



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Canberra



**PERSONS NOT IN THE
LABOUR FORCE
AUSTRALIA**

MARCH 1988

CATALOGUE NO. 6220.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 12 AUGUST 1988

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA

MARCH 1988

IAN CASTLES

Australian Statistician

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Persons not in the labour force

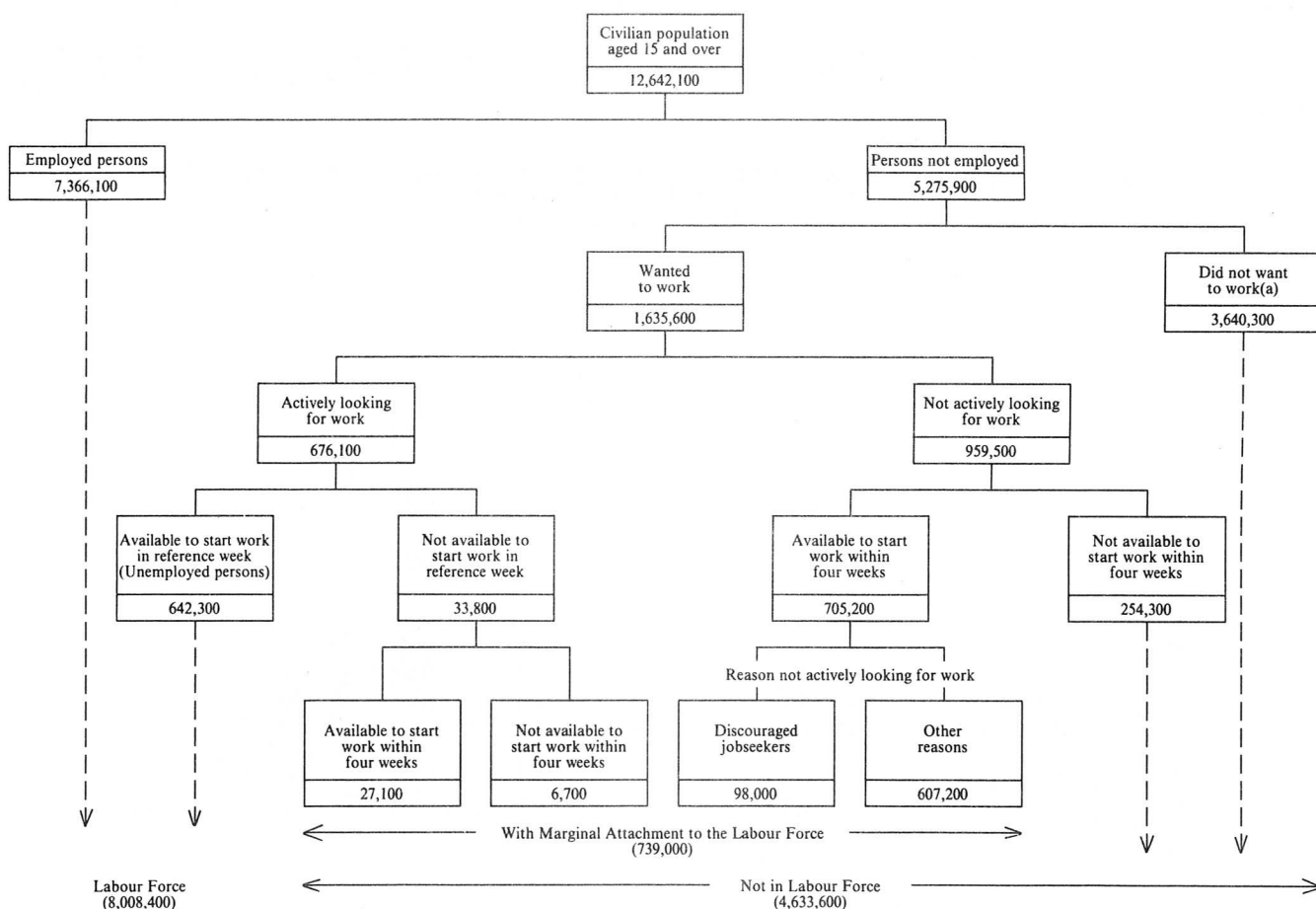
Persons not in the labour force in March 1988 numbered 4,633,600 and accounted for 36.7 per cent of the civilian population aged 15 and over. This proportion is consistent with that estimated in March 1987 (37.0 per cent). Males comprised 32.0 per cent and females 68.0 per cent of persons not in the labour force whereas, of those in the labour force in March 1988, 59.2 per cent were males and 40.8 per cent were females.

Home duties and childcare were the predominant activities for 54.1 per cent of persons not in the labour force. Other principal activities reported were being retired or voluntarily inactive (21.0 per cent) and attending an educational institution (13.6 per cent).

Of the persons not in the labour force who had worked within the last twenty years, 23.9 per cent worked as labourers or related workers in their last job, 18.8 per cent were clerks and 17.6 per cent salespersons or personal service workers. Approximately one-third of persons not in the labour force had last had a job twenty or more years ago or had never had a job.

The various groups of persons either in the labour force or not in the labour force, including those marginally attached to the labour force, are shown schematically in the following diagram.

DIAGRAM 1. RELATIONSHIP OF PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE TO PERSONS IN OR NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, MARCH 1988
(Source of data : Table 1)



Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work

In March 1988 persons not in the labour force who wanted to work numbered 993,400, with the 15 to 24 age group accounting for 28.3 per cent of this group. The 25 to 34 age group accounted for a further 28.2 per cent and 14.4 per cent were aged 55 and over.

A much higher proportion of males intended to look for work in the next twelve months (46.0 per cent) than did not intend to look for work (25.9 per cent). This however was not the case for females. Some 35.9 per cent of females intended to look for work and 32.4 per cent did not intend to look.

Older age groups are less likely to want to work full-time. Some 36.5 per cent of the 15 to 19 age group stated a full-time work preference compared with 21.9 per cent in the 35 to 44 age group and 19.6 per cent in the 55 to 64 age group.

Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force

Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force (i.e. persons neither employed nor unemployed who nevertheless reported some attachment to the labour force) numbered 739,000 in March 1988. This represented 15.9 per cent of all persons not in the labour force. The same group numbered 709,800 in March 1987.

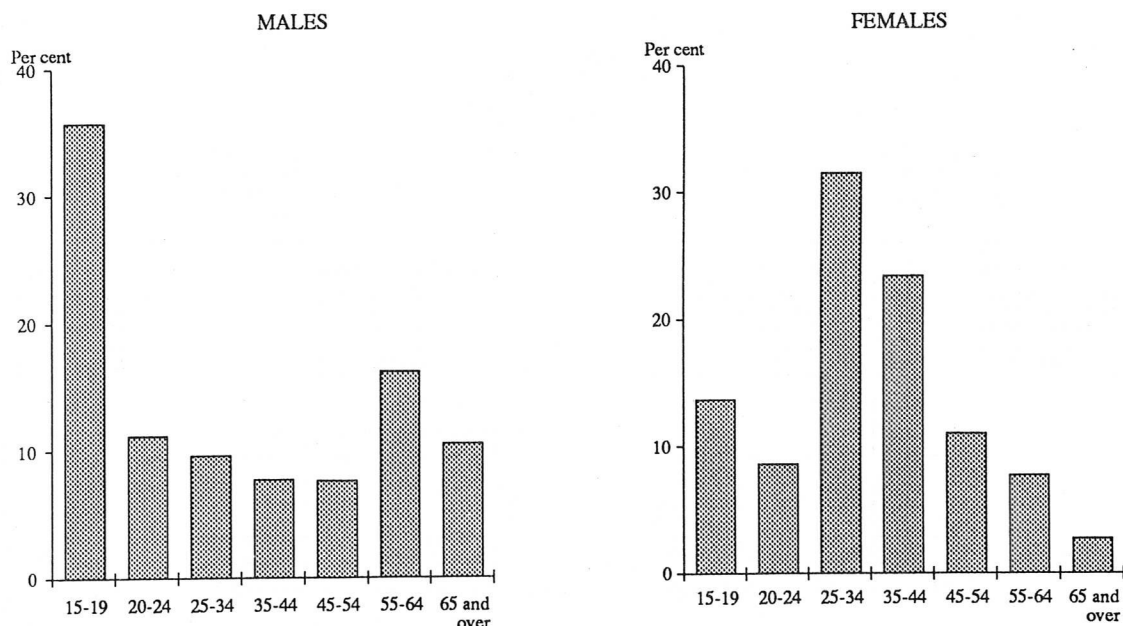
About three-quarters of the persons with marginal attachment to the labour force in March 1988 were female. A large number of females reported family reasons as their main reason for not actively looking for work (42.7 per cent) — predominantly because their children were too young or they preferred to look after their children. About thirty per cent of females reported personal reasons — mainly 'attending an educational institution' (11.8 per cent) and 'own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy' (7.8 per cent). In contrast, 65.3 per cent of males reported personal reasons for not actively looking for work while only 3.3 per cent reported family reasons.

