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## CHAPTER 9

## SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

The Commonwealth Government, the State Governments and voluntary welfare organisations all provide social welfare services. This chapter concentrates on the benefits and services provided by the Commonwealth Government, principally those of the Departments of Social Security, Community Services and Veterans' Affairs but mention is also made of the services provided by the Departments of Aboriginal Affairs and Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Also included is a section relating to Income Distribution surveys which provides a summary of the distribution of money income across the Australian population.

Details of services administered by the Commonwealth Department of Health are given in Chapter 10, Health. Details of pension and superannuation schemes for government and semi-government employees, mine workers, parliamentarians and employees of private business are included in Chapter 21, Private Finance.

## Commonwealth Government expenditure on social security services

This section deals with various government payments for the relief of the aged, indigent, infirm, widowed, orphaned and unemployed; assistance to families; etc. On 1 July 1947, with the passage of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947, all Acts providing social service benefits were amalgamated. The Act is at present styled the Social Security Act 1985.

The main social security benefits provided by the Commonwealth Government under the Social Security Act 1985, as at June 1985, and the date on which each came into operation, are shown below:

Details of the respective rates of pensions and benefits and details of associated allowances available to certain recipients are shown, along with more specific eligibility criteria, in the Annual Report of the Department of Social Security.

## Age and invalid pensions and associated payments

Age pensions are payable to men and women who have reached the ages of 65 and 60 respectively. They are generally subject to residence qualifications and an income test, and from 21 March 1985 an assets test.

Invalid pensions are payable to persons between sixteen years of age and age pension age who are permanently incapacitated for work to the extent of at least 85 per cent, or

permanently blind. Invalid pension is paid subject to an income test, and from 21 March 1985 an assets test, except for pensions paid to the permanently blind.

A wife's pension is payable to the wife of a pensioner not entitled, in her own right, to an age, invalid or repatriation service pension. There is no residence qualification, but an income or assets test applies.

A spouse carer's pension is payable to the husband of a pensioner who is providing constant care and attention at home for his wife, if he is not eligible for a pension in his own right.

Additional pension is payable for each dependent child under 16 years and dependent full-time students aged 16 to 24 years, subject to the income test. Widowed or other unmarried age or invalid pensioners with a dependent child may, in addition, receive a guardian's allowance. Supplementary assistance, subject to a special income test, is available to pensioners if they pay rent or pay for board or lodging. Remote area allowance is payable to pensioners living in income tax Zone A, except for those aged 70 years or more receiving the special rate of age pension.

#### **AGE PENSIONERS: 30 JUNE**

Age	1983	1984	1985
60-64 years	161,921	168,545	167,250
65-69 years	326,582	315,704	303,105
70-74 years	376,115	357,274	345,205
75 years and over	526,220	516,606	516,222
Total	1,390,838	1,358,129	1,331,782
Number of wife/spouse carer pensioners (a)	26,380	24,561	23,558
Total payments during years (b) \$'000	4,867,554	5,313,659	5,638,926

#### **INVALID PENSIONERS: 30 JUNE**

Age											1983	1984	1985
16-19 years				_		·-	_				 6,805	7,070	7,409
20-39 years											49,102	52,799	56,176
40-59 years											117,844	130,202	141,725
60 and over											46,538	50,503	53,852
Total											220,289	240,574	259,162
Number of v	vife	/sp	ous	e c	агег	· pe	nsi	one	rs (	a)	57.011	67,273	75,855
Total payme											1,068,350	1,252,650	1,469,772

<sup>(</sup>a) Spouse carer pensioners are included from June 1984. (b) Includes allowances, supplementary assistance and wives pensions where applicable.

#### Sheltered employment allowance and associated payments

Sheltered employment allowance is payable to disabled people who are employed in approved sheltered workshops and are otherwise qualified to receive an invalid pension or would become so qualified if they ceased to be provided with sheltered employment. The allowance is subject to the same income and assets test as applies to invalid pension and is paid at the same rate. It is payable in the form of a supplement to the sheltered employee's wages.

At 30 June 1985, 200 workshops were paying the allowance to 9,655 disabled employees. Expenditure during the year 1984-85 was \$51,353,000.

## Widows' pensions and associated payments

There are three categories of widow pensioners:

Class 'A'. A widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more qualifying children under the age of sixteen years or dependent full time student aged 16-24;

Class 'B'. A widow who, because she has no qualifying children or students in her custody, care and control, is not eligible for a Class 'A' widow's pension but is either at least 50 years of age or, after having reached the age of 45, has ceased to receive a Class 'A' pension by reason of ceasing to have the custody, care and control of a qualifying child or student; and

Class 'C'. A widow not eligible for Class 'A' or Class 'B' widow's pension, who is under 50 years of age and is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks of her husband's death.

A widow's pension is income and assets tested and is not payable to a woman receiving an age or invalid pension, a supporting parent's benefit, an unemployment, sickness or special benefit, a sheltered employment allowance, or a war widow's pension.

In addition to the basic pension, a mother's/guardian's allowance and additional pension for each dependent child are payable in the case of a widow with children. Rent assistance is also available to widows if they pay rent or pay for board or lodging. Remote area allowance is payable to widows living in income tax Zone A.

WIDOW PENSIONERS, BY AGE: 30 JUNE

Age				_	_	1983	1984	1985
Class A widow pensione	ers a	ged-						
Under 20 years		٠.				96	. 47	49
20-29 years						11,883	10,127	8,942
30-39 years						37,082	35,616	34,434
40-49 years						24,807	25,496	25,609
50-59 years						10,211	9,719	9,064
60 years and over						182	171	180
Class B widow pensione	ers a	ged-						
45-49 years		٠.				3,282	3,608	3,887
50-54 years						19,609	20,023	20,110
55-59 years						38,898	39,404	39,035
60 years and over						18,437	18,720	18,509
Class C widow pensione	ers					119	114	96
Total						164,606	163,045	159,915
Total payments during	vear	· (a)	\$'(	000		758,086	829,537	889,380

(a) Includes payment to benevolent homes for maintenance of pensioners. It also includes supplementary assistance and allowances.

## Supporting parent's benefit

Supporting parent's benefit was introduced in November 1977 to extend to supporting fathers the same benefit as had previously been available to supporting mothers through supporting mother's benefit. The benefit is available to sole parents who have custody, care and control of a child under 16 years or a dependent full-time student aged 16 to 24 years. It is subject to an income and assets test.

SUPPORTING PARENTS, BY AGE AND TYPE: 30 JUNE

Age and type of beneficiary		1983	1984	1985
Age				
Under 20 years		9,787	9,647	9,971
20-29 years		66,501	70,794	76,332
30-39 years		45,623	51,786	57,968
40-49 years		14,907	17,468	19,584
50-59 years		3,255	3,706	3,926
60 years and over		153	188	236
Type of beneficiary Females— Unmarried mothers	 	41,654 73,801 16,903	42,994 83,305 18,381	44,104 94,931 19,246
Males—				
Widowers		1,072	1,128	1,140
Divorcees		1,468	1,591	1,502
Separated husbands		3,757	4,438	5,555
Separated de facto husbands .		1,431	1,609	1,349
Other		142	143	190
Number of beneficiaries		140,228	153,589	168,017
Total payments during year (a) \$'000		727,734	889,595	1,066,197

(a) Includes rent assistance and allowances.

Fringe benefits

The Commonwealth Government makes several non-cash 'fringe benefits' available to pensioners and recipients of supporting parent's and sickness benefits who are entitled to a Pensioner Health Benefits (PHB) card or a Health Benefits (HB) card and their dependants. The issue of these cards is subject to a special income test. These benefits include:

- · a range of free phamaceuticals;
- a one-third reduction in telephone rental (subject to the income of co-residents);
- reduced fares for Commonwealth Government railway and shipping services;
- postal redirection concessions; and
- · free hearing aids services.

State Governments, local government authorities and private organisations also provide certain fringe benefits. The most valuable of these are reductions in local government rates and in public transport charges.

There were 1,738,075 pensioners with PHB (Pensioner Health Benefits) cards entitling them to Commonwealth pensioner fringe benefits at 30 June 1985.

### Unemployment, and sickness and special benefits and associated payments

Unemployment and sickness benefits are paid to men over sixteen and under sixty-five years of age, and to women over sixteen and under sixty years of age, who are unemployed or temporarily incapacitated for work. They must have been living in Australia during the preceding twelve months or be likely to remain permanently in Australia. Both benefits are subject to an income test. A person cannot receive both benefits simultaneously, nor can a person receive either benefit at the same time as an invalid, widow's, service pension or supporting parent's benefit.

For unemployment benefit purposes, people must establish that they are unemployed, that their unemployment is not due to industrial action by themselves or by members of a union of which they are a member, that they are capable and willing to undertake suitable work, and that they have taken reasonable steps to obtain such work. Registration for employment with the Commonwealth Employment Service is necessary. For sickness benefit purposes, people must establish that they are temporarily incapacitated for work because of sickness or injury and that they have thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages or other income.

All unemployment and sickness beneficiaries with dependent children are eligible for an additional benefit for each dependent child. In addition, sole parents are eligible for mother's/guardian's allowance. After the benefit has been paid for six consecutive weeks a sickness beneficiary who is paying rent or is paying for board or lodging may be entitled to a supplementary allowance.

In the case of sickness benefit, any amount of compensation, damages or similar payment, or war disability pension, paid in respect of the same incapacity as that for which the benefit is claimed, is deducted from the benefit if it is paid in respect of the same period.

