



PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

AUSTRALIA

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C O N T E N T S

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Conceptual framework	3
Summary of findings	4

TABLES

List of tables	6
Civilian population	7
Persons not in the labour force	8
With marginal attachment	9
Without marginal attachment	19
Discouraged jobseekers	23
For childcare reasons	26
Last job less than 20 years ago	27
Populations	30

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory notes	33
Appendix: Populations and Data Items List	36
Appendix: Supplementary Surveys	40
Technical note	41
Glossary	43

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070 or Kate Nielsen on Canberra 02 6252 5759.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about persons who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measure the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics.

Many people not in the labour force can be considered strongly attached to the labour force. They would like to work, but for a variety of reasons are not actively looking for work or are not currently available to start a job. There is an expectation that many of these people will move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions improved.

The conceptual framework which follows separates persons not in the labour force into more detailed categories, depending on the strength of their attachment to the labour force.

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, conducted throughout Australia in September 1999 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics monthly Labour Force Survey.

Data relate to persons aged 15–69 years who were not in the labour force. Respondents were asked whether they wanted to work, about reasons why they were not actively looking for work, about their availability for work, and about their main activity while not in the labour force.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
LFS	Labour Force Survey
n.a.	not available
RSE	relative standard error
SE	standard error

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed persons) and persons not in the labour force.

Marginal attachment is determined by firstly establishing whether a person not in the labour force has a desire to work, and then by whether they have been actively seeking work or are available to start work within a short period of time.

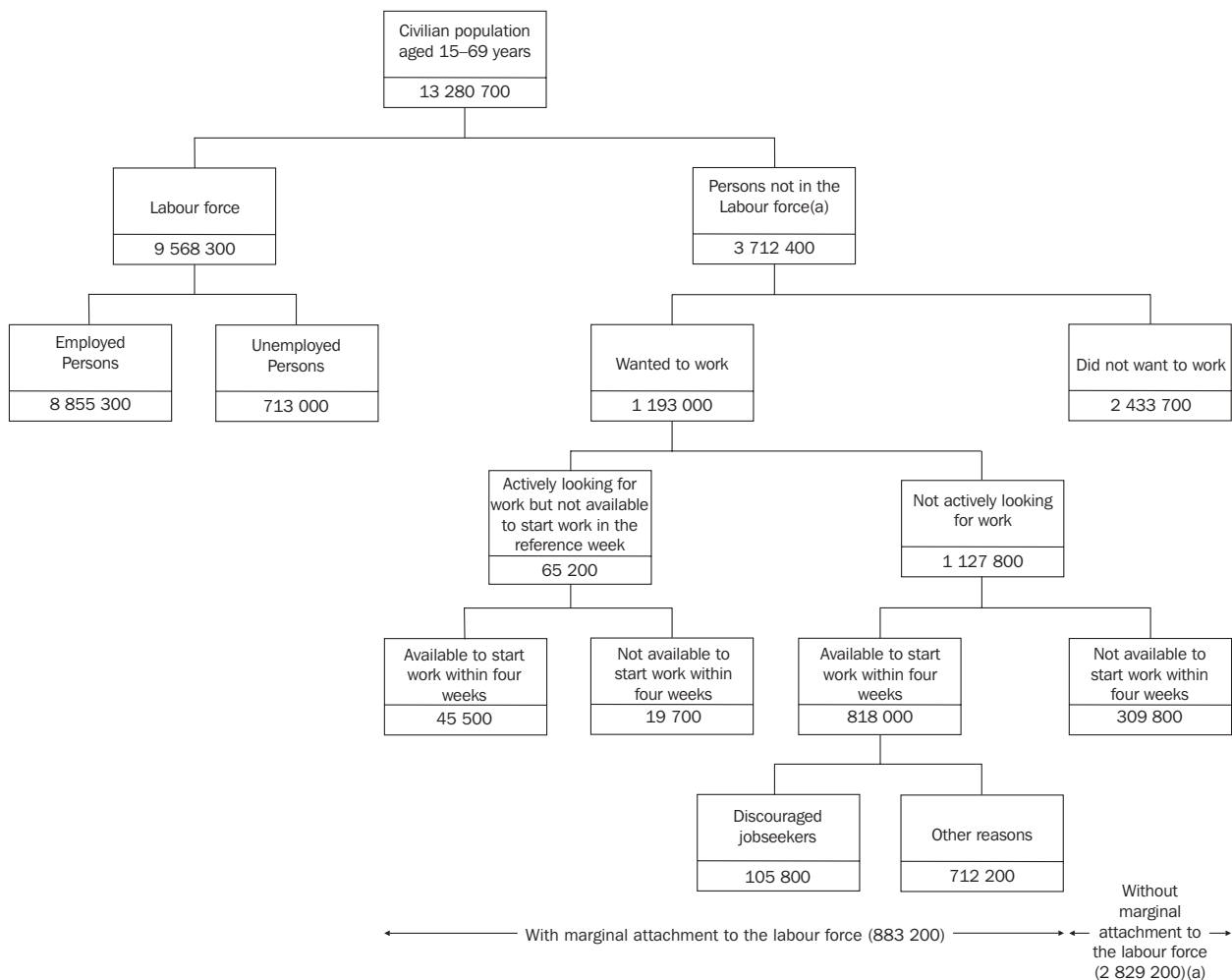
Persons who are marginally attached may satisfy some, but not all, of the criteria required to be classified as unemployed.

Persons not in the labour force are considered to be marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- want to work and are actively looking for work but not available to start work in the reference week; or
- want to work and are not actively looking for work but available to start work within four weeks.

Persons not in the labour force are not marginally attached if they:

- do not want to work; or
- want to work but are not actively looking and not available to start work within four weeks.



(a) Includes 85,700 persons who were permanently unable to work

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

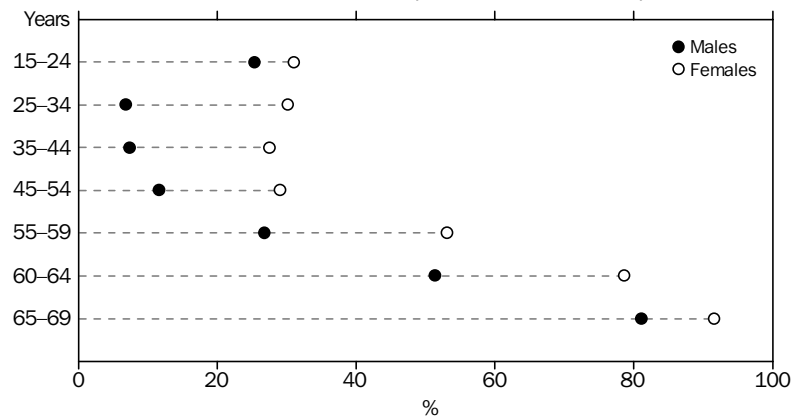
OVERVIEW

In September 1999, there were 3,712,400 persons aged 15–69 years who were not in the labour force. This represented 28% of the civilian population in this age group. Of those not in the labour force, two-thirds were female.

The number of persons not in the labour force increased by 2% since September 1998. This follows a 2% decrease between September 1997 and 1998. The number of persons with marginal attachment to the labour force decreased by 4% since September 1998, the first decrease since September 1994.

The proportion of persons not in the labour force generally rises with age. The exceptions are the 15–24 years age group, where high levels of educational participation are present, and females during their main child-bearing years (25–34).

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Proportion of the Civilian Population



There were more females than males not in the labour force in all age groups except the 15–19 years group, where the proportion for both sexes was almost identical. The proportion of females not in the labour force ranged from 22% for the 20–24 years age group to 92% for the 65–69 years age group.

MARGINAL ATTACHMENT

Of the 883,200 persons who had a marginal attachment to the labour force in September 1999, 93% were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks. The remainder were actively looking for work but not available to start work in the reference week.

Some 25% of females and 21% of males not in the labour force had a marginal attachment to the labour force. The proportion with marginal attachment has decreased for both males and females (by 2 percentage points) since September 1998.

Two-thirds (67%) of females marginally attached to the labour force would have preferred part-time work, while 17% preferred full-time work. Males in this group were more evenly distributed, with 46% preferring part-time work and 35% preferring full-time work.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Main reason for not actively looking for work

The main reasons for not actively looking for work most commonly reported by males were 'attending an educational institution' (27%) and 'own ill health or physical disability' (18%). The most commonly reported reasons for females were 'childcare' (30%) and 'attending an educational institution' (13%).

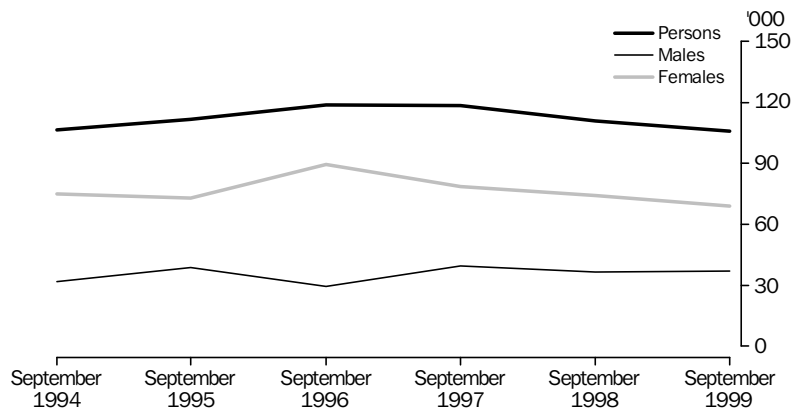
Discouraged jobseekers

At September 1999 there were 105,800 discouraged jobseekers, a 5% decrease since September 1998 and the third successive year that a fall has occurred. An estimated 58% of all discouraged jobseekers reported that they might enter, or intended to enter, the labour force in the next 12 months.

Females made up 65% of all discouraged jobseekers. Almost two-thirds (62%) of these females were aged 35–59 years. Male discouraged jobseekers tended to be older, with 62% aged 55–69 years.

The ratio of discouraged jobseekers to the number of persons unemployed was 9% for males and 22% for females, almost unchanged from September 1998. For males in the last 10 years, this series peaked in 1999 and was lowest in 1996 (6%). Females in the same period have shown greater fluctuation, peaking in 1991 and 1992 (both 30%) before falling to 22% in 1994 and 1999.

DISCOURAGED JOBSEEKERS



The main reasons for not actively looking for work reported by discouraged jobseekers were 'considered too young or too old by employers' (42%) and 'no jobs in locality or line of work' (24%).

PERSONS WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT

Of the 2,829,200 persons who were without marginal attachment to the labour force in September 1999, the majority (86%) were persons who did not want to work. A further 3% were permanently unable to work. There were 309,800 persons (11%) who wanted to work but were neither actively looking for work nor available to start work within four weeks. Two-thirds of this group were female, with 43% reporting that their main activity was 'home duties or childcare', and 25% reporting that they had a job less than 12 months ago.