Approximately three-quarters of persons with marginal attachment were aged 15 to 44 — the 25 to 34 age group accounting for about one-quarter, and about twenty per cent each in the 15 to 19 and 35 to 44 age groups.

Of males marginally attached to the labour force 35.9 per cent were aged 15 to 19 and 9.8 per cent were aged 25 to 34. For females this pattern was reversed, 13.9 per cent were aged 15 to 19 while 31.7 per cent were in the 25 to 34 age group.

DIAGRAM 2. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE : AGE AND GENDER, MARCH 1988

(Source of data : Table 14)



Of those persons with marginal attachment to the labour force, an estimated 309,000 (41.8 per cent) intended to look for work in the next twelve months and a further 168,300 (22.8 per cent) stated that they did not know whether they would look. Of the 203,700 persons who did not intend to look for work, common reasons reported for not actively looking were — 'unable to find suitable childcare' (17.5 per cent), 'children too young or preferred to look after children' (15.6 per cent), and 'considered too young or too old by employers' (11.7 per cent). Of those who stated they intended to look for work the highest proportion of persons stated 'attending an educational institution' (27.8 per cent) as their main reason for not actively looking for work.

The majority of persons with marginal attachment stated a preference for part-time work (541,200 or 73.2 per cent) with 22.6 per cent (167,000) stating a full-time preference. About eighty per cent of females stated a part-time work preference compared with about half of the males.

About one-quarter of persons with marginal attachment to the labour force had looked for work in the last twelve months with 73,500 (9.9 per cent) having looked within the last four weeks. One-third of persons who had looked for work in the last twelve months were married and had dependents.

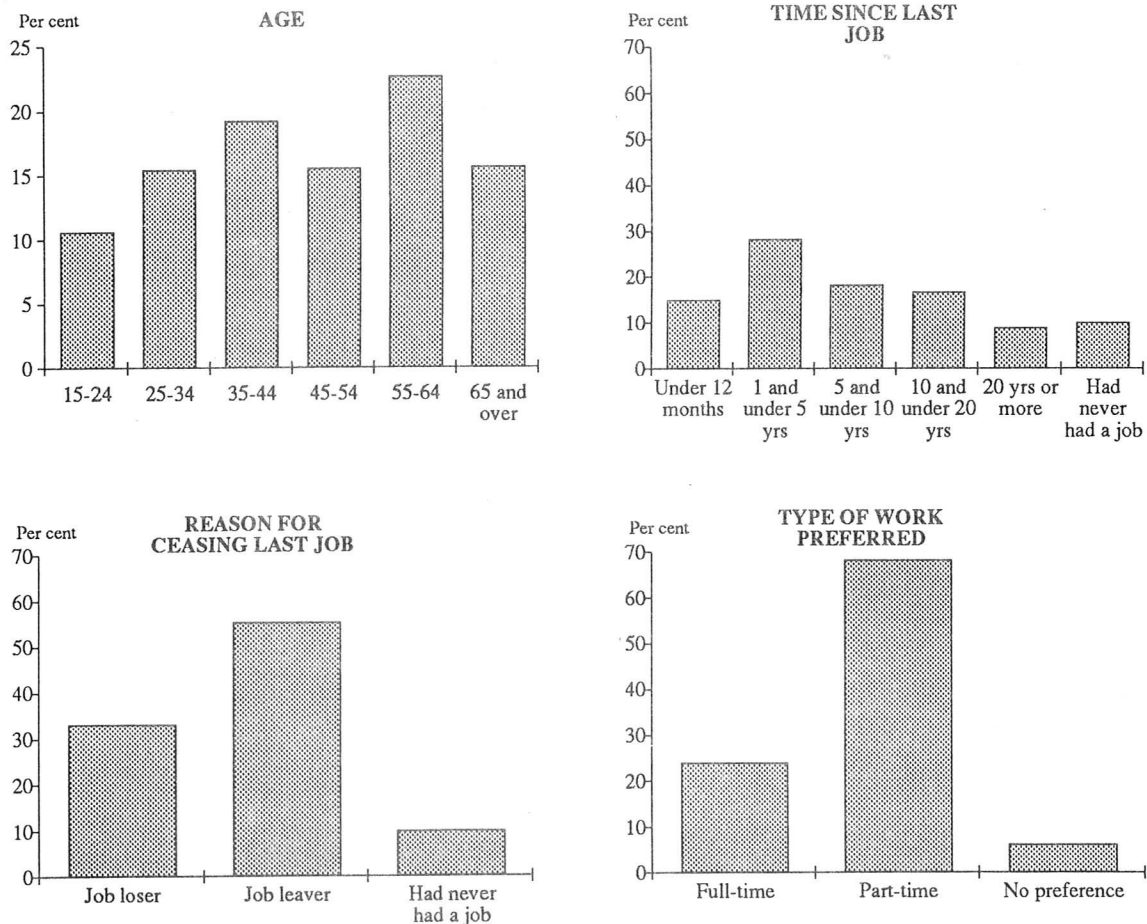
Of the 623,200 persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who had previously had a job, two-thirds were classed as job leavers and the remaining third as job losers. The most common reason reported by job leavers for ceasing their last job was 'pregnancy or to have children' (33.1 per cent). Amongst the job losers 37.1 per cent were retrenched and 30.7 per cent reported that they lost their job because of their own ill health or injury.

Discouraged jobseekers

In March 1988 there were 98,000 persons classed as discouraged jobseekers (i.e. persons who were not actively looking for work for reasons which indicate discouragement). The age distribution of these discouraged jobseekers varied from that of the marginally attached group. A lower percentage of discouraged jobseekers were in the 15 to 24 age group (10.8 per cent) and a higher percentage were in the older groups — 38.6 per cent aged 55 and over. In the case of those marginally attached, 28.8 per cent were aged 15 to 24 while 14.9 per cent were aged 55 and over.

DIAGRAM 3. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WERE DISCOURAGED JOBSEEKERS : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, MARCH 1988

(Source of data : Table 14)



Of the 87,700 discouraged jobseekers who had had a job, 37.1 per cent had their last job less than three years ago. An estimated 62.4 per cent were classed as job leavers while 37.6 per cent were job losers. Some 10.5 per cent of discouraged jobseekers had never had a job.

Some 68.7 per cent of discouraged jobseekers had a preference for part-time work and 24.5 per cent a preference for full-time work.

Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks

In March 1988 the group of persons who wanted to work but were not marginally attached to the labour force numbered 254,300. Major reasons given by these people for not being available to start work within four weeks included 'own ill health or injury, physical disability, or pregnancy' (32.1 per cent), 'children too young or preferred to look after children' (27.5 per cent) and 'studying' (17.2 per cent).

A higher proportion of males than females had a preference for full-time work, 61.1 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively. Some 41.9 per cent of females did not intend to look for work in the next twelve months, compared with 34.7 per cent of males.

**TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER : LABOUR FORCE STATUS,
MARCH 1985 TO MARCH 1988**
(' 000)

	<i>March 1985</i>	<i>Sept. 1985</i>	<i>March 1986</i>	<i>Sept. 1986</i>	<i>March 1987</i>	<i>March 1988</i>
MALES						
Civilian population aged 15 and over	5,856.6	5,906.0	5,968.2	6,031.5	6,103.7	6,225.4
Employed	4,080.8	4,166.4	4,213.0	4,237.2	4,274.1	4,396.8
Unemployed	389.7	341.6	352.2	362.5	385.3	343.9
Persons not in the labour force	1,386.2	1,398.0	1,403.0	1,431.8	1,444.3	1,484.8
With marginal attachment to the labour force	153.3	166.8	159.9	165.4	172.6	185.5
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	14.8	24.9	14.0	26.5	12.1	13.6
Were available to start work within four weeks	10.8	9.2	10.0	9.4	10.0	11.0
Were not available to start work within four weeks	4.0	15.7	4.0	17.1	*2.1	*2.5
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	138.5	141.9	145.8	138.9	160.4	171.9
Discouraged jobseekers	19.7	19.5	24.9	20.9	25.4	22.6
Other	118.8	122.4	120.9	118.0	135.0	149.4
Without marginal attachment to the labour force	1,232.9	1,231.2	1,243.1	1,266.4	1,271.8	1,299.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	50.1	72.8	64.4	68.3	56.7	65.1
Did not want to work	1,058.5	1,054.7	1,072.8	1,096.5	1,103.3	1,123.2
Permanently unable to work	32.0	27.9	31.3	31.4	26.5	32.0
Institutionalised(a) and boarding school pupils	92.3	75.9	74.5	70.2	85.4	79.1
FEMALES						
Civilian population aged 15 and over	6,040.7	6,092.4	6,153.6	6,218.0	6,291.0	6,416.7
Employed	2,553.7	2,617.5	2,713.3	2,770.4	2,835.0	2,969.3
Unemployed	282.0	246.1	288.2	269.1	317.3	298.4
Persons not in the labour force	3,205.0	3,228.9	3,152.1	3,178.5	3,138.8	3,148.9
With marginal attachment to the labour force	555.1	573.0	547.4	584.0	537.3	553.6
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	17.3	35.5	21.1	30.7	19.0	20.3
Were available to start work within four weeks	11.4	20.9	14.9	17.5	13.5	16.1
Were not available to start work within four weeks	5.9	14.6	6.2	13.2	5.5	*4.2
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	537.8	537.5	526.3	553.2	518.2	533.3
Discouraged jobseekers	76.3	69.6	71.9	69.6	74.8	75.5
Other	461.5	468.0	454.4	483.6	443.5	457.8
Without marginal attachment to the labour force	2,649.9	2,655.9	2,604.7	2,594.5	2,601.5	2,595.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	172.6	192.4	197.0	194.4	178.9	189.3
Did not want to work	2,340.6	2,325.4	2,268.0	2,248.8	2,265.6	2,259.7
Permanently unable to work	22.4	19.9	19.8	25.8	20.3	23.2
Institutionalised(a) and boarding school pupils	114.3	118.2	119.9	125.6	136.8	123.2
PERSONS						
Civilian population aged 15 and over	11,897.3	11,998.5	12,121.7	12,249.5	12,394.7	12,642.1
Employed	6,634.5	6,783.9	6,926.3	7,007.6	7,109.1	7,366.1
Unemployed	671.7	587.7	640.4	631.6	702.5	642.3
Persons not in the labour force	4,591.1	4,626.9	4,555.1	4,610.3	4,583.1	4,633.6
With marginal attachment to the labour force	708.3	739.7	707.3	749.4	709.8	739.0
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	32.1	60.4	35.2	57.2	31.1	33.8
Were available to start work within four weeks	22.2	30.2	25.0	26.9	23.6	27.1
Were not available to start work within four weeks	9.9	30.2	10.2	30.3	7.6	6.7
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	676.3	679.4	672.1	692.1	678.7	705.2
Discouraged jobseekers	96.0	89.0	96.8	90.5	100.2	98.0
Other	580.3	590.4	575.3	601.6	578.5	607.2
Without marginal attachment to the labour force	3,882.8	3,887.1	3,847.8	3,860.9	3,873.3	3,894.6
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	222.7	265.2	261.4	262.7	235.5	254.3
Did not want to work	3,399.1	3,380.1	3,340.8	3,345.3	3,368.8	3,382.8
Permanently unable to work	54.4	47.8	51.1	57.2	46.8	55.2
Institutionalised(a) and boarding school pupils	206.6	194.1	194.4	195.8	222.1	202.3

(a) Includes some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of reformatories, gaols etc.

TABLE 2. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE:
MAIN REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, MARCH 1985 TO MARCH 1988
(' 000)

	March 1985	Sept. 1985	March 1986	Sept. 1986	March 1987	March 1988
MALES						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	14.8	24.9	14.0	26.5	12.1	13.6
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	138.5	141.9	145.8	138.9	160.4	171.9
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>						
Had a job to go to	*3.3	*2.8	*3.4	*2.3	4.9	*4.4
Personal reasons	94.7	97.5	98.5	96.9	111.1	121.1
Family reasons	5.3	4.3	*3.5	*3.8	*3.8	6.2
Discouraged jobseekers	19.7	19.5	24.9	20.9	25.4	22.6
No jobs in suitable hours	*1.9	*2.8	*1.0	*1.1	*1.2	*1.5
Other reasons	7.4	10.6	9.8	10.6	9.7	12.3
Did not know	*1.5	*0.7	*1.3	*0.8	*0.8	*1.4
Not asked(a)	4.6	*3.8	*3.4	*2.6	*3.6	*2.4
Total	153.3	166.8	159.9	165.4	172.6	185.5
FEMALES						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	17.3	35.5	21.1	30.7	19.0	20.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	537.8	537.5	526.3	553.2	518.2	533.3
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>						
Had a job to go to	5.7	8.4	8.3	7.6	6.2	8.1
Personal reasons	168.8	158.7	152.5	153.0	154.6	164.4
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	38.9	39.5	36.3	33.6	36.8	43.3
Attending an educational institution	54.3	50.9	57.3	55.5	58.0	65.4
Had no need to work	38.2	34.0	31.0	32.3	28.1	26.2
Give others a chance	8.5	6.0	4.0	6.4	4.9	6.1
Welfare payments/pension may be affected	17.6	14.7	14.8	12.9	15.6	13.5
Moved house/holidays	11.3	13.6	9.2	12.2	11.2	9.9
Family reasons	232.9	244.1	237.8	263.5	235.5	236.3
Ill health of other than self	8.7	13.2	12.4	11.0	11.7	11.0
Unable to find suitable childcare	72.7	71.8	69.4	71.9	67.6	79.5
Children too young/preferred to look after children	113.6	124.6	116.3	138.7	116.1	106.8
Other family considerations	37.9	34.4	39.8	42.0	40.0	39.0
Discouraged jobseekers	76.3	69.6	71.9	69.6	74.8	75.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	22.5	22.4	24.3	20.1	27.2	27.8
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	4.1	4.2	4.2	*3.4	*3.3	5.6
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	10.0	7.4	9.8	8.6	10.4	10.9
No jobs in locality or line of work	27.4	21.6	22.9	27.8	24.1	24.2
No jobs at all	12.4	14.0	10.7	9.7	9.8	7.0
No jobs in suitable hours	15.8	15.6	16.4	15.4	10.7	13.4
Other reasons	22.3	25.6	24.8	30.3	19.4	21.7
Did not know	8.7	7.2	7.8	5.8	8.2	4.7
Not asked(a)	7.2	8.3	6.7	8.0	8.9	9.2
Total	555.1	573.0	547.4	584.0	537.3	553.6
PERSONS						
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	32.1	60.4	35.2	57.2	31.1	33.8
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	676.3	679.4	672.1	692.1	678.7	705.2
<i>Main reason for not actively looking for work—</i>						
Had a job to go to	9.1	11.2	11.7	9.9	11.1	12.5
Personal reasons	263.5	256.2	251.0	249.9	265.7	285.5
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	65.8	69.1	63.0	56.5	63.7	77.3
Attending an educational institution	104.9	102.3	111.1	106.9	119.8	128.3
Had no need to work	44.7	41.3	38.2	40.0	38.9	34.0
Give others a chance	9.1	6.2	4.5	7.4	5.5	6.7
Welfare payments/pension may be affected	24.2	19.6	19.6	21.3	22.1	20.0
Moved house/holidays	14.7	17.8	14.7	17.8	15.6	19.3
Family reasons	238.2	248.4	241.4	267.3	239.3	242.5
Ill health of other than self	11.0	14.8	12.9	11.6	13.1	13.1
Unable to find suitable childcare	73.6	72.5	70.1	72.6	68.2	81.0
Children too young/preferred to look after children	115.0	126.1	117.5	140.2	117.2	108.2
Other family considerations	38.6	34.9	40.9	43.0	40.8	40.2
Discouraged jobseekers	96.0	89.0	96.8	90.5	100.2	98.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	31.0	32.2	37.6	31.3	40.4	40.9
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	4.7	5.0	5.2	4.0	4.2	6.0
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	11.2	8.9	11.5	10.2	12.5	12.6
No jobs in locality or line of work	33.0	26.0	29.1	33.3	31.5	30.2
No jobs at all	16.1	16.8	13.4	11.7	11.6	8.4
No jobs in suitable hours	17.7	18.4	17.5	16.5	11.8	14.9
Other reasons	29.7	36.4	34.6	40.9	29.1	34.0
Did not know	10.3	8.0	9.0	6.6	9.0	6.1
Not asked(a)	11.9	12.0	10.1	10.7	12.4	11.6
Total	708.3	739.7	707.3	749.4	709.8	739.0

(a) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

**TABLE 3. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE:
SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, MARCH 1985 TO MARCH 1988
(' 000)**

