

LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 19 AUG 1999

C O N T E N T S

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Conceptual framework	3
Summary of findings	4
 TABLES	
List of tables	8
All persons aged 15–69 years	9
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year	15
Persons who worked at some time during the year	16
Persons who looked for work at some time during the year	18
Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year	21
Persons who were working at February 1999	22
Populations	23
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Explanatory notes	25
Appendix: Populations and data items list	29
Technical notes	34
Glossary	38
Supplementary surveys	40

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Sue Barker on Canberra 02 6252 6503, facsimile 02 6252 7784 or Client Services in any ABS office as shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about the labour force experience of the civilian population aged 15–69 years during the year ending February 1999. It presents information about time spent in labour force activities, including episodes of working or looking for work, and time spent out of the labour force.

For this publication, labour force activity over a 12-month period was determined from a more limited set of questions than is used in the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). For this reason, the terms *worked* and *looked for work* are used, rather than the more precisely defined terms *employed* and *unemployed*, as used in the LFS.

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey, Labour Force Experience.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The Labour Force Experience Survey was conducted throughout Australia in February 1999 as a supplement to the ABS monthly LFS.

Labour force experience relates to a person's labour force activities over a 12-month period. Labour force activity consists of either working or looking for work.

The survey measured the number of weeks persons were engaged in these labour force activities during the year, the number of employers or businesses a person had during the year, the number of spells of looking for work during the year and the main activity of persons when not in the labour force.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGE

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
LFS	Labour Force Survey
. .	not applicable
n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RSE	Relative standard error
SE	Standard error
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses

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

STATE INQUIRIES

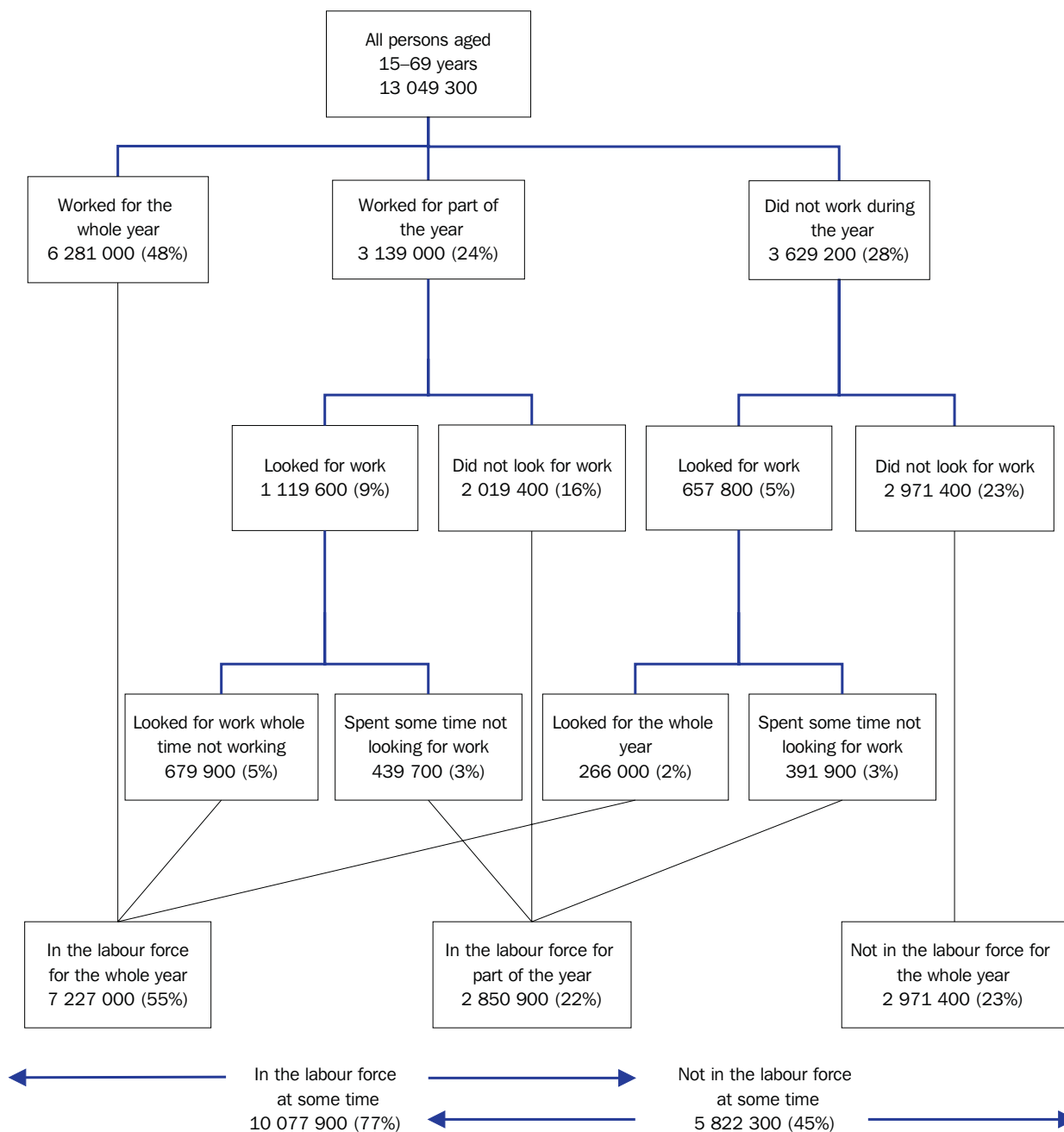
For State office contact numbers see the supplementary surveys list in the back of this publication.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The following diagram illustrates the framework for the Labour Force Experience Survey. Persons aged 15–69 years were classified according to their labour force activity over a 12-month period, that is, whether working or looking for work.

