



During the Year Ending
March 1990

LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE AUSTRALIA



EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 17 DECEMBER 1990

**LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE
AUSTRALIA
DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990**

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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ADDITIONAL DATA ON REQUEST

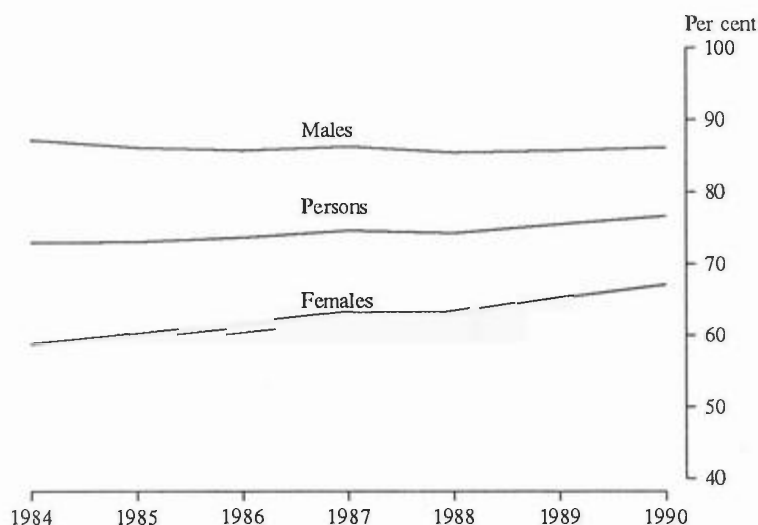
The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request.

Refer to page 16 which specifies the data items, categories and populations that relate to the survey. An order form for special tables is included.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

DIAGRAM 1. LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION, 1984 TO 1990



Source: Table 1

Participation in the labour force

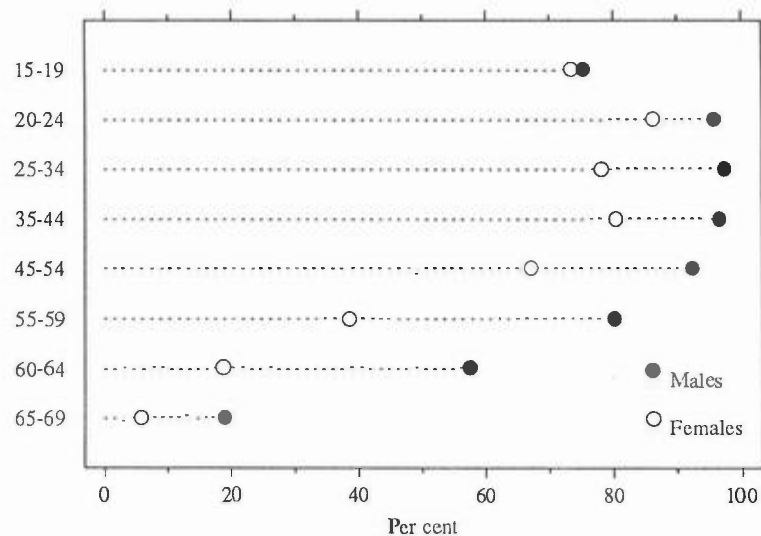
An estimated 9,058,600 persons aged between 15 and 69 years participated in the labour force at some time during the twelve months ending March 1990 (Table 3). The proportion of persons participating in the labour force has increased from 73 per cent in 1984 to 77 per cent in 1990. Over this period, participation by males in the labour force has remained steady at around 86 per cent. Female participation increased from 59 per cent in 1984 to 67 per cent in 1990 (Table 1, Diagram 1).

Males aged between 20 and 54 years recorded participation rates over 90 per cent from 1984 onwards. For

females, the 20-24 year age group has recorded the highest participation rate, in each of the past seven surveys. The participation rate for married females has grown steadily since 1984, with the proportion of married females participating in the labour force increasing from 54 per cent in 1984 to 65 per cent in 1990 (Table 2).

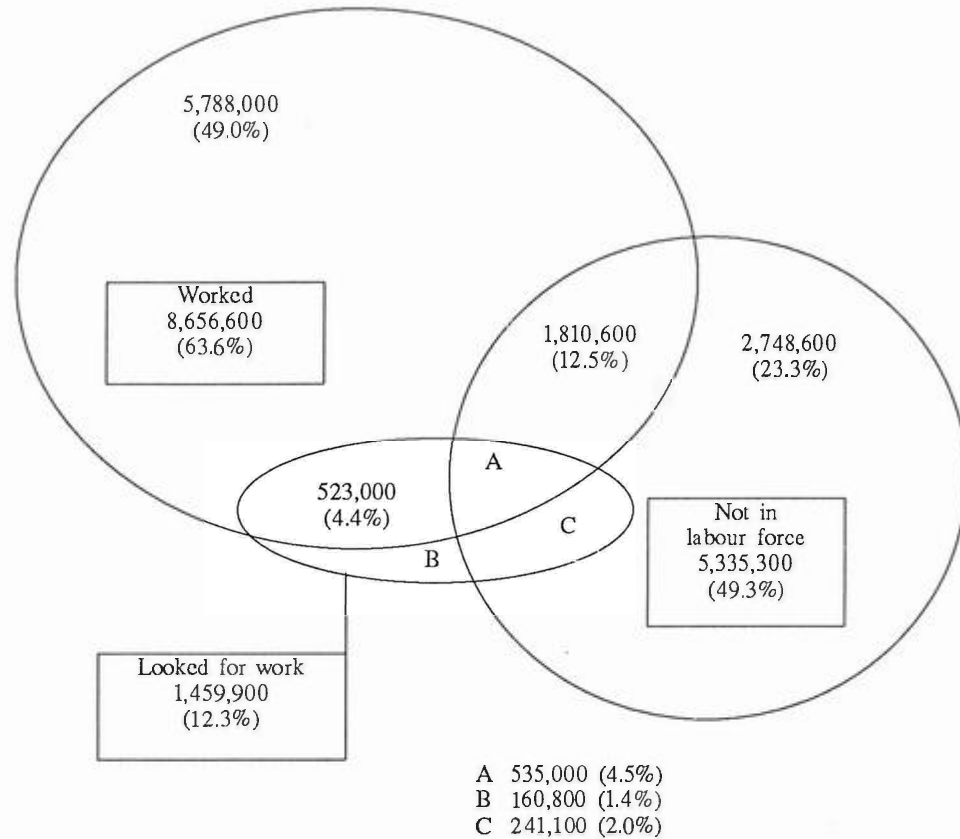
For all age groups, the participation rate for married males was higher than the participation rate for males not married. Married females aged between 35 and 44 recorded the largest participation rate increase, rising from 66 per cent in 1984 to 80 per cent in 1990 (Table 2).

