OCTOBER 1998 4387.2

Australian Bureau of Statistics

SAFETY IN THE HOME VICTORIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 24 MAR 1999

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■ For further information about these and related statistics, contact Barry Keeley on Melbourne 03 9615 7079, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication summarises the results of a survey on safety hazards and safety features in the home, conducted throughout Victoria during October 1998 as a supplement to the Monthly Population Survey. Information was collected on the presence in households of home safety features such as smoke detectors, electrical safety switches, and persons trained in first aid. Also included is information on safety hazards such as swimming pools, baby furniture and storage of firearms. This information is cross-classified by a range of household characteristics such as the presence of usual residents who are young children and usual residents who are older persons in the household.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This publication was previously released under the title *Safety in the Home, Melbourne, November 1992* (Cat. no. 4387.2).

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
MSR	Major Statistical Region
SE	standard error
RSE	relative standard error
*	estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

Zia Abbasi
Regional Director

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ALL HOUSEHOLDS

There were 234,100 households with young children resident and 1,500,000 households with no young children resident.

Smoke detectors

As at October 1998, over four-fifths of households (84.3% or 1,461,300) had one or more smoke detectors installed. Nearly half of all households tested their smoke detectors less frequently than monthly (47.1% or 688,200), with 11.5% (168,600) never testing their smoke detectors.

Electrical safety switches

Only 44.3% (767,500) of households had an electrical safety switch installed. The proportion was marginally higher for households in the Melbourne Major Statistical Region (Melbourne MSR), where 45.3% (561,500) had an electrical safety switch installed compared with 41.7% (206,000) for the Balance of Victoria Major Statistical Region (Balance of Victoria MSR).

Hot water scalds at hottest

A significant proportion of households, 70.6% (1,224,700) had the temperature of their hot water systems set at a level which could scald or burn a young child when the hot water was running at its hottest. There was a higher incidence of this occurring in the Balance of Victoria MSR where the proportion was 75.7% (374,400) compared with 68.6% (850,400) for the Melbourne MSR.

First aid training

Less than a third of households had one or more residents who had undertaken first aid training in the last three years, which included mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage (CPR) (26.5% or 459,900).

HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN RESIDENT

There were 234,100 households with young children resident, making up 13.5% of total households.

Smoke detectors

A higher proportion of households with young children resident had smoke detectors installed than households without young children resident (91.4% or 213,900 compared with 83.2% or 1,247,400).

Electrical safety switches

Households with young children resident were more likely to have an electrical safety switch installed than households without young children resident (53.4% or 125,000 compared with 42.8% or 642,500).

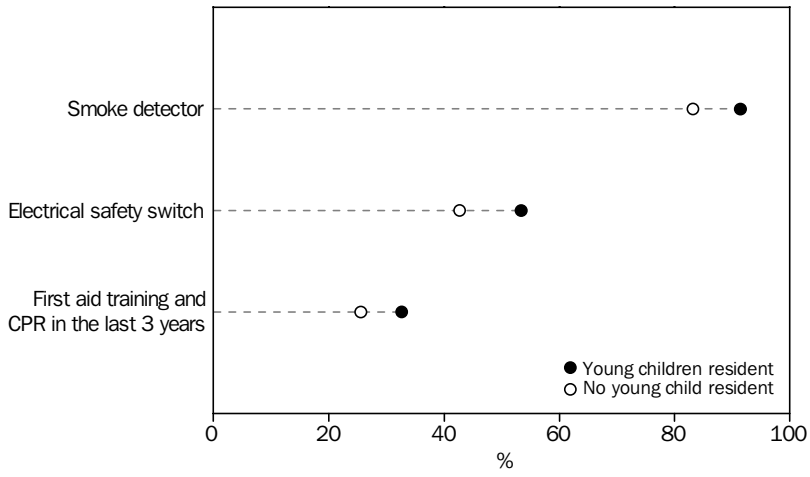
Babywalker

Of the 39,100 (16.7%) households with young children resident who reported having a babywalker at their residence, 62.1% (24,300) stated that the babywalker was not currently in use.

First aid training

The proportion of households with one or more residents with first aid training in the last three years, which included mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and CPR, without young children resident, was low (25.6% or 383,300), but was marginally higher for households with young children resident (32.7% or 76,600).

ALL HOUSEHOLDS, Safety Features



HOUSEHOLDS WITH OLDER PERSONS RESIDENT

There were some 496,700 households with older persons resident, making up 28.6% of total households.

Smoke detectors

Over four-fifths of households with older persons resident reported having smoke detectors installed (83.4% or 414,200). This closely mirrored households without older persons resident where 84.6% (1,047,100) had smoke detectors installed.

First aid training

A significantly higher proportion of households with no older person resident, had received first aid training in the last three years, which included mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and CPR compared with households with older persons resident, (33.7% or 417,000 compared with 8.6% or 42,900).

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

There were some 39,700 rural households with young children resident or young children regularly visiting the household, making up 2.3% of total households.

Rural barrier fencing

Significantly, 44.7% (50,300) of rural households did not have a fence around the house which would prevent young children from wandering away from the house. Further, only 17.4% (10,800) of rural households that did have such a fence had self-closing and self-latching gates attached to this fence.

Motorised cycle usage

Some 31.0% (34,900) of rural households used motorised cycles on their property. The proportion was higher for households with young children resident or visiting (34.3% or 13,600 compared with 29.3% or 21,300 for households with no young children).

PERSONS WHO RODE A HORSE

Overall, there were 152,600 persons who had ridden a horse at least once in the three months leading up to the conduct of the survey. Recreation was the main reason for riding a horse for 90.9% or 138,700 of horse riders.

Hard helmet worn

More than three-quarters (78.5% or 119,800) of horse riders reported that hard helmets were worn when horse riding. Horse riders aged 20 years and over were less likely to wear hard helmets when riding than riders aged less than 20 years (72.6% compared with 83.8%).

COMPARISONS WITH 1992 FOR THE MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION

In October 1998, there were 168,300 households in the Melbourne MSR with young children resident and 1,071,600 households with no young children resident. This compares with the 1992 Safety in the Home Survey conducted in Melbourne where there were 166,500 households in the Melbourne MSR with young children resident and 967,700 households with no young children resident.

First aid training

There has been a small increase in the proportion of households in the Melbourne MSR where one or more usual residents have received first aid training in the last three years, which has included both mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and CPR, from 20.3% (230,200) in 1992 to 24.4% (302,900) in 1998. Households with young children resident experienced a more significant rise, from 23.1% (38,500) in 1992 to 29.1% (48,900) in 1998.

Adjustable hot water thermostats

There has been a small increase only in the number of households in Melbourne MSR with an adjustable hot water thermostat installed since 1992 from 63.4% (718,700) in 1992 to 68.1% (843,900) in 1998. Similarly the number of adjustable hot water thermostats installed in households with young children resident increased by only a small margin from 64.9% (108,100) in 1992 to 68.1% (114,600) in 1998.

Electrical safety switches

There has been more than a threefold increase in the number of households in Melbourne MSR which have installed electrical safety switches since 1992 from 14.2% (161,400) in 1992 to 45.3% (561,500) in 1998. The number of electrical safety switches installed in households with young children resident increased from 22.1% (36,800) in 1992 to 56.1% (94,400) in 1998. Part of this increase can be attributed to the legal requirement that all new dwellings and extensions built in Victoria require an electrical safety switch to be installed.

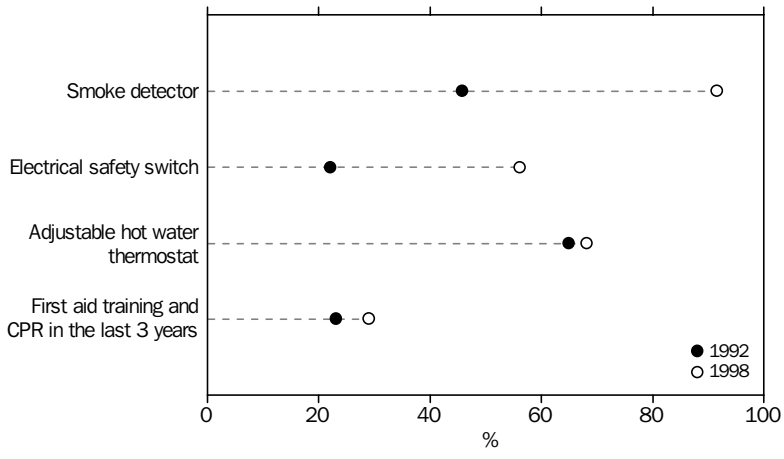
Smoke detectors

The number of households in the Melbourne MSR with smoke detectors installed has more than doubled since 1992 from 32.3% (366,600) to 83.8% (1,039,500) in 1998. Similarly, the number of smoke detectors installed in households with young children resident increased from 45.7% (76,100) in 1992 to 91.5% (154,000) in 1998.