A special benefit may be granted to a person not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit who is not eligible for any pension, and who, because of age, physical or mental disability or domestic circumstances, or any other reason, is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself/herself and his/her dependants. Recipients of special benefits include, among others, unmarried women for a period before and after the birth of a child, persons caring for invalid parents or sick relatives/children, and persons ineligible for a pension because of lack of residence qualifications.

The benefit is designed to meet cases of special need and may also be paid as income support over a period if no other social security benefit is payable.

The rate paid may not exceed the rate of unemployment or sickness benefit which could be paid if the claimant were qualified to receive it.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE

	1983	1984	1985
Unemployment beneficiaries:			
Number of benefits granted	1,115,323	975,988	860,481
Number on benefit at end of year	635,002	584,506	561,400
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	540,198	(b)619,600	(b) 581,700
Sickness beneficiaries:			
Number of benefits granted	156,632	142,179	141,277
Number on benefit at end of year	64,203	62,400	63,004
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	57,684	(b)63,200	(b)62,400
Special benefit beneficiaries:		, , ,	, , .
Number of benefits granted	70,074	95,790	98,812
Number on benefit at end of year	20,899	18,293	18,925
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	20,110	(b)19,100	(b) 18,500
Amount paid during year(a) \$'000:			
Unemployment	2,248,980	2,912,314	2,983,605
Sickness	270,776	335,882	364,628
Special benefit	89,167	92,782	100,282

(a) Includes additional allowances. (b)

(b) Estimated.

#### Family allowances

A family allowance is paid to a person caring for children under sixteen years or full-time students aged 16-24 years who are wholly or substantially dependent on that person. Family allowance is not paid for students receiving Tertiary Education Assistance or other related Commonwealth education allowances. Payment is usually made to the mother. Approved charitable, religious or government institutions are paid family allowances for children in their care.

Twelve months residence in Australia is required if the claimant and the child were not born here, but this requirement is waived if the Department of Social Security is satisfied that they intend to remain in Australia permanently. Under certain conditions, family allowance may be paid to Australians who are temporarily absent overseas.

**FAMILY ALLOWANCES: 30 JUNE 1985** 

N	ımb	or c	of c	hili	tror		nd		Number o	of families							
	ıden								N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total(a)
ī								_	270,490	201,287	125,280	69,599	70,655	22,593	8,447	13,356	781,707
2									296,755	233,195	141,008	78,390	83,007	25,097	8,465	17,274	883,191
3									129,507	103,837	65,186	29,125	35,865	11,112	4,038	7,818	386,488
4									36,239	28,521	19,832	6,770	9,369	3,085	1,473	2,109	107,398
5									7,733	6,032	4,658	1,243	1,877	639	492	415	23,089
6									2,192	1,604	1,323	317	518	154	214	100	6,422
7									635	497	430	91	164	36	53	33	1,939
8		,							228	147	133	36	44	13	23	, 13	637
9									56	68	46	8	11	5	8	3	205
10	or	moı	e.						40	38	20	4	9	_	1	3	115
	T	ota	fa	mil	ies				743,875	575,226	357,916	185,583	201,519	62,734	23,214	41,124	2,191,191
No	o. of	ch	ildr	en	in												
	арр поц						S		4,622	1,880	2,646	317	921	96	101	23	10,606
	year					-			537,598	398,679	250,825	137,337	137,697	42,799	(a)	(a)	1,504,951

(a) Expenditure for N.T. and A.C.T. included in expenditure for S.A. and N.S.W. respectively.

## Family income supplement

Family income supplement is paid subject to an income test to low-income families with one or more children eligible for family allowances so long as they are not in receipt of any Commonwealth pension, benefit or allowance which provides additional payment for dependent children. The number of families in receipt of family income supplement at 30 June 1985 was 26,398. The amount paid during the year 1984-85 was \$40,945,000

### Handicapped child's allowance

Parents or guardians of a child under sixteen years or a dependent full-time student who is severely handicapped mentally and/or physically, is living in the home, and needs constant care and attention, are entitled to a handicapped child's allowance. The allowance is not subject to an income test, but a residence qualification similar to that for family allowance applies. The allowance is also available to persons on low income who are caring for a

substantially handicapped child and are suffering severe financial hardship as a result of expenditure associated with the child's disability. The number of handicapped child's allowances being paid at 30 June 1985 was 29,562. The total amount paid through these allowances during the year 1984-85 was 28,534,000.

#### Allowances associated with the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service (CRS)

The Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, which is administered by the Department of Community Services, provides treatment and training for people with a long term disability who are in the broad working age group. Rehabilitation may also be provided to people aged 14 or 15 years who otherwise would be likely to qualify for an Invalid Pension at age 16. Its programs are directed at assisting people to achieve their maximum physical, mental social and/or vocational potential.

The CRS provides services through a range of settings including rehabilitation centres, work adjustment centres, regional rehabilitation units and mobile teams.

Increasingly, the CRS is making use of existing community services to provide comprehensive treatment or training programs. These include educational institutions, health services and industry.

Since March 1983 persons undertaking a Commonwealth rehabilitation program and who would otherwise have been eligible for another pension or benefit are paid a rehabilitation allowance subject to an income test. Living-away-from-home allowance is paid where necessary. Fares and living expenses (including those of an attendant where required) in connection with treatment, training or attendance for an interview or for medical examination may also be paid. Necessary aids, appliances and modifications may be provided free of charge to a person receiving treatment and training or who needs them to assist him or her to engage in a suitable vocation after the discontinuance of his treatment and training or who needs them otherwise to assist in his or her rehabilitation. In 1984-85, 8,538 people commenced rehabilitation.

#### Portability of social service payment

Age, invalid and widows' pensions and supporting parent's benefits continue in force for recipients who have left Australia unless they left before 8 May 1973 or their pension or benefit is subject to the provisions of either of the reciprocal agreements with New Zealand or the United Kingdom. In certain cases of hardship, the pension or benefit may continue for people who left before 8 May 1973. The number of Australian pensions being paid overseas under the general portability provisions at 30 June 1985, was 22,933.

# Other services of the Department of Social Security and the Department of Community Services

The Department of Social Security provides a professional social work service and Ethnic and Aboriginal Liaison Office Schemes. The Department of Community Services administer grants to major national welfare organisations such as: Australian Council of Social Service, Australian Council of the Ageing, Australian Council for Rehabilitation of Disabled, Australian Early Childhood Association and to non-government welfare agencies providing emergency relief or in financial difficulties.

To assist in its role of advising the government on income support policy, the Department of Social Security initiates, develops and undertakes experimental projects in the income support area and undertakes research studies.

The Departments provide funding to the Social Welfare Research Centre at the University of New South Wales and provide a grant to the Social Welfare Research Unit of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU).

# Commonwealth Government assistance through welfare organisations

## Accommodation for aged and disabled people

The Aged or Disabled Persons Homes Act 1954 and the Aged or Disabled Persons Hostels Act 1972 are designed to encourage the provision of homes in which aged persons may reside in conditions approaching normal domestic life.

To be eligible for assistance under these Acts an organisation must be:

- (i) carried on otherwise than for the purposes of profit or gain to the individual members; and
- (ii) a religious organisation, an organisation of which the principal objects or purposes are charitable or benevolent, an organisation of former members of the defence forces

established in every State or a State branch of such an organisation, an organisation approved by the Governor-General for the purposes of the Act, or a local governing body.

An organisation conducted or controlled by, or by persons appointed by, the Commonwealth or any State Government is not eligible for assistance under either Act.

The Secretary of the Department of Community Services or his delegate may make a grant of money to an organisation as assistance towards meeting the cost of the construction or purchase of a home, including land, to be used permanently for the accommodation of aged persons.

The following table gives information regarding grants approved for each of the past three years. The amounts granted in each year include new grants approved in that year together with adjustments made during the year in respect of grants originally approved in earlier years.

AGED OR DISABLED PERSONS HOMES ACT AND AGED OR DISABLED PERSONS HOSTELS ACT GRANTS AND AMOUNTS APPROVED AND BEDS PROVIDED

									1982-83	1983-84	1984–85
Grants approved								No.	241	176	125
Amounts approved.								\$'000	60,460	45,447	42,666
Beds provided—											
Self-contained .								No.	751	478	289
Hostel								**	1,672	1,293	1,452
Nursing								,,	1,455	932	656
Total				•				**	3,878	2,703	2,397

In addition, the Government introduced upgrading grants under this program in 1984 because of concern that much of the accommodation for aged or disabled people was constructed over 30 years ago and does not meet current standards. The value of grants approved for upgrading of existing accommodation in 1984-85 was \$3.8 million.

The Aged or Disabled Persons Homes Act also provides Hostel Care and Personal Care subsidies to eligible organisations to assist with the recurrent cost of providing hostel care and personal care services to frail aged disabled residents. Organisations may also receive a Respite Care subsidy according to their use of approved respite beds for short term occupancy. The following table gives details of the premises approved, payments made and number of eligible residents aged eighty years or over residing in the approved premises.

AGED OR DISABLED PERSONS HOMES ACT: HOSTEL CARE, PERSONAL CARE AND RESPITE CARE SUBSIDIES, 30 JUNE 1984

			N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Approved premises	<i>-,</i>	No.	267	230	168	119	106	22	2	6	920
Residents qualifying		No.	16,305	13,532	10,744	7,754	5,559	1,214	82	285	35,605
Subsidies paid, 1984-85.		\$,000	11,465	8,154	7,094	4,616	3,455	662	54	105	55,475

Disabled people

Under the Handicapped Persons Assistance Act 1974, the Commonwealth provides subsidies to eligible non-profit and local government bodies for the purchase, construction, extension, alteration, rental and maintenance of premises from which special prescribed services for disabled people are provided. Salary subsidies are also available in respect of certain staff of subsidised services.