LIST OF TABLES

		<i>page</i>
CIVILIAN POPULATION	1	Labour force status, September 1994 to September 1999 7
PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE	2	Main activity, by age, by sex 8
WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE		
	3	Selected characteristics, by sex 9
	4	Main source of income, by sex 12
	5	Main reason for not actively looking for work, by sex, September 1994 to September 1999 13
	6	Main reason for not actively looking for work, by intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and preference for full-time or part-time work, by sex 16
WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE		
	7	Selected characteristics, by sex 19
	8	Main source of income, by sex 22
DISCOURAGED JOBSEEKERS		
	9	Selected characteristics, by sex , September 1994 to September 1999 23
FOR CHILDCARE REASONS		
	10	Persons who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work, by selected characteristics, by sex 26
LAST JOB LESS THAN 20 YEARS AGO		
	11	Status in employment and full-time or part-time status of last job, by reason for ceasing last job, occupation in last job and whether looked for work in the last twelve months, by sex 27
POPULATIONS	12	State or Territory of usual residence, by sex 30

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Civilian population aged 15–69 years	6 219.3	6 330.6	6 414.7	6 456.8	6 563.3	6 640.9
Persons in the labour force	5 057.5	5 164.0	5 212.2	5 217.6	5 333.9	5 375.4
Employed	4 573.3	4 700.3	4 746.7	4 748.2	4 888.8	4 971.6
Unemployed	484.2	463.7	465.5	469.4	445.1	403.8
Persons not in the labour force	1 161.7	1 166.6	1 202.5	1 239.2	1 229.4	1 265.5
With marginal attachment to the labour force	215.3	261.8	262.0	259.5	282.3	267.0
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	25.1	30.9	28.6	24.4	27.8	27.8
Were available to start work within four weeks	15.1	13.7	15.8	14.6	12.6	18.3
Were not available to start work within four weeks	10.0	17.3	12.8	9.8	15.2	9.5
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	190.2	230.9	233.3	235.1	254.5	239.1
Discouraged jobseekers	31.7	39.0	29.5	39.7	36.7	36.9
Other	158.5	191.9	203.9	195.4	217.8	202.2
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	946.4	904.8	940.5	979.7	947.2	998.6
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	100.7	95.0	92.4	101.1	95.6	107.6
Did not want to work	787.6	768.6	784.2	819.7	789.0	838.5
FEMALES						
Civilian population aged 15–69 years	6 219.2	6 292.8	6 383.8	6 462.7	6 518.2	6 639.8
Persons in the labour force	3 818.0	3 893.0	3 970.9	4 007.8	4 108.9	4 192.9
Employed	3 471.4	3 593.4	3 636.4	3 684.5	3 788.9	3 883.7
Unemployed	346.5	299.6	334.5	323.3	320.0	309.2
Persons not in the labour force	2 401.3	2 399.8	2 412.9	2 454.9	2 409.3	2 446.9
With marginal attachment to the labour force	558.0	601.0	617.6	630.9	640.4	616.2
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	36.2	32.9	29.4	28.9	31.0	37.4
Were available to start work within four weeks	23.3	19.1	18.9	21.1	20.6	27.2
Were not available to start work within four weeks	13.0	13.7	10.5	7.8	10.3	10.2
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	521.8	568.1	588.2	602.0	609.4	578.8
Discouraged jobseekers	74.8	72.9	89.4	78.7	74.3	68.9
Other	447.0	495.2	498.8	523.4	535.1	509.9
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	1 843.2	1 798.8	1 795.3	1 824.0	1 769.0	1 830.7
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	188.8	205.7	216.0	197.6	191.5	202.2
Did not want to work	1 622.3	1 573.5	1 544.5	1 595.6	1 548.7	1 595.2
PERSONS						
Civilian population aged 15–69 years	12 438.5	12 623.3	12 798.5	12 919.6	13 081.6	13 280.7
Persons in the labour force	8 875.5	9 057.0	9 183.1	9 225.4	9 442.9	9 568.3
Employed	8 044.7	8 293.7	8 383.1	8 432.8	8 677.8	8 855.3
Unemployed	830.8	763.3	800.0	792.6	765.1	713.0
Persons not in the labour force	3 563.0	3 566.3	3 615.4	3 694.2	3 638.8	3 712.4
With marginal attachment to the labour force	773.3	862.8	879.6	890.5	922.6	883.2
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	61.4	63.8	58.0	53.3	58.7	65.2
Were available to start work within four weeks	38.4	32.8	34.7	35.7	33.2	45.5
Were not available to start work within four weeks	22.9	31.0	23.3	17.6	25.5	19.7
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	712.0	799.0	821.5	837.2	863.9	818.0
Discouraged jobseekers	106.5	111.9	118.9	118.4	110.9	105.8
Other	605.5	687.1	702.6	718.7	753.0	712.2
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(a)	2 789.7	2 703.5	2 735.8	2 803.7	2 716.1	2 829.2
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	289.6	300.7	308.4	298.7	287.1	309.8
Did not want to work	2 409.9	2 342.1	2 328.7	2 415.4	2 337.6	2 433.7

(a) Includes persons who were permanently unable to work.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Main Activity

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

	15- 24	25- 34	35- 44	45- 54	55- 59	60- 64	65- 69	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES								
Home duties or childcare	*2.0	11.3	15.6	18.4	8.8	7.1	8.0	71.3
Attending an educational institution	306.7	32.1	12.8	*5.3	*1.2	*0.4	*0.2	358.7
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*1.6	*3.5	6.9	25.5	50.1	111.3	202.9	401.9
Own disability or handicap	*5.3	11.3	18.2	21.2	14.3	11.6	*5.2	87.2
Own illness or injury	6.3	23.7	37.6	52.3	33.1	36.5	16.4	205.9
Looking after ill or disabled person	*—	*1.9	*3.6	7.0	*3.7	*3.7	*4.1	23.9
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	5.7	*4.6	*4.6	7.9	6.4	12.1	16.7	58.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*1.6	*2.7	*2.5	*3.1	*3.5	5.8	8.0	27.1
Other	8.1	*4.7	*4.4	6.1	*3.7	*4.0	*0.5	31.5
Total	337.4	95.9	106.2	146.8	124.7	192.5	261.9	1 265.5
FEMALES								
Home duties or childcare	84.0	367.2	340.0	258.4	137.7	156.8	154.7	1 499.0
Attending an educational institution	298.4	35.2	16.5	9.5	*1.9	*1.1	*0.5	363.0
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*2.4	*0.6	*4.1	19.5	45.1	88.3	115.7	275.5
Own disability or handicap	*4.7	5.9	6.9	11.5	*5.6	7.0	*1.0	42.6
Own illness or injury	*3.6	12.2	17.8	32.8	17.6	12.5	10.1	106.8
Looking after ill or disabled person	*0.7	*2.8	*4.9	14.9	16.8	9.4	7.3	56.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.5	6.1	*2.6	7.3	6.1	10.0	10.4	48.0
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*1.9	*0.4	*4.9	8.7	7.0	9.8	8.9	41.5
Other	*3.2	*1.8	*2.8	*2.3	*1.1	*1.4	*1.0	13.7
Total	404.4	432.1	400.5	364.9	239.0	296.2	309.7	2 446.9
PERSONS								
Home duties or childcare	86.1	378.5	355.6	276.8	146.6	163.9	162.7	1 570.2
Attending an educational institution	605.1	67.2	29.2	14.9	*3.1	*1.4	*0.7	721.7
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*4.0	*4.1	11.0	44.9	95.1	199.6	318.6	677.4
Own disability or handicap	10.1	17.2	25.1	32.7	19.9	18.6	6.2	129.8
Own illness or injury	9.9	35.9	55.4	85.1	50.7	49.1	26.5	312.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	*0.7	*4.7	8.5	21.9	20.5	13.1	11.4	80.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	11.2	10.7	7.3	15.2	12.5	22.1	27.1	106.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.5	*3.1	7.4	11.7	10.4	15.6	16.9	68.7
Other	11.3	6.5	7.2	8.5	*4.8	*5.4	*1.5	45.1
Total	741.8	528.0	506.7	511.8	363.7	488.7	571.6	3 712.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND AVAILABLE				Total with marginal attachment	Total not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force
	<i>Wanted to work and actively looking for work</i>	<i>Discouraged jobseekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
MALES							
State or Territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	8.6	11.3	62.2	73.5	82.1	438.9	19.6
Victoria	7.0	11.9	46.4	58.3	65.3	322.1	19.4
Queensland	5.6	5.9	39.9	45.8	51.3	228.7	18.9
South Australia	*2.4	*3.2	21.7	24.9	27.3	111.0	21.8
Western Australia	*3.1	*2.8	16.8	19.7	22.8	101.6	15.6
Tasmania	*0.7	*1.0	9.7	10.7	11.4	39.8	24.8
Northern Territory(a)	*—	*0.2	*1.2	*1.4	*1.4	6.1	11.2
Australian Capital Territory	*0.5	*0.7	*4.3	*4.9	*5.4	17.3	16.1
Age group (years)							
15–19	6.5	*4.1	68.2	72.3	78.9	262.1	39.6
20–24	5.9	*1.3	20.6	21.8	27.7	75.3	11.3
25–34	*3.8	*2.9	23.8	26.8	30.6	95.9	6.8
35–44	6.1	*2.3	21.1	23.4	29.5	106.2	7.4
45–54	*3.3	*3.4	30.7	34.1	37.4	146.8	11.6
55–59	*1.3	*4.5	16.8	21.3	22.6	124.7	26.8
60–64	*0.9	9.7	11.4	21.1	21.9	192.5	51.4
65–69	*—	8.7	9.6	18.4	18.4	261.9	81.1
Relationship in household							
Family member	21.5	28.0	156.1	184.1	205.5	1 008.4	19.0
Husband or wife	9.0	20.8	62.7	83.5	92.5	620.5	16.2
Lone parent	*0.6	*0.4	9.4	9.7	10.3	27.4	26.1
Dependent student	5.7	*1.2	62.2	63.4	69.1	245.9	53.3
Non-dependent child	*3.7	*5.3	16.0	21.4	25.1	75.9	9.7
Other family person	*2.5	*0.2	5.9	6.1	8.5	38.7	28.4
Non-family member	*4.2	7.5	35.8	43.3	47.5	207.6	19.3
Not determined	*2.2	*1.4	10.3	11.8	13.9	49.5	23.6
Birthplace							
Born in Australia	22.2	20.4	151.9	172.4	194.5	835.2	17.5
Born outside Australia	5.7	16.4	50.3	66.8	72.4	430.3	44.4
Born in main English-speaking countries	*0.4	6.1	16.3	22.4	22.8	112.0	16.0
Born in other countries	*5.3	10.3	34.0	44.4	49.6	318.3	28.4
Time since last job							
Had a job	23.4	31.5	142.5	173.9	197.3	982.4	..
Under twelve months	13.9	*5.5	54.2	59.8	73.7	189.8	..
1 and under 3 years	*5.0	5.6	36.5	42.2	47.2	194.1	..
3 and under 5 years	*2.3	*5.5	17.8	23.2	25.5	141.6	..
5 and under 10 years	*1.2	10.0	21.8	31.8	33.0	255.7	..
10 and under 20 years	*0.7	*4.2	9.8	14.1	14.8	153.4	..
20 years or more	*0.3	*0.7	*2.3	*2.9	*3.2	47.6	..
Never had a job	*4.5	*5.4	59.8	65.2	69.6	283.2	..
Main activity							
Home duties or childcare	*1.8	*5.1	23.6	28.7	30.5	71.3	..
Attending an educational institution	11.4	*3.8	85.3	89.2	100.6	358.7	..
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*0.9	18.3	25.2	43.5	44.4	401.9	..
Own disability or handicap	*0.4	*0.4	12.3	12.7	13.1	87.2	..
Own illness or injury	7.0	*0.5	23.4	23.9	30.9	205.9	..
Looking after ill or disabled person	*—	*—	*4.2	*4.2	*4.2	23.9	..
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*2.8	*1.5	13.5	15.0	17.8	58.1	..
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*—	*3.0	*5.3	8.3	8.3	27.1	..
Other	*3.6	*4.4	9.4	13.8	17.4	31.5	..
Total	27.8	36.9	202.2	239.1	267.0	1 265.5	19.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

