



During the Year Ending  
February 1992

# LABOUR MOBILITY AUSTRALIA



**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 7 JULY 1992**

**LABOUR MOBILITY, AUSTRALIA  
DURING THE YEAR ENDING  
FEBRUARY 1992**

**IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician**

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INQUIRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Mr Michael Jones on Canberra (06) 252 6503 or Labour Force Inquiries in your ABS State office (see page 22 for contact numbers).</i></li> <li>• <i>for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the last page of this publication.</i></li> </ul>
ADDITIONAL DATA ON REQUEST	The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request. An order form can be found on page 23.

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## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### Overview

An estimated 8,564,100 persons aged 15 to 69 years had worked at some time during the year ending February 1992. Some 89 per cent of these persons were working in February 1992, with the remainder either looking for work (4.9%) or not in the labour force (5.7%) (Table 5).

Of the 7,652,500 persons working in February 1992—

- 80 per cent had been in their current job for the whole year.
- 12 per cent had changed jobs during the year.
- 7.6 per cent had started their current job during the year, and had no previous job during the year.
- 4.2 per cent had changed industry from previous to current job.
- 3.4 per cent had changed occupation from previous to current job (Table 1).

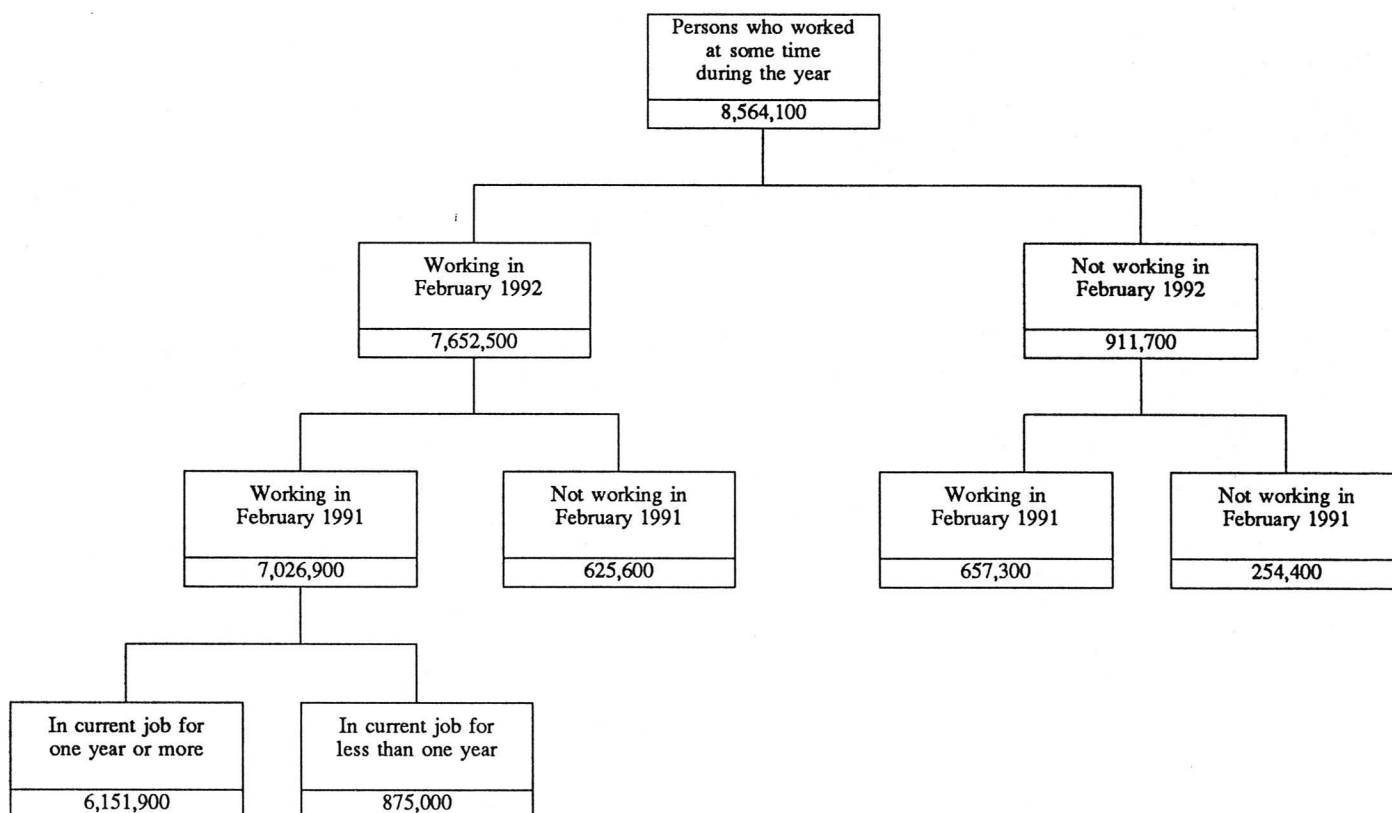
### Job mobility

The proportion of workers who were job mobile, that is, changed their job over a one year period, increased steadily during the years ending February 1985 to February 1991. Some 15 per cent of workers were job mobile in 1985 compared with a peak of 22 per cent of workers in 1990 and 1991. However, during the year ending February 1992, the proportion of job mobile workers decreased by 2 per cent to 20 per cent of those who had worked at some time during the year (Table 3).

The majority of those who were job mobile during 1992 changed employer or business (84%). Of these, 1.8 per cent changed their job more than once, involving both a change of locality, and a change of employer/business. Some 16 per cent changed locality but not employer/business.

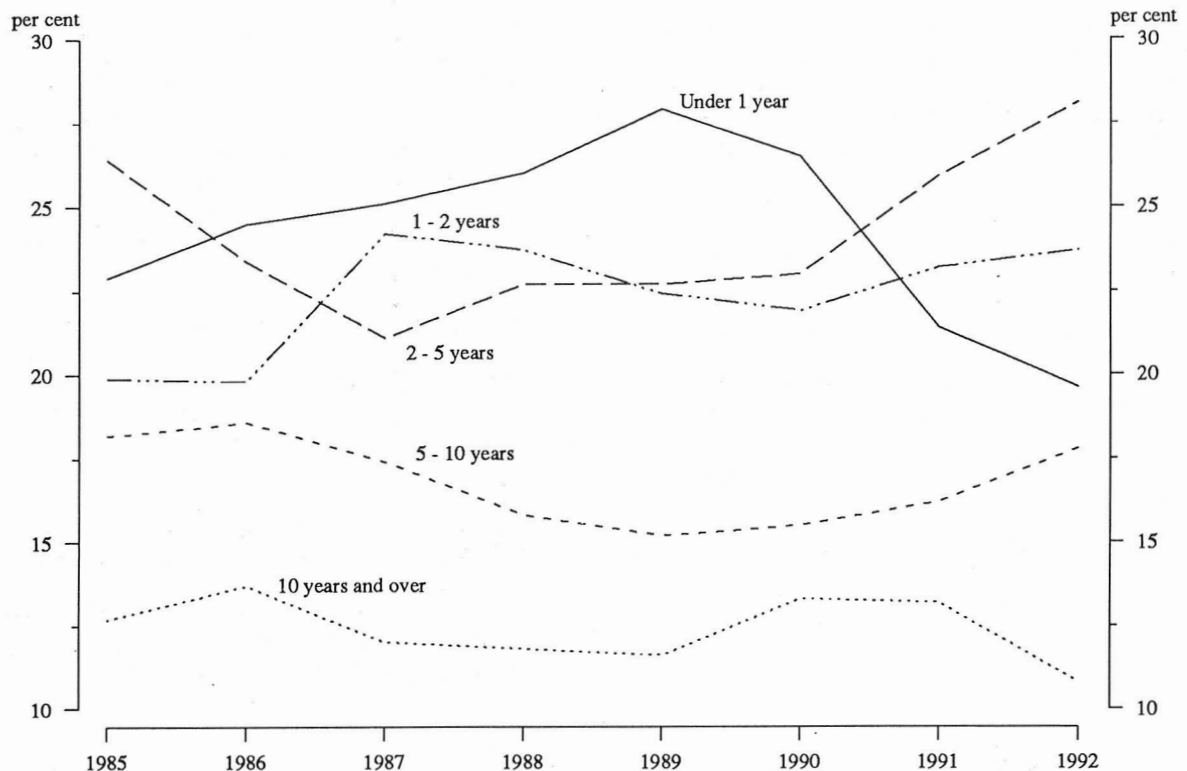
Of the age groups tabulated, job mobility was greatest (28%) for persons aged 20 to 24 and least (9%) for those aged 55 to 69. Job mobility ratios for males and females were similar (19% and 20% respectively). Married persons were less job mobile than those who were not married (18% compared with 23%) (Table 4).

