Time Use Survey include *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0) and *Time Use Survey, Australia, Confidentialised Unit Record File*. (Cat. no. 4152.0)

29 Details of the availability of other publications and unpublished data services for time use can be found in the *Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide* (Cat. no. 4150.0).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ACTIVITY ASPECTS

30 An activity can be categorised in many different ways, to reflect different aspects of time use. There are the actual motions or the nature of the activities, but also the intent or purpose. The addition of a 'Who did you do this for?' ('for whom') column in the diary of the 1997 survey provided direct information on the purpose of an activity. Activities which can be recorded as 'helping', 'caring' or 'unpaid community services' are not always reported at the 'intent or purpose' level. In fact they consist of, and are usually described in terms of, a wide range of specific acts such as visiting, cooking, nursing, lending books, washing clothes, moving furniture, organising fundraising.

31 The table in Appendix 1 shows the differences between average time for activities categorised by the nature or action of the activity and the average time for activities categorised by their purpose using the 'for whom' information. The differences are small, except for the voluntary work and care activities.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
min/d	minutes per day
n.a.	not applicable
n.e.c	not elsewhere classified
n.f.d	not further defined
n.p.	Not available for publication but included in table totals where applicable
RSE	relative standard error
SE	standard error
*	Estimates of relative standard error between 25% and 50%
**	Estimates of relative standard error greater than 50%
—	nil or rounded to zero

APPENDIX Nature and Purpose Comparison

MAIN ACTIVITIES, All Persons

<i>Main activities</i>	<i>Nature of activities</i>	<i>Purpose of activities</i>
	Persons	Persons
	min/d	min/d
Personal care	665	665
Sleeping	516	516
Sleeplessness	1	1
Personal hygiene	47	47
Health care	7	7
Eating/drinking	93	93
Associated travel	—	—
Other	1	1
Employment related	196	196
Main job	169	169
Other job	1	1
Unpaid work in a family business or farm	1	1
Work breaks	—	—
Job search	1	1
Associated travel	20	20
Other	3	3
Education	26	26
Attendance at educational courses (excluding job related training)	11	11
Job related training	1	1
Homework/study/research	10	10
Breaks at place of education	—	—
Associated travel	3	3
Other	1	1
Domestic activities	141	136
Total housework	92	92
Food and drink preparation/cleanup	50	48
Laundry and clothes care	19	19
Housework	24	23
Total other household work	43	44
Grounds/animal care	23	22
Home maintenance	12	10
Household management	9	8
Associated travel	3	3
Other	3	3
Child care	33	31
Care of children	13	13
Teaching/helping/reprimanding	1	1
Playing/reading/talking with child	8	7
Minding child	4	4
Visiting child care establishment/school	1	1
Associated travel	5	5
Other	1	1
Purchasing goods and services	46	45
Purchasing goods	23	22
Purchasing services	6	5
Associated travel	16	16
Other	1	1

APPENDIX Nature and Purpose Comparison *continued*

MAIN ACTIVITIES, All Persons

<i>Main activities</i>	<i>Nature of activities</i>	<i>Purpose of activities</i>
	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>min/d</i>	<i>min/d</i>
Voluntary work and care	9	22
Support for adults	3	11
Unpaid voluntary work	2	6
Associated travel	4	4
Other	—	—
Social and community interaction	46	45
Socialising	11	11
Visiting entertainment and cultural venues	5	5
Attendance at sports events	2	2
Religious activities/ritual ceremonies	5	5
Community participation	10	9
Negative social activities	—	—
Associated travel	13	13
Other	—	—
Recreation and leisure	274	271
Sport and outdoor activity	28	27
Games/hobbies/arts/crafts	18	16
Reading	25	25
Audio/visual media	131	131
Attendance at recreational courses	1	1
Other free time	24	24
Communication	37	36
Associated travel	9	9
Other	—	—
Undescribed	5	5

TECHNICAL NOTES

ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

Estimates from the survey are derived using a procedure which combines information collected in the course of the survey (in responses to the survey, and concerning propensity of selected sample units to respond), with independently available information concerning the underlying populations. As a result, survey estimates of population conform to the published population estimates at the Australian age-sex level and at State and Territory by part-of-State level.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

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 the figures 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 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 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.