.. not applicable

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND AVAILABLE				Total with marginal attachment	Total not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force
	<i>Wanted to work and actively looking for work</i>	<i>Discouraged jobseekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
FEMALES							
State or Territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	11.0	23.7	154.7	178.4	189.4	859.1	38.5
Victoria	8.4	15.0	135.2	150.2	158.6	615.4	36.8
Queensland	11.3	15.2	95.9	111.1	122.4	433.4	35.8
South Australia	*1.6	5.6	41.7	47.3	48.9	198.4	38.5
Western Australia	*2.7	*5.1	54.0	59.1	61.8	230.1	35.7
Tasmania	*1.1	*3.5	18.0	21.5	22.6	68.6	41.9
Northern Territory(a)	*0.3	*—	*3.5	*3.5	*3.8	13.3	24.4
Australian Capital Territory	*0.9	*0.8	7.0	7.8	8.7	28.6	25.4
Age group (years)							
15–19	9.3	2.3	64.9	67.2	76.5	258.6	40.1
20–24	5.9	*1.5	52.1	53.6	59.5	145.9	22.2
25–34	11.7	9.9	155.3	165.2	176.9	432.1	30.2
35–44	5.8	13.2	142.5	155.8	161.6	400.5	27.5
45–54	*3.8	22.6	61.4	84.1	87.9	364.9	29.1
55–59	*0.9	6.9	17.6	24.5	25.4	239.0	53.1
60–64	*—	6.2	9.9	16.2	16.2	296.2	78.6
65–69	*—	6.2	6.1	12.4	12.4	309.7	91.6
Relationship in household							
Family member	28.7	59.9	465.2	525.1	553.8	2 103.7	38.0
Husband or wife	13.1	47.4	294.1	341.5	354.6	1 515.0	39.3
Lone parent	*4.3	9.2	100.1	109.4	113.7	265.9	43.8
Dependent student	7.2	*1.2	53.1	54.3	61.5	228.0	46.7
Non-dependent child	*3.1	*2.0	11.9	13.9	17.0	48.8	10.6
Other family person	*0.9	*—	6.0	6.0	6.9	46.1	40.8
Non-family member	5.7	7.6	29.9	37.5	43.2	261.7	30.4
Not determined	*3.0	*1.4	14.8	16.2	19.2	81.4	36.9
Birthplace							
Born in Australia	29.9	42.1	374.1	416.3	446.2	1 656.7	34.3
Born outside Australia	7.5	26.8	135.8	162.6	170.1	790.1	84.3
Born in main English-speaking countries	*1.8	7.7	50.6	58.2	60.0	223.3	34.8
Born in other countries	5.7	19.1	85.2	104.4	110.1	566.8	49.5
Time since last job							
Had a job	30.0	60.2	433.9	494.1	524.1	2 052.9	..
Under twelve months	13.7	7.9	93.5	101.4	115.1	297.4	..
1 and under 3 years	8.2	10.3	108.6	118.9	127.1	336.5	..
3 and under 5 years	*2.4	6.6	62.8	69.4	71.8	227.8	..
5 and under 10 years	*3.3	13.2	88.3	101.5	104.8	397.5	..
10 and under 20 years	*1.7	13.4	56.4	69.9	71.6	369.0	..
20 years or more	*0.8	8.7	24.3	33.0	33.8	424.7	..
Never had a job	7.3	8.7	76.0	84.7	92.0	393.9	..
Main activity							
Home duties or childcare	15.9	54.6	365.2	419.8	435.7	1 499.0	..
Attending an educational institution	14.3	*4.2	87.2	91.5	105.8	363.0	..
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*0.5	*3.6	7.7	11.3	11.8	275.5	..
Own disability or handicap	*—	*0.4	*2.1	*2.5	*2.5	42.6	..
Own illness or injury	*1.6	*0.1	14.6	14.7	16.3	106.8	..
Looking after ill or disabled person	*0.4	*0.7	8.2	8.9	9.3	56.7	..
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*2.9	*2.1	11.7	13.8	16.7	48.0	..
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*0.5	*2.3	8.2	10.5	11.0	41.5	..
Other	*1.4	*0.8	*5.0	5.8	7.2	13.7	..
Total	37.4	68.9	509.9	578.8	616.2	2 446.9	37.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

.. not applicable

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND AVAILABLE				Total with marginal attachment	Total not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force
	<i>Wanted to work and actively looking for work</i>	<i>Discouraged jobseekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
PERSONS							
State or Territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	19.6	35.0	216.9	251.9	271.4	1 298.0	29.0
Victoria	15.4	26.9	181.6	208.5	223.9	937.5	28.2
Queensland	16.9	21.1	135.8	156.9	173.7	662.0	27.3
South Australia	*4.0	8.7	63.4	72.2	76.2	309.5	30.2
Western Australia	5.8	8.0	70.8	78.8	84.6	331.7	25.6
Tasmania	*1.8	*4.4	27.7	32.1	33.9	108.4	33.4
Northern Territory(a)	*0.3	*0.2	*4.7	*4.9	*5.2	19.4	17.7
Australian Capital Territory	*1.4	*1.5	11.2	12.7	14.2	45.9	20.9
Age group (years)							
15-19	15.8	6.4	133.1	139.5	155.3	520.6	39.8
20-24	11.8	*2.8	72.6	75.4	87.3	221.2	16.7
25-34	15.5	12.8	179.2	192.0	207.4	528.0	18.6
35-44	11.9	15.6	163.6	179.2	191.1	506.7	17.5
45-54	7.2	26.0	92.1	118.1	125.3	511.8	20.3
55-59	*2.2	11.4	34.4	45.7	48.0	363.7	39.7
60-64	*0.9	15.9	21.3	37.2	38.1	488.7	65.0
65-69	*—	15.0	15.8	30.7	30.7	571.6	86.5
Relationship in household							
Family member	50.1	87.9	621.3	709.2	759.3	3 112.1	28.7
Husband or wife	22.1	68.3	356.8	425.1	447.2	2 135.5	27.8
Lone parent	*5.0	9.6	109.5	119.1	124.0	293.2	41.2
Dependent student	12.9	*2.4	115.3	117.7	130.6	473.9	49.9
Non-dependent child	6.8	7.3	27.9	35.2	42.1	124.7	10.0
Other family person	*3.4	*0.2	11.9	12.1	15.5	84.8	34.0
Non-family member	9.9	15.1	65.7	80.8	90.7	469.3	24.2
Not determined	*5.2	*2.8	25.2	28.0	33.2	130.9	30.4
Birthplace							
Born in Australia	52.1	62.6	526.1	588.6	640.7	2 492.0	26.0
Born outside Australia	13.2	43.3	186.2	229.3	242.5	1 220.4	64.1
Born in main English-speaking countries	*2.2	13.8	66.9	80.6	82.8	335.3	25.0
Born in other countries	11.0	29.5	119.3	148.7	159.7	885.1	39.1
Time since last job							
Had a job	53.4	91.7	576.4	668.1	721.5	3 035.3	..
Under twelve months	27.6	13.4	147.7	161.2	188.8	487.2	..
1 and under 3 years	13.2	16.0	145.1	161.1	174.3	530.7	..
3 and under 5 years	*4.7	12.1	80.6	92.6	97.3	369.4	..
5 and under 10 years	*4.5	23.2	110.1	133.4	137.8	653.3	..
10 and under 20 years	*2.5	17.6	66.3	83.9	86.4	522.4	..
20 years or more	*1.1	9.4	26.5	35.9	37.0	472.3	..
Never had a job	11.8	14.1	135.8	149.9	161.7	677.1	..
Main activity							
Home duties or childcare	17.7	59.6	388.8	448.5	466.1	1 570.2	..
Attending an educational institution	25.8	8.1	172.5	180.6	206.4	721.7	..
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*1.4	21.9	32.9	54.8	56.1	677.4	..
Own disability or handicap	*0.4	*0.8	14.4	15.2	15.6	129.8	..
Own illness or injury	8.6	*0.6	38.1	38.6	47.2	312.7	..
Looking after ill or disabled person	*0.4	*0.7	12.4	13.1	13.5	80.7	..
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.6	*3.6	25.2	28.8	34.4	106.1	..
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*0.5	*5.3	13.5	18.8	19.2	68.7	..
Other	*5.0	*5.2	14.4	19.6	24.6	45.1	..
Total	65.2	105.8	712.2	818.0	883.2	3 712.4	28.1

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

.. not applicable

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT, Main Source of Income

	<i>Wanted to work and actively looking for work</i>	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND AVAILABLE			<i>Total with marginal attachment</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
		<i>Discouraged jobseekers</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Government pension or cash benefit	14.5	21.1	94.0	115.1	129.6	716.6
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*0.3	*0.6	*4.0	*4.7	*5.0	21.5
Dividends or interest	*—	*3.2	7.6	10.8	10.8	52.5
Superannuation or annuity	*0.4	*3.5	8.0	11.5	11.9	102.0
Workers' compensation, accident or sickness insurance	*0.3	*—	*2.5	*2.5	*2.9	18.5
Other income(a)	*3.2	*1.0	10.2	11.1	14.3	40.8
Nil or someone else's income	9.1	7.4	76.0	83.4	92.5	313.5
Total	27.8	36.9	202.2	239.1	267.0	1 265.5
FEMALES						
Government pension or cash benefit	16.7	35.1	199.5	234.5	251.3	1 143.7
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*0.4	*0.4	*3.5	*3.9	*4.3	33.8
Dividends or interest	*0.2	*1.0	*5.3	6.3	6.6	60.6
Superannuation or annuity	*0.1	*0.8	*2.9	*3.7	*3.7	62.6
Workers' compensation, accident or sickness insurance	*—	*0.4	*1.2	*1.6	*1.6	6.4
Other income(a)	*2.0	*0.5	11.8	12.3	14.3	40.9
Nil or someone else's income	17.9	30.7	285.7	316.4	334.3	1 098.9
Total	37.4	68.9	509.9	578.8	616.2	2 446.9
PERSONS						
Government pension or cash benefit	31.3	56.2	293.4	349.6	380.9	1 860.3
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*0.7	*1.1	7.6	8.6	9.3	55.3
Dividends or interest	*0.2	*4.2	12.9	17.2	17.4	113.1
Superannuation or annuity	*0.4	*4.3	10.9	15.2	15.6	164.6
Workers' compensation, accident or sickness insurance	*0.3	*0.4	*3.7	*4.1	*4.5	24.9
Other income(a)	*5.2	*1.5	22.0	23.4	28.7	81.7
Nil or someone else's income	27.0	38.1	361.7	399.8	426.8	1 412.4
Total	65.2	105.8	712.2	818.0	883.2	3 712.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes child support or maintenance.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	25.1	30.9	28.6	24.4	27.8	27.8
Wanted to work, not actively looking for work and available for work	190.2	230.9	233.3	235.1	254.5	239.1
Main reason for not actively looking for work						
Discouraged jobseeker	40.0	39.0	29.5	39.7	36.7	36.9
Considered too young or too old	17.1	20.9	15.3	18.6	17.1	21.1
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	*1.5	*2.4	*1.5	*4.5	*2.7	*4.8
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	*2.6	*1.3	*2.2	*4.1	*3.3	*2.7
No jobs in locality or line of work(a)	10.9	10.6	8.1	10.0	12.4	7.8
No jobs at all	*7.9	*3.8	*2.4	*2.6	*1.1	*0.5
Other reasons	147.8	180.3	187.3	180.6	200.4	202.2
Personal reasons	120.4	144.5	160.2	156.1	162.0	146.7
Own ill health/physical disability or pregnancy	32.8	42.6	49.2	47.0	46.0	49.0
Attending an educational institution	70.3	76.1	90.4	87.8	98.3	72.4
Had no need to work	9.6	13.3	9.5	9.1	6.4	10.7
Give others a chance	*0.3	*1.0	*0.5	*0.8	*0.6	*0.2
Welfare payments or pension may be affected	*3.6	*4.8	*4.4	*5.4	*4.8	6.4
Moved house or on holidays	7.5	6.8	6.2	6.1	5.8	7.9
Family reasons	11.8	12.6	14.8	12.7	17.8	17.5
Ill health of other than self	*2.1	*2.9	*2.0	*2.2	*4.0	*3.5
Childcare	*3.3	7.3	8.2	6.2	8.4	9.1
Other family considerations	*1.9	*2.3	*4.5	*4.3	*5.4	4.9
No jobs in suitable hours	*0.2	*2.1	*1.0	*1.4	*2.5	*3.8
Other reasons	15.4	21.1	11.3	10.4	18.1	17.3
Had a job to go to(a)	8.6	10.7	13.6	11.5	13.1	12.8
Did not know	*2.1	*0.8	*3.0	*3.2	*4.4	*4.2
Total	215.3	261.8	262.0	259.5	282.3	267.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who had a job, but up until the reference week had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES						
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	36.2	32.9	29.4	28.9	31.0	37.4
Wanted to work, not actively looking for work and available for work	521.8	568.1	588.2	602.0	609.4	578.8
Main reason for not actively looking for work						
Discouraged jobseeker	74.8	72.9	89.4	78.7	74.3	68.9
Considered too young or too old	24.0	29.6	31.8	30.1	24.1	24.3
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	15.8	13.7	17.2	15.4	22.1	13.2
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	7.7	6.9	10.4	12.2	7.0	10.7
No jobs in locality or line of work(a)	18.3	17.8	20.3	16.2	17.1	17.1
No jobs at all	9.0	*5.0	9.8	*4.8	*4.0	*3.6
Other reasons	423.7	468.8	476.4	493.5	507.8	509.9
Personal reasons	161.3	178.8	166.9	188.0	192.7	170.5
Own ill health/physical disability or pregnancy	49.3	43.8	44.3	54.3	50.6	49.1
Attending an educational institution	68.8	78.0	76.9	84.7	90.3	81.5
Had no need to work	20.7	29.7	26.1	25.2	28.7	19.7
Give others a chance	*4.0	*3.3	*3.6	*3.4	*3.4	*2.7
Welfare payments or pension may be affected	9.4	10.9	6.4	8.9	12.3	*5.3
Moved house or on holidays	9.1	13.1	9.6	11.5	7.3	12.2
Family reasons	237.9	257.4	279.8	273.8	283.4	279.7
Ill health of other than self	16.1	19.3	20.7	14.5	20.0	21.1
Childcare	170.9	185.3	192.0	200.2	200.8	182.8
Other family considerations	51.0	52.7	67.1	59.2	62.6	75.8
No jobs in suitable hours	7.4	7.1	8.8	6.8	6.4	9.2
Other reasons	17.1	25.5	20.9	24.9	25.3	20.2
Had a job to go to(a)	17.9	22.7	14.8	21.6	23.6	23.1
Did not know	*5.3	*3.6	7.6	8.2	3.8	7.3
Total	558.0	601.0	617.6	630.9	640.4	616.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who had a job, but up until the reference week had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS						
Wanted to work and actively looking for work	61.4	63.8	58.0	53.3	58.7	65.2
Wanted to work, not actively looking for work and available for work	712.0	799.0	821.5	837.2	863.9	818.0
Main reason for not actively looking for work						
Discouraged jobseeker	106.5	111.9	118.9	118.4	110.9	105.8
Considered too young or too old	41.2	50.4	47.1	48.7	41.2	45.4
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	17.9	16.1	18.7	19.9	24.8	18.0
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	8.5	8.2	12.6	16.3	10.3	13.4
No jobs in locality or line of work(a)	25.9	28.3	28.4	26.2	29.6	24.9
No jobs at all	13.0	8.8	12.2	7.4	*5.1	*4.1
Other reasons	571.5	649.3	663.7	674.2	708.0	712.2
Personal reasons	281.7	323.4	327.1	344.1	354.6	317.1
Own ill health/physical disability or pregnancy	82.2	86.3	93.5	101.3	96.6	98.1
Attending an educational institution	139.1	154.0	167.3	172.5	188.6	153.9
Had no need to work	28.3	43.0	35.6	34.3	35.2	30.4
Give others a chance	*4.2	*4.2	*4.2	*4.2	*4.0	*2.9
Welfare payments or pension may be affected	12.1	15.8	10.7	14.3	17.1	11.7
Moved house or on holidays	15.7	20.0	15.8	17.5	13.1	20.1
Family reasons	249.7	270.0	294.6	286.5	301.2	297.2
Ill health of other than self	19.4	22.3	22.8	16.7	24.0	24.5
Childcare	177.3	192.7	200.2	206.4	209.2	191.9
Other family considerations	53.0	55.1	71.6	63.4	68.0	80.7
No jobs in suitable hours	7.6	9.3	9.8	8.3	8.8	13.0
Other reasons	32.5	46.6	32.2	35.3	43.4	37.5
Had a job to go to(a)	26.6	33.4	28.3	33.0	36.7	35.9
Did not know	7.4	4.4	10.6	11.4	8.2	11.5
Total	773.3	862.8	879.6	890.5	922.6	883.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who had a job, but up until the reference week had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT,
Intention to Enter Labour Force Within 12 Months