DIAGRAM 1. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1992



Source: Table 5

DIAGRAM 2: PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY, DURATION OF CURRENT JOB, FEBRUARY 1985 TO FEBRUARY 1992



Source: Table 2

### Duration of current job

An estimated 20 per cent of persons working in February 1992 had been in their current job for less than one year, with the proportion being higher for females (21%) than for males (18%). A far higher proportion of males than females had been in their current job for ten years or more (29% and 17% respectively).

The proportion of persons who were working at the time of the survey and who had worked in their current job for less than one year has been decreasing each year since 1989, from 28 per cent in 1989 to 20 per cent in 1992.

Of those working at the time of the survey, 30 per cent had worked in their current job for less than two years (the lowest proportion recorded of all surveys conducted since 1985) (Table 2).

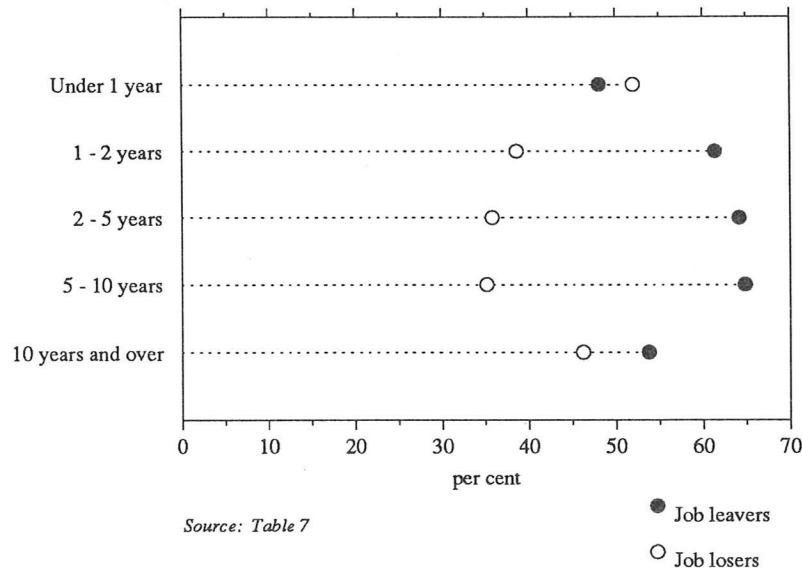
Some 1,500,600 persons who were working in February 1992 had been in their current job for less than one year. Of these persons —

- 26 per cent worked in the Wholesale and retail trade industry (Table 8).
- 23 per cent were Salespersons and personal service workers (Table 9).

In contrast, of the 1,810,000 persons who were working in February 1992 and who had been in their current job for ten years or more —

- 19 per cent worked in the Community services industry (Table 8).
- 19 per cent were Managers and administrators (Table 9).

**DIAGRAM 3. PERSONS WHO CEASED A JOB DURING THE YEAR :  
REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB AND DURATION OF LAST JOB,  
FEBRUARY 1992**



#### Job mobility—industry and occupation

There were 875,000 persons who were working at both February 1991 and February 1992 but who had been in their current job for less than one year. For the survey conducted in February 1991, the corresponding estimate was 1,033,250 persons. Of this group —

- 301,900 (35%) had changed industry (Table 5).
- 250,800 (29%) had changed occupation (Table 6).
- the Community service industry had the lowest proportion (21%) of persons changing industry.
- the Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry had the highest proportion (53%) of persons changing industry (Table 5).
- Professionals had changed occupation least (16%).
- Labourers and related workers (39%) had changed occupation most (Table 6).

Of the Tradespersons and Plant and machine operators and drivers who had changed occupation, more became Labourers and related workers (40% and 47% respectively) than any other occupation group. However, of the Labourers and related workers who had changed occupation, the majority (56%) became either Salespersons and personal service workers (30%) or Tradespersons (26%) (Table 6).

#### Persons who ceased a job during the year

Of the 8,564,100 persons who had worked at some time during the year, 1,832,300 (21%) ceased a job during the year. Of those who had ceased a job, 1,021,700 (56%) were job leavers, while 810,500 (44%) were job losers.

The majority of job losers were persons who had been retrenched (68%). Of those who were retrenched, 66 per cent were males and 34 per cent were females (Table 7). By comparison, of those working at the time of the survey, 58 per cent were males and 42 per cent were females (Table 2).

Some 40 per cent of persons who had been retrenched in the year ending February 1992 had been in their last job for less than one year. Persons who had been in their last job for more than one but less than five years comprised a further 41 per cent of retrenchments and 18 per cent were of persons who had spent more than five years in their last job.

For those persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 1992 —

- 52 per cent of job losers had been in their last job for less than one year, compared with 38 per cent of job leavers.
- The percentage of females who were job losers (38%) was less than that for males (49%) (Table 7).



TABLE 1. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY: JOB CHANGE FROM LAST JOB TO CURRENT JOB, FEBRUARY 1985 TO FEBRUARY 1992

<i>Job change from last to current job</i>	<i>Survey conducted in February —</i>								<i>( '000)</i>
	<i>1985</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1987(a)</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>1992</i>	
	<i>— per cent —</i>								
	MALES								
For one year or more in current job	79.3	78.2	77.1	75.7	73.7	75.4	80.2	81.6	3,606.4
For less than one year in current job	20.7	21.8	22.7	24.3	26.3	24.6	19.8	18.4	814.2
No previous job during the year	5.4	5.1	5.7	5.9	6.4	6.9	5.5	6.3	277.0
Had a previous job during the year	15.4	16.7	17.0	18.4	19.9	17.7	14.3	12.2	537.2
Same industry	9.1	9.9	10.7	11.8	12.2	10.4	9.3	8.0	351.6
Changed industry	6.3	6.8	6.3	6.6	7.7	7.2	5.1	4.2	185.6
Same occupation	10.6	11.5	11.7	12.9	13.9	11.3	10.0	8.6	379.8
Changed occupation	4.8	5.2	5.3	5.5	6.0	6.3	4.3	3.6	157.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>4,420.7</i>
	FEMALES								
For one year or more in current job	73.7	71.3	71.0	71.5	69.8	70.8	76.3	78.8	2,545.4
For less than one year in current job	26.3	28.7	28.7	28.5	30.2	29.2	23.7	21.2	686.4
No previous job during the year	11.3	11.8	12.9	11.4	11.4	11.8	10.0	9.4	302.9
Had a previous job during the year	15.1	16.9	15.8	17.1	18.8	17.4	13.7	11.9	383.5
Same industry	8.7	9.6	9.2	10.8	11.3	9.8	8.1	7.8	251.0
Changed industry	6.3	7.2	6.6	6.3	7.5	7.5	5.5	4.1	132.5
Same occupation	10.5	11.2	11.2	12.4	13.2	11.6	9.7	8.7	280.3
Changed occupation	4.6	5.7	4.7	4.7	5.6	5.8	4.0	3.2	103.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>3,231.8</i>
	PERSONS								
For one year or more in current job	77.1	75.5	74.7	74.0	72.1	73.5	78.6	80.4	6,151.9
For less than one year in current job	22.9	24.5	25.1	26.0	27.9	26.5	21.4	19.6	1,500.6
No previous job during the year	7.6	7.7	8.6	8.1	8.5	8.9	7.4	7.6	579.9
Had a previous job during the year	15.2	16.7	16.5	17.9	19.5	17.5	14.1	12.0	920.7
Same industry	8.9	9.8	10.1	11.4	11.9	10.2	8.8	7.9	602.6
Changed industry	6.3	7.0	6.4	6.5	7.6	7.3	5.3	4.2	318.1
Same occupation	10.6	11.4	11.5	12.7	13.6	11.4	9.9	8.6	660.0
Changed occupation	4.7	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.9	6.1	4.2	3.4	260.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>7,652.5</i>

(a) Totals include a small number of persons whose duration of current job could not be determined.

