

This page was added on 03 December 2012 to included the Disclaimer below.
No other amendments were made to this Product

DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

Commonwealth Government Expenditure on Social Security Services

This section deals with various Commonwealth Government payments for the relief of the aged, disabled, widowed persons, sole parents, the orphaned, the unemployed and the sick, as well as 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 1947*.

The main social security payments provided by the Commonwealth Government under the Social Security Act, as at June 1989, and the date on which each came into operation, are shown below.

Age pension	1 July 1909
Invalid pension	15 December 1910
Family allowance	1 July 1941
Widow's pensions	30 June 1942
Funeral benefit	1 April 1943
Unemployment benefit	1 July 1945
Sickness benefit	1 July 1945
Special benefit	1 July 1945
Sheltered employment allowance	30 June 1967
Wife's pension (superseded wife's allowance)	5 October 1972
Double orphan's pension	26 September 1973
Rehabilitation allowance	1 March 1983
Mobility allowance	1 April 1983
Carer's pension (subsumed spouse carer's pension)	1 November 1985
Child disability allowance (superseded handicapped child's allowance)	15 November 1987
Family allowance supplement (superseded family income supplement)	17 December 1987
Job search allowance	1 January 1988
Sole parent's pension (superseded supporting parent's benefit and Class A widow's pension)	1 March 1989
Widowed person's allowance (Class C widow's pension extended to males)	1 March 1989

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 pension is payable to men and women who have reached the ages of 65 and 60 respectively. Age pension is generally subject to residence qualifications, an income test and an assets test.

Invalid pension is payable to persons aged 16 years or more who are at least 85 per cent permanently incapacitated for work, of which at least 50 per cent is directly caused by a physical or mental impairment of the person. It is also payable to persons who are permanently blind. Invalid pension is paid subject to residence qualifications, an income test and an assets test. Pensions paid to the permanently blind are not subject to income and asset tests.

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

Rehabilitation allowance is payable to people who receive assistance through the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, and who would otherwise be eligible to receive a social security payment. It is subject to the same income and assets tests as the invalid pension, and similar additional benefits are available.

A wife's pension is payable to the wife of an age or invalid pensioner when she is not entitled, in her own right, to an age or invalid pension or rehabilitation allowance. The spouse of a person receiving sheltered employment allowance (and in certain circumstances, a rehabilitation allowance) does not receive a wife's pension as such, but an equivalent payment is made. There is no residence qualification, but an income and assets test does apply.

A carer's pension is payable to a person providing constant care and attention for a severely disabled age or invalid pensioner where the carer is not eligible for a pension in his or her own right.

Additional pension is payable, subject to the income test, for each dependent child under 16 years (at a higher rate for children aged 13-15) and dependent full-time students aged 16 to 24 years, who are not in receipt of a prescribed educational allowance (e.g. AUSTUDY). Widowed or other unmarried age or invalid pensioners with a dependent child may, in addition, receive a guardian's allowance. Rent assistance, combined with the basic pension or benefit rate is assessed under the general pension or benefit income test. It is available to pensioners if they pay rent or pay for lodging, or board and lodging. All recipients of sheltered employment allowance and certain others receive a means-test free incentive allowance in lieu of rent assistance. Remote area allowance is payable to pensioners living in certain remote areas. Mobility allowance, which is means-test free, is payable to disabled people who are undertaking vocational training or gainful employment and who are unable to use public transport without substantial assistance because of their disability.

AGE PENSIONERS: 30 JUNE

Age	1987	1988	1989
60-64 years	r161,553	163,525	166,007
65-69 years	r297,272	301,362	308,684
70-74 years	r325,977	312,339	295,879
75 years and over	r537,372	551,588	563,740
Total	r1,322,174	1,328,814	1,334,310
Number of wife's/carers' pensioners	r24,751	25,290	26,188
		—\$'000—	
Total payments during year (a)	6,257,148	6,972,771	7,516,110

INVALID PENSIONERS: 30 JUNE

Age	1987	1988	1989
16-19 years	7,772	7,809	7,863
20-39 years	60,123	60,980	62,274
40-59 years	156,874	158,196	161,244
60 years and over	64,281	69,928	76,414
Total	289,050	296,913	307,795
Number of wife's/carer's pensioners	90,157	91,973	94,321
		—\$'000—	
Total payments during year (a)	1,912,167	2,188,388	2,415,564

(a) Includes allowances, rent assistance, and wives' pensions where applicable.

At 30 June 1989 173 sheltered employment services were paying the allowance to 10,120 disabled employees and 315 wives. Expenditure during the year 1988-89 was \$73.2 million.

At 30 June 1989, there were 2,063 persons in receipt of rehabilitation allowances. Expenditure during the year 1988-89 was \$17.7 million.

Sole parent's pension, widowed person's allowance and associated payments

Sole Parent's Pension

Sole parent's pension was introduced from 1 March 1989. It amalgamated the former Class 'A' widow's pension and supporting parent's benefit, the two income support payments for people bringing up a child or children without a partner. All persons who were receiving either payment at 1 March 1989 were transferred to sole parent's pension without any change to their eligibility.

Maximum rates are identical to those applying to age pension.

Sole parent's pension may be paid to a person who has a 'qualifying child'. This is a child under 16 years or a child attracting child disability allowance, and who is:

- a natural or adopted child; and
- in the person's legal custody; or has been in the person's care and control for 12 months and likely to remain so permanently or indefinitely.

Sole parent's pension may be paid to:

- a separated husband or wife, or a separated de facto husband or wife;
- a person whose legal or de facto spouse has been imprisoned (including remanded in custody) for at least 14 days;
- a widow or widower;
- a person whose de facto spouse has died;
- a divorced person;
- a person who is unable to live with the spouse or de facto spouse in the matrimonial home because of the spouse's or de facto spouse's long-term illness or infirmity; and
- an unmarried person.

Widowed Person's Allowance

Widowed person's allowance was introduced from 1 March 1989 and replaced Class 'C' widow's pension.

Widowed person's allowance provides short term assistance for recently bereaved widowed persons, both male and female. It allows a period of adjustment to make funeral

arrangements, settle financial matters or to seek employment. The allowance may be granted to a person who, immediately before his or her spouse's death, was either legally married or living in a de facto relationship with that person.

There is no age restriction on the payment of widowed person's allowance but the allowance cannot be paid concurrently with another pension, benefit or allowance. Widowed persons with dependent children generally qualify for sole parent's pension immediately.

The allowance is payable for up to 12 weeks after the date of the spouse's death, although payment can be extended if a widow is pregnant at the time of her spouse's death. Otherwise, the allowance is paid under the same conditions as other pensions.

Class 'B' widow's pension

From July 1987, gradual phasing out of the Class 'B' widow's pension began. From that date, no new grants were made except to women who were in circumstances which would have made them eligible before that date.

It was payable to a widow who, because she had no qualifying children or students in her custody, care and control, was not eligible for a Class 'A' widow's pension, but was 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 a qualifying child or student.

In addition to the basic pension, a mother's/guardian's allowance and additional pension for each dependent child are payable. Rent assistance is also available if they pay rent or pay for board or lodging. Remote area allowance is payable if living in certain remote areas.

WIDOW PENSIONERS/WIDOWED PERSONS ALLOWANCE, BY TYPE AND AGE: 30 JUNE

	1987	1988	1989
Class 'B' widow pensioners aged—			
45–49 years	4,288	6,540	5,182
50–54 years	20,188	21,259	19,589
55–59 years	37,867	38,879	37,773
60 years and over	19,764	20,014	20,982
Widowed person's allowance	137	110	116
Total	82,244	86,802	83,642
		—\$'000—	
Total payments during year (a)	432,963	505,116	535,200

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

SOLE PARENT PENSIONERS, BY AGE AND TYPE: 30 JUNE

	1987	1988	1989
Age—			
Under 20 years	9,756	9,508	9,564
20–29 years	85,703	86,247	86,347
30–39 years	98,893	94,751	96,234
40–49 years	47,159	40,910	40,652
50–59 years	11,976	6,996	6,427
60 years and over	420	244	245
Type of pensioner—			
Females—			
Unmarried mothers	45,014	45,654	46,590
Widows	15,822	11,960	10,978
Divorcees	34,786	30,393	26,842
Separated wives	124,351	123,058	127,805
Separated de facto wives	18,698	17,662	17,074
Males—			
Widowers	1,037	837	793
Divorcees	1,394	1,126	1,020
Separated husbands	6,412	6,721	7,140
Separated de facto husbands	1,055	881	819
Other	338	364	408
Number of pensions	248,907	238,656	239,469
		—\$'000—	
Total payments during year (a)	1,886,405	2,004,545	2,131,986

(a) Includes rent assistance and allowances.

Child Support Scheme

Stage 1 of the Child Support Scheme commenced in June 1988 with the establishment of the Child Support Agency (CSA) in the Australian Taxation Office. Under Stage 1 of the Scheme, maintenance orders and agreements made, registered or approved by the courts can be enforced by the CSA. The Agency collects child support from liable parents and these payments are distributed to custodial parents on a monthly basis by the Department of Social Security. The collection of child support is by automatic withholding of payments by employers in the case of PAYE tax payers and, in the case of self-employed people, by direct monthly payments to the CSA.

Stage 2 of the Scheme, which began on 1 October 1989, replaced the system of court ordered child maintenance. Instead, if parents cannot agree, the custodian can apply to the CSA which will administratively assess the amount of child support using a formula set out in legislation. Stage 2 is prospective in that it applies only to people who separate or have a child born on or after 1 October 1989.

Unemployment, sickness and special benefits and associated payments

Unemployment benefit is payable to persons over 18 and under age pension age, who are unemployed. Job search allowance is payable to unemployed persons aged 16 to 17 years to encourage the active search for jobs. Sickness benefit is payable to persons aged at least 16 years, but under age pension age, who are temporarily incapacitated for work. They must be an Australian resident. Both unemployment and sickness benefits are subject to an income test, and an assets test also applies to beneficiaries aged 25 years and over. Job search allowance is subject both to a parental income test and a personal income

test. A person cannot receive the benefits simultaneously, nor can a person receive a benefit at the same time as an invalid, widow's, service pension or sole parent's pension.

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. They must also be capable and willing to undertake suitable work, and be taking 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 income.

A special benefit may be granted to persons not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit who are not eligible for any pension, and who, because of age, physical or mental disability or domestic circumstances, or any other reason, are unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for themselves and their dependants. Recipients of special benefits include, among others, persons ineligible for a pension or benefit because of lack of residence qualifications and migrants in government accommodation centres awaiting their first employment in Australia. 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.

All beneficiaries with dependent children are eligible for an additional benefit for each dependent child except where the dependent child is in receipt of a prescribed educational allowance. In addition, sole parents are eligible for mother's/guardian's allowance. Rent assistance is also payable to beneficiaries who have at least one child under 16 years, and other beneficiaries after six continuous months on benefit provided they pay sufficient rent other than to a public housing authority if they are over 24 or married, or if they are aged 18-24 provided they live away from the parental home. A young homeless allowance is available to recipients of job search allowance, and to sickness and special beneficiaries under 18 years, who are homeless and without parental or custodial support. Job search allowance recipients who have established long term independence from their parents may also receive a higher independent rate.

UNEMPLOYMENT, SICKNESS AND SPECIAL BENEFITS: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE

	1987	1988	1989
Unemployment beneficiaries (including job search allowees) (b)—			
Number of new benefits granted	829,560	728,438	689,981
Number on benefit at end of year	550,850	475,070	390,001
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	574,385	502,514	429,350
Sickness beneficiaries—			
Number of new benefits granted	109,867	108,772	110,369
Number on benefit at end of year	70,261	75,060	78,818
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	67,748	74,557	76,759
Special benefit beneficiaries—			
Number of new benefits granted	82,563	112,907	133,275
Number on benefit at end of year	19,875	22,646	25,301
Average number on benefit at end of each week during year	19,158	21,598	23,929
		—\$'000—	
Amount paid during year (a)—			
Unemployment and job search allowance (b)	3,453,802	3,374,879	3,135,640
Sickness	429,368	511,042	552,970
Special benefit	124,607	150,800	178,310

(a) Includes additional allowances. (b) Job Search Allowance began on 1 January 1988.