	INTENTION			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE		Total(a)
	Intended to enter	Might enter	Did not intend to enter	Full- time	Part- time	
<i>Main reason not actively looking for work</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	27.8	..	..	13.8	12.0	27.8
Were available to start work within four weeks	18.3	..	..	9.1	7.7	18.3
Were not available to start work within four weeks	9.5	..	..	*4.7	*4.3	9.5
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	136.1	44.8	47.4	78.9	110.4	239.1
Discouraged jobseeker	15.9	6.5	13.2	10.7	9.5	36.9
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.8	*5.5	10.6	*3.0	5.7	21.1
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	*4.2	—	*0.5	*3.1	*0.5	*4.8
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	*1.4	*0.2	*0.5	*1.4	*1.3	*2.7
No jobs in locality or line of work	*4.9	*0.8	*1.6	*2.7	*2.0	7.8
No jobs at all	*0.5	—	—	*0.5	—	*0.5
Other reasons	120.2	38.4	34.3	68.2	100.9	202.2
Personal reasons	82.5	29.5	27.0	45.4	74.8	146.7
Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy	20.1	12.6	11.5	15.6	17.6	49.0
Attending an educational institution	50.6	12.7	7.1	23.8	45.6	72.4
Other Personal Reasons	11.8	*4.2	8.5	6.0	11.6	25.2
Family reasons	9.2	*4.9	*3.0	7.1	9.1	17.5
Ill health of other than self	*2.5	*0.3	*0.5	*1.8	*1.1	*3.5
Childcare	*4.3	*3.0	*1.6	*4.4	*4.4	9.1
Other family considerations	*2.4	*1.6	*1.0	*0.9	*3.7	*4.9
No jobs in suitable hours	*2.1	*1.0	*0.4	*1.1	*2.8	*3.8
Other reasons	12.3	*2.1	*1.8	6.1	7.3	17.3
Had a job to go to(b)	11.3	*0.7	*0.9	6.5	5.8	12.8
Did not know	*2.9	*0.2	*1.1	*2.0	*1.1	*4.2
Total	163.9	44.8	47.4	92.7	122.4	267.0

.. not applicable

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes those persons who did not know whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and persons who had 'no preference' for full-time or part-time work.

(b) Includes persons who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT,
Intention to Enter Labour Force Within 12 Months *continued*

	INTENTION			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE		Total(a)
	Intended to enter	Might enter	Did not intend to enter	Full- time	Part- time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<i>Main reason not actively looking for work</i>						
.....						
FEMALES						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	37.4	..	..	12.1	21.3	37.4
Were available to start work within four weeks	27.2	..	..	8.0	16.3	27.2
Were not available to start work within four weeks	10.2	..	..	*4.1	*5.0	10.2
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	283.6	105.7	153.5	94.7	393.1	578.8
Discouraged jobseeker	29.7	9.5	26.7	9.4	34.1	68.9
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.9	*3.7	13.9	*1.2	9.2	24.3
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	6.0	*2.1	*4.7	*1.5	8.9	13.2
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	6.1	*0.9	*3.3	*3.4	*4.5	10.7
No jobs in locality or line of work	11.2	*2.1	*3.7	*2.8	9.9	17.1
No jobs at all	*1.6	*0.8	*1.2	*0.5	*1.6	*3.6
Other reasons	253.9	96.2	126.8	85.2	359.0	509.9
Personal reasons	97.2	28.3	36.8	40.2	101.1	170.5
Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy	21.9	9.9	13.9	9.3	27.4	49.1
Attending an educational institution	58.2	11.0	9.3	25.1	50.3	81.5
Other Personal Reasons	17.0	7.4	13.6	5.9	23.4	39.9
Family reasons	116.8	57.1	84.3	33.9	215.7	279.7
Ill health of other than self	8.8	*2.9	7.1	*2.8	12.5	21.1
Childcare	73.9	38.6	58.7	23.8	140.1	182.8
Other family considerations	34.0	15.6	18.4	7.3	63.1	75.8
No jobs in suitable hours	*5.6	*2.6	*0.7	*0.3	8.7	9.2
Other reasons	12.8	*4.2	*2.5	*2.4	14.2	20.2
Had a job to go to(b)	18.2	*1.6	*2.0	6.8	14.6	23.1
Did not know	*3.3	*2.4	*0.4	*1.6	*4.8	7.3
Total	321.0	105.7	153.5	106.8	414.4	616.2

.. not applicable

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes those persons who did not know whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and persons who had 'no preference' for full-time or part-time work.

(b) Includes persons who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT,
Intention to Enter Labour Force Within 12 Months *continued*

	INTENTION			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE		Total(a)
	Intended to enter	Might enter	Did not intend to enter	Full- time	Part- time	
<i>Main reason not actively looking for work</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	65.2	..	..	25.9	33.3	65.2
Were available to start work within four weeks	45.5	..	..	17.1	24.0	45.5
Were not available to start work within four weeks	19.7	..	..	8.8	9.3	19.7
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	419.7	150.5	200.9	173.5	503.5	818.0
Discouraged jobseeker	45.6	16.0	39.9	20.1	43.6	105.8
Considered too young or too old by employers	9.7	9.2	24.6	*4.2	14.9	45.4
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	10.2	*2.1	*5.1	*4.6	9.4	18.0
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	7.5	*1.2	*3.7	*4.9	5.8	13.4
No jobs in locality or line of work	16.1	*2.9	*5.3	*5.4	11.9	24.9
No jobs at all	*2.1	*0.8	*1.2	*1.1	*1.6	*4.1
Other reasons	374.2	134.5	161.0	153.4	459.9	712.2
Personal reasons	179.7	57.9	63.8	85.6	175.9	317.1
Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy	42.1	22.5	25.4	24.8	45.0	98.1
Attending an educational institution	108.8	23.7	16.4	48.9	95.9	153.9
Other Personal Reasons	28.8	11.7	22.0	11.9	35.0	65.1
Family reasons	126.0	62.0	87.3	41.0	224.8	297.2
Ill health of other than self	11.4	*3.3	7.6	*4.6	13.6	24.5
Childcare	78.2	41.6	60.3	28.2	144.5	191.9
Other family considerations	36.4	17.2	19.4	8.2	66.7	80.7
No jobs in suitable hours	7.7	*3.6	*1.1	*1.4	11.4	13.0
Other reasons	25.1	6.2	*4.3	8.5	21.5	37.5
Had a job to go to(b)	29.5	*2.2	*2.8	13.3	20.4	35.9
Did not know	6.2	*2.6	*1.6	*3.6	5.9	11.5
Total	484.9	150.5	200.9	199.4	536.8	883.2

.. not applicable

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes those persons who did not know whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and persons who had 'no preference' for full-time or part-time work.

