

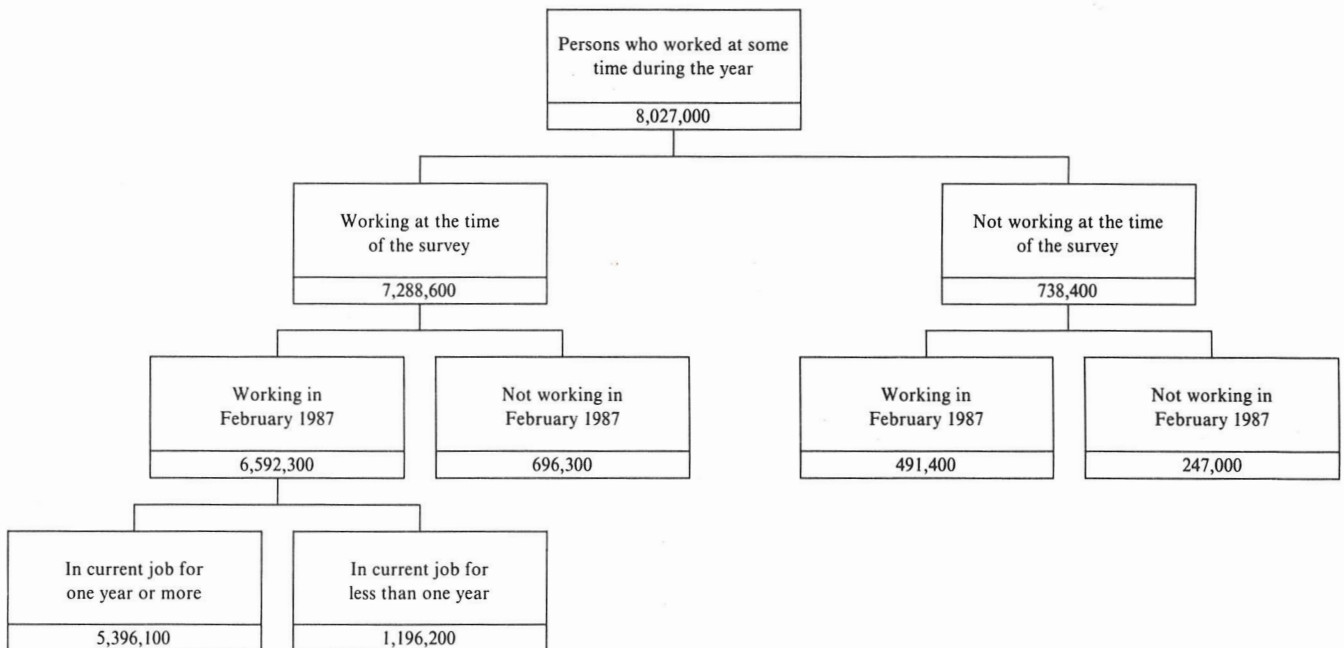


## LABOUR MOBILITY, AUSTRALIA, DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988 SUMMARY

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### MAIN FEATURES

DIAGRAM 1. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988  
(Source of data: Table 3)



An estimated 1,457,700 persons or 18.2 per cent of all persons who had worked at some time during the year ending February 1988 were job mobile. For a person to be job mobile they must have either changed employer during the year, which 1,067,500 persons (13.3 per cent) had done, or changed locality but not employer during the year, as 390,200 persons (4.9 per cent) had done.

The majority of those who had worked at some time during the year had done so for only one employer (86.7 per cent), with much smaller numbers having worked for two (10.4 per cent), three (2.0 per cent), or four or more (0.9 per cent) employers. This trend was more prominent amongst the older age groups, with 95.1 per cent of all persons aged 45 and over having worked for only one employer during the year. This compares to the younger cohorts of 15 to 19 years with 80.3 per cent, and the 20 to 24 years with 78.6 per cent having worked for only one employer during the year.

Persons who ceased a job during the year numbered 2,040,300. Of these, 1,385,900 (67.9 per cent) had left a job voluntarily (job leavers). This included the 399,100 (19.6 per cent) who had changed locality but not employer. Approximately 654,400 persons (32.1 per cent) had left a job involuntarily (job losers). The majority of job losers were retrenched (54.2 per cent), with over half of those retrenched (57.2 per cent) having worked in their last job for under one year.

**TABLE 1. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD: WHETHER CHANGED EMPLOYER/BUSINESS OR LOCALITY, FEBRUARY 1980 TO FEBRUARY 1988**