Fringe benefits

The Commonwealth Government makes several non-cash 'fringe benefits' available to pensioners and recipients of sickness benefits, and their dependants, who are entitled to a Pensioner Health Benefits (PHB) card or, in the case of sickness beneficiaries, a Health Benefits (HB) card. The issue of a PHB card is subject to a special income and assets test. The benefits include:

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

State and Territory 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 1,809,553 pensioners at 30 June 1989 with PHB cards entitling them to Commonwealth pensioner fringe benefits.

Unemployment and special beneficiaries, and other persons on low income, receive a Health Care card entitling them to a range of pharmaceuticals at a concessional rate. This concession is also available to pensioners whose income and assets exceed the qualifying limits for fringe benefits and who are provided with a Pharmaceutical Benefits (PB) card.

Family allowances

Family allowance is payable, subject to an income test, to a person with children under 16 years or dependent full-time students aged 16 to 24 years who are not in receipt of a pension, benefit or allowance in their own right or prescribed educational allowance. An additional allowance, also subject to an income test, is payable in respect of multiple (three or more) births until the children turn six years. Payment is usually made to the mother. Approved charitable, religious or government institutions are paid family allowance for children in their care.

Generally, to be granted an allowance the person and the child must be in Australia and be Australian citizens, or intend to remain in Australia permanently.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES: 30 JUNE 1989

<i>Number of children and students in family</i>	<i>Number of families</i>						
	<i>NSW/ACT (a)</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld/NT</i>	<i>SA (b)</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
1	244,262	176,179	131,147	62,990	65,825	20,550	700,953
2	264,932	196,523	140,802	69,904	76,981	22,763	771,905
3	117,170	86,500	63,962	26,008	33,210	9,785	336,635
4	32,937	22,654	18,698	6,134	8,670	2,695	91,788
5	6,702	4,508	4,187	1,111	1,662	556	18,726
6	1,889	1,116	1,160	244	468	116	4,993
7	506	297	351	57	124	33	1,368
8	160	113	100	28	31	8	440
9	49	31	42	4	11	2	139
10 or more	21	20	18	3	6	—	68
Total families	668,628	487,941	360,467	166,483	186,988	56,508	1,927,015
No. of children in families	1,307,458	951,723	710,766	313,048	366,516	109,802	3,759,313
	—\$'000—						
Amount paid during year	461,228	331,968	247,311	108,517	127,656	38,216	(c)1,314,893

(a) Excludes Broken Hill Regional Office. (b) Includes Broken Hill Regional Office. (c) Includes an amount of \$3,000,000 recovered from overseas.

Family allowance supplement

Family allowance supplement is paid subject to income and assets tests to low-income families with one or more children eligible for family allowance so long as they are not in receipt of any Commonwealth pension, benefit or allowance which provides additional payment for dependent children, and so long as the children of these families are not receiving means-tested Commonwealth payments. Levels of payment are age-related and are linked to the rates of additional pension or benefit for children. Rent assistance is also available to recipients of family allowance supplement if they pay rent other than to a public housing authority. The number of families in receipt of family allowance supplement at 30 June 1989 was 164,746. The amount paid during the year 1988-89 was \$399,954,400.

Child disability allowance

Child disability allowance may be paid to a parent or guardian of a child under 16 years or a dependent full-time student aged 16 to 24 years who has a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability. For the allowance to be payable, the disabled child must need and receive daily care and attention and must be living in the family home. The allowance is not subject to an income test, but a residence qualification similar to that for family allowance applies. The number of child disability allowances being paid at 30 June 1989 was 36,777. The total amount paid through these allowances during the year 1988-89 was \$50.9 million.

Double orphan's pension

Double orphan's pension is payable free of means test with respect to children under 16 years, or dependent full-time students aged 16 to 24 years whose parents are both dead or one parent is dead and the other is not available to care for the child. The family allowance residence test applies. The pension may also be paid with respect to a refugee child whose parents are both outside Australia, or their whereabouts is unknown.

Mobility allowance

Mobility allowance is a payment, free of means test, for disabled people unable to use public transport without assistance who are employed or undertaking vocational training.

Bereavement allowance

From January 1990 eligible pensioners will receive bereavement allowances in respect of a deceased spouse equivalent to 14 weeks payment that would have been made to the spouse for that period. Allowances will be available in lump sum form to assist with funeral and associated expenses. The estate of a deceased single pensioner will be entitled to the next fortnightly instalment of pension following death. These arrangements supersede Funeral Benefit and Special Temporary Allowance provisions.

Social security—portability and reciprocal agreements

Australian pensions, with the exception of widows' pensions for non-de jure widows, supporting parents' benefits and carers' pensions, can be transferred abroad once they have been granted. Since 1 July 1986, the rate of pension to be paid abroad is proportional to the period of Australian residence during a 25 year working life. The number of Australian pensions paid abroad under portability provisions at 30 June 1989 was 27,106.

Australia has comprehensive reciprocal social security agreements with the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Italy and Canada. Negotiations and discussions are proceeding with major migrant-source countries in order to establish a network of agreements. The purpose of the network is to protect the social security rights of people who divide their working lives between Australia and other countries.

Employment assistance schemes

In conjunction with the Departments of Employment, Education and Training, and Community Services and Health, the Department of Social Security administers the Jobs,

Education and Training (JET) and NEWSTART programs. Both programs are designed to provide intensive assistance to sole parent pensioners and long-term unemployed respectively to re-enter the work force or to undertake training or education to prepare for workforce re-entry. The Job Search Allowance also involves active participation with the Department of Employment, Education and Training, including joint interviews for all recipients after 6 months.

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

The Department of Social Security provides a professional social work service and Migrant and Aboriginal Liaison Office schemes. The Department also provides funding to the Social Welfare Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. The Department of Community Services and Health provides Grants-in-Aid (general support grants) towards the infrastructure costs of national non-government organisations which represent consumers and interest groups in the community services sector. Grants totalling \$1.376 million in 1988-89 were paid to organisations including the: Australian Council of Social Services, Australian Council on the Ageing, Australian Council for Rehabilitation of Disabled, Australian Early Childhood Association and Disabled People International (Australia).

Commonwealth Government Assistance Through Welfare Organisations

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program—SAAP

SAAP was introduced in all States and Territories from 1 January 1985 and brought together former programs such as the *Women's Emergency Services Program*, the *Youth Services Scheme* and the *Homeless Persons' Assistance Program*. SAAP provides recurrent funds for a range of supported accommodation and related support services and is jointly Commonwealth and State funded. SAAP provides financial assistance for the funding of non-government organisations and local government to provide crisis accommodation and support services for homeless persons.

A comprehensive review of the Program was conducted in 1987 by an independent consultant, Ms Colleen Chesterman, and her report 'Homes Away from Home', was presented to Commonwealth and State Ministers in January 1988. This review was required under the provisions of the Agreement which expired on 30 June 1989. In developing the funding arrangements to apply from 1 July 1989, the Commonwealth Government took account of the review report, community consultations and consultations between Commonwealth and State officials.

The *Supported Accommodation Assistance Act 1989* provides the legislative base for the Program, which is administered on a day-to-day basis by State/Territory governments in accordance with the SAAP Agreement. Capital funding for SAAP services is provided within the *Crisis Accommodation Program* (CAP) which comes under the provisions of the Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement. Unlike SAAP, CAP is totally Commonwealth funded.

The objectives of the new program are to provide transitional support accommodation and related support services for people who are homeless and/or in crisis to help them move towards independent living, where appropriate, or other alternatives (such as long term supported housing), as soon as possible.

The replacement program which commenced on 1 July 1989 focuses on five target groups: young people, women with or without children who are escaping domestic violence, families, single men and single women.

Other features of the new program include the importance placed on community consultation in the planning and development of priorities for each State, the focus on user rights and the focus on client outcomes.

The SAAP allocation for 1989-90 is \$125.6 million (of which the Commonwealth will contribute \$75.2 million). This represents a significant increase over 1988-89 expenditure of \$105 million. In addition, growth funds of \$5 million (to be matched dollar for dollar by the States) have been committed by the Commonwealth up to 1991-92. This will involve an injection of some \$40 million over this period. Maintenance of funding levels in real terms is also provided for on an annual basis through indexation.

Homeless Youth—A Commonwealth Priority for 1989-90.

The Commonwealth has identified youth as a priority target for 1989-90. This is specifically in response to the problems identified in the report of the Human Rights Commission, 'Our Homeless Children'. The new initiatives to assist homeless young people include:

- a further \$17 million to be made available over 4 years under SAAP (\$34 million when matched by States) to underpin the expansion of accommodation services and to link homeless young people with other services; and
- an extra \$10 million capital funding in 1989-90 which, together with funding under the CSHA, will double the medium and long term accommodation capacity.

Home and Community Care Program—HACC

HACC, jointly funded by the Commonwealth Government and the State and Territory Governments, is a program which was established during 1985-86. HACC funds organisations and community groups which provide home and community support services for the frail aged and people with disabilities to enable them to remain living at home. Support is also provided to the carers of these people. The Program aims to enhance the independence, security and quality of life of frail aged and younger disabled people by avoiding their inappropriate admission to long-term residential accommodation by facilitating and promoting the development of cost-effective community care alternatives appropriate and according to need.

Services funded under the Program provide basic maintenance and support, either in the home or in the community. These can include home help and personal care; home maintenance and modification; food services; community respite care; transport services; community paramedical services; community nursing; assessment and referral; education and training for service providers and users; information and coordination.

In addition to the matched program funds, the Commonwealth has made available \$71 million over 4 years commencing 1987-88 to fund projects which test new approaches to providing services. Packages of home care services are put together for individuals which are appropriate to their particular needs. Seventy-two projects were approved as at September 1989, covering all States and Territories. These projects will be closely monitored to evaluate the effectiveness of the various coordinating arrangements and to assess the economics of community care. Discussions on further projects are proceeding.

Under the terms of the HACC Agreements a review of the Program is required at least every third year. The first review was completed in December 1988. In March 1989 HACC Ministers endorsed the review's recommendations which involve a challenging reform agenda. Ministers assigned a high priority to the implementation of a user rights strategy by 1990. Other recommendations related to service standards, client assessment, training, planning, and consultation. The review's recommendations will be implemented progressively.

Late in 1989 a second edition of the National Guidelines for the Program were published. The Guidelines are designed to provide interested groups with a broad understanding of the Program, including its aims, scope, funding processes and requirements. The revised Guidelines were required in order to reflect the outcomes of the review.

During 1988-89 the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration conducted an inquiry into the findings of the Auditor-General's Efficiency

Audit of the HACC Program which took place during 1987–88. Officers of the Commonwealth Department of Community Services and Health appeared twice before the Committee and submissions were received and evidence heard from State and local governments and community based service providers. The Committee is expected to report to Parliament during 1989–90.

**COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE ON HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM
(\$'000)**

	1987–88	1988–89
Matched payments to States, NT, and ACT	167,289	195,515
Unmatched funds provided	1,886	9,259
Planning and development	219	317
Total expenditure	169,394	205,091

Programs for Families with Children

The main objective of the *Children's Services Program* (CSP) is to support workforce participation by giving families with dependent children (especially low income families and sole parents) access to a range of quality child care services which are affordable and efficiently managed. The needs of parents at home are also recognised and there are projects which specifically help disabled, Aboriginal and non-English speaking families.

The CSP provides funds to enable local government and non-profit organisations to provide quality, affordable child care services which meet the needs of families with children regardless of cultural background, disability or location.

Priority has been given to increasing the number of child care places in child care centres, family day care schemes, occasional care centres and outside school hours care services. Emphasis is also given to providing fee relief for lower income families to help them pay for child care.

The number of places funded by the Commonwealth will continue to grow rapidly. There will be a further 30,000 places established between 1989–90 and 1991–92, bringing the total to some 144,000 places funded by the Commonwealth. The expansion will be cost shared with State Governments for both capital and recurrent funding.

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

1982–83	1983–84	1984–85	1985–86	1986–87	1987–88	1988–89
64,954	80,125	122,726	150,072	181,245	224,945	213,327

(a) Excluding Pre-school block grants (ceased 31/12/1985). Including Family Support Services Scheme and Family Support Program (transferred to States through general revenue grants, 1/7/1988).

