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**1994 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
SURVEY
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**W. McLennan
Australian Statistician**

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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INQUIRIES

- *for further information about statistics in this publication, and the availability of related statistics*, contact Tony Barnes at the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (NCATSIS) in Darwin on (08) 8943 2190.
 - *for information about ABS statistics and services*, please refer to the back of this publication.
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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, government departments and other organisations which assisted the ABS and advisory groups to design the survey and lay the groundwork for a successful data collection.

PREFACE

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: South Australia is one of a series of seven statistical publications, one for each State and the Northern Territory, which present results from the first nationwide survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people conducted in 1994. The purpose of these publications is to provide detailed information at the State and Territory levels about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They provide a range of information to assist State and Northern Territory Governments and non-government agencies to plan programs and services to meet the needs of Indigenous people.

The survey was conducted as a part of the Government's response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. It was the paucity of statistical information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population which led to recommendation 49 of the Royal Commission:

That proposals for a special national survey covering a range of social, demographic, health and economic characteristics of the Aboriginal population with full Aboriginal participation at all levels be supported.

In response to this recommendation, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from April to July 1994. Initial results of this survey were published in *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0). Publications of *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: ATSIC Regional Statistics* (4190.00.001-036), a thematic publication on *Australia's Indigenous Youth* (4197.0) and *Employment Outcomes for Australia's Indigenous Peoples* (4199.0) have been released this year. Other thematic publications on Australia's Indigenous peoples housing, health and law and justice will be released during 1996.

This series of publications contains a range of statistics relating to family and culture; health; housing; education and training; employment and income; and law and justice. The publications are presented in a common format to allow information for different States and the Northern Territory to be compared easily with each other and with the national results presented in *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0). For reasons of accuracy, less detail is presented in some tables in this publication compared with the national results. A standard set of tabulations in the same format with slightly more detail is available on request to the Bureau's National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (08 8943 2192).

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FAMILY AND CULTURE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and cultures and covers the following topics:

- family characteristics;
- separation from families;
- childcare;
- cultural activities;
- identification with clan, tribal or language group;
- role of elders;
- homelands; and
- language.

FAMILIES

Families form an important unit within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies and as such the survey has collected information on types of families and their characteristics. Families included in this survey were those in which one or more members of the family had identified as being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

In 63% of families, all family members were Indigenous (60% nationally), while 37% had both Indigenous and non-Indigenous members (40% nationally).

Couple families with children constituted 46% of families (53% nationally), one-parent families 38% (29% nationally) and couple families without children 12% (15% nationally).

In one-parent families, 80% of parents were not employed. For couple families 30% had neither partner employed.

Separation from families

About 19% of persons aged 25 years and over reported being taken away from their natural family by a mission, the government, or welfare.

Child-care

The majority of families (88%) with children aged 12 years and under did not use formal child-care. Approximately 50% had their children looked after by family or friends while 38% looked after their children themselves.

CULTURE

Information relating to participation in Indigenous cultural activities, use of Indigenous languages, the extent to which people identify with clan, tribal or language groups and recognition of and access to homelands, is used in this survey to give an indication of the level of cultural identity and maintenance.

Cultural activities

Over the past year, 75% (72% nationally), of people attended at least one Indigenous cultural activity. Some 58% (54% nationally), of people attended a funeral, 43% festivals and carnivals (43% nationally), 9% ceremonies (21% nationally) and 23% (22% nationally), were involved with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations.

Some 15% of persons could not attend one or more cultural activities.

Nearly 28% of persons 13 years and over said they had a place to meet for cultural activities.

Identification with clan, tribal or language group

An estimated 68% of persons aged 13 years and over (60% nationally) said they identified with a clan, tribal or language group, with a greater proportion identified people aged 25 years over (70%).

Role of elders

Of the persons aged 13 years and over, 88% said that the role of the elders was important as did 90% of other urban or rural residents.

Homelands

For the purposes of this survey, homelands refers to an area of land to which people have ancestral and/or cultural links, and the results show that, of people aged 13 years and over, approximately 80% (75% nationally) recognised an area as their homelands with 22% currently living there. In Adelaide, recognition of homelands was slightly lower (74%).

Language

Of persons 13 years and over, 89% reported that they spoke English as their main language. One-tenth reported having difficulty with English and 80% of those experiencing difficulty would have used an interpreter service if one were available.

**TABLE 1. FAMILY AND CULTURE: STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY
AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994**

	<i>Families</i>			<i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i>				<i>Persons aged 5 years and over</i>		
	<i>One parent families</i>	<i>Couple families with children</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Identifies with a clan</i>	<i>Sees elders as being important</i>	<i>Recognises homelands</i>	<i>Attended cultural activities</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Speaks an Indigenous language</i>	<i>Total</i>
AUSTRALIA(b)	28.5	52.8	84.9	59.8	84.4	75.2	72.1	197.5	21.0	258.7
New South Wales	28.9	51.2	23.9	47.8	82.3	68.6	67.1	52.0	2.7	68.6
Victoria	30.3	48.6	6.3	45.1	80.5	70.6	60.5	12.6	**2.4	16.2
Queensland	26.6	56.3	22.1	57.2	81.9	75.0	72.3	52.1	15.1	67.7
South Australia	38.3	46.1	5.2	67.9	87.6	80.4	75.4	11.9	23.4	15.8
Western Australia	30.1	54.3	12.2	63.7	86.3	75.4	80.7	30.2	20.9	40.1
Tasmania	18.6	54.9	4.0	17.7	66.5	39.9	31.5	6.6	**1.0	8.7
Northern Territory	26.8	53.9	10.5	92.0	94.7	93.8	84.5	30.9	74.1	40.1
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS										
Adelaide	46.6	40.5	3.2	60.2	86.1	77.5	68.2	6.9	11.5	9.1
Ceduna	27.8	46.5	0.5	80.3	92.6	86.4	92.0	1.1	24.3	1.5
Port Augusta	24.0	57.7	1.5	77.9	88.0	84.2	83.4	4.0	43.8	5.2

(a) Total includes couple families without children and families of other related individuals. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 2. ALL FAMILIES : FAMILY TYPE BY ABORIGINALITY OF FAMILY MEMBERS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Family type</i>	<i>Family members</i>				<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Indigenous only</i>		<i>Indigenous and non-indigenous</i>		<i>('000)</i>	<i>per cent</i>
	<i>('000)</i>	<i>per cent</i>	<i>('000)</i>	<i>per cent</i>		
One parent family	1.5	45.0	0.5	26.4	2.0	38.3
Couple family without children	** 0.3	** 7.9	** 0.4	** 19.0	0.6	11.9
Couple family with children	1.4	41.3	1.0	54.6	2.4	46.1
Other related individuals only	** 0.2	** 5.9	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.2	** 3.8
All families	3.3	100.0	1.9	100.0	5.2	100.0

TABLE 3. ONE PARENT AND COUPLE FAMILIES : FAMILY TYPE BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARTNERS AND MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(*000)

Family type	Labour Force Status				Main Source of Income				Total
	Both partners employed	One partner(a) employed	Neither partner employed(b)	Not stated	Earned income	Government payments	Nil income	Not stated	
One parent family	..	** 0.4	1.6	** 0.0	** 0.3	1.4	** 0.0	** 0.3	2.0
Couple family	0.8	1.1	0.9	** 0.1	1.4	1.1	** 0.0	0.5	3.0
All one parent and couple families	0.8	1.5	2.6	** 0.1	1.7	2.5	** 0.0	0.8	5.0

(a) Includes sole parents in one parent families. (b) Includes partners who are unemployed or not in the labour force.

TABLE 4. ALL PERSONS: WHETHER TAKEN AWAY FROM NATURAL FAMILY BY AGE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Whether taken away from natural family	0-24	25-44	45 and over	Total
	— per cent —			
Taken away	5.6	17.3	21.8	11.0
Not taken away	94.2	82.2	76.6	88.5
No answer	** 0.2	** 0.6	** 1.6	** 0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total (*000)	10.7	5.4	2.3	18.4

TABLE 5. PERSONS AGED 12 YEARS AND UNDER AND THEIR FAMILIES : CURRENT CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS BY AGE AND FAMILIES SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Children (Age)</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Families</i>	<i>Families (per cent)</i>
	<i>0-4</i>	<i>5-12</i>			
	— '000 —				
Current child care arrangements					
Formal care only/or with family/friends	** 0.2	** 0.2	** 0.4	** 0.3	** 9.2
Family/friends private arrangements only	1.4	1.7	3.1	1.8	50.3
Does not use child care	1.0	2.0	3.0	1.4	37.9
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.1	** 2.6
Total	2.6	3.9	6.5	3.7	100.0

TABLE 6. PERSONS 13 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER ATTENDED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND TYPE OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY ATTENDED BY PART OF STATE AND SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Cultural activities attended</i>	<i>Part of State</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/ Rural</i>			
	--- per cent ---				
Persons who attended(a)	61.7	85.4	76.6	74.2	75.4
Funerals	39.1	72.5	58.9	58.0	58.4
Ceremonies	** 1.6	13.6	9.6	7.5	8.5
Festivals and carnivals	35.6	47.9	42.8	42.6	42.7
Involved with organisations	19.5	25.9	23.2	23.2	23.2
Persons who did not attend	38.3	14.6	23.4	25.8	24.6
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0
Total ('000)	5.0	6.9	5.9	6.0	11.9

(a) Persons may have attended more than one cultural activity.

TABLE 7. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER COULD ATTEND ALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY PART OF STATE AND SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Part of State</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/ Rural</i>			
	— per cent —				
Persons who could not attend(a)	** 5.4	22.6	15.4	15.3	15.3
Persons who could attend	94.6	75.4	83.3	83.7	83.5
Don't know/not stated	** 0.0	** 2.0	** 1.3	** 1.0	** 1.2
Total ('000)	5.0	6.9	5.9	6.0	11.9

(a) Persons may have given more than one reason for not being able to attend.

TABLE 8. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: SELECTED CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS BY PART OF STATE AND AGE SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Selected cultural characteristics	Part of State		Age group (years)		Total
	Capital city	Other urban/ Rural	13-24	25 and over	
	— per cent —				
Whether has a place to meet for cultural activities					
Has a place	15.2	38.1	18.7	33.8	28.4
Does not have a place	73.3	53.1	67.8	58.2	61.6
Don't know/Not stated/not applicable	11.5	8.8	13.4	8.0	9.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Whether identifies with clan tribal or language group					
Identifies	59.7	73.8	63.9	70.1	67.9
Does not identify	34.9	20.8	25.7	27.3	26.7
Don't know / Not stated	** 5.4	** 5.4	** 10.5	** 2.6	5.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Importance of elders					
Role of elders is important	85.0	89.5	85.2	88.9	87.6
Role of elders is not important	** 5.6	** 4.6	** 5.9	** 4.5	5.0
Don't know/Not stated	9.4	** 5.9	** 8.9	6.6	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Recognition of homelands					
Recognises area					
Living there now	** 2.8	36.2	22.3	22.0	22.1
Not living there now	71.3	48.5	47.5	64.0	58.1
Does not recognise area	25.9	14.9	30.2	13.7	19.6
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.4	** 0.0	** 0.3	** 0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	5.0	6.9	4.2	7.7	11.9

TABLE 9. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN AND WHETHER HAS DIFFICULTY WITH ENGLISH SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	Total
	— per cent —
Main language	
English	88.6
Aboriginal English	** 0.2
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language	8.9
Not stated	** 2.1
Total	100.0
Whether has difficulty with English	
Would use an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander interpreter service	8.0
Would not use an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander interpreter service	** 2.3
Does not have difficulty with English	89.7
Total	100.0
Total ('000)	11.9

HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and covers the following areas:

- health status;
- disability;
- access and attitudes to health services;
- health risk factors; and
- attitudes to health.

HEALTH STATUS

An indication of an individual's health status can be drawn from information about illness experienced and the individual's own assessment of their health.

Recent illness An estimated 44% of persons (41% nationally) stated they had experienced a recent illness, i.e. during the two weeks before interview. Diseases of the respiratory system were the most commonly reported recent illness, being reported by 37% of these persons.

Health actions An estimated 47% (44% nationally) of people stated they took a health action in the two weeks prior to the survey. Some of the most common actions taken by these persons were:

- used medication, 77%;
- consulted a doctor, 51%;
- reduced daily activities, 24%;
- visited emergency/outpatients clinic, 23%; and
- consulted an Aboriginal health worker, 20%.

Health conditions The conditions most commonly reported by all persons were asthma 17% and ear or hearing problems 13%. Some 4% of people reported heart problems and 8% were diabetics.

Self-assessed health status The majority (88%) of people considered themselves to be in good, very good or excellent health, with only 12% of the population describing their health as fair or poor health. Patterns were similar for males and females.

DISABILITY

Of persons aged five years and over, some 4% of persons stated they had a severe or profound handicap resulting from a condition or disability, which had lasted or was expected to last for six months or more. The data covered in this section on disability is not reflected in a table.

ACCESS AND ATTITUDES TO HEALTH SERVICES

Distance to the nearest health facilities and availability of services provide a measure of the level of access Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to services such as, hospitals, community health centre, Aboriginal medical services and doctors. Information on attitudes to health services highlights people's satisfaction with local health services.

Distance An estimated 86% (81% nationally) of households were located within 25 km of the nearest community health centre.

The majority (88%) of households also lived within 25 km of the nearest hospital while 12% lived over 25 km away.

Fewer people lived close to Aboriginal medical services and detoxification centres. An estimated 22% and 78% of households respectively lived over 25 km from the nearest service.

In other urban and rural areas more people lived further from health facilities, with 76% of households living within 25 km of the nearest hospital compared with 100% of those in Adelaide.

Availability Overall the availability of health professionals and services on a permanent basis within 25 km of where people lived was relatively high for:

- doctors, 86%;
- nurses, 90%;
- Aboriginal health workers, 79%;
- baby health services, 83%.