Space does not allow for the separate indication of the SEs of all estimates contained within publications. A table of SEs and RSEs for estimates of numbers of persons and for average time for this survey is given in the SE table. These figures will not give a precise measure of the SE for a particular estimate but will provide an indication of its magnitude.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATES OF PERSON AND HOUSEHOLD COUNTS

If a national estimate for the number of people doing educational activities is 1,082,108, using the table below, the SE is calculated as follows:

- The size of the estimate lies between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000. The corresponding SEs for these two numbers in table T1 are 41,360 and 55,850.
- The SE for 1,082,108 is calculated by interpolation using the following formula:
$$\begin{aligned} \text{SE} &= \text{lower SE} + ((\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower size}) / (\text{upper size} - \text{lower size})) \times \\ &\quad (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \\ &= 41,360 + ((1,082,108 - 1,000,000) / (2,000,000 - 1,000,000)) \times \\ &\quad (41,360 - 55,850) \\ &= 42,550 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range of 1,039,558 to 1,124,658 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 997,008 to 1,167,208.

As can be seen from the SE table, the smaller the estimate the higher the RSE. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high SEs (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables for this publication, only estimates with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs, between 25% and less than 50%, have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (eg. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of 50% or more are preceded with a double asterisk (eg. **3.4). Such estimates are considered unreliable for most uses.

STANDARD ERRORS OF RATES AND PERCENTAGES

Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling error. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. The formula for the RSE of a proportion or percentage is given below.

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

The SE of an estimated percentage or rate, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends on both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the RSE of the estimated percentage or rate will generally be lower than the RSE of the estimate of the numerator.

The difference between two survey estimates is itself an estimate and is therefore subject to sampling variability. The SE of the difference between two survey estimates depends on the SEs of the original estimates and on the relationship (correlation) between the two original estimates. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated using the following formula:

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

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics or sub-populations, it is expected to provide a good enough approximation for all of the differences likely to be of interest.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF AVERAGE TIME SPENT

Two types of time estimates are used in this publication: average time spent on a specific activity by all persons (participants as well as non-participants) and average time spent on the same activity by participants only. As in person count estimates, space does not allow separate indication of the SEs of all the estimates in the publication. Estimation of approximate SEs requires different methods, described below, depending upon the type of estimate (average) and the type of activity. It should be noted that, before a SE for average time spent on an activity can be calculated, the estimate of the number of participants in the activity (not given in the tables of the publication) must be determined.

Standard error for average time use by all persons

These are split into two groups.

GROUP 1: ALL ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN PERSONAL CARE AND SLEEPING

The RSE for estimates in this case is equal to the RSE for number of participants in the activity. That is,

$$RSE(\text{average time by all persons}) = RSE(\text{number of participants}).$$

The SE of estimates is equal to the RSE multiplied by the size of estimate. In other words,

$$SE(\text{average time}) = RSE(\text{average time}) \times (\text{estimated average time})$$

Consider the estimate of average time spent by all persons on education of 26 minutes per day. The corresponding estimate of the number of persons who participated in education is 1,082,108. Using table T1, RSE% of the estimate of 1,082,108 is interpolated as 3.9%. According to the above relation, the RSE of the estimate of average time spent on education by all persons equals the RSE of the estimate of number of persons who participated in education. Thus:

$$RSE(\text{average time spent by all persons}) \text{ is } 0.039 \text{ or } 3.9\%.$$

The SE of the average time spent by all persons on education is then
 = 0.039 x 26 = 1.01 minutes per day.

Standard error for average time use by all persons *continued*

Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the average education time will fall in the range of 24.99 to 27.01 minutes had all the dwellings been included in the survey and about 19 chances in 20 that it will fall within the range of 23.98 to 28.02 minutes.