TABLE 2. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY: DURATION OF CURRENT JOB,  
FEBRUARY 1985 TO FEBRUARY 1992

Duration of current job	Survey conducted in February —								('000)
	1985	1986	1987(a)	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	
	— per cent —								
	MALES								
Under 1 year	20.8	21.8	22.7	24.3	26.3	24.6	19.8	18.4	814.2
Under 3 months	9.0	9.3	9.4	9.8	11.0	9.6	7.6	7.4	328.1
3 and under 6 months	4.4	4.8	5.2	5.9	6.0	5.4	4.5	4.4	193.5
6 and under 12 months	7.3	7.6	8.1	8.6	9.4	9.5	7.7	6.6	292.7
1 and under 2 years	11.6	12.7	10.6	10.2	10.8	12.0	11.8	9.6	424.1
2 and under 3 years	9.4	9.1	8.2	8.7	7.8	9.0	10.7	10.6	470.3
3 and under 5 years	15.7	13.7	11.3	12.2	12.5	12.5	13.7	15.3	678.2
5 and under 10 years	18.7	19.2	17.6	15.5	14.9	15.3	15.9	17.3	765.9
10 years and over	23.9	23.6	29.4	29.0	27.6	26.6	28.0	28.7	1,267.9
10 and under 20 years	15.6	15.6	18.2	18.0	16.6	16.0	17.0	17.4	770.2
20 years and over	8.3	8.0	11.3	11.1	11.0	10.7	11.0	11.3	497.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>4,420.7</i>
	FEMALES								
Under 1 year	26.5	28.7	28.7	28.5	30.2	29.2	23.7	21.2	686.4
Under 3 months	11.2	11.7	11.7	11.3	12.7	11.5	9.2	8.1	260.4
3 and under 6 months	6.5	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.0	6.4	5.4	5.0	161.0
6 and under 12 months	8.9	9.9	10.2	10.0	10.5	11.2	9.0	8.2	265.0
1 and under 2 years	14.5	15.3	14.1	14.1	12.8	15.0	15.3	12.4	401.0
2 and under 3 years	10.8	10.7	10.6	11.3	11.3	10.8	12.6	13.2	426.0
3 and under 5 years	17.3	13.8	12.9	14.0	15.0	14.2	15.3	17.9	578.5
5 and under 10 years	17.4	17.7	17.1	16.3	15.8	15.8	16.5	18.5	597.9
10 years and over	13.6	13.9	16.4	15.8	14.9	15.1	16.6	16.8	542.1
10 and under 20 years	10.9	10.9	12.6	12.1	11.5	11.6	12.6	12.9	415.5
20 years and over	2.7	2.9	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.5	4.0	3.9	126.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>3,231.8</i>
	PERSONS								
Under 1 year	22.9	24.5	25.1	26.0	27.9	26.5	21.4	19.6	1,500.6
Under 3 months	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.4	11.7	10.4	8.3	7.7	588.5
3 and under 6 months	5.2	5.7	5.9	6.4	6.4	5.8	4.9	4.6	354.5
6 and under 12 months	7.9	8.5	8.9	9.2	9.8	10.2	8.3	7.3	557.7
1 and under 2 years	12.7	13.7	12.0	11.8	11.6	13.3	13.2	10.8	825.1
2 and under 3 years	10.0	9.7	9.2	9.8	9.2	9.8	11.5	11.7	896.3
3 and under 5 years	16.4	13.7	11.9	12.9	13.5	13.2	14.4	16.4	1,256.7
5 and under 10 years	18.2	18.6	17.4	15.8	15.2	15.5	16.2	17.8	1,363.8
10 years and over	19.9	19.8	24.2	23.7	22.4	21.9	23.2	23.7	1,810.0
10 and under 20 years	13.8	13.8	15.9	15.6	14.5	14.2	15.2	15.5	1,185.7
20 years and over	6.1	6.0	8.3	8.1	7.9	7.7	8.1	8.2	624.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>7,652.5</i>

(a) Totals include a small number of persons whose duration of current job could not be determined.

TABLE 3. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD:  
JOB MOBILITY, FEBRUARY 1985 TO FEBRUARY 1992

Job mobility	Survey conducted in February —								1992
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991		
	— per cent —								( <sup>'000</sup> )
MALES									
Changed employer/business or locality	15.5	16.9	17.5	18.8	20.2	22.0	21.9	19.4	948.9
Changed employer/business	11.8	13.1	13.1	13.3	14.8	18.3	18.6	16.1	787.8
Changed locality but not employer/business	3.7	3.8	4.4	5.5	5.4	3.7	3.3	3.3	161.1
Did not change employer/business or locality	84.5	83.1	82.3	81.2	79.8	78.0	78.1	80.6	3,931.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>4,880.1</i>
FEMALES									
Changed employer/business or locality	15.0	16.6	16.4	17.3	19.1	22.0	21.9	20.1	741.4
Changed employer/business	12.0	13.7	12.8	13.3	15.0	19.0	19.2	17.3	635.8
Changed locality but not employer/business	3.0	2.9	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.7	2.9	105.6
Did not change employer/business or locality	85.0	83.4	83.4	82.7	80.9	78.0	78.1	79.9	2,942.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>3,684.0</i>
PERSONS									
Changed employer/business or locality	15.3	16.8	17.1	18.2	19.7	22.0	21.9	19.7	1,690.3
Changed employer/business	11.9	13.3	13.0	13.3	14.9	18.6	18.8	16.6	1,423.6
Changed locality but not employer/business	3.4	3.4	4.1	4.9	4.8	3.4	3.1	3.1	266.7
Did not change employer/business or locality	84.7	83.2	82.8	81.8	80.3	78.0	78.1	80.3	6,873.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>8,564.1</i>

TABLE 4. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1992:  
JOB MOBILITY, AGE AND MARITAL STATUS

Job mobility	Age group						Married	Not-married	Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-69			
MALES									
— '000 —									
Changed employer/business or locality	80.4	173.1	296.2	232.7	114.3	52.2	548.2	400.7	948.9
Changed employer/business	75.9	151.5	239.5	183.8	93.7	43.3	444.0	343.8	787.8
Changed locality and employer/business	*1.2	*2.7	7.8	4.7	*1.6	*0.6	10.4	8.2	18.6
Changed locality but not employer/business	4.5	21.5	56.7	48.8	20.6	9.0	104.2	56.9	161.1
Did not change employer/business or locality	288.4	431.2	979.3	982.6	767.9	481.8	2,592.6	1,338.6	3,931.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>368.8</i>	<i>604.3</i>	<i>1,275.5</i>	<i>1,215.3</i>	<i>882.2</i>	<i>534.0</i>	<i>3,140.8</i>	<i>1,739.4</i>	<i>4,880.1</i>
— per cent —									
<i>Percentage job mobile</i>	<i>21.8</i>	<i>28.6</i>	<i>23.2</i>	<i>19.1</i>	<i>13.0</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>17.5</i>	<i>23.0</i>	<i>19.4</i>
FEMALES									
— '000 —									
Changed employer/business or locality	76.6	147.8	219.3	187.0	92.8	17.9	407.8	333.6	741.4
Changed employer/business	70.7	129.1	182.7	156.9	80.1	16.3	345.3	290.5	635.8
Changed locality and employer/business	*0.9	*2.9	4.2	*3.4	*1.4	*0.0	6.6	6.1	12.8
Changed locality but not employer/business	5.9	18.7	36.6	30.1	12.7	*1.6	62.5	43.1	105.6
Did not change employer/business or locality	270.1	391.3	761.9	781.6	524.4	213.4	1,854.2	1,088.5	2,942.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>346.6</i>	<i>539.1</i>	<i>981.2</i>	<i>968.6</i>	<i>617.3</i>	<i>231.2</i>	<i>2,262.0</i>	<i>1,422.1</i>	<i>3,684.0</i>
— per cent —									
<i>Percentage job mobile</i>	<i>22.1</i>	<i>27.4</i>	<i>22.4</i>	<i>19.3</i>	<i>15.0</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>18.0</i>	<i>23.5</i>	<i>20.1</i>
PERSONS									
— '000 —									
Changed employer/business or locality	157.0	320.9	515.5	419.7	207.1	70.1	956.0	734.3	1,690.3
Changed employer/business	146.6	280.6	422.3	340.8	173.8	59.6	789.3	634.3	1,423.6
Changed locality and employer/business	*2.1	5.6	12.0	8.1	*3.0	*0.6	17.0	14.4	31.4
Changed locality but not employer/business	10.4	40.3	93.2	78.9	33.3	10.5	166.7	100.0	266.7
Did not change employer/business or locality	558.4	822.5	1,741.2	1,764.1	1,292.4	695.1	4,446.8	2,427.1	6,873.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>715.4</i>	<i>1,143.4</i>	<i>2,256.7</i>	<i>2,183.8</i>	<i>1,499.5</i>	<i>765.2</i>	<i>5,402.7</i>	<i>3,161.4</i>	<i>8,564.1</i>
— per cent —									
<i>Percentage job mobile</i>	<i>21.9</i>	<i>28.1</i>	<i>22.8</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>9.2</i>	<i>17.7</i>	<i>23.2</i>	<i>19.7</i>