Prescribed services include training, activity therapy, sheltered employment and residential accommodation. In addition, holiday accommodation, recreational facilities and rehabilitation facilities may be approved for subsidy as ancillary services.

A training fee is paid to organisations providing approved sheltered employment for each disabled employee who graduates to open employment. An open employment incentive bonus is also paid to each such disabled employee. A handicapped childrens benefit is paid to organisations providing approved residential accommodation for disabled children.

During 1984-85 assistance was provided to around 1,250 organisations at a total cost of \$92.9 million. In addition to outlays under the Act, \$0.74 million was provided in 1984-85 to support measures intended to upgrade the effectiveness and the quality of Commonwealth subsidised services for disabled people.

Following a wide-ranging review of Commonwealth programs for disabled people (the Handicapped Programs Review) completed in 1985, the Government intends replacing the

Handicapped Persons Assistance Act with new disability services legislation which will incorporate the major recommendations of the Review. During 1985-86, \$4 million is being provided to support a range of demonstration projects aimed at assessing the feasibility of selected reforms recommended by the Review.

## Supported Accommodation Assistance

A new Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) was introduced in all States and Territories from 1 January 1985. The new program incorporated former programs such as the Women's Emergency Services Program, the Youth Services Scheme and the Homeless Persons' Assistance Program. SAAP consolidates and improves the co-ordination of former Commonwealth/State and Commonwealth programs and has been developed jointly with States and Territories in consultation with service providers and users.

SAAP aims to provide supported accommodation services and related support services to men, women, young people and their dependants, who are permanently or temporarily homeless as a result of crisis, and who need such assistance to move toward independent

SAAP provides recurrent and capital non-housing funds to non-profit organisations and

living where possible and appropriate.

local government bodies for supported accommodation such as refuges, hostels and half way houses and for related support services such as meals services, non-clinical community based rape crisis centres, day centres, detached workers and referral services. A complementary new Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP) within the Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement provides capital housing funds for SAAP services. CAP also provides some funding for unsupported accommodation.

SAAP comprises the following three sub-programs:

 Youth Supported Accommodation Program (YSAP)—services for young people aged 12-25 years, and, if applicable, their dependants;

• Women's Emergency Services Program (WESP)—services for women, and women with dependent children, escaping from intolerable domestic circumstances or other crisis situations; and

 General Supported Accommodation Program (GSAP)—services for homeless men, women, and any dependants, and for services which do not clearly come within YSAP or WESP.

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Act 1985 provides the legislative base for the program, which is administered on a day to day basis by State and Territory governments in accordance with the SAAP Agreement and national guidelines. As a joint Commonwealth/ State cost shared program, there is joint Ministerial approval of new services and significant subsidy variations, reviews, evaluations and co-ordination. Commonwealth/State advisory structures involving both levels of government and service providers have been established in States and Territories to advise on program needs and priorities.

In 1983-84 the Commonwealth spent \$14.89 million on programs to be incorporated in SAAP, including the Homeless Persons' Assistance Program. In 1984-85 \$24 million was allocated and \$40.215 million in 1985-86. States and Territories are required to match nominated Commonwealth expenditure on SAAP.

Home and Community Care Program

In the 1984-85 Budget the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to restructure support for the aged, younger disabled and families in need of home care services through a proposed Home and Community Care (HACC) Program.

The Home and Community Care (or HACC) Program established by the Home and Community Care Bill 1985 will be a joint Commonwealth/State program. The financial assistance provided under the Bill will assist State and local governments and community organisations to provide a comprehensive range of home and community based care designed to provide basic maintenance and support services. Services are to be targeted at aged or disabled people either directly or through their carers to prevent their unnecessary or premature admission to long-term residential care.

Services in a State funded under four existing Commonwealth Acts will be subsumed in the Program once the State enters into a Home and Community Care Agreement with the

Commonwealth. Those Acts are:

• the States Grants (Home Care) Act 1969, under which the Commonwealth cost-shares with the States the provision of home care services and senior citizens' centres, and cost-shares with organisations the salaries of welfare officers of senior citizens' centres;

- the States Grants (Paramedical Services) Act 1969 under which, in the three participating States, the Commonwealth cost-shares the provision of home based paramedical services such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy;
- The *Home Nursing Subsidy Act 1956* which provides for Commonwealth subsidy to home nursing organisations not exceeding the contribution of State or local governments to the home nursing service; and
- the *Delivered Meals Subsidy Act 1970* under which the Commonwealth provides various levels of assistance to organisations delivering meals to the aged or to invalid pensioners.

In addition to the services provided under these existing Acts, the HACC Program will allow for additional initiatives such as community respite care, transport, personal care and education and training for service providers and users.

The Children's Services Program is administered by the Office of Child Care, within the Department of Community Services. It provides grants to State and local governments and community organisations for a flexible network of services for children and their families mainly concentrating on day care services. The general principle guiding approval of grants is one of directing assistance on a needs basis.

Other services funded under the program include special services for migrants, Aborigines and disabled children and research, evaluation and information projects. Block grants towards pre-school education are made to State and Northern Territory Governments.

The Family Support Services Scheme is administered jointly with State and Northern Territory Governments. It provides for a range of coping and counselling skills to be made available to families in stress.

EXPENDITURE ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES PROGRAM (\$'000)

	1981-82	1982–83	1983–84	1984–85
Pre-school Other Children's Services (including Family Support	33,005	33,090	33,090	33,090
Services Scheme)	47,355	64,954	80,125	122,726
Total	80,360	98,044	113,215	155,816

### **Emergency relief grants**

This program provides community welfare organisations with grants to help them make emergency relief payments to individuals and families experiencing temporary financial crisis the solution to which is beyond their own resources.

Special provision is made to meet the needs of Aboriginals. To improve the effectiveness of the Emergency Relief Program the Minister approved the establishment of a Commonwealth/State Emergency Relief Committee in each State and Territory to recommend which agencies should receive funds. The committee consists of representatives of the Commonwealth Departments of Community Services, Social Security and Aboriginal Affairs, State welfare departments and the voluntary sector.

# COMMONWEALTH EMERGENCY RELIEF APPROPRIATIONS 1979–80 TO 1985–86

Financial \		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1						opropriation				
	-		٠.			_						S
1979-80 .		:	٠.	٠.			٠.		٠.			500,000
1980-81 .									:	٠.		500,000
1981-82 .			. •									500,000
1982-83 .	٠.			:				٠.,			:	2,500,000
1983-84 .												5,000,000
1984-85 .		. 1			٠.	٠.			٠.			5,950,000
1985-86 .				٠,						,		6,000,000

## Grants-in-aid to co-ordinating bodies

The Department of Community Services sponsors a number of organisations which apply for the grants-in-aid program administered by the Department of Special Minister of State.

These grants are provided toward the operating costs of organisations representing the welfare interests of people who are clients of the Department. The organisations must also have a formal, democratic constitution, appropriate expertise and be able to provide, from

their own resources, some input (either monetary or non-monetary and, where appropriate, on a matching basis).

Grants are determined annually by the Special Minister of State and Minister for Finance in consultation with the Minister for Social Security, following consideration by an inter-departmental committee (consisting of representatives of the Departments of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Special Minister of State and of Finance) of submissions from organisations sponsored by the Department of Community Services.

## Aboriginals

A referendum in May 1967 led to the repeal of section 127 of the Constitution which provided that, in reckoning the numbers for census purposes, Aboriginals should not be counted, and to the deletion of the words 'other than the Aboriginal race in any State' from section 51 (xxvi) which relates to the power of the Commonwealth Parliament to make laws in respect to people of any race. The Constitutional amendment, in effect, gave the Commonwealth Government shared power with the State Governments in relation to Aboriginals. The Commonwealth Government's aim is to help Aboriginals become self-managing and self-sufficient while, at the same time, preserving and developing their own distinctive culture. The Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs which is responsible for policy, planning and co-ordination in respect of Aboriginal affairs at the national level has regional offices in all States and the Northern Territory.

Aboriginal views on the long term goals and objectives which the government should pursue, the programs it should adopt, and on the need for new programs in Aboriginal affairs have in recent years been sought through various Aboriginal advisory organisations such as the National Aboriginal Consultative Council (NACC), (1973-1977), and the National Aboriginal Conference (NAC), (1977-1985). Since membership of the NAC was terminated from 30 June 1985, consultations with Aboriginals have been continuing on the establishment of a new national Aboriginal consultative organisation to replace the NAC.

The Aboriginal Development Commission (ADC), an all-Aboriginal Commission, was established in 1980 by the Commonwealth Government as an independent body. The ADC assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, communities and individuals to acquire land for a variety of purposes, engage in business enterprises, obtain finance for housing and other personal needs, and to receive training where necessary.

# **Migrants**

## Intake

The number of migrants who have come to Australia since the end of the Second World War has passed the 4 million mark. These migrants have contributed significantly to Australia's population which has more than doubled, from 7.4 million at the end of 1945 to 15.6 million at the end of 1984. At this time about 21 per cent of Australia's population was overseas born. Post-war immigration peaked in 1970 with 185,300 settler arrivals, declined thereafter to a low of 54,100 in 1975, increased again to 118,700 in 1981 and decreased to 73,100 in 1984.