| Whether changed employer/business<br>or locality | Survey conducted in February— |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | 1988(b)        |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
|  | 1980(a)                       | 1981(b)      | 1982(b)      | 1983(b)      | 1984(b)      | 1985(b)      | 1986(b)      | 1987(c)      |              |                |
|  | —per cent—                    |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| <b>MALES</b>                                     |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Job mobile                                       | 16.7                          | 17.4         | 18.0         | 15.6         | 14.4         | 15.5         | 16.9         | 17.6         | 18.8         | 881.6          |
| Changed employer/business                        | 13.2                          | 14.3         | 14.7         | 11.7         | 10.8         | 11.8         | 13.1         | 13.2         | 13.3         | 625.2          |
| Changed locality but not employer/business       | 3.5                           | 3.1          | 3.3          | 3.9          | 3.6          | 3.7          | 3.8          | 4.4          | 5.5          | 256.4          |
| Did not change employer/business or locality     | 83.3                          | 82.6         | 82.0         | 84.4         | 85.6         | 84.5         | 83.1         | 82.3         | 81.2         | 3,811.5        |
| <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> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>4,693.2</i> |
| <b>FEMALES</b>                                   |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Job mobile                                       | 14.1                          | 15.0         | 15.7         | 13.7         | 12.8         | 15.0         | 16.7         | 16.4         | 17.3         | 576.1          |
| Changed employer/business                        | 11.6                          | 12.5         | 13.3         | 10.9         | 10.2         | 12.0         | 13.7         | 12.9         | 13.3         | 442.3          |
| Changed locality but not employer/business       | 2.5                           | 2.5          | 2.5          | 2.8          | 2.5          | 3.0          | 3.0          | 3.5          | 4.0          | 133.8          |
| Did not change employer/business or locality     | 85.9                          | 85.0         | 84.3         | 86.3         | 87.2         | 85.0         | 83.3         | 83.3         | 82.7         | 2,757.8        |
| <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> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>3,333.8</i> |
| <b>PERSONS</b>                                   |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Job mobile                                       | 15.7                          | 16.5         | 17.1         | 14.9         | 13.8         | 15.3         | 16.8         | 17.1         | 18.2         | 1,457.7        |
| Changed employer/business                        | 12.6                          | 13.6         | 14.1         | 11.4         | 10.6         | 11.9         | 13.4         | 13.1         | 13.3         | 1,067.5        |
| Changed locality but not employer/business       | 3.1                           | 2.9          | 3.0          | 3.4          | 3.2          | 3.4          | 3.5          | 4.1          | 4.9          | 390.2          |
| Did not change employer/business or locality     | 84.3                          | 83.5         | 82.9         | 85.1         | 86.2         | 84.7         | 83.2         | 82.7         | 81.8         | 6,569.3        |
| <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> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>100.0</i> | <i>8,027.0</i> |

(a) As a proportion of persons in the survey who had worked at some time during the calendar year prior to the survey. (b) As a proportion of persons in the survey who had worked at some time during the previous twelve months. (c) As a proportion of persons in the survey who had worked at some time during the previous twelve months, which includes persons whose job mobility status could not be determined.

**TABLE 2. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY: DURATION OF CURRENT JOB, FEBRUARY 1980 TO FEBRUARY 1988**