(b) Includes persons who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

PERSONS WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

	<i>Wanted to work but neither looking nor available</i>	<i>Did not want to work</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(a)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
State of territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	35.3	297.2	356.8	438.9
Victoria	32.4	206.2	256.8	322.1
Queensland	16.8	158.7	177.3	228.7
South Australia	9.7	72.2	83.7	111.0
Western Australia	9.3	68.4	78.8	101.6
Tasmania	*2.4	22.5	28.5	39.8
Northern Territory(b)	*0.5	*3.5	*4.7	6.1
Australian Capital Territory	*1.4	9.7	11.9	17.3
Age group (years)				
15-19	23.6	159.0	183.2	262.1
20-24	14.0	33.4	47.6	75.3
25-34	10.8	48.9	65.3	95.9
35-44	22.8	45.7	76.7	106.2
45-54	17.9	76.2	109.4	146.8
55-59	7.1	86.9	102.1	124.7
60-64	8.2	153.9	170.6	192.5
65-69	*3.4	234.5	243.6	261.9
Relationship in household				
Family member	81.1	685.6	802.9	1 008.4
Husband or wife	41.8	461.9	528.0	620.5
Lone parent	*3.1	12.6	17.1	27.4
Dependent student	25.0	151.5	176.8	245.9
Non-dependent child	8.0	34.5	50.8	75.9
Other family person	*3.1	25.2	30.2	38.7
Non-family member	21.2	124.3	160.1	207.6
Not determined	*5.4	28.6	35.6	49.5
Birthplace				
Born in Australia	73.1	533.7	640.7	835.2
Born outside Australia	34.5	304.8	357.9	430.3
Born in main English speaking countries	6.3	77.4	89.2	112.0
Born in other countries	28.2	227.4	268.7	318.3
Time since last job				
Had a job	82.3	657.6	785.0	982.4
Under twelve months	26.2	89.1	116.2	189.8
1 and under 3 years	24.9	116.0	147.0	194.1
3 and under 5 years	9.9	101.9	116.2	141.6
5 and under 10 years	14.7	193.7	222.7	255.7
10 and under 20 years	*5.0	119.2	138.7	153.4
20 years or more	*1.6	37.5	44.4	47.6
Never had a job	25.3	180.9	213.5	283.2
Main activity				
Home duties or childcare	7.8	31.4	40.8	71.3
Attending an educational institution	40.7	217.2	258.1	358.7
Own disability or handicap	9.2	47.9	74.1	87.2
Retired or voluntarily inactive	6.1	345.9	357.6	401.9
Own illness or injury	34.3	115.1	175.1	205.9
Looking after ill or disabled person	*2.7	16.5	19.7	23.9
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*2.4	37.2	40.3	58.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*2.1	15.7	18.9	27.1
Other	*2.4	11.7	14.1	31.5
Total	107.6	838.5	998.6	1 265.5

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Refers to mainly rural areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	<i>Wanted to work but neither looking nor available</i>	<i>Did not want to work</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(a)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
.....				
FEMALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	71.6	581.9	669.7	859.1
Victoria	51.9	394.7	456.8	615.4
Queensland	34.0	274.3	310.9	433.4
South Australia	14.8	133.4	149.5	198.4
Western Australia	18.9	148.8	168.3	230.1
Tasmania	6.0	38.7	46.0	68.6
Northern Territory(b)	*1.8	7.2	9.5	13.3
Australian Capital Territory	*3.2	16.2	19.8	28.6
Age group (years)				
15-19	25.5	155.5	182.1	258.6
20-24	20.5	64.7	86.4	145.9
25-34	63.5	186.7	255.3	432.1
35-44	50.8	183.8	238.8	400.5
45-54	23.8	245.2	277.1	364.9
55-59	10.9	197.8	213.7	239.0
60-64	*5.0	269.2	280.1	296.2
65-69	*2.1	292.3	297.3	309.7
Relationship in household				
Family member	178.3	1 345.2	1 550.0	2 103.7
Husband or wife	114.0	1 030.1	1 160.4	1 515.0
Lone parent	34.3	116.2	152.2	265.9
Dependent student	22.2	144.1	166.5	228.0
Non-dependent child	3.8	22.0	31.8	48.8
Other family person	*4.0	32.8	39.1	46.1
Non-family member	18.0	194.8	218.5	261.7
Not determined	5.9	55.2	62.2	81.4
Birthplace				
Born in Australia	139.9	1 049.8	1 210.6	1 656.7
Born outside Australia	62.3	545.4	620.0	790.1
Born in main English speaking countries	14.4	147.0	163.3	223.3
Born in other countries	47.9	398.4	456.7	566.8
Time since last job				
Had a job	166.1	1 342.0	1 528.8	2 052.9
Under twelve months	50.7	130.9	182.3	297.4
1 and under 3 years	34.6	173.0	209.5	336.5
3 and under 5 years	23.2	130.4	156.0	227.8
5 and under 10 years	31.4	258.7	292.7	397.5
10 and under 20 years	20.4	272.3	297.4	369.0
20 years or more	5.9	376.7	391.0	424.7
Never had a job	36.1	253.2	301.9	393.9
Main activity				
Home duties or childcare	125.5	932.5	1 063.3	1 499.0
Attending an educational institution	46.1	210.9	257.2	363.0
Own disability or handicap	*2.2	22.0	40.0	42.6
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*3.3	259.6	263.7	275.5
Own illness or injury	16.7	63.4	90.4	106.8
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.3	43.9	47.5	56.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*2.3	28.8	31.4	48.0
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*1.3	29.2	30.6	41.5
Other	*1.5	*4.9	6.4	13.7
Total	202.2	1 595.2	1 830.7	2 446.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Refers to mainly rural areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	<i>Wanted to work but neither looking nor available</i>	<i>Did not want to work</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(a)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS				
State or territory or usual residence				
New South Wales	106.9	879.2	1 026.6	1 298.0
Victoria	84.2	600.9	713.6	937.5
Queensland	50.8	433.1	488.3	662.0
South Australia	24.4	205.7	233.3	309.5
Western Australia	28.1	217.2	247.1	331.7
Tasmania	8.4	61.2	74.5	108.4
Northern Territory(b)	*2.3	10.7	14.2	19.4
Australian Capital Territory	*4.6	25.9	31.7	45.9
Age group (years)				
15-19	49.1	314.4	365.3	520.6
20-24	34.4	98.1	134.0	221.2
25-34	74.3	235.6	320.6	528.0
35-44	73.6	229.5	315.6	506.7
45-54	41.7	321.4	386.5	511.8
55-59	17.9	284.7	315.8	363.7
60-64	13.2	423.1	450.6	488.7
65-69	*5.5	526.8	540.9	571.6
Relationship in household				
Family member	259.4	2 030.8	2 352.8	3 112.1
Husband or wife	155.8	1 492.0	1 688.4	2 135.5
Lone parent	37.4	128.9	169.2	293.2
Dependent student	47.2	295.5	343.3	473.9
Non-dependent child	11.8	56.5	82.6	124.7
Other family person	7.2	58.0	69.3	84.8
Non-family member	39.1	319.1	378.6	469.3
Not determined	11.3	83.8	97.8	130.9
Birthplace				
Born in Australia	213.0	1 583.6	1 851.3	2 492.0
Born outside Australia	969.0	850.2	977.9	1 220.4
Born in main English speaking countries	20.8	224.4	252.5	335.3
Born in other countries	76.1	625.8	725.4	885.1
Time since last job				
Had a job	248.4	1 999.6	2 313.8	3 035.3
Under twelve months	76.8	220.0	298.4	487.2
1 and under 3 years	59.5	289.0	356.4	530.7
3 and under 5 years	33.1	232.4	272.1	369.4
5 and under 10 years	46.1	452.4	515.5	653.3
10 and under 20 years	25.4	391.5	436.0	522.4
20 years or more	7.5	414.2	435.3	472.3
Never had a job	61.5	434.1	515.4	677.1
Main activity				
Home duties or childcare	133.3	963.8	1 104.1	1 570.2
Attending an educational institution	86.7	428.1	515.3	721.7
Own disability or handicap	11.4	69.9	114.2	129.8
Retired or voluntarily inactive	9.5	605.5	621.3	677.4
Own illness or injury	50.9	178.6	265.5	312.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	6.0	60.4	67.2	80.7
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*4.7	66.0	71.7	106.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.4	44.9	49.4	68.7
Other	*3.9	16.6	20.5	45.1
Total	309.8	2 433.7	2 829.2	3 712.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Refers to mainly rural areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

PERSONS WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT, Main Source of Income

	<i>Wanted to work but neither looking nor available</i>	<i>Did not want to work</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(a)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
Government pension or cash benefit	59.7	481.7	587.0	716.6
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*2.0	14.1	16.5	21.5
Dividends or interest	*2.4	39.0	41.7	52.5
Superannuation or annuity	*1.9	87.0	90.2	102.0
Worker's compensation, accident or sickness insurance	*5.6	8.7	15.6	18.5
Other income(b)	*5.4	20.6	26.5	40.8
Nil or someone else's income	30.7	187.4	221.0	313.5
Total	107.6	838.5	998.6	1 265.5
FEMALES				
Government pension or cash benefit	81.1	783.7	892.4	1 143.7
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*1.0	28.5	29.5	33.8
Dividends or interest	*1.1	52.9	54.0	60.6
Superannuation or annuity	*0.9	56.8	58.9	62.6
Worker's compensation, accident or sickness insurance	*1.2	*3.3	*4.8	6.4
Other income(b)	*3.5	22.8	26.6	40.9
Nil or someone else's income	113.4	647.2	764.5	1 098.9
Total	202.2	1 595.2	1 830.7	2 446.9
PERSONS				
Government pension or cash benefit	140.7	1 265.4	1 479.5	1 860.3
Profit or loss from own business or rental properties	*3.0	42.6	46.0	55.3
Dividends or interest	*3.5	91.8	95.7	113.1
Superannuation or annuity	*2.8	143.7	149.0	164.6
Worker's compensation, accident or sickness insurance	6.8	12.1	20.4	24.9
Other income(b)	8.9	43.5	53.0	81.7
Nil or someone else's income	144.1	834.6	985.6	1 412.4
Total	309.8	2 433.7	2 829.2	3 712.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Includes child support or maintenance.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	*3.0	*3.6	*2.1	*3.9	*2.7	*4.1
20-24	*1.6	*1.3	*1.2	*2.3	*1.6	*1.3
25-34	*1.9	*2.5	*0.7	*0.9	*1.8	*2.9
35-44	*0.9	*2.4	*2.4	*3.3	*4.2	*2.3
45-54	*1.1	*3.3	*2.4	6.9	*2.8	*3.4
55-59	*4.8	*3.2	*2.5	*4.6	*5.1	*4.5
60-64	8.8	12.9	10.7	9.1	8.3	9.7
65-69	9.6	9.7	7.4	8.8	10.3	8.7
Whether looked for work in the last twelve months						
Had looked for work	13.8	18.1	9.9	16.1	13.7	14.2
Less than 13 weeks ago	9.9	13.3	7.3	11.7	9.8	10.8
13 and less than 26 weeks ago	*1.4	*1.9	*0.6	*2.1	*2.1	*0.4
26 and less than 52 weeks ago	*2.5	*2.9	*2.1	*2.3	*1.8	*2.9
Had not looked for work	17.9	20.9	19.5	23.7	23.0	22.7
Whether intended to enter the labour force in the next twelve months						
Intended to enter(a)	17.8	22.9	15.6	24.4	21.2	22.3
Did not intend to enter(b)	13.9	16.1	13.9	15.3	15.5	14.5
Time since last job						
Had a job	28.3	35.1	26.8	33.6	32.8	31.5
Under 12 months	*4.9	6.7	*4.1	*4.0	6.8	*5.5
1 and under 3 years	10.3	8.9	6.2	7.4	9.7	*5.6
3 and under 5 years	5.9	7.4	6.7	8.8	5.0	*5.5
5 and under 10 years	*5.2	7.4	7.1	9.2	9.3	10.0
10 years and under 20 years	*2.0	*2.8	*2.4	*3.3	*2.0	*4.2
20 years or more	*—	*1.7	*0.4	*0.9	*—	*0.7
Never had a job	*3.3	*3.9	*2.7	6.2	*3.9	*5.4
Total	31.7	39.0	29.5	39.7	36.7	36.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes 'might enter the labour force'.