#### Accommodation of migrants

Migrant Centres provide a residential base for the provision of programs and services for newly arrived refugees and some other migrants.

There are 13 Migrant Centres located in all States and the N.T. with a capacity to accommodate up to 10,000 migrants and refugees. Additionally, 378 migrant transitory flats can accommodate up to 1,900 persons at any time.

Due to a downturn in demand for migrant centre accommodation the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs (DIEA) has recently announced the closure of 4 migrant centres and plans to redevelop other centres into self-contained, self-catering style units. Four of the closed centres (Endeavour, Enterprise, Cabramatta and Fairy Meadow) continue to provide non-residential services such as English tuition and orientation classes.

## Ethnic affairs-Services for migrants and refugees

The Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs provides services to facilitate the successful settlement and welfare of migrants and refugees.

In addition, the Department is responsible, through its Ethnic Affairs Division, for advancing policies designed to secure the successful settlement and integration of migrants

into Australian society. These policies include fostering the preservation and sharing of the cultural heritage of migrant communities, and maintenance of harmonious inter-group relations in Australia's multicultural society. The Department provides advice to a number of other departments whose responsibilities are particularly important within this context.

Migrant Services Units operate in all States and Territories to provide support and counselling to individuals and groups of migrants as they settle into the community. These Units consist of a team of social workers supported by welfare officers, many of whom are bilingual, and they offer services from a range of locations such as migrant centres, DIEA offices and in committees where recently-arrived migrants are settling.

Where practicable, migrants will be referred to the local community services most suitable to their needs. DIEA staff are working with the staff in mainstream agencies to assist them to make their services more accessible to migrants.

Departmental activities are complemented by those of social workers and welfare officers employed by voluntary agencies funded by Commonwealth grants administered by the Ethnic Affairs Branch. In many respects these voluntary agencies are best placed to assist migrants. There has been an increase in the number of Grants-in-Aid for the employment of welfare workers by voluntary agencies from 140 to 201 in 1985–86.

As part of its settlement services, the Department provides a free interpreting and translation service to non-English-speaking migrants and refugees, and to members of the host community having dealings with them. The Department also offers a translation service to Commonwealth Departments and other bodies for a fee. At the present time, translation units are operating in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney.

In 1973, the Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS) was established to help overcome language related communication problems by providing, via the telephone, a 24 hour interpreting, information and referral service. TIS staff interpreters together with community contract interpreters cover over 75 languages. Where necessary and especially in emergency situations, arrangements may be made for the personal attendance of an interpreter. TIS currently operates in Canberra, all State capitals, Darwin and in a number of major provincial centres of migrant population. During the year ended 30 June 1985, a total of 316,867 calls was received by TIS.

Cost-sharing agreements since 1979 have been concluded with the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia to encourage the establishment or extension of State operated interpreting and translation services in areas of prime State responsibility.

A National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) was established by the Commonwealth Government in 1977 to develop standards of competence for translators and interpreters in Australia and to test and accredit at those standards. State/Territory Panels for Translators and Interpreters have been established in all States and Territories to administer tests to those seeking accreditation. From 1 July 1983 it became an independent body funded mainly by the Commonwealth and States on a shared basis.

Twenty-three migrant resource centres and nine sub-centres and one pilot project have been established in areas of high migrant density. These resource centres provide support for all agencies (both government and voluntary) which assist migrants, and also provide a focus for community participation and development of local resources to meet migrant needs.

The settlement of refugees has become an important element in the Commonwealth Government's overall migrant settlement program. Most of these refugees are accommodated initially at Commonwealth Government migrant centres where they are able to participate in an initial settlement program designed to facilitate their settlement in the community. In addition, under the Community Refugees Settlement Scheme, numbers of refugees are moved directly from the refugee camps overseas into the Australian community where they are in the care of families, groups and organisations which have undertaken to provide a range of support and assistance.

The Adult Migrant Education Program (AMEP) provides a wide range of language learning opportunities, as well as offering information about Australia, its services and institutions. The Department is responsible for the funding and co-ordination of the program at the national level, while service delivery is provided in the main by Adult Migrant Education Services in each State and Territory.

In 1984-85 expenditure on the Adult Migrant Education Program was \$42m. New enrolments in the Program nationally totalled just over 120,000 persons including 16,000 in courses for new arrivals.

The status of 'Australian citizen' was created under the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948 which came into force on 26 January 1949. The relevant Act is now the Australian Citizenship Act 1948 and under its provisions all new settlers regardless of origin, are required to satisfy uniform requirements for the grant of citizenship. Amendments are expected to be introduced into Federal Parliament soon. In the financial year 1984–85, 107,774 applications for Australian citizenship were received compared with 113,810 in 1983–84. Over 1.7 million new settlers have been granted Australian citizenship since 1949.

## **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

The Repatriation Commission, established under the Repatriation Act 1920, consists of three full-time members. It is responsible for the administration of the Repatriation Act and associated legislation, all matters of policy, and the general administration and overall supervision of the provision of benefits under the legislation. The Chairman of the Commission is also the Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, which provides the administrative machinery through which the Commission operates. The central office is in Canberra and there is a branch office, under the control of a Deputy Commissioner, in each State.

The principal functions of the Department are: the payment of disability and dependants' pensions (previously called war pensions) and service pensions and allowances to eligible veterans and their dependants; the provision of medical treatment for veterans for injuries and illnesses accepted as service-related; the provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances for veterans who are suffering from injuries and illnesses whether service-related or not; the provision of medical treatment for war/defence widows and certain dependants of deceased veterans; and provision of a wide range of other benefits for eligible persons. Since 5 October 1976, the *Defence Service Homes Act 1918* has been administered by the Defence Service Homes Corporation (DSHC) within the departmental framework. At the same time, the Department was given responsibility for the Office of Australian War Graves.

Repatriation benefits are provided in respect of service not only in the 1914-18 and 1939-45 Wars but also in the South African War 1899-1902, in the Korea and Malaya operations, in prescribed areas with the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve (F.E.S.R.) and the Special Overseas Forces and, in certain circumstances, in the Regular Defence Forces or peacekeeping forces.

For detailed information about repatriation pensions, allowances, benefits and services, reference should be made to the annual reports of the Repatriation Commission.

VETERANS'	AFFAIRS (excl.	DSHC):	TOTAL	EXPENDITURE(a	)
		(\$2000)			

Class	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	198384	1984–85
Pensions, allowances and other benefits	966,072	1,193,181	1,329,871	1,719,058	2,035,026	2,334,799
Medical treatment	310,327	357,219	426,360	499,005	561,035	612,238
Administration	49,539	52,885	63,996	69,556	84,848	116,934
Works, rent and maintenance	27,881	24,587	22,136	26,968	43,021	46,687
Total expenditure	1,353,819	1,627,872	1,842,363	2,314,597	2,723,930	3,110,659

(a) Includes expenditure by Departments other than Veterans' Affairs as follows: 1979-80, \$25,072,835; 1980-81, \$21,270,359; 1981-82, \$18,260,360; 1982-83, \$22,738,924; 1983-84, \$27,541,925; 1984-85, \$38,329,971.

## Disability pensions

The first provision for the payment of disability pensions to veterans and pensions to their dependants was made by the Commonwealth Parliament in the War Pensions Act 1914. This Act was repealed in 1920 by the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920 (amended from 31 December 1950 to the Repatriation Act). Amendments to the Act in 1943 considerably widened the eligibility provisions, to the benefit mainly of members of the Citizen Military Forces who had not served outside Australia during the 1939-45 War. Further amendments in 1982 extended eligibility to persons who were previously granted eligibility through Cabinet decisions.

Main pension rates vary twice each year; current rates are available from Department of Veterans' Affairs Branch Offices.

## Summary of disability pensions

The following table provides a summary of disability pensions according to the veteran's war/area of service.

#### **DISABILITY AND DEPENDANTS' PENSIONS: 1984-85**

	1914–18 War	1939–45 War(a)	Korea, Malaya and F.E.S.R.	Special Overseas Service	Peace time forces	Miscel- laneous	Total
Pensions in force at 30 June 1984	22,808	336,536	9,187	24,234	15,345	211	408,321
Amount paid in pensions in 1984-	*						
85	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	837,230
New claims granted	344	12,239	368	1,451	2,634	12	17,038
Restorations	2	276	37	130	80	_	525
Pensions cancelled (gross)	67	3,093	216	598	362	5	4,341
Deaths of pensioners	2,496	8,894	96	60	47	9	11,602

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes Interim Forces (b) Includes associated allowances.

## Classes of disability pensions

The following tables provide an analysis of the number of pensions in force, veteran's class of pension, new claims and deaths in 1984-85.

#### DISABILITY PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE: 30 JUNE 1985

Class	1914–18 War	1939–45 War	Korea, Malaya and F.E.S.R.	Special Overseas Service	Peace time forces	Miscel- laneous	Total (b)
Veterans	2,771	144,713	4,089	7,925	5,806	73	165,377
Wives and wife widows	8,619	135,491	3,275	5,968	4,063	78	157,494
Children (b)	1	5,271	1,198	9,795	5,142	1	21,408
War widows	11,166	48,671	487	249	188	57	60,818
Children of deceased veterans	3	484	76	198	140	_	901
Orphans	_	38	1	5	2	_	46
Other dependants	248	1,868	61	94	4	2	2,277
Total (b)	22,808	336,536	9,187	24,234	15,345	211	408,321

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes 2,863 student children aged 16 years or more.