| Duration of current job | Survey conducted in February— |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | 1988           |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
|                         | 1980(a)                       | 1981         | 1982         | 1983         | 1984         | 1985         | 1986         | 1987(b)      | 1988         |                |
|                         | —per cent—                    |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | ( ' 000)       |
| <b>MALES</b>            |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Under 1 year            | 20.5                          | 23.1         | 23.0         | 18.8         | 19.4         | 20.8         | 21.8         | 22.7         | 24.3         | 1,058.3        |
| Under 3 months          | 6.6                           | 9.2          | 8.7          | 7.6          | 8.6          | 9.0          | 9.4          | 9.4          | 9.8          | 427.0          |
| 3 and under 6 months    | 5.3                           | 5.6          | 5.8          | 4.0          | 4.4          | 4.4          | 4.8          | 5.2          | 5.9          | 257.4          |
| 6 and under 12 months   | 8.6                           | 8.3          | 8.4          | 7.2          | 6.4          | 7.3          | 7.6          | 8.1          | 8.6          | 374.0          |
| 1 and under 2 years     | 12.5                          | 12.6         | 12.2         | 13.0         | 10.1         | 11.6         | 12.7         | 10.6         | 10.2         | 446.2          |
| 2 and under 3 years     | 8.8                           | 8.7          | 9.2          | 12.0         | 11.3         | 9.4          | 9.1          | 8.2          | 8.7          | 380.2          |
| 3 and under 5 years     | 14.2                          | 14.1         | 14.1         | 16.0         | 16.2         | 15.7         | 13.7         | 11.3         | 12.2         | 532.1          |
| 5 and under 10 years    | 18.4                          | 17.7         | 18.2         | 19.0         | 18.8         | 18.7         | 19.1         | 17.6         | 15.5         | 677.5          |
| 10 years and over       | 25.4                          | 23.9         | 23.3         | 21.4         | 24.1         | 23.9         | 23.6         | 29.4         | 29.0         | 1,264.9        |
| 10 and under 20 years   | 15.5                          | 14.8         | } 23.3 {     | 13.9         | 15.9         | 15.6         | 15.6         | 18.2         | 18.0         | 782.9          |
| 20 years and over       | 9.9                           | 9.1          |              | 7.5          | 8.2          | 8.3          | 8.0          | 11.2         | 11.1         | 482.0          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>100.0</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>4,359.2</b> |
| <b>FEMALES</b>          |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Under 1 year            | 25.3                          | 28.8         | 28.0         | 23.3         | 24.5         | 26.5         | 28.6         | 28.7         | 28.5         | 834.1          |
| Under 3 months          | 7.8                           | 11.3         | 10.7         | 9.0          | 10.2         | 11.2         | 11.7         | 11.7         | 11.3         | 331.7          |
| 3 and under 6 months    | 6.2                           | 6.7          | 7.2          | 5.3          | 5.6          | 6.5          | 7.0          | 6.8          | 7.1          | 208.2          |
| 6 and under 12 months   | 11.4                          | 10.8         | 10.0         | 9.0          | 8.6          | 8.9          | 10.0         | 10.2         | 10.0         | 294.2          |
| 1 and under 2 years     | 15.8                          | 16.0         | 15.2         | 15.8         | 13.9         | 14.5         | 15.3         | 14.1         | 14.1         | 413.5          |
| 2 and under 3 years     | 11.2                          | 9.6          | 10.7         | 14.4         | 12.7         | 10.8         | 10.7         | 10.6         | 11.3         | 331.3          |
| 3 and under 5 years     | 17.1                          | 15.8         | 15.1         | 16.7         | 17.0         | 17.3         | 13.9         | 12.9         | 14.0         | 410.0          |
| 5 and under 10 years    | 18.2                          | 18.0         | 18.7         | 18.2         | 18.5         | 17.4         | 17.6         | 17.1         | 16.3         | 477.7          |
| 10 years and over       | 12.3                          | 11.9         | 12.4         | 11.6         | 13.4         | 13.6         | 13.8         | 16.4         | 15.8         | 462.9          |
| 10 and under 20 years   | 9.2                           | 9.0          | } 12.4 {     | 9.0          | 10.6         | 10.9         | 10.9         | 12.6         | 12.1         | 353.1          |
| 20 years and over       | 3.1                           | 2.9          |              | 2.6          | 2.8          | 2.7          | 2.9          | 3.8          | 3.7          | 109.8          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>100.0</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>2,929.4</b> |
| <b>PERSONS</b>          |                               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |
| Under 1 year            | 22.3                          | 25.1         | 24.8         | 20.5         | 21.3         | 22.9         | 24.5         | 25.1         | 26.0         | 1,892.5        |
| Under 3 months          | 7.0                           | 9.9          | 9.5          | 8.1          | 9.2          | 9.8          | 10.3         | 10.3         | 10.4         | 758.7          |
| 3 and under 6 months    | 5.6                           | 6.0          | 6.3          | 4.5          | 4.9          | 5.2          | 5.7          | 5.9          | 6.4          | 465.6          |
| 6 and under 12 months   | 9.6                           | 9.2          | 9.0          | 7.9          | 7.3          | 7.9          | 8.5          | 8.9          | 9.2          | 668.2          |
| 1 and under 2 years     | 13.7                          | 13.8         | 13.3         | 14.0         | 11.6         | 12.7         | 13.7         | 12.0         | 11.8         | 859.7          |
| 2 and under 3 years     | 9.7                           | 9.0          | 9.8          | 12.9         | 11.8         | 10.0         | 9.8          | 9.2          | 9.8          | 711.3          |
| 3 and under 5 years     | 15.3                          | 14.7         | 14.4         | 16.2         | 16.5         | 16.4         | 13.7         | 11.9         | 12.9         | 942.1          |
| 5 and under 10 years    | 18.3                          | 17.8         | 18.3         | 18.7         | 18.7         | 18.2         | 18.5         | 17.4         | 15.8         | 1,155.2        |
| 10 years and over       | 20.7                          | 19.5         | 19.3         | 17.7         | 20.1         | 19.9         | 19.7         | 24.2         | 23.7         | 1,727.8        |
| 10 and under 20 years   | 13.2                          | 12.7         | } 19.3 {     | 12.1         | 13.9         | 13.8         | 13.7         | 15.9         | 15.6         | 1,136.0        |
| 20 years and over       | 7.5                           | 6.8          |              | 5.6          | 6.2          | 6.1          | 6.0          | 8.3          | 8.1          | 591.8          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>100.0</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>7,288.6</b> |

(a) For persons in the survey who were working at the end of the previous calendar year, time in job held at end of previous calendar year. (b) Totals include persons whose duration of current job could not be determined.

TABLE 3. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988:  
LABOUR MOBILITY FROM FEBRUARY 1987 TO FEBRUARY 1988 AND INDUSTRY  
( '000)