Emergency Relief Grants

The *Emergency Relief Program* provides emergency financial assistance to persons in crisis. Through the Program, grants are made to over 700 agencies. These agencies distribute funds, usually in the form of cash assistance, purchase vouchers, or payments on behalf of clients to persons in crisis. The Commonwealth administers the Program which supplements the significant activities of both State Governments and community organisations in the provision of this type of assistance.

The Program aims to assist the most needy in the community including low income families and single parents. Agencies are selected keeping in mind the need to ensure

equitable geographic access and access by Aboriginal people and people from a non-English speaking background to this form of assistance.

COMMONWEALTH EMERGENCY RELIEF APPROPRIATIONS
(**\$'000**)

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Appropriation</i>
1983-84	5,000
1984-85	5,950
1985-86	6,000
1986-87	6,320
1987-88	6,720
1988-89	7,040
1989-90	7,195

People with disabilities

Under Part II of the *Disability Services Act 1986*, the Commonwealth provides grants to States and eligible organisations (non-profit and local government bodies and tertiary institutions) towards the recurrent and capital costs of a range of eligible services. These services include accommodation support, advocacy, competitive employment training and placement, independent living training, information, print disability services, recreation, respite care, and supported employment.

For services to be eligible for funding they must cater predominantly for persons with a disability, whose disability results in their having a substantially reduced capacity for communication, learning or mobility. The disability must be attributable to an intellectual, psychiatric, sensory or physical impairment or a combination of such impairments, and be permanent or likely to be permanent.

The Disability Services Act requires organisations to report regularly on the extent to which they have achieved positive consumer outcomes for their clients. In addition, formal reviews of their services are scheduled every five years.

The funding for eligible services in 1988-89 amounted to \$173.4 million. An estimated 35,000 people with disabilities receive services from funded organisations.

The Department of Community Services and Health administers the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service (CRS) which provides social and vocational rehabilitation services for working age people with disabilities. The major criterion for acceptance into a rehabilitation program is the expectation of significant gain towards independent living or vocational goals.

Services are provided from and arranged through a national network of some 90 regional rehabilitation units. Programs may include:

- employment, vocational, mobility and other independent living training and education courses;
- diagnostic and assessment services, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy and counselling services;
- aids and appliances and home, vehicle and workplace modifications;
- associated accommodation and training allowances.

In 1988-89, 15,268 people received rehabilitation assistance from the CRS. Expenditure on rehabilitation services in 1988-89 was \$57.5 million. The number of clients participating in rehabilitation programs in 1988-89 represented an increase of 2,800 over the previous year's activity.

The major directions in the Commonwealth program to assist people with disabilities include:

- the development of a more coordinated approach between the Commonwealth and the States/Territories in the provision of services for people with a disability; and
- the transition of services to provide clients with greater opportunities for independence, economic and employment opportunities and integration into the general community.

Residential care for aged people

The aim of the Commonwealth Government's aged residential care program is to ensure that frail aged people who are assessed as being unable to live at home have access to residential support and care services appropriate to their needs. Support is provided by the Commonwealth for two main types of residential care and assistance—nursing homes and hostels. Nursing homes provide services for people who need continuous professional nursing and personal care, while hostels provide a wide range of accommodation and personal care services for less dependent aged people.

Two key objectives of the aged residential care program are to provide a range of accommodation and care services to meet the assessed needs of aged people, and to promote the quality of life for residents receiving such care.

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE ON NURSING HOMES AND HOSTELS 1988-89 (\$'000)

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
Nursing homes for aged (recurrent)	495,311	334,414	181,435	95,700	138,694	33,566	7,065	3,540	1,289,730
Hostels (recurrent)	36,867	28,510	23,890	11,075	15,874	2,775	1,058	198	120,251
Nursing homes and hostels (capital)	26,086	12,582	28,068	2,899	6,542	2,451	4,104	1,686	84,422

APPROVED NURSING HOMES AND HOSTELS AND BEDS 1988-89

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>	
Approved nursing homes and beds for aged—										
Nursing homes		494	408	200	162	113	48	4	5	1,434
Beds		28,569	16,158	11,889	7,181	6,197	2,119	441	162	72,716
Approved hostels and beds—										
Hostels		304	237	173	114	125	25	7	3	988
Beds		14,354	10,019	8,276	3,992	5,252	824	376	73	43,166

Planning mechanisms

The focus of the Government's long term strategy is a commitment to the provision of 100 residential care places per 1,000 persons aged over 70 years in each State. This will be composed of approximately 60 hostel and 40 nursing home beds, a target to be achieved over the next twenty years. To correct existing imbalances, it is intended that only 10 per cent of new beds approved will be allocated to the nursing home sector, with the remainder going to hostels. This planning mechanism provides for the allocation of nursing home and hostel places according to the needs of aged people. To complement the planning procedure, improved arrangements have been established to control admissions to nursing homes, in order to ensure that only people for whom nursing home care is the most appropriate option are admitted.

Assessment services

The Government recognized the need for a more complete and effective assessment of the care needs of frail elderly people. Policies were implemented to ensure that aged people receive appropriate advice and assistance when choosing services. In order to satisfy these requirements, funding was provided for the development of assessment services to assess the medical, psychological and social needs of aged people. A national network of assessment services is under development in cooperation with State and Territory Governments. At 30 June 1989, the Commonwealth was supporting 79 services based at community centres and hospitals around the country. It is estimated that by 30 June 1990, approximately 84 per cent of the aged population will have access to assessment services.

The assessment services assess people in their own homes, in hospitals or in extended care facilities. The aim of the assessment is to help aged people select the type of care which best meets their needs. Ultimately, the teams will assume full responsibility both for assessing all people seeking nursing home admission and for determining eligibility for hostel subsidy.

Quality of life and quality of care

The Commonwealth has a responsibility to oversee the physical environment of nursing homes and hostels. This responsibility is supported by regular inspection facilities. However, as a reflection of the concern for the needs of individuals within residential facilities, there has been a significant shift in focus toward the outcomes of care. Thus, greater emphasis is now given to the quality of care and quality of life experienced by residents.

In the past, regulations and legislation primarily addressed inputs to care and the physical environment of nursing homes, rather than the outcomes of service delivery. However, on 1 June 1987, the Commonwealth adopted new outcome standards for nursing homes. These standards, which were developed in 1986-87 by the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments working in consultation with people and groups involved in the nursing home industry, describe the care and lifestyle objectives nursing homes are required to meet. The intent of the standards is to encourage and enable residents to perform activities, maintain responsibilities and receive support according to their individual needs and capacities. Monitoring arrangements have also been established to ensure compliance with the outcome standards.

Standards Monitoring Teams have been established in each State to assess the quality of life and care provided to residents in nursing homes. Nationally, in 1988-89, 1,258 nursing homes were visited. Teams talk to residents, visitors and nursing home staff to learn how the nursing home meets the wishes and needs of its residents. To achieve the principal objective of ensuring satisfactory resident care, the monitoring teams adopt a constructive and educative approach when negotiating appropriate remedial action with nursing homes who fail to meet all the standards.

New outcome standards for hostels are currently under development, in consultation with the industry and relevant State and Territory authorities. A draft hostel standards document, entitled *Keeping the Quality in Hostel Life*, has been prepared.

In order to further safeguard the civil and human rights of nursing home residents, the Commonwealth Government is also moving toward the formalisation of the rights and responsibilities of residents and proprietors. The first major proposed changes are the development of a charter of residents' rights and responsibilities, and a contract between hostel and nursing home residents and proprietors. The backbone of the Commonwealth's User Rights initiative is the report entitled *Residents Rights in Nursing Homes and Hostels*, prepared by Ms Chris Ronalds, a consultant who was employed to examine this issue on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Equity of access to residential care

A key element of the needs-based planning mechanism noted above is to ensure equity of access to residential care for special needs groups in all geographic areas. In particular, steps have been taken to improve access by ethnic and Aboriginal communities. In addition, the Commonwealth utilises fee controls in nursing homes and enhanced capital grant payments to hostels to ensure that financial disadvantage does not restrict entry to supported accommodation.

Uniform national recurrent funding for nursing homes

The first stage of the new nursing home funding arrangements took effect on 1 July 1987. The new arrangements are being phased in gradually and will cover all residents of non-government nursing homes by 1 July 1991. The funding arrangements comprise two modules:

- a Standard Aggregated Module (SAM) to be phased in over the period 1 July 1987 to 30 June 1991, comprising an infrastructure component to cover all fixed and operating costs, including return on investment; and
- a nursing and personal care module, known as the Care Aggregated Module (CAM) introduced on 1 July 1988, to cover the costs of nursing and personal care.

These restructured funding arrangements complement the quality of life and quality of care standards. In effect, the new arrangements provide for a specified level of service for residents at a pre-determined price. The added emphasis being given to outcomes rather than inputs allows service providers far more flexibility in the deployment of resources, as well as greater incentive to increase efficiency.

Hostel funding

To facilitate the equitable redistribution of resources to alternative, less institutionalised forms of residential care, hostel resources have been substantially enhanced, through capital and recurrent funding.

The Commonwealth Government has committed substantial resources to the expansion of hostel services as an integral part of its residential aged care program. Since 1986, the Government has raised the level of subsidy available for residents of approved age care hostels. In particular, the Personal Care Subsidy (which currently stands at \$17.25 per day) has increased by 121 per cent since 1986.

Major adjustments have also been made to the planning and funding mechanisms for hostels. Unnecessary restrictions on organisations' access to funds have been removed, and they have also been allowed greater flexibility to raise funds themselves via borrowings and entry contributions from people with the capacity to contribute to the cost of their own accommodation.

Increasing the capacity of organisations to raise funds has allowed the Commonwealth to target capital subsidies to financially disadvantaged people and other disadvantaged groups more comprehensively. For example, significantly increased subsidies have been made available to provide accommodation for financially disadvantaged members of the community. Indeed, the Commonwealth now pays a capital grant of up to \$46,400 for each hostel place which is required to accommodate a financially disadvantaged person.

The subsidy for general places varies depending on the proportion of financially disadvantaged people being accommodated in each hostel—the higher the percentage of financially disadvantaged residents, the higher the general place rate subsidy. This approach acknowledges that the greater the proportion of financially disadvantaged residents in a specific hostel population, the lower the number of people able to make an adequate entry contribution.

Assistance for home-based care

While the residential care program focuses mainly on long-term residential care, there are provisions under the program for assistance to those aged and disabled people who wish to stay in the community. Short-term or respite care is available for these people. This not only allows carers of such people a break from their responsibilities, but also provides support for frail aged people who are caring for themselves.

In addition, Domiciliary Nursing Care Benefit is available to assist people who choose to care, in their own homes, for chronically ill or infirm relatives. Typically, these people are incapable of caring for themselves or being left unsupervised for any significant period, and would require admission to a nursing home if home-care were not available. The basic criteria for the payment of the benefit are that the person must be aged 16 or over and be in receipt of continuing care under the supervision of a registered nurse. The benefit is payable at the rate of \$42 per fortnight.

Rights of aged people using services

Two major initiatives agreed by the Government during 1989 were a program to establish and protect the consumer and human rights of the frail elderly and the development of multi-purpose centres to bring services to rural and remote areas.

The Government endorsed the broad thrust of the report *Residents' Rights in Nursing Homes and Hostels*.

The program of initiatives, staged over four years, aims to implement fundamental reforms which are necessary to ensure that the legal, human and consumer rights of aged people are protected.

The key initiatives include:

- protection of the legal rights of residents through the development of a Charter of Rights and Responsibilities and a care contract between residents and service providers;
- the establishment in each State Office of the Department of Community Services and Health of a unit to receive and follow up complaints from residents or their representatives;
- independent advocacy and mediation services in each State and Territory to take up grievance issues on behalf of residents;
- a Community Visitors Scheme to enable residents to have greater access to their local community and to provide residents with information, support and advice. This will be particularly valuable to those aged people who have no family or friends in the area able and willing to provide them with support. Under this Scheme, a visitor will be appointed from the local community and assigned to a nursing home or hostel, which he or she will visit once a month; and
- a comprehensive information strategy to enhance the awareness of residents, potential residents and the community generally of care options and important issues to be considered in choosing the right type of care.