TABLE 5. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1992:  
SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992 AND INDUSTRY  
(\*000)

	Working in February 1991											Not working in February 1991	Total
	Industry of February 1991 job												
	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	Manu- facturing	Constr- uction	Wholesale and retail trade	Transport and storage	Finance, property and business services	Public admin- istration and defence	Community services	Recreation, personal and other services	Other	Total		
Working in February 1992	364.4	1,039.4	482.2	1,416.1	363.8	814.2	352.2	1,336.0	528.2	330.4	7,026.9	625.6	7,652.5
For one year or more in current job	339.2	931.5	414.3	1,211.2	320.6	690.2	311.8	1,189.9	447.6	295.5	6,151.9	..	6,151.9
For less than one year in current job	25.2	108.0	67.8	204.9	43.2	124.0	40.4	146.0	80.7	34.9	875.0	625.6	1,500.6
Same industry as February 1991 job	11.9	60.1	44.9	128.7	28.2	89.4	23.7	115.7	49.6	21.0	573.2	..	573.2
Changed industry from February 1991 job	13.3	47.9	23.0	76.2	15.0	34.5	16.8	30.4	31.0	13.8	301.9	..	301.9
<i>Industry of February 1992 job —</i>													
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	..	*2.6	*1.5	*2.8	*0.7	*0.2	*0.7	*0.6	*1.7	*0.5	11.4	..	11.4
Manufacturing	*1.8	..	6.0	16.3	*0.9	5.6	*0.8	*2.8	*2.9	*2.1	39.2	..	39.2
Construction	*1.1	5.2	..	6.8	*0.4	*2.3	*1.5	*2.2	*2.6	*1.1	23.4	..	23.4
Wholesale and retail trade	4.6	16.0	5.9	..	5.3	11.3	*2.7	7.8	9.6	*3.2	66.3	..	66.3
Transport and storage	*0.5	*3.3	*1.9	6.5	..	*2.0	*0.0	*0.7	*1.1	*1.2	17.1	..	17.1
Finance, property and business services	*0.7	6.2	*2.0	14.3	*2.0	..	3.8	6.4	4.6	*3.1	43.1	..	43.1
Public administration and defence	*0.7	*1.2	*0.3	*2.0	*0.0	*2.1	..	*2.9	*1.0	*0.3	10.3	..	10.3
Community services	*2.0	5.3	*2.2	10.4	*2.0	6.2	5.2	..	6.8	*0.9	41.2	..	41.2
Recreation, personal and other services	*1.6	5.6	*1.2	14.9	*2.5	4.1	*1.3	5.3	..	*1.1	37.6	..	37.6
Other	*0.3	*2.5	*2.0	*2.2	*1.1	*0.7	*0.7	*1.7	*0.8	*0.2	12.3	..	12.3
Looking for work in February 1992	15.4	61.1	44.3	70.5	14.4	28.1	7.7	27.4	28.0	14.7	311.7	111.0	422.7
Not in the labour force in February 1992	15.0	46.4	21.2	80.0	15.1	30.9	11.6	70.8	44.8	9.8	345.6	143.4	489.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>394.8</b>	<b>1,146.9</b>	<b>547.7</b>	<b>1,566.6</b>	<b>393.3</b>	<b>873.2</b>	<b>371.5</b>	<b>1,434.1</b>	<b>601.0</b>	<b>354.9</b>	<b>7,684.2</b>	<b>880.0</b>	<b>8,564.1</b>



**TABLE 6. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1992:  
SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992 AND OCCUPATION  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

	<i>Working in February 1991</i>									<i>Not working in February 1991</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Occupation of February 1991 job</i>										
	<i>Managers and adminis- trators</i>	<i>Professionals</i>	<i>Para- professionals</i>	<i>Trades- persons</i>	<i>Clerks</i>	<i>Salespersons and personal service workers</i>	<i>Plant and machine operators, and drivers</i>	<i>Labourers and related workers</i>	<i>Total</i>		
Working in February 1992	810.7	964.3	438.3	1,081.7	1,223.2	1,013.5	515.9	979.4	7,026.9	625.6	7,652.5
For one year or more in current job	730.5	844.0	382.2	943.2	1,073.1	847.8	463.5	867.5	6,151.9	..	6,151.9
For less than one year in current job	80.2	120.3	56.1	138.5	150.0	165.7	52.4	111.9	875.0	625.6	1,500.6
Same occupation as February 1991 job	51.6	101.1	43.0	108.3	109.6	107.7	34.2	68.7	624.2	..	624.2
Changed occupation from February 1991 job	28.6	19.2	13.1	30.2	40.4	58.0	18.2	43.2	250.8	..	250.8
<i>Occupation of February 1992 job —</i>											
Managers and administrators	..	4.0	*1.1	*2.9	4.2	6.9	*1.0	3.5	23.5	..	23.5
Professionals	4.9	..	*3.4	*1.8	4.6	7.7	*0.3	3.8	26.5	..	26.5
Para-professionals	*0.7	*2.4	..	*1.7	*3.0	*2.8	*0.4	*1.5	12.4	..	12.4
Tradespersons	*3.1	*1.2	*0.9	..	*1.3	6.4	4.0	11.1	27.9	..	27.9
Clerks	4.8	4.2	*1.4	*2.1	..	15.1	*0.7	4.1	32.3	..	32.3
Salespersons and personal service workers	9.2	5.6	*2.9	4.4	18.4	..	*3.2	13.0	56.7	..	56.7
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	*2.4	*0.3	*0.5	5.1	*1.6	4.2	..	6.3	20.3	..	20.3
Labourers and related workers	3.6	*1.5	*3.0	12.2	7.4	14.8	8.6	..	51.2	..	51.2
Looking for work in February 1992	14.4	21.6	11.8	64.2	40.4	49.7	28.0	81.5	311.7	111.0	422.7
Not in the labour force in February 1992	22.9	33.3	15.8	34.9	67.0	78.3	18.5	74.8	345.6	143.4	489.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>848.0</b>	<b>1,019.2</b>	<b>465.9</b>	<b>1,180.8</b>	<b>1,330.5</b>	<b>1,141.5</b>	<b>562.5</b>	<b>1,135.7</b>	<b>7,684.2</b>	<b>880.0</b>	<b>8,564.1</b>

TABLE 7. PERSONS WHO CEASED A JOB DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1992:  
DURATION OF LAST JOB AND REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB  
(\*000)