GROUP 2: PERSONAL CARE AND SLEEPING ONLY

The RSE for estimates relating to these two activities can be calculated as,

$$\text{RSE (average time by all persons)} = 0.20 \times \text{RSE (number of participants)}.$$

Consider the estimate of average time spent on sleeping by all females of 517 minutes on any average day. The corresponding estimate of the number of females who participated in 'sleeping' is 7,111,252. The RSE% for the estimate of 7,111,252 is now 1.3% (using table T1). So the RSE% for average time spent on sleeping by all persons is then

$$= 1.3\% \times 0.20 = 0.26\%.$$

The SE of the average time spent on sleeping is thus:

$$= 0.0026 \times 517$$

$$= 1.34 \text{ minutes per day.}$$

Standard error for average time use by participants only

SEs for estimates of this type are split into three groups.

GROUP 1: PERSONAL CARE AND SLEEPING ONLY

The RSE for average time spent by participants only for the above two activities is the same as the RSE for average time by all persons. That is,

$$\text{RSE (average time spent by participants only)} = 0.2 \times \text{RSE (number of participants)}.$$

The method of calculation of the SE is the same as all persons group 2 above.

GROUP 2 : EMPLOYMENT RELATED AND MAIN JOB ONLY

For these two activities, the RSE for average time spent by participants only is to be derived from table T2. Consider the estimate of the number of females who participated in 'main job' of 1,993,143. The estimate of average time spent on main job by these participants is 401 minutes. Using table T2, the RSE% corresponding to the estimate of 1,993,143 is then 1.0%. Thus, RSE% of average time spent on main job by female participants only is 1.0%. The SE for average time spent on main job by each participant is thus

$$= 401 \times 0.01$$

$$= 4.01 \text{ minutes per day.}$$

GROUP 3: ALL ACTIVITIES EXCLUDING GROUP ONE AND GROUP TWO

For all activities in this group, the RSE for average time spent by participants only should be derived using table T3. All calculations are similar to those described for activities in participants group 2.

TECHNICAL NOTES *continued*

T1 STANDARD ERROR FOR ESTIMATES, Persons

Size of estimate	SE	RSE
	no.	%
1 500	1 550	103.3
1 600	1 610	100.5
1 700	1 660	97.9
1 800	1 720	95.5
1 900	1 770	93.3
2 000	1 820	91.2
2 100	1 880	89.3
2 200	1 920	87.5
2 300	1 970	85.8
2 400	2 020	84.2
2 500	2 070	82.7
3 000	2 290	76.3
3 500	2 490	71.3
4 000	2 680	67.1
4 500	2 860	63.6
5 000	3 030	60.7
6 000	3 350	55.8
8 000	3 910	48.9
10 000	4 410	44.1
20 000	6 340	31.7
30 000	7 820	26.1
40 000	9 040	22.6
50 000	10 120	20.2
100 000	14 240	14.2
200 000	19 850	9.9
300 000	24 000	8.0
400 000	27 400	6.9
500 000	30 340	6.1
1 000 000	41 360	4.1
2 000 000	55 850	2.8
5 000 000	81 850	1.6
10 000 000	108 070	1.1

TECHNICAL NOTES *continued*

T2 STANDARD ERROR FOR ESTIMATES,
Employment Related and Main Job only

Size of estimate	<i>RSE</i> %
8 000	34.1
9 000	31.2
10 000	28.9
12 000	25.2
14 000	22.6
16 000	20.5
18 000	18.8
20 000	17.5
25 000	14.9
30 000	13.1
35 000	11.8
40 000	10.7
45 000	9.9
50 000	9.2
75 000	7.0
100 000	5.8
150 000	5.0
200 000	3.7
300 000	2.9
400 000	2.5
500 000	2.2
750 000	1.7
1 000 000	1.4
2 000 000	1.0
3 000 000	0.8
4 000 000	0.7
5 000 000	0.6
10 000 000	0.4