DIAGRAM 2. PARTICIPATION IN THE LABOUR FORCE, AGE AND GENDER, MARCH 1990



Source: Table 2

DIAGRAM 3. LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990
(Source of data : Table 3 and 6)



Persons who participated in the labour force can be assigned to three groups: those who *worked* at some time during the year, those who *looked for work* at some time during the year, and those who had been *not in the labour force* at some time during the year. These groups are not mutually exclusive as it is possible for an individual to be in more than one of the groups over the course of a twelve month period. Diagram 3 shows the extent to which this happened.

For instance, 523,000 persons or 4 per cent of all persons at March 1990, had worked at some time, and also looked for work at some time but at no time during the year had they been not in the labour force. Similarly 5,788,000 persons (49%) had worked for the whole year. A further example: 535,000 persons (5%) worked at some time, looked for work at some time, and were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending March 1990.

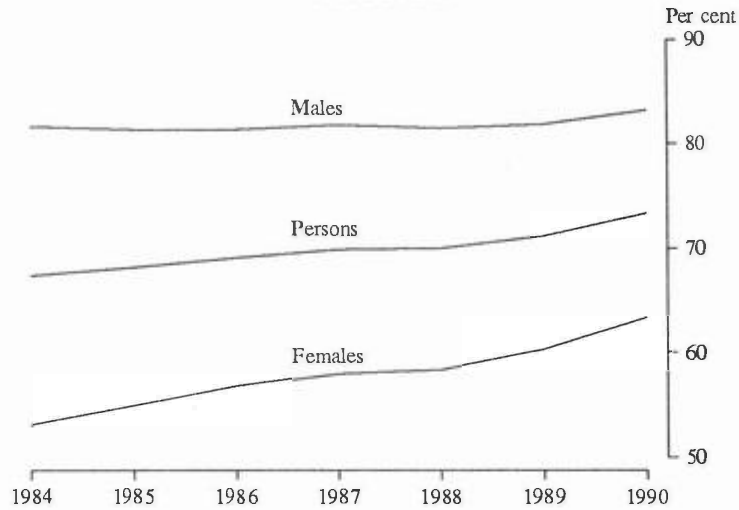
Persons who worked at some time during the year

An estimated 8,656,600 persons worked at some time during the year ending March 1990 (Table 3). The proportion of persons who worked at some time during the year has risen by 6 percentage points since 1984. The proportion of females working at some time during the year has risen 10 percentage points since 1984, while the proportion of males has remained steady (Table 1, Diagram 4).

Of the 8,656,600 persons who had worked at some time during the year ending March 1990—

- 5,788,000 persons (67%) had worked for the full 52 weeks
- 73 per cent of male workers had worked for 52 weeks compared to 58 per cent of female workers
- 87 per cent of male workers had worked all their weeks on a full-time basis compared to 53 per cent for female workers
- 36 per cent of female workers had worked all their weeks on a part-time basis compared to 7 per cent for male workers (Table 5).

DIAGRAM 4. PROPORTION WHO HAD WORKED AT SOME TIME
IN THE TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW,
1984 TO 1990



Source: Table 1

Persons who looked for work at some time during the year

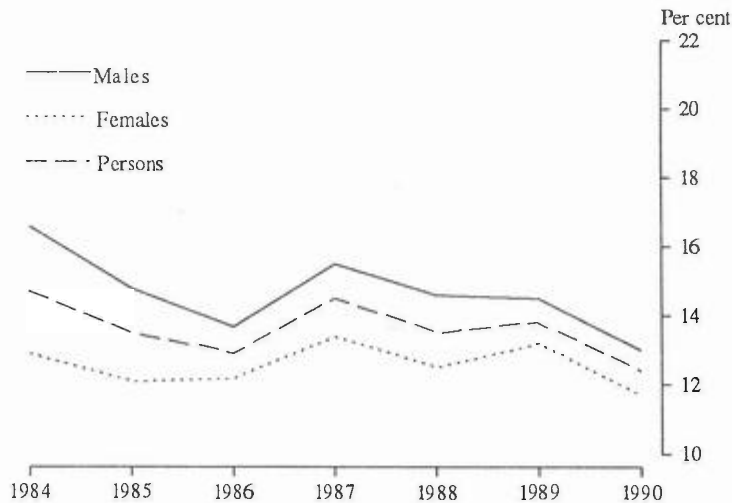
During the year ending March 1990, 1,459,900 persons looked for work at some time. Of these, 160,800 persons (11%) looked for work for the whole 52 weeks (Table 6). The proportion of males who looked for work at some time during the year decreased from 17 per cent in 1984 to 13 per cent in 1990. The proportion of females in this category has been recorded as 12 or 13 per cent over the period 1984 to 1990 (Table 1).

Of the 1,459,900 persons who looked for work during 1990, 78 per cent had only one spell of looking for work — on average, this spell lasted 17 weeks (Table 6).

Persons not in the labour force at some time

The number of persons not in the labour force at some time during the year was 5,335,300, with 2,748,600 persons (52%) not in the labour force for the whole year. Females made up 65 per cent of persons not in the labour force at some time during the year. Of those women who were out of the labour force at some time during the year 62 per cent reported their main activity as "home duties/child care" (Table 7).

DIAGRAM 5. PROPORTION WHO HAD LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME
IN THE TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW,
1984 TO 1990



Source: Table 1

TABLE 1. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE, FEBRUARY 1984 TO MARCH 1990
(Per cent)