(b) Includes 'did not know'.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	*3.2	*1.9	*3.5	*3.1	*3.5	*2.3
20-24	*3.3	*0.4	*3.2	*3.4	*1.7	*1.5
25-34	7.8	11.5	9.9	11.3	7.5	9.9
35-44	18.1	16.1	21.0	12.8	18.3	13.2
45-54	20.5	19.4	23.1	18.4	18.5	22.6
55-59	8.3	10.7	11.2	13.1	12.2	6.9
60-64	8.0	8.2	9.6	9.4	8.9	6.2
65-69	5.7	*4.8	7.9	7.1	*3.6	6.2
Whether looked for work in the last twelve months						
Had looked for work	21.0	25.4	27.8	23.7	23.2	22.7
Less than 13 weeks ago	15.2	19.6	21.7	17.0	17.4	16.9
13 and less than 26 weeks ago	*3.6	*1.0	*2.8	*2.5	*3.5	*1.8
26 and less than 52 weeks ago	*2.2	*4.9	*3.3	*4.2	*2.3	*4.0
Had not looked for work	53.9	47.5	61.6	55.0	51.0	46.2
Whether intended to enter the labour force in the next twelve months						
Intended to enter(a)	43.0	40.4	56.0	48.3	46.1	39.2
Did not intend to enter(b)	31.8	32.5	33.4	30.4	28.2	29.7
Time since last job						
Had a job	68.5	67.5	79.2	67.2	65.2	60.2
Under 12 months	6.8	8.8	7.5	*4.0	8.4	7.9
1 and under 3 years	12.9	*4.6	14.5	13.8	12.4	10.3
3 and under 5 years	9.4	13.7	11.9	12.2	8.5	6.6
5 and under 10 years	17.7	15.6	21.0	15.9	12.3	13.2
10 years and under 20 years	12.1	15.3	15.5	13.8	13.7	13.4
20 years or more	9.6	9.7	8.7	7.5	9.8	8.7
Never had a job	6.3	*5.4	10.3	11.5	9.1	8.7
Total	74.8	72.9	89.4	78.7	74.3	68.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes 'might enter the labour force'.

(b) Includes 'did not know'.

	Sep 1994	Sep 1995	Sep 1996	Sep 1997	Sep 1998	Sep 1999
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS						
Age group (years)						
15-19	6.2	*5.5	5.7	7.0	6.2	6.4
20-24	*4.9	*1.7	*4.4	5.7	*3.3	*2.8
25-34	9.7	14.1	10.6	12.2	9.3	12.8
35-44	19.0	18.5	23.4	16.2	22.5	15.6
45-54	21.6	22.7	25.5	25.3	21.2	26.0
55-59	13.1	13.9	13.6	17.7	17.3	11.4
60-64	16.8	21.0	20.3	18.5	17.2	15.9
65-69	15.2	14.6	15.3	15.9	13.9	15.0
Whether looked for work in the last twelve months						
Had looked for work	34.8	43.5	37.7	39.8	36.9	36.9
Less than 13 weeks ago	25.1	32.9	29.0	28.6	27.2	27.7
13 and less than 26 weeks ago	*5.0	*2.9	*3.4	*4.6	*5.6	*2.2
26 and less than 52 weeks ago	*4.7	7.7	*5.4	6.5	*4.1	6.9
Had not looked for work	71.8	68.4	81.2	78.7	74.0	68.9
Whether intended to enter the labour force in the next twelve months						
Intended to enter(a)	60.8	63.3	71.6	72.7	67.3	61.6
Did not intend to enter(b)	45.7	48.6	47.3	45.7	43.7	44.2
Time since last job						
Had a job	96.9	102.6	106.0	100.8	98.0	91.7
Under 12 months	11.7	15.5	11.5	8.0	15.2	13.4
1 and under 3 years	23.2	13.5	20.7	21.1	22.1	16.0
3 and under 5 years	15.3	21.1	18.6	21.0	13.5	12.1
5 and under 10 years	22.9	23.0	28.2	25.1	21.6	23.2
10 years and under 20 years	14.2	18.1	17.9	17.2	15.8	17.6
20 years or more	9.6	11.4	9.1	8.4	9.8	9.4
Never had a job	9.6	9.3	13.0	17.7	13.0	14.1
Total	106.5	111.9	118.9	118.4	110.9	105.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes 'might enter the labour force'.

(b) Includes 'did not know'.

AVAILABLE FOR WORK .

	<i>Childcare was the main reason for not looking</i>	<i>Childcare was a reason for not looking</i>	<i>Not available for work for childcare reasons</i>	<i>Total</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
.....				
FEMALES				
Age group (years)				
15–19	*2.6	*2.6	*1.0	*3.6
20–24	20.8	22.9	6.1	29.1
25–34	91.2	102.7	31.4	134.2
35–44	63.1	68.2	19.8	88.0
45–54	*5.0	6.0	*1.3	7.3
55–69	*0.1	*0.1	*—	*0.1
Age of youngest child				
0–2	96.5	106.2	39.2	145.3
3–5	49.7	54.9	9.4	64.3
6–11	35.3	39.8	10.7	50.5
12 and over	*1.4	*1.8	*0.3	*2.1
Relationship in household				
Family member	177.9	197.7	59.7	257.4
Husband or wife	130.3	142.4	45.8	188.2
Lone parent	47.6	55.3	13.9	69.2
Not determined	*4.9	*4.9	*—	*4.9
Birthplace				
Born in Australia	133.1	145.6	42.8	188.5
Born outside Australia	49.8	57.0	16.9	73.8
Born in main English-speaking countries	17.9	20.5	*4.5	24.9
Born in other countries	31.9	36.5	12.4	48.9
Total	182.8	202.6	59.7	262.3

PERSONS

Age group (years)				
15–19	*2.6	*2.6	*1.0	*3.6
20–24	21.2	23.2	6.1	29.4
25–34	94.5	106.2	31.9	138.0
35–44	65.9	71.5	21.0	92.6
45–54	7.0	8.5	*1.5	10.0
55–69	*0.7	*0.7	*—	*0.7
Age of youngest child				
0–2	98.4	108.1	39.6	147.7
3–5	53.2	59.0	9.9	68.9
6–11	38.4	43.4	11.4	54.9
12 and over	*1.8	*2.2	*0.6	*2.8
Relationship in household				
Family member	187.0	207.8	61.1	268.9
Husband or wife	133.9	147.0	46.2	193.2
Lone parent	53.1	60.9	14.9	75.8
Not determined	*4.9	*4.9	*0.5	*5.4
Birthplace				
Born in Australia	138.3	151.5	43.6	195.1
Born outside Australia	53.6	61.2	17.9	79.2
Born in main English-speaking countries	18.4	21.1	*4.5	25.6
Born in other countries	35.2	40.1	13.4	53.6
Total	191.9	212.8	61.6	274.3

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS . .		Total (a)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	
MALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Job loser	463.1	59.4	436.3	75.3	523.4
Retrenched	181.4	*3.3	158.1	23.5	184.8
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	42.1	*2.7	18.6	22.4	45.0
Own ill health or injury	235.9	43.0	247.3	27.5	279.3
Business closed down for economic reasons	*3.8	10.5	12.2	*2.0	14.3
Job leaver	356.1	54.3	323.7	82.9	411.4
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	20.2	*0.5	13.8	6.7	20.7
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	27.5	*0.4	11.2	16.1	28.0
Retired, did not want to work any longer	157.5	22.1	163.6	14.9	179.6
Own disability or handicap	36.2	*4.6	35.4	*4.9	40.8
Returned to studies	41.8	*1.7	20.9	22.2	43.6
Pregnancy or to have children	*0.9	*—	*0.5	*0.4	*0.9
To get married	*0.5	*—	*0.5	*—	*0.5
To look after family, house or someone else	15.8	*4.7	17.7	*2.4	20.9
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	23.3	*2.0	18.6	6.3	25.3
Business closed down for other reasons	7.0	14.0	18.8	*1.5	21.0
Other	25.5	*4.3	22.5	7.6	30.1
Occupation in last job					
Managers and administrators	39.1	19.6	56.6	*2.2	59.1
Professionals	76.8	8.6	67.1	16.8	85.5
Associate professionals	73.7	19.3	84.5	8.0	93.2
Tradespersons and related workers	151.1	34.3	164.8	16.6	185.4
Advanced clerical and service workers	6.4	*0.5	*5.1	*1.8	6.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	73.8	*1.9	60.1	15.4	75.9
Intermediate production and transport workers	160.2	12.2	142.6	26.2	172.3
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	62.9	*4.5	40.4	26.4	67.7
Labourers and related workers	175.2	12.8	138.6	45.0	188.6
Whether looked for work in the past twelve months					
Had looked for work	109.8	13.9	81.3	38.9	123.9
Less than 13 weeks ago	78.8	7.3	54.7	29.8	86.3
13 to 26 weeks ago	10.6	*2.6	8.2	*4.0	13.2
26 to 52 weeks ago	20.4	*3.9	18.3	*5.0	24.3
Had not looked for work	709.4	99.9	678.7	119.4	810.9
Total	819.2	113.7	759.9	158.3	934.8

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes persons who were contributing family workers and unpaid voluntary workers, and persons whose full-time or part-time work in their last job varied and those who did not know.

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS . . .		Total (a)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	
FEMALES					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Job loser	476.1	33.8	250.3	253.6	510.8
Retrenched	199.1	6.8	98.9	105.0	206.4
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	88.2	*2.0	23.1	66.0	90.5
Own ill health or injury	181.9	12.6	114.6	77.4	194.5
Business closed down for economic reasons	6.9	12.5	13.7	*5.2	19.4
Job leaver	1 036.7	74.4	653.7	449.4	1 117.4
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	69.2	*1.7	28.7	40.7	70.9
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	21.9	*0.2	8.3	13.6	22.1
Retired, did not want to work any longer	208.2	18.7	137.8	87.8	228.1
Own disability or handicap	19.9	*0.6	12.1	8.5	20.8
Returned to studies	53.6	*0.2	17.8	35.0	54.5
Pregnancy or to have children	373.3	8.8	258.2	122.1	383.0
To get married	21.7	*0.2	16.4	*5.6	22.0
To look after family, house or someone else	104.7	11.0	55.4	59.6	116.7
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	114.4	*5.1	73.0	44.9	120.3
Business closed down for other reasons	7.5	22.6	21.7	8.0	30.4
Other	42.3	*5.2	24.3	23.6	48.6
Occupation in main job					
Managers and administrators	15.7	11.0	21.4	6.1	27.7
Professionals	182.0	7.1	115.7	72.1	189.4
Associate professionals	95.7	30.6	98.4	27.5	126.3
Tradespersons and related workers	59.9	8.3	43.3	23.8	68.3
Advanced clerical and service workers	110.5	12.6	82.0	39.8	123.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	397.4	12.9	219.4	188.1	412.2
Intermediate production and transport workers	102.5	*2.8	76.5	26.9	105.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	263.3	12.4	115.5	159.0	276.9
Labourers and related workers	285.8	10.5	131.7	159.8	298.6
Whether looked for work in the past twelve months					
Had looked for work	193.5	12.4	90.9	111.4	206.6
Less than 13 weeks ago	139.8	8.4	69.7	75.7	148.5
13 to 26 weeks ago	22.8	*1.2	10.2	13.7	24.5
26 to 52 weeks ago	30.9	*2.7	11.0	22.0	33.7
Had not looked for work	1 319.3	95.8	813.1	591.5	1 421.6
Total	1 512.8	108.2	904.0	703.0	1 628.2

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were contributing family workers and unpaid voluntary workers, and persons whose full-time or part-time work in their last job varied and those who did not know.