However, in other urban or rural areas, availability of health professionals was lower:

- doctors, 72%;
- nurses, 80%;
- Aboriginal health workers, 64%;
- baby health services, 67%.

Attitudes to health services An estimated 77% of people aged 13 years and over thought that it was important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be involved in the provision of their health care. For the same population, 85% said they were happy or sometimes happy with the local health services provided.

HEALTH RISK FACTORS Health risk factors relate to lifestyle, diet and community practices which may impact on the overall health of the individual. The main features of the health risk factors measured in this survey are outlined below.

Food security For persons aged 15 years and over some 36% worried or sometimes worried about going without food. Females (40%) worried more than males (33%).

Alcohol and tobacco use Information on the period since a person last drank alcohol is an indication of the frequency at which an individual consumed alcohol. The following estimates relate to alcohol and tobacco use for persons aged 13 years and over.

Some 66% (62% nationally) of persons consumed alcohol within the previous 12 months, with 72% of males and 61% females having consumed

alcohol. More males (51%) than females (39%) reported having consumed alcohol in the previous week.

The 15–44 year age group had the highest proportion (74%) of people who drank alcohol in the last 12 months.

Approximately 56% of people smoked cigarettes, 62% within the 15–44 year age group. Males were more likely to smoke (60%) than females (52%).

Relative weight

Persons aged 13 years and over who had their weight and height measurements taken were grouped according to their body mass index (BMI) scores. On this basis:

- 39% were overweight or obese;
- 19% were an acceptable weight;
- 8% were underweight; and
- 34% were not stated.

Diet

The following information on relative fat and sugar consumption levels was derived from the amount of specific foods people consumed the previous day.

An estimated 27% of the population, aged 13 years and over, had a moderate to high or high fat consumption and 55% had moderate to high or high sugar consumption.

There were more males than females in the moderate to high or high consumption categories, for fat (34% compared with 21%) and sugar (60% compared with 51%).

Breastfeeding

It was found that of children aged 12 years and under, 60% were breastfed as infants (71% nationally), 67% in other urban and rural areas, 52% in Adelaide. Some 33% were breastfed for 6 months or longer.

ATTITUDES TO HEALTH

Attitudes to health indicates the concerns Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have in their area.

For persons aged 13 years and over, some 58% (59% nationally) of people perceived alcohol to be one of the main health problems in their area.

Drugs were seen as the next most frequently reported health problem, by 41% of persons.

TABLE 10. HEALTH : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

	<i>Persons aged 12 years and under</i>		<i>All persons Experienced illness</i>			<i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i>				
	<i>Was breastfed</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Specified</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Alcohol considered to be main health problem in local area</i>	<i>Happy with local health services</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>	<i>Smokers</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>Recent</i>	<i>long term</i>						
AUSTRALIA(b)	70.7	105.7	41.2	34.8	303.3	58.8	79.3	194.4	49.7	197.5
New South Wales	60.0	28.6	43.6	38.4	80.5	59.9	74.0	51.1	50.8	52.0
Victoria	61.5	6.6	53.9	46.3	19.2	38.4	81.6	12.4	57.1	12.6
Queensland	72.1	27.8	38.0	33.4	79.8	58.6	81.8	51.3	48.4	52.1
South Australia	60.1	6.5	44.0	37.8	18.4	58.4	78.8	11.7	55.7	11.9
Western Australia	76.3	17.0	37.8	31.8	47.3	75.4	78.6	29.5	48.2	30.2
Tasmania	70.8	3.5	48.1	41.6	10.1	26.2	66.1	6.6	45.9	6.6
Northern Territory	89.7	15.2	38.3	26.7	46.0	57.4	87.5	30.4	47.3	30.9
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS										
Adelaide	53.2	3.8	40.5	36.9	10.7	51.4	79.4	6.9	56.3	6.9
Ceduna	73.0	0.7	41.6	36.9	1.8	78.7	84.7	1.1	53.6	1.1
Port Augusta	68.8	2.0	50.2	38.8	6.0	64.9	76.2	4.0	53.5	4.0

(a) Total includes couple families without children and families of other related individuals. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 11. ALL PERSONS : WHETHER HAVE EXPERIENCED A RECENT ILLNESS AND TYPE OF CONDITION (a) SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994 ('000)

	<i>Persons</i>
Have experienced a recent illness condition	
Infectious and parasitic diseases	** 0.3
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders	0.9
Mental disorders	** 0.4
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	1.0
Diseases of the circulatory system	0.7
Diseases of the respiratory system	3.0
Diseases of the digestive system	0.5
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.5
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	0.5
Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions	2.0
Injury and poisoning	0.9
Other conditions or unspecified	0.9
Total persons who experienced recent illness(b)	8.1
Total persons who did not experience recent illness	10.3
Total	18.4

(a) Condition groups based on chapter headings of the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD9). (b) Columns do not add to 'Total persons who experienced recent illness' because more than one illness may have been reported.

TABLE 12. ALL PERSONS : WHETHER TOOK A HEALTH RELATED ACTION AND TYPE OF ACTION TAKEN IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994 ('000)

	<i>Persons</i>
Took an action	8.7
Type of actions taken(a)	
Visited emergency/outpatients clinic	2.0
Was admitted to hospital	0.6
Consulted doctor	4.4
Consulted Aboriginal health worker	1.7
Consulted nurse	1.1
Used medication	6.7
Used bush medicine	** 0.4
Reduced daily activities	2.1
Took no action	9.7
Total Persons(b)	18.4

(a) Persons may have taken more than one type of action. (b) Includes persons who did not state if they took an action.

TABLE 13. ALL PERSONS : TYPE OF SPECIFIED CURRENT CONDITION SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994 ('000)

<i>Type of condition(a)</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Asthma	3.1
Diabetes	1.4
Heart problems	0.8
Chest problems	1.2
Skin problems	1.4
High blood pressure	1.1
Ear or hearing problems	2.4
Eye problems(b)	0.6
Kidney problems	0.9
Total Persons(c)	18.4

(a) Figures are comparable with those listed as 'All sufferers' in Detailed Findings 4190.0 (b) Excludes eye problems which can be corrected by glasses. (c) Includes persons who did not have a specified current condition.

TABLE 14. ALL PERSONS : SELF ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS BY AGE AND SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Self assessed health status</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>0-14</i>	<i>15-44</i>	<i>45 and over</i>			
			— per cent —			
Excellent	38.3	27.4	** 6.5	31.9	26.1	29.0
Very good	32.4	26.3	** 19.5	30.5	25.2	27.8
Good	25.4	34.0	34.9	26.0	35.6	30.8
Fair or poor	** 3.9	12.3	39.1	11.6	13.2	12.4
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	7.1	9.0	2.3	9.2	9.2	18.4

TABLE 15. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : TYPE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND SERVICES BY PART OF STATE
BY AVAILABILITY WITHIN 25 KM
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Type of health professionals and services	Permanent	Visiting	Not available	Total(a)	Total (^{'000})
CAPITAL CITY					
	— per cent —				
Doctor/GP	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Nurse	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Aboriginal Health Worker	94.7	** 5.3	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Dentist	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Mental Health Services	94.7	** 0.0	** 5.3	100.0	2.6
Health Promotional Services	94.7	** 0.0	** 5.3	100.0	2.6
Ante-natal Services	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Diabetic Services	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Women's Health Services	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Baby Health Services	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Flying Medical Services	..	** 2.1	90.8	100.0	2.6
OTHER URBAN/RURAL					
	— per cent —				
Doctor/GP	72.1	17.7	** 10.3	100.0	2.7
Nurse	79.7	** 14.5	** 5.9	100.0	2.7
Aboriginal Health Worker	63.7	** 11.7	24.6	100.0	2.7
Dentist	57.9	** 9.3	32.8	100.0	2.7
Mental Health Services	45.8	** 11.8	42.4	100.0	2.7
Health Promotional Services	57.4	** 5.8	36.7	100.0	2.7
Ante-natal Services	64.5	** 16.3	19.1	100.0	2.7
Diabetic Services	60.4	** 4.0	35.6	100.0	2.7
Women's Health Services	60.4	** 11.7	27.9	100.0	2.7
Baby Health Services	67.1	** 16.3	** 16.6	100.0	2.7
Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic	53.2	** 4.0	42.8	100.0	2.7
Flying Medical Services	..	38.1	60.0	100.0	2.7
TOTAL					
	— per cent —				
Doctor/GP	85.8	9.0	** 5.2	100.0	5.3
Nurse	89.7	** 7.4	** 3.0	100.0	5.3
Aboriginal Health Worker	78.9	8.6	12.5	100.0	5.3
Dentist	78.5	** 4.8	16.7	100.0	5.3
Mental Health Services	69.8	** 6.0	24.2	100.0	5.3
Health Promotional Services	75.7	** 3.0	21.3	100.0	5.3
Ante-natal Services	81.9	** 8.3	9.7	100.0	5.3
Diabetic Services	79.8	** 2.0	18.1	100.0	5.3
Women's Health Services	79.8	** 6.0	14.2	100.0	5.3
Baby Health Services	83.3	** 8.3	** 8.4	100.0	5.3
Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic	76.2	** 2.0	21.8	100.0	5.3
Flying Medical Services	..	20.4	75.1	100.0	5.3

(a) The very small number of 'Not stated' respondents have not been displayed, hence the rows do not always add to 100%.

TABLE 16. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DISTANCE FROM NEAREST HEALTH FACILITIES BY PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Type of service	0-10 km	11 km and over	Not stated	Total	Total ('000)
CAPITAL CITY					
	— per cent —				
Hospital	86.0	** 14.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Community Health Centre	70.7	29.3	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Chemist or Dispensary	100.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Birthing Centre	90.9	** 9.1	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Detoxification Centre	25.1	74.9	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post	50.9	49.1	** 0.0	100.0	2.6
OTHER URBAN/RURAL					
	— per cent —				
Hospital	63.6	36.5	** 0.0	100.0	2.7
Community Health Centre	69.3	28.0	** 2.7	100.0	2.7
Chemist or Dispensary	64.6	35.4	** 0.0	100.0	2.7
Birthing Centre	60.8	39.2	** 0.0	100.0	2.7
Detoxification Centre	19.5	80.5	** 0.0	100.0	2.7
Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post	57.7	42.3	** 0.0	100.0	2.7
TOTAL					
	— per cent —				
Hospital	74.6	25.4	** 0.0	100.0	5.3
Community Health Centre	70.0	28.7	** 1.4	100.0	5.3
Chemist or Dispensary	82.0	18.0	** 0.0	100.0	5.3
Birthing Centre	75.6	24.4	** 0.0	100.0	5.3
Detoxification Centre	22.2	77.8	** 0.0	100.0	5.3
Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post	54.3	45.7	** 0.0	100.0	5.3

TABLE 17. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a): SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS BY WHETHER WORRIES ABOUT GOING WITHOUT FOOD SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Selected characteristics of persons</i>	<i>Worries or sometimes worries</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Total ('000)</i>
	<i>Does not worry</i>	<i>Not stated</i>			
	— per cent —				
Males	32.6	67.4	** 0.1	100.0	5.4
Females	39.8	59.8	** 0.4	100.0	5.7
Persons	36.3	63.5	** 0.3	100.0	11.1
Age group (years)					
15-44	36.6	63.1	** 0.3	100.0	8.8
45 and over	35.0	65.0	** 0.0	100.0	2.3
Educational attainment					
Still at school	** 26.7	73.3	** 0.0	100.0	0.7
Below Year 10	42.3	57.6	** 0.1	100.0	4.0
Year 10 or higher	33.5	66.1	** 0.4	100.0	6.4
Part of State					
Capital city	40.2	59.8	** 0.0	100.0	4.7
Other urban/ Rural	33.4	66.2	** 0.4	100.0	6.4
Persons living in households with an annual income of (\$)					
0-25,000	41.4	57.8	** 0.8	100.0	3.1
25,001 or more	28.1	71.8	** 0.1	100.0	4.9
Not stated	44.2	55.8	** 0.0	100.0	3.1
Persons living in households where					
No one working	46.8	52.6	** 0.7	100.0	3.8
One or more working	30.8	69.2	** 0.0	100.0	7.3
Persons living in households with					
No dependant children	26.0	73.2	** 0.8	100.0	3.3
One or more dependant children	40.7	59.3	** 0.0	100.0	7.8

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

TABLE 18. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : NUMBER OF CIGARETTES SMOKED DAILY AND PERIOD SINCE LAST DRANK ALCOHOL BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Number of cigarettes smoked daily and period since last drank alcohol</i>	<i>Persons</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
	— per cent —		
Number of cigarettes smoked daily			
1-10	23.0	21.2	22.1
11-20	17.1	17.9	17.5
21 or more	19.5	12.6	16.0
Not stated	** 0.1	** 0.0	** 0.0
Total smokers	59.8	51.6	55.7
Period since last drank alcohol			
One week or less ago	51.4	39.0	45.1
More than 1 week to less than 12 mths ago	20.6	21.7	21.2
Total drinkers	72.0	60.7	66.3
Total persons aged 13 years and over ('000)	5.9	6.0	11.9

TABLE 19. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER (a): PERCEIVED HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE PROBLEMS IN LOCAL AREA BY PART OF STATE SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Perceived health and substance use problems	Part of State		Total
	Capital city	Other urban/ Rural	
	— per cent —		
Health problems (b)			
Alcohol problems	50.9	63.8	58.4
Drugs	38.8	42.9	41.2
Other substances	** 5.3	** 5.2	5.3
Diabetes	14.3	37.7	27.9
Heart problems	** 4.3	18.8	12.7
Diet/nutrition	10.6	27.2	20.3
Skin problems	** 2.0	8.3	5.6
Other	** 1.2	** 6.5	4.3
Don't know/not stated	40.8	23.3	30.7
Substance use problems (b)			
Alcohol	75.0	84.9	80.8
Marijuana	66.4	75.1	71.4
Other drugs	39.3	24.6	30.8
Petrol sniffing	13.1	18.6	16.3
Glue sniffing	13.4	9.8	11.3
Other dangerous substances	13.7	12.0	12.7
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0
Total ('000)	4.9	6.8	11.7

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Persons may have given more than one answer.