#### DISABILITY PENSIONS FOR INCAPACITATED VETERANS: NUMBER IN FORCE, BY CLASS OF PENSION: 30 JUNE 1985

Class	1914–18 War	1939–45 War(a)	Korea, Malaya and F.E.S.R.	Special Overseas Service	Peace time forces	Miscel- laneous	Total
Special Rate (T & PI or							
equivalent)	679	21,407	437	340	134	7	23,004
Intermediate Rate		894	14	16	11	1	952
General Rate-from 10 per cent to							
100 per cent assessed disability	2,076	122,412	3,638	7,569	5,661	65	141,421
Total	2,771	144,713	4,089	7,925	5,806	73	165,377

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes Interim Forces.

# Summary of disability pensions, 1979-80 to 1984-85

The following table shows the number of pensions granted, pensions in force and the expenditure for disability pensions in each of the years ended 30 June 1980 to 1985.

### **DISABILITY PENSIONS**

		-	Number of in force at				
Year	Pensions granted	Deaths	Incapaci- tated veterans	Dependants of incapaci- tated veterans	Dependants of deceased veterans	e Total	Annual xpenditure(a) (\$'000)
1979–80	6,141	11,151	178,471	204,265	52,031	434,767	432,001
1980-81	6,732	11,680	174,278	197,603	51,453	423,334	496,310
1981-82	7,325	11,648	170,546	190,970	51,614	413,130	510,675
1982-83	13,420	11,815	168,355	186,859	55,259	410,473	646,470
1983-84	13,119	11,842	166,062	183,105	58,110	407,277	722,660
1984-85	17,038	11,602	165,377	179,420	63,524	408,321	837,230

## Miscellaneous disability pensions

The Commission is also responsible for the payment of pensions and allowances to beneficiaries under the Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act 1940 and the Papua New Guinea (Members of the Forces Benefits) Act 1957. These miscellaneous pensions are included in the disability pension tables above.

## Service pensions

The Repatriation Act 1920 provides for a service pension to be paid (subject to an income test or an asset test from 14 March 1985) to the following persons:

- male veterans who served in a theatre of war (or in a designated *Operational* or *Special Overseas Service* area) and have attained the age of sixty years or are permanently unemployable;
- female veterans who served in a theatre of war, or served abroad or embarked for service abroad and have attained the age of fifty-five years, or are permanently unemployable;
- veterans of the South African War 1899-1902 who were members of a naval or military force or contingent raised in Australia for active service in that war;
- veterans of other British Commonwealth Forces who served outside the country of
  enlistment or within that country if a campaign medal has been awarded in respect of
  such service. Ten years residence in Australia is a necessary qualification;
- veterans who served in formally raised allied forces in conflicts in which Australia participated, who served in a theatre of war and at no time served in enemy forces. Ten years residence in Australia is also necessary;
- blind veterans are not subject to the income and asset test.

British Commonwealth and Allied mariners who served in a theatre of war in the 1939-45 war and who satisfied the ten year residency requirement are eligible as from 3 February 1983.

A service pensioner who is also in receipt of a disability pension at or above 50% of the general rate is entitled to free treatment for all disabilities whether service-related or not. In addition to their Medicare entitlements, they are entitled to treatment in Repatriation hospitals, dental treatment, home nursing, allied health services such as physiotherapy, speech therapy and podiatry, home help services and aids, pharmaceuiticals, free hearing tests and hearing aids and all optical treatment (including spectacles).

Main pension rates vary twice each year; current rates are available from the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Branch Offices.

The following tables give an analysis of the total number of pensions in force, new claims granted and deaths in 1984-85.

SERVICE PENSIONS(a) 1984-85

	-	1914-18 Wars	1939-45 War	Korea- Malaya operations	Special Overseas Service	British Common- wealth	Allied Forces	Miscel- laneous	Total
New claims granted	No.	106	31,048	700	385	7,118	1,133	395	40,885
Restorations	.,	4	309	10	3	51	6	4	387
Cancellations (gross)	,,	556	11,846	99	64	801	168	138	13,672
Deaths	"	984	8,394	94	13	667	80	26	10,258
June 1984 Amount paid in pensions	"	5,684	332,872	2,994	1,201	41,735	6,182	1,831	392,499
in 1984-85(b)	\$'000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,477,874

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes wives and widows. (b) Includes associated allowances.

## Classes of service pensions

The following table provides a summary of Service Pensions according to the veteran's war/area of service.

#### SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE: 30 JUNE 1985

Class	1914–18 War	1939–45 War	Korea- Malaya operations	Special Overseas Service	British Common- wealth	Allied Forces	Miscell- aneous	Total
Veterans								
old age permanently	. 3,540	158,391	653	94	21,176	3,147	886	187,887
unemployable .	. 429	33,898	1,177	617	2,412	304	173	39,010
Tuberculosis(a) .	. 9	776	14	1	8	_	_	808
Total	. 3,978	193,065	1.844	712	23,596	3,451	1,059	227,705
Wives and widows .	1,706	139,807	1,150	489	18,139	2,731	772	164,794
Total	. 5,684	332,872	2,994	1,201	41,735	6,182	1,831	392,499

<sup>(</sup>a) Eligibility on these grounds ceased on 2 November 1978.

The following table provides a summary of Service Pensions.

#### SERVICE PENSIONS

			Pensions is		Annual	
	Pensions granted	Deaths	Veterans	Wives and Widows	Total	expenditure(a) (\$'000)
1979–80	40,735	7,952	146,370	93,594	239,964	525,178
1980-81	46,189	8,966	163,237	108,841	272,078	686,487
1981-82	42,766	8,894	178,064	121,838	299,902	807,537
1982-83	57,012	9,604	200,492	140,656	341,148	1,057,950
1983-84	51,830	9,866	218,660	156,845	375,505	1,294,279
1984-85	40,885	10,258	227,705	164,794	392,499	1,477,874

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes associated allowances

## Medical treatment for veterans and dependants of veterans

Medical treatment is provided for all disabilities which have been accepted as service-related, and for pulmonary tuberculosis and cancer not related to service. In addition, and subject to certain conditions, treatment is provided for most non-service-related disabilities for: incapacitated veterans receiving disability pensions at or above the maximum (100 per cent) General Rate; 1939-45 War veterans receiving both service pension at any rate and disability pension at the 50 per cent rate or higher; veterans or nurses who served in the 1914-18 War; veterans of the Boer War; ex-prisoners-of-war; war widows and certain other dependants of deceased male veterans whose deaths have been accepted as service-related, and of deceased Special Rate pensioners; and certain service pensioners.

The Department's clientele is becoming largely an aged one. Special emphasis is given to caring for the aged, aimed at limiting the dependence of Veterans and War Widows on nursing home care and encourages the alternatives of home care.

Treatment is provided at six Repatriation general hospitals (one in each State), three auxiliary hospitals and an ANZAC hostel in Victoria. The total number of available beds for patients in wards or parts of wards open for use in all these institutions at 30 June 1985 was 2,631 and expenditure during 1984-85 amounted to \$235,687,077. In addition, expenditure of \$376,551,403 was incurred during 1984-85 on medical services outside these institutions.

#### Community patients

Where spare bed capacity exists in the Repatriation hospitals, patients may be admitted from the general community to a level not exceeding 20 per cent of the total occupied beds of the hospital.

#### Repatriation hospitals and institutions

Details of full-time staff in Repatriation general hospitals and other Repatriation institutions are given in the following table.

REPATRIATION HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: FULL-TIME OPERATIVE STAFF: 30 JUNE 1985

Type of institution	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
General hospitals	2,480	1,541	1,179	762	875	221	7,058
Other in-patient institutions	256	138	77	_		_	471
Limb and appliance centres	68	71	28	25	16	11	219
Total	2,804	1,750	1,284	787	891	232	7,748

The following table gives details of in-patients treated at Repatriation General Hospitals and other Repatriation institutions in each State (including community patients). The figures shown refer to treatment episodes, e.g. a person who is admitted to hospital twice during a year is counted twice.

REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS: IN-PATIENTS TREATED, 1984-85

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
	REPATRIAT	TION GENI	ERAL HOSE	PITALS			
In-patients at beginning of year  Admissions and re-admissions dur-	571	361	320	207	282	71	1,812
ing year	19,200	14,706	10.798	7.265	9.153	2.343	63,465
Total in-patients treated	19.771	15,067	11.118	7.472	9,435	2.414	65.277
Discharges (including deaths)	19,098	14,730	10,765	7,247	9,172	2,342	63,354
In-patients at end of year	673	337	353	225	263	72	1,923
Average daily beds occupied	618	358	349	220	266	66	1,876
R	EPATRIAT	ION AUXII	LIARY HOS	PITALS	_		
In-patients at beginning of year	165	126	55				346
Admissions and re-admissions dur-							
ing year	1,755	598	523	_	_	-	2,876
Total in-patients treated	1,920	724	<i>578</i>	_			3,222
Discharges (including deaths)	1,760	609	515	_		_	2,884
In-patients at end of year	160	115	63	_	_	_	338
Average daily beds occupied	159	115	61	_	_		335

In addition to the repatriation institutions, eligible patients are treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals and nursing homes at departmental expense. During 1984-85, 40,432 Repatriation in-patients were accommodated and treated in non-departmental hospitals and 6,757 in nursing homes.