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT		FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS . . .		Total (a)
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	
PERSONS					
Reason for ceasing last job					
Job loser	939.2	93.3	686.6	328.9	1 034.1
Retrenched	380.4	10.1	257.1	128.4	391.2
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	130.3	*4.6	41.7	88.4	135.5
Own ill health or injury	417.8	55.6	361.9	104.9	473.8
Business closed down for economic reasons	10.7	23.0	25.9	7.2	33.7
Job leaver	1 392.8	128.7	977.4	532.3	1 528.9
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	89.4	*2.2	42.5	47.4	91.6
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	49.4	*0.6	19.5	29.7	50.1
Retired, did not want to work any longer	365.7	40.8	301.5	102.7	407.7
Own disability or handicap	56.0	*5.2	47.5	13.4	61.6
Returned to studies	95.3	*1.9	38.8	57.2	98.1
Pregnancy or to have children	374.2	8.8	258.7	122.5	383.9
To get married	22.2	*0.2	17.0	*5.6	22.5
To look after family, house or someone else	120.5	15.8	73.2	62.0	137.6
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	137.7	7.1	91.6	51.2	145.6
Business closed down for other reasons	14.5	36.5	40.5	9.5	51.4
Other	67.8	9.5	46.8	31.2	78.8
Occupation in main job					
Managers and administrators	54.8	30.6	78.0	8.2	86.9
Professionals	258.8	15.8	182.8	88.8	274.9
Associate professionals	169.4	49.9	182.9	35.4	219.5
Tradespersons and related workers	211.0	42.7	208.1	40.4	253.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	116.9	13.0	87.2	41.5	130.4
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	471.2	14.8	279.5	203.4	488.1
Intermediate production and transport workers	262.7	15.0	219.2	53.1	277.7
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	326.2	17.0	155.9	185.4	344.5
Labourers and related workers	461.0	23.3	270.3	204.8	487.2
Whether looked for work in the past twelve months					
Had looked for work	303.3	26.2	172.2	150.3	330.5
Less than 13 weeks ago	218.6	15.8	124.4	105.6	234.8
13 to 26 weeks ago	33.4	*3.8	18.4	17.7	37.7
26 to 52 weeks ago	51.3	6.7	29.4	27.0	58.0
Had not looked for work	2 028.7	195.7	1 491.8	710.9	2 232.5
Total	2 332.0	221.9	1 664.0	861.2	2 563.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Includes persons who were contributing family workers and unpaid voluntary workers, and persons whose full-time or part-time work in their last job varied and those who did not know.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	438.9	322.1	228.7	111.0	101.6	39.8	6.1	17.3	1 265.5
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	117.4	97.6	68.1	37.0	32.1	13.7	*1.9	6.8	374.6
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	82.1	65.3	51.3	27.3	22.8	11.4	*1.4	*5.4	267.0
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work, were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	73.5	58.3	45.8	24.9	19.7	10.7	*1.4	*4.9	239.1
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged jobseekers	11.3	11.9	5.9	*3.2	*2.8	*1.0	*0.2	*0.7	36.9
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking and not available to start work within four weeks	35.3	32.4	16.8	9.7	9.3	*2.4	*0.5	*1.4	107.6
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force for childcare reasons, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	*4.9	*1.9	*1.8	*1.5	*0.4	*1.0	*0.2	*0.2	12.0
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who had previously had a job	327.0	250.1	182.4	91.5	82.2	31.7	*4.6	12.9	982.4

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	859.1	615.4	433.4	198.4	230.1	68.6	13.3	28.6	2 446.9
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	261.0	210.5	156.5	63.7	80.6	28.6	*5.6	11.9	818.4
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	189.4	158.6	122.4	48.9	61.8	22.6	*3.8	8.7	616.2
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work, were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	178.4	150.2	111.1	47.3	59.1	21.5	*3.5	7.8	578.8
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged jobseekers	23.7	15.0	15.2	*5.6	*5.1	*3.5	*—	*0.8	68.9
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking and not available to start work within four weeks	71.6	51.9	34.0	14.8	18.9	6.0	*1.8	*3.2	202.2
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force for childcare reasons, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	94.0	64.0	48.4	19.8	23.3	7.9	*1.9	*3.0	262.3
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who had previously had a job	690.1	521.1	372.7	173.1	203.0	59.2	10.2	23.5	2 052.9

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	1 298.0	937.5	662.0	309.5	331.7	108.4	19.4	45.9	3 712.4
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	378.4	308.1	224.5	100.6	112.7	42.3	7.5	18.8	1 193.0
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	271.4	223.9	173.7	76.2	84.6	33.9	*5.2	14.2	883.2
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work, were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	251.9	208.5	156.9	72.2	78.8	32.1	*4.9	12.7	818.0
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged jobseekers	35.0	26.9	21.1	8.7	8.0	*4.4	*0.2	*1.5	105.8
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking and not available to start work within four weeks	106.9	84.2	50.8	24.4	28.1	8.4	*2.3	*4.6	309.8
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force for childcare reasons, who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work	98.9	65.9	50.2	21.3	23.8	9.0	*2.1	*3.2	274.3
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who had previously had a job	1 017.1	771.2	555.1	264.6	285.2	90.9	14.8	36.3	3 035.3

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication are compiled from data collected in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in September 1999 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the LFS and supplementary surveys.

SCOPE

3 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, there were approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who were out of scope of this survey. The exclusion of these persons has only minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual States and Territories, except the Northern Territory. Please contact the person listed on the front cover of this publication if you require more information.

4 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with handicaps), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

5 Persons aged 70 years and over were also excluded from this survey.

COVERAGE

6 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in September 1999. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

7 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information see the Technical Notes.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

8 The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CHANGES IN CLASSIFICATIONS

9 From August 1996, occupation data are classified according to the second edition of the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations. For more detailed information see *ASCO — Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition* (Cat. no. 1220.0).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

10 Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 1999 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.

11 Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. Since it was introduced, this survey has been conducted on various proportional samples and therefore sampling error associated with previous surveys may vary from sampling error for this survey.

12 Persons Not in the Labour Force Surveys conducted up to and including September 1987 included all persons aged 15 years and over. From September 1988, the survey excluded all persons aged 70 years and over.

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

13 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

14 Both this publication and *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0) contain the following estimates for September 1999:

- the civilian population;
- persons in the labour force (employed and unemployed); and
- persons not in the labour force (State or Territory, sex, relationship in household), appear in this publication, as well as in the September 1998 edition of *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0).

15 The difference between the estimates appearing in this publication and *Labour Force, Australia* is chiefly the result of excluding persons aged 70 years and over from estimates appearing in this supplementary survey publication. This is in line with the scope of this supplementary survey. Over one-quarter (32%) of the civilian population aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force were excluded from answering questions from this supplementary survey because they were aged 70 years and over.

16 This publication also excludes persons in institutions (e.g. boarding schools, hospitals, prisons, retirement homes, homes for the handicapped), which are included in estimates of persons not in the labour force contained in *Labour Force, Australia*.

17 Further information on persons not in the labour force is available in *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0). Note that this information refers to all persons aged 15 years and over.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

18 The Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was first conducted in May 1975 and then in May 1977. The survey was collected twice a year (March and September) from 1979 to 1987. It has since been conducted annually. Results of previous surveys have been published in *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6220.0) and the standard data service *Persons Not in the Labour Force* on hardcopy, Australia (Cat. no. 6220.0.40.001) for 1994 and 1995.

NEXT SURVEY

19 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 2000.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

20 Australian Bureau of Statistics 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*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

21 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (Cat. no. 6222.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6245.0)
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (Cat. no. 6265.0)

22 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office or from the ABS Information Service on the World Wide Web <URL: <http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

The ABS has a range of unpublished data available from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Birthplace (2)).

To obtain unpublished data or more information about the customised data service contact Kate Nielsen on Canberra 02 6252 5759, or by facsimile on 02 6252 7784.

Population 1	Persons not in the labour force.
Population 2	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work.
Population 3	Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force.
Population 4	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks.
Population 4A	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work due to childcare reasons, and were available to start work within four weeks.
Population 5	Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged jobseekers.
Population 6	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and not available to start work within four weeks.
Population 6A	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work nor available to start work within four weeks due to childcare reasons
Population 7	Persons not in the labour force for childcare reasons who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work.
Population 8	Persons not in the labour force who had previously had a job.

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>
1 State or Territory of usual residence	All	7B Birthplace(1)	All
New South Wales		Born in Australia	
Victoria		Born outside Australia	
Queensland		Born in main English-speaking countries	
South Australia		Born in other countries	
Western Australia			
Tasmania		7C Birthplace(2)	All
Northern Territory		Born in Australia	
Australian Capital Territory		Born outside Australia	
2 Area of usual residence	All	The Middle East and North Africa	
State Capital City		Africa (excluding North Africa)	
Balance of State/Territory		Northern America	
3 Region of usual residence	All	South America, Central America and the Caribbean	
Standard Labour Force Dissemination Regions		North-East Asia	
4 Sex	All	South-East Asia	
Males		Southern Asia	
Females		Europe and the Former USSR	
5 Marital status	All	Former Yugoslav Republics	
Married		Germany	
Not-married		Greece	
6A Relationship in household(1)	All	Italy	
Family member		Netherlands	
Husband or wife		Poland	
With dependants		UK and Ireland	
Without dependants		Oceania and Antarctica	
Lone parent		New Zealand	
With dependants		8 Age group (years)	All
Without dependants		15-19	
Dependent student		20-24	
Non-dependent child		25-34	
Other family person		35-44	
Non-family member		45-54	
Lone person		55-59	
Not living alone		60-64	
Not determined		65-69	
6B Relationship in household(2)	All	9 Persons not in the labour force summary variable	1, 8
Family member		With marginal attachment to the labour force	
Husband or wife		Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	
With children under 15		Were available to start work within four weeks	
Without children under 15		Were not available to start work within four weeks	
Lone parent		Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
With children under 15		Discouraged jobseekers	
With dependent students but without children under 15		Other	
Without dependants		Without marginal attachment to the labour force	
Dependent student		Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	
Non-dependent child		Did not want to work	
Other family person		Permanently unable to work	
Non-family member		10 Whether wanted to work	1, 8
Lone person		Wanted to work	
Not living alone		Might want to work	
Family status not determined		Did not want to work	
7A Birthplace and period of arrival	All	Did not know	
Born in Australia			
Born outside Australia			
Arrived before 1971			
Arrived 1971 to 1980			
Arrived 1981 to 1990			
Arrived 1991 to survey date			

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>
11 Whether looked for work in the last 12 months	All	15 Occupation in last job	All
Had looked for work		Last job less than 20 years ago	
Less than 5 weeks ago		Managers and administrators	
5 and less than 8 weeks ago		Professionals	
8 and less than 13 weeks ago		Associate Professionals	
13-52 weeks ago		Tradespersons and related workers	
13 and less than 26 weeks ago		Advanced clerical and service workers	
26 and less than 39 weeks ago		Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	
39 to 52 weeks ago		Intermediate production and transport workers	
Had not looked for work		Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	
12 Main activity when not in the labour force	All	Labourers and related workers	
Home duties or childcare		Last job 20 or more years ago	
Attending an educational institution		Had never had a job	
Retired or voluntarily inactive		16 Status in employment in last job	All
Own disability or handicap		Last job less than 20 years ago	
Own illness or injury		Employer	
Looking after ill or disabled person		Own account worker	
Travel, holiday or leisure activity		Employee	
Worked in unpaid voluntary job		Contributing family worker	
Other		Unpaid voluntary worker	
13 Time since last job	All	Last job 20 or more years ago	
Had a job		Had never had a job	
Under 12 months		17 Full-time or part-time status in last job	All
1 and under 4 weeks		Last job less than 20 years ago	
4 and under 8 weeks		Full-time	
8 and under 13 weeks		Part-time	
13 and under 26 weeks		Varied/did not know	
26 and under 39 weeks		Last job 20 or more years ago	
39 and under 52 weeks		Had never had a job	
1 and under 3 years		18A Intention to enter the labour force	All
3 and under 10 years		Intended to enter the labour force	
3 and under 5 years		Might enter the labour force	
5 and under 10 years		Did not intend to enter the labour force	
10 years or more		Did not know	
10 and under 20 years		Permanently unable to work	
20 years or more		18B Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	All
Never had a job		Intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	
14 Reason for ceasing last job	All	Might enter the labour force in the next 12 months	
Job loser		Did not intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	
Retrenched		Did not know	
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies		Permanently unable to work	
Own ill health or injury		19 Main source of income	All
Business closed down for economic reasons		Government pension or cash benefit	
Job leaver		Profit or loss from own business	
Unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours		Profit or loss from rental properties	
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies		Dividends or interest	
Retired, did not want to work any longer		Child support or maintenance	
Own disability or handicap		Superannuation or annuity	
Returned to studies		Workers compensation, accident or sickness insurance	
Pregnancy or to have children		Other income	
To look after family, house or someone else		Nil or someone else's income	
To have holiday, to moved house or spouse transferred		20 Type of work preferred	2-7
Business closed down for other reasons		Full-time work preferred	
Other		Part-time work preferred	
		No preference for full-time or part-time work	