Swimming pools

Of the 6.8% (84,000) of households in the Melbourne MSR that had a swimming pool on their property, 72.0% (60,500) had self-closing and self-latching (child resistant) gates attached to the fence around the pool, which is a significant improvement over 1992 where, of the 8.1% (91,900) of households that had a swimming pool on their property, 17.6% (16,200) had self-closing and self-latching (child resistant) gates attached to the fence around the pool.

HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN RESIDENT IN MELBOURNE MSR, Safety Features



1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS, Potential Safety Hazards & Features Affecting Young Children

	Young children resident	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Five or more steps or stairs inside the home	*25.0*	*164.0*	*189.0*	*14.8*	*15.3*	*15.2*
With stairguards	8.8	6.2	15.0	5.2	0.6	1.2
Swimming pool	*11.4*	*72.5*	*84.0*	*6.8*	*6.8*	*6.8*
With self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fence around pool	9.5	50.9	60.5	5.7	4.8	4.9
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*116.9*	*733.4*	*850.4*	*69.5*	*68.4*	*68.6*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(a)	*114.6*	*729.3*	*843.9*	*68.1*	*68.1*	*68.1*
Gas hot water system	103.5	636.9	740.3	61.5	59.4	59.7
Electric hot water system	10.8	89.1	99.9	6.4	8.3	8.1
Home maintenance equipment kept(b)	*131.6*	*822.6*	*954.2*	*78.2*	*76.8*	*77.0*
Ladder	109.2	746.4	855.6	64.9	69.7	69.0
Welding equipment	20.8	130.9	151.7	12.3	12.2	12.2
Angle grinder	34.5	200.6	235.1	20.5	18.7	19.0
Other powered hand tools	111.5	631.5	743.1	66.3	58.9	59.9
No home maintenance equipment kept	36.4	246.7	283.1	21.7	23.0	22.8
Smoke detector installed	*154.0*	*885.6*	*1 039.5*	*91.5*	*82.6*	*83.8*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	16.0	82.6	98.6	9.5	7.7	8.0
Fortnightly	10.5	62.0	72.4	6.2	5.8	5.8
Monthly	36.0	177.3	213.3	21.4	16.5	17.2
Less frequently than monthly	72.6	423.6	496.2	43.1	39.5	40.0
Never	14.8	114.7	129.5	8.8	10.7	10.4
Don't know	*4.1	25.0	29.1	*2.4	2.3	2.3
Electrical safety switch	*94.4*	*467.1*	*561.5*	*56.1*	*43.6*	*45.3*
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*90.5*	*493.5*	*584.0*	*53.8*	*46.0*	*47.1*
In last 3 years	48.9	254.0	302.9	29.1	23.7	24.4
More than 3 years ago	41.6	239.5	281.1	24.7	22.3	22.7
Firearms kept on property(c)	*5.8*	*49.2*	*55.1*	*3.5*	*4.6*	*4.4*
Stored in wardrobe	*1.3	13.8	15.1	*0.8	1.3	1.2
Stored in steel box/gun safe	*3.3	29.1	32.4	*1.9	2.7	2.6
Other storage places	*1.6	7.6	9.2	*0.9	0.7	0.7
Ammunition kept	*4.2*	*34.5*	*38.8*	*2.5*	*3.2*	*3.1*
Dog(s) kept on property	*51.8*	*377.3*	*429.1*	*30.8*	*35.2*	*34.6*
Total	*168.3*	*1 071.6*	*1 239.9*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*

(a) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

(b) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(c) Multiple firearms may be kept in a household, therefore the sum of storage places may exceed total households where firearms are kept on the property.

	Young children resident	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
BALANCE OF VICTORIA MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Five or more steps or stairs inside the home	**4.3*	*36.9*	*41.3*	**6.6*	*8.6*	*8.4*
With stairguards	*2.1	*2.1	*4.1	*3.1	*0.5	*0.8
Swimming pool	**3.6*	*24.4*	*28.0*	**5.5*	*5.7*	*5.7*
With self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fence around pool	*2.3	15.8	18.1	*3.6	3.7	3.7
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*51.2*	*323.1*	*374.4*	*77.8*	*75.4*	*75.7*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(a)	*35.4*	*253.3*	*288.8*	*53.9*	*59.1*	*58.4*
Gas hot water system	23.7	148.4	172.1	35.9	34.6	34.8
Electric hot water system	11.1	102.6	113.7	16.9	23.9	23.0
Home maintenance equipment kept(b)	*54.6*	*356.9*	*411.5*	*82.9*	*83.3*	*83.3*
Ladder	45.8	333.1	378.9	69.7	77.7	76.7
Welding equipment	19.7	105.8	125.5	29.9	24.7	25.4
Angle grinder	25.9	140.2	166.0	39.3	32.7	33.6
Other powered hand tools	47.6	289.9	337.5	72.4	67.7	68.3
No home maintenance equipment kept	11.2	70.5	81.7	17.1	16.5	16.5
Smoke detector installed	*59.9*	*361.8*	*421.8*	*91.1*	*84.5*	*85.3*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	8.2	45.8	54.0	12.4	10.7	10.9
Fortnightly	*4.7	24.2	28.9	*7.1	5.7	5.9
Monthly	17.1	82.5	99.6	25.9	19.3	20.2
Less frequently than monthly	25.2	166.8	192.0	38.2	38.9	38.8
Never	*3.6	35.5	39.1	*5.4	8.3	7.9
Don't know	*1.3	7.0	8.3	*1.9	1.6	1.7
Electrical safety switch	*30.6*	*175.4*	*206.0*	*46.5*	*40.9*	*41.7*
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*43.2*	*222.9*	*266.1*	*65.7*	*52.0*	*53.9*
In last 3 years	27.7	129.3	157.0	42.1	30.2	31.8
More than 3 years ago	15.5	93.6	109.1	23.6	21.8	22.1
Firearms kept on property(c)	*9.1*	*60.2*	*69.3*	*13.8*	*14.1*	*14.0*
Stored in wardrobe	*2.3	26.0	28.2	*3.4	6.1	5.7
Stored in steel box/gun safe	5.5	27.5	33.0	8.4	6.4	6.7
Other storage places	*1.6	7.4	9.1	*2.5	1.7	1.8
Ammunition kept	*5.8*	*48.9*	*54.7*	*8.9*	*11.4*	*11.1*
Dog(s) kept on property	*38.5*	*207.3*	*245.8*	*58.6*	*48.4*	*49.7*
Total	*65.8*	*428.5*	*494.3*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*

(a) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

(b) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(c) Multiple firearms may be kept in a household, therefore the sum of storage places may exceed total households where firearms are kept on the property.