Aged Consumer Forums will be established in all States and Territories and there will also be a National Aged Consumer Forum. The purpose of the State Forums will be to advise the Minister on matters of concern to consumers including carers and to provide a view on whether existing Departmental strategies relating to aged consumers are appropriate, effective and sufficient.

The *National Aged Consumer Forum* will take a national perspective on matters of concern to aged consumers and will also provide feedback on the views of older people.

The program of residents' rights initiatives will be implemented gradually. Close consultation with providers, consumers and professional organisations and State Governments will take place on details of implementation of all initiatives.

Multi-purpose centres

The Government recognises that people living in many small communities in rural or remote areas do not have access locally to a range of services because the size of these communities will not sustain the viable operation of separate services. In line with its commitment to provide accessible health services to all Australians, the Government will develop and fund a number of multi-purpose centres to be located in under-serviced rural areas.

These centres will provide many health and welfare services such as acute hospital care, residential aged care, disability and home and community care services. The co-location of services will enable the cost-effective use of staffing and infrastructure resources for the hospital and residential services.

Project officers of the Department of Community Services and Health will work with local community groups and State Governments to develop proposals bringing together small ventures of two or more types of service to reduce the overhead costs for each service.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

A referendum in May 1967 led to the repeal of section 127 of the Constitution enabling Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be counted in the census. The Constitution was also amended to give the Commonwealth Government concurrent legislative powers 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 cultures.

The Commonwealth Government has used four key federal bodies to work towards achieving these aims, namely the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal Development Commission, Aboriginal Hostels Limited and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs, established in 1973, is responsible for policy planning and coordinating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs at the national level. The Department has regional offices in all States and the Northern Territory.

The Aboriginal Development Commission (ADC), was established in 1980 by the Commonwealth Government to assist 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 receive training where necessary.

Aboriginal Hostels Limited, established in 1973 as a company owned and funded by the Federal Government, provides temporary hostel accommodation for Aboriginal and Islander people across Australia.

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies was established by legislation in 1964 to promote Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies in the arts, education, languages, health, history, archaeology, sociology and anthropology.

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, 1973-77) and the National Aboriginal Conference (NAC, 1977-1985).

In December 1987 the Government announced a major restructuring of its federal Aboriginal organisations.

Following extensive consultation with Aboriginal people the Government proposes to establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) to take over the role and functions of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal Development Commission, Aboriginal Hostels Limited and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies will maintain their independence.

The new Commission will, for the first time, formally combine the consultative functions with the administrative functions presently undertaken by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Aboriginal Development Commission.

Migrants

Intake

The number of migrants who have come to Australia since the end of World War II has passed the 4.7 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 over 16.7 million at the end of 1988. At this time about 22 per cent of Australia's population was born overseas. Post-war immigration peaked in 1970 with 185,300 settler arrivals, and declined thereafter to a low of 54,100 in 1975. In 1988 settler arrivals numbered 151,600.

Settlement services for migrants and refugees

The Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (DILGEA) provides services to facilitate the successful settlement of migrants and refugees and their integration into Australian society. Its responsibilities therefore interface with the broader responsibilities of the Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs and with the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) located within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

As part of the Government's response to the report of the Committee to Advise on Australia's Immigration Policies (CAAIP) in December 1988, DILGEA is to concentrate its settlement programs on realising the full social and economic benefits of migration by assisting migrants to achieve early and effective participation in the social and economic life of Australia.

Accordingly, DILGEA is refocussing its settlement activities and targeting its programs to priority needs of the annual intake. DILGEA's strategic role in settlement emphasises planning and advocacy and phasing out duplication with other agencies on the basis of their access and equity commitments.

A network of migrant centres and self-contained units provides on-arrival accommodation and settlement services for needy migrants (essentially refugees). There are migrant centres and self-contained units in both Sydney and Melbourne and self-contained accommodation in Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. This network can provide accommodation for around 1,500 persons at any time.

DILGEA's settlement staff in all States and Territories provide support to groups of migrants as they settle into the community and referral services for individuals requiring specific assistance. DILGEA regional offices are located close to major areas of migrant settlement, thus facilitating local settlement planning initiatives and access to settlement services. DILGEA staff are also working to assist mainstream agencies in making 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. In many respects these voluntary agencies are best placed to assist migrants. The number of Grants-in-Aid for the employment of welfare workers by voluntary agencies as at 30 June 1989 was 216. The Settlement Planning Branch also administers the Migrant Access Projects Scheme (MAPS) which provides grants of up to \$50,000 per annum for projects which range in scale from those which provide infrastructure support (e.g. personal computers) to others

which aim to improve the design, planning and coordination of services with migrants' needs in mind.

As part of its settlement services, DILGEA provides an 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. In some cases, a fee may be charged for these services. At the present time, translation units are operating in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney and a translation service is offered by Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS) centres in other capitals.

In 1973 TIS was established to help overcome language related communication problems by providing, via the telephone, a 24 hour interpreting, information and referral service. TIS interpreters, together with community contract interpreters, cover over 100 languages. Where necessary, and especially in emergency situations, arrangements may be made for the personal attendance of an interpreter. TIS currently operates through staffed centres in all State and Territory capitals and via a 008 link to these centres from the rest of Australia. During the year ended 30 June 1989, a total of 366,013 calls was received by TIS.

Cost sharing agreements to encourage the establishment or extension of State interpreting and translation services in areas of prime State responsibility have been concluded with New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory. The Commonwealth had contributed \$6.4 million under the cost-sharing program since its inception in 1979 to 30 June 1989. The program is currently being reviewed with the States and the Northern Territory.

A National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) was established in 1977 to develop standards of competence for those professions in Australia and to test and accredit interpreting-translating practitioners and courses. In October 1984, NAATI became an independent incorporated body. Currently, NAATI is in the fourth year of a five year program of accelerated expansion and development. NAATI is strongly supported and funded jointly by the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments.

Twenty-four migrant resource centres, six smaller centres and one cooperative venture with the New South Wales Government have been established in areas of high migrant density. These 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 is an important element in the Commonwealth Government's overall migrant settlement program. In addition to offering refugees on-arrival accommodation and settlement services, the Commonwealth also places an increasing number of migrants directly into the community where they are in the care of families and other groups which have undertaken to provide support and assistance under the Community Refugee Settlement Scheme. This Scheme aims to settle 4,200 refugees in 1989-90.

The Adult Migrant Education Program (AMEP) provides a wide range of language learning opportunities, and offers information about Australia. DILGEA is responsible for the funding and coordination of the program at the national level, while service delivery is provided in the main by Adult Migrant Education Services and some tertiary institutions in each State and Territory. In 1988-89, expenditure on AMEP was \$62 million. Provisional data show that 70,500 participants undertook one or more AMEP courses in 1988-89.

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. In the financial year 1988-89, 114,977 applications for Australian citizenship were received compared with

74,686 in 1987-88 and 69,624 in the 1986-87 financial year. Almost two million new settlers have been granted Australian citizenship since 1949.

Veterans' Affairs

The Repatriation Commission was established under the *Repatriation Act 1920*. With the repeal of that Act on 22 May 1986, the Commission has continued in existence under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*. At present, the Commission consists of three full-time members. The functions of the Commission are set out in section 180 of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act* and include:

- granting pensions, allowances and other benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Act;
- establishing, operating and maintaining hospitals and other institutions for the treatment of eligible persons;
- arranging the provision of treatment and other services for eligible persons;
- advising the Minister and providing him with information on matters relating to the Act;
- performing other functions conferred on the Commission by the Act or other Acts;
- administering the Act subject to the control of the Minister.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs provides the administrative machinery through which the Commission operates. The central office of the Department is in Canberra. There is a branch office in the capital city of each State which is under the control of the Deputy Commissioner. Regional offices are located in Newcastle, Wollongong, Canberra, Ballarat, Townsville and Darwin.

The principal functions of the Repatriation Commission cover:

- payment of disability and dependants' pensions, service pensions and allowances to eligible veterans and their dependants;
- provision of housing related benefits;
- provision of medical treatment for veterans for injuries and illnesses accepted as service-related;
- provision of medical treatment in certain circumstances for veterans who are suffering from injuries and illnesses whether service-related or not;
- provision of medical treatment for war/defence widows and certain dependants of deceased veterans;
- commemoration of eligible Australian veterans whose post-war deaths are related to their war service; and
- provision of a wide range of other benefits for eligible persons.

Repatriation benefits are provided under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act* in respect of service with the Australian Defence Forces in World War I, World War II, Korea and Malayan operations, Australian contingent of the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve, Vietnam and South East Asia conflict and for service in the Regular Defence Forces on or after 7 December 1972. Certain civilians may also be eligible for benefits, as are Australian members of certain designated peacekeeping, observing and monitoring forces who had peacekeeping service overseas. Under the *Papua New Guinea (Members of the Forces Benefits) Act 1957*, indigenous inhabitants of Papua New Guinea who served in the Australian Forces in World War II and members of the Royal Papuan Constabulary and New Guinea Police Force who served in that conflict are eligible for compensatory type benefits. Australian mariners of World War II are eligible for compensation benefits under the *Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act 1940* and for income support benefits (service pension) subject to the conditions laid down in the *Veterans' Entitlements Act*. Members of other Commonwealth countries' forces and other allied veterans are not eligible for compensatory-type benefits in respect of their service, unless they were domiciled in Australia immediately before their enlistment. They may, however, qualify for income support payments such as the service pension.

The Annual Report of the Repatriation Commission provides more detailed information on Repatriation allowances, benefits and services.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS (excl. DSHC): TOTAL EXPENDITURE
(\$'000)

Class	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Pensions, allowances and other benefits	2,035,026	2,334,799	2,587,404	2,766,858	3,111,508	3,180,025
Medical treatment	561,035	612,238	681,172	778,111	511,986	526,932
Administration	84,848	116,934	111,805	107,330	135,588	144,072
Works and maintenance	43,021	46,687	49,728	66,425	56,861	70,659
Total expenditure	2,723,930	3,110,658	3,430,109	3,718,724	3,815,943	3,921,688

NOTE: Expenditure figures exclude all operating expenses for the Repatriation General Hospitals, and all expenditure associated with the Defence Services Homes Corporation, the Australian War Memorial and Office of Australia War Graves. Total expenditure by the Veterans' Affairs Portfolio in 1988-89 was \$4,488,224,941

STAFF EMPLOYED—FULL TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF AS AT 30 JUNE 1989

1988-89 ASL.	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	C.O.	Total
Benefits	481	322	272	112	131	65	120	1,503
Health	244	289	148	89	74	33	112	989
Office of Australian War Graves	7	11	9	6	5	2	14	54
Corporate Services	252	202	104	73	67	50	333	1,081
Repatriation								
General Hospitals	2,704	1,934	1,500	1,010	1,092	314	—	8,554
Auxiliary Hospitals	308	165	102	—	—	—	—	575
Total	3,996	2,923	2,135	1,290	1,369	464	579	12,756

Note: Figures do not include the Australian War Memorial or Defence Service Homes.

Benefits program

The principal objective of the Benefits Program is to compensate veterans and their dependants for the effects of war or defence service. Benefits such as pensions and allowances are administered under two sub-programs, the Compensation Sub-program and the Income Support Sub-program, and housing related benefits under the Housing Assistance Sub-program (see Housing and Construction chapter in this Year Book).

Compensation Sub-program

The main benefits provided under this sub-program are the disability pension and the war/defence widow's pension.

The disability pension is a compensatory payment for incapacity due to eligible war, defence or peacekeeping service. It is paid at a general rate between 10 per cent and 100 per cent, depending on the degree of war- or defence-caused incapacity. Higher rates of pension (intermediate rate and special rate) are payable for those incapacitated to 70 per cent of the general rate where the war- or defence-caused incapacity alone affects their capacity for work. The intermediate rate is payable where the person is unable to work more than 20 hours a week and the special rate is payable where the person is unable to work more than eight hours a week.

