

POPULATION SURVEY MONITOR

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30am, 10 JANUARY 1994

20 JAN 1994

The Population Survey Monitor is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia. Results are available to clients within six weeks of the completion of interviewing. This publication only contains a small portion of the available information.

THIS QUARTER'S TOPICS

- **Sport and recreation participation**

This dataset contains a range of information on the sporting and recreation activities of Australians. The range of activities includes both organised and social sport, and selected physical activities undertaken both at home and away from home. Data on attendance or watching/listening to sporting events were also collected.

- **Consumer expectations (Experimental)**

This is an experimental dataset which contains data on the anticipated consumption by households of major items in the March quarter.

- **Botanical Gardens usage**

This dataset contains information on the usage of Botanical Gardens around Australia, the number of persons attending, and reasons for visit(s).

- **Health issues**

This dataset contains information about the number of persons aged 18 and over who currently smoke, the number of persons aged 18 and over who walked for exercise in the last two weeks, immunisation of 4-6 year olds, and fruit consumption by 10-15 year olds.

THIS QUARTER'S KEY POINTS

Sport and recreation participation

- 24.5% of males and 15.3% of females aged 18 years and over participated in organised sport during the reference week. The highest participation for both sexes was in the 18-24 age group where 35.8% of males participated and 26.7% of females participated.
- 56.5% of females aged 18 and over spent time gardening in the reference week.
- 67.6% of males and 47.0% of females aged 18 and over watched sport on TV

THIS QUARTER'S KEY POINTS (continued)

Consumer expectations

- 43.8% of households indicated that they intend to purchase a major item in the March quarter.
- 14.4% of households intend to go on a holiday worth more than \$500, and 11.3% intend to pay for home alterations or additions worth more than \$500.

Botanical Gardens usage

- 41.0% of persons aged 18 and over have visited at least one botanical garden in the last 12 months.
- The highest attendance rates for females were in the 25-34 and 35-44 year age groups where 54.1% and 50.7% of females attended while the highest attendance rate for males was 45.6% for the 35-44 year age group.

Health issues

- 27.7% of males and 22.3% of females aged 18 years and over are smokers. The highest proportion of smokers for males was in the 25-34 year age group (39.6%) and for females in the 18-24 year age group (35.2%). Females in the 65 and over age group had the lowest proportion of smokers (8.5%).
- 83.4% of children aged between 10 and 15 years eat at least one piece of fruit each day.

Sampling error

STANDARD ERRORS FOR ALL PUBLICATION TABLES

Size of estimate (‘000’s)	Standard Error (‘000’s)
100	23
200	31
500	45
800	56
1000	59
2000	76
5000	105

An example of how to use this table is provided at the bottom of page 6.

Estimates in the publication tables have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

P Gardner
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician
South Australia

TABLE 1: PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: PARTICIPATION* IN SELECTED SPORTING, PHYSICAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES BY AGE AND SEX, NOVEMBER 1993.

Selected activities	AGE (years)							Total
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over	
MALES (Per cent)								
Organised sport	35.8	27.5	23.1	23.2	16.7	18.6	16.4	24.5
Social sport	21.5	18.0	13.9	16.3	14.7	15.2	9.4	15.9
Gardening	28.3	51.8	61.3	57.7	66.6	81.5	67.0	55.7
Exercising at gym/fitness centre	20.3	11.7	11.0	3.8	4.2	1.9	0.7	9.1
Cycling for pleasure or exercise	23.1	10.0	10.3	5.9	2.0	3.1	1.5	9.4
Swimming for pleasure or exercise	24.7	14.1	16.8	10.9	0.0	16.0	6.0	13.9
Walking for pleasure or exercise	32.2	37.1	41.5	35.5	48.0	66.6	47.9	40.7
Fishing	6.3	8.6	9.2	7.9	6.0	3.0	5.0	7.3
Watched sport on TV	70.9	72.9	61.6	58.3	61.4	79.4	74.4	67.6
Listened to sport on radio	21.1	20.8	25.6	22.2	21.2	27.3	21.3	22.5
Total Males ('000's)	955	1360	1311	1050	377	338	820	6212
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Organised sport	26.7	17.8	14.6	12.7	10.1	13.6	7.5	15.3
Social sport	23.1	18.6	13.6	11.6	7.4	2.2	8.6	14.0
Gardening	25.8	53.5	64.3	63.3	68.4	68.8	63.1	56.5
Exercising at gym/fitness centre	17.7	14.6	10.5	5.1	2.9	1.2	1.5	9.2
Cycling for pleasure or exercise	15.7	7.7	5.9	3.9	8.3	7.9	2.4	7.1
Swimming for pleasure or exercise	21.5	15.8	11.7	10.5	6.1	13.2	6.7	12.8
Walking for pleasure or exercise	56.7	58.6	57.8	57.9	70.2	50.4	46.8	56.4
Fishing	2.2	5.5	1.9	0.4	3.2	3.4	1.8	2.6
Watched sport on TV	40.0	44.4	42.2	45.1	55.1	55.8	58.9	47.0
Listened to sport on radio	3.7	6.4	8.3	7.5	10.8	5.4	12.2	7.7
Total Females ('000's)	937	1379	1331	1009	368	340	1043	6408

* Participation is based on Sporting, Physical and Leisure activities undertaken in the week prior to survey week.