	March 1985	Sept. 1985	March 1986	Sept. 1986	March 1987	March 1988
<i>Age group—</i>						
15-19	120.9	138.3	131.6	150.1	137.0	143.3
20-24	76.7	75.7	68.1	72.2	60.4	69.8
25-34	189.1	203.8	187.6	196.2	185.3	193.8
35-44	149.2	146.1	141.8	151.9	145.5	145.5
45-54	84.0	82.6	84.3	82.6	80.4	76.3
55-64	61.4	64.0	65.9	61.8	67.3	74.2
65 and over	27.0	29.1	27.9	34.6	34.0	36.1
<i>Time since last job—</i>						
Had had a job	606.7	612.0	596.5	621.2	602.2	623.2
Under 12 months	149.8	160.2	159.6	173.3	169.9	188.7
Under 6 months	98.9	91.7	110.7	98.0	122.4	128.8
6 and under 12 months	50.9	68.5	48.9	75.4	47.5	59.9
1 and under 3 years	126.7	119.0	111.9	116.6	118.2	129.4
3 and under 5 years	95.8	92.4	85.4	88.2	79.0	76.4
5 and under 10 years	114.8	122.3	121.9	122.0	119.4	110.4
10 and under 20 years	85.7	92.1	88.7	90.7	88.8	92.3
20 years or more	33.9	26.1	29.0	30.3	26.8	26.0
Had never had a job	101.7	127.7	110.8	128.2	106.7	115.8
<i>Whether looked for work in the last twelve months(a)—</i>						
Had looked for work	176.9	214.0	188.4	199.5	185.6	186.5
Less than 5 weeks ago	75.6	100.6	78.9	96.4	71.9	73.5
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	67.5	70.3	72.7	64.6	76.9	77.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	33.8	43.1	36.8	38.5	36.8	35.0
Had not looked for work	531.5	525.7	518.9	549.8	524.2	552.6
<i>Intention to look for work in the next twelve months—</i>						
Intended to look	266.1	275.6	279.6	288.4	285.9	309.0
Did not intend to look	222.8	208.5	213.4	230.2	214.1	203.7
Did not know	166.5	172.0	157.4	153.0	155.1	168.3
Not asked(b)	53.0	83.6	56.9	77.8	54.7	58.0
<i>Type of work preferred—</i>						
Full-time	162.6	179.7	149.9	176.6	155.0	167.0
Part-time	522.6	531.1	531.6	539.7	520.2	541.2
No preference	23.2	28.9	25.8	33.1	34.6	30.9
Total	708.3	739.7	707.3	749.4	709.8	739.0
Males	153.3	166.8	159.9	165.4	172.6	185.5
Females	555.1	573.0	547.4	584.0	537.3	553.6

(a) Persons who had left a job in the last twelve months were only asked whether they had looked for work since that job. (b) Comprises persons who had a job to go to, persons who took active steps to find work and persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

**TABLE 4. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WERE DISCOURAGED JOBSEEKERS : AGE,
MARCH 1985 TO MARCH 1988
(' 000)**

Age group	March 1985	Sept. 1985	March 1986	Sept. 1986	March 1987	March 1988
15-19	8.1	5.3	7.2	7.1	6.7	7.9
20-24	5.1	5.4	6.0	*2.9	*3.1	*2.7
25-34	15.6	14.0	12.7	12.8	11.7	15.3
35-44	17.8	17.2	18.1	18.6	21.8	19.0
45-54	18.4	17.9	18.4	13.9	18.6	15.4
55-64	20.2	17.2	19.7	19.6	23.1	22.3
65 and over	10.7	12.0	14.7	15.6	15.2	15.5
Total	96.0	89.0	96.8	90.5	100.2	98.0

TABLE 5. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE(a) : OCCUPATION IN LAST JOB AND MAIN ACTIVITY, MARCH 1988
('000)

Occupation in last job	Main activity					Other	Total
	Home duties / childcare	Attending an educational institution	Retired / voluntarily inactive	Own illness / injury; own disability / handicap	Worked in unpaid voluntary job		
MALES							
Last job less than 20 years ago	64.5	96.7	678.4	182.7	20.9	59.1	1,102.4
Managers and administrators	4.8	* 1.6	113.3	14.3	* 3.5	6.5	144.1
Professionals	* 3.8	8.0	53.7	6.4	4.8	6.0	82.7
Para-professionals	* 2.6	7.4	37.7	5.6	* 0.8	* 3.2	57.3
Tradespersons	15.8	5.8	161.7	49.6	* 3.8	15.2	252.0
Clerks	5.6	9.3	60.0	6.4	* 2.6	* 4.1	88.1
Salespersons and personal service workers	* 3.9	20.1	36.0	9.0	* 1.2	4.9	75.0
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	9.4	4.5	71.2	27.2	* 0.5	5.8	118.6
Labourers and related workers	18.7	39.9	144.8	64.1	* 3.6	13.4	284.6
Last job 20 or more years ago	* 3.6	* 0.0	56.0	12.4	* 0.7	* 0.9	73.6
Had never had a job	* 1.2	207.5	* 3.2	14.7	* 0.2	* 2.9	229.7
Total	69.4	304.2	737.6	209.8	21.8	62.9	1,405.7
FEMALES							
Last job less than 20 years ago	1,490.6	99.4	100.0	55.0	28.4	44.3	1,817.6
Managers and administrators	70.1	* 0.9	10.2	* 2.2	* 1.7	* 4.0	89.1
Professionals	89.1	7.5	9.7	* 3.8	4.6	* 3.6	118.2
Para-professionals	62.9	* 3.6	* 3.4	* 2.0	* 1.2	* 3.0	76.1
Tradespersons	81.6	* 1.9	5.8	* 4.2	* 1.4	* 2.6	97.6
Clerks	378.3	22.5	27.3	11.9	9.7	10.8	460.5
Salespersons and personal service workers	347.5	47.8	18.6	9.7	6.1	8.5	438.1
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	107.9	* 2.9	* 4.3	5.6	* 1.0	* 2.5	124.2
Labourers and related workers	353.2	12.4	20.6	15.7	* 2.7	9.4	413.9
Last job 20 or more years ago	642.8	* 1.1	69.6	27.2	12.5	11.6	764.8
Had never had a job	196.6	197.6	21.8	18.7	* 4.2	4.5	443.3
Total	2,330.0	298.1	191.4	100.8	45.0	60.4	3,025.7
PERSONS							
Last job less than 20 years ago	1,555.2	196.1	778.4	237.7	49.3	103.4	2,920.0
Managers and administrators	74.9	* 2.5	123.6	16.6	5.2	10.5	233.2
Professionals	92.9	15.5	63.4	10.1	9.4	9.6	200.9
Para-professionals	65.6	10.9	41.1	7.6	* 2.0	6.2	133.4
Tradespersons	97.4	7.8	167.5	53.8	5.2	17.8	349.5
Clerks	383.9	31.8	87.4	18.3	12.4	14.9	548.5
Salespersons and personal service workers	351.4	67.9	54.6	18.7	7.3	13.3	513.0
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	117.2	7.4	75.5	32.8	* 1.5	8.3	242.8
Labourers and related workers	371.9	52.3	165.4	79.8	6.3	22.8	698.5
Last job 20 or more years ago	646.5	* 1.1	125.6	39.6	13.1	12.5	838.4
Had never had a job	197.8	405.0	25.0	33.3	* 4.4	7.4	673.0
Total	2,399.5	602.2	928.9	310.6	66.8	123.3	4,431.4

(a) Excludes students boarding at school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of reformatories, gaols, etc.

TABLE 6. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO HAD HAD A JOB : REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB AND TIME SINCE LAST JOB, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Reason for ceasing last job	Time since last job							Total
	Under 6 months	6 and under 12 months	1 and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 20 years	20 years or more	
Job loser	103.2	66.8	168.9	129.2	219.7	213.1	87.9	988.8
Retrenched	34.5	19.9	44.1	34.4	53.2	47.0	20.3	253.5
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	42.0	17.8	32.5	13.0	21.6	17.8	9.1	153.8
Own ill health or injury	23.8	25.3	86.0	76.5	136.8	140.6	55.4	544.4
Business closed down for economic reasons	* 2.9	* 3.6	6.4	5.4	8.0	7.7	* 3.1	37.1
Job leaver	223.6	107.0	306.3	257.8	505.8	589.8	750.5	2,740.9
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	15.5	5.9	14.8	8.1	10.8	8.9	* 2.1	66.0
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	28.5	* 4.0	7.9	* 0.4	* 0.3	* 0.1	* 0.0	41.1
Retired/did not want to work any longer	40.6	32.8	118.9	130.7	296.5	346.9	163.6	1,130.1
Returned to studies	61.2	9.1	18.3	4.8	* 1.1	* 0.8	* 0.0	95.3
To get married	* 1.7	* 1.0	4.9	6.1	20.6	43.8	380.5	458.5
Pregnancy/to have children	24.4	28.9	76.3	62.0	96.8	93.9	98.9	481.2
To look after family, house or someone else	11.9	7.6	22.3	18.6	31.1	45.4	73.1	210.0
To have holiday/to move house/spouse transferred	20.8	9.9	29.3	16.5	28.1	33.0	20.7	158.3
Business closed down for other reasons	9.6	* 3.4	8.8	7.8	12.7	12.2	* 4.1	58.6
Other	9.4	4.6	4.8	* 2.9	7.8	4.9	7.5	41.8
Not asked(a)	28.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	28.6
Total	355.4	173.8	475.2	387.1	725.5	802.9	838.4	3,758.4
Males	132.0	60.7	170.9	152.2	299.0	287.5	73.6	1,176.0
Females	223.4	113.1	304.3	234.9	426.5	515.4	764.8	2,582.4