As from 22 December 1988, the Government introduced an Extreme Disablement Adjustment, equal to 150 per cent of the general rate. This is payable to severely disabled veterans who are 65 years of age or over.

The war/defence widow's pension is payable to the widow of a veteran:

- whose death has been accepted as war- or defence-caused;
- who was receiving or entitled to receive a special rate disability pension at the time of his death.

Orphan's pension is payable to the children of these veterans.

The following tables provide an analysis of the number of pensions in force, and veteran's class of pension.

DISABILITY PENSIONS FOR INCAPACITATED VETERANS: NUMBER IN FORCE, BY CLASS OF PENSION: 30 JUNE 1989

<i>Class</i>	<i>1914-18 War</i>	<i>1939-45 War (a)</i>	<i>Korea, Malaya and FESR</i>	<i>Special Overseas Service</i>	<i>Peace- time forces</i>	<i>Miscel- laneous</i>	<i>Total</i>
Special Rate (T & PI or equivalent)	189	19,370	650	678	345	12	21,244
Intermediate Rate	3	808	21	36	29	3	900
Extreme Disablement Adjustment	4	347	1	—	—	—	353
General Rate—from 10 per cent to 100 per cent assessed disability	732	116,787	3,768	8,460	11,325	91	141,163
Total	928	137,312	4,440	9,174	11,699	107	163,660

(a) Includes Interim Forces.

DISABILITY PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE

<i>Class</i>	<i>30 June 1988</i>	<i>30 June 1989</i>	<i>Variation per cent</i>
Veterans	166,830	163,660	-1.9
Wives and wife widows	112,532	108,755	-3.4
Children	12,933	11,223	-13.2
War widows	73,255	74,743	+2.0
Orphans	797	717	-10.0
Other dependants	1,333	1,247	-6.5
Total	367,680	360,345	-2.0

The following table shows the number of pensions in force and the expenditure for disability pensions in each of the years ended 30 June 1982 to 1989.

DISABILITY PENSIONS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of disability pensions in force at 30 June</i>				<i>Annual expenditure (a) (\$'000)</i>
	<i>Incapaci- tated veterans</i>	<i>Dependants of incapac- itated veterans</i>	<i>Dependants of deceased veterans</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1982-83	168,355	186,859	55,259	410,473	646,470
1983-84	166,062	183,105	58,110	407,277	722,660
1984-85	165,377	179,420	63,524	408,321	837,230
1985-86	169,109	170,589	70,044	409,742	549,125
1986-87	169,257	132,971	72,884	375,112	548,901
1987-88	166,830	125,821	75,029	367,680	586,691
1988-89	163,660	120,325	76,360	360,345	594,035

(a) Includes associated allowances.

A number of specific need allowances are available to veterans for their war- or defence-caused incapacity. They include attendant allowance, specific disability (section 27) allowance, clothing allowance, recreation transport allowance, vehicle assistance scheme benefits, temporary incapacity allowance and loss of earnings allowance. Decoration allowance is also available. Various payments intended to assist with funeral and other bereavement expenses are also available.

SPECIFIC NEED ALLOWANCES

<i>Benefit</i>	<i>No. of recipients—</i>	
	<i>at 30 June 1988</i>	<i>at 30 June 1989</i>
Attendant allowance	977	964
Section 27 (items 1-6)	61	61
Section 27 (items 7-15)	1,244	1,230
Clothing allowance	2,486	2,398
Recreation transport allowance	3,160	3,171
Recreation allowance	1,314	1,317
Vehicle assistance scheme	74	51

The *Veterans' Children Education Scheme* provides assistance with education and training for the children of special rate disability pensioners and certain other incapacitated veterans and deceased veterans whose death has been accepted as war- or defence-caused or who were receiving special rate disability pension or a section 27 allowance (items 1-6) at the time of death.

VETERANS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME, EXPENDITURE (\$'000)

<i>Cost of education of beneficiaries</i>	<i>NSW (a)</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA (b)</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
1985-86	1,344.8	929.5	731.1	303.1	270.4	162.7	3,741.6
1986-87	1,674.0	1,093.0	951.4	324.1	367.0	221.3	4,630.8
1987-88	1,754.0	1,233.1	1,166.0	387.6	349.2	267.2	5,157.1
1988-89	1,568.9	1,017.6	1,061.4	333.8	359.3	259.2	4,600.4

(a) Includes ACT. (b) Includes NT.

VETERANS' CHILDREN EDUCATION SCHEME: NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS AT 30 JUNE 1989

<i>Type of training</i>	<i>NSW (a)</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA (b)</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Total</i>
At school—							
Primary (c)	120	105	117	40	77	38	497
Secondary	380	192	347	82	124	91	1,216
<i>Total at school</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>297</i>	<i>467</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>201</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>1,713</i>
Tertiary professional	144	111	84	46	36	22	443
Technical	29	42	15	—	13	3	102
Industrial	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Total	673	450	566	168	250	154	2,261

(a) Includes ACT. (b) Includes NT. (c) Not in receipt of an education allowance.

Income-support sub-program

The main benefit paid under this sub-program is the service pension. This is an income and asset tested pension similar to the age and invalid pensions payable by the Department of Social Security. The pension is payable to veterans with qualifying service at age 60 (males) or 55 (females). Veterans with qualifying service may be paid the pension at any age if they are permanently incapacitated for work. Qualifying service generally means service in an area and at a time when danger from hostile enemy forces was incurred by the veteran.

Veterans of other Commonwealth and allied countries may also qualify for the service pension for service in wars or war-like conflicts in which Australia has engaged. Veterans of Commonwealth forces must have served outside the country of enlistment or be entitled to the award of a campaign medal for service within that country. Allied veterans must have served in formally raised forces. The veteran must be an Australian resident with at least ten years residency. Service pension is also available to Australians, other Commonwealth and allied mariners of World War II.

Service pensioners who satisfy a separate income and assets test may be eligible for 'fringe benefits', provided by the Commonwealth Government, which include medical and hospital treatment, pharmaceutical benefits and telephone rental concessions.

A funeral benefit is available to assist in defraying the cost of the funeral of a service pensioner eligible for fringe benefits. The benefit is also available in respect of the funeral for a veteran who died in needy circumstances or who was receiving a special rate disability pension at the time of death. It is also payable in respect of the funeral of a veteran whose death has been accepted as war- or defence-caused and, finally, for certain dependants of veterans.

The following table gives an analysis of the total number of pensions in force, as at 30 June 1989.

SERVICE PENSIONS: NUMBER IN FORCE, 30 JUNE 1989

Class	1914-18		Korea, Malaya and FESR		Special Overseas Service	British Common- wealth	Allied Forces	Miscel- laneous	Total
	War	1939-45 War							
Veterans—									
Old age	1,427	180,943	2,048		379	26,227	3,944	2,211	217,179
Permanently incapacitated	—	6,524	1,787		1,390	1,207	222	225	11,355
Tuberculosis (a)	4	540	10		1	8	—	—	563
Total	1,431	188,007	3,845		1,770	27,442	4,166	2,436	229,097
Wives and widows	868	136,518	2,555		1,224	21,125	3,291	1,761	167,342
Total	2,299	324,525	6,400		2,994	48,567	7,457	4,197	396,439

(a) Eligibility on these grounds ceased on 2 November 1978.

The following table provides a summary of Service Pensions in force.

SERVICE PENSIONS				
<i>Pensions in force as at 30 June 1989</i>				
	<i>Veterans</i>	<i>Wives and widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Annual expenditure (a) (\$'000)</i>
1982-83	200,492	140,656	341,148	1,057,950
1983-84	218,660	156,845	375,505	1,294,279
1984-85	227,705	164,794	392,499	1,477,874
1985-86	233,751	169,801	403,552	1,616,987
1986-87	234,209	170,585	404,794	1,745,888
1987-88	232,711	170,153	402,864	2,011,205
1988-89	229,097	167,342	396,439	2,048,138

(a) Includes associated allowances.

Treatment for Veterans and Dependants of Veterans

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 in Australia is provided for most non-service-related disabilities for: incapacitated veterans receiving disability pensions at or above the maximum (100 per cent) general rate; World War II 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 World War I; veterans of the Boer War; veterans who were detained by the enemy; war widows and certain other dependants of deceased male veterans whose deaths have been accepted as service related, and of deceased Special Rate pensioners; certain service pensioners; and returned servicewomen of World War II.

Special emphasis is given to caring for the aged, aimed at limiting the dependence of veterans and war widows on nursing home care and encouraging the alternative of home care.

Treatment is provided at six repatriation general hospitals (one in each State), three auxiliary hospitals and Anzac Hostel in Victoria.

Expenditure totalled \$336.7 million in 1987-88 and \$447.7 million in 1988-89. In addition, expenditure of \$506.6 million in 1987-88 and \$521.8 million in 1988-89 was incurred on medical services outside these institutions.

Repatriation hospitals and institutions

In addition to the repatriation institutions, entitled persons are treated in other country and metropolitan hospitals and nursing homes at departmental expense. During 1988-89, entitled persons were accommodated and treated in non-departmental hospitals for 568,412 bed-days and in nursing homes for 1,481,955 bed-days.

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. During 1988-89, repatriation patients were accommodated for 69,300 bed-days.

Out-patient treatment is provided throughout Australia at repatriation hospitals and clinics and through the Repatriation Local Medical Officer Scheme. During 1988-89, 932,464 out-patients were treated at repatriation institutions, and local medical officers consultations totalled 3,046,785. The number of repatriation local medical officers in Australia at 30 June 1989 was 15,500.

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
1988-89**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS							
Admissions during year	21,667	20,930	13,522	9,483	10,288	3,082	78,972
Discharges (including deaths)	21,751	20,958	13,364	9,459	10,264	3,083	78,879
Total in-patients treated	22,225	21,331	13,746	9,687	10,551	3,160	80,700
Daily average beds occupied	537	401	366	224	268	73	1,869
REPATRIATION AUXILIARY HOSPITALS AND ANZAC HOSTEL (VIC)							
Admissions during year	1,761	794	365	—	—	—	2,920
Discharges (including deaths)	1,760	798	365	—	—	—	2,923
Total in-patients treated	1,923	905	421	—	—	—	3,255
Daily average beds occupied	162	114	60	—	—	—	336

Other medical services

Entitled persons 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; and surgical aids and aids-to-daily living.

Artificial limb and appliance services

The following table gives details of production by all centres and commercial firms as a result of orders placed by the Department.

**REPATRIATION ARTIFICIAL LIMB AND APPLIANCE
CENTRES AND COMMERCIAL
FIRMS: PRODUCTION, 1988-89
(number)**

CENTRES	
Legs	2,227
Arms	123
Surgical and adapted footwear	5,445
Other surgical appliances	1,098
Repairs	20,558
COMMERCIAL FIRMS	
Legs	2,419
Arms	181
Limb repairs	7,586

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 Central Development Unit is 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.

The cost of the Free Limb Scheme for 1988-89 was \$4.3 million.

The Office of Australian War Graves

The Office of Australian War Graves has two main functions. Its major area of responsibility by sheer volume of work is the implementation of government policy for the perpetual commemoration of eligible Australian veterans whose post-war deaths are related to their war service. The authority for this program was established by a War Cabinet Decision on 10 March 1922 and re-confirmed in several subsequent decisions.

It also maintains on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, War Cemeteries and other commemorations in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal) and Norfolk Island. This responsibility is covered by a formal agreement between Australia and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission which was signed on 1 January 1975. Under a separate arrangement with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission the Office of Australian War Graves also maintains the Ambon War Cemetery in Indonesia.

The *War Graves Act 1980*, dated 23 May, created the statutory position of Director of War Graves. The Director is responsible under the Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs for administering all matters associated with the Office of Australian War Graves' commemorative functions.

The Office maintains 19,199 war graves in 70 War cemeteries and 900 civil cemeteries. It also maintains 160,000 post-war commemorations scattered throughout 1,500 civil cemeteries. In 1988-89 it commemorated 10,000 veterans who died of war-related causes.

The Office provides an information service to those wishing to visit any of the 75,000 Australian war dead buried in some 70 countries overseas.

It holds records relating to the Commonwealth dead of World War II and the Australian dead of World War I.

