

# 500 Issues of Labour Force

February 1973 to January 2018

Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1972 AND FEBRUARY 1973 (PRELIMINARY)

This is the first of a series of preliminary quarterly statements showing summary statistics of the labour force. It contains details for November 1972 and February 1973 with earlier figures included for comparative purposes. More detailed estimates for November 1972 and February 1973 will be published shortly in the regular quarterly bulletin, *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20).

2. Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population sample survey held in February, May, August and November each year. A new sample was phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972, and the November 1972 estimates are based entirely on the new sample. It appears that some discontinuity may have resulted from the change, particularly in the estimates for married women in the labour force. Care should therefore be taken in interpreting changes in the estimates between February and November 1972.

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

5. Prior to the November 1972 survey, estimates of employed persons by industry were published according to the 1966 Census Classification of Industries. The basis of industry coding for the November 1972 and subsequent surveys is the Australian Standard Industrial Classification. Estimates for August 1972 according to both industrial classifications will be published so that the effect of this change can be seen. In this publication the effect on the numbers in agriculture is shown. Similar figures for other industries will be published in later issues of *The Labour Force*.

6. The chosen survey periods for February in 1971 and 1972 fell somewhat later than the similar period in other years. Consequently, the numbers of persons who had returned to schools and universities, etc., by the time of the survey might be expected to be greater in 1971 and 1972 than in other years, thus reducing the proportion of the population fifteen years of age and over recorded as being in the labour force. No exact estimate of this effect is available; however, it may be conjectured that had the survey periods been one week earlier, approximately twenty thousand more persons would have been classified as being in the labour force.

7. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the August 1972 issue of *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1973 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This preliminary statement will be followed in due course by the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail.

2. Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population sample survey held in February, May, August and November each year. A new sample was phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972, and the November 1972 estimates are based entirely on the new sample. It appears that some discontinuity may have resulted from the change, particularly in the estimates for married women in the labour force. Care should therefore be taken in interpreting changes in the estimates between February and November 1972.

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

5. Prior to the November 1972 survey, estimates of employed persons by industry were published according to the 1966 Census Classification of Industries. The basis of industry coding for the November 1972 and subsequent surveys is the Australian Standard Industrial Classification. Estimates for employed persons according to both industrial classifications, for the period August 1971 to August 1972, will be published in the next issue of the quarterly bulletin. Estimates for agriculture for August 1972 are shown on both bases in the table on page 2 of this statement.

6. The chosen survey periods for February in 1971 and 1972 fell somewhat later than the similar period in other years. Consequently, the numbers of persons who had returned to schools and universities, etc., by the time of the survey might be expected to be greater in 1971 and 1972 than in other years, thus reducing the proportion of the population fifteen years of age and over recorded as being in the labour force. No exact estimate of this effect is available; however, it may be conjectured that had the survey periods been one week earlier, approximately twenty thousand more persons would have been classified as being in the labour force.

7. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

### Symbols and abbreviations used in this statement

n.a.	not available
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
—	break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1973 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This preliminary statement will be followed in due course by the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail.

2. Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population sample survey held in February, May, August and November each year. A new sample was phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972, and the November 1972 estimates are based entirely on the new sample. It appears that some discontinuity may have resulted from the change, particularly in the estimates for married women in the labour force. Care should therefore be taken in interpreting changes in the estimates between February and November 1972.

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

5. Prior to the November 1972 survey, estimates of employed persons by industry were published according to the 1966 Census Classification of Industries. The basis of industry coding for the November 1972 and subsequent surveys is the Australian Standard Industrial Classification. Estimates for employed persons according to both industrial classifications, for the period August 1971 to August 1972, have been published in the combined November 1972 and February 1973 issue of the quarterly bulletin. Estimates for agriculture for August 1972 are shown on both bases in the table on page 2 of this statement.

6. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error : for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.4 per cent (8,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 7 per cent (1,400). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

Symbols and abbreviations used in this statement

r                      figure revised since previous issue,  
—                      break in continuity of series (where drawn  
                         across a column between two consecutive figures)



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1973 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This preliminary statement will be followed in due course by the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*. (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail.

2. Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population sample survey held in February, May, August and November each year. A revised sample was phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972, and the November 1972 estimates are based entirely on the revised sample. It appears that some discontinuity may have resulted from the change, particularly in the estimates for married women in the labour force. Care should therefore be taken in interpreting changes in the estimates between February and November 1972.