	Survey conducted in(a) —						
	February(b)						March
	r1984	r1985	r1986	r1987	r1988	r1989	1990
MALES							
Not in the labour force at any time during the preceding year	12.9	13.9	14.2	13.7	14.5	14.2	13.8
In the labour force at some time during the preceding year	87.2	86.1	85.8	86.3	85.5	85.8	86.2
Time in the labour force during the preceding year (weeks)—							
52	72.6	70.9	69.6	70.4	70.2	69.1	68.5
1 and under 52	14.5	15.1	16.2	15.6	15.3	16.7	17.8
Worked at some time during the preceding year	81.7	81.4	81.4	81.8	81.5	81.9	83.2
Full-time/part-time status of weeks worked—							
All were full-time	73.9	74.0	73.8	72.2	73.0	72.5	72.1
More full-time than part-time	2.8	2.5	2.7	3.7	2.8	3.2	3.6
More part-time than full-time	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.6
All were part-time	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.9
Number of jobs held during the preceding year(c)—							
One	69.9	68.7	67.5	67.3	66.1	65.3	69.4
Two	8.7	9.1	10.1	10.9	11.3	12.2	10.1
Three	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.4
Four or more	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.3
Looked for work at some time during the preceding year(d)	16.6	14.8	13.7	15.5	14.6	14.5	13.0
Number of spells of looking for work during the preceding year—							
One	13.0	12.3	11.3	12.2	11.7	11.7	10.1
Two	2.2	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3
Three	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.7
Four or more	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
FEMALES							
Not in the labour force at any time during the preceding year	41.2	40.0	38.5	36.9	37.0	34.8	32.9
In the labour force at some time during the preceding year	58.8	60.0	61.5	63.1	63.0	65.2	67.1
Time in the labour force during the preceding year (weeks)—							
52	36.2	37.2	36.7	38.4	39.8	40.7	41.1
1 and under 52	22.6	22.8	24.8	24.1	23.3	24.5	26.1
Worked at some time during the preceding year	53.1	54.9	56.7	58.0	58.4	60.3	63.3
Full-time/part-time status of weeks worked—							
All were full-time	31.0	32.2	32.8	32.1	33.6	33.0	33.5
More full-time than part-time	2.2	2.3	2.5	3.1	2.9	3.0	4.0
More part-time than full-time	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.8
All were part-time	18.3	18.8	19.5	20.9	20.3	22.5	23.0
Number of jobs held during the preceding year(c)—							
One	46.3	46.6	47.2	48.3	48.3	48.8	52.7
Two	5.2	6.2	7.0	7.2	7.6	8.7	8.1
Three	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.7
Four or more	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9
Looked for work at some time during the preceding year(d)	12.9	12.1	12.2	13.4	12.5	13.2	11.7
Number of spells of looking for work during the preceding year—							
One	10.3	10.0	10.1	10.9	10.3	10.5	9.3
Two	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Three	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5
Four or more	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
PERSONS							
Not in the labour force at any time during the preceding year	27.0	26.9	26.3	25.3	25.7	24.4	23.3
In the labour force at some time during the preceding year	73.0	73.1	73.7	74.7	74.3	75.6	76.7
Time in the labour force during the preceding year (weeks)—							
52	54.4	54.1	53.2	54.4	55.0	55.0	54.8
1 and under 52	18.6	19.0	20.5	19.8	19.2	20.6	21.9
Worked at some time during the preceding year	67.4	68.2	69.1	69.9	70.0	71.2	73.3
Full-time/part-time status of weeks worked—							
All were full-time	52.4	53.1	53.3	52.2	53.3	52.9	52.9
More full-time than part-time	2.5	2.4	2.6	3.4	2.8	3.1	3.8
More part-time than full-time	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	2.2
All were part-time	11.3	11.4	11.8	12.8	12.5	13.8	14.4
Number of jobs held during the preceding year(c)—							
One	58.1	57.7	57.4	57.8	57.2	57.1	61.1
Two	6.9	7.7	8.6	9.0	9.4	10.4	9.1
Three	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.1
Four or more	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.1
Looked for work at some time during the preceding year(d)	14.7	13.5	12.9	14.5	13.5	13.8	12.4
Number of spells of looking for work during the preceding year—							
One	11.6	11.1	10.7	11.6	11.0	11.1	9.7
Two	1.9	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
Three	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Four or more	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 13, regarding comparability of the reference periods surveyed. (b) Prior to March 1990, the scope of the survey included persons aged 70 years and over. To enable time series comparisons, proportions from 1984 to 1989 have been revised to exclude persons aged 70 years and over. (c) Excludes second jobs of multiple jobholders. (d) For March 1990, includes those whose number of spells looking for work could not be determined.

TABLE 2. ALL PERSONS: PROPORTION WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD(a) AND AGE, FEBRUARY 1984 TO MARCH 1990
(Per cent)

Survey conducted in—	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	
MARRIED MALES									
February(b)									
1984(c)	*100.0	99.1	98.9	98.2	95.6	85.0	55.6	r22.2	r88.7
1985(c)	100.0	98.5	98.7	97.7	94.1	84.9	53.9	r19.0	r87.9
1986(c)	*100.0	98.5	98.6	97.8	94.3	85.8	51.5	r20.5	r87.2
1987(c)	100.0	99.7	98.7	97.7	93.3	r85.4	r54.1	r20.3	r87.5
1988(c)	*100.0	99.2	98.7	97.6	92.9	83.3	54.9	r16.2	r87.1
1989(c)	100.0	98.3	98.2	97.7	93.4	81.7	60.2	r17.6	r87.3
March(b)									
1990	100.0	99.1	99.0	97.7	93.8	81.6	59.1	20.0	87.5
ALL MALES									
February(b)									
1984(c)	73.8	96.3	98.1	97.7	94.3	83.5	54.6	r21.8	r87.2
1985(c)	72.3	95.9	97.6	96.9	92.7	82.1	53.4	r18.6	r86.1
1986(c)	74.0	97.0	97.6	96.9	92.6	83.4	51.1	r18.6	r85.8
1987(c)	74.7	96.7	98.0	96.6	92.1	r83.6	r52.8	r19.5	r86.3
1988(c)	70.1	95.6	97.3	96.4	90.8	81.2	54.5	r16.3	r85.5
1989(c)	73.9	96.1	97.2	96.7	92.1	79.8	57.7	r17.0	r85.8
March(b)									
1990	75.4	95.8	97.5	96.5	92.4	80.3	57.7	19.2	86.2
MARRIED FEMALES									
February(b)									
1984(c)	67.9	70.1	61.2	65.9	53.9	32.4	15.1	r5.8	r53.6
1985(c)	69.7	70.5	63.8	68.2	56.8	30.9	13.9	r5.5	r55.3
1986(c)	72.2	73.4	66.8	71.8	57.4	33.2	15.1	r6.9	r57.2
1987(c)	77.1	75.8	68.1	72.5	61.0	35.3	16.6	r6.0	r59.3
1988(c)	59.4	77.2	69.6	73.5	60.8	32.8	13.7	r6.8	r59.8
1989(c)	66.3	74.8	72.4	76.2	62.7	36.9	17.4	r7.1	r61.7
March(b)									
1990	73.2	80.2	75.1	79.9	66.5	39.1	18.1	5.2	64.7
ALL FEMALES									
February(b)									
1984(c)	71.1	82.2	65.9	66.7	55.9	34.7	15.9	r6.1	r58.8
1985(c)	72.0	82.4	68.4	69.3	57.9	33.6	15.6	r5.6	r60.0
1986(c)	72.8	84.5	71.1	71.9	58.7	35.8	16.3	r6.6	r61.5
1987(c)	73.4	85.2	72.1	72.6	61.8	37.1	17.5	r6.9	r63.1
1988(c)	68.5	86.4	73.1	73.8	61.8	35.1	15.9	r6.6	r63.0
1989(c)	73.9	86.4	74.6	76.4	64.7	39.4	19.0	r5.9	r65.2
March(b)									
1990	73.4	86.5	78.0	80.5	66.8	38.5	18.7	5.8	67.1
PERSONS									
February(b)									
1984(c)	72.5	89.2	82.0	82.0	75.7	59.3	34.4	r13.4	r73.0
1985(c)	72.1	89.2	83.0	83.3	75.6	58.0	34.0	r11.7	r73.1
1986(c)	73.4	90.7	84.3	84.5	76.0	59.8	33.4	r12.1	r73.7
1987(c)	74.1	91.0	85.0	84.7	77.3	60.5	34.9	r12.8	r74.7
1988(c)	69.3	91.0	85.2	85.2	76.6	58.3	35.0	r11.1	r74.3
1989(c)	73.9	91.3	85.9	86.6	78.7	59.9	38.1	r11.2	r75.6
March(b)									
1990	74.4	91.1	87.8	88.5	79.9	59.7	38.1	12.2	76.7