TABLE 20. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS BY RELATIVE FAT AND SUGAR CONSUMPTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

Characteristics of persons	Fat Consumption				Sugar Consumption						
	Low	Moderate to high	High	Not stated	Total	Low moderate	Moderate to high	High	Not stated	Total	
Males	11.7	52.8	23.9	10.0	100.0	14.6	25.2	36.3	23.2	** 0.7	100.0
Females	23.5	54.4	18.4	** 2.5	100.0	17.6	30.5	35.5	15.6	** 0.7	100.0
Persons	17.7	53.6	21.1	6.2	100.0	16.1	27.9	35.9	19.4	** 0.7	100.0
Age group (years)											
13-14(a)	** 5.1	** 61.6	** 21.4	** 6.4	100.0	** 3.2	** 31.0	** 33.8	** 27.2	** 4.9	100.0
15-44	15.9	52.2	23.7	7.4	100.0	13.8	23.5	39.8	22.3	** 0.6	100.0
45 and over	27.8	57.2	** 11.0	** 1.6	100.0	28.5	44.2	21.1	** 6.1	** 0.0	100.0
Educational attainment											
Still at school	** 5.3	62.5	** 22.6	** 7.1	100.0	** 2.7	** 34.2	35.6	** 25.2	** 2.3	100.0
Below year 10	22.9	52.5	17.7	** 5.8	100.0	21.5	27.7	31.1	18.7	** 1.0	100.0
Year 10 or above	16.8	52.5	23.0	** 6.3	100.0	15.3	26.8	39.0	18.7	** 0.2	100.0
Relative weight											
Underweight or acceptable weight	15.7	52.8	23.1	** 7.8	100.0	** 13.6	24.6	41.4	20.3	** 0.0	100.0
Overweight or obese	17.3	55.1	21.3	** 6.3	100.0	15.3	32.1	32.2	20.4	** 0.0	100.0
Not stated	19.8	52.5	19.3	** 4.8	100.0	19.0	25.6	35.7	17.5	** 2.2	100.0
Part of State											
Capital city	21.6	50.6	20.5	** 6.2	100.0	17.4	28.2	40.5	14.0	** 0.0	100.0
Other urban/Rural	14.8	55.8	21.6	** 6.2	100.0	15.2	27.6	32.5	23.4	** 1.3	100.0
Persons living in households with an annual income of (\$)											
0-25,000	18.0	57.6	20.3	** 4.1	100.0	16.3	34.2	33.1	16.4	** 0.0	100.0
25,001 or more	16.1	45.3	27.4	9.7	100.0	15.9	26.1	35.0	22.8	** 0.3	100.0
Not stated/not applicable	19.9	62.4	** 12.3	** 2.9	100.0	16.2	24.5	40.0	17.2	** 2.1	100.0
Whether smokes											
Smokes	17.9	52.2	22.5	** 6.2	100.0	14.4	25.1	38.1	21.6	** 0.9	100.0
Doesn't smoke	17.4	55.4	19.3	** 6.2	100.0	18.3	31.3	33.2	16.7	** 0.6	100.0
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0

(a) This age group is included to maintain comparability between tables however all figures in it should be treated as unreliable.

TABLE 21. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER (a): ATTITUDES TO LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Attitudes to local health services</i>		<i>Persons</i>
		— per cent —
Importance of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander involvement in health services		
Important		77.4
Not important		13.5
Don't know		8.2
Not stated		** 0.8
Total		100.0
Whether happy with local health services		
Happy or sometimes happy		85.2
Not happy		7.1
No contact with health services/Not stated		7.7
Total		100.0
Problems with local health services(b)		
No problems with services		78.8
Problems with services		11.2
Other/don't use/don't know/not stated		10.2
Total ('000)		11.7

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Columns do not add to 100% because more than one answer may be given.

TABLE 22. PERSONS AGED 12 YEARS AND UNDER : WHETHER BREASTFED AND DURATION BY SELECTED HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Whether breastfed</i>	<i>Part of State</i>		<i>Annual household income</i>			<i>Person living in households where</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/Rural</i>	<i>\$25,000 and under</i>	<i>More than \$25,000</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>No one working</i>	<i>One or more working</i>	
			— per cent —					
Was breastfed								
Less than 6 months	26.0	18.4	25.6	17.1	** 25.5	20.7	22.3	21.7
6 months or more	22.3	41.5	29.2	40.2	** 24.6	37.0	30.8	33.2
Currently breastfeeding	** 3.2	** 6.6	** 5.3	** 2.5	** 10.6	** 4.8	** 5.4	** 5.2
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0
Total	51.6	66.6	60.1	59.8	60.7	62.6	58.5	60.1
Was not breastfed	41.7	29.8	37.7	37.4	** 26.0	34.5	35.2	35.0
Don't know/not stated	** 6.7	** 3.6	** 2.2	** 2.8	** 13.3	** 2.9	** 6.2	** 4.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	2.8	3.7	2.1	3.0	1.4	2.6	4.0	6.5

HOUSING

INTRODUCTION

Information on housing provides an insight into the living conditions of people and it has a considerable bearing on other aspects of people's lives, such as health. Of all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households, 98% were living in private dwellings and 2% in special dwellings (e.g. boarding schools and hostels). Just under 2% of all private dwellings were improvised homes. The other main findings on housing in private dwellings for South Australia are presented below.

Nature of occupancy

The majority of private dwellings were rented (79%), while 19% were being purchased or were owned by a usual resident(s) of the household.

Over one-half of rented dwellings (64%) were rented for less than \$77 per week. In rural and in other urban areas more dwellings were rented for less than \$77 per week (78%), than in Adelaide (51%).

Satisfaction with dwelling

Approximately 81% of renters reported that the dwelling satisfied the needs of the household. In comparison, more purchasers and owners (95%) were satisfied. The majority (95%) of private dwellings had garbage collected and were serviced by a sealed road (86%).

Size of dwelling

For private dwellings, the average number of persons in each household was 3.5.

TABLE 23. HOUSING : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSC REGIONS, 1994

<i>Households in private dwellings</i>							
	<i>Running water connected</i>	<i>Electricity/gas connected</i>	<i>Garbage collected</i>	<i>Dwelling situated on sealed road</i>	<i>Satisfied with current dwelling</i>	<i>Renters</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —						(<i>'000</i>)
AUSTRALIA(a)	96.1	96.4	93.0	81.6	77.3	69.0	86.4
New South Wales	96.9	98.0	93.9	87.0	76.9	66.7	27.0
Victoria	99.8	99.8	94.1	90.6	84.0	62.6	6.7
Queensland	95.6	96.4	94.8	82.5	83.2	72.2	21.4
South Australia	99.2	97.7	94.9	86.0	82.3	79.1	5.3
Western Australia	93.9	93.4	96.7	72.2	73.0	73.0	12.3
Tasmania	98.8	99.6	72.3	83.4	90.6	46.3	4.4
Northern Territory	91.2	90.4	88.0	63.6	52.3	72.2	8.3
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSC REGIONS							
Adelaide	99.7	99.7	98.4	91.7	88.1	78.3	3.4
Ceduna	97.9	97.9	100.0	88.7	74.4	86.8	0.4
Port Augusta	98.2	93.1	85.5	72.1	71.3	79.0	1.5

(a) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 24. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : SATISFACTION WITH DWELLING BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Renters</i>	<i>Purchasers/owners</i>	<i>Other/not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —			
Whether dwelling satisfies the needs of the household				
Satisfied	80.7	94.6	** 51.6	82.3
Not satisfied	19.3	** 5.4	** 27.1	17.0
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 21.3	** 0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	** 100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	4.2	1.0	** 0.2	5.3

TABLE 25. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : NUMBER OF BEDROOMS IN DWELLING BY PART OF STATE BY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Number of bedrooms in dwelling</i>	<i>Average number of persons per household</i>	<i>Households ('000)</i>
CAPITAL CITY		
0-2 bedrooms	1.8	** 0.4
3 bedrooms	3.5	1.9
4 or more bedrooms	5.3	** 0.4
Total(a)	3.5	2.6
OTHER URBAN/RURAL		
0-2 bedrooms	2.4	0.5
3 bedrooms	4.4	1.7
4 or more bedrooms	6.4	** 0.4
Total(a)	4.4	2.7
TOTAL		
0-2 bedrooms	2.1	0.9
3 bedrooms	4.0	3.6
4 or more bedrooms	5.9	0.8
Total(a)	4.0	5.3

(a) Includes number of bedrooms not stated.

TABLE 26. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Dwelling characteristics</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —
Number of toilets	
No toilet	** 0.4
One toilet	86.5
Two or more toilets	12.4
Not stated	** 0.6
Total	100.0
Whether dwelling has bathroom/shower	
Yes	98.4
No / Not Stated	** 1.6
Total	100.0
Whether running water connected	
Running water connected	99.2
No running water connected	** 0.2
Not stated	** 0.6
Total	100.0
Whether dwelling has electricity/gas connected	
Yes	97.7
No	** 1.5
Not stated	** 0.8
Total	100.0
Other services	
Garbage collected	94.9
Dwelling situated on a sealed road	86.0
Total ('000)	5.3

TABLE 27. RENTED PRIVATE DWELLINGS : WEEKLY RENT BY PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/ Rural</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —		
Weekly rent (\$)			
0-77	50.5	77.5	64.2
78 and over	49.5	22.5	35.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	2.1	2.1	4.2

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary on the education and training of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and includes the following:

- schooling;
- attitudes to schooling;
- educational attainment and training;
- current study and further study; and
- access to educational institutions.

SCHOOLING

Participation rates at school, type of school, Indigenous content in curricula and involvement of Indigenous teachers are all important characteristics of the education of young Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

School participation rates declined significantly with age. For 14 year olds the participation rate was 100%, while for 17 year olds the rate had fallen to 42% (31% nationally). Females had a higher participation rate than males between the ages of 14–17 years.

61% of all students were taught about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures at school.

Approximately 46% of students were taught by an Indigenous teacher, education worker or had a community member attend the school regularly to take lessons.

Attitudes to schooling

Approximately 23% of people with children at school would have preferred to send them to an Aboriginal community controlled school. However, 53% preferred not to send the children to this type of school, 14% already attends.

Of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over, who had left school, 23% had attained a post-school educational qualification .

Educational attainment

There was some variation in level of attainment between the sexes. Some 24% of males, had obtained a post-school qualification while 22% of females had obtained a qualification at this level.

A lower proportion of persons without post-school qualifications (26%) were employed than persons with qualifications, (55%). Similarly, persons with post-school qualifications were more likely to earn a higher income than persons without post-school qualifications. Some 26% of persons with post-school qualifications earned more than \$25,000 per annum, compared to 8% of people without post-school qualifications.

Current post-school study

An estimated 800 persons, aged 15 years and over, who had left school were currently participating in post-school education.

Of 10,600 persons aged 15 years and over who had left school, an estimated 1,500 (14%) had undertaken training courses in the last 12 months (9%

nationally). Approximately 75% of these people undertook training courses of 9 weeks or more duration (61% nationally).

TRAINING

An estimated 56% of people aged 15 years and over, who had left school, wanted to do further study or training. Some of these people felt they would have problems attending study or training courses and one of the main anticipated difficulties was a lack of transport/travel, 5%.

Further study and training

Distance has been used as a guide to the level of access Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to educational institutions and the main findings are outlined below.

Access to educational institutions

The majority of households were within 10 km of the nearest pre-school (94%), primary school (98%), and secondary school providing classes up to year 12 (84%). However, the level of access to TAFE colleges and Universities was much lower, 80% were within 10 km of the nearest TAFE college, and 41% were within 10 km of the nearest university.

**TABLE 28. EDUCATION : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY
AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994**

Area	Persons aged 3-5 years (a)		Persons aged 5-18 years		Persons aged 15 years and over who have left school		Persons with children attending primary or secondary school		
	Attending pre-school	Total	Attending school	Total	With post-school qualification	Total	Happy with children's education	Would prefer children to attend Aboriginal controlled school	Total
	per cent	('000)	per cent	('000)	per cent	('000)	per cent		('000)
AUSTRALIA(b)	40.3	28.2	81.7	100.3	16.9	171.5	85.8	33.2	60.8
New South Wales	38.9	8.3	86.8	26.4	20.3	45.2	77.3	42.0	14.8
Victoria	**37.0	1.5	83.7	5.9	23.8	11.1	74.9	42.3	3.8
Queensland	38.9	7.2	80.8	26.6	16.2	44.4	90.8	31.4	16.2
South Australia	42.4	1.7	82.4	6.0	23.1	10.6	80.0	23.4	4.3
Western Australia	41.2	4.2	79.4	16.1	12.8	26.8	89.9	24.6	9.5
Tasmania	44.8	0.8	81.3	3.5	23.1	5.6	76.0	27.0	1.8
Northern Territory	43.1	4.3	75.8	15.5	8.8	26.7	94.8	33.4	10.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS									
Adelaide	** 39.5	1.1	84.1	3.5	27.3	6.0	78.7	19.7	2.6
Ceduna	64.0	0.1	83.8	0.6	22.4	1.0	88.0	**13.4	0.4
Port Augusta	42.4	0.4	78.6	1.9	16.9	3.6	80.0	33.2	1.4

(a) Excludes persons attending school. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 29. PERSONS AGED 13 TO 18 YEARS : AGE BY SCHOOL PARTICIPATION RATE(a) BY SEX
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(per cent)**

Age (years)	Males	Females	Persons
13	100	100	100
14	100	100	100
15	59	75	67
16	45	76	55
17	59	33	42
18	3	5	4

(a) The school participation rate measures the number of school students of a particular age expressed as a proportion of the estimated resident population of the same age and sex.