|  | Working in February 1987                   |                |              |                            |                       |   |                                   |                    |   |              |                |                              | Total          |
|--|--|----------------|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|
|  | Industry of February 1987 job              |                |              |                            |                       |   |                                   |                    |   |              | Total          | Not working in February 1987 |                |
|  | Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | Manufacturing  | Construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Transport and storage | Finance, property and business services | Public administration and defence | Community services | Recreation, personal and other services | Other        |                |                              |                |
| Working in February 1988                   | 399.0                                      | 1,090.7        | 461.7        | 1,291.6                    | 374.0                 | 700.4                                   | 328.7                             | 1,144.8            | 441.9                                   | 359.5        | 6,592.3        | ..                           | 7,288.6        |
| For one year or more in current job        | 362.8                                      | 912.6          | 370.2        | 1,020.6                    | 304.7                 | 538.2                                   | 274.9                             | 957.4              | 340.4                                   | 314.3        | 5,396.1        | *                            | 5,396.1        |
| For less than one year in current job      | 36.2                                       | 178.1          | 91.5         | 270.9                      | 69.3                  | 162.3                                   | 53.8                              | 187.4              | 101.5                                   | 45.2         | 1,196.2        | ..                           | 1,892.5        |
| Same industry as February 1987 job         | 20.4                                       | 98.9           | 60.6         | 172.0                      | 42.3                  | 112.2                                   | 30.7                              | 142.5              | 55.4                                    | 31.1         | 766.0          | *                            | 766.0          |
| Changed industry from February 1987 job    | 15.8                                       | 79.2           | 30.9         | 99.0                       | 27.0                  | 50.1                                    | 23.1                              | 44.9               | 46.0                                    | 14.1         | 430.1          | *                            | 430.1          |
| <i>Industry of February 1988 job--</i>     |  |                |              |                            |                       |   |                                   |                    |   |              |                |                              |                |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | ..   | *              | *            | *                          | *                     | *                                       | *                                 | *                  | *                                       | *            | 15.7           | ..                           | 15.7           |
| Manufacturing                              | *  | ..             | 12.5         | 26.9                       | 5.8                   | 9.1                                     | *                                 | 6.8                | 5.6                                     | *            | 75.3           | ..                           | 75.3           |
| Construction                               | *  | 9.2            | ..           | 9.2                        | *                     | *                                       | *                                 | *                  | *                                       | *            | 35.4           | ..                           | 35.4           |
| Wholesale and retail trade                 | 5.1  | 25.1           | 5.1          | ..                         | 6.7                   | 12.8                                    | *                                 | 8.2                | 14.9                                    | *            | 84.0           | ..                           | 84.0           |
| Transport and storage                      | *  | 5.5            | *            | 6.6                        | ..                    | *                                       | *                                 | *                  | *                                       | *            | 27.8           | ..                           | 27.8           |
| Finance, property and business services    | *  | 10.7           | *            | 21.1                       | *                     | ..                                      | *                                 | 9.6                | 9.0                                     | *            | 64.0           | ..                           | 64.0           |
| Public administration and defence          | *  | *              | *            | *                          | *                     | *                                       | ..                                | *                  | *                                       | *            | 16.5           | ..                           | 16.5           |
| Community services                         | *  | 10.7           | *            | 11.9                       | *                     | 7.5                                     | 5.4                               | ..                 | 6.8                                     | *            | 48.4           | ..                           | 48.4           |
| Recreation, personal and other services    | *  | 8.8            | *            | 13.4                       | *                     | 7.8                                     | *                                 | 6.9                | ..                                      | *            | 43.6           | ..                           | 43.6           |
| Other                                      | *  | *              | *            | *                          | *                     | *                                       | *                                 | *                  | *                                       | *            | 19.4           | ..                           | 19.4           |
| Looking for work in February 1988          | 7.3  | 36.3           | 19.0         | 39.1                       | 7.7                   | 14.5                                    | 8.2                               | 25.7               | 23.3                                    | 7.7          | 188.8          | *                            | 188.8          |
| Not in the labour force in February 1988   | 15.4                                       | 42.6           | 15.6         | 64.9                       | 13.5                  | 27.2                                    | 14.6                              | 68.8               | 31.3                                    | 8.7          | 302.6          | *                            | 302.6          |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>421.7</b>                               | <b>1,169.6</b> | <b>496.3</b> | <b>1,395.6</b>             | <b>395.2</b>          | <b>742.1</b>                            | <b>351.5</b>                      | <b>1,239.4</b>     | <b>496.5</b>                            | <b>375.9</b> | <b>7,083.7</b> | <b>943.3</b>                 | <b>8,027.0</b> |

**TABLE 4. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988:  
LABOUR FORCE STATUS IN FEBRUARY 1988, INDUSTRY OF CURRENT JOB, OCCUPATION OF CURRENT JOB,  
AGE, AND NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS OR BUSINESSES DURING THE YEAR  
( '000)**