(a) Persons who participated in the labour force at some time during the reference period as a proportion of all persons in each group. (b) See Explanatory Notes, paragraph 13, regarding comparability of the reference periods surveyed. (c) Prior to March 1990, the scope of the survey included persons aged 70 years and over. To enable time series comparisons, proportions from 1984 to 1989 have been revised to exclude persons aged 70 years and over.

TABLE 3. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING
THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990 AND MARITAL STATUS
(*000)

	Married			Not-married			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Not in the labour force at any time during the preceding year	456.8	1,302.0	1,758.9	360.5	629.2	989.8	817.4	1,931.3	2,748.6
In the labour force at some time during the preceding year	3,184.6	2,389.0	5,573.6	1,926.8	1,558.1	3,484.9	5,111.4	3,947.1	9,058.6
Time in the labour force during the preceding year (weeks)—									
1 and under 4	9.4	57.8	67.2	41.4	45.5	86.9	50.8	103.3	154.1
4 and under 13	24.1	131.3	155.4	122.7	125.3	248.0	146.8	256.6	403.4
13 and under 26	32.8	119.1	152.0	90.3	107.5	197.9	123.1	226.7	349.8
26 and under 39	55.4	161.3	216.7	90.5	90.6	181.1	145.9	251.9	397.8
39 and under 49	175.9	294.1	470.0	161.9	150.6	312.4	337.8	444.6	782.4
49 and under 52	151.3	156.5	307.8	97.2	94.1	191.4	248.5	250.6	499.1
52	2,735.7	1,468.9	4,204.6	1,322.8	944.5	2,267.3	4,058.5	2,413.4	6,471.9
Worked at some time during the preceding year	3,121.5	2,288.1	5,409.6	1,814.1	1,432.9	3,247.0	4,935.6	3,721.1	8,656.6
Time worked during the preceding year (weeks)—									
1 and under 4	11.7	42.6	54.2	39.0	37.6	76.6	50.6	80.2	130.8
4 and under 13	36.2	116.8	153.0	131.3	115.0	246.3	167.5	231.8	399.3
13 and under 26	53.9	121.8	175.7	97.0	98.9	195.9	150.9	220.7	371.6
26 and under 39	89.3	173.5	262.8	128.6	114.8	243.4	217.9	288.3	506.2
39 and under 49	240.5	311.8	552.3	227.6	183.8	411.4	468.1	495.6	963.7
49 and under 52	161.1	151.2	312.3	96.8	87.9	184.7	257.8	239.1	497.0
52	2,528.8	1,370.4	3,899.2	1,093.8	795.0	1,888.8	3,622.6	2,165.3	5,788.0
Full-time/part-time status of weeks worked—									
All were full-time	2,872.0	1,104.0	3,976.0	1,403.0	863.8	2,266.8	4,275.0	1,967.8	6,242.8
All were part-time	108.0	950.5	1,058.5	240.5	400.5	641.0	348.5	1,351.0	1,699.5
More full-time than part-time	110.9	133.5	244.4	104.4	102.2	206.6	215.3	235.7	451.0
More part-time than full-time	30.5	100.2	130.7	66.2	66.5	132.6	96.7	166.6	263.3
Number of jobs held during the preceding year(a)—									
One	2,726.6	2,002.7	4,729.2	1,390.6	1,097.0	2,487.6	4,117.1	3,099.7	7,216.8
Two	305.0	235.6	540.7	293.9	240.4	534.3	598.9	476.0	1,075.0
Three	61.1	39.8	100.9	83.2	61.4	144.6	144.3	101.2	245.5
Four or more	30.2	15.4	45.6	48.2	36.7	84.9	78.4	52.1	130.5
Looked for work at some time during the preceding year	303.4	293.9	597.3	467.9	394.7	862.6	771.3	688.6	1,459.9
Number of spells of looking for work during the preceding year—									
One	240.3	230.3	470.6	357.3	315.8	673.1	597.7	546.1	1,143.7
Two	26.1	24.7	50.8	51.0	37.0	88.0	77.0	61.7	138.7
Three	14.8	12.6	27.4	27.4	18.9	46.4	42.2	31.6	73.8
Four or more	20.6	19.4	40.1	28.5	20.1	48.7	49.2	39.5	88.7
Could not be determined	*1.6	7.0	8.5	3.7	*2.8	6.5	5.2	9.8	15.0
Total	3,641.4	3,691.1	7,332.5	2,287.4	2,187.3	4,474.7	5,928.8	5,878.4	11,807.2

(a) Excludes second jobs of multiple jobholders.

TABLE 4. PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990:
PROPORTION WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME (a), AGE AND MARITAL STATUS
(Per cent)

Age group	Married			Not-married			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	*57.5	49.5	51.1	34.0	35.8	34.9	34.2	36.4	35.3
20-24	24.6	22.5	23.3	25.7	24.3	25.1	25.5	23.7	24.7
25-34	10.9	14.2	12.4	19.9	21.7	20.6	14.1	16.5	15.2
35-44	8.5	10.8	9.5	17.1	17.4	17.3	10.0	12.1	10.9
45-54	6.8	9.1	7.7	14.0	19.1	16.6	7.8	11.1	9.1
55-59	8.7	5.3	7.6	11.5	*9.8	10.8	9.1	6.3	8.2
60-69	9.9	*1.6	8.2	13.4	*4.6	9.6	10.4	*2.7	8.5
Total	9.5	12.3	10.7	24.3	25.3	24.8	15.1	17.4	16.1

(a) Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending March 1990, as a proportion of persons who were in the labour force at some time for each group.