(a) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 7. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO HAD HAD A JOB : REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB, STATUS OF WORKER IN LAST JOB AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS IN LAST JOB, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Reason for ceasing last job	Last job less than 20 years ago							Total
	Status of worker in last job			Full-time or part-time status in last job			Last job 20 years ago	
	Em- ployers	Self- employed	Wage and salary earners(a)	Full-time	Part-time	Varied / did not know		
Job loser	25.3	59.5	816.1	613.4	279.7	7.9	87.9	988.8
Retrenched	* 1.9	7.3	224.0	137.5	93.3	* 2.4	20.3	253.5
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	* 0.4	* 2.6	141.7	54.9	87.8	* 2.0	9.1	153.8
Own ill health or injury	15.3	39.5	434.3	397.8	88.3	* 3.0	55.4	544.4
Business closed down for economic reasons	7.7	10.2	16.1	23.1	10.3	* 0.6	* 3.1	37.1
Job leaver	81.3	114.8	1,794.3	1,488.7	488.8	13.0	750.5	2,740.9
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	* 0.1	* 3.4	60.5	36.4	27.5	* 0.1	* 2.1	66.0
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	* 0.0	* 0.0	41.1	21.5	19.3	* 0.4	* 0.0	41.1
Retired/did not want to work any longer	56.1	73.8	836.6	780.8	180.5	5.3	163.6	1,130.1
Returned to studies	* 0.0	* 1.2	94.1	53.9	40.4	* 0.9	* 0.0	95.3
To get married	* 0.4	* 0.9	76.7	70.2	7.3	* 0.4	380.5	458.5
Pregnancy/to have children	* 2.4	* 3.6	376.3	294.5	85.1	* 2.7	98.9	481.2
To look after family, house or someone else	* 3.3	7.1	126.6	83.5	52.5	* 0.9	73.1	210.0
To have holiday/to move house/spouse transferred	* 2.1	7.0	128.5	83.7	52.9	* 1.0	20.7	158.3
Business closed down for other reasons	14.9	15.6	23.9	41.2	12.2	* 1.0	* 4.1	58.6
Other	* 1.9	* 2.4	30.0	23.0	11.1	* 0.3	7.5	41.8
Not asked(b)	* 0.0	* 0.0	28.6	17.5	9.8	* 1.4	* 0.0	28.6
Total	106.6	174.3	2,639.0	2,119.6	778.2	22.2	838.4	3,758.4
Males	56.8	95.2	950.4	980.5	115.8	6.1	73.6	1,176.0
Females	49.9	79.1	1,688.7	1,139.1	662.4	16.1	764.8	2,582.4

(a) Includes unpaid family helpers. (b) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 8. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK : INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS AND AGE, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Intention to look for work in the next twelve months	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
MALES								
Intended to look	51.4	14.7	14.7	10.1	9.5	12.8	* 2.1	115.2
Did not intend to look	14.2	4.6	* 2.4	* 3.9	5.2	17.0	17.6	64.9
Did not know	13.4	* 2.8	6.7	5.5	4.8	8.8	5.7	47.6
Not asked(a)	* 3.8	5.1	5.4	* 3.6	* 2.2	* 1.9	* 0.7	22.8
Total	82.9	27.1	29.1	23.1	21.7	40.5	26.1	250.6
FEMALES								
Intended to look	55.2	32.8	82.1	59.0	23.8	12.2	* 1.3	266.4
Did not intend to look	18.0	16.6	82.2	54.4	24.9	29.2	15.4	240.8
Did not know	16.9	17.5	64.0	43.5	24.9	12.3	* 4.3	183.4
Not asked(a)	7.4	6.4	22.3	10.3	* 4.2	* 1.3	* 0.3	52.2
Total	97.5	73.3	250.6	167.2	77.8	55.0	21.3	742.8
PERSONS								
Intended to look	106.6	47.5	96.7	69.1	33.3	25.0	* 3.4	381.6
Did not intend to look	32.3	21.2	84.7	58.3	30.1	46.2	33.0	305.7
Did not know	30.3	20.2	70.7	49.1	29.7	21.2	10.0	231.1
Not asked(a)	11.3	11.5	27.7	13.9	6.4	* 3.2	* 1.0	75.0
Total	180.4	100.4	279.7	190.3	99.5	95.5	47.4	993.4

(a) Comprises persons who had a job to go to, persons who took active steps to find work and persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 9. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK : TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED AND AGE, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Type of work preferred	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	
MALES								
Full-time	35.1	13.2	21.9	17.9	12.8	13.8	* 3.8	118.4
Part-time	46.8	12.8	5.8	* 3.9	7.3	22.1	20.6	119.3
No preference	* 1.0	* 1.2	* 1.5	* 1.3	* 1.7	4.6	* 1.6	12.8
Total	82.9	27.1	29.1	23.1	21.7	40.5	26.1	250.6
FEMALES								
Full-time	30.8	19.2	33.6	23.8	12.0	4.8	* 2.1	126.3
Part-time	64.1	50.0	208.2	134.2	60.2	47.6	17.6	581.9
No preference	* 2.7	* 4.1	8.9	9.2	5.6	* 2.5	* 1.6	34.6
Total	97.5	73.3	250.6	167.2	77.8	55.0	21.3	742.8
PERSONS								
Full-time	65.8	32.4	55.5	41.7	24.8	18.7	6.0	244.7
Part-time	110.9	62.8	213.9	138.2	67.5	69.7	38.2	701.3
No preference	* 3.6	5.3	10.3	10.5	7.3	7.1	* 3.1	47.4
Total	180.4	100.4	279.7	190.3	99.5	95.5	47.4	993.4

TABLE 10. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE : MAIN REASON FOR NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS AND TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED, MARCH 1988 ('000)

	Intention to look for work in the next twelve months				Type of work preferred			Total
	Intended to look	Did not intend to look	Did not know	Not asked(a)	Full-time	Part-time	No preference	
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	..	..	..	33.8	15.3	17.4	* 1.1	33.8
Were available to start work within four weeks	..	..	..	27.1	12.8	13.4	* 0.9	27.1
Were not available to start work within four weeks	..	..	..	6.7	* 2.6	* 4.0	* 0.2	6.7
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	309.0	203.7	168.3	24.2	151.6	523.8	29.8	705.2
Main reason for not actively looking for work--								
Had a job to go to	..	..	..	12.5	7.6	* 4.4	* 0.5	12.5
Personal reasons	152.6	74.3	58.7	..	75.6	199.7	10.2	285.5
Own ill health, physical disability, pregnancy	35.9	22.5	18.8	..	27.5	44.6	5.1	77.3
Attending an educational institution	85.8	21.9	20.6	..	33.1	93.5	* 1.7	128.3
Had no need to work	8.6	16.1	9.2	..	* 1.8	31.0	* 1.2	34.0
Give others a chance	* 0.4	* 4.1	* 2.2	..	* 0.5	6.1	* 0.1	6.7
Welfare payments/pension may be affected	5.2	9.2	5.7	..	* 3.3	15.6	* 1.2	20.0
Moved house/holidays	16.7	* 0.4	* 2.1	..	9.3	9.0	* 1.0	19.3
Family reasons	85.8	83.7	73.0	..	28.7	204.5	9.3	242.5
Ill health of other than self	5.6	* 3.9	* 3.6	..	* 2.8	10.3	* 0.0	13.1
Unable to find suitable childcare	22.2	35.7	23.1	..	9.1	68.3	* 3.7	81.0
Children too young/preferred to look after children	43.6	31.7	32.9	..	12.1	92.2	* 3.9	108.2
Other family considerations	14.4	12.4	13.4	..	4.7	33.7	* 1.8	40.2
Discouraged jobseekers	41.1	34.5	22.5	..	24.0	67.3	6.6	98.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	9.6	23.8	7.4	..	7.2	30.3	* 3.4	40.9
Difficulties with language or ethnic background	* 2.6	* 1.5	* 1.9	..	* 3.1	* 2.3	* 0.5	6.0
Lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	6.2	* 2.9	* 3.5	..	* 3.3	9.1	* 0.2	12.6
No jobs in locality or line of work	17.4	4.6	8.3	..	8.3	20.3	* 1.6	30.2
No jobs at all	5.3	* 1.8	* 1.4	..	* 2.1	5.3	* 1.0	8.4
No jobs in suitable hours	8.3	* 1.4	5.1	..	* 0.9	13.9	* 0.0	14.9
Other reasons	18.6	8.8	6.5	..	10.0	22.4	* 1.6	34.0
Did not know	* 2.6	* 1.0	* 2.5	..	* 0.7	4.6	* 0.8	6.1
Not asked(b)	..	..	..	11.6	* 4.1	6.9	* 0.7	11.6
Total	309.0	203.7	168.3	58.0	167.0	541.2	30.9	739.0