	Young children resident	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
	TOTAL					
Five or more steps or stairs inside the home	*29.3*	*201.0*	*230.3*	*12.5*	*13.4*	*13.3*
With stairguards	10.8	8.3	19.2	4.6	0.6	1.1
Swimming pool	*15.0*	*97.0*	*112.0*	*6.4*	*6.5*	*6.5*
With self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fence around pool	11.9	66.7	78.6	5.1	4.4	4.5
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*168.1*	*1 056.6*	*1 224.7*	*71.8*	*70.4*	*70.6*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(a)	*150.1*	*982.6*	*1 132.7*	*64.1*	*65.5*	*65.3*
Gas hot water system	127.1	785.3	912.4	54.3	52.4	52.6
Electric hot water system	21.9	191.7	213.6	9.3	12.8	12.3
Home maintenance equipment kept(b)	*186.2*	*1 179.6*	*1 365.7*	*79.5*	*78.6*	*78.8*
Ladder	155.1	1 079.5	1 234.5	66.2	72.0	71.2
Welding equipment	40.4	236.8	277.2	17.3	15.8	16.0
Angle grinder	60.4	340.8	401.2	25.8	22.7	23.1
Other powered hand tools	159.2	921.4	1 080.6	68.0	61.4	62.3
No home maintenance equipment kept	47.7	317.2	364.8	20.4	21.1	21.0
Smoke detector installed	*213.9*	*1 247.4*	*1 461.3*	*91.4*	*83.2*	*84.3*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	24.2	128.4	152.6	10.3	8.6	8.8
Fortnightly	15.2	86.2	101.4	6.5	5.7	5.8
Monthly	53.1	259.8	312.9	22.7	17.3	18.0
Less frequently than monthly	97.7	590.4	688.2	41.7	39.4	39.7
Never	18.4	150.2	168.6	7.8	10.0	9.7
Don't know	5.4	32.0	37.4	2.3	2.1	2.2
Electrical safety switch	*125.0*	*642.5*	*767.5*	*53.4*	*42.8*	*44.3*
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*133.7*	*716.4*	*850.1*	*57.1*	*47.8*	*49.0*
In last 3 years	76.6	383.3	459.9	32.7	25.6	26.5
More than 3 years ago	57.1	333.1	390.2	24.4	22.2	22.5
Firearms kept on property(c)	*14.9*	*109.4*	*124.4*	*6.4*	*7.3*	*7.2*
Stored in wardrobe	*3.5	39.8	43.3	*1.5	2.7	2.5
Stored in steel box/gun safe	8.8	56.6	65.4	3.7	3.8	3.8
Other storage places	*3.2	15.0	18.3	*1.4	1.0	1.1
Ammunition kept	*10.1*	*83.4*	*93.5*	*4.3*	*5.6*	*5.4*
Dog(s) kept on property	*90.4*	*584.6*	*675.0*	*38.6*	*39.0*	*38.9*
Total	**234.1**	**1 500.0**	**1 734.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

(b) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(c) Multiple firearms may be kept in a household, therefore the sum of storage places may exceed total households where firearms are kept on the property.

2 ALL HOUSEHOLDS, Potential Safety Hazards & Features Affecting Older Persons

	Older persons resident	*No older person resident*	*Total households*	*Older persons resident*	*No older person resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Steps or stairs inside in the home	*78.7*	*276.1*	*354.8*	*23.2*	*30.7*	*28.6*
With five or more steps in highest stairway	38.3	150.7	189.0	11.3	16.7	15.2
Hand rails fitted in bathroom or toilet	*91.8*	*13.1*	*105.0*	*27.1*	*1.5*	*8.5*
Mobility aids used	*63.3*	**0.7*	*64.0*	*18.7*	**0.1*	*5.2*
Home maintenance equipment kept(a)	*267.0*	*687.2*	*954.2*	*78.8*	*76.3*	*77.0*
Ladder	254.1	601.5	855.6	74.9	66.8	69.0
Welding equipment	37.7	114.0	151.7	11.1	12.7	12.2
Angle grinder	49.4	185.8	235.1	14.6	20.6	19.0
Other powered hand tools	179.9	563.2	743.1	53.1	62.5	59.9
No home maintenance equipment kept	71.3	211.8	283.1	21.0	23.5	22.8
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*204.0*	*646.3*	*850.4*	*60.2*	*71.7*	*68.6*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(b)	*229.5*	*614.4*	*843.9*	*67.7*	*68.2*	*68.1*
Gas hot water system	191.5	548.8	740.3	56.5	60.9	59.7
Electric hot water system	37.3	62.5	99.9	11.0	6.9	8.1
Smoke detector installed	*283.0*	*756.6*	*1 039.5*	*83.5*	*84.0*	*83.8*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	27.0	71.7	98.6	8.0	8.0	8.0
Fortnightly	25.4	47.0	72.4	7.5	5.2	5.8
Monthly	57.0	156.4	213.3	16.8	17.4	17.2
Less frequently than monthly	131.9	364.3	496.2	38.9	40.4	40.0
Never	31.7	97.8	129.5	9.4	10.9	10.4
Don't know	9.7	19.4	29.1	2.9	2.2	2.3
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*91.9*	*492.1*	*584.0*	*27.1*	*54.6*	*47.1*
In last 3 years	30.5	272.4	302.9	9.0	30.2	24.4
More than 3 years ago	61.4	219.7	281.1	18.1	24.4	22.7
Total	*339.0*	*900.9*	*1 239.9*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*

(a) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(b) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

	Older persons resident	*No older person resident*	*Total households*	*Older persons resident*	*No older person resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
BALANCE OF VICTORIA MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Steps or stairs inside in the home	*28.9*	*87.8*	*116.7*	*18.3*	*26.1*	*23.6*
With five or more steps in highest stairway	9.9	31.4	41.3	6.3	9.3	8.4
Hand rails fitted in bathroom or toilet	*51.7*	*6.8*	*58.6*	*32.8*	*2.0*	*11.9*
Mobility aids used	*32.9*	**0.3*	*33.2*	*20.9*	**0.1*	*6.7*
Home maintenance equipment kept(a)	*132.3*	*279.2*	*411.5*	*83.9*	*82.9*	*83.3*
Ladder	128.7	250.2	378.9	81.6	74.3	76.7
Welding equipment	28.1	97.4	125.5	17.8	28.9	25.4
Angle grinder	37.7	128.4	166.0	23.9	38.1	33.6
Other powered hand tools	93.7	243.8	337.5	59.4	72.4	68.3
No home maintenance equipment kept	24.7	57.1	81.7	15.6	16.9	16.5
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*108.1*	*266.3*	*374.4*	*68.6*	*79.1*	*75.7*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(b)	*97.1*	*191.7*	*288.8*	*61.6*	*56.9*	*58.4*
Gas hot water system	52.4	119.7	172.1	33.2	35.6	34.8
Electric hot water system	43.7	70.0	113.7	27.7	20.8	23.0
Smoke detector installed	*131.2*	*290.5*	*421.8*	*83.2*	*86.3*	*85.3*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	16.0	38.0	54.0	10.1	11.3	10.9
Fortnightly	10.9	18.0	28.9	6.9	5.4	5.9
Monthly	32.0	67.6	99.6	20.3	20.1	20.2
Less frequently than monthly	56.8	135.2	192.0	36.0	40.2	38.8
Never	13.2	25.9	39.1	8.4	7.7	7.9
Don't know	*2.4	5.9	8.3	*1.5	1.7	1.7
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*47.7*	*218.4*	*266.1*	*30.3*	*64.9*	*53.9*
In last 3 years	12.4	144.6	157.0	7.9	43.0	31.8
More than 3 years ago	35.3	73.8	109.1	22.4	21.9	22.1
Total	*157.7*	*336.6*	*494.3*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*

(a) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(b) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

	Older persons resident	*No older person resident*	*Total households*	*Older persons resident*	*No older person resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
	TOTAL					
Steps or stairs inside in the home	*107.6*	*363.9*	*471.5*	*21.7*	*29.4*	*27.2*
With five or more steps in highest stairway	48.2	182.1	230.3	9.7	14.7	13.3
Hand rails fitted in bathroom or toilet	*143.6*	*20.0*	*163.6*	*28.9*	*1.6*	*9.4*
Mobility aids used	*96.2*	**1.0*	*97.2*	*19.4*	**0.1*	*5.6*
Home maintenance equipment kept(a)	*399.3*	*966.4*	*1 365.7*	*80.4*	*78.1*	*78.8*
Ladder	382.8	851.7	1 234.5	77.1	68.8	71.2
Welding equipment	65.8	211.4	277.2	13.3	17.1	16.0
Angle grinder	87.0	314.1	401.2	17.5	25.4	23.1
Other powered hand tools	273.6	807.0	1 080.6	55.1	65.2	62.3
No home maintenance equipment kept	96.0	268.8	364.8	19.3	21.7	21.0
Hot water that scalds at hottest	*312.1*	*912.6*	*1 224.7*	*62.8*	*73.7*	*70.6*
Adjustable hot water thermostat(b)	*326.6*	*806.1*	*1 132.7*	*65.8*	*65.1*	*65.3*
Gas hot water system	243.9	668.5	912.4	49.1	54.0	52.6
Electric hot water system	81.0	132.5	213.6	16.3	10.7	12.3
Smoke detector installed	*414.2*	*1 047.1*	*1 461.3*	*83.4*	*84.6*	*84.3*
Frequency of testing						
Weekly	42.9	109.7	152.6	8.6	8.9	8.8
Fortnightly	36.3	65.0	101.4	7.3	5.3	5.8
Monthly	89.0	224.0	312.9	17.9	18.1	18.0
Less frequently than monthly	188.6	499.5	688.2	38.0	40.4	39.7
Never	44.9	123.7	168.6	9.0	10.0	9.7
Don't know	12.1	25.3	37.4	2.4	2.0	2.2
Resident with first aid training and CPR	*139.6*	*710.4*	*850.1*	*28.1*	*57.4*	*49.0*
In last 3 years	42.9	417.0	459.9	8.6	33.7	26.5
More than 3 years ago	96.7	293.4	390.2	19.5	23.7	22.5
Total	**496.7**	**1 237.5**	**1 734.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Multiple home maintenance equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(b) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