The framework firstly differentiates between persons who worked the whole year, part of the year or did not work during the year. Persons who worked part of the year or did not work during the year were asked whether they looked for work or not. Persons who looked for work were also asked about the time they spent looking for work.



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

ALL PERSONS AGED 15–69 YEARS

There were approximately 13,049,300 civilian Australians aged 15–69 years in February 1999. This publication contains information on their labour force experience throughout the year ending February 1999.

During the year ending February 1999:

- 9,420,000 persons worked at some time during the year, of which 6,281,000 spent the whole year working;
- 1,777,500 persons looked for work at some time during the year, of which 266,000 persons spent the whole year looking for work; and
- 5,822,300 persons were not in the labour force at some time during the year, of which 2,971,400 persons spent no time in the labour force.

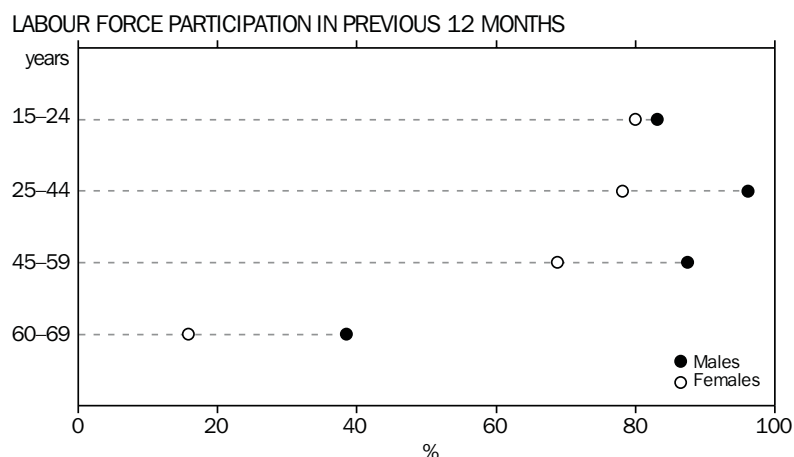
The terms *worked* and *looked for work* have been used to describe labour force activity throughout the year. Users of this data should be aware that these terms are not the same as the more precisely defined terms *employed* and *unemployed*, which are used in the monthly Labour Force Survey to describe current labour force status.

PARTICIPATION IN THE LABOUR FORCE

An estimated 10,077,900 persons aged 15–69 years were in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999. That is, 77% of Australians aged 15–69 years either worked or looked for work at some time during the year.

Some 85% of males aged 15–69 years participated in the labour force at some time in the 12 months up to February 1999. This has remained relatively steady for all years since 1991. For females, the proportion participating over the previous 12 months has steadily increased from 65% in 1989 to 70% in 1997 (69% in 1999).

By age group, the highest level of participation in the year ending February 1999 was for persons aged between 25–44 years (87%). The lowest participation rate was for persons aged 60–69 years (27%) for the same period. Males participated at higher rates than females in all age groups.



The majority of people participating in the labour force spent all or most of the year in the labour force. Of the persons who were in the labour force at some time during the year, 72% spent the whole year in the labour force and 15% spent 39–51 weeks in the labour force.

PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR

There were 9,420,000 persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999. Of these, 5,242,300 (56%) were male and 4,177,700 (44%) were female. Some 71% of these males worked for the entire 52 weeks, compared to 61% of females.

The proportion of males who worked at some time during the year has remained stable at 80% since 1995. This is slightly lower than the level in 1989 and 1991 (82%). The proportion of females who worked at some time has risen from 60% in 1989 to 64% in 1997 and 1999.

Since 1995, the number of people working all of the year has increased at a greater rate than the number of people working for part of the year only (8.1% compared to 0.9%). Over the same period, those persons working 39–51 weeks during the year recorded an increase of 8.7%. The number of persons working 38 weeks or less during the year declined by 6.5%.

Of those persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999:

- 80% of males and 48% of females worked full-time only;
- 12% of males and 41% of females worked part-time only; and
- 8% of males and 10% of females worked a combination of full-time and part-time.

PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR *continued*

For the 12 months ending February 1999, 54% of persons who worked at some time during the year had post-school qualifications, compared with 43% of persons without post-school qualifications. In contrast, the proportions for 1989 were 46% and 51% respectively.

PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR

During the year ending February 1999, 973,800 males and 803,700 females looked for work at some time. This information was only collected from persons for the periods when they were not working. Over one-half of the people looking for work were aged between 15–34 years (61% for males and 64% for females).

The proportion of males who looked for work at some time during the year has steadily decreased from 20% in 1993 to 15% in February 1999. Similarly, the proportion of females has decreased from 14% in 1993 to 12% for the 12 months ending February 1999.

PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME—FEBRUARY



Of the 1,777,500 persons who looked for work at some time:

- 48% looked for work for between 1 and 12 weeks;
- 28% looked for work for between 13 and 38 weeks;
- 9% looked for work for between 39 and 51 weeks; and
- 15% looked for work for the whole year.