TABLE 30. SCHOOL STUDENTS : CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHOOLING
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Characteristics of schooling</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —
Level of school attending	
Primary school	67.6
Secondary school	24.6
Combined Primary/Secondary school	** 7.8
Total	100.0
Whether taught about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures at school	
Taught about culture	61.0
Not taught about culture	38.9
Not stated	** 0.1
Total	100.0
Whether taught Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander languages at school	
Taught language	33.3
Not taught language	63.6
Don't know/not stated	** 3.1
Total	100.0
Whether taught by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander teacher/education worker/community member	
Yes	46.4
No	51.4
Don't know/not stated	** 2.2
Total ('000)	4.9

TABLE 31. PERSONS WITH CHILDREN ATTENDING PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL : ATTITUDES TO CHILDRENS SCHOOLING
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Attitudes to children's schooling</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —
Whether happy with education children are receiving at school	
Happy with education	80.0
Not happy with education	17.0
Don't know/not stated	** 3.0
Total	100.0
Whether made to feel welcome at children's school	
Feels welcome	84.8
Sometimes feels/does not feel welcome or don't know	11.0
Does not go to the school	** 4.1
Total	100.0
Whether involved in decision making at children's school	
Involved	38.9
Not involved	60.9
Not stated	** 0.2
Total	100.0
Whether preferred to send children to Aboriginal community controlled school	
Would have preferred	23.4
Would not have preferred	53.2
Already attends	14.4
Don't know/not stated	** 9.0
Total	100.0
Total ('000)	4.3

TABLE 32. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>With post-school educational qualifications</i>	<i>Without post-school educational qualifications</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total ('000)</i>
	— per cent —			
Males	24.4	75.6	100.0	5.2
Females	21.8	78.2	100.0	5.4
Persons	23.1	76.9	100.0	10.6
Age group (years)				
15-24	19.4	80.6	100.0	2.9
25-44	26.0	74.0	100.0	5.4
45 and over	21.1	78.9	100.0	2.3
Part of state				
Capital city	29.2	70.8	100.0	4.5
Other urban	24.7	75.3	100.0	3.0
Rural	** 12.6	87.4	100.0	3.1
Labour force status				
Employed	38.8	61.2	100.0	3.5
Unemployed	21.9	78.1	100.0	2.7
Not in Labour Force	11.7	88.3	100.0	4.3
Not applicable	** 12.3	** 87.7	** 100.0	** 0.2
Annual personal income (\$)				
0-12,000	16.8	83.2	100.0	6.3
12,001-25,000	27.5	72.5	100.0	2.6
25,001 or more	51.4	48.6	100.0	1.3
Not stated/not applicable	** 9.1	90.9	100.0	0.5

TABLE 33. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL : WHETHER WANTS TO DO FURTHER STUDY OR TRAINING BY MAIN DIFFICULTY SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —
Wants to do further study or training	
Main difficulty	
No childcare available	** 4.0
Lack of transport/travel	4.7
Financial problems	** 3.6
Lack of English proficiency	** 2.7
Lack of pre-requisites	** 2.2
No courses available	** 3.9
Other difficulty	4.4
No difficulty	30.0
Not stated	** 0.2
Total	55.8
Does not want to do further study or training	44.1
Not stated	** 0.1
Total	100.0
Total ('000)	10.6

**TABLE 34. PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL AND ARE CURRENTLY STUDYING FOR A QUALIFICATION : LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION AND TYPE OF INSTITUTION ATTENDING AND PART OF STATE AND SEX
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

Due to the small numbers of people in senior secondary and higher education this table is not published for South Australia

**TABLE 35. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL AND WHO ATTENDED A TRAINING COURSE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS: DETAILS OF MAIN TRAINING COURSE ATTENDED
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Details of main training course</i>	<i>Persons</i> — per cent —
Provider of course	
TAFE / Employer	36.3
Other / Not stated	63.7
Total	100.0
Whether completed	
Completed	42.0
Didn't complete, still studying, or not stated	58.0
Total	100.0
Length of course	
Less than 9 weeks	** 24.6
9 weeks or more	75.4
Total	100.0
Total ('000)	1.5

**TABLE 36. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DISTANCE FROM NEAREST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Distance in kms to nearest institution</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —
Distance to nearest pre-school	
0-10 km	93.6
Other	** 6.4
Total	100.0
Distance to nearest primary school	
0-10 km	98.1
Other	** 1.9
Total	100.0
Distance to nearest secondary school-year 10	
0-10 km	88.2
Over 10 km	11.8
Not stated	** 0.0
Total	100.0
Distance to nearest secondary school-year 12	
0-10 km	84.1
Over 10 km	15.9
Not stated	** 0.0
Total	100.0
Distance to nearest TAFE college	
0-10 km	80.0
Over 10 km	20.0
Not stated	** 0.0
Total	100.0
Distance to nearest University	
0-10 km	40.9
Over 10 km	59.1
Not stated	** 0.0
Total	100.0
Total ('000)	5.3

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the main findings on employment and income including:

- labour force status;
- jobs and cultural obligation;
- difficulties finding a job;
- voluntary work; and
- level and source of income.

EMPLOYMENT

The importance of work (paid or unpaid) is a feature of adult life. A person's labour force status can often be linked to education and income and may impact on their socio-economic well-being.

Labour force status

The total number of people in the labour force is estimated at 6,200 persons (3,500 employed and 2,800 unemployed). The labour force participation rate is 56% for persons aged 15 years and over and 58% nationally. There was a sizeable difference in the participation rate for males, 74% (72% nationally) and females, 39% (44% nationally).

The overall unemployment rate was 45%, (38% nationally). The unemployment rate is greatest in the 15–24 age group 56%. On average females generally have a higher unemployment rate (47%) than males (44%). Except for the 45 and over age group where males have a rate of 12% and females 10%.

An estimated 25% of persons were not able to meet their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural obligations because of work commitments. There was little difference across geographic areas.

Nature of jobs

Of the 3,500 employed persons, 38% worked for a public sector organisation while 60% were employed in the private sector. In the private sector, 34% worked for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community organisation.

Over the 12 months prior to interview 4,200 persons aged 15 and over, had at least one job. More than half of those people (60%) worked for the full 12 months.

Unemployment

Of the 2,800 unemployed persons, 39% had been out of work and looking for work for less than 12 months and 81% of unemployed persons were looking for full-time employment.

Persons not in the labour force

Of the 4,900 persons not in the labour force, that is, those who were not working and not looking for work, 31% wanted a job.

Voluntary work

Around 3,200 persons, or 29% of persons aged 15 years and over, were engaged in voluntary work (27% nationally). Some 55% of persons did less than six hours of voluntary work per week, while 44% did six or more hours per week.

INCOME

Information on the level and source of income assists in understanding financial well-being. Regular income, regardless of source, is the main means by which individuals and households finance consumption. For persons aged 15 years and over, the main findings on income follow.

Personal income

An estimated 62% (59% nationally) received an annual income of \$12,000 or less, while 12% received more than \$25,000 (11% nationally).

Government payments were the main source of income for 62% of persons. An estimated 7% of persons had no income.

The mean annual income was \$13,336 (\$14,330 for males and \$12,362 for females). The highest mean annual income was accrued by persons in earned income (\$22,144) and the lowest mean annual income was government payments (\$9,449).

Of the estimated 7,800 persons aged 15 years and over who received government payments:

- 42% received family payments;
- 31% received Newstart or Jobsearch; and
- 18% received a sole parent pension (of whom 93% were female).

Household income

Around 43% (37% nationally) of private dwelling households had an annual household income of \$25,000 or less; 38% (45% nationally) had an income over \$25,000.

Household income and the proportion of households with incomplete income information generally increased with household size.

TABLE 37. EMPLOYMENT : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

	<i>Persons aged 15 years and over in the labour force</i>			<i>Persons aged 15 years and over</i>			
	<i>Employed</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Unemployed for 12 months or more</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>	<i>Not in labour force</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
AUSTRALIA(b)	61.8	38.2	18.9	105.2	42.0	58.0	181.5
New South Wales	54.4	45.6	25.8	28.5	40.5	59.5	47.9
Victoria	61.9	38.1	14.0	7.5	35.6	64.4	11.6
Queensland	66.9	33.1	13.2	28.2	41.1	58.9	47.8
South Australia	55.4	44.6	26.2	6.2	43.9	56.1	11.1
Western Australia	63.4	36.6	19.0	15.9	42.0	58.0	27.5
Tasmania	71.5	28.5	13.1	3.8	37.4	62.6	6.1
Northern Territory	63.4	36.6	18.4	13.9	50.3	49.7	28.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS							
Adelaide	55.8	44.2	26.8	3.5	47.0	53.0	6.5
Ceduna	67.8	32.2	14.4	0.7	29.8	70.2	1.0
Port Augusta	50.5	49.5	29.3	2.2	40.7	59.3	3.8

(a) Total for Australia, States and Northern Territory excludes persons in prison. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 38. PERSONAL INCOME : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

	<i>Main Source of Income</i>						<i>Total(b)</i>
	<i>Earned income Non-CDEP</i>	<i>Earned income CDEP(a)</i>	<i>Government payments</i>	<i>No income</i>	<i>Annual income \$12,000 or less</i>	<i>Annual income over \$25,000</i>	
	— per cent —							(000)
AUSTRALIA(c)	24.1	8.5	54.9	10.7	59.4	11.3	181.5
New South Wales	25.9	4.3	56.5	11.1	56.9	13.0	47.9
Victoria	32.1	** 3.2	51.6	13.0	53.3	16.2	11.6
Queensland	24.2	11.6	50.1	11.7	55.8	11.1	47.8
South Australia	21.1	6.3	62.0	7.4	62.3	11.3	11.1
Western Australia	20.0	13.1	56.6	9.1	63.7	9.3	27.5
Tasmania	41.3	** 0.2	47.6	10.3	53.6	14.1	6.1
Northern Territory	16.9	11.3	60.4	10.4	69.7	6.8	28.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS							
Adelaide	23.6	** 3.5	62.9	8.1	61.1	12.2	6.5
Ceduna	19.9	22.5	50.4	** 4.4	59.5	13.2	1.0
Port Augusta	17.6	6.7	63.2	6.7	64.8	9.6	3.8

(a) Community Development Employment Projects. (b) Total for Australia, States and Northern Territory excludes persons in prison, refer to Explanatory notes. (c) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 39. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY SEX BY AGE AND PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(*000)**

	<i>Age group (years)</i>			<i>Part of State</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45 and over</i>	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban Rural</i>	
MALES						
Employed	0.6	1.3	** 0.4	0.9	1.4	2.3
Unemployed	0.6	1.1	** 0.1	0.8	1.0	1.7
Unemployment rate (per cent)	52.0	45.4	11.5	47.1	41.0	43.5
Total Labour Force	1.2	2.3	0.5	1.6	2.4	4.0
Not in Labour Force	0.5	** 0.2	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.4
Participation rate (per cent)	70.3	91.4	41.4	73.4	74.8	74.2
Total	1.7	2.5	1.1	2.2	3.2	5.4
FEMALES						
Employed	** 0.3	0.6	** 0.3	** 0.4	0.8	1.2
Unemployed	0.5	0.5	** 0.0	** 0.4	0.6	1.0
Unemployment rate (per cent)	62.6	46.3	10.3	53.3	42.5	46.5
Total Labour Force	0.8	1.0	** 0.4	0.8	1.4	2.2
Not in Labour Force	0.9	1.7	0.8	1.6	1.8	3.5
Participation rate (per cent)	47.0	37.3	30.9	33.5	43.2	39.0
Total	1.8	2.8	1.2	2.5	3.2	5.7
PERSONS						
Employed	0.9	1.8	0.7	1.3	2.2	3.5
Unemployed	1.2	1.5	** 0.1	1.2	1.6	2.8
Unemployment rate (per cent)	56.3	45.7	11.0	49.2	41.6	44.6
Total Labour Force	2.1	3.4	0.8	2.5	3.8	6.2
Not in Labour Force	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.2	2.6	4.9
Participation rate (per cent)	58.5	63.2	36.1	52.5	58.8	56.1
Total	3.5	5.3	2.3	4.7	6.4	11.1

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

TABLE 40. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : NUMBER OF JOBS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND NUMBER OF MONTHS WORKED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(*000)

	<i>Total</i>
Number of jobs in the last twelve months	
None	6.5
One	3.2
Two or more	1.0
Not stated	0.5
Number of months worked in the last twelve months	
Less than 3	7.0
3 to less than 6	0.4
6 to less than 9	0.5
9 to less than 12	** 0.3
12 months	2.5
Not stated	0.5
Total	11.1

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

TABLE 41. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE EMPLOYED : WHETHER WORK ALLOWS CULTURAL OBLIGATIONS TO BE MET BY PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/ Rural</i>	<i>Total</i>
	— per cent —		
All workers			
Can meet obligations	** 25.1	49.8	40.8
Cannot meet obligations	** 24.4	25.4	25.0
Doesn't have cultural obligations	49.4	21.3	31.5
Not stated	** 1.1	** 3.5	** 2.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total (*000)	1.3	2.2	3.5

TABLE 42. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE EMPLOYED : SECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

<i>Sector of employment</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —
Public Sector	37.5
Private Sector	
Community	34.3
Other Private	25.9
Total	60.1
Not stated	** 2.3
Total (*000)	3.5

TABLE 43. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED : LENGTH OF TIME UNEMPLOYED BY SEX, AGE AND PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(*000)