(a) Comprises persons who had a job to go to, persons who took active steps to find work and persons as defined in footnote(b). (b) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 11. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE : TIME SINCE LAST JOB AND WHETHER LOOKED FOR WORK IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS(a), MARCH 1988 ('000)

Time since last job	Had looked for work in the last 12 months			Total	Had not looked for work in the last 12 months	Total
	Less than 5 weeks ago	5 and less than 13 weeks ago	13 to 52 weeks ago			
Had had a job	62.0	56.6	28.4	147.0	476.2	623.2
Under 12 months	30.4	20.6	4.7	55.7	133.0	188.7
Under 6 months	21.9	11.7	* 1.1	34.7	94.1	128.8
6 and under 12 months	8.5	8.9	* 3.6	21.0	38.9	59.9
1 and under 3 years	13.6	14.4	9.3	37.3	92.1	129.4
3 and under 5 years	6.1	6.1	* 4.0	16.2	60.3	76.4
5 and under 10 years	6.0	8.2	4.7	19.0	91.4	110.4
10 and under 20 years	* 4.2	6.2	5.6	16.0	76.3	92.3
20 years or more	* 1.6	* 1.2	* 0.1	* 2.9	23.1	26.0
Had never had a job	11.6	21.2	6.7	39.5	76.3	115.8
Total	73.5	77.9	35.0	186.5	552.6	739.0

(a) Persons who had left a job in the last twelve months were only asked whether they had looked for work since that job.

TABLE 12. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE :
WHETHER LOOKED FOR WORK IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND FAMILY STATUS, MARCH 1988
(*000)

Whether looked for work in the last twelve months(a)	Family status									
	Member of a family									
	Husband or wife			Not- married family head	Full- time student aged 15 - 24(b)	Other child/ relative of family head	Total	Not a member of a family	Family status not det- ermined	Total
	With depen- dents present	Without depen- dents present	Total							
MALES										
Had looked for work	7.4	8.4	15.8	* 2.5	18.5	7.7	44.6	8.4	4.9	57.8
Less than 5 weeks ago	* 4.4	* 4.2	8.5	* 1.3	6.9	* 3.3	20.1	* 4.3	* 2.5	26.9
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	* 2.0	* 2.9	5.0	* 0.9	9.6	* 3.5	18.9	* 2.7	* 2.4	23.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	* 1.0	* 1.3	* 2.4	* 0.2	* 2.0	* 0.9	5.6	* 1.5	* 0.0	7.0
Had not looked for work	12.1	30.7	42.8	4.6	42.2	10.8	100.5	16.8	10.4	127.6
Total	19.5	39.2	58.7	7.2	60.7	18.5	145.0	25.2	15.2	185.5
FEMALES										
Had looked for work	53.7	11.7	65.4	20.2	19.5	6.5	111.6	7.4	9.7	128.6
Less than 5 weeks ago	21.5	* 2.7	24.2	7.7	5.0	* 3.0	39.9	* 3.1	* 3.7	46.7
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	21.1	6.2	27.2	7.7	10.6	* 1.8	47.4	* 3.2	* 3.4	53.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	11.2	* 2.8	14.0	4.8	* 3.8	* 1.7	24.3	* 1.1	* 2.6	28.0
Had not looked for work	214.3	59.5	273.8	58.1	33.7	8.7	374.3	29.2	21.5	425.0
Total	268.0	71.2	339.2	78.3	53.1	15.2	485.8	36.6	31.1	553.6
PERSONS										
Had looked for work	61.1	20.1	81.2	22.7	38.0	14.2	156.1	15.8	14.5	186.5
Less than 5 weeks ago	25.8	6.8	32.7	9.0	11.9	6.3	60.0	7.4	6.2	73.5
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	23.1	9.1	32.2	8.7	20.2	5.2	66.3	5.9	5.7	77.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	12.2	* 4.2	16.4	5.0	5.9	* 2.6	29.9	* 2.6	* 2.6	35.0
Had not looked for work	226.4	90.3	316.6	62.7	75.8	19.6	474.8	46.0	31.8	552.6
Total	287.5	110.4	397.9	85.4	113.8	33.7	630.9	61.8	46.3	739.0

(a) Persons who had left a job in the last twelve months were only asked whether they had looked for work since that job. (b) Excludes persons aged 20 to 24 attending school.

TABLE 13. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR
FORCE : TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED AND FAMILY STATUS, MARCH 1988
(*000)

Type of work preferred	Family status									
	Member of a family									
	Husband or wife			Not- married family head	Full- time student aged 15 - 24(a)	Other child/ relative of family head	Total	Not a member of a family	Family status not det- ermined	Total
	With depen- dents present	Without depen- dents present	Total							
MALES										
Full-time	14.1	12.8	26.9	* 3.0	19.7	13.9	63.5	8.9	6.2	78.7
Part-time	* 4.0	23.4	27.4	* 4.0	40.7	* 4.0	76.1	15.1	8.4	99.6
No preference	* 1.5	* 2.9	* 4.4	* 0.2	* 0.2	* 0.6	5.4	* 1.2	* 0.6	7.2
Total	19.5	39.2	58.7	7.2	60.7	18.5	145.0	25.2	15.2	185.5
FEMALES										
Full-time	28.4	8.4	36.8	16.1	13.2	9.1	75.2	6.8	6.3	88.3
Part-time	229.5	58.2	287.7	57.5	39.2	5.3	389.8	28.2	23.6	441.6
No preference	10.1	4.5	14.6	4.7	* 0.7	* 0.9	20.9	* 1.6	* 1.2	23.6
Total	268.0	71.2	339.2	78.3	53.1	15.2	485.8	36.6	31.1	553.6
PERSONS										
Full-time	42.5	21.3	63.7	19.1	32.9	23.0	138.7	15.7	12.5	167.0
Part-time	233.5	81.7	315.1	61.6	79.9	9.3	465.9	43.3	32.0	541.2
No preference	11.6	7.4	19.0	4.8	* 1.0	* 1.5	26.3	* 2.8	* 1.8	30.9
Total	287.5	110.4	397.9	85.4	113.8	33.7	630.9	61.8	46.3	739.0

(a) Excludes persons aged 20 to 24 attending school.

TABLE 14. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE : SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, MARCH 1988 ('000)