Duration of last job	Reason for ceasing last job										Total	Total
	Job loser			Job leaver								
	Job was			Ceased a job with employer/business								
	Retrenched	temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	Own ill health or injury	Unsatisfactory work conditions	Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	Retired, new business, better job, family or other reason	Changed locality but not employer/business	Total	Total	Total		
MALES												
Under 1 year	141.6	86.2	13.8	241.6	34.1	25.5	77.4	137.1	56.5	193.6	435.2	
Under 3 months	56.6	57.8	7.7	122.1	14.6	22.9	26.9	64.3	19.5	83.9	205.9	
3 and under 6 months	37.2	16.4	*1.6	55.2	8.7	*1.9	21.2	31.8	13.1	44.9	100.1	
6 and under 12 months	47.8	12.0	4.5	64.3	10.9	*0.7	29.3	41.0	23.9	64.9	129.2	
1 and under 2 years	59.6	3.9	*2.3	65.9	8.9	*1.1	40.6	50.6	33.2	83.8	149.7	
2 and under 3 years	43.1	*2.6	3.9	49.5	9.9	*0.0	31.4	41.3	29.4	70.7	120.2	
3 and under 5 years	42.7	*1.9	3.7	48.2	5.0	*0.0	29.8	34.8	25.9	60.7	108.9	
5 and under 10 years	29.1	*1.9	*3.2	34.1	3.5	*0.1	26.8	30.4	18.1	48.5	82.7	
10 years and over	43.0	*0.7	6.0	49.6	*2.0	*0.0	35.4	37.4	12.9	50.3	99.9	
10 and under 20 years	23.3	*0.7	3.8	27.8	*1.7	*0.0	19.4	21.1	10.4	31.4	59.3	
20 years and over	19.7	*0.0	*2.1	21.8	*0.3	*0.0	16.0	16.3	*2.5	18.8	40.6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>359.0</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>488.9</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>241.4</b>	<b>331.6</b>	<b>176.1</b>	<b>507.6</b>	<b>996.7</b>	
FEMALES												
Under 1 year	79.0	91.1	11.0	181.1	32.8	21.9	103.0	157.7	39.5	197.3	378.4	
Under 3 months	32.3	64.8	4.2	101.4	10.1	19.6	30.1	59.7	14.0	73.8	175.2	
3 and under 6 months	18.9	13.4	*3.0	35.3	9.6	*1.1	26.1	36.8	11.1	47.9	83.2	
6 and under 12 months	27.8	12.8	3.7	44.4	13.2	*1.2	46.8	61.2	14.4	75.6	120.0	
1 and under 2 years	37.8	7.7	*2.2	47.7	12.1	*1.3	58.1	71.5	25.2	96.7	144.4	
2 and under 3 years	21.7	4.1	4.1	29.9	8.1	*0.1	41.3	49.5	17.0	66.5	96.4	
3 and under 5 years	21.0	*2.9	*1.2	25.1	4.0	*0.1	54.0	58.2	17.5	75.7	100.8	
5 and under 10 years	13.6	*2.2	*2.1	17.9	*2.6	*0.3	33.9	36.7	10.7	47.4	65.3	
10 years and over	15.2	*1.9	*2.7	19.8	*2.3	*0.0	24.4	26.7	3.9	30.6	50.4	
10 and under 20 years	11.9	*1.3	*1.9	15.2	*1.7	*0.0	19.1	20.8	3.9	24.6	39.8	
20 years and over	*3.3	*0.5	*0.8	4.6	*0.7	*0.0	5.3	5.9	*0.0	5.9	10.6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>188.5</b>	<b>109.8</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>321.6</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>314.6</b>	<b>400.2</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>514.1</b>	<b>835.7</b>	
PERSONS												
Under 1 year	220.6	177.3	24.7	422.7	66.9	47.4	180.4	294.8	96.1	390.9	813.5	
Under 3 months	88.9	122.6	12.0	223.5	24.7	42.5	56.9	124.1	33.6	157.7	381.1	
3 and under 6 months	56.1	29.8	4.6	90.5	18.2	*3.0	47.3	68.6	24.2	92.8	183.3	
6 and under 12 months	75.7	24.8	8.2	108.7	24.1	*1.9	76.2	102.1	38.3	140.4	249.1	
1 and under 2 years	97.4	11.6	4.6	113.6	21.0	*2.4	98.7	122.1	58.4	180.5	294.1	
2 and under 3 years	64.8	6.6	8.0	79.4	18.0	*0.1	72.7	90.8	46.5	137.2	216.6	
3 and under 5 years	63.7	4.8	4.9	73.4	9.0	*0.1	83.8	92.9	43.4	136.4	209.7	
5 and under 10 years	42.7	4.0	5.3	52.0	6.1	*0.4	60.7	67.1	28.8	95.9	148.0	
10 years and over	58.2	*2.5	8.7	69.4	4.3	*0.0	59.8	64.1	16.8	80.9	150.3	
10 and under 20 years	35.2	*2.0	5.7	43.0	*3.4	*0.0	38.5	41.9	14.2	56.1	99.1	
20 years and over	23.0	*0.5	*2.9	26.4	*0.9	*0.0	21.3	22.2	*2.5	24.8	51.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>547.5</b>	<b>206.9</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>810.5</b>	<b>125.3</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>556.1</b>	<b>731.8</b>	<b>289.9</b>	<b>1,021.7</b>	<b>1,832.3</b>	

**TABLE 8. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT FEBRUARY 1992:  
DURATION OF CURRENT JOB AND INDUSTRY  
(\*000)**

Duration of current job	Industry										Total
	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade	Transport and storage	Finance, property and business services	Public administration and defence	Community services	Recreation, personal and other services	Other	
Under 1 year	51.0	177.5	109.1	387.5	66.6	187.7	47.6	251.0	179.9	42.8	1,500.6
Under 3 months	27.9	67.0	48.2	140.2	26.4	59.0	16.6	108.1	78.8	16.2	588.5
3 and under 6 months	9.7	44.1	21.2	103.0	13.7	53.2	12.0	49.8	38.4	9.4	354.5
6 and under 12 months	13.4	66.4	39.7	144.3	26.4	75.4	19.0	93.1	62.6	17.3	557.7
1 and under 2 years	17.1	106.8	46.1	212.6	36.2	107.9	35.2	147.8	96.2	19.0	825.1
2 and under 3 years	29.3	137.1	47.5	218.2	43.1	112.8	35.4	151.0	92.7	29.4	896.3
3 and under 5 years	49.7	192.4	78.1	286.3	57.7	163.2	52.9	240.1	100.6	35.7	1,256.7
5 and under 10 years	53.4	214.1	89.8	258.2	65.4	154.8	78.3	299.3	83.6	66.9	1,363.8
10 years and over	189.6	281.0	152.9	235.9	118.2	151.6	110.0	351.8	74.5	144.5	1,810.0
10 and under 20 years	81.9	186.2	93.0	170.3	75.5	100.3	77.2	256.1	53.1	92.0	1,185.7
20 years and over	107.8	94.8	59.9	65.6	42.6	51.3	32.7	95.6	21.4	52.5	624.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>390.2</b>	<b>1,108.9</b>	<b>523.4</b>	<b>1,598.7</b>	<b>387.2</b>	<b>877.9</b>	<b>359.4</b>	<b>1,440.9</b>	<b>627.4</b>	<b>338.3</b>	<b>7,652.5</b>

**TABLE 9. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT FEBRUARY 1992:  
DURATION OF CURRENT JOB AND OCCUPATION  
(\*000)**

Duration of current job	Occupation								Total
	Managers and administrators	Professionals	Para- professionals	Tradespersons	Clerks	Salespersons and personal service workers	Plant and machine operators, and drivers	Labourers and related workers	
Under 1 year	100.5	178.9	75.7	206.8	217.8	343.6	89.9	287.5	1,500.6
Under 3 months	32.3	81.5	23.1	86.0	78.0	122.5	37.6	127.5	588.5
3 and under 6 months	23.1	33.2	15.7	51.6	55.4	90.2	18.6	66.6	354.5
6 and under 12 months	45.1	64.2	36.9	69.2	84.4	130.9	33.7	93.3	557.7
1 and under 2 years	52.2	102.1	40.5	120.3	137.1	179.9	50.2	142.7	825.1
2 and under 3 years	66.9	108.9	50.6	124.7	158.7	173.0	68.4	144.9	896.3
3 and under 5 years	116.2	166.2	71.4	203.1	215.3	216.7	95.1	172.8	1,256.7
5 and under 10 years	152.7	203.0	90.2	204.3	266.8	157.0	99.5	190.4	1,363.8
10 years and over	342.5	263.8	129.4	290.9	295.3	121.2	150.3	216.7	1,810.0
10 and under 20 years	174.8	173.7	85.5	188.9	212.7	91.1	100.5	158.6	1,185.7
20 years and over	167.7	90.1	43.9	102.0	82.6	30.1	49.8	58.1	624.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>831.0</b>	<b>1,022.9</b>	<b>457.9</b>	<b>1,150.1</b>	<b>1,290.9</b>	<b>1,191.4</b>	<b>553.4</b>	<b>1,155.0</b>	<b>7,652.5</b>