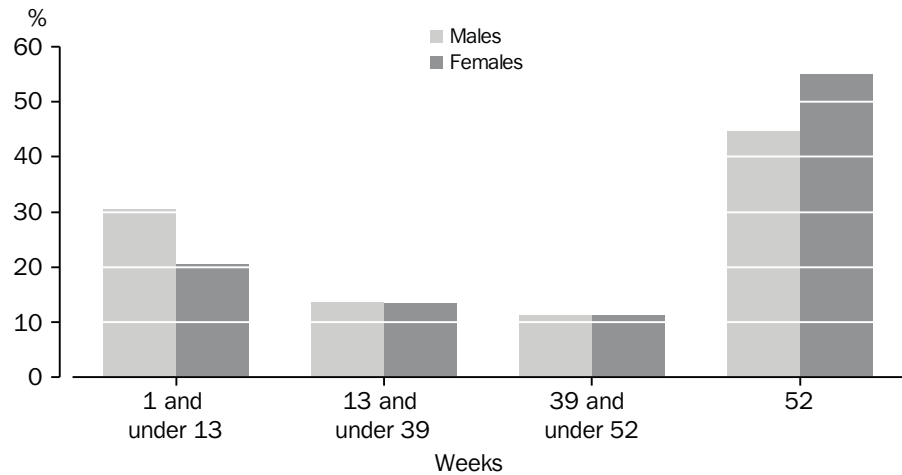
Almost two-thirds (63%) of persons looking for work during the year had also worked during the year, down from 65% in 1997.

PERSONS WHO WERE NOT
IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT
SOME TIME DURING THE
YEAR

An estimated 5,822,300 persons were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999. Of these, 2,182,900 were male and 3,639,400 were female. Half (51%) of the people in this group spent no time in the labour force during the year.

The main activities while not in the labour force most commonly reported by males were 'attended an educational institution' (27%), 'holiday, travel, or leisure activities' (26%), and 'retired or voluntarily inactive' (22%). For females, the most commonly reported main activities were 'home duties, or childcare' (55%) and 'attended an educational institution' (16%).

TIME NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR



LIST OF TABLES

Page

ALL PERSONS AGED 15–69 YEARS	1	Labour force experience during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999 (number)	9
	2	Labour force experience during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999 (proportion)	10
	3	Labour force characteristics during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999	11
	4	Labour force experience during the year ending February 1999, by age, marital status and relationship in household	12
	5	Time in the labour force during the year ending February 1999, by age	14
PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME	6	Sex, age, State and Territory of usual residence and educational attainment, during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999	15
PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME	7	Sex, age, State and Territory of usual residence and educational attainment during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999	16
	8	Time worked during the year ending February 1999, number of employers/businesses by labour force status	17
PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME	9	Sex, age, State and Territory of usual residence and educational attainment during the year ending February 1989 to February 1999	18
	10	Age by number of spells of looking for work, time worked and time spent looking for work during the year ending February 1999, mean and median duration of time spent looking for work by age	19
PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME	11	Main activity when not in the labour force by time not in the labour force during the year ending February 1999, mean and median duration of time spent looking for work	21
PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT FEBRUARY 1999	12	Whether worked for the whole year or part of the year ending February 1999 by industry at February 1999, occupation at February 1999 and time worked with current employers/business	22
POPULATIONS	13	State or Territory of usual residence, February 1999	23

1. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	February 1989	February 1991	March 1993	February 1995	February 1997	February 1999
MALES						
	— '000 —					
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	828.0	827.1	901.4	868.3	939.8	971.5
In the labour force during the whole year	4,018.8	4,211.8	4,314.2	4,234.2	4,318.5	4,345.4
Worked whole year	3,524.0	3,590.4	3,463.8	3,516.7	3,616.2	3,748.0
Worked part of the year(a)	375.3	479.6	601.3	533.4	533.4	436.9
Worked none of the year	119.5	141.8	249.1	184.1	168.9	160.4
In the labour force part of the year only	972.0	991.2	978.5	1,122.0	1,121.7	1,211.4
Worked part of the year	867.1	872.8	805.0	961.8	964.5	1,057.4
Looked for work at some time	245.3	240.2	206.1	227.4	215.8	222.4
Did not look for work	621.7	632.5	598.9	734.5	748.7	835.0
Worked none of the year	105.0	118.5	173.5	160.1	157.2	154.0
Total	5,818.7	6,030.2	6,194.2	6,224.5	6,380.1	6,528.3
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	1,800.0	1,818.4	1,879.8	1,990.3	2,061.6	2,182.9
In the labour force at some time during the year	4,990.8	5,203.0	5,292.7	5,356.2	5,440.2	5,556.7
Worked at some time during the year	4,766.4	4,942.8	4,870.2	5,011.9	5,114.1	5,242.3
Looked for work at some time during the year	845.1	982.0	1,229.9	1,105.0	1,075.3	973.8
FEMALES						
	— '000 —					
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	1,999.2	1,948.6	2,024.8	1,935.5	1,933.4	1,999.9
In the labour force during the whole year	2,343.3	2,514.4	2,665.9	2,657.4	2,851.8	2,881.6
Worked whole year	2,056.7	2,212.6	2,259.3	2,295.3	2,465.9	2,533.1
Worked part of the year(a)	217.8	210.9	269.2	250.7	277.9	243.0
Worked none of the year	68.8	90.9	137.4	111.4	107.9	105.5
In the labour force part of the year only	1,408.7	1,497.8	1,436.4	1,627.0	1,574.1	1,639.5
Worked part of the year	1,194.9	1,306.8	1,175.3	1,365.3	1,328.6	1,401.7
Looked for work at some time	256.9	272.4	212.4	239.0	219.9	217.3
Did not look for work	938.0	1,034.4	962.9	1,126.3	1,108.8	1,184.4
Worked none of the year	213.8	191.0	261.1	262.3	245.5	237.9
Total	5,751.2	5,960.7	6,127.1	6,219.9	6,359.3	6,521.0
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	3,407.9	3,446.4	3,461.2	3,563.0	3,507.5	3,639.4
In the labour force at some time during the year	3,752.0	4,012.2	4,102.3	4,284.9	4,425.9	4,521.1
Worked at some time during the year	3,469.5	3,730.3	3,703.8	3,911.2	4,072.5	4,177.7
Looked for work at some time during the year	757.3	766.7	880.1	863.4	851.2	803.7
PERSONS						
	— '000 —					
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	2,827.2	2,775.7	2,926.2	2,803.8	2,873.2	2,971.4
In the labour force during the whole year	6,362.1	6,726.2	6,980.2	6,891.6	7,170.3	7,227.0
Worked whole year	5,580.7	5,803.0	5,723.2	5,812.0	6,082.1	6,281.0
Worked part of the year(a)	593.2	690.5	870.5	784.1	811.3	679.9
Worked none of the year	188.2	232.7	386.5	295.5	276.9	266.0
In the labour force part of the year only	2,380.7	2,489.1	2,414.8	2,749.5	2,695.8	2,850.9
Worked part of the year	2,062.0	2,179.6	1,980.3	2,327.1	2,293.1	2,459.1
Looked for work at some time	502.2	512.7	418.5	466.3	435.7	439.7
Did not look for work	1,559.8	1,666.9	1,561.8	1,860.7	1,857.5	2,019.4
Worked none of the year	318.7	309.5	434.6	422.5	402.7	391.9
Total	11,569.9	11,990.9	12,321.2	12,444.9	12,739.3	13,049.3
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	5,207.9	5,264.7	5,341.0	5,553.3	5,569.0	5,822.3
In the labour force at some time during the year	8,742.8	9,215.2	9,395.0	9,641.1	9,866.1	10,077.9
Worked at some time during the year	8,235.8	8,673.1	8,574.0	8,923.1	9,186.6	9,420.0
Looked for work at some time during the year	1,602.3	1,748.7	2,110.1	1,968.4	1,926.5	1,777.5