	Persons who wanted to work and were actively looking for work	Persons who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks			Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force		
		Discouraged job-seekers	Other	Total	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Age group—</i>							
15-19	7.3	7.9	128.1	136.1	66.6	76.8	143.3
20-24	4.9	* 2.7	62.2	64.9	21.1	48.7	69.8
25-34	10.6	15.3	168.0	183.2	18.2	175.6	193.8
35-44	6.3	19.0	120.3	139.3	14.7	130.8	145.5
45-54	* 3.1	15.4	57.8	73.2	14.5	61.8	76.3
55-64	* 1.3	22.3	50.6	72.8	30.5	43.7	74.2
65 and over	* 0.4	15.5	20.2	35.7	19.9	16.2	36.1
<i>Family status—</i>							
Member of a family	27.6	80.9	522.4	603.2	145.0	485.8	630.9
Husband or wife	13.7	62.4	321.8	384.2	58.7	339.2	397.9
With dependents present	11.7	30.5	245.3	275.9	19.5	268.0	287.5
Without dependents present	* 2.0	31.9	76.5	108.3	39.2	71.2	110.4
Not-married family head	5.0	8.7	71.8	80.5	7.2	78.3	85.4
With dependents present	4.7	7.0	61.7	68.8	4.8	68.6	73.4
Without dependents present	* 0.3	* 1.7	10.0	11.7	* 2.3	9.7	12.0
Full-time student aged 15-24(a)	4.8	4.5	104.6	109.1	60.7	53.1	113.8
Other child/relative of family head	* 4.2	5.3	24.2	29.5	18.5	15.2	33.7
Not a member of a family	* 3.7	12.1	46.0	58.1	25.2	36.6	61.8
Living alone	* 1.8	10.6	27.5	38.1	14.2	25.7	39.9
Not living alone	* 2.0	* 1.4	18.5	19.9	11.0	10.9	21.9
Family status not determined	* 2.5	5.1	38.8	43.9	15.2	31.1	46.3
<i>Type of work preferred—</i>							
Full-time	15.3	24.0	127.6	151.6	78.7	88.3	167.0
Part-time	17.4	67.3	456.4	523.8	99.6	441.6	541.2
No preference	* 1.1	6.6	23.2	29.8	7.2	23.6	30.9
<i>Time since last job—</i>							
Had had a job	28.3	87.7	507.2	594.9	134.5	488.8	623.2
Under 12 months	15.9	15.2	157.5	172.8	67.8	120.9	188.7
Under 6 months	12.2	7.6	109.0	116.6	48.7	80.1	128.8
6 and under 12 months	* 3.7	7.7	48.5	56.2	19.1	40.8	59.9
1 and under 3 years	6.2	17.3	105.9	123.2	29.3	100.1	129.4
3 and under 5 years	* 2.6	10.8	63.0	73.8	13.6	62.9	76.4
5 and under 10 years	* 2.4	18.3	89.6	108.0	16.0	94.4	110.4
10 and under 20 years	* 0.7	16.8	74.8	91.6	7.5	84.7	92.3
20 years or more	* 0.4	9.2	16.4	25.6	* 0.3	25.8	26.0
Had never had a job	5.6	10.3	99.9	110.2	51.0	64.8	115.8
<i>Reason for ceasing last job—</i>							
Had had a job	28.3	87.7	507.2	594.9	134.5	488.8	623.2
Job loser	11.2	33.0	155.1	188.2	62.1	137.2	199.3
Retrenched	5.6	15.4	52.9	68.3	23.6	50.3	73.9
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	* 3.2	9.4	40.0	49.4	8.8	43.9	52.6
Own ill health or injury	* 1.8	6.2	53.1	59.3	26.7	34.5	61.2
Business closed down for economic reasons	* 0.5	* 2.0	9.2	11.2	* 3.0	8.6	11.6
Job leaver	17.1	54.7	340.4	395.1	70.0	342.3	412.3
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	* 2.5	4.7	21.3	26.0	5.5	23.0	28.4
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	* 1.5	* 0.6	14.0	14.6	9.1	7.0	16.1
Retired/did not want to work any longer	* 0.3	13.5	35.9	49.4	24.1	25.6	49.7
Returned to studies	* 1.8	* 0.0	24.3	24.3	11.7	14.4	26.1
To get married	* 0.6	6.7	32.1	38.8	* 0.2	39.2	39.4
Pregnancy/to have children	* 3.8	9.7	123.0	132.7	* 0.2	136.3	136.4
To look after family, house or someone else	* 1.4	4.6	29.5	34.2	* 3.7	31.8	35.5
To have holidays/to move house/spouse transferred	* 3.9	9.6	39.7	49.3	6.7	46.5	53.2
Business closed down for other reasons	* 0.5	* 3.2	9.3	12.5	5.0	8.0	13.0
Other	* 0.9	* 2.1	11.4	13.6	* 4.0	10.5	14.5
Not asked(b)	..	..	11.6	11.6	* 2.4	9.2	11.6
Had never had a job	5.6	10.3	99.9	110.2	51.0	64.8	115.8
Total	33.8	98.0	607.2	705.2	185.5	553.6	739.0

(a) Excludes persons aged 20 to 24 attending school. (b) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 15. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK BUT WERE NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND WERE AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS : TIME SINCE LAST JOB AND INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS, MARCH 1988 ('000)

<i>Time since last job</i>	<i>Intention to look for work in the next twelve months</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>Intended to look</i>	<i>Did not intend to look</i>	<i>Did not know</i>	<i>Not asked(a)</i>	
MALES					
Had had a job	62.7	32.5	21.6	6.2	122.9
Under 12 months	39.9	7.5	6.9	5.9	60.3
Under 6 months	29.0	* 4.3	* 4.4	5.2	42.9
6 and under 12 months	10.9	* 3.2	* 2.5	* 0.7	17.4
1 and under 3 years	14.2	5.9	6.2	* 0.2	26.5
3 and under 5 years	* 2.7	6.7	* 3.5	* 0.0	12.9
5 and under 10 years	* 3.4	9.1	* 2.9	* 0.0	15.4
10 and under 20 years	* 2.4	* 3.1	* 2.1	* 0.0	7.5
20 years or more	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.3
Had never had a job	30.8	9.8	7.7	* 0.6	49.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>93.6</i>	<i>42.3</i>	<i>29.3</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>171.9</i>
FEMALES					
Had had a job	182.1	147.3	126.8	15.8	472.0
Under 12 months	64.1	16.2	19.4	12.8	112.5
Under 6 months	42.1	9.7	9.7	12.1	73.7
6 and under 12 months	21.9	6.5	9.7	* 0.7	38.8
1 and under 3 years	41.7	26.6	27.2	* 1.2	96.7
3 and under 5 years	20.0	20.6	19.5	* 0.7	60.9
5 and under 10 years	27.6	37.5	26.8	* 0.6	92.5
10 and under 20 years	23.8	34.0	25.9	* 0.3	84.1
20 years or more	5.0	12.3	8.1	* 0.0	25.3
Had never had a job	33.3	14.2	12.2	* 1.6	61.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>215.4</i>	<i>161.4</i>	<i>139.0</i>	<i>17.4</i>	<i>533.3</i>
PERSONS					
Had had a job	244.8	179.7	148.4	22.0	594.9
Under 12 months	104.0	23.7	26.3	18.8	172.8
Under 6 months	71.1	14.0	14.1	17.3	116.6
6 and under 12 months	32.9	9.7	12.2	* 1.4	56.2
1 and under 3 years	55.9	32.4	33.3	* 1.5	123.2
3 and under 5 years	22.7	27.4	23.0	* 0.7	73.8
5 and under 10 years	31.0	46.6	29.7	* 0.6	108.0
10 and under 20 years	26.2	37.1	28.0	* 0.3	91.6
20 years or more	5.0	12.5	8.1	* 0.0	25.6
Had never had a job	64.1	24.0	19.9	* 2.2	110.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>309.0</i>	<i>203.7</i>	<i>168.3</i>	<i>24.2</i>	<i>705.2</i>

(a) Comprises persons who had a job to go to and persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 16. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK BUT WERE NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND WERE AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS : WHETHER LOOKED FOR WORK IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Whether looked for work in the last twelve months(a)	Intention to look for work in the next twelve months				Total
	Intended to look	Did not intend to look	Did not know	Not asked(b)	
MALES					
Had looked for work	36.7	* 2.7	* 4.1	* 0.8	44.3
Less than 5 weeks ago	10.8	* 0.5	* 1.7	* 0.4	13.3
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	20.6	* 1.6	* 1.3	* 0.4	23.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	5.4	* 0.5	* 1.1	* 0.0	7.0
Had not looked for work	56.8	39.6	25.2	6.0	127.6
Total	93.6	42.3	29.3	6.8	171.9
FEMALES					
Had looked for work	77.6	6.7	19.5	* 4.4	108.3
Less than 5 weeks ago	22.0	* 0.4	* 3.4	* 0.6	26.4
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	38.7	* 3.0	9.6	* 2.6	53.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	16.9	* 3.3	6.6	* 1.2	28.0
Had not looked for work	137.8	154.7	119.5	13.0	425.0
Total	215.4	161.4	139.0	17.4	533.3
PERSONS					
Had looked for work	114.4	9.4	23.6	5.2	152.6
Less than 5 weeks ago	32.7	* 0.9	5.0	* 1.0	39.7
5 and less than 13 weeks ago	59.3	4.6	10.9	* 3.0	77.9
13 to 52 weeks ago	22.3	* 3.9	7.7	* 1.2	35.0
Had not looked for work	194.6	194.3	144.7	18.9	552.6
Total	309.0	203.7	168.3	24.2	705.2

(a) Persons who had left a job in the last twelve months were only asked whether they had looked for work since that job. (b) Comprises persons who had a job to go to and persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

TABLE 17: PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WANTED TO WORK BUT WERE NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AND WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS : REASON NOT AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITHIN FOUR WEEKS, INTENTION TO LOOK FOR WORK IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS AND TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED, MARCH 1988 ('000)

Reason not available to start work within four weeks	Intention to look for work in the next twelve months				Type of work preferred			Total
	Intended to look	Did not intend to look	Did not know	Not asked(a)	Full-time	Part-time	No preference	
Personal reasons	44.9	51.7	37.5	5.0	59.6	69.4	10.0	139.0
Own ill health or injury, physical disability, or pregnancy	18.3	34.8	24.7	* 3.7	32.8	41.7	7.1	81.6
Studying	21.1	12.1	10.1	* 0.5	23.9	18.0	* 1.9	43.8
At school	12.9	10.4	7.7	* 0.0	15.5	14.2	* 1.4	31.1
Other educational institution	8.1	* 1.7	* 2.4	* 0.5	8.4	* 3.9	* 0.5	12.8
Moved house/holidays	5.5	4.7	* 2.6	* 0.8	* 3.0	9.7	* 1.0	13.6
Family reasons	21.5	41.0	20.3	10.8	11.9	76.4	5.3	93.6
Ill health of other than self	* 2.1	5.3	* 4.0	* 0.1	* 1.4	8.7	* 1.4	11.5
Unable to find suitable childcare	* 3.8	* 4.3	* 3.4	* 0.7	* 1.7	10.0	* 0.5	12.2
Children too young/preferred to look after children	15.6	31.4	12.9	10.0	8.8	57.7	* 3.4	69.9
Other reasons	6.3	9.2	5.0	* 1.2	6.2	14.3	* 1.2	21.7
Total	72.6	102.0	62.8	17.0	77.8	160.1	16.5	254.3
Males	21.6	22.6	18.4	* 2.5	39.8	19.8	5.5	65.1
Females	51.0	79.3	44.4	14.5	38.0	140.3	10.9	189.3

(a) Persons who had a job but, up to the end of reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

Available to start work within four weeks: those persons who were available to start work within four weeks or could start work if childcare was available.