	<i>Less than 12 months</i>	<i>12 months or more</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Total</i>
Males	0.7	1.1	** 0.0	1.7
Females	0.5	0.5	** 0.0	1.0
Age group (years)				
15-24	0.6	0.5	** 0.0	1.2
25-44	0.5	1.0	** 0.0	1.5
45 and over	** 0.0	** 0.1	** 0.0	** 0.1
Part of state				
Capital city	** 0.4	0.8	** 0.0	1.2
Other urban/Rural	0.7	0.8	** 0.0	1.6
Total	1.1	1.6	** 0.0	2.8

TABLE 44. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED : WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK BY SEX
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —		
Whether looking for full-time or part-time work			
Full-time	94.5	57.2	80.6
Part-time	** 5.5	** 41.8	19.0
Not stated	** 0.0	** 1.0	** 0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

TABLE 45. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE : WHETHER WOULD LIKE A JOB BUT NOT LOOKING FOR WORK
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —
Would like a job but not looking for work	31.4
Would not like a job	56.9
Did not state if would like a job	11.7
Total (*000)	4.9

**TABLE 46. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER ENGAGED IN VOLUNTARY WORK AND TYPE OF VOLUNTARY WORK UNDERTAKEN
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

	<i>Total ('000)</i>
Person engaged in voluntary work	3.2
Caring for sick or aged people	0.7
Working for community or sporting organisations	0.9
Working at a school or with youth groups	0.9
Working on committees	1.0
Hunting, fishing or gathering bush food	0.7
Other	** 0.3

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

**TABLE 47. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : SEX, PART OF STATE AND MEAN ANNUAL INCOME BY MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

	<i>Main source of income</i>					<i>Total</i>	<i>Total ('000)</i>
	<i>Earned income</i>	<i>Government payments</i>	<i>All income recipients</i>	<i>No income</i>	<i>Not stated</i>		
	— per cent —						
Males	38.8	52.1	91.0	** 5.4	** 3.6	100.0	5.4
Females	16.5	71.2	87.7	9.2	** 3.1	100.0	5.7
Persons	27.3	62.0	89.3	7.4	** 3.3	100.0	11.1
Part of State							
Capital city	25.1	64.6	89.7	** 8.4	** 1.9	100.0	4.7
Other urban	22.6	71.4	94.0	** 4.9	** 1.1	100.0	3.3
Rural	35.6	48.3	83.9	** 8.3	** 7.8	100.0	3.2
Annual personal income (\$)							
0-12,000	10.1	78.0	88.2	11.8	..	100.0	6.9
12,001-25,000	47.0	53.0	100.0	..	..	100.0	2.6
25,001 or more	89.9	** 10.1	100.0	..	..	100.0	1.3
Not stated	..	..	..	..	** 100.0	** 100.0	** 0.4
Mean annual income —			— \$ —				
Males	22,834	7,993	14,330	..	..	..	..
Females	20,607	10,455	12,362	..	..	..	..
Persons	22,144	9,449	13,336	..	..	..	..

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

**TABLE 48. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER^(a) : WHETHER RECEIVING GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS BY TYPE OF PAYMENT BY SEX
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994
(^{'000})**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Persons receiving Government payments	3.2	4.6	7.8
Allowances and pensions			
Newstart allowance	0.9	0.5	1.4
Jobsearch allowance	0.7	** 0.3	1.0
Age pension or sickness allowance	** 0.4	0.5	0.9
Disability support pension	** 0.4	0.5	0.9
Sole parent pension	** 0.1	1.3	1.4
Other payments ^(b)			
Family payment	** 0.3	2.9	3.3
Rent assistance	0.6	0.6	1.1
Other	0.5	0.9	1.4
Persons not receiving Government payments	2.2	1.1	3.3
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.1
Total	5.4	5.7	11.1

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Persons may be receiving an allowance or pension in addition to one or more of these payments.

**TABLE 49. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : NUMBER OF DEPENDANTS BY WHETHER ANY PERSON WORKING
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Number of dependent children in the household</i>	<i>Number of persons working</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Total (^{'000})</i>
	<i>One or more persons working</i>	<i>No one working</i>		
	— per cent —			
None	62.4	37.6	100.0	1.8
One	43.6	56.4	100.0	1.1
Two or more	62.7	37.3	100.0	2.3
Total	58.5	41.5	100.0	5.3

**TABLE 50. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY NUMBER OF USUAL RESIDENTS IN HOUSEHOLD BY PART OF STATE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Annual household income (\$)</i>	<i>Number of usual residents</i>		<i>Part of State</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>1 to 3</i>	<i>4 or more</i>	<i>Capital city</i>	<i>Other urban/ Rural</i>	
	— per cent —				
0-25,000	63.1	24.2	44.8	41.7	43.2
25,001 or more	27.5	48.5	38.0	38.4	38.2
Not stated	** 9.5	27.3	** 17.2	19.9	18.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total (^{'000})	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	5.3

LAW AND JUSTICE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the survey results covering the following issues:

- use of legal services;
- arrests;
- personal safety including family violence; and
- attitudes to and relations with police.

Use of legal services

During the 12 months before interview, 22% (17% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over needed to use legal services. Of these, 17% used the Aboriginal Legal Service, while 4% used Legal Aid and other legal services. Male needs for legal services (28%) were higher than females (17%).

Arrests

An estimated 29% of persons aged 13 years and over had been arrested in the last five years. A higher proportion of males 38% (32% nationally) than females 19% (9% nationally) had been arrested. Over one-third (34%) of persons aged between 15–44 had been arrested. Some 45% of males and 22% of females aged between 15–44 years had been arrested.

A greater proportion of persons who had been taken away from their natural families as children, reported being arrested (44%) compared to those who had not been separated from their natural families (26%).

Reported arrest rates were slightly higher in Adelaide (32%) than in other urban areas and in rural areas (26%).

Reported arrest rates were higher for persons who had completed year 10 (34%) compared to those who had left school below year 10 (26%).

An estimated 50% of unemployed persons had been arrested in the last five years. In comparison, 22% of persons who were working or 21% who were not in the labour force reported being arrested.

Personal safety

Approximately 15% (13% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over had been physically attacked or verbally threatened in the 12 months preceding interview. Less males (13%) than females (18%) were attacked or verbally threatened. Of persons who had been physically attacked or verbally threatened 53% had suffered verbal threats, 27% physical attacks and the rest suffered both.

Of persons physically attacked or verbally threatened, 55% reported the last incident of attack to the police.

Family violence

Approximately 49% (45% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over perceived family violence to be a common problem in their local area while 21% felt that it was not and 29% did not know. More females (51%) than males (47%) felt that family violence was a common problem.

Persons in Adelaide were less sure about whether family violence was a problem, with 42% saying they did not know if it was a problem in their area. This compares with 22% in other urban areas and in rural areas.

The survey asked questions relating to incidents of friction with police, including whether a person reported being hassled or physically assaulted by the police in the last year.

Relations with police

Some 18% of all persons aged 13 years and over reported being hassled by police during the 12 months prior to being interviewed (10% nationally). Some 24% of males said they were hassled compared to 11% of females.

Approximately 5% of persons aged 13 years and over said they were physically assaulted by the police in the 12 months before interview.

People's assessment of whether relations with the police had improved, stayed the same or worsened over the last 5 years indicated that 42% felt persons get along with police about the same as 5 years ago (39% nationally). Nearly a quarter (24%) felt that current police relations are better, 20% worse, and 14% did not know. The estimates were similar for both males and females.

Approximately 51% of persons aged 13 years and over thought the police performed well when dealing with crime or violence (37% nationally). A lower proportion expressed satisfaction at police dealings with family violence 45%. The proportion of persons who thought the police did not do a good job in the following areas were:

- dealing with crime, 34%;
- dealing with violence, 29%; and
- dealing with family violence, 29%.

TABLE 51. LAW AND JUSTICE AND VOTING PATTERNS : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

	<i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i>				<i>Persons aged 18 years and over</i>			
	<i>Physically attacked or verbally threatened</i>	<i>Needed legal services in last 12 Months</i>	<i>Believe that people get on better with police now than 5 years ago</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Voted in Federal election</i>	<i>Voted in ATSIIC election</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>Arrested in last 5 years</i>	<i>with police now than 5 years ago</i>				
	<i>per cent</i>	<i>per cent</i>			<i>per cent</i>	<i>per cent</i>	<i>(000)</i>	
AUSTRALIA(a)	12.9	16.9	20.4	21.5	197.5	66.2	39.4	163.8
New South Wales	14.6	17.2	22.5	19.6	52.0	64.2	25.0	43.0
Victoria	25.2	25.3	22.6	21.1	12.6	67.2	29.9	10.6
Queensland	8.8	14.2	14.9	18.7	52.1	70.1	43.3	43.1
South Australia	15.4	22.1	28.5	24.1	11.9	57.7	30.3	10.1
Western Australia	13.5	17.3	25.4	20.6	30.2	60.6	48.2	25.0
Tasmania	13.4	17.4	12.6	15.4	6.6	87.1	20.0	5.4
Northern Territory	10.2	14.7	19.6	30.6	30.9	66.9	59.8	25.5
SOUTH AUSTRALIA ATSIIC REGIONS								
Adelaide	14.3	19.5	27.6	20.6	6.9	57.1	19.9	5.7
Ceduna	12.6	27.2	32.4	27.3	1.1	52.1	53.0	0.9
Port Augusta	18.3	21.8	27.0	29.6	4.0	61.6	41.9	3.5

(a) Includes ACT and Jarvis Bay.

TABLE 52. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER NEEDED TO USE LEGAL SERVICES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND TYPE OF LEGAL SERVICE USED BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>— per cent —</i>		
Need legal services(a)	27.5	16.7	22.1
Used Aboriginal legal service	23.5	10.2	16.8
Used other legal service	** 3.3	** 4.3	3.8
Did not use legal service	** 0.8	** 2.4	** 1.6
Did not need legal services	72.5	83.0	77.8
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.1	** 0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	5.9	6.0	11.9

(a) Persons may have used more than one type of legal service.

**TABLE 53. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : SELECTED PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS BY WHETHER ARRESTED IN LAST 5 YEARS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

	<i>Not arrested</i>	<i>Arrested</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total ('000)</i>
	— per cent —			
Males—Age group (years)				
13-14	** 86.4	** 13.6	** 100.0	** 0.3
15-44	54.6	45.4	100.0	4.5
45 and over	82.8	** 17.2	100.0	1.1
Total	61.7	38.3	100.0	5.9
Females—Age group (years)				
13-14	** 97.2	** 2.8	** 100.0	** 0.3
15-44	77.7	22.3	100.0	4.5
45 and over	90.1	** 9.9	100.0	1.2
Total	81.0	19.0	100.0	6.0
Persons—Age group (years)				
13-14	91.6	** 8.4	100.0	0.6
15-44	66.3	33.7	100.0	9.0
45 and over	86.5	** 13.5	100.0	2.3
Total	71.5	28.5	100.0	11.9
Part of State				
Capital city	67.9	32.1	100.0	5.0
Other urban/Rural	74.1	25.9	100.0	6.9
Whether taken away from natural family as a child				
Taken away as a child	56.2	43.8	100.0	1.7
Not taken away as a child	74.0	26.0	100.0	10.1
No answer/not stated	** 76.6	** 23.4	** 100.0	** 0.1
Whether recognises homelands				
Recognises homelands	71.3	28.7	100.0	9.6
Does not recognise homelands	72.3	27.7	100.0	2.3
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.0
Educational attainment				
Still at school	91.7	** 8.3	100.0	1.3
Below year 10	73.8	26.2	100.0	4.1
Year 10 and above	66.0	34.0	100.0	6.5
Whether working				
Employed	78.4	21.6	100.0	3.5
Unemployed	50.4	49.6	100.0	2.8
Not in Labour Force	78.6	21.4	100.0	4.9
Not applicable	71.3	** 28.7	100.0	0.8

TABLE 54. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER PHYSICALLY ATTACKED OR VERBALLY THREATENED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	--- per cent ---		
Verbally threatened or physically attacked			
Verbally threatened only	** 7.1	9.3	8.2
Physically attacked only	** 4.2	** 4.3	4.2
Verbally threatened and physically attacked	** 1.3	** 4.5	** 2.9
Total	12.7	18.1	15.4
Not verbally threatened or physically attacked	87.3	81.9	84.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	5.9	6.0	11.9

TABLE 55. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE PHYSICALLY ATTACKED OR VERBALLY THREATENED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS : WHETHER LAST INCIDENT WAS REPORTED TO POLICE BY AGE AND SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Age group (years)</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons(b)</i>
	<i>13-24</i>	<i>25 and over</i>			
	--- per cent ---				
Whether last physical attack reported(a)					
Not reported	—	—	—	—	** 36.0
Reported	—	—	—	—	62.6
Total last incident was a physical attack ('000)	** 0.2	0.5	** 0.3	0.5	0.7
Whether last verbal attack reported(a)					
Not reported	—	—	—	—	50.7
Reported	—	—	—	—	49.3
Total last incident was a verbal threat ('000)	** 0.3	0.8	0.5	0.6	1.1
Total ('000)	0.5	1.3	0.7	1.1	1.8

(a) Cells containing symbol '—' suppressed due to very low response rates (b) The very small number of 'Not stated' responses have not been displayed, hence the column does not always add to 100%.