Full details of the operations of the Office of Australian War Graves are contained in its Annual Report.

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 month 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 per cent 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. Further expenditure surveys were conducted in 1975–76, 1984 and 1988–89. After the 1974–75 survey, geographical coverage was extended beyond the six State capital cities and Canberra to include urban and rural areas in all States and Territories except remote and sparsely settled areas.

The 1988–89 Household Expenditure Survey was the fourth major survey of its kind undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. It was conducted continuously over the twelve month period July 1988 to June 1989. Household expenditure surveys are designed to find out how the expenditure patterns of private households vary according to income level and other characteristics such as household size, composition, location and principal source of income. Information gathered from household expenditure surveys is primarily for use in reviewing the weighting pattern of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is used universally as a measure of change in the cost of living.

Preliminary information from the 1988–89 Survey was released in September 1989.

Summary of findings from the 1984 Survey

In 1984, average weekly household expenditure on commodities and services in Australia was \$361.84. Household expenditure varied considerably across the States and Territories with the highest weekly expenditure being recorded in the two Territories at \$472.38 for households in the Australian Capital Territory and \$463.46 in the Northern Territory. Households in Tasmania had the lowest average weekly expenditure at \$311.90. These differences in household expenditure reflect to some extent the differences in average weekly household income across the States and Territories. Households in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory had the highest average weekly incomes at \$627.97 and \$583.96 respectively. Households in Tasmania had the lowest average weekly household income at \$392.47. These differences in household income are in turn related to such characteristics as the proportion of household income derived from earnings or government cash benefits, the average number of employed persons per household and the average age of the household head.

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

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY STATES AND TERRITORIES

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE (\$) (a)									
Broad expenditure group									
Commodity or service									
Current housing costs (selected 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 commo- dities and services	27.91	23.89	27.33	20.52	26.52	18.17	32.82	42.76	25.93
Total commodities or service expenditure	373.31	370.31	340.58	324.18	360.01	311.90	463.46	472.38	361.84
Selected other payments									
Income tax	82.35	85.35	69.32	67.63	81.82	66.06	106.55	131.49	80.07
Mortgage payments— principal (selected dwelling)	6.81	6.43	6.43	5.26	7.09	4.82	5.06	7.95	6.49
Other capital housing costs (d)	24.15	16.70	10.75	9.36	21.44	6.78	*25.82	*24.84	18.01
Superannuation and life insurance	10.93	12.07	11.14	10.75	11.47	10.53	19.77	23.25	11.51
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS									
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
<i>Estimated total number in population:</i>									
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

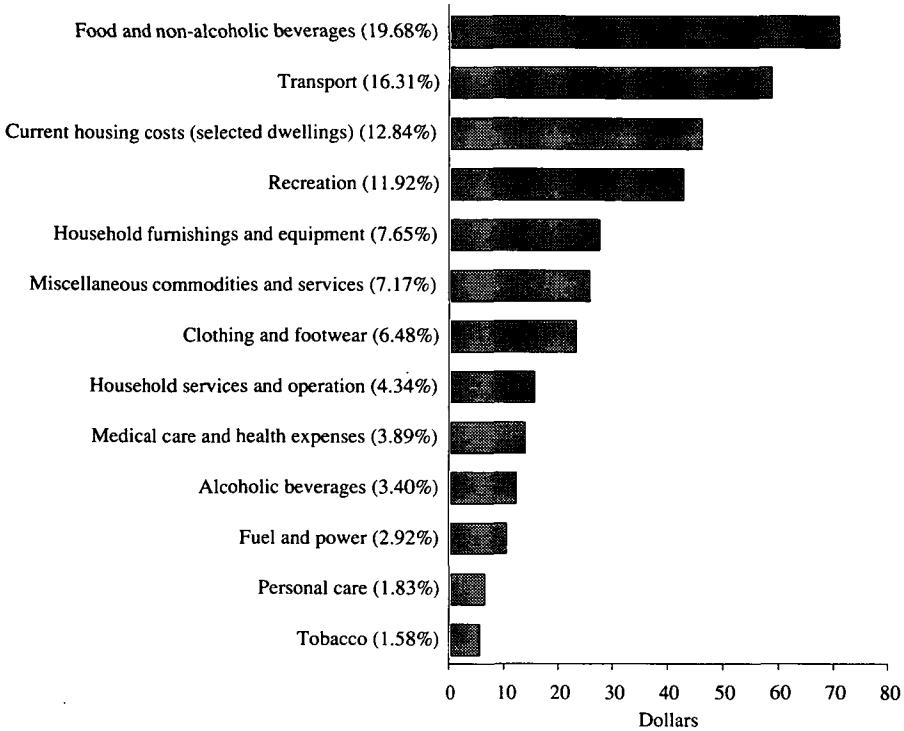
(a) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (b) Excluded from this item are fuel and power for motor vehicles, which are included in Transport. (c) Includes fuel 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.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: AVERAGE INCOME, BENEFITS AND TAXES BY GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME DECILE

Income, benefits and taxes	Gross income decile (a)										All household-holds
	Lowest 10%	Second decile	Third decile	Fourth decile	Fifth decile	Sixth decile	Seventh decile	Eighth decile	Ninth decile	Highest 10%	
Private income	11.83	29.31	80.09	221.38	315.14	397.39	491.22	595.04	738.02	1,136.91	401.43
Direct benefits:											
Age pension	51.10	51.78	39.85	11.36	5.74	5.66	4.87	4.58	3.54	3.10	18.16
Invalid pension	4.12	7.96	8.38	5.40	3.09	2.28	2.72	1.96	1.33	1.13	3.84
Veterans' Affairs pension	3.83	17.68	22.64	10.45	5.46	3.63	3.25	2.91	1.12	1.02	7.21
Unemployment benefit	5.48	11.92	22.33	13.51	7.49	5.67	3.49	3.87	2.95	3.25	8.01
Sole parent benefit	1.06	19.78	11.04	4.55	2.19	2.48	1.35	1.59	*	1.25	4.65
Family allowance	1.04	2.64	5.14	5.93	7.40	7.35	7.10	6.47	6.37	6.63	5.61
Other direct benefits	6.69	5.96	9.33	5.58	3.22	3.54	3.71	2.60	2.70	3.51	4.69
Total direct benefits	73.33	117.72	118.71	56.77	34.59	30.60	26.49	23.98	19.17	19.89	52.18
Gross income	85.16	147.03	198.80	278.15	349.73	427.99	517.70	619.01	757.19	1,156.80	453.60
Direct tax	0.30	2.43	7.53	32.20	52.53	75.99	104.63	134.01	175.99	331.06	91.60
Disposable income	84.86	144.59	191.27	245.95	297.20	352.00	413.07	485.01	581.19	825.73	362.01
Indirect benefits:											
School education	4.21	12.36	21.56	26.17	27.21	30.58	31.33	31.91	31.28	32.07	24.88
Tertiary education	2.03	3.37	6.45	9.02	7.56	9.28	11.11	12.88	14.92	24.71	10.13
Other education benefits	0.46	1.15	2.10	2.55	2.83	3.16	3.37	3.55	3.72	4.44	2.73
Total education benefits	6.70	16.88	30.12	37.73	37.60	43.02	45.81	48.34	49.92	61.22	37.74
Hospital care	18.49	24.46	25.42	21.83	22.28	22.42	22.58	22.74	24.05	26.47	23.08
Medical clinics	4.79	7.16	8.24	7.65	8.27	8.17	8.25	8.22	8.56	9.47	7.88
Pharmaceuticals	3.23	4.54	4.06	1.71	1.34	1.30	1.20	1.13	1.10	1.16	2.08
Other health benefits	1.00	1.58	2.01	2.11	2.33	2.39	2.46	2.48	2.56	2.94	2.19
Total health benefits	27.52	37.74	39.73	33.30	34.22	34.27	34.49	34.56	36.27	40.05	35.22
Housing benefits	4.30	5.12	3.01	3.01	3.27	3.62	1.95	3.72	0.76	0.19	2.59
Social security and welfare benefits	13.83	15.02	13.14	6.76	4.86	4.58	3.96	3.76	3.06	3.23	7.22
Total indirect benefits	52.34	74.76	86.00	80.81	79.94	85.50	86.21	87.38	90.00	104.69	82.78
Disposable income plus indirect benefits	137.21	219.36	277.28	326.76	377.15	437.50	499.28	572.39	671.19	930.42	444.79
Indirect taxes by commodity group:											
Petrol and petroleum products	2.16	3.35	5.03	5.83	7.14	7.58	8.59	9.28	10.63	12.72	7.23
Tobacco	1.52	2.16	2.28	3.54	3.42	3.91	3.88	3.84	4.20	4.35	3.38
Alcohol	1.17	1.47	2.28	3.23	3.43	4.44	4.84	5.60	6.18	8.58	4.12
Ownership of dwellings	1.80	2.01	2.16	3.10	3.61	4.03	4.30	4.39	4.89	5.69	3.60
Other indirect taxes	5.43	8.14	11.44	14.04	16.40	19.78	22.80	24.59	30.60	40.97	19.41
Total indirect taxes	12.07	17.14	23.86	29.73	34.00	39.74	44.40	47.70	56.48	72.31	37.74
Final income	125.13	202.22	253.42	297.03	343.15	397.76	454.87	524.69	614.71	858.11	407.05
Total benefits	125.67	192.48	204.72	137.58	114.53	116.11	112.69	111.36	109.17	124.58	134.96
Total taxes	12.37	19.57	31.39	61.93	86.53	115.73	149.04	181.70	232.48	403.38	129.34

(a) Ten per cent groupings of the estimated population when households are ranked in ascending order according to each household's total gross weekly income.

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON COMMODITIES AND SERVICES AUSTRALIA, 1984



Distribution of Income

The effects of government benefits and taxes on household income

All households in Australia pay taxes to government, whether directly in the form of income tax or indirectly through taxes on goods and services purchased. Similarly, all households in Australia receive benefits from government, whether directly in the form of regular cash payments such as age pensions or indirectly in the form of a range of services which are provided to households either without charge or at less than their full cost to government. Using data from the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey, supplemented by data from other sources, the ABS undertook a study of the effects of government benefits and taxes on the distribution of income of households in 1984.

The methodological approach employed in this study is based on that used in similar studies conducted by the United Kingdom Central Statistical Office. The most that can be claimed for the approach is that it provides a useful framework within which a large body of information which is relevant to the assessment of the redistributive effects of transactions between households and governments can be drawn together. It is important to recognise that the estimates of the effects of government benefits and taxes on household income depend on the particular assumptions which have been made.

In the study, some major components of government outlays and revenues which affect households were allocated to the households which received the benefits or paid the taxes. The incidence of government benefits and taxes and their effects on average household income were then examined for various household groups.

To illustrate the effects of government benefits and taxes on household income, a series of income measures was calculated. The starting point of the analysis was *private income*: the total current weekly income of all members of the household before the deduction of taxes and excluding any government benefits. Private income includes income from employment, self-employment, investments and other non-government sources. Next, government direct benefits to persons, such as pensions and unemployment benefits, were added to private income to obtain *gross income*. Direct taxes were then deducted to obtain *disposable income*. Government indirect benefits for housing, education, health and social security and welfare were then added to give *disposable income plus indirect benefits*. Finally, indirect taxes paid were deducted to produce *final income*.