	Young children resident	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Young children not resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Playground equipment(a)	*81.0*	*120.9*	*202.0*	*48.1*	*11.3*	*16.3*
Swing	65.0	75.3	140.3	38.6	7.0	11.3
Trampoline	23.9	62.7	86.6	14.2	5.9	7.0
Slide	23.4	11.8	35.2	13.9	1.1	2.8
Climbing equipment	12.5	6.9	19.4	7.4	0.6	1.6
Other	*3.2	*3.1	6.2	*1.9	*0.3	0.5
Surface beneath or around playground equipment(b)						
Grass	63.6	102.6	166.2	37.8	9.6	13.4
Earth/sand	*3.5	7.1	10.6	*2.1	0.7	0.9
Tan bark/mulch	8.5	7.8	16.4	5.1	0.7	1.3
Other	7.7	8.8	16.5	4.6	0.8	1.3
Total households(c)	*168.3*	*1 071.6*	*1 239.9*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
BALANCE OF VICTORIA MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION						
Playground equipment(a)	*39.5*	*90.5*	*130.0*	*60.0*	*21.1*	*26.3*
Swing	36.0	63.2	99.2	54.7	14.8	20.1
Trampoline	17.4	44.4	61.8	26.5	10.4	12.5
Slide	11.5	10.6	22.1	17.5	2.5	4.5
Climbing equipment	*3.9	5.5	9.4	*5.9	1.3	1.9
Other	*3.3	*3.7	7.1	*5.1	*0.9	1.4
Surface beneath or around playground equipment(b)						
Grass	33.4	80.7	114.1	50.7	18.8	23.1
Earth/sand	*3.2	5.5	8.7	*4.8	1.3	1.8
Tan bark/mulch	*2.3	*3.4	5.7	*3.4	*0.8	1.1
Other	*1.3	*3.0	*4.4	*2.0	*0.7	*0.9
Total households(c)	*65.8*	*428.5*	*494.3*	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*
TOTAL						
Playground equipment(a)	*120.5*	*211.5*	*332.0*	*51.5*	*14.1*	*19.1*
Swing	101.0	138.5	239.5	43.1	9.2	13.8
Trampoline	41.3	107.1	148.5	17.6	7.1	8.6
Slide	34.9	22.4	57.3	14.9	1.5	3.3
Climbing equipment	16.4	12.4	28.8	7.0	0.8	1.7
Other	6.5	6.8	13.3	2.8	0.5	0.8
Surface beneath or around playground equipment(b)						
Grass	97.0	183.3	280.3	41.4	12.2	16.2
Earth/sand	6.7	12.7	19.3	2.9	0.8	1.1
Tan bark/mulch	10.8	11.2	22.0	4.6	0.7	1.3
Other	9.0	11.8	20.8	3.8	0.8	1.2
Total households(c)	**234.1**	**1 500.0**	**1 734.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

a) Multiple equipment items could be stated, therefore sum of individual equipment items may exceed total households that possessed this equipment.

(b) Multiple surfaces below playground equipment could be stated, therefore sum of individual surface types may exceed total households that possessed playground equipment.

(c) Includes households that did not have any playground equipment.

4 HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, Country of Birth—By Type of Children's Furniture(a)

	COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF HOUSEHOLD REFERENCE PERSON.....					
	Australia and other MES counrtries(b)	*Other countries*	*Total*	*Australia and other MES counrtries(b)*	*Other countries*	*Total*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
Babywalker in household	*28.2*	*10.9*	*39.1*	*15.4*	*21.5*	*16.7*
Babywalker usage						
In use	10.3	*4.4	14.8	5.6	*8.7	6.3
Not in use	17.8	6.5	24.3	9.7	12.8	10.4
How babywalker obtained						
Purchased new	14.7	8.4	23.1	8.0	16.6	9.9
Other(c)	13.5	*2.5	16.0	7.3	*4.9	6.8
Pram or stroller in use(d)	*138.8*	*32.0*	*170.8*	*75.7*	*63.2*	*73.0*
Harness fitted						
With harness	121.2	27.4	148.6	66.0	54.1	63.5
Without harness	17.7	*4.6	22.2	9.6	*9.1	9.5
How pram or stroller obtained						
Purchased new	115.0	27.3	142.3	62.7	53.9	60.8
Other(e)	23.8	*4.7	28.5	13.0	*9.2	12.2
High chair in use(d)(f)	*86.8*	*21.9*	*108.7*	*47.3*	*43.2*	*46.4*
Harness fitted						
With harness	48.7	11.4	60.1	26.5	22.5	25.7
Without harness	37.8	10.5	48.3	20.6	20.7	20.6
How high chair obtained						
Purchased new	59.9	15.7	75.6	32.6	31.1	32.3
Other(e)	27.0	6.1	33.1	14.7	12.1	14.1
Cot in use(d)(f)	*99.6*	*25.5*	*125.1*	*54.3*	*50.3*	*53.4*
Age of oldest child who sleeps in the cot						
Less than 12 months	38.5	7.6	46.1	21.0	15.0	19.7
12 months or more	60.4	17.9	78.3	32.9	35.3	33.5
How cot obtained						
Purchased new	43.4	15.6	59.0	23.7	30.9	25.2
Other(e)	56.2	9.9	66.1	30.6	19.4	28.2
Bunk bed in household	*34.0*	*5.5*	*39.5*	*18.5*	*10.8*	*16.9*
Total households with young children	**183.5**	**50.7**	**234.1**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Country of birth of household reference person used to determine country of birth status for household.

(b) Other Main English-speaking (MES) countries comprise United Kingdom and Ireland, United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.

(c) Includes purchased second hand, borrowed and handed down through the family.

(d) In use is defined as used at some time in the four weeks prior to the survey interview.

(e) Includes purchased second hand, borrowed, handed down through the family and supplied by employer for Family Day Care use.

(f) Includes don't know response.

5 HORSE RIDERS, Characteristics of Riders(a)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)					
	9 or less	*10–14*	*15–19*	*20–39*	*40 or more*	*Total*
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Frequency of riding in last 3 months						
Once	18.2	12.8	*3.4	22.9	5.4	62.7
2–3 times	11.1	8.1	*4.0	12.8	5.6	41.6
4–9 times	*3.0	*3.5	*1.4	6.1	*3.4	17.2
10 times or more	*1.6	*5.2	6.7	10.6	7.0	31.1
Place where person rode(b)						
Riding school or pony club	9.3	11.6	*4.8	15.4	*2.7	43.8
Farm	9.0	11.1	6.3	19.1	7.5	52.7
Public road	*0.0	*2.0	*5.2	8.7	6.2	22.0
Other(c)	18.1	11.3	6.2	22.6	10.7	68.7
Riding for work or recreation						
Work	*0.9	*0.0	*0.3	*2.8	*3.3	7.4
Recreation	32.0	29.3	14.3	46.4	16.8	138.7
Both	*0.9	*0.3	*0.7	*3.3	*1.3	6.5
Hard helmet worn	27.7	26.4	12.0	38.2	15.4	119.8
Total horse riders	**34.0**	**29.6**	**15.3**	**52.4**	**21.4**	**152.6**

(a) Horse riders are defined as those persons who have ridden a horse in the previous three months.

(b) Multiple places where person rode could be stated, therefore sum of individual places where person rode may exceed total riders.

(c) Includes yard of private home, other field or paddock, national park and racetrack.