|   | Number of employers or businesses(a) during the year |              |              |             | Total          |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
|   | 1  | 2            | 3            | 4 and over  |                |
| <i>Labour force status in February 1988--</i> |  |              |              |             |                |
| Not in labour force                           | 395.5  | 41.1         | 9.3          | *           | 449.5          |
| Looking for work                              | 207.2  | 57.4         | 12.4         | 11.9        | 288.9          |
| Working                                       | 6,356.8  | 735.1        | 140.9        | 55.8        | 7,288.6        |
| <i>Industry of current job--</i>              |  |              |              |             |                |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting    | 393.1  | 26.2         | *            | *           | 427.7          |
| Mining  | 89.2   | 11.0         | *            | *           | 102.3          |
| Manufacturing                                 | 1,030.1  | 124.2        | 22.9         | 10.5        | 1,187.7        |
| Electricity, gas and water                    | 133.4  | 6.5          | *            | *           | 140.5          |
| Construction                                  | 428.1  | 55.9         | 13.4         | 9.3         | 506.7          |
| Wholesale and retail trade                    | 1,282.3  | 171.8        | 31.7         | 8.9         | 1,494.7        |
| Transport and storage                         | 347.9  | 41.1         | 7.5          | *           | 398.6          |
| Communication                                 | 132.5  | *            | *            | *           | 136.1          |
| Finance, property and business services       | 663.6  | 99.9         | 16.2         | *           | 783.7          |
| Public administration and defence             | 316.0  | 21.6         | 5.8          | *           | 344.3          |
| Community services                            | 1,112.2  | 97.2         | 22.5         | 6.8         | 1,238.6        |
| Recreation, personal and other services       | 428.6  | 76.4         | 15.2         | 7.6         | 527.8          |
| <i>Occupation of current job--</i>            |  |              |              |             |                |
| Managers and administrators                   | 753.2  | 51.0         | *            | *           | 810.7          |
| Professionals                                 | 799.5  | 76.1         | 12.8         | *           | 892.9          |
| Para-professionals                            | 357.0  | 43.9         | 11.8         | *           | 416.1          |
| Tradespersons                                 | 976.4  | 123.8        | 25.1         | 12.5        | 1,137.8        |
| Clerks  | 1,114.4  | 131.5        | 25.4         | 6.2         | 1,277.4        |
| Salespersons and personal services workers    | 860.5  | 128.0        | 26.1         | 8.6         | 1,023.1        |
| Plant and machine operators, and drivers      | 504.7  | 56.6         | 9.1          | *           | 575.0          |
| Labourers and related workers                 | 991.1  | 124.2        | 26.1         | 14.1        | 1,155.5        |
| <i>Age group--</i>                            |  |              |              |             |                |
| 15-19   | 541.2  | 97.7         | 23.7         | 11.1        | 673.6          |
| 20-24   | 782.6  | 155.9        | 38.6         | 18.1        | 995.2          |
| 25-34   | 1,660.2  | 247.2        | 48.4         | 15.3        | 1,971.2        |
| 35-44   | 1,658.5  | 158.3        | 21.9         | 7.8         | 1,846.6        |
| 45-54   | 1,065.6  | 59.7         | 6.2          | *           | 1,134.4        |
| 55-59   | 362.6  | 11.4         | *            | *           | 375.9          |
| 60-64   | 197.2  | *            | *            | *           | 201.9          |
| 65 and over                                   | 88.9   | *            | *            | *           | 89.7           |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>6,959.5</b>                                       | <b>833.6</b> | <b>162.7</b> | <b>71.2</b> | <b>8,027.0</b> |

( a ) Excludes second jobs of multiple jobholders.

TABLE 5. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988:  
SUMMARY OF LABOUR MOBILITY AND MARITAL STATUS  
(\*000)

|  | <i>Married</i> |                |                | <i>Not-married</i> |                |                | <i>Total</i>   |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | <i>Males</i>   | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> | <i>Males</i>       | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> | <i>Males</i>   | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
| Number of employers or businesses(a)<br>during the year- |                |                |                |                    |                |                |                |                |                |
| 1  | 2,697.0        | 1,822.5        | 4,519.5        | 1,371.0            | 1,069.1        | 2,440.0        | 4,068.0        | 2,891.6        | 6,959.5        |
| 2  | 259.9          | 172.1          | 432.0          | 228.4              | 173.3          | 401.6          | 488.3          | 345.3          | 833.6          |
| 3  | 42.8           | 29.5           | 72.2           | 47.1               | 43.4           | 90.4           | 89.8           | 72.8           | 162.7          |
| 4 and over   | 17.3           | 7.7            | 25.0           | 29.8               | 16.4           | 46.2           | 47.1           | 24.1           | 71.2           |
| Not working in February 1988                             | 146.7          | 251.1          | 397.9          | 187.2              | 153.3          | 340.5          | 333.9          | 404.5          | 738.4          |
| Working in February 1988                                 | 2,870.2        | 1,780.6        | 4,650.8        | 1,489.0            | 1,148.8        | 2,637.7        | 4,359.2        | 2,929.4        | 7,288.6        |
| For one year or more in current job                      | 2,339.1        | 1,367.7        | 3,706.8        | 961.7              | 727.6          | 1,689.3        | 3,300.9        | 2,095.2        | 5,396.1        |
| For less than one year in current job                    | 531.1          | 412.9          | 944.1          | 527.2              | 421.2          | 948.4          | 1,058.3        | 834.1          | 1,892.5        |
| Did not have a previous job during the year              | 456.7          | 248.7          | 705.4          | 345.2              | 251.4          | 596.6          | 801.8          | 500.1          | 1,301.9        |
| Had a previous job during the year                       | 74.5           | 164.2          | 238.7          | 182.1              | 169.8          | 351.9          | 256.5          | 334.0          | 590.6          |
| Ceased a job during the year                             | 603.4          | 499.8          | 1,103.2        | 532.4              | 404.7          | 937.1          | 1,135.8        | 904.6          | 2,040.3        |
| Did not cease a job during the year                      | 2,413.6        | 1,531.9        | 3,945.5        | 1,143.8            | 897.4          | 2,041.2        | 3,557.4        | 2,429.3        | 5,986.7        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>3,017.0</b> | <b>2,031.7</b> | <b>5,048.7</b> | <b>1,676.2</b>     | <b>1,302.1</b> | <b>2,978.3</b> | <b>4,693.2</b> | <b>3,333.8</b> | <b>8,027.0</b> |

( a ) Excludes second jobs of multiple jobholders.