The following table shows the way in which the various income measures are related in the form of averages for all households and for two classes of households: those whose principal source of gross income was from private sources and those whose principal source of income was government pensions and benefits.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS FOR VARIOUS INCOME MEASURES BY
PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF GROSS INCOME OF THE HOUSEHOLD, 1984**

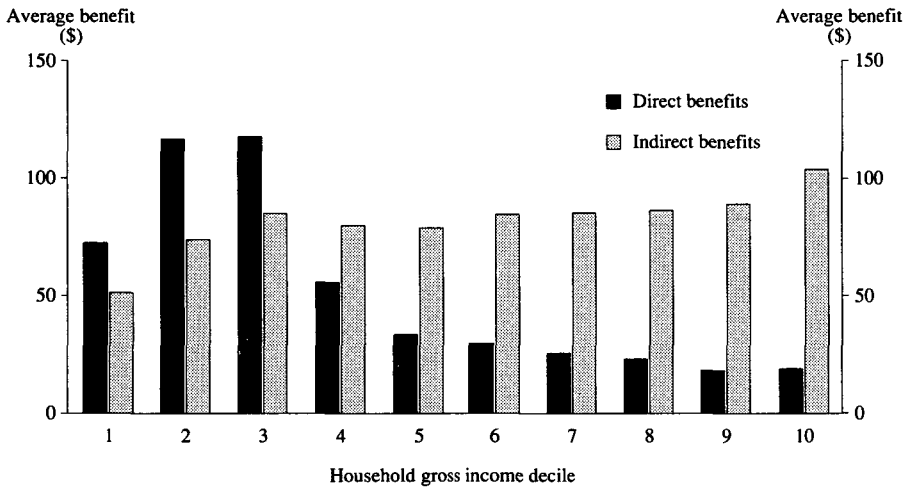
	<i>Principal source of gross income</i>		
	<i>Private income</i>	<i>Government pensions and benefits</i>	<i>All sources</i>
	—Average weekly value (\$)—		
Private income	537.38	19.32	401.43
<i>plus</i> Government direct benefits	21.69	137.85	52.18
Gross income	559.08	157.17	453.60
<i>less</i> Direct tax	123.29	2.52	91.60
Disposable income	435.78	154.65	362.01
<i>plus</i> Indirect benefits	83.62	80.43	82.78
Disposable income plus indirect benefits	519.40	235.08	444.79
<i>less</i> Indirect taxes	44.97	17.42	37.74
Final income	474.43	217.66	407.05
<i>Total benefits</i>	<i>105.31</i>	<i>218.28</i>	<i>134.96</i>
<i>Total taxes</i>	<i>168.26</i>	<i>19.94</i>	<i>129.34</i>

In this study the value of benefits allocated to households totalled \$35,365 million while the total tax revenue allocated was \$33,892 million. Translated into average values per household the value of benefits allocated was \$134.96 per week and the amount of total taxes allocated was \$129.34 per week.

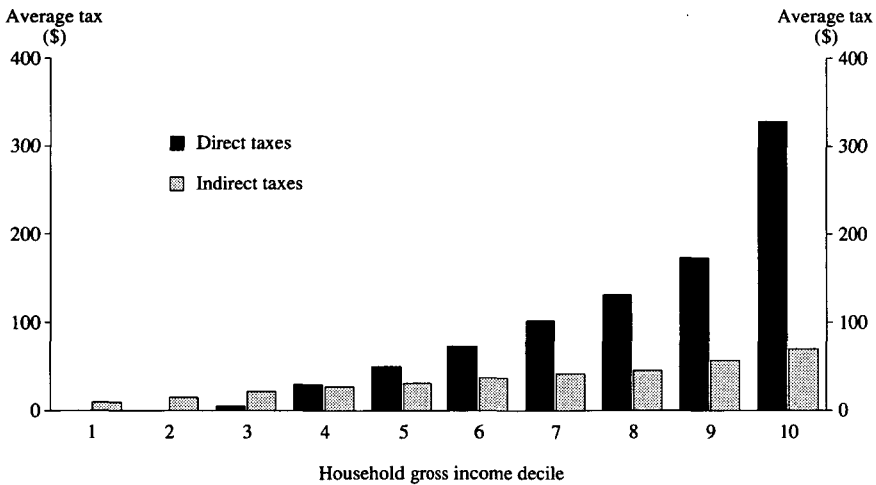
The fact that the total amount of benefits allocated did not differ greatly from the total amount of taxation revenue allocated has no particular significance, since both totals simply represent the aggregate of those components which could be readily allocated. It does, however, have the incidental effect of enabling the balance of benefits and taxes relating to particular household groups to be comprehended more readily as a broad measure of the net redistributive impact of those government activities which are included in the study.

The following diagrams illustrate the effect that government benefits and taxes have on household income when households are ranked according to their gross income.

AVERAGE WEEKLY BENEFITS PER HOUSEHOLD BY GROSS INCOME DECILE, 1984



AVERAGE WEEKLY TAXES PER HOUSEHOLD BY GROSS INCOME DECILE, 1984



Income Distribution Surveys

Surveys of income have been conducted by the ABS at irregular intervals. In the last such survey, conducted in the period September to December 1986, income was collected both on a last financial year basis, that is in respect of 1985-86, 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 gross 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. Preliminary and detailed final results of the survey were published in 1987, 1988 and 1989. The respective publications released are titled: *1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia: Preliminary Results* (6545.0), *Persons with Earned Income* (6546.0) and *Income Units* (6523.0). Details of concepts, definitions, etc. employed in the survey and observations on the quality and reliability of the data can be found in these publications.

ALL INCOME UNITS: DECILE CLASSES, TYPE OF INCOME UNIT, GROSS INCOME SHARE AND MEAN GROSS WEEKLY INCOME, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 1986

<i>Married couple income units</i>										
<i>Decile class (a)</i>	<i>With no dependent children</i>		<i>With dependent children</i>		<i>One parent income units</i>		<i>One person income units</i>		<i>All income units</i>	
	<i>Income share (per cent)</i>	<i>Mean weekly income (\$)</i>	<i>Income share (per cent)</i>	<i>Mean weekly income (\$)</i>	<i>Income share (per cent)</i>	<i>Mean weekly income (\$)</i>	<i>Income share (per cent)</i>	<i>Mean weekly income (\$)</i>	<i>Income share (per cent)</i>	<i>Mean weekly income (\$)</i>
Lowest	3.0	136	2.5	156	2.5	71	2.8	69	1.9	77
2nd	3.3	180	4.8	294	6.0	141	3.5	101	2.9	120
3rd	4.2	207	6.2	378	6.0	154	4.3	110	4.3	174
4th	5.1	252	7.1	446	7.1	165	5.1	137	5.4	225
5th	6.8	339	8.5	513	7.1	179	7.3	191	7.2	293
6th	9.1	440	9.4	578	8.0	202	9.5	251	8.7	362
7th	11.4	559	10.8	656	10.1	244	11.7	306	10.9	442
8th	13.9	682	12.4	760	12.0	314	13.6	361	13.5	550
9th	17.0	834	14.8	907	15.6	385	16.3	437	17.2	706
Highest	26.1	1,288	23.6	1,447	25.5	646	26.0	678	28.1	1,150
Total	100.0	491	100.0	614	100.0	251	100.0	264	100.0	410
Median gross weekly income (\$)		389		543		186		210		328
Mean gross weekly income (\$)		491		614		251		264		410
Number ('000)		1,785.2		1,968.6		315.1		3,392.2		7,464.1

(a) Ten per cent groupings of the estimated population when income recipients or income units are ranked in ascending order according to each income recipient's or income unit's total gross income.

FULL-YEAR, FULL-TIME WORKERS (a): MEAN GROSS ANNUAL EARNED INCOME BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY AGE BY SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1985-86

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	—'000—			—Mean gross annual earned income(\$)—		
With post-school qualifications—						
Degree	371.0	151.7	522.6	32,850	25,040	30,580
Certificate (non-trade)/ diploma	417.5	376.2	793.7	27,580	18,980	23,500
Trade certificate	986.1	42.4	1,028.4	22,070	16,830	21,850
Other	65.2	33.2	98.3	21,970	17,310	20,400
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,839.8</i>	<i>603.5</i>	<i>2,443.1</i>	<i>25,490</i>	<i>20,260</i>	<i>24,200</i>
Without post-school qualifications—						
Left school at age—						
18 or over	185.3	55.0	240.3	21,610	16,580	20,460
17	272.3	125.8	398.1	20,220	16,150	18,940
16	357.2	173.9	531.1	20,220	15,570	18,700
15 or 14	674.0	275.5	949.5	19,270	14,690	17,940
13 or under	140.9	35.3	176.3	18,890	13,260	17,760
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,629.7</i>	<i>665.5</i>	<i>2,295.3</i>	<i>19,870</i>	<i>15,270</i>	<i>18,540</i>
Total (b)	3,471.5	1,271.3	4,742.8	22,850	17,640	21,450

(a) Excludes 119,200 full-year, full-time workers whose earned income was zero. (b) May include a small number of persons who never attended school.

Welfare-Related Surveys Conducted by the ABS

1988 Survey of Disability and Ageing

The Australian Bureau of Statistics conducted a survey throughout Australia in the period February–May 1988 to obtain information about the characteristics of disabled and aged people and their requirements for care. In common with the 1981 Survey of Handicapped Persons, the Survey comprised two parts. The first covered people living in a sample of households. The second covered residents and patients living in selected health establishments in Australia.

The Survey aimed to identify disabled and handicapped people and their abilities and requirements for help with a number of activities of personal and household daily living, for example showering/bathing and light housework.

The Survey also collected data on the care requirements of non-disabled people aged sixty years or more for the household activities of daily living. A small amount of information was also requested from those people who live with a disabled person and who are the main providers of help to that person with the personal activities of daily living.

For both the 1981 and 1988 surveys, a disabled person was defined as a person who had one or more of a group of selected impairments and disabilities which had lasted, or were likely to last, for six months or more.

A handicapped person was in turn defined as a disabled person aged 5 years or over who was further identified as being limited to some degree in his/her ability to perform certain tasks in relation to one or more of the following five areas:

- self care;
- mobility;
- verbal communication;
- schooling;
- employment.

Disabled people aged under 5 years were all regarded as being handicapped.

The 1988 Survey estimated that 2,543,000 people or 15.6 per cent of the Australian population were disabled. The incidence of disability increased significantly with age. Of children aged less than 5 years, 3.3 per cent were disabled, while 63.5 per cent of people aged 75 years and over were disabled.

Approximately 83 per cent of the disabled population or 2,120,600 people (13 per cent of the Australian population) were found by the survey to be handicapped.

The handicapped population comprised:

- 657,500 people (4.0 per cent of the Australian population) who needed help from another person to perform one or more of a group of selected tasks (i.e. had a 'severe' handicap);
- 550,000 people (3.4 per cent) who needed no help but had difficulty performing one or more of the selected tasks (i.e. had a 'moderate' handicap);
- 607,500 people (3.7 per cent) who needed no help with, and did not have difficulty with, any of the selected tasks but used an aid to perform one or more of them or had difficulty walking 200 metres or up and down stairs (i.e. had a 'mild' handicap); and

1,960,600 handicapped people (92.5 per cent of the handicapped population) lived in households, and 160,000 handicapped people (7.5 per cent) lived in health establishments.

Handicapped people in health establishments were much more likely than those in households to need help from another person viz., 85.8 per cent of handicapped people in health establishments had a severe handicap, while in households 26.5 per cent of handicapped people had a severe handicap.

Disabled and Aged Persons, Australia, 1988, Preliminary Results (4118.0) was released on 21 February 1989. *Carers of the Handicapped at Home, Australia, 1988* (4122.0) was released on 18 January 1990. Two further publications, *Disability and Handicap, Australia, 1988* (4120.0) and *Domestic Care of the Aged, Australia, 1988* (4121.0) are due for release in April 1990.