6 RURAL HOUSEHOLDS, Motorised Cycle Usage and Rural Barrier Fencing

	Young children resident or visiting(a)	*No young children resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident or visiting(a)*	*No young children resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
Motorised cycles used on property	*13.6*	*21.3*	*34.9*	*34.3*	*29.3*	*31.0*
One	8.8	14.4	23.3	22.3	19.8	20.7
Two or more	*4.8	6.9	11.6	*12.0	9.4	10.3
Number of households with motorised cycle riders						
One in household	*5.3	8.3	13.5	*13.2	11.3	12.0
Two or more in household	8.3	13.0	21.4	21.0	17.9	19.0
Number of households with						
One or more riders aged less than 12 years	*4.4	*2.5	6.9	*11.1	*3.4	6.1
One or more riders aged 12 to 17 years	*1.5	6.7	8.2	*3.7	9.3	7.3
One or more riders aged 18 years or more	12.7	21.0	33.7	31.9	28.8	29.9
Frequency of riding motorised cycles						
Three or more days per week	6.1	13.6	19.7	15.3	18.7	17.5
Less frequently than three days per week	7.5	7.7	15.2	19.0	10.6	13.6
Rural barrier fencing						
Fence around the house	23.1	39.2	62.2	58.1	53.8	55.3
Self-closing and self-latching gates attached to fence	*4.9	5.9	10.8	*12.4	8.1	9.6
Total rural households	**39.7**	**72.8**	**112.5**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Includes households where one or more children aged four years or less are usually resident and households where children aged four years or less are regular visitors to the household (i.e. visiting the household once a fortnight or more frequently).

7 MELBOURNE HOUSEHOLDS, Selected Safety Features(a)

	1992				1998			
	Young children resident	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	%	%
Babywalker in household(b)	26.4	32.8	15.9	2.9	27.7	31.8	16.5	2.6
Frequency babywalker used								
Less than three hours per week	5.7	8.0	3.4	0.7	*4.7	5.8	*2.8	0.5
More than three hours per week	5.7	6.0	3.4	0.5	5.5	6.2	3.3	0.5
Smoke detectors installed	76.1	366.6	45.7	32.3	154.0	1 039.5	91.5	83.8
Electrical safety switch installed	36.8	161.4	22.1	14.2	94.4	561.5	56.1	45.3
Adjustable hot water thermostat(c)	*108.1*	*718.7*	*64.9*	*63.4*	*114.6*	*843.9*	*68.1*	*68.1*
Gas hot water system	91.5	570.8	54.9	50.3	103.5	740.3	61.5	59.7
Electric hot water system	16.3	143.4	9.8	12.6	10.8	99.9	6.4	8.1
Resident with first aid training and CPR								
In last three years	38.5	230.2	23.1	20.3	48.9	302.9	29.1	24.4
More than three years ago	45.8	253.8	27.5	22.4	41.6	281.1	24.7	22.7
Swimming pool	*9.3*	*91.9*	*5.6*	*8.1*	*11.4*	*84.0*	*6.8*	*6.8*
With self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fence around pool	*3.3	16.2	*2.0	1.4	9.5	60.5	5.7	4.9
Firearms kept on property(d)	*13.8*	*84.4*	*8.3*	*7.4*	*5.8*	*55.1*	*3.5*	*4.4*
Stored in wardrobe	7.8	48.6	4.7	4.3	*1.3	15.1	*0.8	1.2
Stored in steel box/gun safe	*3.5	19.4	*2.1	1.7	*3.3	32.4	*1.9	2.6
Other storage places	*3.7	19.9	*2.2	1.8	*1.6	9.2	*0.9	0.7
Ammunition kept	9.4	58.8	5.6	5.2	*4.2	38.8	*2.5	3.1
Total	**166.5**	**1 134.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**168.3**	**1 239.9**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Melbourne is defined as the Melbourne Major Statistical Region and is described on pages 28 and 29 of the publication.

(b) Includes babywalkers not in use in the household.

(c) In addition to gas and electric hot water systems with adjustable thermostats, also includes solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems with adjustable thermostats.

(d) Multiple firearms may be kept in a household, therefore the sum of storage places may exceed total households where firearms are kept on the property.

8 MELBOURNE HOUSEHOLDS, Characteristics of Dwellings with Selected SafetyFeatures(a)

	1992				1998			
	Young children resident	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*	*Young children resident*	*Total households*
	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	%	%
SMOKE DETECTORS								
Type of dwelling								
Separate house	72.3	326.7	49.7	36.8	136.1	823.0	93.8	85.8
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, town house	*1.8	14.0	*40.9	22.5	10.6	86.3	89.7	78.7
Flat/unit/apartment/other dwelling	*2.0	25.8	*12.1	14.0	7.2	129.9	63.1	76.0
Nature of occupancy								
Owned/being purchased	68.0	331.8	55.3	38.2	114.0	790.6	95.8	85.2
Rented	7.7	31.3	18.4	12.3	39.6	239.5	81.5	79.9
Other	*0.3	*3.4	*21.4	*28.7	*0.3	8.2	*44.7	75.1
Total(b)	**76.1**	**366.6**	**45.7**	**32.3**	**154.0**	**1 039.5**	**91.5**	**83.8**
ELECTRICAL SAFETY SWITCHES								
Type of dwelling								
Separate house	34.1	140.2	23.5	15.8	82.6	456.4	57.0	47.6
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, town house	*1.6	7.0	*36.5	11.2	7.1	46.0	59.7	41.9
Flat/unit/apartment/other dwelling	*1.2	14.2	*7.0	7.7	*4.7	58.9	*41.1	34.5
Nature of occupancy								
Owned/being purchased	32.0	142.1	25.9	16.4	74.4	445.5	62.5	48.0
Rented	*4.6	19.1	*11.0	7.5	19.3	110.9	39.6	37.0
Other	*0.3	*0.3	*21.4	*2.3	*0.7	*4.5	*100.0	*41.5
Total(b)	**36.8**	**161.4**	**22.1**	**14.2**	**94.4**	**561.5**	**56.1**	**45.3**
ADJUSTABLE THERMOSTAT ATTACHED TO HOT WATER SYSTEMS								
Type of dwelling								
Separate house	98.7	606.8	67.9	68.4	102.8	699.2	70.9	72.9
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, town house	*2.8	40.6	*65.5	65.2	8.3	76.5	69.8	69.8
Flat/unit/apartment/other dwelling	6.6	71.3	39.0	38.7	*3.6	67.9	*31.3	39.7
Nature of occupancy								
Owned/being purchased	85.7	602.8	69.6	69.4	89.3	682.5	75.1	73.6
Rented	21.2	109.5	50.5	43.1	24.9	153.4	51.2	51.2
Other	*1.2	6.4	*86.2	53.8	*0.4	7.1	*55.3	65.3
Total(b)	**108.1**	**718.7**	**64.9**	**63.4**	**114.6**	**843.9**	**68.1**	**68.1**
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS								
Type of dweling								
Separate house	145.3	887.5	100.0	100.0	145.1	959.0	100.0	100.0
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, town house	*4.3	62.3	*100.0	100.0	11.9	109.7	100.0	100.0
Flat/unit/apartment/other dwelling	16.9	184.4	100.0	100.0	11.4	170.9	100.0	100.0
Nature of occupancy								
Owned/being purchased	123.1	868.2	100.0	100.0	118.9	927.7	100.0	100.0
Rented	42.0	254.1	100.0	100.0	48.7	299.6	100.0	100.0
Other	*1.4	11.9	*100.0	100.0	*0.7	10.9	*100.0	100.0
Total(b)	**166.5**	**1 134.2**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**168.3**	**1 239.9**	**100.0**	**100.0**

(a) Melbourne is defined as the Melbourne Major Statistical Region and is described on pages 28 and 29 of the publication.

(b) Includes not stated.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication summarises the results of a survey on safety hazards and the prevalence of safety products in the home, conducted throughout Victoria during October 1998 as a supplement to the Australia-wide Monthly Population Survey (MPS).

MONTHLY POPULATION SURVEY

2 The MPS is based on a multistage sample of private and non-private dwellings. Private dwellings include houses, flats, home units, tents, and any other structures used as private residences at the time of the survey. Non-private dwellings include hotels, caravan parks, hospitals, flop houses, etc.

3 The sample covers about two-thirds of 1% of the civilian population of Australia and includes about one-half of 1% of Victoria's population. Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by personal or telephone interviews.