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

5. Prior to the November 1972 survey, estimates of employed persons by industry were published according to the 1966 Census Classification of Industries. The basis of industry coding for the November 1972 and subsequent surveys is the Australian Standard Industrial Classification. Estimates for employed persons according to both industrial classifications, for the period August 1971 to August 1972, have been published in the combined November 1972 and February 1973 issue of the quarterly bulletin. Estimates for agriculture for August 1972 are shown on both bases in the table on page 2 of this statement.

6. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 7.8 per cent (1,560). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

7. The method of seasonally adjusting unemployed males, females and persons has been changed. Previously these estimates were obtained by a direct adjustment of the total. The new procedure is to adjust unemployed persons aged 15 to 19 and unemployed persons aged 20 years and over separately and to add the two figures to obtain total unemployed persons. Unemployed males and females are treated similarly. Figures for periods prior to August 1972 and other details will be published in *The Labour Force*, November 1973 (Reference No. 6.20). The methods of seasonally adjusting all other series remain the same and details are explained in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators*, 1973 (Reference No. 1.10).

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

### Symbol and abbreviation used in this statement

—	break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)
n.a.	not available



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1974 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

### MAIN FEATURES

- In February 1974 the estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 120,400, representing 2.0 per cent of the labour force (1.7 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis).
- The number of employed persons increased by 53,600 in the three months to February 1974. The increase in the corresponding period of the previous year was 30,300.
- 61.9 per cent of all civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force. For married women the proportion was 39.3 per cent; ten years ago it was 24.6 per cent.

### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1974 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 27,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

### Scope

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army

Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

### Classification of the labour force

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

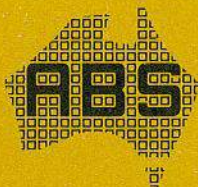
### Reliability of the estimates

5. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 7.8 per cent (1,560). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

### Discontinuity of the series

6. The survey period for February 1974 was later than for February 1973. Consequently, the number of persons who had returned to schools and universities, etc., by the time of the survey might be expected to be greater in 1974 than in 1973, thus reducing the proportion of the population fifteen years of age and over recorded as being in the labour force. The exact effect is not known but is estimated to be about 20,000 persons.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1974  
PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

## MAIN FEATURES

- In May 1974 61.4 per cent of all civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force. For males the proportion was 81.8 per cent, for females 41.4 per cent.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 95,300 representing 1.6 per cent of the labour force (1.7 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis).

## Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for May 1974 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

## The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 27,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

3. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

## Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

## Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

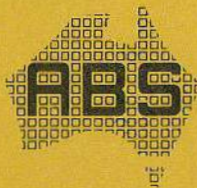
## Reliability of the estimates

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## Discontinuity of the series

7. The survey period for February 1974 was later than for February 1973. Consequently, the number of persons who had returned to schools and universities, etc., by the time of the survey might be expected to be greater in 1974 than in 1973, thus reducing the proportion of the population fifteen years of age and over recorded as being in the labour force. The exact effect is not known but is estimated to be about 20,000 persons.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1974 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

### MAIN FEATURES

The following are the main features of the labour force statistics for August 1974

- 60.7 per cent of all civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force.
- 80.8 per cent of males and 40.9 of females were in the labour force.
- 39.6 per cent of married women were in the labour force.
- 115,700 (including 21,500 looking for part-time work) or 2.0 per cent of the labour force (2.3 per cent seasonally adjusted) were estimated to have been unemployed.
- Average duration of unemployment was approximately 6.7 weeks.

### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for August 1974 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

3. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four

survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

### Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

### Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

### Reliability of the estimates

6. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1974 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

### MAIN FEATURES

The following are the main features of the labour force statistics for November 1974

- 201,200 persons (including 33,300 looking for part-time work), or 3.4 per cent of the labour force (3.5 per cent seasonally adjusted), were estimated to have been unemployed.
- Average duration of unemployment was approximately 7.4 weeks.
- 39,300 unemployed persons were looking for their first job. (not shown in tables).
- 61.6 per cent of all civilians aged 15 years and over (81.3 per cent of males and 42.2 of females) were in the labour force.
- 40.5 per cent of married women were in the labour force.
- Separate estimates for each State and Territory have been included in this publication for the first time. (Table 4.)

### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for November 1974 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

4. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

### Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1975 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

### MAIN FEATURES

- Because of the effects of cyclone Tracy the population survey was not conducted in Darwin in February 1975. The estimates for this period therefore exclude Darwin. It is estimated that at the time of the survey about 12,000 males and 5,000 females aged 15 years and over were living in Darwin.
- In February 1975, 61.6 per cent of civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons was 273,200 (4.6 per cent of the labour force).
- Answers to questions asked for the first time in February 1975 indicate that the number of persons who did no work but would have taken a job during the survey week and who had been actively looking for work at some time in the four weeks before the interview week was approximately 293,000.
- Average duration of unemployment was 10.1 weeks.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1975 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

4. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four

survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey (see main features).

#### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for the States and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1975 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- In May 1975, 61.1 per cent of civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons was 230,000 (3.9 per cent of the labour force), a decrease of 43,200 since February. The average duration of unemployment increased from 10.1 to 12.7 weeks since February. In May, one person in seven of the unemployed had been looking for work for six months or more.
- The estimated number of persons who did no work but would have taken a job during the survey week and who had been actively looking for work at some time in the four weeks before the interview week was 252,500.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for May 1975 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

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4. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment

into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

#### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1975 (PRELIMINARY)

Estimates for May 1975 and earlier periods have been revised on the basis of the results of the 1971 population census. For details, see *The Labour Force*, May 1975.

### MAIN FEATURES

- In August 1975, 60.9 per cent of civilians aged 15 years and over were in the labour force.
- There were 233,500 unemployed persons (295,300 seasonally adjusted), 3,900 more than in May 1975. The unemployment rate was 3.9 per cent (5.0 per cent seasonally adjusted).
- The estimated number of persons who did no work but would have taken a job during the survey week and who had been actively looking for work at some time in the four weeks before the interview week was 243,800.
- One person in five in the labour force was a married woman.
- 40 per cent of married women were in the labour force.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for August 1975 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers.

4. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

#### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Estimation procedure

7. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

#### Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates in this statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

9. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1975 (PRELIMINARY)

## MAIN FEATURES

- In November 1975 the estimated civilian labour force reached 6,078,200 persons, an increase of 156,700 over August 1975.
- Total employed civilians aged 15 years and over rose from 5,688,100 in August 1975 to 5,799,100 in November, an increase of 111,000. This increase comprised 89,900 women (of whom 47,800 were married part-time workers) and 21,100 males.
- The number of unemployed persons increased by 45,600 to a total of 279,100 (4.6 per cent of the civilian labour force).
- Of the unemployed, 46,000 were persons aged 15 – 19 years looking for their first job.
- 41.9 per cent of all married women were in the labour force in November 1975, compared with 40.6 per cent in November 1974.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for November 1975 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

## The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), the information being obtained in February, May, August and November from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

4. The survey normally covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia, but because of special circumstances in November 1975 the sample size was reduced to one half of one per cent.

## Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

## Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

## Estimation procedure

7. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

## Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. Because of the reduction in the size of the sample in November 1975, the standard errors are larger than usual. For November 1975 the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.6 per cent (12,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 9 per cent (1,800). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

9. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.



Reference No. 6.32

## THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- In February 1976, the number of employed civilians was 5,810,600, an increase of 11,500 over November 1975. Males increased by 34,900 while females decreased by 23,300.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 283,900, or 4.7 per cent of the civilian labour force (3.8 per cent seasonally adjusted), an increase of 4,800 since November 1975.
- The estimated number of persons who did no work but would have taken a job during the survey week and who had been actively looking for work at some time in the four weeks before the interview week was 304,500.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1976 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

5. The survey period for February 1976 was deferred by one week. As a result, the number of persons who had returned to schools, universities, etc., by the time of the survey was greater than if the survey had been held at the normal time. The estimates are also affected by other seasonal influences. The exact effect is not known, but it is estimated that the figures for unemployed persons and persons in the labour force were reduced by between 5,000 and 10,000 (both original and seasonally adjusted), and the number of persons not in the labour force was correspondingly increased. The number of employed persons is unlikely to have been affected significantly.

#### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Estimation procedure

7. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

#### Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.6 per cent (12,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

9. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force*.