(a) Worked for part of the year, looked for work the rest of the year.

2. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	February 1989	1991	March 1993	1995	1997	February 1999
MALES						
			— % —			
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	14.2	13.7	14.6	14.0	14.7	14.9
In the labour force during the whole year	69.1	69.8	69.7	68.0	67.7	66.6
Worked whole year	60.6	59.5	55.9	56.5	56.7	57.4
Worked part of the year(a)	6.5	8.0	9.7	8.6	8.4	6.7
Worked none of the year	2.1	2.4	4.0	3.0	2.6	2.5
In the labour force part of the year only	16.7	16.4	15.8	18.0	17.6	18.6
Worked part of the year	14.9	14.5	13.0	15.5	15.1	16.2
Looked for work at some time	4.2	4.0	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.4
Did not look for work	10.7	10.5	9.7	11.8	11.7	12.8
Worked none of the year	1.8	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4
<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>
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	30.9	30.2	30.3	32.0	32.3	33.4
In the labour force at some time during the year	85.8	86.3	85.4	86.0	85.3	85.1
Worked at some time during the year	81.9	82.0	78.6	80.5	80.2	80.3
Looked for work at some time during the year	14.5	16.3	19.9	17.8	16.9	14.9
FEMALES						
			— % —			
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	34.8	32.7	33.0	31.1	30.4	30.7
In the labour force during the whole year	40.7	42.2	43.5	42.7	44.8	44.2
Worked whole year	35.8	37.1	36.9	36.9	38.8	38.8
Worked part of the year(a)	3.8	3.5	4.4	4.0	4.4	3.7
Worked none of the year	1.2	1.5	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.6
In the labour force part of the year only	24.5	25.1	23.4	26.2	24.8	25.1
Worked part of the year	20.8	21.9	19.2	21.9	20.9	21.5
Looked for work at some time	4.5	4.6	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.3
Did not look for work	16.3	17.4	15.7	18.1	17.4	18.2
Worked none of the year	3.7	3.2	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.6
<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>
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	59.3	57.8	56.5	57.3	55.2	55.8
In the labour force at some time during the year	65.2	67.3	67.0	68.9	69.6	69.3
Worked at some time during the year	60.3	62.6	60.4	62.9	64.0	64.1
Looked for work at some time during the year	13.2	12.9	14.4	13.9	13.4	12.3
PERSONS						
			— % —			
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	24.4	23.1	23.7	22.5	22.6	22.8
In the labour force during the whole year	55.0	56.1	56.7	55.4	56.3	55.4
Worked whole year	48.2	48.4	46.5	46.7	47.7	48.1
Worked part of the year(a)	5.1	5.8	7.1	6.3	6.4	5.2
Worked none of the year	1.6	1.9	3.1	2.4	2.2	2.0
In the labour force part of the year only	20.6	20.8	19.6	22.1	21.2	21.8
Worked part of the year	17.8	18.2	16.1	18.7	18.0	18.8
Looked for work at some time	4.3	4.3	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.4
Did not look for work	13.5	13.9	12.7	15.0	14.6	15.5
Worked none of the year	2.8	2.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	45.0	43.9	43.3	44.6	43.7	44.6
In the labour force at some time during the year	75.6	76.9	76.3	77.5	77.4	77.2
Worked at some time during the year	71.2	72.3	69.6	71.7	72.1	72.2
Looked for work at some time during the year	13.8	14.6	17.1	15.8	15.1	13.6

(a) Worked for part of the year, looked for work the rest of the year.

3. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	<i>February</i> <i>1989</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>March</i> <i>1993</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>February</i> <i>1999</i>
			— '000 —			
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	2,827.2	2,775.7	2,926.2	2,803.8	2,873.2	2,971.4
In the labour force at some time during the year	8,742.8	9,215.2	9,395.0	9,641.1	9,866.1	10,077.9
<i>Time in the labour force (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	188.6	155.2	156.8	192.6	163.4	182.1
4 and under 13	402.5	373.0	394.0	417.0	420.5	423.1
13 and under 26	278.9	341.9	328.9	342.2	302.4	328.5
26 and under 39	372.0	383.8	370.5	427.1	421.7	453.7
39 and under 52	1,138.6	1,235.2	1,164.7	1,370.5	1,387.8	1,463.6
52	6,362.1	6,726.2	6,980.2	6,891.6	7,170.3	7,227.0
Worked at some time during the year	8,235.8	8,673.1	8,574.0	8,923.1	9,186.6	9,420.0
<i>Time worked (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	140.8	132.3	152.3	156.9	143.1	152.2
4 and under 13	359.0	365.1	411.9	408.8	386.4	365.2
13 and under 26	312.7	384.5	417.2	436.4	412.2	406.5
26 and under 39	506.2	550.2	544.3	600.0	579.6	574.5
39 and under 52	1,336.4	1,438.0	1,325.0	1,509.2	1,583.2	1,640.7
52	5,580.7	5,803.0	5,723.2	5,812.0	6,082.1	6,281.0
<i>Full-time/part-time status of weeks worked —</i>						
All full-time	6,116.3	6,218.5	5,902.6	5,999.5	6,143.6	6,201.3
More full-time than part-time	360.1	468.3	497.5	496.5	509.8	505.5
Full-time same as part-time	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	51.8	56.6	59.0
More part-time than full-time	158.4	228.6	267.3	301.0	304.2	311.7
All part-time	1,601.0	1,757.7	1,906.6	2,074.3	2,172.4	2,342.5
<i>Number of employers/businesses during the year —</i>						
None	3,334.1	3,306.1	3,747.3	3,521.7	3,552.7	3,629.2
One	6,607.2	7,535.1	7,583.8	7,643.1	7,907.2	8,048.3
Two	1,208.0	859.6	749.6	948.5	937.6	1,014.2
Three	253.0	194.0	160.5	227.7	230.2	254.5
Four or more	167.6	96.1	80.0	103.8	111.5	103.0
Looked for work at some time during the year	1,602.3	1,748.7	2,110.1	1,968.4	1,926.5	1,777.5
<i>Time spent looking for work (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	394.6	317.8	236.5	305.0	271.2	292.7
4 and under 13	531.9	569.5	570.7	559.8	613.4	564.6
13 and under 26	237.0	314.7	359.4	319.1	293.3	275.6
26 and under 39	139.8	198.8	313.4	285.4	285.2	226.7
39 and under 52	110.8	115.1	243.5	203.6	186.6	151.8
52	188.2	232.7	386.5	295.5	276.9	266.0
<i>Number of spells of looking for work —</i>						
One	1,284.8	1,399.3	1,625.5	1,457.4	1,436.4	1,328.6
Two	137.4	168.7	197.5	219.7	218.2	191.9
Three	71.3	78.8	103.7	110.4	103.8	94.7
Four or more	108.8	101.9	183.3	180.9	168.1	162.2
Total	11,569.9	11,990.9	12,321.2	12,444.9	12,739.3	13,049.3

4. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999

	<i>In the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Worked at some time</i>	<i>Looked for work at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at any time</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
MALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	471.1	390.5	175.3	479.5	190.0	661.1
20-24	630.9	586.4	173.2	210.2	33.5	664.4
25-34	1,349.1	1,293.2	243.8	282.4	42.7	1,391.8
35-44	1,352.2	1,304.3	166.9	266.7	66.7	1,418.9
45-54	1,131.8	1,082.8	134.4	273.0	114.4	1,246.3
55-59	355.4	332.0	52.1	165.6	98.7	454.1
60-64	193.0	181.6	25.1	224.9	174.2	367.2
65-69	73.2	71.5	*2.9	280.7	251.2	324.5
<i>Marital status —</i>						
Married	3,368.5	3,259.1	390.9	1,066.0	540.7	3,909.3
Not married	2,188.2	1,983.2	582.9	1,116.9	430.8	2,619.0
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	4,509.2	4,259.3	740.5	1,771.2	795.9	5,305.0
Husband or wife	3,305.0	3,197.8	383.4	1,039.6	525.1	3,830.1
With dependants	1,941.7	1,876.5	239.7	358.9	96.2	2,037.8
Without dependants	1,363.3	1,321.4	143.7	680.7	429.0	1,792.3
Lone parent	77.3	69.8	16.0	36.1	18.4	95.7
With dependants	54.2	48.5	13.0	23.2	10.3	64.5
Without dependants	23.1	21.3	*3.0	12.9	8.1	31.2
Dependent student	280.6	230.1	90.5	389.9	173.5	454.2
Non-dependent child	754.5	679.6	223.1	256.4	55.5	810.0
Other family person	91.7	81.9	27.5	49.2	23.3	115.0
Non-family member	906.3	857.1	199.7	332.8	139.2	1,045.5
Lone person	488.6	456.9	96.4	204.1	107.6	596.2
Not living alone	417.7	400.2	103.3	128.7	31.6	449.3
Family status not determined	141.3	125.9	33.5	78.9	36.4	177.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,556.7</i>	<i>5,242.3</i>	<i>973.8</i>	<i>2,182.9</i>	<i>971.5</i>	<i>6,528.3</i>
FEMALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	459.6	380.7	173.3	471.5	171.8	631.4
20-24	564.5	511.9	160.3	281.7	84.9	649.4
25-34	1,115.6	1,041.5	181.2	700.9	304.2	1,419.8
35-44	1,122.3	1,044.5	162.9	706.9	323.9	1,446.3
45-54	931.2	881.8	105.6	552.9	301.3	1,232.4
55-59	216.0	207.2	15.7	288.4	221.1	437.1
60-64	81.0	79.2	*4.2	316.9	285.5	366.5
65-69	30.8	30.8	*0.3	320.2	307.2	338.0
<i>Marital status —</i>						
Married	2,628.0	2,492.8	307.5	2,233.3	1,310.1	3,938.1
Not married	1,893.2	1,684.9	496.2	1,406.1	689.8	2,582.9
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	3,760.7	3,464.4	649.4	3,149.9	1,724.7	5,485.4
Husband or wife	2,547.1	2,415.9	298.3	2,168.1	1,277.5	3,824.5
With dependants	1,393.3	1,304.3	183.1	1,136.9	559.6	1,952.9
Without dependants	1,153.8	1,111.6	115.2	1,031.2	717.9	1,871.6
Lone parent	388.4	319.5	116.0	371.8	207.0	595.4
With dependants	322.6	259.1	106.8	300.2	150.1	472.7
Without dependants	65.8	60.4	9.1	71.6	57.0	122.7
Dependent student	311.9	260.6	100.3	381.8	151.2	463.1
Non-dependent child	441.0	403.8	114.9	154.5	38.8	479.8
Other family person	72.4	64.6	19.9	73.6	50.2	122.6
Non-family member	619.5	583.5	124.5	374.4	220.2	839.8
Lone person	322.5	301.0	56.5	252.9	180.6	503.1
Not living alone	297.0	282.5	68.0	121.5	39.6	336.6
Family status not determined	140.9	129.8	29.8	115.1	54.9	195.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>4,521.1</i>	<i>4,177.7</i>	<i>803.7</i>	<i>3,639.4</i>	<i>1,999.9</i>	<i>6,521.0</i>

4. ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999—continued

	<i>In the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Worked at some time</i>	<i>Looked for work at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at any time</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
PERSONS						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	930.7	771.2	348.7	951.0	361.9	1,292.6
20-24	1,195.4	1,098.3	333.5	491.9	118.4	1,313.8
25-34	2,464.7	2,334.8	425.0	983.2	346.9	2,811.6
35-44	2,474.6	2,348.8	329.9	973.6	390.6	2,865.1
45-54	2,063.0	1,964.6	240.1	826.0	415.7	2,478.7
55-59	571.5	539.2	67.8	454.0	319.7	891.2
60-64	274.0	260.8	29.3	541.9	459.7	733.7
65-69	104.1	102.3	*3.3	600.9	558.4	662.5
<i>Marital status —</i>						
Married	5,996.5	5,752.0	698.3	3,299.3	1,850.8	7,847.3
Not married	4,081.4	3,668.0	1,079.1	2,523.0	1,120.6	5,201.9
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	8,269.9	7,723.7	1,389.9	4,921.0	2,520.6	10,790.5
Husband or wife	5,852.0	5,613.8	681.7	3,207.7	1,802.6	7,654.7
With dependants	3,334.9	3,180.8	422.8	1,495.8	655.8	3,990.7
Without dependants	2,517.1	2,433.0	258.9	1,711.9	1,146.8	3,663.9
Lone parent	465.7	389.3	132.0	407.9	225.4	691.1
With dependants	376.8	307.6	119.8	323.4	160.4	537.2
Without dependants	88.9	81.8	12.1	84.4	65.1	154.0
Dependent student	592.5	490.7	190.9	771.7	324.7	917.2
Non-dependent child	1,195.5	1,083.4	338.0	410.9	94.3	1,289.8
Other family person	164.1	146.5	47.4	122.8	73.5	237.6
Non-family member	1,525.8	1,440.6	324.2	707.2	359.5	1,885.3
Lone person	811.1	757.9	152.9	457.1	288.2	1,099.4
Not living alone	714.7	682.6	171.3	250.2	71.2	785.9
Family status not determined	282.1	255.7	63.3	194.0	91.4	373.5
Total	10,077.9	9,420.0	1,777.5	5,822.3	2,971.4	13,049.3

(a) Components do not add to the total as it is possible for persons to be in one or more labour force categories over the year.