T3 STANDARD ERROR FOR ESTIMATES(a)

<i>Size of estimate</i>	<i>RSE</i> %
3 000	31.9
3 500	31.0
4 000	30.1
4 500	29.4
5 000	28.7
6 000	27.5
8 000	25.6
10 000	24.2
15 000	21.6
20 000	19.8
30 000	17.3
40 000	15.7
50 000	14.5
75 000	12.4
100 000	11.0
150 000	9.3
200 000	8.1
300 000	6.7
400 000	5.8
500 000	5.2
1 000 000	3.6
2 000 000	2.4
3 000 000	1.9
4 000 000	1.5
5 000 000	1.3
10 000 000	0.8

(a) For estimate of average time spent by participants for activities excluding personal care, sleeping, employment related and main job only.

GLOSSARY

Activities	The description of particular tasks that were being done during a person's day.
Activity episode	Describes all the things a person was doing which related to a particular activity; for whom, where, and who else was there, at any particular time. A change in any of these elements identified a new activity episode.
Activity type	A described activity is coded to a different activity type depending on whether it was described in the first diary column 'What was your main activity' or in the third diary column 'What else were you doing at the same time'. If it was described as a main activity it is stored on the computer file as the item Primary Activity. If the description occurred in diary column 3, it was stored as the item Secondary Activity.
All persons	Refers to the whole population of the particular group being examined, for instance, the whole population of Australians, or of males, or of women in full-time employment. There are only a few activities that everybody does every day. Most activities are done by different numbers of people. In order to compare times between different countries or groups of people, the time spent on activities by the people who reported doing them was distributed over the whole population, and presented as average time spent by all persons.
Average time spent	The time spent by each person on a particular activity in a day was added to the time spent on that activity by everyone else. For 'average time spent by all persons', divide the total time spent on an activity, by the whole population (see 'All persons'). For 'average time spent by participants' divide the total time spent on an activity by the number of persons engaged in that activity.
Caring for adults	This activity category included physical care and emotional support as well as any other activities done for anyone outside the household who was sick, frail or who had a disability.
Child	A person of any age who is a natural, adopted, step, or foster son or daughter of a couple or lone parent, usually resident in the same household. A child is also any individual aged under 15 years, usually resident in the household, who forms a parent-child relationship with another member in the household and who does not have a child or partner of their own usually resident in the household. For the purpose of asking about the presence of a child with disabilities in the household, a child is defined as aged under 15 years; for questions about use of child care, the relevant age is under 12 years.
Child care activities	A major activity classification group which relates to all activities done for children aged under 15 years. It contains activities such as the physical and emotional care of children, teaching, reprimanding, playing with and talking to children. It also includes minding children and visiting child care establishments or schools.
Committed time	See Types of time.
Communications/technology	When a person reported any type of communication or use of technology in their diary, a communication/technology code was used to describe how a person was communicating with others (e.g. in person, by phone, fax, writing, using an automatic teller machine etc.).
Contracted time	See Types of time.

- Couple** A family based on two persons who are in registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. The family may include any number of dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals. It is not necessary for a parent-child relationship to be formed, thus a couple family can consist of a couple without children present in the household. A same sex couple is not classified as a couple for output purposes. Such people would appear as 'unrelated individuals' in a family or group household.
- Dependent child** An individual who is either a *child aged under 15 years* or a *dependent student*, who may be any child in a family who is under 15 years of age or aged 15–24 years, who is a full-time student. To be regarded as a child, the individual can have no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the household. A dependent child must be attached to a nominal parent with whom she or he usually resides. This parent must be over 15 years of age.
- Domestic activities** A major activity classification group. (See Housework and Total other household work.)
- Education activities** A major activity classification group which includes activities that are educational in nature such as attending educational courses, job related training (including time spent at professional conferences), studying and breaks at the place of education. In 1997, it does not include eating lunch or morning or afternoon tea at a school or other place of education; in 1992, these activities were coded to breaks.
- Employment related activities** A major activity classification group which includes activities carried out in paid employment, or unpaid work in a family business or farm; job search activities such as travel to work or in the course of job search, and time spent in the workplace during work breaks. In 1997, it does not include eating lunch or coffee breaks etc.; in 1992, these activities were coded to breaks. Looking at job advertisements in a newspaper, for instance, would be coded here as job search. Apart from those respondents who described themselves as unpaid workers in a family business, there were people who, from their schedules, were not in the labour force, but who described in their diaries hours of clerical work. If their spouses, usually husbands, were self-employed, this activity was coded as unpaid work in a family business.
- Employed persons** Persons aged 15 years and over who worked during the reference week for pay, profit, commission, payment-in-kind or without pay in a family business, or who had a job, but were not at work.
- Family** Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family. For the purposes of the Time Use diary, family members who are usually resident in the same household are referred to as 'in household' family while family members who live outside of the household are referred to as 'ex household' family