**NUMBER AND PERCENT OF PERSONS: SEX BY AGE BY WHETHER PERSON IS
DISABLED OR ALSO HANDICAPPED, AUSTRALIA, 1988**

Sex by Age	Disabled									
	Handicapped		Not handicapped		Total		Not disabled		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Males										
0-4	24.8	4.0	*	*	24.8	4.0	601.4	96.0	626.2	100.0
5-14	90.1	7.2	16.2	1.3	106.4	8.5	1,149.9	91.5	1,256.3	100.0
15-29	109.1	5.4	37.7	1.8	146.8	7.2	1,891.1	92.8	2,037.9	100.0
30-44	158.5	8.5	46.2	2.5	204.7	11.0	1,658.1	89.0	1,862.8	100.0
45-59	213.2	17.4	44.5	3.6	257.7	21.1	964.1	78.9	1,221.8	100.0
60-64	134.9	37.6	21.2	5.9	156.0	43.5	202.4	56.5	358.5	100.0
65-69	102.4	35.4	34.5	11.9	136.8	47.3	152.5	52.7	289.3	100.0
70-74	85.9	40.4	22.2	10.4	108.1	50.8	104.6	49.2	212.7	100.0
75 and over	134.7	53.1	19.6	7.7	154.3	60.8	99.6	39.2	253.9	100.0
Total	1,053.5	13.0	242.0	3.0	1,295.5	16.0	6,823.8	84.0	8,119.4	100.0
Females										
0-4	15.8	2.7	*	*	15.8	2.7	581.6	97.3	597.4	100.0
5-14	60.4	5.1	14.9	1.2	75.3	6.3	1,119.4	93.7	1,194.6	100.0
15-29	97.3	4.8	30.9	1.5	128.2	6.4	1,886.4	93.6	2,014.6	100.0
30-44	153.5	8.3	32.1	1.7	185.6	10.0	1,661.8	90.0	1,847.4	100.0
45-59	190.4	16.3	27.8	2.4	218.2	18.7	951.6	81.3	1,169.8	100.0
60-64	90.4	24.4	12.9	3.5	103.3	27.9	267.0	72.1	370.3	100.0
65-69	93.2	28.6	23.9	7.3	117.1	35.9	208.9	64.1	326.0	100.0
70-74	101.8	38.2	20.5	7.7	122.3	45.9	144.0	54.1	266.3	100.0
75 and over	264.2	61.1	17.5	4.0	281.7	65.1	151.0	34.9	432.7	100.0
Total	1,067.1	13.0	180.5	2.2	1,247.5	15.2	6,971.7	84.8	8,219.2	100.0
Persons										
0-4	40.7	3.3	*	*	40.7	3.3	1,183.0	96.7	1,223.6	100.0
5-14	150.5	6.1	31.1	1.3	181.6	7.4	2,269.3	92.6	2,450.9	100.0
15-29	206.4	5.1	68.6	1.7	275.0	6.8	3,777.5	93.2	4,052.5	100.0
30-44	312.0	8.4	78.3	2.1	390.3	10.5	3,319.9	89.5	3,710.2	100.0
45-59	403.6	16.9	72.3	3.0	475.9	19.9	1,915.7	80.1	2,391.6	100.0
60-64	225.2	30.9	34.1	4.7	259.3	35.6	469.5	64.4	728.8	100.0
65-69	195.6	31.8	58.3	9.5	254.0	41.3	361.4	58.7	615.4	100.0
70-74	187.7	39.2	42.7	8.9	230.4	48.1	248.6	51.9	479.0	100.0
75 and over	398.9	58.1	37.1	5.4	436.0	63.5	250.6	36.5	686.6	100.0
Total	2,120.6	13.0	422.5	2.6	2,543.1	15.6	13,795.5	84.4	16,338.6	100.0

DISABLED PERSONS: TYPE OF PRIMARY DISABLING CONDITION (a) BY TYPE OF RESIDENCE BY SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1988
(^{'000})

Type of primary disabling condition	Households			Health establishments			Total		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Mental disorders other than retardation, degeneration or slow at learning	75.4	90.6	166.0	8.5	17.9	26.5	83.9	108.6	192.5
Mental retardation, mental degeneration due to brain damage, slow at learning and specific delays in development	56.5	27.3	83.8	9.7	18.5	28.1	66.2	45.8	112.0
<i>Total with mental disorders</i>	<i>131.9</i>	<i>118.0</i>	<i>249.9</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>54.6</i>	<i>150.1</i>	<i>154.4</i>	<i>304.5</i>
Sight loss	50.1	56.4	106.5	2.4	7.6	9.9	52.4	64.0	116.4
Hearing loss	207.2	132.6	339.8	2.0	3.7	5.8	209.2	136.3	345.5
Nervous system diseases	78.9	69.6	148.5	8.2	13.9	22.1	87.1	83.5	170.6
Circulatory diseases	141.1	119.6	260.7	5.8	13.8	19.6	146.9	133.4	280.3
Respiratory diseases	124.2	86.0	210.2	2.6	2.5	5.1	126.8	88.5	215.3
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	309.0	370.1	679.2	5.6	22.0	27.6	314.6	392.2	706.8
All other diseases and conditions	206.5	182.9	389.4	8.4	19.4	27.8	214.9	202.3	417.2
<i>Total with physical conditions</i>	<i>1,117.0</i>	<i>1,017.2</i>	<i>2,134.2</i>	<i>35.0</i>	<i>83.0</i>	<i>118.0</i>	<i>1,152.0</i>	<i>1,100.2</i>	<i>2,252.2</i>
Total	1,244.5	1,132.4	2,376.9	51.0	115.1	166.1	1,295.5	1,247.5	2,543.1

(a) Persons with a primary condition which had both a mental and physical manifestation are shown against both the mental and physical components of the table although they are included only once in the total.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS: TYPE OF RESIDENCE BY AREA (a) AND SEVERITY (b) OF HANDICAP, AUSTRALIA, 1988
(^{'000})

Area of handicap	Severe	Households			Health establishments			Total				
		Mod-erate	Mild	Total	Severe	Mod-erate	Mild	Total	Severe	Mod-erate	Mild	Total
Self care	278.0	421.4	67.5	766.9	119.7	11.1	10.4	141.2	397.8	432.5	77.9	908.1
Mobility	427.3	435.7	614.5	1,477.4	125.6	11.1	20.0	156.6	552.9	446.7	634.5	1,634.0
Communication	53.6	28.7	232.5	314.7	55.4	12.7	17.6	85.8	109.0	41.4	250.2	400.5
Schooling	..	..	..	141.7	..	..	..	2.4	..	..	..	144.1
Employment	..	..	..	956.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	956.6
Handicapped persons aged less than 5	..	..	..	40.4	..	..	..	0.2	..	..	..	40.7
Total	520.3	540.4	594.6	1,960.6	137.2	9.6	13.0	160.0	657.5	550.0	607.5	2,120.6

(a) Total may be less than the sum of the components since persons may have a handicap or limitation in more than one area. (b) Severity was not determined for schooling and employment limitation or for children aged 0-4 years.

**DISABLED PERSONS AGED 5 YEARS AND OVER IN HOUSEHOLDS WHO NEED AND
RECEIVE HELP: TYPE OF HELP/TYPE OF MAIN PROVIDER BY ACTIVITIES
FOR WHICH HELP WAS RECEIVED, AUSTRALIA, 1988
(^{'000})**

<i>Type of help/type of main provider</i>	<i>Activities for which help received</i>								
	<i>Self care</i>	<i>Verbal commu- nication</i>	<i>Mobility</i>	<i>Health care</i>	<i>Home help</i>	<i>Home maint- enance</i>	<i>Personal Meals</i>	<i>Personal affairs</i>	<i>Trans- port</i>
Informal help from person usually resident in household—									
Female spouse	75.2	10.5	84.2	78.7	220.0	130.1	101.6	56.9	91.9
Male spouse	62.0	3.9	84.7	37.6	168.9	266.9	37.4	26.5	175.7
Mother	48.7	34.5	46.7	20.5	35.3	12.9	23.7	35.6	39.7
Father	3.8	2.5	6.7	1.7	2.9	18.4	1.3	5.4	13.3
Daughter	24.4	6.8	30.9	25.3	55.1	23.0	25.8	18.1	42.6
Son	2.8	1.2	11.3	7.3	23.9	67.5	3.9	8.5	28.6
Other relative/friend	14.0	4.2	17.2	11.4	36.9	46.3	17.6	11.3	26.3
Informal help from person not usually resident in household—									
Female spouse	1.6	0.3	0.8	1.5	4.2	3.6	2.1	0.7	2.3
Male spouse	2.1	*	2.3	1.5	3.3	3.9	1.8	1.0	3.2
Mother	2.3	0.7	3.7	1.2	2.9	1.1	0.8	2.1	5.6
Father	0.1	*	0.1	0.1	0.4	2.9	*	0.3	0.9
Daughter	5.1	2.8	28.0	14.0	33.5	18.6	6.0	14.0	69.2
Son	1.7	1.2	7.8	1.9	9.0	65.4	0.4	10.3	20.2
Other relative/friend	7.6	2.4	42.1	8.9	39.1	116.4	5.1	21.5	102.7
Formal help from—									
Home care/home help/council handyperson	3.3	1.4	3.8	2.8	80.2	24.7	3.5	2.1	6.6
Community/home nursing	14.2	*	2.4	22.4	3.3	*	*	0.7	1.1
Privately arranged help/commercially provided service	1.8	*	4.9	6.7	46.5	136.3	4.3	1.8	37.2
Meals on wheels(a)	*	*	*	*	*	*	26.0	*	*
Voluntary community assistance scheme	0.2	*	2.7	0.8	0.6	4.2	1.3	0.5	3.6
Physiotherapist	*	*	*	1.1	*	*	*	*	*
Chiropodist/podiatrist	*	*	*	114.6	*	*	*	*	*
Other	2.0	2.2	4.2	8.1	1.6	17.2	1.5	3.7	12.1
Total	273.1	74.7	384.5	368.1	767.8	959.4	263.9	221.0	682.6

(a) Meals on Wheels only applicable to meals.

**DISABLED PERSONS AGED 5 YEARS AND OVER IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH AN UNMET
NEED FOR HELP: AGE, SEX AND LIVING ARRANGEMENT BY ACTIVITIES
FOR WHICH AN UNMET NEED FOR HELP EXISTS, AUSTRALIA, 1988
(*000)**

Age, sex and living arrangement	Activities for which unmet need for help exists								Total with unmet need(a)
	Self care	Mobility	Health care	Home help	Home maintenance	Personal Meals	Personal affairs	Transport	
Age									
5-14	3.6	3.1	*	*	*	*	*	2.1	6.2
15-29	3.5	4.2	2.0	10.6	9.2	3.3	6.4	8.1	30.0
30-44	2.6	6.7	6.6	36.9	36.3	6.7	7.4	12.3	72.6
45-59	5.7	5.8	7.8	37.9	47.8	7.0	4.5	10.9	82.4
60-64	3.0	4.2	5.1	19.5	35.9	2.7	3.5	7.2	55.2
65-69	2.5	4.2	8.1	18.4	39.1	1.3	1.1	7.6	53.2
70-74	3.5	3.3	6.8	19.4	36.0	2.4	1.5	7.6	54.6
75 and over	4.9	13.0	16.5	34.8	45.1	4.2	4.7	11.4	85.3
Sex									
Males	14.4	16.6	20.4	40.9	112.0	10.6	13.7	20.8	176.2
Females	14.8	27.9	32.5	136.7	137.4	17.0	15.3	46.5	263.1
Living arrangement									
Lives alone	5.8	14.3	15.0	57.1	65.0	8.2	9.2	19.1	117.2
Lives with other people	23.4	30.2	37.9	120.5	184.4	19.4	19.8	48.1	322.2
Total	29.3	44.5	52.9	177.6	249.4	27.6	29.0	67.3	439.4

(a) Unmet need for at least one activity. Total may be less than sum of components since persons may have an unmet need for help with more than one activity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ABS Publications

- Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia* (1304.0)
Social Indicators, Australia (4101.0)
Australia's Aged Population, 1982 (4109.0)
1981 Survey of Handicapped Persons, Australia (4343.0)
1982 Family Survey, Australian Families (4408.0)
1982 Family Survey, Information Paper, Sample File on Magnetic Tape (4412.0)
1984 Survey of Ex-service Personnel and Widows (4404.0)
National Accounts, National Income and Expenditure (5204.0)
Commonwealth Government Finance (5502.0)
State and Local Government Finance, Australia (5504.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, Information Paper (6527.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, Summary of Results (6530.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, Household Characteristics (6531.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, States and Territories (6533.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, Detailed Expenditure Items (6535.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, The Effects of Government Benefits and Taxes on Household Income (6537.0)
1984 Household Expenditure Survey, Information Paper, Sample File on Magnetic Tape (6544.0)
1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia, Income Units (6523.0)
1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia, Sample File on Magnetic Tape (6543.0)
1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia, Preliminary Results (6545.0)
1986 Income Distribution Survey, Persons with Earned Income, Australia (6546.0)
Disabled and Aged Persons, Australia, 1988, Preliminary Results (4118.0)
Carers of the Handicapped at Home, Australia, 1988 (4122.0)