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data item</i>	<i>Populations</i>
21 Main reason for not actively looking for work	3, 4, 4A	22 All reasons for not actively looking for work <i>continued</i>	4, 4A
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work		Welfare payments or pension may be affected	
Were available to start work within four weeks		Moved house or holidays	
Were not available to start work within four weeks		Family reasons	
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks		Ill health of other than self	
Discouraged jobseeker		Childcare	
Considered too young or too old by employers		Other family considerations	
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience		No jobs in suitable hours	
Difficulties with language or ethnic background		Other reasons	
No jobs in locality or line of work		Had a job to go to	
No jobs at all		Did not know	
Other reasons		23 Reason not available to start work within four weeks	6, 6A
Personal reasons		Personal reasons	
Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy		Own ill health or physical disability	
Attending an educational institution		Pregnancy	
Had no need to work		Studying or returning to studies	
Give others a chance		Moved house or holidays	
Welfare payments or pension may be affected		Family reasons	
Moved house or holidays		Ill health of other than self	
Family reasons		Unable to find suitable childcare	
Ill health of other than self		Children too young, preferred to look after children	
Childcare		On a job-related training program	
No childcare in locality		Other reasons	
No childcare available at all		24 Marginal attachment summary variable	3
Cost or too expensive		Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	
Booked out or no places available		Were available to start work within four weeks	
Children too young or too old		Were not available to start work within four weeks	
Prefers to look after children		Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	
Quality of childcare unsuitable		Discouraged jobseekers	
Other childcare reasons		Other	
Other family considerations		25 Age of youngest child	4a, 6a, 7
No jobs in suitable hours		0–2 years	
Other reasons		3–4 years	
Had a job to go to		5 years	
Did not know		6–9 years	
22 All reasons for not actively looking for work	4, 4A	10–11 years	
Discouraged jobseeker		12 years and over	
Considered too young or too old by employers		26 Number of children	4a, 6a, 7
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience		Aged 0–2 years	
Difficulties with language or ethnic background		Aged 3–4 years	
No jobs in locality or line of work		Aged 5 years	
No jobs in suitable hours		Aged 6–9 years	
No jobs at all		Aged 10–11 years	
Other reasons			
Personal reasons			
Own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy			
Attending an educational institution			
Had no need to work			
Give others a chance			

APPENDIX SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Supplementary and special supplementary surveys collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary and special labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. It may be possible to order unpublished data from these surveys by contacting the ABS.

- *Career Experience*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1998 (Cat. no. 6254.0)
- *Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications*. Final issue 1993 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6243.0)
- *Child Care*. Irregular. Latest issue June 1999 (Cat. no. 4402.0)
- *Education and Training Experience*. Irregular. Latest issue 1997 (Cat. no. 6278.0)
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership*. Annual. Latest issue August 1999 (Cat. no. 6310.0)
- *Employment Benefits*. Final issue August 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6334.0.40.001)
- *Forms of Employment*. Irregular. Latest issue August 1998 (Cat. no. 6359.0)
- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons*. Annual. Latest issue July 1999 (Cat. no. 6222.0)
- *Labour Force Experience*. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1999 (Cat. no. 6206.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment*. Final issue February 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6235.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families*. Annual. Latest issue June 1998 (Cat. no. 6224.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1996 (Cat. no. 6250.0)
- *Labour Mobility*. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1998 (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Multiple Jobholding*. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997 (Cat. no. 6216.0)
- *Participation in Education*. Final issue September 1999 (Cat. no. 6272.0)
- *Persons Employed at Home*. Irregular. Latest issue September 1995 (Cat. no. 6275.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force*. Annual. Latest issue September 1999 (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force*. Final issue July 1995 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6264.0.40.001)
- *Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force*. Final issue September 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6267.0.40.001)
- *Retirement and Retirement Intentions*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1997 (Cat. no. 6238.0)
- *Retrenchment and Redundancy*. Irregular. Latest issue July 1997 (Cat. no. 6266.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience*. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 1998 (Cat. no. 6245.0)
- *Superannuation*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1995 (Cat. no. 6319.0)
- *Trade Union Members*. Two-yearly. August 1996 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6325.0)
- *Transition from Education to Work*. Annual. Latest issue May 1999 (Cat. no. 6227.0)
- *Underemployed Workers*. Annual. Latest issue September 1998 (Cat. no. 6265.0)
- *Working Arrangements*. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997 (Cat. no. 6342.0)

TECHNICAL NOTE STANDARD ERRORS

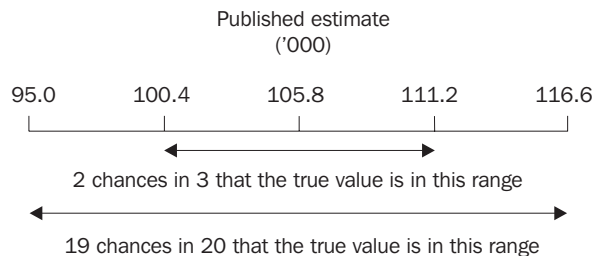
INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in these tables are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those 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 2 chances in 3 that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 SEs for general application are given in table T1. Since they are based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics, these numbers will not give a precise measure of the SE of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 3 shows the estimated number of persons in Australia who were discouraged jobseekers was 105,800. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 150,000 table T1 shows the SE for Australia will be between 5,300 and 6,150 and can be approximated by interpolation as 5,400 (rounded to the nearest 50). Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 100,400 to 111,200 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 95,000 to 116,600. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



4 As can be seen from the SE table, the smaller the estimate the higher is 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 in this publication, only estimates with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

5 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is:

$$RSE(x/y) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 + [RSE(y)]^2}$$

6 Considering the example above, of the 105,800 persons who were discouraged jobseekers, 36,900 or 34.9% were males. The SE of 36,900 is approximately 3,550 so the RSE is 9.6%. The RSE for 105,800 is 5.1%. Applying

TECHNICAL NOTE STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES *continued*

the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $\sqrt{(9.6)^2 - (5.1)^2}$ or 8.1%, giving a SE for the proportion (34.9%) of 2.8 percentage points. Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the proportion of discouraged jobseekers who were males was between 32.1% and 37.7% and 19 chances in 20 the proportion was within the range 29.3% to 40.5%.

DIFFERENCES

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

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

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

9 SEs contained in table T1 are applicable to all estimates from this survey.

T1

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	AUSTRALIA . . .									
	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	SE	RSE
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	..	110	200	170	180	110	130	140	90	90.0
200	170	190	280	230	250	150	170	170	150	75.0
300	240	250	340	270	300	180	200	200	210	70.0
500	350	360	440	340	380	220	250	230	300	60.0
700	450	440	510	390	440	260	280	260	380	54.3
1,000	570	550	600	450	520	300	330	290	490	49.0
1,500	740	700	720	530	620	350	380	330	630	42.0
2,000	880	830	820	600	700	390	430	370	760	38.0
2,500	1 000	950	900	650	750	450	450	400	900	36.0
3,000	1 100	1 050	1 000	700	850	450	500	450	1 000	33.3
3,500	1 250	1 100	1 050	750	900	500	550	450	1 050	30.0
4,000	1 300	1 200	1 100	800	950	500	550	500	1 150	28.8
5,000	1 500	1 350	1 250	900	1 050	550	600	500	1 300	26.0
7,000	1 800	1 550	1 450	1 000	1 200	650	700	600	1 600	22.9
10,000	2 100	1 850	1 700	1 150	1 350	750	800	700	1 900	19.0
15,000	2 550	2 200	2 000	1 350	1 600	850	900	800	2 350	15.7
20,000	2 900	2 500	2 250	1 550	1 800	950	1 050	900	2 700	13.5
30,000	3 400	2 900	2 700	1 800	2 100	1 150	1 200	1 050	3 250	10.8
40,000	3 800	3 250	3 050	2 050	2 350	1 250	1 300	1 200	3 700	9.3
50,000	4 100	3 500	3 350	2 250	2 550	1 400	1 450	1 300	4 050	8.1
100,000	5 100	4 400	4 450	2 950	3 300	1 800	1 850	1 750	5 300	5.3
150,000	5 750	5 100	5 250	3 450	3 800	2 100	2 100	2 150	6 150	4.1
200,000	6 350	5 700	5 900	3 900	4 200	2 300	..	2 450	6 800	3.4
300,000	7 400	6 750	6 950	4 550	4 800	2 650	..	2 950	7 950	2.7
500,000	9 200	8 500	8 500	5 550	5 700	3 200	..	..	9 650	1.9
1,000,000	12 850	11 900	11 100	7 300	7 100	..	..	..	12 650	1.3
2,000,000	18 850	17 300	14 500	9 550	8 800	..	..	..	16 700	0.8
5,000,000	33 850	29 750	20 450	..	..	..	..	..	25 600	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44 850	0.4

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work	Those persons who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ registering with Centrelink as a jobseeker;■ contacting an employment agency;■ contacting prospective employers;■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job;■ checking Centrelink touch screens;■ checking factory noticeboards;■ advertising or tendering for work; and■ contacting friends or relatives.
Available to start work within four weeks	Those persons who were available to start work within four weeks or, for persons with children aged 12 years or under, could start work within four weeks if suitable child care was available.
Discouraged jobseekers	Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ considered to be too young or too old by employers; or■ lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience; or■ difficulties with language or ethnic background; or■ no jobs in their locality or line of work; or■ no jobs available at all.
Employed	Persons aged 15–69 years who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; on strike or locked out; on workers compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or■ were employers, own account workers or contributing family workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Family reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes ill health of a family member, child care and other family considerations.
Full-time work	Work involving 35 or more hours a week.
Had a job to go to	Includes persons who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work. Also includes persons who had a job but had not yet started that job.
Job	Any employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.
Job leavers	Persons who voluntarily ceased their last job.
Job losers	Persons who involuntarily ceased their last job.
Main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Marginal attachment to the labour force	<p>Persons who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criteria to be classified as unemployed; or■ were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks or could start work within four weeks if child care was available. <p>The criteria determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.</p>
Occupation of last job	<p>All occurrences of occupation in this publication refer to Major Group as defined by ASCO — <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations</i>, Second Edition (Cat. no. 1220.0).</p>
Part-time work	<p>Work involving less than 35 hours a week.</p>
Personal reasons for not actively looking for work	<p>Includes own ill health or physical disability, pregnancy, attending an educational institution, had no need to work, to give others a chance, welfare payments or pension may be affected, moved house or on holidays.</p>
Persons in institutions	<p>Includes persons in general and other hospitals, convalescent homes, homes for the aged, retirement homes, homes for the handicapped, orphanages, boarding schools and prisons.</p>
Persons in the labour force	<p>Persons aged 15–69 years who meet the criteria to be classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.</p>
Persons not in the labour force	<p>Persons aged 15–69 years who do not meet the criteria to be classified as employed or unemployed.</p>
Persons not in the labour force for child care reasons who wanted to work	<p>Persons who wanted to work and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were not actively looking for work due to child care reasons, but were available to start work within four weeks; or■ were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks for child care reasons.
Relationship in household	<p>Two or more related persons (relationship includes relationships by blood, marriage or adoption) usually resident in the same household at the time of the survey. A family comprises a married couple or a family head as defined in <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0), together with any persons having any of the following relationships to them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ sons or daughters of any age, if not married and with no children of their own present; or■ other relatives if not accompanied by a spouse, sons or daughters, or parents of their own; or■ any children under 15 years of age who do not have a parent present.
Time since last job	<p>The elapsed time since ceasing their last job.</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

Unemployed	Persons aged 15–69 years who were not employed during the reference week and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were available for work in the reference week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week); or■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then; or■ were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week (including the whole of the reference week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.
Wanted to work	Persons who did not meet the criteria to be classified as employed or unemployed and who answered ‘yes’ or ‘maybe’ when asked if they would like a job.

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- LIBRARY** A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE** For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC** For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 75c per minute).

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