TABLE 56. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER FAMILY VIOLENCE IS A COMMON PROBLEM IN THE LOCAL AREA BY PART OF STATE BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Part of state</i>						<i>Persons</i>
	<i>Capital city</i>		<i>Other urban/Rural</i>		<i>Total</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
	--- per cent ---						
Family violence is a problem	36.9	46.2	54.5	55.2	47.4	51.3	49.4
Family violence is not a problem	** 17.1	20.7	23.3	22.2	20.8	21.5	21.2
Don't know	46.0	33.1	21.9	22.1	31.7	26.9	29.2
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.0	** 0.3	** 0.5	** 0.2	** 0.3	** 0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	2.3	2.6	3.4	3.4	5.7	6.0	11.7

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

TABLE 57. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER HASSLED OR PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY POLICE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —		
Whether hassled by the police in the last year			
Hassled by the police	23.8	11.2	17.5
Not hassled by the police	76.2	88.5	82.4
Not stated	** 0.0	** 0.3	** 0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Whether physically assaulted by police in last year			
Assaulted by the police	** 5.9	** 3.2	4.5
Not assaulted by the police	92.5	96.5	94.6
Not stated	** 1.5	** 0.3	** 0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	5.9	6.0	11.9

TABLE 58. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : PERCEPTION OF CURRENT RELATIONS WITH POLICE COMPARED TO 5 YEARS AGO BY SEX SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	— per cent —		
Whether Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people get along with the police better now than 5 years ago			
Better	26.0	22.4	24.1
About the same	38.4	44.7	41.6
Worse	20.3	19.4	19.8
Don't know	14.1	13.1	13.6
Not stated	** 1.3	** 0.4	** 0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	5.9	6.0	11.9

**TABLE 59. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER POLICE DO A GOOD JOB DEALING WITH CRIME, VIOLENCE AND FAMILY VIOLENCE BY AGE AND SEX
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1994**

<i>Whether police do a good job</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	<i>13-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45 and over</i>			
	— per cent —					
Dealing with crime						
Police do or sometimes do a good job	47.2	51.0	57.8	55.3	46.9	51.0
Police don't do a good job	36.4	33.2	29.3	28.3	38.5	33.5
Don't know/not stated	16.4	15.9	** 12.9	16.3	14.6	15.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dealing with violence						
Police do or sometimes do a good job	46.8	50.4	59.7	55.7	46.5	51.0
Police don't do a good job	34.0	29.4	** 17.8	24.3	33.0	28.7
Don't know/not stated	19.2	20.2	22.5	20.1	20.5	20.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dealing with family violence						
Police do or sometimes do a good job	37.0	48.4	52.8	51.7	39.2	45.3
Police don't do a good job	30.4	30.8	21.3	23.3	34.0	28.8
Don't know/not stated	32.5	20.7	25.9	25.0	26.8	25.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total ('000)	4.1	5.3	2.3	5.7	6.0	11.7

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents one of the first national surveys of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and includes estimates of the demographic, social and economic characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. In these notes all numerical details refer to the whole of Australia.

SCOPE

Persons

2 The survey sample was selected from all people identifying as Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders who live in Australia. Non-Indigenous people usually residing in households with Indigenous people were included so that information for families and households would be complete. Solely non-Indigenous households were excluded from the survey.

Dwellings

3 The survey included both private and special dwellings and where possible, people not living in a dwelling (campers-out). Private dwellings include houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and improvised houses. Special dwellings are prisons, educational institutions, nursing homes, caravan parks, hostels, staff quarters, etc.

Geographical area

4 The survey encompassed remote, rural and urban areas and included all States and Territories.

COVERAGE

5 Rules were applied to ensure each person within the scope of the survey had only one chance of selection. The reference period for determining coverage was the current calendar month, i.e. the month in which interviews were conducted in the area. A person was interviewed at their usual residence unless they were away from the selected dwelling for the full calendar month. Persons away from their usual residence for the full calendar month had their chance of selection as a visitor at another dwelling.

6 Visitors and campers-out with no specific place of residence were interviewed where found.

SURVEY DESIGN

7 The estimates contained in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of approximately 5,000 dwellings throughout Australia which comprised about 6.6% (17,500 persons) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, as reported in the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. Households were selected at random using a multistage sample design stratified by the 35 ATSI Regions and Torres Strait area. This design ensured the sample was nationally representative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in different circumstances across the country.

8 A sample of prisoners was included in the survey to ensure that estimates at the State, Northern Territory and national levels reflect the characteristics and attitudes of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including those in prison. The sample was not designed to produce separate estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prison population itself. A clustered sample of male and female prisoners in 15 establishments, distributed across all States and the Northern

Territory, was selected in a way that conformed with the above aims, and was consistent with the costs and operational constraints of conducting the survey.

9 It was not possible to select a prison sample that enabled prisoners to be included in statistics for ATSI Regions. The prison sample was clustered in each State and the Northern Territory, and so prisoners are over represented in some ATSI Regions and under represented or not represented at all in others. To produce regional estimates on this basis would distort regional characteristics particularly in those regions in which the prison sample was selected. This problem was overcome by not using the additional prisoner sample when compiling the regional estimates, although regional estimates still reflect the total demographic population estimates used to benchmark the survey. As a consequence of this, there are small differences between the summation of ATSI regional data to State and Northern Territory or national levels compared with the State and Northern Territory and national estimates contained in the publication tables.

More details on the techniques used in selecting the sample and compiling the estimates are given in the section Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability.

METHODOLOGY

10 Based on 1991 Population Census data, a scientifically selected sample of 694 Census collection districts was chosen. To ensure that the sample properly took into account where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people lived in 1994, ABS utilised its workforce of survey interviewers who conduct regular household surveys of the full Australian population. These interviewers approached approximately 135,500 private and special dwellings in the selected urban and rural Census collection districts, to find approximately 6,700 dwellings where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were currently living. A random sample of these dwellings was selected for inclusion in the survey. In some parts of Australia, particularly remote areas, the sample was able to be selected directly, without first finding dwellings where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were living.

11 The survey data was collected by trained Indigenous interviewers from the selected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through personal interviews during the period April–July 1994. For children under 13 years of age, information was obtained from an adult responsible for the child. Persons aged 13–17 years were interviewed with the consent of the parent or guardian. Non-Indigenous people aged 15 years and over, living in the selected dwellings, were also interviewed and asked a reduced range of questions pertaining to employment status and income, so that information for families and households would be complete.

12 Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations assisted in the recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interviewers. The interviewers were provided with a comprehensive one-week training course and were supported throughout the survey by ABS State Survey Managers.

13 The survey content covers both attitudinal and factual data which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the ABS, through a widespread consultation process, worked out to be the most important information to collect in the survey. An important outcome of the consultation process is that the information collected in the survey and the methods used to collect it took account of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural values and priorities.

The consultation process involved a number of interlinking steps which are summarised below.

14 A Survey Advisory Committee (SAC) was established and chaired by an ATSIC Commissioner with representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, State and Commonwealth government departments and research groups. The SAC gave ABS advice on data Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people would be asked to provide and on the way the survey would be conducted.

15 Five Technical Reference Groups (TRGs) were set up with members having expertise in particular topic areas. The main role of the TRGs was to provide advice to the SAC and the ABS on data priorities and collection methodology, within the respective topic areas. A TRG was formed for the following areas: family and culture; health; education and training; income and employment.

The majority of members of the groups were Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Less formal groups also provided advice on law and justice and on housing issues.

16 In December 1992, the ABS wrote to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations that had an interest in the survey, to explain that it was to be conducted and to ask for advice about the information that it should collect and how it should be collected.

17 Discussion with ATSIC and its Board, together with widespread discussions with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations, continued during the entire survey development period. Papers on the draft and final survey content were broadly circulated and, when required, were followed up with organisations to further explain the issues and understand the organisation's views.

18 Three newsletters were distributed to approximately 2,000 people and organisations and two survey videos were widely distributed through the Broadcasting to Remote Aboriginal Communities System (BRACS) network. A third video was produced by the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) and was used to publicise the survey.

19 Content of the survey was also shaped by feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and people during testing and from the results of the testing itself. A series of survey tests were conducted in November/December 1992, April, July and September 1993 with the final

test in November/December 1993. Testing was conducted in capital cities through to remote communities. Questions that were not generally acceptable to the people interviewed during testing were excluded from the final survey. In this way it was assured that the survey questions would be understood and acceptable to the vast majority of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who took part in the survey.

The data collected is listed below under the broad topic areas. A more detailed listing of all data items is available from the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics.

20 Family and culture includes data on:

- household composition;
- families;
- age and sex;
- fertility;
- child-care;
- cultural activities undertaken;
- homelands; and
- languages spoken.

21 Health includes data on:

- recent illness;
- health actions;
- specific illness conditions;
- disability;
- access and attitudes to health services;
- food security;
- relative weight;
- fat and sugar consumption;
- breastfeeding;
- alcohol and tobacco use; and
- attitudes to health.

22 Housing includes data on:

- type of dwelling;
- type of landlord;
- housing costs; and
- provision and failure of basic services.

23 Education and training includes data on:

- schooling being undertaken;
- attitudes to school;
- age and year left school;
- educational attainment;
- current post-school study;
- training undertaken in the last year;
- further study and training; and
- access to educational institutions.

24 Employment and income includes data on:

- labour force status;
- nature of jobs;
- unemployment;
- voluntary work;
- level of income; and
- source of income.

25 Law and justice includes data on:

- access to and use of legal services;
- victims of crime;
- attitudes to family violence;
- attitudes to policing;
- experiences with the justice system; and
- voting patterns.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

26 Every care was taken to ensure that the results of this survey are as accurate as possible. The survey was extensively tested and used a culturally appropriate methodology, including the recruitment and training of a panel of Indigenous interviewers to collect the survey data (refer to Methodology, paragraphs 10–12, in these notes for details). There remains, however, factors which affect the reliability of the results to some extent and for which no specific adjustments can be made. For instance, the estimates are based on a sample, and so they are subject to sampling variability. More details on the techniques used in selecting the sample and compiling the estimates are given in the Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability.

27 Inaccuracies may also arise from errors in responses. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or a sample. The following factors should be considered when interpreting these estimates.

- Information recorded in this survey is essentially 'as reported' by respondents, and hence may differ from that which might be obtained from other sources or via other methodologies. Responses may be effected by imperfect recall or different understandings of some of the questions asked in parts of the survey. Lack of uniformity in interviewing ability and experience is also a potential source of error together with impressions made upon respondents by the interviewer's personal characteristics such as age, sex and appearance.
- Some attitudinal information was collected from respondents. Examples include: relations with the police; the role of elders; the extent to which people are happy with their children's education; self-assessed health status; whether people are happy with their local health service; whether people feel that family violence is a common problem in their area and whether people feel that the dwelling they live in meets their needs. Responses may have been influenced by the circumstances of the interview itself such as the presence of another family member. They may also have reflected momentary or short-term views due to some recent event, rather than the usual feelings or circumstances. Indeed, attitudes are continually evolving. As a result, some caution should be used in interpreting these data as necessarily indicative of general or usual perceptions.
- Further, a general caution is made concerning people's desire to conform or provide responses they feel are expected rather than those that more accurately fit the question. Through the development and adoption of a culturally appropriate survey methodology, every effort has been made to minimise such bias.

The influence of all of the above factors can be seen in different parts of the survey results and the following paragraphs draw attention to some specific areas.

Family and culture

28 The classification of family types was undertaken from the relationship information collected from all persons living in the selected households. The coding was undertaken according to the standard ABS family classification, which does not always align with the traditional family composition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households. Because it was known that respondents in different parts of Australia would provide a mixture of traditional and non-traditional relationship information, it was decided for comparability reasons that Indigenous interviewers should record relationships in a form consistent with the standard ABS family classification.

29 Derived information on the number of single-parent families may have been influenced by a lower than expected number of males aged between 20–30 years interviewed in the survey. Interviewer comments suggest that there was sometimes an inclination for this group not to identify as family members in de facto relationships. As a result, these persons were not included in the survey and the estimated number of single-parent families may be higher than would be expected had all males

in this age group taken part in this survey and identified their family relationship.

30 Some difficulties were experienced in collecting sufficient information to identify all multi-family households, resulting in some undercount of this household type. Difficulties mainly stemmed from misinterpretation of questions and a low response to the questions necessary to establish relationships. The difficulties were mainly experienced in large households and confined primarily to the more rural and remote areas.

31 There is evidence to suggest that people visiting selected households for periods longer than a few weeks were included in the survey as usual residents of those households rather than visitors. No specific time period was defined to delineate a usual resident from a visitor, the distinction was based on the respondent's perception. Testing had indicated that the application of a time period to distinguish usual residents from visitors would be too arbitrary because of mobility between dwellings and in many instances the association with multiple usual residences. The extent to which visitors reported themselves as usual residents cannot be quantified. However, in comparison to the 1991 Population Census this survey shows a higher number of the family type 'other related individuals' and a lower proportion of visitors, indicating that some visitors reported themselves as usual members of the household.

32 Respondents were asked a series of questions on cultural issues including whether they had gone to any Indigenous cultural activities such as ceremonies, funerals and festivals in the last year, and whether they had a place to meet for cultural activities. Because of traditional sensitivities associated with some of these questions a level of under-reporting is expected to have occurred. Debriefings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interviewers indicate that there was probably a higher level of non-response or mis-reporting to these and other cultural questions in the rural and remote communities than there was in the urban areas. The effect on survey estimates cannot be quantified.

Health

33 Self-reported information on medical conditions was not medically verified, and was not necessarily based on diagnoses by medical practitioners or medical records kept by respondents. Some people may be unaware of minor or major conditions, or may have conditions that have not been diagnosed. It is also probable that in some instances conditions which respondents were unwilling to talk about at an interview were not reported.

34 Obtaining correct terminology or sufficient information to describe different health conditions was sometimes a difficulty experienced by interviewers. Although this survey adopted a health action approach to recent conditions similar to that used in the 1989-90 National Health Survey (NHS), caution should be adopted when making comparisons of different medical conditions because of the greater emphasis on prompting to elicit all health actions and conditions in the NHS. In a survey focusing on health, it was possible to give more emphasis to prompting than it was

in this survey where the interview time that could be devoted to health was limited.