GLOSSARY *continued*

Formal sport	This category relates to organised sport when done with a club or as a competition, or with a commitment to skill development, including practice and training.
For whom	In column two of the diary, persons reported who they were doing the main activity for. This information was used to gain details on the purpose of the activity performed. The 'for whom' code was used to identify voluntary work, caring activities and helping activities.
Free time	See Types of time.
Full-time/part-time status	For employed persons, <i>Full-time/part-time status</i> is determined by the actual and/or usual number of hours worked by an employed person in the reference week in all jobs. For unemployed persons, it is determined whether the work sought is full-time or part-time. Full-time work is defined as 35 hours or more per week.
Helping, doing favours	This category includes any activity that is performed for people outside the household who are not sick and do not have a disability.
Household	A household consists of a group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, who regard themselves as a household and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a lone person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person.
Household items	Persons were asked if particular household items were present in their household. These items included the number of televisions, motor vehicles and whether they had a computer, dishwasher or a clothes dryer in their household.
Housework	The activity group <i>Domestic activities</i> has been further divided into two sub-groups, <i>Housework</i> and <i>Total other household work</i> . Housework includes food preparation, service and clean-up; washing, ironing and clothes care; and other housework such as indoor cleaning and tidying activities. The reason for this division is that previous time use studies have shown men's domestic work is mostly identified in <i>Total other household work</i> , and women's domestic work is mostly identified in <i>Housework</i> .
Income	Gross regular income from all sources, including wages and salaries, business, government pension or benefit (including Family Allowance), investments and other sources. Intra-family transfers such as housekeeping or personal allowance are not included. Income was collected in ranges comparable with those used in the 1996 Population Census, on a current weekly basis.
Informal sport	Sport which is done for recreation or socialising rather than with the commitment needed for competitive sport.
Location	Refers to where the person was when an activity was taking place. This includes a person's physical location e.g. at home, at work or in a street; and spatial location e.g. indoors, outdoors, or in transit.
Lone parent	A person who has no spouse or partner present in the household but who has a parent-child relationship with at least one dependent or non-dependent child usually resident in the household.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Lone person	A household comprised of an individual who makes provision for his or her food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. A lone person household may be formed by an individual living either on their own or sharing his or her dwelling with others.
Main activity	The person's description of an activity in the first diary column is designated as their main activity. In many countries, only one activity is collected for a time slot. Thus main activity tables are required for some comparability between countries. For many time periods, only one (the main) activity is described by respondents.
Nature of activity	Describes what people are actually doing regardless of the purpose.
Necessary time	See Types of time.
Neither parent nor partner	A related individual who is not the spouse, partner or parent of any usual resident such as a child, brother, sister, uncle and aunt.
Non-dependent child	A natural, step, adopted or foster child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, aged 15 years or more and who is not a full-time student aged 15–24 years, and who has no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the household.
Not employed	A combination of those people <i>Not in the labour force</i> and <i>Unemployed</i> . <i>Not in the labour force</i> describes persons who, during the reference week, were neither employed nor looking for work. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work, persons in institutions, trainee teachers, members of contemplative religious orders, and persons whose only activity during the reference week was jury service or unpaid voluntary work for a charitable organisation. <i>Unemployed</i> persons are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week and had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in four weeks up to the end of the reference week.
Occupation	Coded according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) from the respondents' descriptions of the kind of work they perform. See <i>ASCO—Australian Standard Classification of Occupations</i> (Cat. no. 1220.0) for details of the classification.
One parent family	A family which consists of a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependent children, non-dependent children and other related individuals.
Other free time	An aggregation of activities such as relaxing, resting, thinking, worrying, drinking alcohol, smoking, enjoying memorabilia and interacting with pets such as walking the dog.