4 The MPS comprises the Labour Force Survey and for most months of the year, an additional supplementary topic. The main emphasis is on the regular collection of specific data on demographic and labour force characteristics of the population and for this reason, this component is usually referred to as the Labour Force Survey. Supplementary surveys are carried out on a wide variety of topics.

5 All persons aged 15 years and over are included in the Labour Force Survey except:

- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;
- members of the permanent defence forces; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY DESIGN

6 The supplementary survey was conducted using the sample of private dwellings in Victoria that were included in the MPS. This provided a sample of approximately 5,200 dwellings where a full response was obtained. Households in non-private dwellings were excluded from the supplementary survey. Information was collected by either personal interview or telephone interview from an adult in the household.

COMPARISONS BETWEEN 1992 AND 1998 SURVEYS

7 Tables 7 and 8 contain Melbourne Major Statistical Region (Melbourne MSR) comparisons between the 1992 and 1998 Safety in the Home Surveys. The comparisons are limited to the Melbourne MSR because the 1992 survey did not collect information from households located in the Balance of Victoria Major Statistical Region (Balance of Victoria MSR). It should also be noted that the boundaries of the Melbourne MSR have changed marginally from 1992 to reflect new local government boundaries.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

8 Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between totals and the sums of the component items.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

10 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Falls Risk Factors for Persons Aged 65 years and Over, New South Wales, October 1995* (Cat no. 4393.1)
- *Home Safety Devices, Western Australia, October 1996* (Cat. no. 4387.5)
- *Household Safety, Sydney, November 1992* (Cat. no. 4387.1)
- *Household Safety, Sydney, October 1998* (Cat. no. 4387.1)
- *Safety in the Home, Melbourne, November 1992* (Cat. no. 4387.2)
- *Survey of Safety in the Home, Queensland, October 1996* (Cat. no. 4387.3)

PREVIOUS STATE SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

11 Previous Victorian State Supplementary Survey publications have included:

- *Community Participation in Energy Conservation, Victoria, October 1990* (Cat. no. 4120.2)
- *Educational Attainment and Employment, Victoria, October 1995* (Cat. no. 4227.2)
- *Leisure Participation, Victoria, October 1996* (Cat. no. 4176.2)
- *Retrenched Workers and Workers Who Accepted Redundancy Packages, Victoria, October 1993* (Cat. no. 6266.2)
- *Safety in the Home, Melbourne, November 1992* (Cat. no. 4387.2)
- *Travel to Work, School and Shops, Victoria, October 1994* (Cat. no. 9201.2)
- *Working Conditions, Victoria, October 1997* (Cat. no. 6358.2)
- *Work Patterns of Women, October 1991* (Cat. no. 6204.2)

ADDITIONAL DATA

12 Additional available data include:

- regular visiting persons aged 60 years or more cross-classified with any other collected item;
- number of steps or stairs inside the house;
- size of farm;
- age of motorised cycle riders;
- how long has household had a dog;
- regular visiting children cross-classified with any other collected item;
- type of farm where motorised bikes used;
- frequency of visits by young children;
- frequency of visits by persons aged 60 years or more;
- age of youngest child who usually sleeps in an upper bunk;
- whether smoke detectors are battery operated;
- replacement of broken glass with safety glass;
- whether home maintenance equipment also used in the workplace; and
- whether playground equipment home or commercially built.

ADDITIONAL DATA *continued*

13 Subject to confidentiality and data quality restrictions, all data items can be cross-classified with household items available from the monthly Labour Force Survey, such as Labour Force Region, family type and country of birth of household reference person.

14 The data are available on a fee-for-service basis. For further information about this service, please contact Statistical Consultancy on Melbourne 03 9615 7079.

TECHNICAL NOTES

INTRODUCTION

The figures contained in this publication are estimates based on a sample of approximately 5,200 fully responding households in Victoria in October 1998.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

The estimates provided in this publication may be subject to two types of error—sampling and non-sampling error.

Sampling error

This is the difference which would be expected between the estimate and the corresponding figure that would have been obtained from a collection based on the whole population, using the same questionnaires and procedures. Estimates of sampling error are illustrated below.

Non-sampling error

Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing the data. These errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or a complete enumeration. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, both of the above types of errors must be taken into account.

ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERROR

One measure of the likely difference which would be expected between the estimate based on a sample and the figure that would have been obtained from a complete collection is the standard error (see tables T1 and T2).

There are about two chances in three (67%) that an estimate will differ by less than one standard error from that which would have been obtained if all households had been included in the survey. There are about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

A standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate is known as the 'relative standard error'. For example, if an estimate of 5,000 households (from table T1) has a standard error of 1,200 then the estimate has a relative standard error of 1,200/5,000 x 100 = 24.2%. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling.

Estimates between zero and 4,659 households for 1992 data and zero and 5,354 households for 1998 data have been included in this publication preceded by an asterisk, e.g. *3.8. This is to highlight the need for care in using the data because of the high relative standard error (greater than 25%).

ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERROR *continued*

An example of the calculation on use of standard errors is shown in table T1. A population estimate of 5,000 households (column 1) has a standard error of 1,200 (column 2). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the number which would result if all households were included in the survey lies in the range 3,800 to 6,200 (one standard error either side of the estimate, column 4). There are 19 chances in 20 that the true number lies in the range 2,600 to 7,400 (two standard errors either side of the estimate, column 5).

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES—Melbourne 1992(a)

Size of estimates	*SE*	*RSE*	*2 chances in 3 that figure will fall in the range(b)*			*19 chances in 20 that actual population figure will fall in range (b)*		
'000	'000	%	'000		'000	'000		'000
0.8	0.4	54.5	0.4	—	1.2	0.0	—	1.7
1.0	0.5	49.6	0.5	—	1.5	0.0	—	2.0
1.5	0.6	41.7	0.9	—	2.1	0.3	—	2.7
2.0	0.7	36.7	1.3	—	2.7	0.5	—	3.5
2.5	0.8	33.2	1.7	—	3.3	0.8	—	4.2
3.0	0.9	30.6	2.1	—	3.9	1.2	—	4.8
3.5	1.0	28.5	2.5	—	4.5	1.5	—	5.5
4.0	1.1	26.8	2.9	—	5.1	1.9	—	6.1
4.5	1.1	25.4	3.4	—	5.6	2.2	—	6.8
5.0	1.2	24.2	3.8	—	6.2	2.6	—	7.4
8.0	1.5	19.3	6.5	—	9.5	4.9	—	11.1
10.0	1.7	17.3	8.3	—	11.7	6.5	—	13.5
20.0	2.5	12.3	17.5	—	22.5	15.1	—	24.9
30.0	3.0	10.0	27.0	—	33.0	24.0	—	36.0
40.0	3.4	8.6	36.6	—	43.4	33.1	—	46.9
50.0	3.8	7.6	46.2	—	53.8	42.4	—	57.6
100.0	5.3	5.3	94.7	—	105.3	89.5	—	110.5
200.0	7.1	3.6	192.9	—	207.1	185.7	—	214.3
300.0	8.5	2.8	291.5	—	308.5	283.0	—	317.0
400.0	9.6	2.4	390.4	—	409.6	380.9	—	419.1
500.0	10.5	2.1	489.5	—	510.5	479.1	—	520.9
1 000.0	13.8	1.4	986.2	—	1 013.8	972.4	—	1 027.6

(a) These data have been rounded to the nearest 100.

(b) These data have been calculated using actual figures.