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
CANBERRA

Reference No. 6.32

FOR RELEASE : NOON 28 JULY 1976

THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

MAIN FEATURES

- All estimates shown in this statement are based on revised definitions of unemployed persons, persons in the labour force and persons not in the labour force. (See paragraphs 11 and 12 below). Estimates for periods prior to May 1976 based on the former definitions can be found in issues of labour force publications prior to May 1976.
- In May 1976, the number of employed civilians was 5,840,600, an increase of 30,000 over February 1976. Males increased by 23,900 while females increased by 6,000.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 247,600 or 4.1 per cent of the civilian labour force (4.4 per cent seasonally adjusted), a decrease of 56,900 since February 1976.
- Average duration of unemployment increased to 17.6 weeks.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for May 1976 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity during a specified week known as 'survey week', which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place.

Definitions

6. Estimates of unemployed persons published in previous issues of this statement and in other publications containing labour force estimates have been based on the following definition:

"All civilians aged 15 years and over who, during the whole of the week prior to the interview week, did no work at all and either:

did not have a job or business and were actively looking for work (including those who stated that they would have done so if they had not (i) been temporarily ill, or (ii) believed no work was available, or (iii) already made definite arrangements to start in a new job in which they would have preferred to start during survey week) or

had a job from which they were temporarily laid off without pay for the whole week".

7. Classification of a person as unemployed has depended on the answers given to a number of questions relating to the person's job-seeking activities during the survey week. For some time it has been apparent that for a number of reasons the questions being asked have lacked something in comprehensiveness and precision. In the first place they have allowed persons who had been actively looking for work in the survey week to be classified as unemployed, even though they may not in fact have been able to start work in that week had a job become available. For example, in November each year many persons who are about to leave schools, colleges, universities, etc. begin seeking work before they actually leave. On the other hand, persons who had been looking for work in the recent past but had for some reason not done so in the survey week have been excluded from the unemployed. Furthermore, persons who volunteered the



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
CANBERRA

Reference No. 6.32

FOR RELEASE : NOON 12 OCTOBER 1976

THE LABOUR FORCE  
AUGUST 1976  
(PRELIMINARY)

MAIN FEATURES

- . In August 1976, the number of employed civilians (including self-employed) was 5,747,600, a decrease of 93,000 since May 1976. Males decreased by 60,700 while females decreased by 32,300. On the basis of other information it is believed that the survey figures have significantly overstated the extent of this decline. In addition the August figures have been affected by industrial disputes.
- . The estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 264,100 or 4.4 per cent of the civilian labour force (4.9 per cent seasonally adjusted), an increase of 16,500 since May 1976.
- . Average duration of unemployment was 17.7 weeks.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for August 1976 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

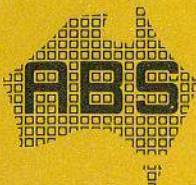
Estimation procedure

6. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate for Australia of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20).



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics, ring Mr J. Tayler on Canberra 526512 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

### THE LABOUR FORCE NOVEMBER 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

#### MAIN FEATURES

- In November 1976, the number of employed civilians (including employers and self-employed) was 5,829,600, an increase of 30,500 since November 1975. Non-agricultural employment increased by 48,100 in the same period.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons (including those looking for part-time work) was 254,600 or 4.2 per cent of the civilian labour force, a decrease of 9,500 since August 1976.
- Average duration of unemployment was 17.6 weeks.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for November 1976 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

##### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

##### Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

##### Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

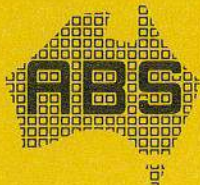
##### Estimation procedure

6. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

##### Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate for Australia of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and Australia, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20).



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**THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1977 (PRELIMINARY)**

**MAIN FEATURES**

- Between November 1976 and February 1977 the civilian labour force increased by 123,800 persons (employed +43,600, unemployed +80,200).
- In February 1977 employed civilians (including employers and self-employed) numbered 5,873,200.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work was 275,100. A further 59,600 were looking for part-time work.
- The unemployment rate for Australia was 5.4 per cent. Rates for the States ranged from 6.3 per cent for Queensland to 4.5 per cent for Victoria.

**Scope**

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

**Classification of the labour force**

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

**Estimation procedure**

6. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

**Reliability of the estimates**

7. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate for Australia of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors for States, Territories and

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**Introduction**

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1977 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35).