TABLE 5. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990:
TIME WORKED DURING THE YEAR, MARITAL STATUS AND FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS DURING THE YEAR
(*000)

Time worked during the preceding year (weeks)	Married			Not-married			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
TIME WORKED WAS ALL FULL-TIME									
1 and under 4	7.1	10.4	17.5	17.6	11.8	29.3	24.7	22.2	46.9
4 and under 13	20.1	32.4	52.5	71.3	41.0	112.2	91.3	73.4	164.8
13 and under 26	36.3	33.7	70.0	50.4	31.0	81.4	86.7	64.7	151.4
26 and under 39	60.9	52.7	113.6	72.1	46.1	118.2	133.0	98.7	231.8
39 and under 49	182.1	89.9	272.0	136.0	73.3	209.3	318.1	163.2	481.3
49 and under 52	140.1	52.8	192.9	67.0	43.3	110.3	207.1	96.1	303.2
52	2,425.4	832.1	3,257.5	988.6	617.4	1,606.0	3,414.0	1,449.4	4,863.5
Total	2,872.0	1,104.0	3,976.0	1,403.0	863.8	2,266.8	4,275.0	1,967.8	6,242.8
TIME WORKED WAS MORE FULL-TIME THAN PART-TIME									
1 and under 13	*2.4	5.1	7.5	8.9	10.1	18.9	11.3	15.1	26.5
13 and under 26	5.2	9.9	15.1	11.6	9.7	21.3	16.8	19.6	36.5
26 and under 39	11.3	14.8	26.1	14.6	11.7	26.3	25.9	26.5	52.4
39 and under 49	26.8	30.1	56.9	31.6	23.8	55.5	58.4	54.0	112.4
49 and under 52	14.6	9.3	23.9	7.7	8.8	16.5	22.3	18.1	40.5
52	50.5	64.2	114.8	30.0	38.0	68.0	80.5	102.3	182.8
Total	110.9	133.5	244.4	104.4	102.2	206.6	215.3	235.7	451.0
TIME WORKED WAS MORE PART-TIME THAN FULL-TIME									
1 and under 13	*0.7	*2.9	3.7	5.8	5.4	11.2	6.5	8.3	14.8
13 and under 26	*3.1	6.5	9.6	6.5	6.7	13.1	9.5	13.2	22.7
26 and under 39	5.8	11.0	16.9	11.3	8.5	19.8	17.1	19.6	36.7
39 and under 49	8.5	25.5	34.0	17.9	17.2	35.1	26.4	42.6	69.0
49 and under 52	*2.2	8.1	10.2	4.5	5.0	9.6	6.7	13.1	19.8
52	10.3	46.2	56.4	20.2	23.7	43.9	30.5	69.8	100.3
Total	30.5	100.2	130.7	66.2	66.5	132.6	96.7	166.6	263.3
TIME WORKED WAS ALL PART-TIME									
1 and under 4	4.6	31.1	35.7	20.3	24.7	44.9	24.8	55.8	80.6
4 and under 13	13.0	77.4	90.4	46.5	59.7	106.2	59.5	137.1	196.6
13 and under 26	9.4	71.6	81.0	28.5	51.5	80.0	37.8	123.2	161.0
26 and under 39	11.2	95.0	106.3	30.7	48.5	79.1	41.9	143.5	185.4
39 and under 49	23.1	166.4	189.5	42.1	69.5	111.6	65.1	235.9	301.0
49 and under 52	4.2	81.0	85.2	17.6	30.7	48.3	21.7	111.8	133.5
52	42.6	427.9	470.5	55.0	115.9	170.9	97.6	543.8	641.4
Total	108.0	950.5	1,058.5	240.5	400.5	641.0	348.5	1,351.0	1,699.5
TOTAL									
1 and under 4	11.7	42.6	54.2	39.0	37.6	76.6	50.6	80.2	130.8
4 and under 13	36.2	116.8	153.0	131.3	115.0	246.3	167.5	231.8	399.3
13 and under 26	53.9	121.8	175.7	97.0	98.9	195.9	150.9	220.7	371.6
26 and under 39	89.3	173.5	262.8	128.6	114.8	243.4	217.9	288.3	506.2
39 and under 49	240.5	311.8	552.3	227.6	183.8	411.4	468.1	495.6	963.7
49 and under 52	161.1	151.2	312.3	96.8	87.9	184.7	257.8	239.1	497.0
52	2,528.8	1,370.4	3,899.2	1,093.8	795.0	1,888.8	3,622.6	2,165.3	5,788.0
Total	3,121.5	2,288.1	5,409.6	1,814.1	1,432.9	3,247.0	4,935.6	3,721.1	8,656.6

TABLE 6. PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990:
NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK, TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK AND AGE