TABLE 2: HOUSEHOLDS INTENDING TO PURCHASE IN MARCH 1994 QUARTER: ITEM TO BE PURCHASED, NOVEMBER 1993.

Item	('000's)	Per cent
A brand new car	106	1.7
A secondhand car	396	6.3
Household item worth more than \$200	1392	22.2
Home alterations or additions worth more than \$500	710	11.3
Landscaping worth more than \$500	311	5.0
A holiday worth more than \$500	902	14.4
A personal computer	230	3.7
Any other item worth more than \$500	259	4.1
Not intending to purchase	3523	56.2
Total (Households)*	6273	

* The total is larger than the number of households as many households intend to purchase more than one item.

TABLE 3: PERSONS AGED 18 AND OVER: WHETHER VISITED AT LEAST ONE BOTANICAL GARDEN IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY AGE AND SEX, NOVEMBER 1993.

Visited at least one botanical garden	AGE (years)							Total (⁰⁰⁰ 's)	
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over		
MALES (Per cent)									
Yes	34.1	37.5	45.6	42.4	39.7	30.5	26.3	37.8	2348
No	65.9	62.5	54.4	57.6	60.3	69.5	73.7	62.2	3864
FEMALES (Per cent)									
Yes	43.1	54.1	50.7	37.6	49.1	26.8	33.3	44.1	2824
No	56.9	45.9	49.3	62.4	50.9	73.2	66.7	55.9	3584
PERSONS (Per cent)									
Yes	38.6	45.9	48.2	40.1	44.3	28.6	30.2	41.0	5172
No	61.4	54.1	51.8	59.9	55.7	71.4	69.8	59.0	7448

TABLE 4: PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: SMOKING STATUS BY AGE AND SEX, NOVEMBER 1993.

	AGE (years)							Total	('000's)
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over		
MALES (Per cent)									
Smoker	30.5	39.6	29.2	20.6	22.8	17.2	18.4	27.7	1723
Non-smoker	69.5	60.4	70.8	79.4	77.2	82.8	81.6	72.3	4489
FEMALES (Per cent)									
Smoker	35.2	28.5	24.3	16.8	21.2	13.2	8.5	22.3	1427
Non-smoker	64.8	71.5	75.7	83.2	78.8	86.8	91.5	77.7	4981
PERSONS (Per cent)									
Smoker	32.8	34.0	26.7	18.7	22.0	15.2	12.9	25.0	3150
Non-smoker	67.2	66.0	73.3	81.3	78.0	84.8	87.1	75.0	9470

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction	The Population Survey Monitor (PSM) is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia of approximately 2000 households. The PSM has been introduced to meet the needs of government agencies and non profit organisations. It is a user-funded survey where clients pay to include the topic of their choice. Each survey asks a set of core questions of each usual resident aged 15 years and over within the selected household. Questions for each client's topic can be asked of a randomly selected person or a particular person within the selected household.																		
Scope/Coverage	The survey covers rural and urban areas across all States and Territories of Australia except sparsely settled areas. All persons living in non-private dwellings are excluded. All usual residents in private households are included in the PSM.																		
Sample size	<p>For each quarterly survey, an initial sample of approximately 2,700 private dwellings is chosen. This sample is considered sufficient to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed information for Australia; • relatively detailed data for capital city/ urban/ rural areas for Australia; <p>at an acceptable level of accuracy and reliability after allowing for sample loss through factors such as vacant dwellings inadvertently selected in the sample, non-contacts, persons out of scope etc.</p>																		
Expected Sample Distribution	<p>Details of the approximate sample distribution for a quarterly PSM are set out below:</p> <table> <tr> <td>New South Wales</td><td>482</td></tr> <tr> <td>Victoria</td><td>416</td></tr> <tr> <td>Queensland</td><td>340</td></tr> <tr> <td>South Australia</td><td>241</td></tr> <tr> <td>Western Australia</td><td>254</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tasmania</td><td>136</td></tr> <tr> <td>Northern Territory</td><td>44</td></tr> <tr> <td>Australian Capital Territory</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>2000</td></tr> </table>	New South Wales	482	Victoria	416	Queensland	340	South Australia	241	Western Australia	254	Tasmania	136	Northern Territory	44	Australian Capital Territory	87	Total	2000
New South Wales	482																		
Victoria	416																		
Queensland	340																		
South Australia	241																		
Western Australia	254																		
Tasmania	136																		
Northern Territory	44																		
Australian Capital Territory	87																		
Total	2000																		
Data Collection	<p>Information is obtained in the PSM by face to face interviews with adult members of selected households. Interviewers for the PSM are obtained from a panel of trained interviewers who have extensive experience in conducting household surveys.</p> <p>The willing co-operation of selected households is sought. Measures taken to encourage respondent co-operation and maximise response include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to selected households by letter, accompanied by an information brochure, explaining that their dwelling has been selected for the survey, the purposes of the survey, its official nature and the confidentiality of the information collected. • Through call-backs and follow-up at selected dwellings every effort is made to contact the occupants of each selected dwelling and to conduct the survey in those dwellings. 																		