**The population survey**

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

- ring Mr J. Tayler Canberra 526512 or our State Office, or
- write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- Between February and May 1977 the civilian labour force decreased by 8,500 persons (employed +12,500, unemployed -21,100). In seasonally adjusted terms the civilian labour force increased by nearly 50,000 persons (of whom 41,000 were females).
- In May 1977 employed civilians (including employers and self-employed) numbered 5,885,700.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work was 258,200. A further 55,600 were looking for part-time work.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for May 1977 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

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#### Scope

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#### Classification of the labour force

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8. Limitations of space preclude publication of the standard errors of all estimates in this statement. More



## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

ring Mr A. Sharp Canberra 526512 or our State Office, or

write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

- Between May and August 1977 the civilian labour force decreased by 7,200 persons (employed -15,400, unemployed +8,300). In seasonally adjusted terms the civilian labour force increased by 56,200 persons (of whom 33,400 were females).
- In August 1977 employed civilians (including employers and self-employed) numbered 5,868,400.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work was 267,500. A further 55,000 were looking for part-time work.

**NOTE.** Revised estimates for May 1977 are shown in Table 1 of this publication.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This statement contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for August 1977 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Catalogue No. 6203.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates are published several weeks in advance of this statement in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Catalogue No. 6201.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.35).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey

relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

#### Classification of the labour force

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Estimation procedure

6. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

#### Reliability of the estimates

7. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error: for example, the relative standard error of an estimate for Australia of 2,000,000 is approximately 0.5 per cent (10,000) while that of an estimate of 20,000 is approximately 8 per cent (1,600). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr J. Tayler, Canberra 526512 or our State Office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

- In November 1977 the estimated total civilian labour force was 6,179,200 (employed 5,864,900, unemployed 314,300).
- The estimated number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work was 265,300. A further 49,000 were looking for part-time work.
- In the twelve months to November 1977, employed persons increased by 35,300 and unemployed persons by 59,700.
- For reasons set out in paragraphs 10 to 13, publication of seasonally adjusted unemployment estimates has been suspended.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for November 1977 and estimates for the previous five quarters. The estimates are derived from the results of the population surveys conducted in February, May, August and November each year throughout Australia. The quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Catalogue No. 6203.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.20), which gives information in greater detail, will be published shortly.

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Catalogue No. 6201.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.35).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), the information being obtained in February, May, August and November from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

4. A new sample based on the 1976 Census will be used in the February 1978 survey; at the same time a revised questionnaire will be introduced. In order that any effects of these changes can be assessed, an additional survey was undertaken in November 1977, using the new sample and questionnaire, at the same time as the normal survey was undertaken. Data from the additional survey will be processed shortly and results analysed to assess the effects of the innovations. The population survey normally covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. Because of the difficulties of running two surveys concurrently, the sample size of both November surveys was reduced to one-half of one per cent of the population. This reduction in sample size has slightly increased the sampling variability of the estimates, on average by about 15 per cent. See paragraph 8 below for further details.

#### Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent defence forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

#### Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. Definitions of the principal categories appearing in this statement are given in the quarterly bulletins.

#### Estimation procedure

7. Estimates are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that survey estimates conform to independent population estimates by State, area, age and sex. These population estimates are based on very preliminary information and are subject to revision.

#### Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from the occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 30 MARCH 1978

## THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1978 (PRELIMINARY) (Including revised estimates for the period August 1976 to November 1977)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr John Tayler on Canberra 526512 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616  
For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 35 to 41. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and paragraph 38.

- In February 1978 the estimated civilian labour force was 6,409,300 (4,112,400 males and 2,296,900 females).
- 5,932,300 persons were employed, 395,800 were unemployed looking for full-time work and 81,300 were unemployed looking for part-time work.
- The number of persons aged 15 years and over not in the labour force was estimated to be 3,985,000.
- In the twelve months to February 1978, employed persons decreased by 62,500 and unemployed persons increased by 104,700.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1978 and revised estimates for earlier periods. The estimates are derived from the population survey, which is now being conducted monthly. Previously, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week

prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work, and were on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MARCH 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

- In March 1978 the estimated civilian labour force was 6,408,200 – a decrease of 1,100 from February. The male labour force decreased by 24,700 to 4,087,700 while the female labour force increased by 23,600 to 2,320,500.
- Between February and March the estimated number of employed persons increased by 55,600 (12,800 males, 43,000 females) and the number of unemployed decreased by 56,700 (37,400 males, 19,400 females). The number of unemployed looking for full-time work decreased by 50,100 and the number of unemployed looking for part-time work decreased by 6,700.
- The estimated number of full-time workers in March was 5,073,900 and the number of part-time workers was 914,000.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

### Definitions

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

7. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

## THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526523 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 22 to 27. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and paragraph 24.