Repatriation psychiatric patients requiring custodial care for a service related disability are, by agreement with the State Governments, accommodated at the expense of the Department of Veterans' Affairs in separate wings of psychiatric hospitals administered by the State authorities. Excluding 51 on trial leave, there were 356 repatriation patients in these hospitals at 30 June 1985.

Out-patient treatment is provided throughout Australia at repatriation hospitals and clinics and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1984-85, 842,807 outpatients were treated at Repatriation institutions, and local medical officers consultations totalled 2,836,884. The number of Repatriation local medical officers in Australia at 30 June 1985 was 11,288.

#### Other medical services

Eligible Repatriation patients may also be provided with: medicines, drugs and dressings through the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; services of allied health professionals including physiotherapy and podiatry; optometrical services including spectacles; dental treatment through the Local Dental Officer Scheme; rehabilitation and social work services; counselling through the Vietnam Veterans Counselling Service; surgical aids and aids-to-daily living.

### Artificial limb and appliance services

A wide range of artificial limbs and other surgical aids is supplied by the Repatriation Artificial Limb and Appliance Centre in each State capital and by sub-centres in Darwin, Townsville, Canberra, Newcastle and Albury. A mobile workshop operates in Victoria to provide services to remote locations. In addition, the Department maintains the Central Development Unit located in Melbourne, and engages in research and development in the prosthetic and orthotic field.

Since 1973, artificial limbs have been provided free of charge to all members of the community who need them (except where patients are eligible for compensation), either through the Department's Repatriation Artificial Limb and Appliance Centres or on order through commercial limb-makers. The number of limbs supplied through the Department has increased significantly as the community has taken advantage of the free-limbs scheme.

Details of production at all centres during 1984-85 are as follows: arms 150; legs, 2,412; surgical and adapted footwear, 6,545; other surgical appliances, 1,153; and repairs, 24,724. In addition the Department purchased from commercial manufacturers 2,235 legs, 146 arms and 6,129 limb repairs.

# General Repatriation benefits and miscellaneous

## Other activities of Department of Veterans' Affairs

In addition to the payment of pensions and the provision of medical treatment, the Department also provides various benefits and allowances designed to meet the needs of special groups of veterans and their dependants. These include the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

In addition, gift cars and an annual allowance for their upkeep are provided for veterans who, as a result of service, have suffered the amputation of both legs above the knees or amputation of one leg above the knee plus any two other amputations (above the ankle or at or above the wrist) or complete paraplegia resulting the total loss of the use of both legs. A grant of up to \$550 may be made towards the funeral expenses of eligible veterans and certain of their dependants. Temporary Incapacity Allowance may be paid to a veteran whose stay in hospital together with post-hospital convalescence or other treatment on a fultime basis exceeds 28 days. Payment of up to \$10 may be made to provide such necessities as meals, sleeping accommodation, etc., for veterans in need of immediate relief. Also, certain concessions in telephone rental charges are provided for some classes of veterans and their dependants, including blinded veterans, war and defence widows and certain service and Special Rate disability pensioners. Veterans who have been blinded as a result of service may be issued with talking book machines. The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind supplies 'book' records or cassettes for these machines free of charge, thus enabling the blind to enjoy a wide range of literature.

Expenditure in 1984-85 on general Repatriation benefits was \$19,695,000 comprising Soldiers' Children Education Scheme, \$3,402,000; recreation transport allowance, \$1,857,000; and other benefits, \$14,436,000.

As at 30 June 1985, trust and other funds administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs held \$56,000 in securities (face value) and \$2,039,000 in cash, a total of \$2,095,000.

Reciprocal arrangements with the United Kingdom, New Zealand and other countries provide for the payment of pensions, etc., to eligible Australian veterans living overseas and to eligible veterans from overseas who are living in Australia.

### Soldiers' Children Education Scheme

The Soldiers' Children Education Scheme was established in 1921 and operates to assist and encourage eligible children in acquiring a standard of education compatible with their aptitude and ability. Children of veterans whose deaths have been accepted as service-related; or of veterans who died from causes not service-related but who were receiving at the date of death a disability pension at a Special Rate for blindness, total and permanent incapacity, or amputation of two or more limbs; or of veterans who, as a result of service, are blinded totally and permanently incapacitated; or of deceased veterans who served in a theatre of war if the child is not being cared for by the other parent are eligible. From the commencement of primary education until the child reaches twelve years of age, school requisites and fares are provided. From the commencement of secondary education or from the age of twelve years, whichever is earlier, an education allowance is payable while the child is undertaking primary or secondary education or a course of specialised education or training necessary for a career.

All education allowances are subject to an income test, i.e. the amount of education allowance payable depends on the amount of income a child receives over the allowed limit. Weekly rates of allowances vary from time to time; current rates are available from the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Branch Offices.

The following tables show the costs of education under the scheme for the year ended 30 June 1985, and the number of children in receipt of benefit at 30 June 1985.

# SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: EXPENDITURE: 1984-85 (\$'000)

	N.S.W.(a)	Vic.	Qld	S.A.(b)	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
Cost of education of beneficiaries	1,230.4	843.3	636.3	292.4	237.8	146.0	3,386.2

(a) Includes A.C.T. (b) Includes N.T. (c) Excludes overseas expenditure of \$15,300.

#### SOLDIERS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS AT 30 JUNE 1985

Type of training	N.S.W.(a)	Vic.	Old	5.470	W.A.	Tas.	Over-	Total
Type of training	14.3.W.(u)	VIC.	Qia	S.A.(b)	W.A.	1 as.	seas	Total
At school—								
Primary (c)	. 150	72	159	46	48	31	_	506
Secondary		252	292	124	99	100	5	1,337
Total at school	. 615	324	451	170	147	131	5	1,843
Tertiary/professional	. 229	163	91	60	67	21	3	629
Technical		61	14	_	_	5		80
Industrial	. 31	21	13	16	11	6		98
Grand total	. 875	569	569	246	220	163	8	2,650

(a) Includes A.C.T. (b) Includes N.T. (c) Not in receipt of an education allowance.

#### Re-establishment benefits for former regular servicemen

Subject to prescribed conditions, vocational training and business loans were provided for former regular servicemen with a view to ensuring that they were not at a disadvantage when they returned to civil life. Loans up to \$5,000 (business and professional) and \$10,000 (agricultural) were available to veterans in these categories who satisfied prescribed requirements in respect of suitability of their proposed business propositions and adequacy of security. The loans were administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Legislation introduced in 1985 meant that no loans applications could be made after 14 May 1985.

## HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

Official Australian involvement in household expenditure surveys can be traced back to the beginning of this century. In 1910-11, a survey, entitled "Inquiry into the Cost of Living in Australia", was undertaken by the then Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics (now the Australian Bureau of Statistics). During this survey diaries were distributed to some 1,500 volunteers who were asked to keep records of all expenditures over the twelve months period from July 1910 to June 1911. Only 222 diaries were returned, which severely impaired the reliability of the results.

Because of the poor response to the 1910-11 inquiry, the Bureau conducted a further expenditure inquiry in 1913 which was intended to achieve a higher response rate by reducing the diary-keeping period to four weeks. However, the response was again small, with only six percent of the 7,000 diaries returned.

The next major Household Expenditure Survey was not conducted until 1974. This survey ran from July 1974 till June 1975. It was based on a sample of approximately 13,550 private dwellings selected from the six State capital cities and Canberra, from which about 9,100 fully responding households were obtained.

A second expenditure survey with respect to the year 1975-76 was commenced on 1 July 1975. The sample size was approximately 5,900 responding households. Geographical coverage was, however, extended beyond the six State capital cities and Canberra to include Darwin, other urban areas and the rural community.

The 1984 Household Expenditure Survey was the third major survey of its kind undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. It was conducted continuously over the twelve months January to December 1984. The survey was designed to find out how the expenditure pattern of private households varies according to income level and other characteristics such as household size, composition, location and principal source of income.

#### Scope and coverage

The 1984 survey covered both rural and urban areas (except remote and sparsely settled areas) in all States and Territories. Only private dwellings and caravan sites were included in the survey. Private dwellings are houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and any other structures used as private places of residence at the time of the survey. Hotels, boarding houses, hospitals, etc. were regarded as 'special dwellings' outside the scope of the survey.

Information was collected on a household basis rather than for selected individuals in the population, because many items of expenditure such as food, accommodation and household goods and appliances relate to the household as a unit.

The following households and individuals were excluded from the survey: foreign diplomatic households and foreign diplomatic staff households; foreign defence force staff households; visitors staying with a household for less than six weeks after the initial interview; households with one or more usual members, who were spenders, who could not be interviewed within 14 days after the initial approach; and households with one or more usual members, present at the initial interview, who expected to be absent at the end of the Liary-keeping period.

#### Data collection and processing

Trained interviewers approached selected households to obtain their co-operation in the completion of several questionnaires. Each household was asked for details of large or infrequent items of expenditure (e.g. purchase of vehicles and property, and the payment of household bills such as electricity and gas) and for details of income from all sources. In addition, a diary was provided to each household member aged 15 years or more, in which they were requested to record, on a daily basis, a description and value for all items purchased over the following two weeks. (Because of anticipated differences in spending patterns in rural areas compared with metropolitan and other urban areas, members of rural households selected in the 1984 survey were issued with four-week diaries.)

Apart from expenditure and income information, particulars of the composition of the household were also obtained together with basic demographic information about members of the household such as their age, sex, marital status, occupation and employment status. This information enabled households to be classified according to size, composition, etc.