Estimation Procedures

Estimates obtained from the survey are derived using a complex ratio estimation procedure that ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the total population by age, sex and area (rather than to the age-sex-area distribution within the sample itself). The estimation procedure is designed to adjust estimates in such a way as to reduce any non-response bias by adjusting the weights of responding persons' records in each age-sex-area cell to compensate for under-enumeration in that cell.

Expansion factors or 'weights' are inserted into responding person's records to enable the data provided by these persons to be expanded to provide estimates relating to the whole population within the scope of the survey.

Reliability of estimates

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

- Non sampling error which arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. The most significant of these errors are: misreporting of data items; deficiencies in coverage; non-response; and processing errors. Every effort is made to minimise these errors by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures.
- Sampling error which occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all establishments in the survey is given by the standard error, see below.

Standard Errors

There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all in-scope units had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

The standard errors for some statistics are relatively high and users are advised to exercise caution in interpreting these statistics. Users interested in obtaining further information should contact the number shown in the Inquiries box on page 1 of this publication.

Example using the standard error table on Page 2

Table 1 shows that the estimated percentage of females aged 65 and over who walked for pleasure or exercise during the reference week is 46.8%. This represents about 488,000 females. The table of standard errors on page 2 shows that the standard error on an estimate of this size is approximately 45,000. This means that there are two chances in three that the true figure is in the range 443,000 to 533,000.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS - CORE DATA ITEMS

Age	Age is the age of the person at their last birthday.
Birthplace	A person's birthplace is the country where the person was born.
Dependents	All family members under 15 years of age; family members aged 15 to 19 attending school or aged 15 to 24 attending a tertiary educational institution full time, except those classified as husbands, wives, sole parents or other family heads.
Dwelling structure	This classifies the type of structure of the private dwellings selected in the survey. The information is recorded by the interviewer. A dwelling is classified as one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate house • Semi-detached/ row or terrace house/ town house • Other flat/ unit / apartment • Other dwelling structure
Employed	Persons 15 and over who, during the reference week: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business or on a farm; or b) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm; or c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were on leave; or d) were employers, self-employed persons or unpaid family helpers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Household	A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, ie at other times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but not meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of family and non-family members.
Income	Income is the gross annual income before tax and superannuation are deducted. This includes such things as family allowance, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, wages, salary, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest received, business or farm income and workers compensation expenses.
Labour force status	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Marital status	Persons are classified as married if they are reported as being married (including de facto) and their spouse was a usual resident of the household at the time of the survey.
Nature of occupancy	Households are classified as renting, purchasing or owning the private dwelling in which they live.
Not in the labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily out of the workforce, studying, recovering from illness or injury, caring for an aged/ill/disabled person, or doing unpaid voluntary work.
Occupation	Classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 1986 (ABS Catalogue No. 1222.0).
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 and over who were not employed during the reference week, and had actively looked for full time or part time work at any time in the last four weeks up to the end of the reference period and were available to work in the reference week.

February 1994 Survey

Topics to be included

Sport and recreation participation
Spectator sports
Consumer expectations
Botanical gardens attendance
Film and literature classifications
State library of Sth Aust usage (S.A only)
Computer usage at home
Physical activity of persons aged 60+ years
Diabetes awareness

Key dates

Closing date for topics 7 Jan 1994.
Interviewing commences 21 Feb 1994.
Standard output available 11 Apr 1994.

May 1994 Survey

Topics to be included

Sport and recreation participation
Consumer expectations
Botanical gardens attendance

Key dates

Closing date for topics 8 Apr 1994.
Interviewing commences 23 May 1994.
Standard output available 11 Jul 1994.

Space is still available for topics on the May 1994 survey.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSM please contact:

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