In April 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,404,900 (4,078,500 males, 2,326,400 females), comprising 6,003,800 employed persons (3,867,700 males, 2,136,100 females) and 401,100 unemployed persons (210,900 males, 190,300 females).

Between March and April 1978 the following movements were recorded:

	Males	Females
Employed	-2,400	+18,300
Unemployed	-6,700	-12,400
Labour force	-9,100	+5,900
Not in the labour force	+17,300	+4,200

It is estimated that in April there were 918,500 part-time workers, of whom 120,500 would have preferred to work more hours. Of these, 39,000 were actively looking for full-time work.

chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

### Definitions

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 22 to 27. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and paragraph 24.*

- In May 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,394,000 (4,072,600 males, 2,321,400 females), comprising 5,998,700 employed persons (3,863,500 males, 2,135,300 females) and 395,300 unemployed persons (209,100 males, 186,200 females).
- 104,400 persons aged 15-19 years were looking for full-time work of whom 8,900 were still attending school. A further 20,500 in the same age group were seeking part-time work of whom 14,500 were attending school.
- In the twelve months to May 1978, the estimated number of employed persons decreased by 25,500, the number of unemployed increased by 41,500 and the number not in the labour force increased by 187,500.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully

chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

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6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on

## THE LABOUR FORCE, JUNE 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 20. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 4.

- In June 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,384,200 (4,076,700 males, 2,307,500 females), comprising 5,991,900 employed persons (3,860,000 males, 2,131,900 females) and 392,300 unemployed persons (216,700 males, 175,600 females).
- Average duration of unemployment for unemployed persons looking for full-time work was 26.1 weeks. For unemployed persons looking for part-time work, average duration was 16.5 weeks.
- 51,000 persons looking for full-time work had been unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so

that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

7. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

## THE LABOUR FORCE, JULY 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 20. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 4.*

- In July 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,376,100 (4,059,300 males, 2,316,800 females), comprising 5,998,100 employed persons (3,848,200 males, 2,149,800 females) and 378,000 unemployed persons (211,100 males, 166,900 females).
- The total labour force is at about the same level as a year ago.
- In July 325,400 unemployed persons were looking for full-time work, and 41,000 persons employed part-time were also actively seeking full-time jobs.
- The unemployment rate for persons looking for full-time work was 6.0 per cent. For those aged 25 years and over it was 3.8 per cent.

information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

### Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

### Definitions

5. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

6. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week :

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0).

2. Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

3. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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*For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.*

### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In August 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,364,400 (4,053,800 males, 2,310,600 females) comprising 5,969,400 employed persons (3,832,600 males, 2,136,800 females) and 395,000 unemployed persons (221,200 males, 173,800 females).
- Between July and August 1978, the number of persons in full-time employment decreased by 44,400, while those in part-time employment increased by 15,800.
- In the year ended August 1978 the labour force increased by 9,700. The number not in the labour force increased by 193,000 (100,100 males, 92,900 females).
- The unemployment rate in August 1978 was highest in the construction industry (8.1 per cent). (See Table 5.)

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The

information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week :

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

## THE LABOUR FORCE, SEPTEMBER 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- In September 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,369,600 (4,059,000 males, 2,310,500 females) comprising 5,985,100 employed persons (3,840,900 males, 2,144,100 females) and 384,500 unemployed persons (218,100 males, 166,400 females).
- Between August and September 1978 the number of persons in full-time employment increased by 49,100 (17,700 males, 31,500 females) while those in part-time employment decreased by 33,700 (9,000 males, 24,600 females). The corresponding movement between July and August 1978 were -43,400 for full-time employment and +15,000 for part-time.
- In September the civilian labour force represented 60.7 per cent of the total civilian population aged 15 years and over. For males the percentage was 78.3 and for females 43.5 (41.9 for married women).
- An estimated 40,200 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work in September.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The

information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

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- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 28 NOVEMBER 1978

## THE LABOUR FORCE, OCTOBER 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- In October 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,374,100 (4,062,700 males, 2,311,500 females) comprising 6,006,600 employed persons (3,854,700 males, 2,151,900 females) and 367,500 unemployed persons (207,900 males, 159,600 females).
- Between September and October 1978 the number of employed persons increased by 21,500 (males 13,800 females 7,800) and the number of unemployed decreased by 17,000 (males 10,200 females 6,800).
- In October females and married women accounted for the following proportions of the categories shown.