Participants	Defined in respect of a particular activity, participants are those respondents who reported some time spent on that activity on a diary day.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Participation rate	The proportion of the whole population who reported in their diary that they were taking part in a particular activity. Whole population refers to the population used for a table, or for part of a table. For example, where a table shows a disaggregation by sex, the male participation rate reflects the proportion of total males. Participation rates from this survey are useful for illustrating the proportion of the population involved in an activity for comparative purposes but they do not necessarily present an accurate estimate of the proportion of the population taking part in an activity. For activities that take place on every day of the week, such as sleeping, the participation rate will be fairly accurate. For activities that take place at regular intervals, such as sports events at weekends, the relevant weekday or weekend participation rate will be more accurate than the participation rate for the whole week. For irregular and occasional activities the participation rate cannot be used as an accurate representation of the population taking part in the activity. In this case the participation rate is likely to be either an overcount or an undercount of the real value because the activity occurs at irregular periods of time which may or may not have occurred during the time when the survey was conducted.
Passive leisure	Leisure activities involving little active involvement including activities such as reading, watching television and relaxing.
Personal care activities	A major activity classification group which includes activities such as sleeping, personal hygiene, health care and eating and drinking.
Personal hygiene	Includes getting up, getting ready, bathing, using the toilet, grooming and sexual activities.
Personal medical care	Includes taking medications, vitamins, applying dressings or ointments and exercising for specific conditions.
Primary Activity	See Activity type.
Private dwelling	A residential structure which is self-contained, owned or rented by the occupants, and intended solely for residential use. A private dwelling can be a flat, part of a house, or even a room; but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above, shops or offices; an occupied caravan in a caravan park or boat in a marina; a houseboat, or a tent if it is standing on its own block of land. A caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling.
Purchasing goods and services	A major activity classification group which includes activities such as purchasing consumer and durable goods, buying repair services and administrative services.
Purpose of activity	The reason why the person is doing what they are doing. For example, if someone is cooking for volunteer firemen, the purpose of the activity would be unpaid voluntary work. The nature of the activity is cooking. Purpose data is collected from the 'for whom' column (see Explanatory Notes paragraph 30).
Recreation and leisure activities	A major activity classification group which includes activities such as playing sport, walking, participating in games or hobbies, reading and watching television. Also included is other free time such as relaxing, thinking, smoking and drinking alcohol.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Region	<p><i>Major urban</i> includes localities with a population of 100,000 or more. Darwin is not included as a major urban locality in this survey.</p> <p><i>Other urban</i> is that part of the State where people live in towns or bounded areas with a population of 1,000 to 99,999 people.</p> <p><i>Rural</i> comprises the rest of the State where people live at lower densities than those defined as urban.</p>
Sample loss	Defined as those dwellings from which no schedules at all were obtained for reasons other than non-response. This occurred in cases where all persons in the household were excluded on scope or coverage, the dwelling was vacant, or the dwelling was under construction, converted to non-dwelling use, derelict or listed in error.
Secondary Activity	See Activity type.
Simultaneous activities	Activities which are recorded in the time diary as taking place over the same time period. They are identified where there is an entry for both a primary and secondary activity. Time spent on simultaneous activities is included in tables of 'All activities', but not in tables of 'Main activities'.
Social and community interaction	A major activity classification group which includes activities relating to social participation such as attending a concert, a library or amusement park. Also included are attending sports events, participating in religious ceremonies and community participation such as attendance at meetings.
Support for adults	An aggregate covering both the physical and emotional care for adults and helping or doing favours.
Time diary	Used to collect information about people's daily activities. The diary was set out in columns requiring the respondent to enter what activity they were doing, who the activity was done for, if they were doing anything else at the same time, where they were and who they were with.
Time saving services	Persons were asked whether their household used services such as house cleaning services, clothes care or laundry services and gardening services. They were also asked how many times, in the previous two weeks, anyone in their household had a takeaway meal or had eaten a meal in a restaurant.
Total other household work	Includes domestic management, home and car maintenance and improvement, pet care and care of the grounds. Associated travel is not included.
Total work	A category of activities under which are grouped employment related activities and all of the activities that make up committed time (domestic, child care, purchasing and voluntary work and care activities). It does not include education activities.