Discouraged jobseekers: persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within four weeks but whose main reason for not taking active steps to find work was that they believed they would not be able to find a job for any of the following reasons: considered to be too young or too old by employers; difficulties with language or ethnic background; lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience; no jobs in their locality or line of work; or no jobs at all.

Job: any employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.

Job leavers: persons who voluntarily ceased their last job.

Job losers: persons who involuntarily ceased their last job.

Marginal attachment to the labour force: persons who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and—

- (a) were actively looking for work but did not meet the criteria to be classified as unemployed; or
- (b) were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks or could start work within four weeks if childcare was available.

The criteria determining those in the labour force are based on actual activity (i.e. working or looking for work) during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work, reasons for not actively looking for work and availability to start work, are more

subjective and are not based on the respondents' actual activity. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondents' own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation is affected by such factors as the respondent's work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.

Not in the labour force and wanted to work: persons who—

- (a) in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week had taken *active steps* to find work but did not meet the criteria to be classified as unemployed; or
- (b) although claiming to have looked for work (in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week), had not taken active steps to find work; or
- (c) in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week had not looked for work but in the survey answered 'yes' or 'maybe' to the question '*Even though you have not been looking for work would you like a full-time or part-time job?*'; or
- (d) in the four weeks up the end of the reference week had not looked for work but were responsible for children under twelve years of age and answered 'yes' or 'maybe' to the question '*If you had child care arrangements for your child(ren) under 12, would you like a job?*'.

Persons not in the labour force: persons who do not meet the criteria that would enable them to be classified as being in the labour force. To be classified as being in the labour force, a person must be aged 15 or over and be either *employed* or *unemployed*. Persons not in the labour force, therefore, include all persons aged 15 and over who are not employed, who want to work but do not meet the criteria to be classified as unemployed; who do not want to work; or who, through incapacity or infirmity, cannot work.

APPENDIX B

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 March 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 force aspirations and, if appropriate, their reasons for not actively looking for work and their availability for work.

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 not in the labour force.

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. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).

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

Results of the survey

7. Estimates of persons not in the labour force are also published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). However, more detailed information is contained in this publication.

8. Due to differences in the method of estimation used in this supplementary survey and that used in the labour force survey, there are some small variations between estimates in this publication and those in the corresponding issue of *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

9. The estimates in this publication refer to information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

10. A publication *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, March 1988, Summary* (6219.0) containing a summary of the results of the survey was released on 20 May 1988.

11. Results of similar surveys, which have been conducted each March and September since March 1979 (except September 1987), and also in May 1977 and November 1975, have been given in *Persons Not in the Labour Force Australia* (6220.0).

12. It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in September 1988.

Unpublished tables

13. In some cases, the ABS can also make available information which is not published. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, data tape, computer printout, manually-extracted tabulation. In general, a charge is made for providing unpublished information. Inquiries should be made to the officer whose name appears in the *Phone Inquiries* section at the front of this publication, or to Information Services in the nearest ABS Office.

Discontinuities in the series

14. Estimates from September 1986 contained in this publication are based on a revised labour force questionnaire introduced in April 1986. The definition of employment was expanded resulting in a slight decrease in the estimate of 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). Although estimates for previous years have not been revised in this publication, the April 1986 issue of *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) contains revised estimates for persons not in the labour force back to March 1985.

Survey sample redesign

15. 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

16. Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. For further information refer to the Technical Note, Appendix C.

Related publications

17. 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

Underemployed Workers, Australia, May 1985 (6265.0)—issued irregularly

Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, June 1986 (6222.0)—issued biennially

Employment, Underemployment and Unemployment 1966-1983, Australia (6246.0)—issued irregularly

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

18. 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 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, Appendix C.
- .. not applicable.

19. 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

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

APPENDIX C

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

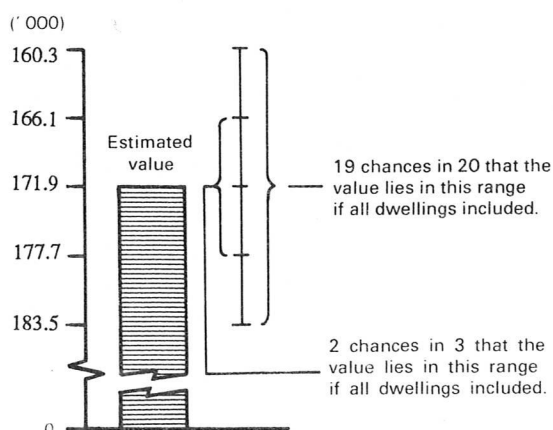
The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age and sex, rather than to the corresponding distribution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

Reliability of the estimates

2. 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.

3. 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 figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

4. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 15 shows the estimated number of males in Australia who were not in the labour force and who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks was 171,900. Since this estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000 the standard error for Australia will be between 4,700 and 6,300 in the standard error table and can be approximated as 5,800 (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 166,100 to 177,700 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 160,300 to 183,500. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



5. 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 the tables 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.

6. 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:

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

7. Considering the example from paragraph 4 above, of the 171,900 males who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks only 18,400 or 10.7 per cent were aged between 20 and 24. The standard error of 18,400 is approximately 2,200 so the relative standard error is 12.0 per cent. The relative standard error for 171,900 is 3.4 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(12.0)^2 - (3.4)^2}$ or 11.5 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (10.7 per cent) of 1.2 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of males who were aged between 20 and 24 and who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks was between 9.5 per cent and 11.9 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion was within the range 8.3 per cent to 13.1 per cent.

8. 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 sub-populations it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

9. 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-sampling 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	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
	—number—								Relative standard error (per cent)	
500						230		240		
600						250		260		
800				350	370	290		290		
1,000			460	390	410	320	480	320	500	49.8
1,300	650		520	440	460	360	540	350	580	44.2
1,500	700	710	560	470	490	380	570	380	620	41.4
1,800	760	780	620	520	540	410	610	400	690	38.1
2,000	810	820	650	540	560	430	640	420	730	36.3
2,500	900	910	720	600	620	480	700	460	820	32.7
3,000	980	1,000	790	650	680	520	750	490	900	30.0
3,500	1,050	1,050	850	700	730	550	790	520	970	27.8
4,000	1,100	1,150	910	740	770	580	840	540	1,050	26.1
4,500	1,200	1,200	960	780	810	610	870	570	1,100	24.6
5,000	1,250	1,250	1,000	820	850	640	910	590	1,150	23.4
6,000	1,350	1,400	1,100	880	920	690	980	630	1,300	21.4
10,000	1,700	1,750	1,400	1,100	1,150	840	1,200	750	1,650	16.5
20,000	2,350	2,350	1,850	1,450	1,500	1,100	1,550	930	2,300	11.5
50,000	3,450	3,400	2,700	2,050	2,100	1,500	2,150	1,200	3,500	7.0
100,000	4,550	4,400	3,500	2,600	2,700	1,850	2,700	1,450	4,700	4.7
200,000	6,000	5,700	4,450	3,250	3,400	2,250	3,400	1,700	6,300	3.1
300,000	7,000	6,500	5,100	3,700	3,900	2,500		1,850	7,300	2.4
500,000	8,400	7,700	6,000	4,350	4,550	2,850		2,050	8,900	1.8
1,000,000	10,800	9,600	7,500	5,300	5,600				11,500	1.2
2,000,000	13,700	11,800	9,100	6,300	6,800				14,600	0.7
5,000,000	18,400	15,000	11,500						19,700	0.4
10,000,000	22,700								24,200	0.2
20,000,000									29,400	0.1

Recommended retail price: \$5.00



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ISSN 0819-9914