	Females	Married women
	%	%
Full-time workers	28	16
Part-time workers	78	62
Unemployed, looking for —		
Full-time work	37	13
Part-time work	77	46
Civilian labour force	36	23
Not in the labour force	73	48

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained

from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

#### Scope

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- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

## THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In November 1978 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,367,000 (4,052,400 males, 2,314,600 females), comprising 5,997,300 employed persons (3,846,100 males, 2,151,200 females) and 369,700 unemployed persons (206,400 males, 163,300 females).
- 47,400 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.
- Between October and November 1978 the number of employed persons decreased by 9,300 (-8,600 males, -700 females), the number of unemployed increased by 2,200 (-1,500 males, +3,700 females), and the number of persons not in the labour force increased by 25,900 (19,000 males, 6,900 females).
- In the year ended November 1978 employed persons increased by 1,900, unemployed persons by 22,900 and persons not in the labour force by 171,000 (91,800 males, 79,200 females).

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

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- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 1 FEBRUARY 1979

## THE LABOUR FORCE, DECEMBER 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- The principal labour force aggregates in December 1978 and changes since November were as follows:

	December (‘000)	Change since November (‘000)
Total labour force	6,538.7	+171.7
Employed persons –		
Full-time workers	5,157.0	+106.5
Part-time workers	940.5	–6.3
Unemployed persons –		
Looking for full-time work	373.8	+65.0
Looking for part-time work	67.4	+6.5
Not in the labour force	4,019.8	–142.2

- Changes since November for persons aged 15-19 years were: employed +54,700, unemployed +68,900, not in the labour force –124,100.
- 55,200 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the

population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week.

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

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- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or

## THE LABOUR FORCE, JANUARY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In January 1979 an estimated 5,939,900 persons were employed — a fall of 157,600 since December 1978. About three-quarters of the decrease was accounted for by part-time workers (—117,600, of whom 83,800 were married women).
- Of the estimated 222,200 teenagers who had left school between the beginning of 1978 and the survey date, 104,100 were employed in January 1979 (80,000 in full-time jobs), 69,800 were unemployed and 48,300 were not in the labour force. See Table 4 for details.
- An estimated 171,600 teenagers left school in November or December 1978, of whom 73,000 were employed in January 1979 and 57,300 were unemployed.
- Analysis of January 1979 data indicates that the effect on the estimates of persons who because of the holiday period were living away from their usual residence was not significant.

generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

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### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 2 APRIL 1979

## THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In February 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,472,900 (4,135,400 males and 2,337,500 females) comprising 6,018,900 employed persons (3,893,600 males and 2,125,400 females) and 453,900 unemployed persons (241,800 males and 212,100 females).
- Between January and February 1979 the number of full-time workers increased by 8,300 (+23,200 males, -14,900 females) and the number of part-time workers increased by 70,700 of whom 65,900 were married women.
- An estimated 47,600 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.
- An estimated 243,600 teenagers left school between the beginning of 1978 and the survey date. Of these an estimated 198,000 were in the labour force in February, 135,200 being employed and 62,800 unemployed (58,100 looking for full-time work).

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

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## THE LABOUR FORCE, MARCH 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In March 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,486,600 (4,127,400 males and 2,359,200 females), comprising 6,061,600 employed persons (3,904,200 males and 2,157,400 females) and 425,000 unemployed persons (223,100 males and 201,800 females).
- Between February and March 1979 there was little change in the number of persons employed full-time. The number employed part-time increased by 46,300 (15,500 males, 30,800 females). Married women in part-time employment increased by 18,600.
- In the twelve months to March 1979 the number of persons in the labour force increased by 78,500 (39,800 males, 38,700 females), and the number not in the labour force by 113,600.

Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

### Scope

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6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 24 MAY 1979

## THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** *The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

- In April 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,473,100 (4,124,600 males and 2,348,500 females) comprising 6,056,400 employed persons (3,907,400 males and 2,149,000 females) and 416,800 unemployed persons (217,200 males and 199,500 females).
- In April the average duration of unemployment up to the date of the survey was 27.4 weeks for all unemployed persons. For unemployed persons looking for full-time work the average was 29.7 weeks and for unemployed persons looking for part-time work 15.9 weeks.
- At the time of the survey an estimated 43,100 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.