35 Similarly, definitional differences exist between this survey and the NHS and must be taken into account when comparisons are being made. An example is long-term eye problems which are defined in the NHS to include all eye conditions lasting six months or more, irrespective of whether the condition(s) can be corrected by glasses. In the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey, the definition of long-term eye problems excludes conditions that can be corrected by glasses. It is recommended that users familiarise themselves with the concepts and definitions used in the NHS (*1989-90 National Health Survey Summary of Results, Australia* (4364.0) and *1989-90 National Health Survey, Users' Guide* (4363.0)) before undertaking comparisons.

36 Information on self-assessed health status should be used to complement, rather than as a substitute for, more objective measures on recent and/or long-term illness. Self-assessment may be influenced by many extraneous factors and its subjectivity is compounded by the variation in reference points used by individuals when assessing or comparing their health. Similar problems are experienced when collecting information from the broader Australian population. Information of this type complements measures of ill-health in the analysis of health-related actions and demand for health services. A person's self-assessed health status also has an influence on lifestyle behaviours such as smoking, diet and exercise.

37 Some under-reporting of the quantity of cigarette smoking and whether people worry about going without food is expected to have occurred. Reasons may include social pressures, guilt/embarrassment (particularly in cases where other household members were present at the interview) and recall problems. Similar problems are experienced when collecting like information from the broader Australian population. The extent to which under-reporting has occurred and the effect on accuracy of survey estimates is not known.

38 Dietary information was collected using a simplified fat and sugar index questionnaire and a 24 hour recall methodology. An independent test was undertaken by the Nutrition Program, University of Queensland, in November/December 1993 which verified the validity of this approach. Some under-reporting of some food types may still have occurred because of recall problems, embarrassment or misunderstanding. Also, responses to the diet questions may have sometimes been influenced by the day of interview because in some areas the consumption of different food types varies considerably depending on such things as the weather, arrival of supplies in the community and the number of days since 'pay day'. Responses may, therefore, not always reflect the individuals' overall consumption pattern or level.

Housing

39 In comparison to the 1991 Population Census, housing type information from this survey shows a lower than expected number of improvised dwellings and a higher proportion of 'other dwelling types' in some ATSI Regions. Possible explanations for these variations are: the

selection of a disproportionately small number of improvised dwellings in the survey's sample caused by the overall small number of communities with improvised dwellings; some level of inconsistency in the classification of dwellings; seasonal factors associated with mobility; and the increased activity in building Aboriginal housing in some areas since the last Census. The impact of these factors is not, however, quantifiable.

Education and training

40 Respondents, when unsure, were sometimes able to refer to their records to provide the full name of the courses they had completed in order that level of qualification could be coded during processing. In cases where full details were unavailable, coding of qualifications was undertaken using the limited amount of information recorded. This is likely to have had some effect on the accuracy of level of qualifications, including a relatively large number of qualifications categorised as 'inadequately described'.

Employment and income

41 Survey estimates of the number of employed persons working in CDEP jobs are lower than the number of CDEP jobs quoted for the same period by ATSIIC. Information collected on whether or not a job was CDEP was not able to be independently verified in the field by the survey interviewers. Respondents were first asked if they had a job last week. Only if they answered 'yes' to that question were they then asked whether it was a CDEP job. It may be that some people on CDEP were not aware of this or may have answered 'no' to having a job because they did not look upon working on CDEP as a job.

42 Labour force definitions adopted in this survey align with the standard ABS definitions of employed, unemployed and not in the labour force. During the development of this survey it was recognised that these definitions do not adequately recognise many traditional life style activities such as hunting and gathering and unpaid community work as 'employment'. Under the standard definitions, persons involved in such unpaid activities would be classified to either unemployed or not in the labour force even though in the eyes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people such activities are clearly work important to families and/or communities. It was an important objective that this survey deliver information that would enable the comparison of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the broader Australian population and for this reason it was decided that the standard definition of labour force status be adopted. In recognition of the important unpaid work some people undertake within their communities a question on 'voluntary work' was included in this survey.

43 In comparison to the 1991 Population Census this survey has estimated a higher unemployment rate. Investigations undertaken on the data indicate the possible primary reasons for the difference to be the inclusion of an additional question in the NATSIS relating to CES registration.

- In the NATSIS and the Population Census, respondents not working were asked if they had been looking for work at any time in the four weeks prior to interview/Census night. The Census question gives examples of recognised activities that constitute actively looking for

work, one of which is being registered with the CES. Actively looking and being available to start work classifies a respondent to unemployed. Should both conditions not hold, the respondent is classified to not in the labour force.

- In the NATSIS, some respondents answered 'no' to looking for work; even though they were registered with the CES. This misinterpretation leads to a lowering of the unemployment rate because more respondents are classified to not in the labour force rather than unemployed. In recognition of this problem and the relatively high number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people registered with the CES, it was decided that it was necessary to add a specific question on CES registration. This enabled the survey to capture those respondents who answered 'no' to looking for work to also have the opportunity to report whether or not they were registered with the CES. To illustrate the effect this extra question has had on survey results, in comparison with the 1991 Population Census unemployment rate of 30.8% the NATSIS rate is 38.2% and 31.3% if the effect of the CES question is removed.

44 The survey collected income information only on wages and salaries, business income and government payments. Testing showed that this was a reasonable proxy for total income as relatively few Indigenous people receive other types of income such as investment income. Limitation on the length of the interview made it impracticable to pursue other sources of income.

45 Although some respondents referred to their records, in many cases the answers to the questions on income were based on memory. As a consequence, some mis-reporting of the gross amounts received and income sources may be expected because of imperfect recall, misunderstanding or a reluctance to reveal the actual amount. Similar problems occur when collecting similar information from the broader Australian population. During processing, any incomes reported on a net basis were 'grossed up' through the application of an algorithm that took account of reported income levels and the appropriate Australian Taxation Office's tax scales.

Law and justice

46 Because of the sensitivities associated with issues such as personal safety and family violence some under-reporting is expected to have occurred. Similar problems occur when collecting sensitive information from the broader Australian population. The extent to which under-reporting has occurred and the effect on accuracy of survey estimates is not known.

Demographic structure of population

47 There are clear differences in the age structures of the Australian Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations (1991 Population Census results show 40% of Indigenous persons are aged less than 15 years in comparison to 22% for the non-Indigenous population). When making comparisons of survey results with the broader Australian population this factor must be kept in mind because of the effect age distribution has on

such things as health conditions and the level of profound or severe disabilities, and many other statistics.

48 Some collection difficulties were experienced by interviewers when obtaining age details. These difficulties were more prevalent in the rural/remote areas and experienced more with older people in selected households. In such situations, estimates of age were obtained. These reporting difficulties flow through to the survey demographic estimates and it is recommended that in preference, users refer to the demographically estimated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population details contained in the section Population Estimates and Benchmarks.

Prisoners

49 Included in the survey was a sample of male and female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners. Because of their incarceration, prisoners were asked a subset of the questions asked of all other people selected in the survey. Excluded were questions to do with labour force status and income; diet; questions relating to their local area, for example the level of contentment with local health services; and questions relating to their children's education.

50 As a consequence, some table populations contain prisoners and others do not, and small differences in population totals can be observed between tables of otherwise like populations.

SYMBOLS

51 The following symbols, where shown in a column of figures or elsewhere in tables, mean:

.. not applicable

** subject to high sampling variability (see Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability).

All figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between the sums of the components items and totals.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

52 *1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0)

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: ATSI Regional Statistics (4196.0.00.001-036)

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Australia's Indigenous Youth (4197.0)

Employment Outcomes for Australia's Indigenous Peoples (4199.0)

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Housing Characteristics and Conditions (4187.0)

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Health of Indigenous Australian's (4395.0)

1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: A Social Atlas (4155.0)

INQUIRES ABOUT THESE STATISTICS

53 For further information about Indigenous statistics and related publications:

National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics,
Australian Bureau of Statistics

GPO Box 3796

DARWIN NT 0801

Phone: (08) 8943 2192

Fax: (08) 8941 0715

TECHNICAL NOTES ON SAMPLE DESIGN AND VARIABILITY

AIMS OF THE SAMPLE DESIGN

The aim of the sample was to produce estimates with relative standard errors (see below) no higher than 3.5% at the Australian level, 10% at State level and 16% at ATSI regional level, for characteristics held by 10% of the total Aboriginal population. For instance, an estimate of 10% for, say, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people suffering from ear or hearing problems across Australia, was expected to have a relative standard error of 3.5%.

SAMPLE DESIGN

The required sample size was calculated by determining that needed to measure a characteristic that is spread randomly throughout the Indigenous population, then inflating this by 20% to take account of an assumed clustering of characteristics within this population by area.

The sample design was a multistage stratified sample. Each census collection district (CD) in Australia was assigned a measure of size derived from the 1991 Population Census, being the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enumerated in the CD at the time of the 1991 Population Census. Each of the CDs was placed in a stratum defined by ATSI Region, its section of State and whether it was a large CD or small CD. The distinction between these last two groups varied across regions according to the distributions of population reported at the time of the 1991 Population Census.

SAMPLE SELECTION

Selection of the sample was undertaken in several stages. For the strata consisting of large CDs, a selection of CDs was chosen with probability proportional to size. This meant that it was more likely for a CD with a large Indigenous population to be included in the sample than a CD with a smaller population.

For small CDs, the situation was more complex. There are many CDs with very few Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and they could not be excluded from the sample design because they represented particular kinds of people — including well scattered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in urban areas. To ensure that a sufficient number of small CDs were represented in the sample, a sample selection scheme for strata consisting of this CD type was designed to reflect both the size of small CDs and the cost of enumerating them. This resulted in small CDs being selected with equal probability, with the modifications that CDs with a size of zero had their probabilities of selection reduced to one-fifth of their value in the initial optimum design, and CDs with a size of one or two had their probabilities reduced by a half. Additionally, the sample selection was modified to ensure that all ATSI Regions had a minimum of five CDs selected in the first stage of the sample.

For large CDs a second stage of selection entailed selecting a random subsample of Indigenous households within each selected CD. For the small CDs, all the Indigenous households in them were selected in the survey.

The final stage of selection involved enumerating all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within selected households.

ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

Estimates of numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons with particular characteristics were derived from the survey by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that the survey estimates conform to both an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex at capital city/balance of State level, and an independently estimated distribution of the population across the 35 ATSI Regions and the Torres Strait area. The method of ensuring conformity between the survey estimates and these independent estimates is called benchmarking. Benchmarking improves consistency between different surveys, and reduces non-sampling error, by incorporating external information at a broad level. (Refer to the section on Population Estimates and Benchmarks for an explanation of how these 'benchmark' population estimates were compiled).

Estimates for groupings of people (e.g. households and families) were derived from the survey by using a complex procedure that formed an average measure of the contributions of the individual members of the group.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

This measure accounted for different age and sex characteristics amongst the members of the group. Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error. The sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants from a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all the dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer also to the size of the estimate. Standard errors and relative standard errors were calculated based on a range of estimates, due to the large number of estimates involved. While these measures of variability are applicable to most estimates, they may be less appropriate for characteristics which are highly clustered geographically, examples include CDEP participation and improvised dwellings. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents, errors made in the collection such as recording and coding data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. It is not possible to quantify non-sampling error, but every effort is made to reduce it to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures. In practice,

the potential for non-sampling error adds to the uncertainty of the estimates caused by sampling variability.

Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of the estimates in this publication. Standard error of estimates of numbers of each of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons, families and households can be obtained from tables A and B.

An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons, families and households is as follows. In Australia the estimated number of persons aged 13 years and over who spoke an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language as their main language, was 28,045 (14% of 197,500). Since this estimate is between 20,000 and 30,000, the standard error for Australia will be between 553 and 628 in the standard error table A and can be approximated as 613. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 27,431 to 28,659 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 26,818 to 29,272.

The size of the standard error of an estimate of a number of persons increases with the level of the estimate, so that the larger the estimate the larger is the standard error. However, it should be noted that the larger the sample estimate the smaller will be the standard error in percentage terms. Thus, larger sample estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.

As the standard errors in tables A and B show, very small estimates are subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable purposes. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with relative standard error of 25% or less, and percentages based on such estimates, are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by two asterisks if it is greater than 25% (e.g. **2.5), indicating they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

TABLE A. STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSONS, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	Aust.	Relative standard error, Aust. %
50	42	38	39	34	30	20	34	37	74.2
100	63	61	65	54	48	29	53	55	54.7
200	91	92	103	80	74	42	80	79	39.6
300	109	112	132	96	93	53	100	97	32.4
500	135	138	175	116	123	70	130	125	25.0
700	152	156	208	128	146	84	153	147	20.9
1 000	171	173	247	138	173	101	179	173	17.3
1 500	191	190	295	145	207	126	213	207	13.8
2 000	205	199	332	148	234	148	238	234	11.7
2 500	215	205	361	149	256	167	258	256	10.3
3 000	222	209	385	160	275	184	275	276	9.2
4 000	233	212	423	180	306	215	303	310	7.7
5 000	240	213	453	198	331	243	325	338	6.8
7 000	248	246	497	227	370	292	358	384	5.5
10 000	253	287	541	263	413	..	393	436	4.4
15 000	255	..	586	..	461	..	431	502	3.3
20 000	277	..	614	..	495	..	456	553	2.8
30 000	313	..	646	..	542	..	489	628	2.1
50 000	364	..	672	..	..	..	..	732	1.5
70 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	804	1.1
100 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	884	0.9
150 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	979	0.7

TABLE B. STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSONS, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
ATSIK REGIONS

Size of estimate	Adelaide	Ceduna	Port Augusta
50	36	15	22
100	60	22	30
200	88	32	42
300	102	40	50
500	115	53	64
700	119	65	75
1 000	144	79	88
1 500	180	..	107
2 000	210	..	122
2 500	237	..	135
3 000	261	..	147
4 000	305	..	168
5 000	345	..	..
7 000	413	..	..
10 000	..	..	..
15 000	..	..	..