TABLE 10. ALL POPULATIONS BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE  
(\*000)

	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
<i>Population 1:</i> Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1992	2,867.0	2,184.0	1,481.4	717.2	855.9	215.1	82.3	161.2	8,564.1
<i>Population 2:</i> Persons who were working at February 1992	2,577.7	1,955.5	1,319.9	636.8	750.3	190.8	73.9	147.6	7,652.5
<i>Population 3:</i> Persons who were working at February 1992 who changed location from previous job	87.3	68.5	57.1	24.1	33.9	6.9	3.0	9.2	289.9
<i>Population 4:</i> Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 1992	572.9	430.6	354.1	153.8	218.4	45.5	20.1	37.0	1,832.3
<i>Population 5:</i> Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 1992 who were working at February 1992	283.6	202.1	192.6	73.4	112.7	21.1	11.8	23.4	920.7
<i>Population 6:</i> Persons who were working at February 1991	2,585.1	1,989.3	1,296.7	649.7	754.3	191.4	73.3	144.3	7,684.2
<i>Population 7:</i> Persons who were working at February 1991 and at February 1992	2,370.2	1,816.3	1,190.1	590.7	683.3	173.9	67.8	134.6	7,026.9



## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Introduction

The monthly population survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)), comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the February 1992 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. They were asked about their labour mobility for the 52 weeks up to the end of the week before the interview in February 1992. Specific questions related to the duration of current job, whether respondents had changed jobs or not and the number of jobs held during the period.

### Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)), except that it was restricted to persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1992 and excluded persons aged 70 years or more, visitors to private dwellings, students who were boarding at school, patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of reformatories, gaols, etc.

### Coverage

4. In the population survey, 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. See *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

### Definitions

5. Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

6. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview.

### Results of the survey

7. The estimates relate to persons covered by the survey in February 1992. Because of emigration, deaths, etc. not all persons with labour force experience during the period were covered. Labour mobility may relate to experience outside Australia.

8. Results of similar surveys, conducted in November 1972, February 1975 and February 1976, and annually since February 1979, have been given in previous issues of this publication.

9. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in February 1994.

### Unpublished statistics

10. As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to the contact in the Inquiries box at the front of this publication.

### Comparability of series

11. It is impracticable to obtain information relating to a whole year which is strictly comparable with that obtained in the monthly labour force survey for which the reference period is one week. The definitions used in determining the labour force status of persons in the monthly survey depend on a detailed set of questions asked about a person's labour force activity during the reference week. For the survey of labour mobility, a person is assigned to a labour force category on the basis of a more limited set of questions. It is for this reason that the terms *working* and *looking for work* are used in this survey rather than the precisely defined terms *employed* and *unemployed* used in the monthly labour force survey.

### Discontinuities in the series

12. The estimates from this survey are not strictly comparable with those obtained from previous surveys. The scope of surveys run prior to February 1990 included persons aged 15 and over. From February 1990 the survey scope (see paragraph 3) was restricted to exclude all persons aged 70 and over. However the effect on the estimates is expected to be small.

### Sample size

13. Prior to February 1990 this supplementary survey had been conducted on either 50 per cent or 75 per cent of the dwellings selected in the labour force survey. From February 1990 this has been expanded to the full sample size. As a result, the standard errors for these surveys differ from those applicable to surveys conducted before February 1990.

### Estimation procedure

14. The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age, sex and labour force status rather than to the corresponding distribution within the sample itself.

### Reliability of the estimates

15. Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. For more information refer to the Technical Notes, page 14.

**Related publications**

16. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly

*Labour Force Experience, Australia* (6206.0)—issued annually

17. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

**Symbols and other usages**

- \* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See the Technical Notes, page 14.
- r revised
- . . not applicable

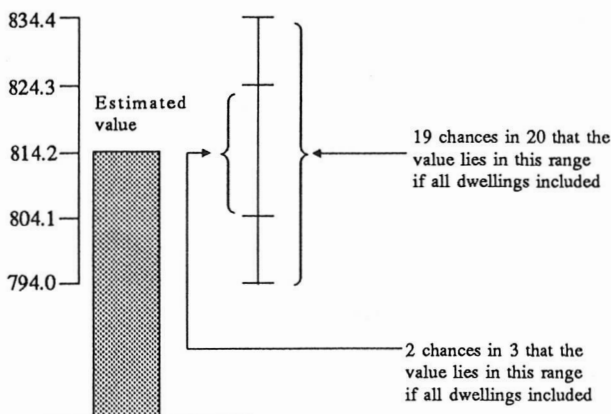
18. Because estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability, that is, they may differ from those 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*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

2. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application is given on the following page. Since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics, these figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

3. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 2 shows the estimated number of males who, in February 1992, had been in their current job for less than one year as 814,200. Since this estimate is between 500,000 and 1,000,000 the standard error for Australia will be between 8,400 and 11,100 in the standard error table and can be approximated as 10,100 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 804,100 to 824,300 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 794,000 to 834,400. This example is illustrated in the following diagram:



4. As can be seen from the standard error table, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (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 relative standard errors of 25 per cent or less (and percentages based on such estimates) are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger relative standard errors have been included, and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

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

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

6. Considering the example from paragraph 3 above, the 814,200 males represent 18.4 per cent of the 4,420,700 males working in February 1992. The standard error of 4,420,700 is approximately 18,700, so the relative standard error is 0.4 per cent. The relative standard error for 814,200 is 1.2 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is  $\sqrt{(1.2)^2 + (0.4)^2}$  or 1.1 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (18.4%) of 0.2 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of males who had been in their current job for less than one year is between 18.2 per cent and 18.6 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion is within the range 18.0 per cent to 18.8 per cent.

7. Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is also subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (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. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they

may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires,

intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

## STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	
	— number —									Relative standard error (per cent)
100			130	110	120	80	130	100	120	117.6
200	230	230	190	160	180	120	170	140	180	89.0
300	290	280	240	200	220	150	210	170	230	75.2
400	340	330	280	230	250	180	240	200	270	66.6
500	380	370	310	260	280	200	260	220	300	60.5
600	420	410	340	280	310	220	280	240	340	55.9
800	480	470	390	330	350	250	320	270	390	49.2
1,000	540	530	440	370	390	280	360	300	450	44.5
1,300	620	610	500	410	440	320	400	340	510	39.6
1,500	660	650	530	440	470	340	430	360	560	37.0
1,800	720	710	580	480	510	360	470	390	610	34.0
2,000	760	750	610	510	540	380	490	410	650	32.4
2,500	850	840	680	560	600	420	540	450	730	29.2
3,000	920	910	740	610	650	450	590	490	800	26.8
3,500	990	980	800	660	700	480	630	520	870	24.9
4,000	1,050	1,050	850	700	740	510	670	550	930	23.3
4,500	1,100	1,100	900	730	780	540	710	580	990	22.0
5,000	1,200	1,150	940	770	820	560	750	600	1,050	20.9
6,000	1,300	1,250	1,000	830	880	600	810	650	1,150	19.1
10,000	1,600	1,600	1,300	1,050	1,100	730	1,050	800	1,500	14.8
20,000	2,200	2,200	1,750	1,400	1,500	920	1,400	1,050	2,050	10.4
50,000	3,250	3,250	2,600	2,050	2,150	1,200	2,150	1,500	3,150	6.3
100,000	4,300	4,300	3,400	2,650	2,850	1,500	3,000	1,900	4,300	4.3
200,000	5,700	5,600	4,500	3,450	3,700	1,750	4,200	2,450	5,800	2.9
300,000	6,600	6,600	5,200	3,950	4,300	1,900		2,800	6,900	2.3
500,000	8,000	7,900	6,300	4,750	5,200	2,100		3,300	8,400	1.7
1,000,000	10,300	10,100	8,100	6,000	6,600				11,100	1.1
2,000,000	13,000	12,800	10,300	7,500	8,400				14,300	0.7
5,000,000	17,600	17,100	13,900						19,700	0.4
10,000,000	21,800								24,800	0.2



## GLOSSARY

*Ceased a job:* refer to definitions of job leavers and job losers.