Processing of the data was carried out in three phases. Firstly, during the collection phase, the interviewer checked the returns for any apparent inaccuracies and inconsistencies. Secondly, on receipt in the ABS central office, all returns were clerically edited and all payments in the diary were assigned a commodity code. Thirdly, data was transferred to computer disk and various computer operations were performed to ensure, as far as possible, that the data was correct. In addition, expenditure and income data were converted to a weekly equivalent, and expenditure, income and other totals and the classificatory variables required for tabulation purposes were derived. Expansion factors ('weights') were inserted in respondent household records to enable the sample data to be expanded to obtain estimates for the total population.

## **Definitions**

A household was defined as a group of people who live together (in a single dwelling) as a single unit in the sense that they have common housekeeping arrangements; i.e. they have some common provision for food and other essentials of living. Persons living in the same dwelling but having separate catering arrangements constitute separate households.

The 1984 survey was based on an acquisitions approach. This means that the expenditure related to goods and services acquired during the reference period, whether or not those goods were paid for or consumed, e.g. goods purchased by bankcard were counted as expenditure at the time they were acquired rather than at the time the bankcard bill was paid. Expenditure is net of refunds or expected refunds (e.g. payments for doctor's visits are net of any refunds received or expected from Medicare). Information about most types of expenditure was obtained from the diary, although some infrequently reported items of expenditure were collected on a 'recall' or last payment basis. The length of the recall period ranged from two years for house purchases to three months for health expenses.

Income was defined as gross income from all sources before taxation and other deductions were made, and was collected from all members of the selected household aged 15 years or over. The main components of income are: wages and salaries (including income-in-kind received from an employer); income derived from self-employment (including wages and income-in-kind taken from the business); Government pensions and benefits; income from investments (including interest, dividends, royalties and rent); and other regular income (including educational grants and scholarships, benefits received from an overseas government, income received for professional advice outside the normal job situation, superannuation, Worker's Compensation, alimony or maintenance, and any other allowances regularly received).

The head of household was taken to be that person nominated by the member(s) of the household as the 'head'.

Family composition of the household classification was divided into three broad groupings (single families, multiple families and households with only unrelated persons present, including single person households). Additional categories were formed according to the number of dependent (i.e. all persons aged less than 15 years and those aged 15-20 who were full-time students) and non-dependent offspring, the presence of non-family individuals, the number of unrelated persons and the identification of single parent families within the household.

## Summary of findings

At the Australia level, average weekly household expenditure (see figure below) on food and non-alcoholic beverages (\$71.22 or 19.7% of total expenditure on commodities and services), on transport (\$59.00 or 16.3%) and on current housing costs (for selected dwellings) (\$46.46 or 12.8%) accounts for 48.8% of total expenditure. Much less significant is the expenditure on personal care (\$6.60 or 1.8%) and on tobacco (\$5.73 or 1.6%).

# AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON COMMODITIES AND SERVICES, AUSTRALIA, 1984

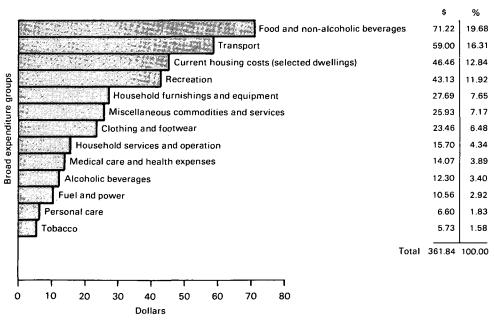


PLATE 30

In the lower income ranges, average expenditure exceeded average income as defined (this does not imply that all households in the lower income ranges have expenditure which exceeds income), while in the higher income ranges average income substantially exceeded average expenditure (see below). It should be noted that some households will have financed some items of expenditure from savings and from other sources such as loans, receipts of maturing insurance policies, gifts, windfall gains and profits from the sale of assets which are not included as income as defined for the survey. In addition, some households classified to the lower income ranges may have had lower than usual income during the data reference period, while still maintaining their normal level of expenditure. For the medium and higher income ranges, income tax payments were a large part of the difference between income and expenditure as defined.

Variations in expenditure can be observed over a range of characteristics, e.g. between States and Territories, different family compositions of households, household income, and age of household head. Detailed results of the survey have been published in a series of publications available on request to the ABS. Some unpublished tables are also available on request.

# 1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME QUINTILE GROUP, AUSTRALIA (a)

	Average Wee	kly Househol	ld Gross Incor	ne Distributio	n (S)	
	0— 171	172— 314	315— 472	473— 675	676 or more	All house- holds
	Luwe.st 20%	Second quintile group	Third quintile group	Fourth quintile group	Highest 20%	
AVERAGE WEEKL	Y HOUSEHO	LD EXPEND	DITURE (\$) (	(b)		
Broad Expenditure Group						
Commodity or service						
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	25.92	35.20	50.27	55.13	65.85	46.46
Fuel and power (c)	7.25	9.28	10.68	11.53	14.06	10.56
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	38.53	57.70	69.23	81.73	108.97	71.22
Alcoholic beverages	3.88	8.12	11.53	15.48	22.52	12.30
Tobacco	3.13	5.50	6.21	6.54	7.25	5.73
Clothing and footwear	8.82	15.43	19.90	25.64	47.56	23.46
Household furnishings and equipment	11.49	19.38	26.12	34.12	47.38	27.69
Household services and operation	9.55	13.10	14.85	17.15	23.85	15.70
Medical care and health expenses	6.14	10.42	14.42	16.58	22.82	14.07
Transport (d)	19.98	41.67	56.02	72.18	105.25	59.00
Recreation	16.75	27.24	39.80	51.56	80.38	43.13
Personal care	3.18	4.77	5.98	7.76	11.33	6.60
Miscellaneous commodities and services	9.73	14.42	22.88	-32.86	49.81	25.93
Total commodity or service expenditure	164.35	262.23	347.88	428.26	607.04	361.84
Selected other payments						
Income tax	6.28	25.90	66.28	105.15	197.07	80.07
Mortgage payments-principal (selected dwelling)	1.76	3.32	6.73	8.80	11.83	6.49
Other capital housing costs (e)	7.25	7.64	16.66	21.39	37.16	18.01
Superannuation and life insurance	0.93	3.46	10.37	16.40	26.43	11.51
House	HOLD CHA	RACTERISTI	cs			
Average weekly household income (\$) (f)	116.23	238.47	389.13	568.57	956.97	453.60
Average number of persons per household (number)	1.67	2.68	3.06	3.20	3.57	2.84
Average age of household head (years)	59.72	49.55	42.04	40.93	42.99	47.05
Number of households in sample	1,772	1,811	1,933	2,017	2,038	9,571
Estimated total number in population:	·				·	·
Households ('000)	1,005.5	1,013.1	1,007.2	1,007.7	1,005.7	5,039.2
Persons ('000)	1,683.3	2,710.4	3,081.3	3,222.7	3,593.2	14,290.9

<sup>(</sup>a) The quintile groups in this table are 20% groupings of the estimated population when households are ranked in ascending order according to each household's total gross weekly income. (b) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey in the relevant quintile group. (c) Excluded from this item are fuel and power for motor vehicles, which are included in Transport. (d) Includes fuel and power for motor vehicles. (e) Includes purchases of dwellings and other property; additions/extensions and renovations to dwellings; outside building and swimming pools; and payments to landscape contractors. (f) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

# 1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY STATES AND TERRITORIES

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
,	AVERAGE	WEEKLY	HOUSEHO	DLD EXPE	NDITURE	(\$) (a)			
Broad Expenditure Group									
Commodity or service									
Current housing costs (se-									
lected dwelling)	52.05	45.70	43.17	36.63	41.50	39.04	67.42	60.78	46.46
Fuel and power (b)	9.76	12.19	9.27	10.72	10.37	10.91	10.71	13.57	10.56
Food and non-alcoholic									
beverages	73.14	73.18	69.32	62.79	69.18	62.80	88.24	86.06	71.22
Alcoholic beverages	13.13	11.11	12.21	11.49	13.24	9.45	25.04	15.05	12.30
Tobacco	5.65	6.41	4.63	5.50	6.27	5.56	9.60	4.42	5.73
Clothing and footwear	26.26	24.21	18.80	20.66	20.72	23.18	17.85	29.54	23.46
Household furnishings and									
equipment	28.85	27.67	23.04	29.84	28.54	23.93	37.26	35.62	27.69
Household services and									
operation	16.20	15.86	14.92	14.30	15.74	13.16	22.89	20.07	15.70
Medical care and health									
expenses	14.07	15.40	13.17	13.64	12.72	11.40	15.33	15.92	14.07
Transport (c)	57.22	61.92	58.24	54.89	62,47	47.59	68.47	80.93	59.00
Recreation	42.34	45.89	40.48	36.47	46.50	41.01	60.83	59.78	43.13
Personal care	6.74	6.89	6.01	6.72	6.24	5.70	7.01	7.87	6.60
Miscellaneous commodities and	0	0.07	0.01	0.72	0.21	3.70	7.01	7.07	0.00
services.	27.91	23.89	27.33	20.52	26.52	18.17	32.82	42.76	25.93
Total commodities or service	27.51	23.07	27.55	20.52	20.52	10.17	32.02	42.70	25.75
expenditure	373.31	370.31	340.58	324.18	360.01	311.90	463.46	472.38	361.84
Selected other payments	575.51	370.31	540.50	324.10	300.01	311.50	403.40	472.50	301.04
Income tax	82.35	85.35	69.32	67.63	81.82	66.06	106.55	131.49	80.07
Mortgage payments princi-	62.33	05.55	09.32	07.03	61.02	00.00	100.55	131.49	80.07
pal (selected dwelling)	6.81	6.43	6.43	5.26	7.09	4.82	5.06	7.95	6.49
Other capital housing costs	0.81	0.43	0.43	3.20	7.09	4.84	3.00	1.93	0.49
	24.15	14 70	10.75	9.36	21.44	6.78	*25.82	*74.04	18.01
(d)	24.15	16.70	10.73	9.30	21.44	0.78	-23.82	*24.84	18.01
Superannuation and life	10.03	12.07		10.75	47	10.53	10.77	22.25	
insurance	10.93	12.07	11.14	10.75	11.47	10.53	19.77	23.25	11.51
		HOUSEH	OLD CHA	RACTERIS	STICS	,			
Average weekly household income									
(\$)(e)	458.43	472.22	424.07	417.13	452.87	392.47	583.96	627.97	453.60
Average number of persons per									
household (number).	2.82	2.83	2.93	2.73	2.82	2.80	3.03	3.03	2.84
Average age of household head									
(years)	47.34	47.64	46.95	47.52	45.33	46.79	37.44	41.83	47.05
Number of households in sample .	2,040	1,947	1,504	1,049	1,084	718	587	642	9,571
Estimated total number in	2,040	1,247	1,504	1,049	1,004	,,,	207	0-72	7,071
population:									
Households ('000)	1,766.9	1,320.6	794.5	461.6	450.9	144.5	26.0	74.3	5.039.2
Persons ('000)	4.983.9	3,737.1	2.329.8	1.261.7	1.269.7	404.7	78.8	225.2	14.290.9
1 (130113 (000)	4,703.9	3,/3/.1	2,327.8	1,201./	1,209./	404.7	70.8	223.2	14,290.9