Types of time	<p><i>Necessary time</i> includes activities which serve basic physiological needs such as sleeping, eating, personal care, health and hygiene. These activities are identified in the activity classification as personal care activities.</p> <p><i>Committed time</i> describes activities to which a person has committed him/herself because of previous acts or behaviours or community participation such as having children, setting up a household or doing voluntary work. The consequent housework, care of children, shopping or provision of help to others are committed activities. In most cases, services could be bought to provide the same activity (e.g. an exchange could be made of time for money). The activity classifications of domestic work, child care, purchasing goods and services, and voluntary work and care are all included in this time category.</p> <p><i>Contracted time</i> includes paid work and regular education. Activities within this category have explicit contracts which control the periods of time in which they are performed. These activities, therefore, constrain the distribution of other activities over the rest of the day. The activity classifications of employment related activities and education activities are included in this time category.</p> <p><i>Free time</i> is the amount of time left when the previous three types of time have been taken out of a person's day. The only way to obtain more free time is for contracts and commitments to be changed, or to spend less time on necessary time activities (e.g. sleep less), as the total time available in a day is constant. Social and community interaction and recreation and leisure activities are included in this time category.</p>
Unpaid voluntary work	Activities which are performed for community organisations without pay.
Usual resident (UR)	A person who lives in a private dwelling and regards it as his/her own or main home.
Voluntary work and care activities	A major activity classification group which includes physical and emotional caring for adults and doing favours for family, friends, neighbours and others.
Weekday/weekend	Monday to Friday are regarded as weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays as weekends. All persons were asked to complete a diary for two days, either or both of which could be weekdays or weekends. The seven days were spread through the whole population as evenly as possible. The type of day (weekday/weekend) was used in the weighting procedure (See <i>Time Use Survey, Australia—Users' Guide</i> , (Cat. no. 4150.0)). Because numbers of persons rather than numbers of person-days are given as the population for a table, weekday and weekend populations overlap. Average time spent by weekday and weekend, however, are mutually exclusive, as person-days were used as the denominator.
'Who with'	Other people present when an activity was taking place. In this survey, other people taking part in the activity are not identifiable. The emphasis was on all people within the area for which a person might be responsible. This means everyone at a person's home when that person reported being at home, and all the people accompanying him/her away from home. It is more likely that activities away from home are shared with the family or friends reported present. When the respondent is home, he/she may be reading, someone else watching television, a baby may be asleep and other children playing in the back yard; yet if the respondent is the only adult present there may be a monitoring role in respect of all these other people.

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

PHONE Call 1900 986 400 for the latest statistics on CPI, Labour Force, Earnings, National Accounts, Balance of Payments and other topics. (Call cost is 75c per minute)

INTERNET <http://www.abs.gov.au>

LIBRARY A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

PHONE +61 1300 366 323

FAX +61 3 9615 7848

CONTACTING THE ABS

ABS provides a range of services, including: a telephone inquiry service; information consultancy tailored to your needs; survey, sample and questionnaire design; survey evaluation and methodological reviews; and statistical training.

<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6253 1404
Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au