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- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years

## THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE.* The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- In May 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,439,900 (4,118,900 males and 2,321,000 females), comprising 6,043,300 employed persons (3,908,300 males and 2,135,000 females) and 396,600 unemployed persons (210,600 males and 186,000 females).
- Between April and May the labour force decreased by 33,200 persons (-5,700 males, -27,500 females). The number not in the labour force increased by 45,800 persons (11,800 males, 34,100 females).
- In the year ended May 1979 the civilian population aged 15 years and over increased by 187,800. In the same period the increase in the labour force was 45,900.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978

survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years

## THE LABOUR FORCE, JUNE 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

In June 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,446,900 (4,115,600 males and 2,331,300 females), comprising 6,057,600 employed persons (3,909,600 males and 2,148,000 females) and 389,300 unemployed persons (206,000 males and 183,300 females).

Changes since June 1978 are as follows:

	Males	Females	Persons
Employed	+49,600	+16,100	+65,700
Unemployed	-10,700	+ 7,700	- 3,000
Not in the labour force	+48,800	+67,800	+116,600

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during

the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

## THE LABOUR FORCE, JULY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE.* The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- In July 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,450,200 (4,112,400 males and 2,337,800 females), comprising 6,067,800 employed persons (3,910,800 males and 2,157,000 females) and 382,400 unemployed persons (201,600 males and 180,800 females).
- There were 950,600 persons employed part-time of whom 115,700 reported they would have preferred to work more hours. Of these 37,900 were actively looking for full-time work.
- The average weekly hours worked by employed persons in July was 36.5. For full-time workers the average was 40.4 and for part-time workers 15.7.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

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Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

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- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 20 SEPTEMBER 1979

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Alan Sharp on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.*

. In August 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,415,300 (4,100,700 males and 2,314,600 females), comprising 6,041,500 employed persons (3,904,500 males and 2,136,900 females) and 373,800 unemployed persons (196,100 males and 177,700 females).

. The labour force participation rates for August were as follows — males 77.8 per cent, married women 41.3 per cent, all females 42.9 per cent, and persons 60.1 per cent.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4

December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

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- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE.** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- Between August and September 1979 the civilian labour force increased by 99,300 persons (employed +76,600, unemployed +22,700) and the number of persons not in the labour force decreased by 84,300. Employed males increased by 34,800 and employed females by 41,900.
- In September the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,514,600 (4,140,900 males, 2,373,700 females), comprising 6,118,100 employed persons (3,939,300 males, 2,178,800 females) and 396,500 unemployed persons (201,600 males, 194,900 females).
- In the twelve months to September 1979 the estimated number of employed persons increased by 133,000, unemployed persons by 12,000 and persons not in the labour force by 39,700.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the

week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week :

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 28 NOVEMBER 1979

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, OCTOBER 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE.* The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 19. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- . In October 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,513,000 (4,126,800 males, 2,386,200 females), comprising 6,125,200 employed persons (3,930,900 males, 2,194,400 females) and 387,800 unemployed persons (195,900 males, 191,800 females).
- . Principal changes between September and October were :
  - Employed +7,100; unemployed -8,700; not in the labour force +18,500.
- . Female employment increased by 15,600, offsetting a fall of 8,400 in male employment.
- . Married women employed part time increased by 16,800.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

#### Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.

5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week :

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and :
- (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

*NOTE.* The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 19. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

In November 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,511,200, an increase of 144,200 (2.3 per cent) over November 1978.

Employment increased by 153,300 persons in the same period, while unemployment decreased by 9,100. Average duration of unemployment increased by 3.3 weeks to 30.9 weeks.

In November 1979, 296,500 unemployed persons were looking for full-time work. 51,400 persons employed part time were also actively seeking full-time work.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

### Definitions

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5. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

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- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and:
- (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
- (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;

or (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6202.0

NOON 11 FEBRUARY 1980

## THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

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### MAIN FEATURES

**NOTE:** The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 19. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 4.

The principal labour force aggregates in December 1979 and changes since November were as follows:

	December ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Change since November ( <sup>'000</sup> )
Total labour force	6,646.8	+135.6
Employed persons —		
Full-time workers	5,248.5	+94.8
Part-time workers	971.5	-25.4
Unemployed persons —		
Looking for full-time work	353.7	+57.2
Looking for part-time work	73.1	+9.0
Not in the labour force	4,094.9	-112.9

Changes since November for persons aged 15-19 years were: employed +53,000, unemployed +56,200, not in the labour force -109,100.

65,400 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.

population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays the December surveys commence a week earlier than usual (with most interviews being conducted during the second week) and the January surveys commence a week later than usual. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the survey week).

### Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

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- worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

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#### The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the