Time spent looking for work (Weeks)	Age group						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-69	
ONE SPELL OF LOOKING FOR WORK							
--- '000 ---							
1 and under 2	34.5	16.7	27.1	16.8	7.6	3.9	106.7
2 and under 4	48.2	44.6	47.4	29.0	15.0	5.1	189.3
4 and under 8	62.5	45.9	52.4	35.8	17.7	4.3	218.5
8 and under 13	53.1	32.9	42.8	30.2	12.0	3.9	174.9
13 and under 26	41.4	30.7	33.5	25.7	11.1	6.6	149.0
26 and under 52	29.0	27.2	37.5	27.7	14.4	8.7	144.5
52	18.0	24.7	37.7	30.5	27.8	22.1	160.8
Could not be determined	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0
<i>Total</i>	286.7	222.7	278.3	195.8	105.6	54.6	1,143.7
Males	138.8	119.9	144.2	95.8	52.5	46.4	597.7
Females	147.8	102.8	134.1	100.0	53.1	8.2	546.1
--- weeks ---							
Average duration(a)	12.7	15.6	16.8	18.4	23.0	30.3	17.0
Median duration(a)	8	9	9	11	13	34	10
TWO SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK							
--- '000 ---							
2 and under 4	7.3	4.7	6.2	*2.5	*1.5	*0.1	22.2
4 and under 13	14.6	16.0	13.4	8.0	3.8	*0.7	56.5
13 and under 26	6.5	7.3	7.3	4.5	*1.1	*0.4	27.1
26 and under 52	6.5	7.0	11.2	4.9	*1.5	*1.8	32.9
Could not be determined	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0
<i>Total</i>	34.8	34.9	38.1	19.9	7.9	*3.0	138.7
Males	18.8	19.6	20.4	11.0	4.9	*2.4	77.0
Females	16.0	15.4	17.8	8.9	*3.0	*0.6	61.7
--- weeks ---							
Average duration(a)	13.6	14.4	16.8	16.8	13.6	*27.4	15.4
Median duration(a)	10	11	13	12	9	30	11
THREE OR MORE SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK							
--- '000 ---							
3 and under 4	*2.6	*1.2	*1.9	*1.6	*0.9	*0.7	8.9
4 and under 13	13.0	15.8	20.2	13.0	6.4	*3.2	71.4
13 and under 26	8.3	7.3	11.0	6.4	3.7	*1.0	37.8
26 and under 52	10.9	11.3	10.7	6.6	*3.0	*1.9	44.4
Could not be determined	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0
<i>Total</i>	34.8	35.5	43.8	27.6	13.9	6.8	162.5
Males	19.9	21.4	22.6	14.7	7.6	5.3	91.4
Females	14.9	14.1	21.2	12.9	6.3	*1.5	71.1
--- weeks ---							
Average duration(a)	17.9	17.7	16.2	15.9	15.2	16.0	16.7
Median duration(a)	16	14	13	12	12	12	13
TOTAL(b)							
--- '000 ---							
1 and under 2	34.5	16.7	27.1	16.8	7.6	3.9	106.7
2 and under 4	58.1	50.4	55.5	33.1	17.3	5.9	220.4
4 and under 8	76.3	61.8	69.7	46.4	23.4	5.6	283.2
8 and under 13	67.0	48.8	59.1	40.6	16.5	6.4	238.3
13 and under 26	56.5	45.3	51.8	36.6	15.9	8.0	214.2
26 and under 52	46.3	45.4	59.4	39.3	18.9	12.5	221.8
52	18.0	24.7	37.7	30.5	27.8	22.1	160.8
Could not be determined	*3.3	*2.1	4.5	*2.0	*2.0	*0.6	14.5
<i>Total</i>	360.1	295.3	364.7	245.3	129.4	65.1	1,459.9
Males	179.7	161.4	188.5	122.3	65.1	54.2	771.3
Females	180.3	133.9	176.2	123.0	64.3	10.9	688.6
--- weeks ---							
Average duration(a)	13.3	15.7	16.7	18.0	21.6	28.6	16.9
Median duration(a)	9	10	11	11	13	30	11

(a) Of total weeks spent looking for work during the year. (b) Includes 15,000 persons whose spells of looking for work could not be determined.

TABLE 7. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1990:
MAIN ACTIVITY WHEN NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AND TIME NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE
('000)

Main activity when not in the labour force	Time not in the labour force (weeks)							Total
	1 and under 4	4 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 39	39 and under 49	49 and under 52	52	
MALES								
Retired or voluntarily inactive	15.6	35.5	23.6	25.7	11.5	4.9	383.2	500.0
Home duties/childcare	8.3	16.1	8.3	*2.9	7.0	*2.2	43.5	88.4
Attended an educational institution	8.3	38.2	45.5	71.4	124.1	37.4	199.4	524.3
Unpaid leave	32.5	28.2	*2.6	*1.3	*0.5	*0.0	*0.1	65.2
Own illness, injury/disability	19.3	30.2	18.7	10.7	9.4	*2.9	162.7	254.0
Looking after ill/disabled person	*0.6	*2.7	*0.9	*0.5	*0.1	*0.0	5.9	10.8
Travelled, moved house, holiday	146.3	139.8	31.4	15.5	8.5	*2.2	5.1	348.8
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*1.6	*3.2	*1.2	*0.5	*0.2	*0.6	10.6	17.8
Other	16.0	19.1	8.8	5.7	3.8	*0.6	6.9	61.0
Total	248.5	313.1	141.0	134.3	165.2	50.8	817.4	1,870.3
FEMALES								
Retired or voluntarily inactive	6.5	13.1	7.0	7.1	5.0	3.8	168.6	211.1
Home duties/childcare	47.3	169.1	137.0	138.2	155.5	62.0	1,444.2	2,153.4
Attended an educational institution	12.3	41.8	36.7	75.5	105.5	32.8	205.6	510.3
Unpaid leave	26.9	21.9	6.2	*3.0	*0.5	*0.4	*0.0	59.0
Own illness, injury/disability	18.0	26.6	10.8	7.3	*3.2	*1.5	55.2	122.6
Looking after ill/disabled person	*2.4	3.9	*2.0	*1.5	*1.4	*0.2	18.5	29.9
Travelled, moved house, holiday	130.8	126.4	26.4	14.3	8.0	*0.5	6.3	312.7
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*1.1	*1.7	*1.1	*1.4	*2.5	*1.3	27.6	36.8
Other	5.2	7.3	4.5	*3.3	*3.0	*0.6	5.2	29.2
Total	250.6	412.0	231.7	251.6	284.6	103.3	1,931.3	3,465.0
PERSONS								
Retired or voluntarily inactive	22.1	48.6	30.6	32.8	16.5	8.7	551.8	711.2
Home duties/childcare	55.7	185.3	145.3	141.1	162.5	64.2	1,487.7	2,241.8
Attended an educational institution	20.6	80.1	82.1	146.9	229.6	70.2	405.0	1,034.6
Unpaid leave	59.4	50.2	8.7	4.3	*1.0	*0.4	*0.1	124.2
Own illness, injury/disability	37.3	56.8	29.5	18.0	12.6	4.4	217.9	376.6
Looking after ill/disabled person	*3.0	6.6	*3.0	*2.0	*1.5	*0.2	24.5	40.6
Travelled, moved house, holiday	277.1	266.2	57.9	29.7	16.5	*2.7	11.3	661.5
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*2.7	4.9	*2.3	*1.9	*2.7	*1.9	38.2	54.6
Other	21.2	26.5	13.3	9.0	6.8	*1.3	12.1	90.2
Total	499.1	725.1	372.7	385.8	449.8	154.1	2,748.6	5,335.3

TABLE 8. ALL POPULATIONS BY STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE
(*000)