TABLE 6. PERSONS WHO CEASED A JOB DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1988:  
DURATION OF LAST JOB AND REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB  
( '000)

| Duration of last job  | Reason for ceasing last job |                         |                                |                                     |  |  |  |              |              |  |                |       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------|--------------|--|----------------|-------|
|                       | Job loser                   |                         |                                | Job leaver                          |  |  |  |              |              |  | Total          | Total |
|                       | Retre-<br>nched             | to return<br>to studies | Own ill<br>health or<br>injury | Ceased a job with employer/business |  |  |  | Other        | Total        | Changed<br>locality<br>but not<br>employer |                |       |
|                       |                             |                         |                                | Total                               | Unsatis-<br>factory<br>work<br>condi-<br>tions | tempor-<br>ary or<br>seasonal<br>and left<br>to return<br>to studies | Tempor-<br>ary or<br>seasonal<br>and left<br>to return<br>to studies |              |              |  | Total          |       |
| MALES                 |                             |                         |                                |                                     |  |  |  |              |              |  |                |       |
| Under 1 year          | 119.1                       | 82.3                    | 15.1                           | 216.5                               | 44.6   | 31.1   | 128.0  | 203.8        | 115.9        | 319.7                                      | 536.2          |       |
| Under 3 months        | 54.4                        | 58.1                    | 7.2                            | 119.8                               | 17.5   | 23.1   | 42.6   | 83.3         | 56.2         | 139.4                                      | 259.2          |       |
| 3 and under 6 months  | 28.5                        | 13.6                    | *                              | 46.1                                | 9.8  | *  | 34.3   | 46.7         | 21.9         | 68.6                                       | 114.7          |       |
| 6 and under 12 months | 36.1                        | 10.6                    | *                              | 50.6                                | 17.4   | 5.3  | 51.1   | 73.8         | 37.8         | 111.6                                      | 162.2          |       |
| 1 and under 2 years   | 29.6                        | *                       | *                              | 38.4                                | 11.7   | *  | 61.5   | 75.3         | 41.5         | 116.7                                      | 155.2          |       |
| 2 and under 3 years   | 19.7                        | *                       | *                              | 28.4                                | 8.6  | *  | 42.1   | 53.0         | 27.5         | 80.6                                       | 109.0          |       |
| 3 and under 5 years   | 19.0                        | *                       | *                              | 25.6                                | 6.6  | *  | 58.7   | 67.8         | 30.9         | 98.8                                       | 124.4          |       |
| 5 and under 10 years  | 17.9                        | *                       | 6.0                            | 26.2                                | 6.0  | *  | 49.5   | 56.7         | 28.7         | 85.4                                       | 111.6          |       |
| 10 years and over     | 17.6                        | *                       | 10.3                           | 29.0                                | *  | *  | 45.4   | 49.9         | 20.5         | 70.5                                       | 99.4           |       |
| 10 and under 20 years | 12.5                        | *                       | 5.5                            | 18.6                                | *  | *  | 26.8   | 30.7         | 16.9         | 47.6                                       | 66.2           |       |
| 20 years and over     | 5.2                         | *                       | *                              | 10.4                                | *  | *  | 18.6   | 19.3         | *            | 22.9                                       | 33.2           |       |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>222.9</b>                | <b>97.7</b>             | <b>43.5</b>                    | <b>364.1</b>                        | <b>81.9</b>                                    | <b>39.5</b>  | <b>385.2</b>   | <b>506.6</b> | <b>265.1</b> | <b>771.6</b>                               | <b>1,135.8</b> |       |
| FEMALES               |                             |                         |                                |                                     |  |  |  |              |              |  |                |       |
| Under 1 year          | 83.7                        | 96.7                    | 20.1                           | 200.5                               | 40.8   | 24.0   | 151.1  | 216.0        | 62.9         | 278.9                                      | 479.4          |       |
| Under 3 months        | 39.6                        | 68.2                    | 6.8                            | 114.6                               | 14.5   | 18.9   | 50.3   | 83.7         | 29.0         | 112.7                                      | 227.3          |       |
| 3 and under 6 months  | 18.8                        | 16.9                    | *                              | 40.1                                | 11.3   | *  | 39.8   | 52.9         | 13.8         | 66.7                                       | 106.8          |       |
| 6 and under 12 months | 25.4                        | 11.6                    | 8.9                            | 45.9                                | 14.9   | *  | 61.1   | 79.4         | 20.1         | 99.5                                       | 145.3          |       |
| 1 and under 2 years   | 14.6                        | 5.4                     | 6.1                            | 26.1                                | 10.5   | *  | 60.9   | 75.4         | 20.9         | 96.3                                       | 122.4          |       |
| 2 and under 3 years   | 9.4                         | *                       | *                              | 16.9                                | 9.3  | *  | 45.8   | 57.0         | 13.3         | 70.3                                       | 87.2           |       |
| 3 and under 5 years   | 11.9                        | *                       | *                              | 17.7                                | 7.5  | *  | 45.2   | 53.2         | 16.9         | 70.2                                       | 87.8           |       |
| 5 and under 10 years  | 6.7                         | *                       | 6.4                            | 17.1                                | *  | *  | 43.1   | 47.3         | 15.7         | 63.0                                       | 80.2           |       |
| 10 years and over     | 5.4                         | *                       | *                              | 11.9                                | *  | *  | 30.1   | 31.3         | *            | 35.7                                       | 47.6           |       |
| 10 and under 20 years | *                           | *                       | *                              | 10.7                                | *  | *  | 24.0   | 25.2         | *            | 28.6                                       | 39.3           |       |
| 20 years and over     | *                           | *                       | *                              | *                                   | *  | *  | 6.1  | 6.1          | *            | 7.0  | 8.3            |       |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>131.6</b>                | <b>115.3</b>            | <b>43.4</b>                    | <b>290.3</b>                        | <b>72.5</b>                                    | <b>31.4</b>  | <b>376.3</b>   | <b>480.2</b> | <b>134.1</b> | <b>614.3</b>                               | <b>904.6</b>   |       |
| PERSONS               |                             |                         |                                |                                     |  |  |  |              |              |  |                |       |
| Under 1 year          | 202.8                       | 179.1                   | 35.2                           | 417.0                               | 85.4   | 55.1   | 279.2  | 419.8        | 178.8        | 598.5                                      | 1,015.6        |       |
| Under 3 months        | 94.0                        | 126.4                   | 14.0                           | 234.4                               | 32.1   | 42.0   | 92.9   | 167.0        | 85.1         | 252.1                                      | 486.5          |       |
| 3 and under 6 months  | 47.3                        | 30.6                    | 8.3                            | 86.2                                | 21.1   | *  | 74.1   | 99.6         | 35.7         | 135.3                                      | 221.5          |       |
| 6 and under 12 months | 61.5                        | 22.1                    | 12.8                           | 96.5                                | 32.3   | 8.7  | 112.2  | 153.2        | 57.9         | 211.1                                      | 307.6          |       |
| 1 and under 2 years   | 44.2                        | 9.4                     | 11.0                           | 64.6                                | 22.3   | 6.0  | 122.4  | 150.6        | 62.4         | 213.0                                      | 277.6          |       |
| 2 and under 3 years   | 29.0                        | 7.6                     | 8.7                            | 45.4                                | 17.9   | *  | 87.9   | 110.1        | 40.8         | 150.9                                      | 196.3          |       |
| 3 and under 5 years   | 30.9                        | 6.6                     | 5.8                            | 43.3                                | 14.0   | *  | 103.9  | 121.1        | 47.9         | 168.9                                      | 212.2          |       |
| 5 and under 10 years  | 24.6                        | 6.3                     | 12.4                           | 43.3                                | 9.2  | *  | 92.6   | 104.1        | 44.4         | 148.4                                      | 191.7          |       |
| 10 years and over     | 23.0                        | *                       | 13.9                           | 40.9                                | 5.5  | *  | 75.5   | 81.2         | 24.9         | 106.1                                      | 147.0          |       |
| 10 and under 20 years | 17.3                        | *                       | 8.8                            | 29.3                                | *  | *  | 50.9   | 55.9         | 20.3         | 76.2                                       | 105.5          |       |
| 20 years and over     | 5.7                         | *                       | 5.1                            | 11.6                                | *  | *  | 24.7   | 25.3         | *            | 29.9                                       | 41.5           |       |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>354.5</b>                | <b>213.0</b>            | <b>86.9</b>                    | <b>654.4</b>                        | <b>154.4</b>                                   | <b>70.9</b>  | <b>761.5</b>   | <b>986.8</b> | <b>399.1</b> | <b>1,385.9</b>                             | <b>2,040.3</b> |       |