T2 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES—Victoria 1998(a)

Size of estimates	*SE*	*RSE*	*2 chances in 3 that figure will fall in the range(b)*			*19 chances in 20 that actual population figure will fall in range (b)*		
'000	'000	%	'000		'000	'000		'000
0.8	0.5	58.3	0.3	—	1.3	0.0	—	1.7
1.0	0.5	53.0	0.5	—	1.5	0.0	—	2.1
1.5	0.7	44.5	0.8	—	2.2	0.2	—	2.8
2.0	0.8	39.2	1.2	—	2.8	0.4	—	3.6
2.5	0.9	35.5	1.6	—	3.4	0.7	—	4.3
3.0	1.0	32.7	2.0	—	4.0	1.0	—	5.0
3.5	1.1	30.5	2.4	—	4.6	1.4	—	5.6
4.0	1.1	28.7	2.9	—	5.1	1.7	—	6.3
4.5	1.2	27.1	3.3	—	5.7	2.1	—	6.9
5.0	1.3	25.8	3.7	—	6.3	2.4	—	7.6
8.0	1.7	20.7	6.3	—	9.7	4.7	—	11.3
10.0	1.9	18.5	8.1	—	11.9	6.3	—	13.7
20.0	2.6	13.1	17.4	—	22.6	14.7	—	25.3
30.0	3.2	10.7	26.8	—	33.2	23.6	—	36.4
40.0	3.7	9.2	36.3	—	43.7	32.6	—	47.4
50.0	4.1	8.2	45.9	—	54.1	41.8	—	58.2
100.0	5.6	5.6	94.4	—	105.6	88.8	—	111.2
200.0	7.6	3.8	192.4	—	207.6	184.8	—	215.2
300.0	9.1	3.0	290.9	—	309.1	281.9	—	318.1
400.0	10.2	2.6	389.8	—	410.2	379.6	—	420.4
500.0	11.2	2.2	488.8	—	511.2	477.6	—	522.4
1 000.0	14.7	1.5	985.3	—	1 014.7	970.5	—	1 029.5

(a) These data have been rounded to the nearest 100. The standard errors of estimates for Victoria 1998 can also be used for Melbourne.

(b) These data have been calculated using actual figures.

A more detailed explanation of standard errors can be found in the technical notes of *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0).

The methods used to create the estimates in this publication differ to those used in the 1992 publication, *Safety in the Home, Melbourne, November 1992* (Cat. no. 4387.2). Estimates contained in this publication use the characteristics of the responding household to create estimates, whereas the 1992 publication used an average of characteristics of the people within the household. Estimates presented in the 1992 publication and the 1998 publication are not directly comparable due to this change in methods. To eliminate the impact of the change in methods, estimates from 1992 which are presented in this publication have been re-calculated to enable direct comparison with 1998 data.

GLOSSARY

Adjustable thermostat	A temperature controlling device fitted to a hot water system which can be used to adjust or regulate the temperature of the water provided by the hot water system.
Bunk bed or double bunk bed	Usually applies to beds where one is mounted on top of the other, but also includes beds on top of wardrobes, desks or drawers and those higher than one metre.
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation	A resuscitation technique that combines expired air resuscitation with external cardiac compression (heart massage). Also known as CPR.
Child resistant gate/s	Self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fence around the pool or farm house.
Children's furniture	Children's furniture includes babywalker, pram or stroller, high chair, cot and bunk beds. The survey sought information on all children's furniture only in those instances where the furniture had been used in the last four weeks, with the exception of babywalkers and bunk beds. For babywalkers and bunk beds, no timeframe was attached to the relevant survey questions.
Country of birth of household reference person	The country of birth coded to the household is the country of birth of the household reference person.
Electrical safety switch	They are usually solid state electronic devices and can provide a greater level of protection from faulty electrical wiring or appliances than is afforded by a common fuse. It automatically cuts off the electric current in order to prevent electrocution. Normal fuses, overload current circuit breakers and surge protectors are not included.
Harness type restraint	Harness type restraint is a strap or belt which goes over the shoulders of the child to prevent the child slipping or falling out of position, fitted to children's furniture like a high chair and pram or stroller.
Home maintenance equipment	This includes ladders, welding equipment, angle grinders, chain saws and other powered hand tools that are kept on the property.
Home safety features	Includes stairguards, smoke detectors, electrical safety switches, self-closing and self-latching gate/s attached to fences around swimming pools or farm houses, adjustable hot water thermostat, hand rails, mobility aids, and first aid training (which included cardiopulmonary resuscitation) in the last three years.
Home safety hazards	Includes swimming pools, playground equipment, surface beneath playground equipment, home maintenance equipment, firearms kept on property, horse riding, steps or stairs, dogs kept on property, bunk beds, babywalkers, and use of motorised cycles on rural property.
Hot water systems	Includes gas, electric, solar or solar combination and other types of hot water systems such as wood chip heaters.
Household	A group of people who live together (in a single dwelling) as a single unit in the sense that they have common housekeeping arrangements, such as common provision for food and other essentials of living.

Household reference person	A person recorded on the household survey form around whom a family can be constructed. The reference person in a household is taken to be the person nominated by member(s) of the household.
Mobility aids	Aids for persons who cannot walk, need assistance in walking or who find stairs difficult to negotiate. The aids include walking frames, walking sticks and wheel chairs.
Motorised cycles or bikes	Motorised bikes, motor cycles or agricultural bikes. They can be two-wheeled, three-wheeled or four-wheeled bikes.
Older persons resident	Households with one or more usual residents aged 60 years or more.
Other Main English-speaking (MES) countries	Other MES countries comprise United Kingdom and Ireland, United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.
Persons who rode a horse	Residents of households who had ridden a horse at least once in the three months prior to interview.
Regular basis	Once a fortnight or more frequently.
Rural barrier fencing	Comprises a fence around the house which prevents young children from wandering away from the house, and gate/s attached to this fence which are self-closing and self-latching.
Rural household	Household whose members are usually resident on a farm, farmlet or rural property (including a hobby farm). Excludes households located in urban centres such as cities, towns, and hamlets.
Smoke detector	A smoke detector is any device which is installed, usually in a fixed location, to detect the presence of smoke, and which will provide some audible indication when smoke is detected. Legislation making smoke detectors compulsory in all Victorian homes came into effect in February 1999. The survey results reflect the presence of smoke detectors in households as at October 1998.
Stairguards or gates	Includes gates at the top or bottom of the steps or stairs.
Steps or stairs	Includes one or more steps inside the home.
Swimming pool	Includes inground or above ground pool (excluding wading pool).
Usual residents	All persons who usually live in the household.
Young children resident	Households with one or more children aged four years or less who are usual residents of the household.
Young children resident or visiting	This includes households where one or more children aged four years or less are usually resident or households where children aged four years or less regularly visit the household (i.e. visit the household once a fortnight or more frequently).

EFFECTIVE FROM SEPTEMBER 1997

MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION

Outer Western Melbourne SR
Brimbank (C)
Hobsons Bay (C)
Maribyrnong (C)
Melton (S)
Moonee Valley (C)
Wyndham (C)

North Western Melbourne SR
Hume(C)
Moreland (C)

Inner Melbourne SR
Melbourne (C)
Port Phillip (C)
Stonnington (C) - Prahran (SLA)
Yarra (C)

North Eastern Melbourne SR
Banyule (C)
Darebin (C)
Nillumbik (S)
Whittlesea (C)

Inner Eastern Melbourne SR
Boroondara (C)
Manningham (C)
Monash (C)
Whitehorse (C)

Southern Melbourne SR
Bayside (C)
Glen Eira (C)
Kingston (C)
Stonnington (C) - Malvern (SLA)

Outer Eastern Melbourne SR
Knox (C)
Maroondah (C)
Yarra Ranges (S) - Part A (SSD)

South Eastern Melbourne SR
Cardinia (S)
Casey (C)
Greater Dandenong (C)

Mornington Peninsula SR
Frankston (C)
Mornington Peninsula (S)

BALANCE OF VICTORIA MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION[i]

Barwon-Western District SR
Colac-Otway (S)
Corangamite (S)
Glenelg (S)
Golden Plains (S)
Greater Geelong (C)
Moyne (S)
Queenscliffe (B)
Southern Grampians (S)
Surf Coast (S)
Warrnambool (C)
Lady Julia Percy Island

Central Highlands-Wimmera SR
Ararat (RC)
Ballarat (C)
Hepburn (S)
Hindmarsh (S)
Horsham (RC)
Moorabool (S)
Northern Grampians (S)
Pyrenees (S)
West Wimmera (S)
Yarriambiack (S)

Loddon-Mallee SR
Buloke (S)
Central Goldfields (S)
Gannawarra (S)
Greater Bendigo (C)
Loddon (S)
Macedon Ranges (S)
Mildura (RC)
Mount Alexander (S)
Swan Hill (RC)