	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
<i>Population 1:</i> All persons (excluding institutionalised and boarding school pupils)	4,029.5	3,061.3	1,976.9	1,001.2	1,122.6	312.3	106.0	197.4	11,807.2
<i>Population 2:</i> Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending March 1990	3,012.7	2,362.1	1,540.2	766.4	888.3	235.4	86.3	167.0	9,058.6
<i>Population 3:</i> Persons who worked at some time during the year ending March 1990	2,863.5	2,284.1	1,470.1	724.8	852.5	219.3	82.1	160.3	8,656.6
<i>Population 4:</i> Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending March 1990	477.3	322.3	282.1	128.6	162.8	41.3	16.8	28.6	1,459.9
<i>Population 5:</i> Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year ending March 1990	1,834.7	1,359.1	912.9	454.9	505.0	141.6	46.3	80.8	5,335.3
<i>Population 6:</i> Persons currently working who had worked for one year or more in current job	1,790.0	1,409.1	830.4	434.4	488.6	137.4	46.4	92.9	5,229.3
<i>Population 7:</i> Persons who had a job at March 1990	2,596.3	2,064.9	1,300.8	653.4	755.3	196.8	72.3	144.2	7,784.0
<i>Population 8:</i> Persons who were looking for work at March 1990	203.1	127.8	121.2	54.9	68.4	19.4	6.8	11.7	613.3
<i>Population 9:</i> Persons who worked at some time during the year ending March 1990 but not at March 1990	261.5	210.8	166.5	69.7	95.4	21.9	9.0	15.6	850.3
<i>Population 10:</i> Persons in the labour force for whole year	2,183.6	1,691.5	1,059.7	543.8	614.8	169.6	58.9	115.8	6,437.7

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Note: The scope of this survey was restricted to persons aged 15-69 years. See paragraphs 3 and 13.

Introduction

The monthly population survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the March 1990 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Those respondents to the labour force survey who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. They were asked the length of time they worked, looked for work or were not in the labour force, the number of spells during which they looked for work and other aspects of labour force experience for the 52 weeks up to the end of the week before the interview.

Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) except that it was restricted to persons aged 15 to 69. Visitors to private dwellings, students who were boarding at school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of reformatories, gaols, etc. have also been excluded.

4. In the tables, 'All Persons' refers to all persons within the scope of the survey.

Coverage

5. In the population survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. See *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

Definitions

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

7. Labour force experience characteristics relate to the 52 weeks up to the end of the week before the interview. Unless otherwise stated, all other characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview.

Results of the survey

8. The estimates relate to persons covered by the survey in March 1990. Because of emigration, deaths, etc., not all persons with labour force experience during the period were covered. Labour force experience may relate to experience outside Australia.

9. Results of similar surveys, conducted in February 1969, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977 and annually since February 1979, have been given in previous issues of this publication.

10. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in March 1991.

Unpublished statistics

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

Comparability of series

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

Discontinuities in the series

13. All surveys prior to March 1990 were run in February. The estimates for this survey are not strictly comparable with those obtained from previous surveys. The scope of surveys run prior to March 1990 included persons aged 15 and over. In March 1990 the survey was restricted to exclude all persons aged 70 and over (see paragraph 3). Historical estimates contained in this publication have been revised to enable comparisons of estimates from this survey with those from surveys conducted prior to March 1990.

14. March 1990 and February 1989 data have been weighted to conform to population estimates based on the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. Data from the February 1984 to 1988 surveys were based on estimates from the 1981 population census.

Survey sample redesign

15. The labour force survey sample has been redesigned and reselected using information collected in the 1986 Population Census. As a result, the standard errors in this Supplementary Survey differ from those for surveys of the same topic run prior to September 1987. For details, see *Information Paper — Labour Force Survey — Sample Design* (6269.0).

Sample size

16. In previous years this supplementary survey has been conducted on either 50 per cent or 75 per cent of the dwellings selected in the Labour Force Survey. For March 1990 this has been expanded to the full sample size. As a result the standard errors for this survey differ from those applicable to previous surveys.

Estimation procedure

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

Reliability of the estimates

18. Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. For more information refer to the Technical Note, Page 13.

Related publications

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

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (6220.0)—issued annually

Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, July 1988 (6222.0)—issued two-yearly

Persons who have Left the Labour Force, Australia, April 1988 (6267.0)—issued irregularly

Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia, June 1986 (6245.0)—issued irregularly

Labour Mobility, Australia (6209.0)—issued annually

Persons who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia, May 1990 (6264.0)—issued irregularly

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

Symbols and other usages

- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See the Technical Note, Page 13.
- .. not applicable
- r revised

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

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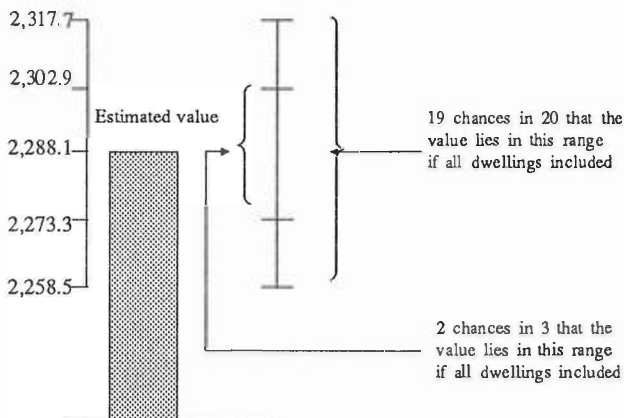
Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6684.

TECHNICAL NOTE

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

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

3. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 3 shows the estimated number of married females who worked at some time during the year ending March 1990 was 2,288,100. Since this estimate is between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000, the standard error for Australia will be between 14,300 and 19,700 in the standard error table and can be approximated as 14,800 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 2,273,300 to 2,302,900 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 2,258,500 and 2,317,700. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



4. As can be seen from the standard error table, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors less than 25 per cent are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

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

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

6. Considering the example from paragraph 3 above, these females as a proportion of all married females (3,691,100) is 62 per cent. The standard error for 3,691,100 is approximately 17,300 so the relative standard error is 0.5 per cent. The relative standard error for 2,288,100 is 0.6 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(0.6)^2 + (0.5)^2}$ or 0.8 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (62 per cent) of 0.5 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of married females who worked at some time during the year is between 61.8 per cent and 62.2 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty that the proportion is within the range 61.6 per cent to 62.4 per cent.

7. Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE (x-y) = \sqrt{[SE (x)]^2 + [SE (y)]^2}$$

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

8. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this

kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sam-

pling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

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

GLOSSARY

Average duration of time spent looking for work: obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been looking for work by the number of persons in that group.

In the labour force: persons who were reported as having either worked or looked for work.

Looked for work: persons who were reported as being out of work and looking for a job.

Median duration of time spent looking for work: the duration which divides persons who looked for work into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose time spent looking for work during the year is above the median, and the other, persons whose time spent looking for work is below it.