*Change of locality:* in capital cities and major towns each suburb is considered to be a different locality. Where a person works at different sites for the same employer (for example, a construction worker), their base of operations (i.e. the employer's office, depot, yard, etc.) is considered to be their place of work. The movement of an employer's operations to premises in a different locality would entail a change of job for employees.

*Current job:* the job in which the person worked in the week before the interview. Where the person worked in more than one job during this period, the main job, i.e. the job in which most hours were usually worked, was regarded as the current job.

*Duration of current job:* the period between the commencement of the current job up to the week before the interview.

*Duration of last job:* the period between the commencement of the last job up to the week the person ceased working in that job.

*Industry:* unless otherwise specified, all occurrences of industry in this publication refer to Industry Division as defined by the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) 1983*. However unpublished industry data is available at the Industry Group (3-digit) level.

*Job:*

- (i) Employment as a wage or salary earner (or unpaid family helper) by a particular employer, in a particular locality; or
- (ii) Self-employment (with or without employees) in a particular locality.

*Job leavers:* persons who ceased their last job voluntarily, that is:

- (i) Because of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; or
- (ii) The job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they left that job to return to studies; or

- (iii) They retired, started a new business, got a better job, left for family or other reasons; or

- (iv) Changed locality but not employer/business for employment, personal or other reasons.

*Job losers:* persons who ceased their last job involuntarily, that is:

- (i) They were retrenched or their business closed down because of financial difficulties; or
- (ii) Their job was temporary or seasonal and they did not leave that job to return to studies; or
- (iii) Left that job because of their own ill-health or injury.

*Job mobile:* defined as a change of job which may involve a change of employer/business or a change of locality without a change of employer/business.

*Last job:* the last job in which employment was ceased during the reference period.

*Looking for work:* out of work and looking for a job.

*Not in the labour force:* not working and not looking for work, as defined.

*Number of changes in locality during the year:* for persons currently working, it is the number of times they have changed locality with respect to their current employer or business. For persons not currently working, it is the number of times they have changed locality with respect to their last employer or business.

*Occupation:* unless otherwise specified, all occurrences of occupation in this publication refer to Major Group as defined by the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 1986*. However unpublished occupation data is available at the Unit Group (4-digit) level.

*Previous job:* refer to definition of *last job*.

*Reference period:* the 52 weeks up to the end of the week prior to interview.

*Working:* working or on leave.

## SPECIAL DATA SERVICES

### DATA ITEMS AND HOW TO ORDER SPECIAL TABLES FROM THIS SURVEY

The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request. When ordering special tables from this survey, please ensure you identify the **population(s)** and the **data item(s)** that you require.

This section specifies the data items, categories and populations which relate to the survey and includes an order form for special tables. 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.

Refer to the glossaries in this publication and in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for definitions of data items.

### POPULATIONS

POPULATION 1: Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1992

POPULATION 2: Persons who were working at February 1992

POPULATION 3: Persons who were working at February 1992 who changed location from previous job

POPULATION 4: Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 1992

POPULATION 5: Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 1992 who were working at February 1992

POPULATION 6: Persons who were working at February 1991

POPULATION 7: Persons who were working at February 1991 and at February 1992

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
1 STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE	All	6A FAMILY STATUS (1)	All
New South Wales		Member of a family	
Victoria		Husband or wife	
Queensland		With dependents present	
South Australia		Without dependents present	
Western Australia		Sole parent	
Tasmania		Other family head	
Northern Territory		Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	
Australian Capital Territory		Other child (b) of married couple or family head	
		Other relative of married couple or family head	
2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE	All	Not a member of a family	
Metropolitan		Living alone	
Non-metropolitan		Not living alone	
3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE	All	Family status	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.	
		(b) Aged 15 and over.	
4 SEX	All	6B FAMILY STATUS (2)	All
Males		Member of a family	
Females		Husband or wife	
		With children aged 0-14 present	
5 MARITAL STATUS	All	Without children aged 0-14 present	
Married		Sole parent	
Not-married		With children aged 0-14 present	
		Without children aged 0-14 present	
		Other family head	
		Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	
		Other child (b) of married couple or family head	
		Other relative of married couple or family head	
		Not a member of a family	
		Living alone	
		Not living alone	
		Family status not determined	
		(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.	
		(b) Aged 15 and over.	

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
<b>7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL</b>	All	<b>12A DURATION OF CURRENT JOB (1)</b>	2,7
Born in Australia		Under 1 year	
Born outside Australia		Under 3 months	
Arrived before 1961		3 and under 6 months	
Arrived 1961 - 1970		6 and under 12 months	
Arrived 1971 - 1980		1 and under 2 years	
Arrived 1981 - 1990		2 and under 3 years	
Arrived 1991 to survey date		3 and under 5 years	
		5 and under 10 years	
		10 years and over	
		10 and under 20 years	
		20 years and over	
<b>7B BIRTHPLACE (1)</b>	All	<b>12B DURATION OF CURRENT JOB (2)</b>	3,5
Born in Australia		Under 3 months	
Born outside Australia		3 and under 6 months	
Born in main English-speaking countries (a)		6 and under 12 months	
Born in other countries			
(a) Comprises UK, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, USA and New Zealand.			
<b>7C BIRTHPLACE (2)</b>	All	<b>13 OCCUPATION OF CURRENT JOB</b>	2,3,5,7
Born in Australia		Managers and administrators	
Born outside Australia		Professionals	
Oceania		Para-professionals	
New Zealand		Tradespersons	
Europe and the former USSR		Clerks	
Germany		Salespersons and personal service workers	
Greece		Plant and machine operators, and drivers	
Italy		Labourers and related workers	
Netherlands			
United Kingdom and Ireland		<b>14 INDUSTRY OF CURRENT JOB</b>	2,3,5,7
Yugoslavia		Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	
The Middle East and North Africa		Mining	
Lebanon		Manufacturing	
Southeast Asia		Electricity, gas and water	
Malaysia		Construction	
Philippines		Wholesale and retail trade	
Viet Nam		Transport and storage	
Northeast Asia		Communication	
China		Finance, property and business services	
The Americas		Public administration and defence	
Other		Community services	
India		Recreation, personal and other services	
<b>8 AGE</b>	All	<b>15 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>	All
15-19		With post-school qualifications	
20-24		Degree	
25-34		Trade qualification/apprenticeship	
35-44		Certificate or diploma	
45-54		Other	
55-69		Without post-school qualifications	
		Attended highest level of secondary school available	
		Did not attend highest level of secondary school available and left at age —	
		18 and over	
		16 or 17	
		14 or 15	
		13 and under	
		Never attended school	
		Secondary school qualifications not determined	
		Still at school	
<b>9 LABOUR FORCE STATUS (at February 1992)</b>	1,4,6	<b>16 NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS OR BUSINESSES DURING THE YEAR</b>	All
In the labour force		One	
Working		Two	
Looking for work		Three	
Not in the labour force		Four or more	
<b>10 STATUS OF WORKER IN CURRENT JOB</b>	2,3,5,7		
Wage and salary earner			
Other			
<b>11 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS OF CURRENT JOB</b>	2,3,5,7		
Full-time			
Part-time			
Not asked			