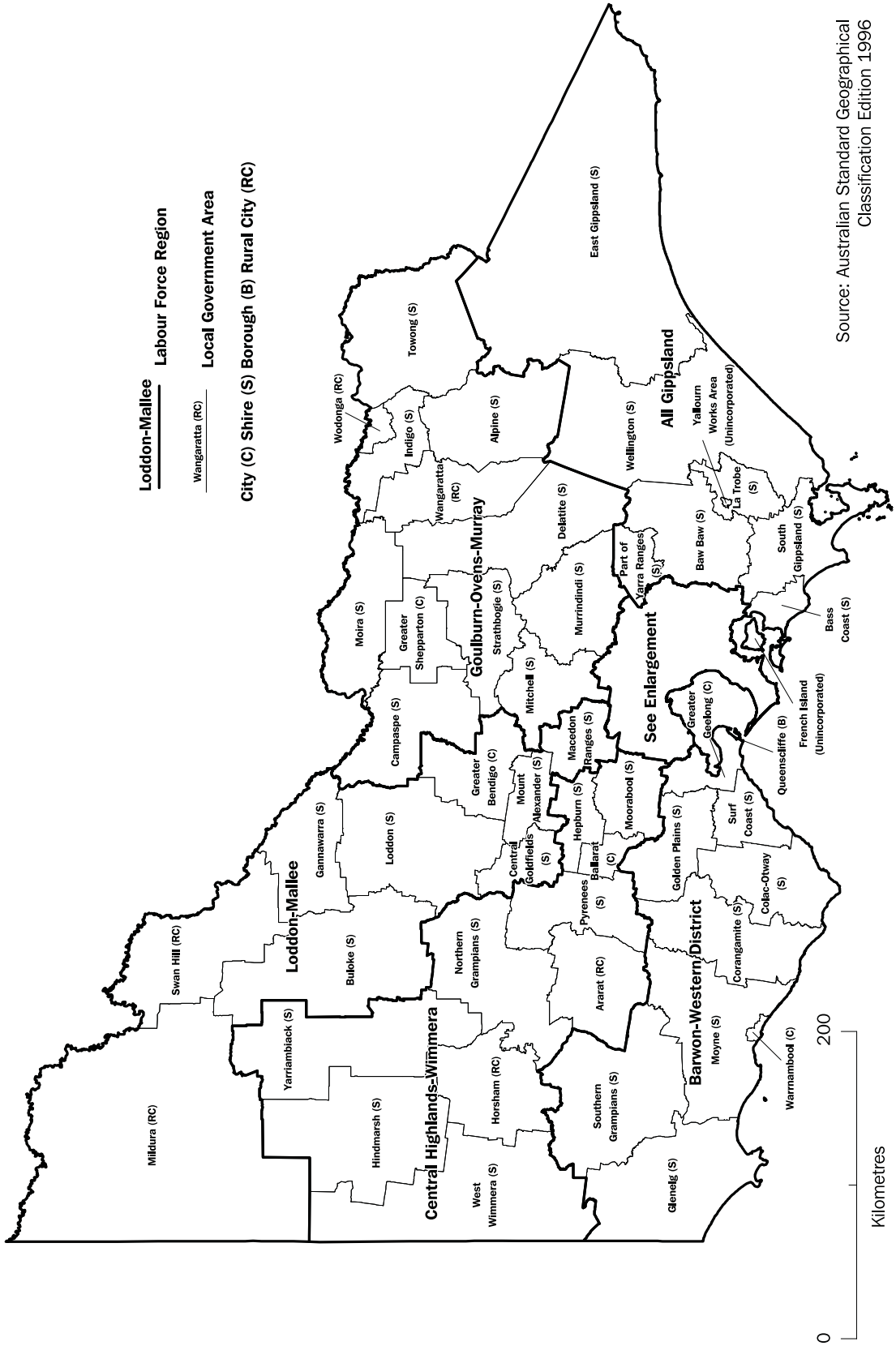
Goulburn-Ovens-Murray SR
Alpine (S)
Campaspe (S)
Delatite (S)
Greater Shepparton (C)
Indigo (S)
Mitchell (S)
Moira (S)
Murrindindi (S)
Strathbogie (S)
Towong (S)
Wangaratta (RC)
Wodonga (RC)

All Gippsland SR
Bass Coast (S)
Baw Baw (S)
East Gippsland (S)
La Trobe (S)
South Gippsland (S)
Wellington (S)
Yarra Ranges (S) - Part B (SLA)
Yallourn Works Area
Bass Strait Islands
French Island
Off Shore Areas & Migratory

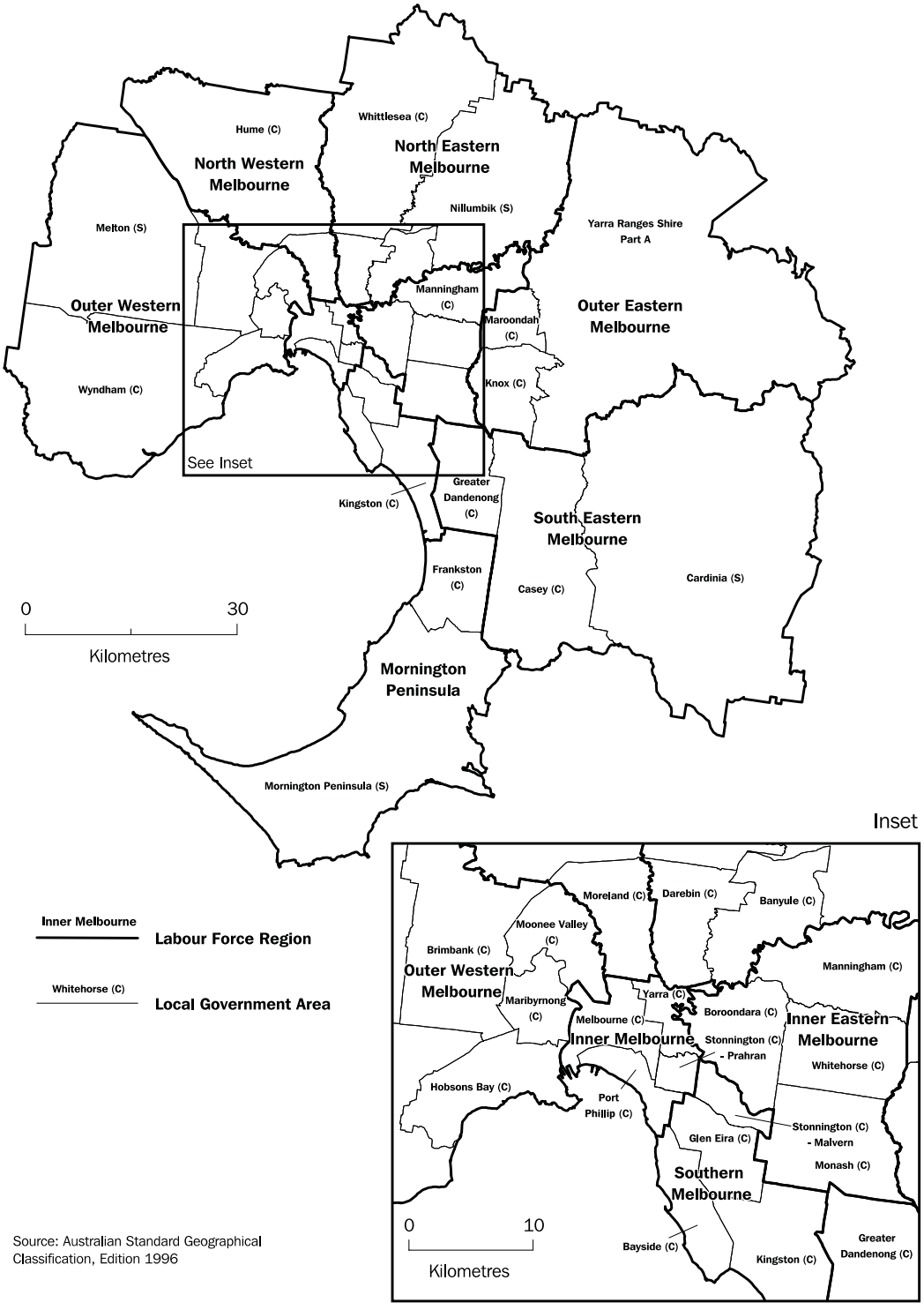
(B) Borough
(C) City
(RC) Rural City

(S) Shire
(SLA) Statistical Local Area
(SSD) Statistical Subdivision

VICTORIAN LABOUR FORCE REGIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS—September 1997



MELBOURNE MAJOR STATISTICAL REGION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—September 1997



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