Multiple jobholders: all persons who had more than one job in any one week during the reference period. Persons who had more than one job in a week solely by reason of changing jobs were not counted as multiple jobholders.

Not in the labour force: during any week of the reference period, persons who reported as having neither worked nor looked for work were classified as not in the labour force for that week.

Number of spells of looking for work during the year: the number of different periods, including the current period, during which persons were reported as having been out of work and looking for a job.

Time in the labour force during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked or looked for work.

Time not in the labour force during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as having neither worked nor looked for work.

Time spent looking for work during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as being out of work and looking for a job.

Time worked during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked or been on paid leave. Periods of one week or more on strike or time off without pay are not classified as work.

Time worked full-time during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked full-time or been on paid leave.

Time worked part-time during the year: the total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked part-time or been on paid leave.

Reference period: the 52 weeks up to the end of the week prior to interview. See also paragraph 13 of the Explanatory Notes, Page 11.

Worked: persons who were reported as having either worked or been on paid leave.

SPECIAL DATA SERVICES

DATA ITEMS AND HOW TO ORDER SPECIAL TABLES FROM THIS SURVEY

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

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

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates.

POPULATIONS

- POPULATION 1: All persons (excluding institutionalised and boarding school pupils)
 - POPULATION 2: Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending March 1990
 - POPULATION 3: Persons who worked at some time during the year ending March 1990
 - POPULATION 4: Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending March 1990
 - POPULATION 5: Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year ending March 1990
 - POPULATION 6: Persons currently working who had worked for one year or more in current job
 - POPULATION 7: Persons who had a job at March 1990
 - POPULATION 8: Persons who were looking for work at March 1990
 - POPULATION 9: Persons who worked at some time during the year ending March 1990 but not at March 1990
 - POPULATION 10: Persons in the labour force for whole year
-

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
1 STATE	ALL	7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL	ALL
New South Wales		Born in Australia	
Victoria		Born outside Australia	
Queensland		Arrived before 1961	
South Australia		Arrived 1961 - 1970	
Western Australia		Arrived 1971 - 1980	
Tasmania		Arrived 1981 - 1990	
Northern Territory			
Australian Capital Territory			
2 AREA	ALL	7B BIRTHPLACE (1)	ALL
Metropolitan		Born in Australia	
Non-metropolitan		Born outside Australia	
		Born in main English speaking countries(a)	
		Born in other countries	
3 DISSEMINATION REGION	ALL	(a) Comprises UK, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, USA and New Zealand.	
Standard labour force dissemination regions			
4 GENDER	ALL	7C BIRTHPLACE (2)	ALL
Males		Born in Australia	
Females		Born outside Australia	
5 MARITAL STATUS	ALL	Africa	
Married		America	
Not-married		Asia	
		Lebanon	
6A FAMILY STATUS (1)	ALL	Viet Nam	
Member of a family		Other countries in Asia	
Husband or wife		Europe	
With dependents present		Germany	
Without dependents present		Greece	
Sole parent with dependents present		Italy	
Other family head without dependents present		Malta	
Full-time student aged 15-24(a)		Netherlands	
Other child(b) of married couple or family head		Poland	
Other relative of married couple or family head		United Kingdom and Ireland	
Not a member of a family		Yugoslavia	
Living alone		Other countries in Europe	
Not living alone		Oceania	
Family status not determined		New Zealand	
(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.		Other countries in Oceania	
(b) Aged 15-69.		At sea, etc	
6B FAMILY STATUS (2)	ALL	8 AGE	ALL
Member of a family		15-19	
Husband or wife		20-24	
With children aged 0-14 present		25-34	
Without children aged 0-14 present		35-44	
Sole parent		45-54	
With children aged 0-14 present		55-64	
Without children aged 0-14 present		65-69	
Other family head		9 LABOUR FORCE STATUS AT MARCH 1990	ALL
Full-time student aged 15-24(a)		In labour force	
Other child(b) of married couple or family head		Had a job	
Other relative of married couple or family head		Looking for work	
Not a member of a family		Not in labour force	
Living alone		10 STATUS OF WORKER AT MARCH 1990	6, 7
Not living alone		Had job, asked status of worker	
Family status not determined		Wage and salary earners	
(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school.		Other	
(b) Aged 15 and over.		Had job, not asked status of worker	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
11 FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS AT MARCH 1990 Had a job, asked full-time/part-time status Full-time Part-time Had a job, not asked full-time/part-time status	6, 7	18 DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF LOOKING FOR WORK 1 and under 2 weeks 2 and under 4 weeks 4 and under 8 weeks 8 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 1 year and over	8
12 TIME IN LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR Nil weeks In labour force at some time 1 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 weeks	1-5, 7-9	19 NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK DURING THE YEAR 1 spell 2 spells 3 spells 4 or more spells	4, 8
13 TIME WORKED DURING THE YEAR Nil weeks Worked at some time 1 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 weeks	1-5, 7-10	20 MAIN ACTIVITY WHEN NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE Retired or voluntarily inactive Home duties/childcare Attended an educational institution Unpaid leave Own illness or injury Own disability or handicap Looking after ill/disabled person Travelled, moved house, holiday Worked in an unpaid voluntary job Other	5
14 TIME NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR Nil weeks Not in the labour force at some time 1 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 weeks	1-5, 7-9	21 WHETHER CEASED A JOB DURING THE YEAR Ceased a job Did not cease a job	1-5, 7-10
15 NUMBER OF JOBS HELD DURING THE YEAR One Two Three Four or more	1-5, 7-10	22 WHETHER IN LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR In labour force at some time For whole year For part of year Not in labour force at some time Not in labour force at any time	2-5
16 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS DURING THE YEAR All full-time Most full-time, some part-time Most part-time, some full-time All part-time	ALL	23 WHETHER LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR Looked for work Did not look for work	4, 8
17 TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK DURING THE YEAR 1 and under 4 weeks 4 and under 8 weeks 8 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks 52 weeks Did not look for work at any time	4, 8	24 WHETHER WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR Worked Did not work	3
		25 NUMBER OF WEEKS WORKED PART-TIME DURING THE YEAR Worked part-time at some time 1 and under 13 weeks 13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks 39 weeks and over Did not work part-time	ALL

NOTE: More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available.

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

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4	210
5	300
6 or more	negotiable

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Australian Bureau of Statistics
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OR

Facsimile No. (06) 2526530

4. The invoiced cost is payable in full within 28 days of supply.
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Labour Force Experience, March 1990

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For further information contact Mr Michael Jones on Canberra (06) 252 6503 or any ABS State Office.



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