## APPENDIX 1

### GLOSSARY

*Ceased a job:* persons who left or lost a job (as defined) during the reference period.

*Current job:* the job (as defined) in which work was performed in the week before the interview. Where work was performed in more than one job during this period, the current job was regarded as the main job i.e. the job in which most hours were worked.

*Duration of current job:* the period between the commencement of the current job up to the week before the interview.

*Duration of last job:* the period between the commencement of the last job up to the week they ceased working in that job.

*Industry:* unless otherwise specified all occurrences of industry in this publication refer to Industry Division as defined by the Australian Standard Industry Classification (ASIC).

*Job:* defined as

- (i) employment as a wage or salary earner (or unpaid family helper) by a particular employer, in a particular locality; or
- (ii) self-employment (with or without employees) in a particular locality.

*Job leavers:* persons who voluntarily ceased their last job.

*Job losers:* persons who involuntarily ceased their last job.

*Job mobility:* defined as a change of job. A *change of job* may involve a change of employer, regardless of whether a change of locality was involved, or a change of locality without a change of employer. For example, the movement of an employer's operations to premises in a different locality would entail a change of job for employees who moved to the new locality. Promotion or transfer of an employee which involves a move to premises in a different

locality would also constitute a change of job. It should be noted, however, that for a person who works at different sites for the same employer (for example, a construction worker), his base of operations (i.e. his employer's office, depot, yard, etc.) is considered to be his place of work.

*Labour mobility:* defined in terms of the specific questions asked regarding job mobility and duration of current job.

*Labour force:* all persons who were reported as having worked or looked for work (as defined).

*Last job:* the last job in which employment was ceased during the reference period.

*Locality:* in capital cities and major towns each suburb is considered to be a different locality.

*Looked for work:* all persons who were reported as having been out of work and looking for a job.