<sup>(</sup>a) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (b) Excluded from this item are fuel and power for motor vehicles, which are included in Transport. (c) Includes fuel and power for motor vehicles. (d) Includes purchases of dwellings and other property; additions/extensions and renovations to dwellings; outside building and swimming pools; and payments to landscape contractors. (e) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

# 1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY FAMILY COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AUSTRALIA

		arried couple family ouseholds without non-family individuals esent						
		Husband a	nd wife wit	h:			Other	
	Husband and wife only	Dependent children only	dependent	Non- dependent offspring only	Single parent house- holds	Single person house- holds	family and non- family house- holds(a)	All house- holds
AVERAG	E WEEKL	Y HOUSE	IOLD EXP	ENDITURE	(\$) (b)			
Broad Expenditure Group								
Commodity or service								
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	40.71	57.82			47.82	33.05	58.60	46.46
Fuel and power( $c$ )	9.60	12.85	15.35		9.94	5.89	10.92	10.56
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	61.41	85.04	121.39		58.92	31.97	85.43	71.22
Alcoholic beverages	11.77	10.54		24.06	6.06	6.68	20.80	12.30
Tobacco	4.66	5.81	8.90	9.35	6.13	2.89	9.06	5.73
Clothing and footwear	19.53				20.84	8.16	33.10	23.46
Household furnishings and equipment .	31.24				23.04	13.90	29.31	27.69
Household services and operation	15.11	19.24			13.59	8.88	15.79	15.70
Medical care and health expenses	13.79				6.97	6.52	14.70	14.07
Transport(d)	53.67				40.25	24.09	77.13	59.00
Recreation	40.74				27.42	22.45	61.83	43.13
Personal care	5.85				6.40	3.50	8.19	6.60
Miscellaneous commodities and services	23.41	30.90			24.81	10.94	32.36	25.93
Total commodity or service expenditure	331.49	405.78	572.13	542.96	292.18	178.92	457.21	361.84
Selected other payments								
Income tax	74.09	98.31	128.35	125.29	24.55	38.91	92.01	80.07
Mortgage payments principal (selected								
dwelling)	6.12				3.84	2.51	4.84	6.49
Other capital housing costs(e)	18.15				*6.96	9.78	19.92	18.01
Superannuation and life insurance	9.89	16.24	19.03	17.13	3.51	4.65	11.06	11.51
	HOUSE	HOLD CH	ARACTER	ISTICS				
Average weekly household income (\$) (f)	416.40	511.85	750.47	712.36	285.08	224.32	565.77	453.60
Average number of persons per household								
(number)	2.00				3.12	1.00	3.00	2.84
Average age of household head (years)	53.67	36.66			35.36	56.07	45.08	47.05
Number of households in sample	2,196	3,018	472	587	494	1,733	1,071	9,571
Estimated total number in population:								
Households ('000)	1,204.8				251.4	961.5	548.1	5,039.2
Persons ('000)	2,409.6	6,151.3	1,248.8	1,091.5	784.6	961.5	1,643.5	14,290.9

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households. (b) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (c) Excluded from this item are fuel and power for motor vehicles, which are included in Transport. (d) Includes fuel and power for motor vehicles. (e) Includes purchases of dwellings and other property; additions/extensions and renovations to dwellings; outside building and swimming pools; and payments to landscape contractors. (f) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

# DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME

Surveys of incomes have been conducted by the ABS at irregular intervals. In the last such survey, conducted in the period September to November 1982, income was collected both on a last financial year basis, that is in respect of 1981-82, and on a current basis, that is at the time of interview.

As has been customary in such surveys, income was collected in respect of each of the following sources: wages or salaries; own business, trade or profession; government cash benefits; superannuation; interest, rent dividends; other sources. These were then aggregated to arrive at total income.

The survey was designed to enable the production of estimates both for individuals and for groups of individuals such as income units, families and households. Summary results have been released in the following ABS publications: *Income of Individuals, Australia*, 1981–82 (6502.0); *Income of Income Units, Australia* 1981–82 (6523.0). Detail of concepts, definitions, etc. employed in the survey and observations on the quality and reliability of the data can be found in these publications.

Further detail from these surveys can be found in Year Book No. 69.

# ALL INCOME RECIPIENTS: DECILE CLASSES, INCOME SHARE AND MEAN ANNUAL INCOME AUSTRALIA, 1978-79 AND 1981-82

		Males		Females		Persons						
Decile class		Income share			Income Mean share annual		are	Mean annual income (\$)				
		_	income (\$)			1978-79	1981-82	1978-79	1981-82			
Lowest		1.8	2,500	0.4	300	0.5	0.5	390	600			
2nd		3.0	4,300	1.3	900	2.2	2.4	1,610	2,600			
3rd		4.7	6,700	3.6	2,400	3.6	3.6	2,680	3,800			
4th		6.9	9,700	5.3	3,500	4.8	4.7	3,540	5,000			
5th		8.7	12,200	6.2	4,200	7.0	6.9	5,230	7,200			
6th		10.1	14,200	8.0	5,400	9.8	9.5	7,300	10,000			
7th		11.5	16,200	11.0	7,400	12.2	12.0	9,080	12,600			
8th		13.3	18,700	14.9	10,000	14.5	14.5	10,790	15,100			
9th		15.7	22,100	19.2	12,900	17.7	17.8	13,190	18,700			
Highest		24.4	34,300	30.1	20,300	27.8	28.1	20,700	29,400			
Median annual income	(\$)		13,200		4,600			6,300	8,500			
Mean annual income (	\$)		14,100		6,700			7,500	10,500			
Numbers ('000)	<i>.</i>		5,066.4		4,858.6			9,590.4	9,925.1			

# ALL INCOME UNITS: DECILE CLASSES, TYPE OF INCOME UNIT, INCOME SHARE AND MEAN ANNUAL INCOME, AUSTRALIA 1978-79 AND 1981-82

			One parent One person income units income units			All income units						
		With dependent children						1981-82		1978-79		
Decile class	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)	Income share (per cent)	Mean annual income (\$)
Lowest	2.6	5,000	2.8	6,500	2.6	2,300	2.0	1,900	1.7	2,700	1.7	2,000
2nd	3.6	6,800	5.3	12,100	4.8	4,300	3.9	3,700	2.9	4,500	2.9	3,300
3rd	4.3	8,100	6.6	15,000	5.7	5,100	4.4	4,200	4.2	6,500	4.2	4,800
4th	5.7	10,800	7.6	17,400	6.2	5,500	5.3	5,100	5.6	8,700	5.8	6,600
5th	7.6	14,300	8.6	19,600	6.9	6,100	7.2	6,800	7.4	11,500	7.6	8,600
6th	9.5	17,900	9.6	21,900	7.9	7,000	9.4	8.900	9.2	14,200	9.3	10,500
7th	11.5	21,700	10.8	24,800	10.0	8,900	11.7	11,100	11.2	17,300	11.3	12,700
8th	13.8	26,000	12.3	28,200	13.0	11,600	13.9	13,200	13.6	21,100	13.8	15,600
9th	16.5	31,100	14,5	33,300	17.0	15,200	16.7	15,900	17.2	26,600	17.0	19,300
Highest	25.0	47,200	22.0	50,500	25.8	22,900	25.4	24,200	27.0	41,700	26.4	29,800
Median annual income (\$)	20.0	16,000		20,700		6,500		7.800		12,900		9,600
Mean annual income (\$)		18,900		22,900		8,900		9,500		15,500		11,300
Numbers ('000)		1,439.8		1,956.1		275.2		2,962.2		6,633.4		6,325.9

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