POPULATION ESTIMATES AND BENCHMARKS

A sample survey cannot produce more accurate estimates of the size of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population than the quinquennial Census of Population and Housing. The best projection of current population size can be derived from 1991 Census figures by using demographic techniques to improve and update them. ABS derived such projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population and used them as 'benchmarks' (refer to the section Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability for details) when compiling the estimates for this survey.

This means that the tables in this publication which cover the full Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population add to 303,261 persons, the ABS projection of the size of the population at 30 June 1994.

Compiling projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations, 30 June 1994

A series of experimental estimates of the Indigenous population, by sex and age, States and Territories of Australia was published by the ABS in November 1994 in *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, June 1986 to June 1991* (3230.0) and in May 1996, *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, June 1991 to June 2001* (3231.0). These experimental estimates were based on the 1991 Census of Population and Housing and life tables of the Indigenous population prepared by Dr Alan Gray of the Australian National University. The publication also detailed the method of estimation used to derive these estimates.

These estimates are referred to as 'experimental' in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and internal migration are not generally available. As a result a method based on the use of life tables is used. The estimates are also affected by changes in the propensity of people to identify as being of Indigenous origin.

The method of estimation was canvassed with major users of Indigenous population statistics and comments taken into account in the compilation of these estimates.

The 30 June 1991 experimental estimates were then updated to provide benchmarks for this survey as at 30 June 1994 using the cohort-component method which applied assumptions for each sex by single year of age regarding future mortality and migration. Assumed age specific fertility rates were applied to the female populations of child-bearing ages to provide the new cohort of births. This procedure was repeated for each year in the projection period for each part of State (capital city/rest of State) for each State and the Northern Territory, and for the Australian Capital Territory as a whole.

The 30 June 1991 experimental estimates were originally calculated at the State and Territory level only. These were split to the part of State level, by age and sex, according to 1991 Indigenous population Census counts, based on usual residence adjusted for sex ratio anomalies. The benchmarks were also adjusted to ensure that the totals for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders at the ATSI regional level were in the same proportion to each other within each capital city and rest of State as they were in 1991 Census statistics.

Projection assumptions

- Fertility* Estimates of fertility of the Indigenous population were published in *Australian Social Trends, 1994* (4102.0). These estimates of fertility for the financial years 1988–89 to 1990–91 were adjusted, by age, to accord with the experimental estimates. The average of the adjusted age-specific fertility rates for these three financial years were assumed to apply to Indigenous women of child-bearing ages over the three financial years of the projection period (1991–92, 1992–93 and 1993–94). Account was taken of births of Indigenous children to non-Indigenous mothers.
- Mortality* Life tables of the Indigenous population for the intercensal periods 1981–86 and 1986–91 for each State and Territory have been calculated by Alan Gray of the Australian National University. The mid points of these two intercensal periods (1983–84 and 1988–89) were established, and the average annual rates of change of the age specific mortality rates were calculated between these two points. These rates of change, which reflect an overall improvement in mortality over the 1981–86 to 1986–91 intercensal periods, were assumed to apply for the three financial years of the projection period.
- Migration* The method of estimation used to derive the experimental estimates of the Indigenous population June 1986 to June 1991 assumed no internal or overseas migration of the Indigenous population. Analysis of 1991 Census data also shows insignificant migration across parts of States. Accordingly, all net migration flows were assumed to be zero for these projections.

The resulting benchmarks which were used to compile the estimates from this survey are shown in the Explanatory Notes.

These benchmarks can be used by analysts who wish to understand the influence demographic characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population have on the statistics in this publication.

The ABS did not compile similar benchmarks at the ATSI regional level. Estimates of the regional demographic characteristics are available from the survey itself. Analysts who require this information should contact the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics in Darwin (see page iii for details).

TABLE C. PROJECTIONS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
POPULATION, 30 JUNE 1994

Age (years)	South Australia			Australia(a)
	Capital city	Balance of State	Total	
MALES				
0-4	584	764	1 348	22 844
5-9	521	714	1 235	20 229
10-14	451	613	1 064	17 755
15-19	404	509	913	15 826
20-24	416	511	927	16 103
25-29	366	511	877	14 038
30-34	320	443	763	11 777
35-39	278	315	593	9 268
40-44	187	224	411	7 171
45-49	126	180	306	5 135
50-54	89	179	268	3 900
55-59	57	107	164	2 797
60-64	40	103	143	2 185
65-69	25	55	80	1 461
70-74	21	54	75	919
75 and above	18	37	55	998
Total	3 903	5 320	9 223	152 406
FEMALES				
0-4	563	722	1 285	21 680
5-9	497	682	1 179	19 317
10-14	399	619	1 018	16 796
15-19	372	510	882	15 078
20-24	404	495	899	15 448
25-29	361	503	864	13 793
30-34	323	447	770	11 805
35-39	285	323	608	9 472
40-44	209	248	457	7 683
45-49	158	193	351	5 604
50-54	116	160	276	4 113
55-59	77	116	193	3 132
60-64	51	94	145	2 545
65-69	41	51	92	1 796
70-74	25	54	79	1 161
75 and above	54	52	106	1 431
Total	3 934	5 268	9 202	150 855
PERSONS				
0-4	1 147	1 486	2 633	44 524
5-9	1 017	1 396	2 413	39 546
10-14	850	1 232	2 082	34 552
15-19	776	1 019	1 795	30 904
20-24	820	1 006	1 826	31 551
25-29	727	1 014	1 741	27 831
30-34	642	891	1 533	23 582
35-39	563	638	1 201	18 740
40-44	396	472	868	14 854
45-49	284	373	657	10 739
50-54	205	339	544	8 013
55-59	135	222	357	5 929
60-64	91	198	289	4 730
65-69	66	106	172	3 257
70-74	46	108	154	2 080
75 and above	72	89	161	2 429
Total	7 837	10 588	18 425	303 261

(a) Includes the ACT

GLOSSARY

Aboriginal	A person who identifies themselves to be of Aboriginal origin. In ABS collections this is ascertained by asking the question 'Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?' In the NATSIS, persons aged 13 years and over were asked directly, whereas persons aged 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.
Aboriginal community controlled school	Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make decisions on the curricula, teachers employed, school budget and school policy.
Aboriginal English	Includes Broken English, Pidgin English and Kriol/Creoles.
Aboriginal independent school	A school run solely by Aboriginal people, who make decisions on school policy, staffing, curricula and school budget.
Aboriginal legal services	Established to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with legal matters.
Aboriginality	Where a person identifies as being of Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.
Actions taken	Refers to specific actions persons took with regard to their health in the two weeks prior to interview.
Actively looking for work	Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering a newspaper advertisement for a job; checking factory or Commonwealth Employment Service noticeboards; being registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.
Adult	Person aged 15 years or more.
ATSIC Regions and Torres Strait Area	Refers to 36 defined geographic areas, each represented by an ATSIC Regional Council or the Torres Strait Regional Authority.
Attack	Where a person has suffered physical force from another person(s), for example, pushed, hit, kicked or speared.
Arrested	Where a person has been arrested and taken into custody/remand by the police.
CDEP	See Community Development Employment Projects.
Clan, tribal or language group	Refers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups within Australia.
Combined primary and secondary school	A school which teaches students at both primary and secondary levels.
Community Development Employment Projects	The Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme, operates through grants from ATSIC to Indigenous community organisations to enable individuals to undertake community managed activities in return for wages.

Couple-only family	Two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage without children present in the household.
Crime	Includes crimes relating to drugs, thefts, vandalism as well as violence.
Cultural activities	Includes funerals, ceremonies, Indigenous festivals and carnivals and involvement with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations.
Cultural obligations	Refers to attending Indigenous cultural activities such as funerals, ceremonies and festivals and extended family responsibilities.
Earned income	Income derived from wages and salaries, or from own business, trade or profession.
Education worker	A person who assists a teacher during class lessons and may give some lessons such as story telling.
Employed persons	Persons aged 15 years and over who in the week prior to the interview worked for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and self-employed persons).
Full-time employment	Employed persons who worked 35 hours or more a week.
Family	Two or more persons who live in the same household and are related to each other by blood, marriage (including de facto marriage), fostering or adoption. For the purpose of this survey, one or more members of the family had identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Family violence	Includes verbal threats, intimidation, fear of physical attacks and actual physical attacks, occurring between family members within a household.
Formal child-care	Refers to regulated care such as preschool/kindergarten before and after-school care program, long day care centres, family day care and other formal care.
Government payments	Includes Newstart allowance, Jobsearch, age pension, sickness allowance, disability support pension, sole parent pension, family payments, rent assistance, ABSTUDY and other government payments.
Homelands	An area of land to which Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people have ancestral and/or cultural links.
Household	Consists of a person living alone, or two or more related or unrelated persons who live and eat together in private residential accommodation. For the purpose of this survey, one or more members of the household had identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
Household income	Refers to the total gross income from wages and salaries and government payments of all persons 15 years and over who usually live in the household. The total household income was not calculated if usual residents of the household were missing at the time of the interview.
Indigenous	Persons 13 years and over, who identified themselves to be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.
Indigenous language	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. Excludes Aboriginal English and Kriol/Creoles.

Labour force	Persons aged 15 years and over who were either employed or unemployed.
Labour force status	A classification of persons 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.
Language spoken	A person was considered to be able to speak a language (such as an Aboriginal language) if they could hold a conversation in that language.
Last year	12 month period prior to interview.
Legal Aid Commission	Available to all Australians who meet certain income requirements and is commonly referred to as 'Legal Aid'.
Long-term condition	Condition (illness, injury, or disability) which had lasted for six months or more.
Main language	Refers to the language the person is most comfortable with or speaks most fluently.
Making decisions at the school	Includes involvement in the Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness Program (ASSPA) and Parents and Citizens (P&C) school meetings where decisions about fund raising and maintenance of the school are made.
Non-family household	A one-person household or a household consisting of two or more unrelated people.
Not in the labour force	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed or unemployed as defined.
One-parent family	Family that consists of one parent and that parent's children plus all other people in the household related to them, provided those people do not have a spouse or child of their own.
Other government landlord	Refers to dwellings owned by the Commonwealth Government, and State, Territory and local governments other than housing authorities and employer provided housing.
Other legal services	Includes private solicitors and barristers.
Perceived health problems	A respondent's opinions of the main health problems confronting people in their local area.
Personal income	Refers to the gross income a person received at the time of interview in the form of wages and salaries and government payments.
Post-school study	Attendance at a course at the time of the survey to gain a qualification.
Private landlord	All privately owned dwellings rented directly or through a real estate agent.
Private dwelling	The premises occupied by a household and includes houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and improvised houses. It excludes hostels, hospitals, prisons and so on.
Private sector	Non-government organisations. The private sector has been split into 'Community organisations' and 'Other private'. Community organisations are those private organisations that have been declared to be eligible for ATSIC funding.

Public sector	Includes all government authorities, departments, agencies and authorities created by the Commonwealth Parliament or State and Territory Parliaments. Also covered are organisations such as the Northern or Central Land Councils which were created by Commonwealth legislation and the New South Wales Land Council which was created by New South Wales legislation.
Recent illness	Conditions (illness, injury or disability) experienced in the two weeks prior to interview. It may include long-term conditions experienced in the period.
Relative fat and sugar	Amount of selected food types consumed the day prior to interview, have been used to rate a person's level of fat and sugar consumption.
Relative weight	Weight and height measurements taken during interview have been used to derive a person's body mass. The body mass index equals a person's weight in kilograms divided by the square of the person's height in metres. The categories used are consistent with recommendations of the National Health and Medical Research Council.
School participation	The number of enrolled school students of a particular age, expressed as a proportion of the population of the same age.
Self-assessed health status	Refers to the overall level of health as reported by respondents 13 years and over. For persons 12 years and under, information was provided by the child's parent or a responsible adult member of the household.
Specific long-term condition	Where a person had one of the following conditions which had lasted for six months or more: asthma, diabetes, heart problems, chest problems, skin problems, high blood pressure, ear or hearing problems, eye or sight problems not corrected by glasses and/or kidney problems.
State housing (landlord)	Refers to dwellings owned by State or Territory housing authorities.
Take away from natural family	People who have been removed from their natural family as a child as part of a government policy. 'Family' may include parents and siblings and extended family members such as aunts, uncles and grandparents. Excludes people who were removed from their family for less than six months.
Taught Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander languages	Students who are taught to speak, read or write an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language.
Taught about Indigenous culture	Includes subjects which give an understanding of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures, e.g. history and language.
Taught by a community member	Where community members teach at least once in a month or on 10 or more occasions over the school year.
Torres Strait Islander	Persons 13 years and over, who identified themselves to be of Torres Strait Islander origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.
Training course	Includes courses which are planned to develop skills or assist in learning about a subject. Excludes courses leading to an educational qualification and on-the-job training.
Type of landlord	Refers to the legal entity to which rent is paid.

Unemployed persons	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the week prior to interview, and who had actively looked for work at any time during the four weeks prior to interview, and who were available to start work in the last week.
Usual residents	Persons who live in a particular private dwelling and regard it as their own or main home.
Verbal threats	Any verbal abuse to a person where no weapon was seen and no physical violence occurred. It includes verbal threats to harm the respondent or his/her property.
Violence	Refers to violence in the community, that is streets, hotels, schools, etc. It includes fights, bashing, rape, murder or any act which involves violence.
Voluntary work	Includes any unpaid community work such as caring for sick or aged people, working for community or sporting organisations, working at a school or with youth groups, working on committees and hunting, fishing or gathering bush food.
Year 10 Certificates	Completion of a Year 10 Certificate, Aboriginal Access Course or equivalent.
Year 12 Certificates	Completion of a Year 12 Certificate, General Certificate of Education or equivalent.



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