*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 labour force:* those persons who, during any week in the reference period, were reported as having neither worked nor looked for work (as defined).

*Occupation:* unless otherwise specified all occurrences of occupation in this publication refer to Major Group as defined by the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO).

*Reference period:* the 52 weeks up to the end of the week prior to interview. See also paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes, Appendix 2.

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



## APPENDIX 2

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### 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 February 1988 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions. They were asked about their labour mobility during the year up to the end of the week prior to interview in February 1988. Specific questions related to the duration of current job, whether respondents had changed jobs or not and the number of jobs held during the period.

#### 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 excluded visitors to private dwellings, students who were boarding at school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc.

#### Coverage

4. 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

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

6. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview.

#### Results of the survey

7. The estimates relate to persons covered by the survey in February 1988. Because of emigration, deaths, etc. not all persons with labour force experience during the period were covered. Labour mobility may relate to experience outside Australia.

8. This publication contains only a summary of the results of the survey. A more detailed publication, *Labour Mobility, Australia* (6209.0), will be released as soon as possible. Tables of unpublished data may be purchased on request.

9. Results of similar surveys, conducted in November 1972, February 1975 and February 1976, and annually since February 1979, have been published in *Labour Mobility, Australia* (6209.0).

10. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in February 1989.

#### Comparability of series

11. 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 period. For the survey of labour mobility a person is assigned to a labour force category for each of the weeks in the year 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

12. The estimates for surveys held from February 1983 are not strictly comparable with those obtained from previous surveys. The reference period for the February 1980 and prior surveys was the previous calendar year (e.g. 1 January to 31 December 1979). The reference period for the February 1981 and 1982 surveys was from the beginning of the previous February to the end of the week prior to interview. As interviews were conducted over the second and third week of February, the reference period could have extended to 54 weeks. From the February 1983 survey onwards the reference period has been the 52 weeks up to the end of the week prior to interview. Due to the change in the reference period timing, some estimates, particularly those for groups who enter the labour force during the earlier months of the year (e.g. 15 to 19 year olds) will also be affected from the February 1981 survey onwards.

13. In the February 1981 survey, reason for ceasing last job was only asked of persons who changed jobs. For all previous and subsequent surveys, reason for ceasing last job was asked of the wider population of persons who ceased a job.

14. Estimates contained in this publication are based on a revised labour force questionnaire introduced in April 1986. The definition of employment was expanded, resulting in small decreases in the estimates of unemployed persons and persons not in the labour force. Further information is contained in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) and in an information paper *Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey* (6232.0).

15. Classification of occupation according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 1986 was introduced in the August 1986 labour force survey, replacing the Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCLLO), used in previous surveys. The main difference between these classifications is that ASCO occupations are classified on the basis of the level and specialisation of skill required for the satisfactory performance of primary tasks. For a more detailed explanation of ASCO see the appendix to *The Labour Force, Australia, August 1986* (6203.0).

16. To provide a link between the two classifications, a matrix has been produced and is shown in Table 41 of *The Labour Force, Australia, August 1986* (6203.0). It shows the relationship between ASCO and CCLO at the broadest classification level (the Major Group). The estimates in the matrix are based on a sub-sample of respondents to the May 1986 labour force survey.

#### Survey sample redesign

17. A redesigned and reselected labour force survey sample was phased in over the period September to December 1987. As a result, the standard errors used in this survey differ from those used in surveys of the same topic run prior to September 1987. For details, see *Information Paper — Labour Force Survey — Sample Design* (6269.0).

#### Reliability of the estimates

18. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:

- (a) *sampling error*: since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings 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*. More information about this topic (including methods of calculating approximate standard errors for *percentages* and *differences*) may be found in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). A table of estimated standard errors for this survey follows these notes. Estimates with a standard error of more than about 25 per cent have not been shown in this publication, as the degree of sampling variability would seriously detract from their value for most reasonable uses. Although, in some cases, estimates for these small components can be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable.
- (b) *non-sampling error*: inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

#### Related publications

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

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) — issued monthly

*Labour Force Experience, Australia* (6206.0) — issued annually

*Internal Migration, Australia* (3408.0) — issued annually

20. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following 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 paragraph 18 above.
- .. not applicable

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

#### Electronic services

VIATEL. Key \*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

#### Floppy disk service

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Australian Statistician

#### STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate | Number | Relative standard error | Size of estimate | Number | Relative standard error |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------|------------------|--------|-------------------------|
|                  |        | (per cent)              |                  |        | (per cent)              |
| 5,000            | 1,200  | 24.3                    | 300,000          | 7,600  | 2.5                     |
| 6,000            | 1,350  | 22.2                    | 500,000          | 9,300  | 1.9                     |
| 10,000           | 1,700  | 17.2                    | 1,000,000        | 12,000 | 1.2                     |
| 20,000           | 2,400  | 12.0                    | 2,000,000        | 15,200 | 0.8                     |
| 50,000           | 3,650  | 7.3                     | 5,000,000        | 20,500 | 0.4                     |
| 100,000          | 4,900  | 4.9                     | 10,000,000       | 25,200 | 0.3                     |
| 200,000          | 6,500  | 3.3                     | 20,000,000       | 30,600 | 0.2                     |