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
17 NUMBER OF CHANGES IN LOCALITY DURING THE YEAR Nil One Two Three Four or more	All	20A SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM LAST TO CURRENT JOB Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job No previous job during the year Had a previous job during the year Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1
18 JOB MOBILITY Changed employer/business or locality Changed employer/business Changed locality and employer/business Changed locality but not employer/business Did not change employer/business or locality	1,2,4,6,7	20B SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM LAST TO CURRENT JOB — INDUSTRY Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job No previous job during the year Had a previous job during the year Same industry division Changed industry division Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1
19A SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992 Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job Not working at February 1991 Working at February 1991 Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1,4	20C SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM LAST TO CURRENT JOB — OCCUPATION Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job No previous job during the year Had a previous job during the year Same occupation major group Changed occupation major group Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1
19B SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992 — INDUSTRY Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job Not working at February 1991 Working at February 1991 Same industry division Changed industry division Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1,4	21 REASON CHANGED LOCALITY Employment reasons Employer changed locality/business moved to other premises Unsatisfactory work conditions Promotion/secondment Home operator who changed residence Transfer Personal reasons Health, medical reasons (self only) Wanted a change Personal/family reasons Other reasons	3
19C SUMMARY OF JOB CHANGE FROM FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992 — OCCUPATION Working at February 1992 For one year or more in current job For less than one year in current job Not working at February 1991 Working at February 1991 Same occupation major group Changed occupation major group Not working at February 1992 Began last job more than a year ago Looking for work Not in the labour force Began and ceased a job during the year Looking for work Not in the labour force	1,4		

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
22 REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB	4,5	28A WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION MAJOR GROUP (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Job loser		Did not change occupation	
Retrenched		Changed occupation	
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies		28B WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION MINOR GROUP (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Own ill health or injury		Did not change occupation	
Job leaver		Changed occupation	
Ceased a job with employer/business		28C WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION UNIT GROUP (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Unsatisfactory work conditions		Did not change occupation	
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies		Changed occupation	
Retired, new business, better job, family or other reasons		29A WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY DIVISION (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Changed locality but not employer		Did not change industry	
Employment reasons		Changed industry	
Personal reasons		29B WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY SUB-DIVISION (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Other reasons		Did not change industry	
23 STATUS OF WORKER IN LAST JOB	3-5	Changed industry	
Wage and salary earner		29C WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY GROUP (LAST TO CURRENT JOB)	3,5
Other		Did not change industry	
24 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS OF LAST JOB	3-5	Changed industry	
Full-time		30 STATUS OF WORKER IN FEBRUARY 1991 JOB (12 months ago)	6,7
Part-time		Wage and salary earner	
25 DURATION OF LAST JOB	3-5	Other	
Under 1 year		31 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS OF FEBRUARY 1991 JOB (12 months ago)	6,7
Under 3 months		Full-time	
3 and under 6 months		Part-time	
6 and under 12 months		Not asked	
1 and under 2 years		32 OCCUPATION OF FEBRUARY 1991 JOB (12 months ago)	6,7
2 and under 3 years		Managers and administrators	
3 and under 5 years		Professionals	
5 and under 10 years		Para-professionals	
10 years and over		Tradespersons	
10 and under 20 years		Clerks	
20 years and over		Salespersons and personal service workers	
26 OCCUPATION OF LAST JOB	3-5	Plant and machine operators, and drivers	
Managers and administrators		Labourers and related workers	
Professionals		27 INDUSTRY OF LAST JOB	3-5
Para-professionals		Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	
Tradespersons		Mining	
Clerks		Manufacturing	
Salespersons and personal service workers		Electricity, gas and water	
Plant and machine operators, and drivers		Construction	
Labourers and related workers		Wholesale and retail trade	
27 INDUSTRY OF LAST JOB	3-5	Transport and storage	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting		Communication	
Mining		Finance, property and business services	
Manufacturing		Public administration and defence	
Electricity, gas and water		Community services	
Construction		Recreation, personal and other services	
Wholesale and retail trade			
Transport and storage			
Communication			
Finance, property and business services			
Public administration and defence			
Community services			
Recreation, personal and other services			

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
33 INDUSTRY OF FEBRUARY 1991 JOB (12 months ago) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting Mining Manufacturing Electricity, gas and water Construction Wholesale and retail trade Transport and storage Communication Finance, property and business services Public administration and defence Community services Recreation, personal and other services	6,7	35A WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY DIVISION (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change industry Changed industry	7
34A WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION MAJOR GROUP (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change occupation Changed occupation	7	35B WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY SUB-DIVISION (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change industry Changed industry	7
34B WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION MINOR GROUP (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change occupation Changed occupation	7	35C WHETHER CHANGED INDUSTRY GROUP (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change industry Changed industry	7
34C WHETHER CHANGED OCCUPATION UNIT GROUP (FEBRUARY 1991 TO FEBRUARY 1992) Did not change occupation Changed occupation	7	36 PLACE OF USUAL RESIDENCE AT FEBRUARY 1991 (12 months ago) New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia Western Australia Tasmania Northern Territory Australian Capital Territory Outside Australia	All

### SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL SURVEYS

The supplementary and special surveys collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. It may be possible to order Unit Record Tapes on the following supplementary and special surveys by contacting the ABS (see below for contact numbers).

<i>Title of Publication</i>	<i>Catalogue No.</i>
Alternative Working Arrangements, Australia, March to May 1982, September to November 1986	6341.0
Annual and Long Service Leave Taken, Australia, May 1988 to April 1989	6317.0
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications, Australia, 1989	6243.0
Career Paths of Qualified Nurses, Australia, 1989	6277.0
Child Care, Australia, May 1969, 1973, 1977; June 1980; November 1984; June 1987	4402.0
Employment Benefits, Australia. Annually. Latest issue July 1991	6334.0
How Workers Get Their Training, Australia, 1989	6278.0
Income Distribution Survey, Australia, Persons with Earned Income, 1986, 1990	6546.0
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia. Annually. Latest issue June 1991	6222.0
Labour Force Experience, Australia. Annually. Latest issue March 1991	6206.0
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia. Annually. Latest issue February 1991	6235.0
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia. Annually. Latest issue June 1991	6224.0
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia, September 1990	6250.0
Labour Mobility, Australia. Annually. Latest issue February 1991	6209.0
Multiple Jobholding, Australia. Four-yearly. Latest issue July 1991	6216.0
Participation in Education, Australia. (Formerly Labour Force Status and Educational Attendance). Annually. Latest issue September 1991	6272.0
Persons Employed at Home, Australia, April 1989	6275.0
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia. Annually. Latest issue September 1991	6220.0
Persons Who Had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia, May 1985, May 1987, May 1990	6264.0
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, Australia, November 1985, April 1988, April 1991	6267.0
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia, November 1989	6238.0
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 1990	6245.0
Superannuation, Australia, February 1974, September to November 1982, November 1988, November 1991	6319.0
Trade Union Members, Australia. Two-yearly. Latest issue August 1990	6325.0
Transition From Education to Work, Australia. Annually. Latest issue May 1991	6227.0
Underemployed Workers, Australia, May 1988, May 1991	6265.0
Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution), Australia. Annually. Latest issue July 1991	6310.0

### LABOUR FORCE INQUIRIES



SYDNEY	(02) 268 4212	ADELAIDE	(08) 237 7438
MELBOURNE	(03) 615 7677	HOBART	(002) 20 5851
BRISBANE	(07) 222 6029	DARWIN	(089) 81 5222
PERTH	(09) 323 5198	CANBERRA	
		Supplementary Surveys	(06) 252 6504
		Labour Force Estimates	(06) 252 6525



## SPECIAL DATA REQUEST ORDER FORM

### LABOUR MOBILITY, FEBRUARY 1992

Please specify your special data request(s) on the order form provided on the following page.

The following points should be noted when requesting special tables:

1. Table requests will be available on computer printout, floppy disk or microfiche.
2. The current cost of special tables is as follows —

No. of data items (excluding populations)	Cost per table (\$)
2	120
3	150
4	210
5	300
6 or more	negotiable

**NOTE** (i) For tables provided on floppy disk, an additional cost of \$65.00 per 360K will be charged;

(ii) For tables provided on microfiche, an additional cost of \$50.00, plus \$5.00 per microfiche, will be charged;

(iii) Prices quoted are subject to revisions.

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