5. ALL PERSONS: TIME IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999

Time in the labour force during the year (weeks)	Age group (years)								
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	Total
MALES									
— '000 —									
Nil	190.0	33.5	42.7	66.7	114.4	98.7	174.2	251.2	971.5
In the labour force at some time	471.1	630.9	1,349.1	1,352.2	1,131.8	355.4	193.0	73.2	5,556.7
1 and under 4	41.4	6.2	7.5	*4.8	*3.0	*2.3	*2.1	*1.0	68.4
4 and under 13	82.7	25.0	13.1	13.5	8.8	6.2	5.4	5.7	160.3
13 and under 26	47.4	23.4	15.4	8.7	9.4	*5.0	6.7	5.8	121.8
26 and under 39	41.2	28.8	28.7	21.8	22.7	13.7	10.7	5.3	172.9
39 and under 52	76.7	93.2	174.9	151.2	114.8	39.7	25.8	11.7	688.0
52	181.7	454.2	1,109.5	1,152.2	973.2	288.5	142.3	43.7	4,345.4
Total	661.1	664.4	1,391.8	1,418.9	1,246.3	454.1	367.2	324.5	6,528.3
FEMALES									
— '000 —									
Nil	171.8	84.9	304.2	323.9	301.3	221.1	285.5	307.2	1,999.9
In the labour force at some time	459.6	564.5	1,115.6	1,122.3	931.2	216.0	81.0	30.8	4,521.1
1 and under 4	27.1	10.8	31.0	26.9	12.0	*3.8	*1.1	*1.1	113.7
4 and under 13	79.0	32.7	59.1	51.7	23.0	9.0	6.6	*1.7	262.8
13 and under 26	48.8	25.7	55.7	38.1	22.1	9.8	*4.7	*1.8	206.7
26 and under 39	44.0	35.5	77.7	64.3	41.7	11.4	*4.7	*1.4	280.8
39 and under 52	100.8	92.2	173.1	202.0	152.9	33.2	14.3	7.0	775.6
52	159.9	367.7	718.9	739.4	679.5	148.7	49.6	17.8	2,881.6
Total	631.4	649.4	1,419.8	1,446.3	1,232.4	437.1	366.5	338.0	6,521.0
PERSONS									
— '000 —									
Nil	361.9	118.4	346.9	390.6	415.7	319.7	459.7	558.4	2,971.4
In the labour force at some time	930.7	1,195.4	2,464.7	2,474.6	2,063.0	571.5	274.0	104.1	10,077.9
1 and under 4	68.5	17.0	38.5	31.7	14.9	6.1	*3.2	*2.1	182.1
4 and under 13	161.7	57.7	72.1	65.2	31.8	15.2	12.0	7.4	423.1
13 and under 26	96.3	49.1	71.1	46.8	31.5	14.8	11.4	7.5	328.5
26 and under 39	85.1	64.3	106.5	86.1	64.4	25.1	15.4	6.7	453.7
39 and under 52	177.5	185.4	348.1	353.2	267.6	72.9	40.2	18.7	1,463.6
52	341.6	822.0	1,828.4	1,891.6	1,652.7	437.3	191.8	61.6	7,227.0
Total	1,292.6	1,313.8	2,811.6	2,865.1	2,478.7	891.2	733.7	662.5	13,049.3

6. PERSONS WHO WERE IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	February 1989	February 1991	March 1993	February 1995	February 1997	February 1999
	—'000 —					
<i>Sex —</i>						
Males	4,990.8	5,203.0	5,292.7	5,356.2	5,440.2	5,556.7
Females	3,752.0	4,012.2	4,102.3	4,284.9	4,425.9	4,521.1
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	1,012.3	964.8	871.1	921.8	897.5	930.7
20-24	1,178.0	1,238.5	1,285.4	1,287.6	1,223.1	1,195.4
25-34	2,316.6	2,423.6	2,405.9	2,425.7	2,474.1	2,464.7
35-44	2,129.2	2,279.1	2,327.1	2,342.4	2,412.9	2,474.6
45-54	1,333.9	1,502.1	1,690.3	1,803.0	1,955.0	2,063.0
55-59	425.9	435.9	457.7	497.4	533.4	571.5
60-64	277.3	281.1	276.7	267.0	266.0	274.0
65-69	69.6	90.2	81.0	96.2	104.2	104.1
<i>State and Territory of usual residence —</i>						
New South Wales	2,939.8	3,054.5	3,078.8	3,211.0	3,282.5	3,342.5
Victoria	2,284.5	2,385.8	2,414.0	2,414.1	2,483.1	2,537.5
Queensland	1,455.1	1,579.4	1,674.6	1,765.5	1,818.6	1,879.1
South Australia	746.2	781.9	781.0	779.3	782.0	778.9
Western Australia	852.6	913.1	943.0	951.4	994.3	1,026.2
Tasmania	223.5	241.4	233.4	242.9	241.6	238.4
Northern Territory	84.6	87.1	88.6	95.9	81.9	95.6
Australian Capital Territory	156.6	171.9	181.5	181.0	182.3	179.9
<i>Educational attainment —</i>						
With post-school qualifications(a)	3,951.2	n.a.	n.a.	4,517.3	5,066.3	5,300.6
Higher degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	170.2	182.0	220.7
Post-graduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	212.6	207.0	203.9
Bachelor degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	932.5	1,152.8	1,305.9
Undergraduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	312.5	181.6	191.8
Associate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	642.1	704.1	684.5
Skilled vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,851.9	1,882.2	1,946.9
Basic vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	389.4	721.5	694.0
Without post-school qualifications	4,534.8	n.a.	n.a.	4,809.3	4,491.9	4,433.5
Completed highest level of secondary school	1,179.8	n.a.	n.a.	1,676.5	1,613.7	1,675.2
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	3,317.6	n.a.	n.a.	3,125.9	2,878.2	2,749.1
Never attended school	14.7	n.a.	n.a.	6.8	7.6	9.2
Still at school	256.7	n.a.	n.a.	317.6	300.2	343.8
Total	8,742.8	9,215.2	9,395.0	9,641.1	9,866.1	10,077.9

(a) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c..

7. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	<i>February</i> <i>1989</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>March</i> <i>1993</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>February</i> <i>1999</i>
	— '000 —					
<i>Sex —</i>						
Males	4,766.4	4,942.8	4,870.2	5,011.9	5,114.1	5,242.3
Females	3,469.5	3,730.3	3,703.8	3,911.2	4,072.5	4,177.7
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	860.2	801.2	678.5	752.6	729.3	771.2
20-24	1,114.3	1,152.3	1,145.6	1,180.2	1,116.8	1,098.3
25-34	2,202.6	2,308.0	2,232.1	2,276.2	2,338.3	2,334.8
35-44	2,047.0	2,192.9	2,177.7	2,208.8	2,285.5	2,348.8
45-54	1,281.0	1,453.7	1,590.7	1,711.1	1,867.6	1,964.6
55-59	403.9	412.1	422.6	458.5	494.2	539.2
60-64	259.8	265.4	248.3	243.7	253.0	260.8
65-69	67.0	87.5	78.5	92.0	101.9	102.3
<i>State and Territory of usual residence —</i>						
New South Wales	2,749.9	2,880.7	2,792.4	2,953.7	3,049.3	3,125.5
Victoria	2,169.4	2,248.4	2,173.2	2,215.1	2,297.7	2,364.6
Queensland	1,368.0	1,480.6	1,555.4	1,657.2	1,702.1	1,760.7
South Australia	697.0	732.0	711.7	718.3	723.0	724.1
Western Australia	815.8	859.5	880.1	897.3	944.2	968.3
Tasmania	206.2	224.6	210.4	220.1	222.0	215.9
Northern Territory	82.4	83.4	83.0	90.7	77.5	92.2
Australian Capital Territory	147.2	163.8	167.8	170.6	170.6	168.7
<i>Educational attainment —</i>						
With post-school qualifications(a)	3,819.3	n.a.	n.a.	4,315.6	4,852.5	5,082.6
Higher degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	164.6	177.7	215.8
Post-graduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	206.6	204.4	200.1
Bachelor degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	895.6	1,113.8	1,267.8
Undergraduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	302.9	175.3	185.1
Associate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	606.7	675.1	657.9
Skilled vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,774.1	1,806.9	1,869.1
Basic vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	362.2	666.2	634.9
Without post-school qualifications	4,217.9	n.a.	n.a.	4,366.4	4,101.1	4,074.8
Completed highest level of secondary school	1,099.4	n.a.	n.a.	1,543.3	1,487.4	1,561.3
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	3,084.7	n.a.	n.a.	2,816.3	2,613.7	2,505.8
Never attended school	12.5	n.a.	n.a.	6.8	6.8	7.7
Still at school	198.6	n.a.	n.a.	241.1	226.2	262.7
Total	8,235.8	8,673.1	8,574.0	8,923.1	9,186.6	9,420.0

(a) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c.

8. PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999

	Worked at some time					Total
	All full-time	More full-time than part-time	Full-time was same as part-time	More part-time than full-time	All part-time	
MALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Time worked during the year (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	29.6	*0.3	*0.4	*0.4	36.0	66.8
4 and under 13	65.0	7.0	*3.5	*5.1	76.7	157.3
13 and under 26	86.1	14.5	*1.1	11.4	71.1	184.2
26 and under 39	132.0	35.3	*3.1	14.4	80.9	265.6
39 and under 52	494.2	122.0	*2.0	47.3	154.9	820.4
52	3,373.6	107.2	17.0	46.6	203.5	3,748.0
<i>Number of employers/businesses —</i>						
One	3,697.2	163.8	16.6	66.7	517.0	4,461.2
Two	388.2	76.1	7.0	40.5	72.4	584.1
Three	66.2	28.5	*2.8	11.6	23.6	132.6
Four or more	29.0	18.0	*0.7	6.4	10.3	64.3
Total	4,180.5	286.3	27.1	125.2	623.2	5,242.3
FEMALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Time worked during the year (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	18.4	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	66.3	85.4
4 and under 13	54.6	7.0	*2.8	*4.6	138.8	207.8
13 and under 26	59.5	13.9	*1.4	12.3	135.2	222.3
26 and under 39	76.8	27.3	*1.6	20.5	182.7	308.8
39 and under 52	221.7	74.0	*1.1	64.0	459.7	820.3
52	1,589.8	97.0	25.1	84.5	736.6	2,533.1
<i>Number of employers/businesses —</i>						
One	1,809.2	131.4	21.2	127.1	1,498.1	3,587.0
Two	171.3	55.1	6.2	40.5	157.0	430.1
Three	31.4	26.3	*2.6	11.6	49.9	121.9
Four or more	8.8	6.4	*1.9	7.3	14.3	38.7
Total	2,020.8	219.2	32.0	186.5	1,719.2	4,177.7
PERSONS						
— '000 —						
<i>Time worked during the year (weeks) —</i>						
1 and under 4	48.0	*0.3	*0.4	*1.0	102.4	152.2
4 and under 13	119.6	14.1	6.3	9.7	215.5	365.2
13 and under 26	145.6	28.4	*2.5	23.7	206.3	406.5
26 and under 39	208.8	62.6	*4.6	34.8	263.6	574.5
39 and under 52	715.8	196.0	*3.0	111.3	614.6	1,640.7
52	4,963.4	204.2	42.1	131.1	940.1	6,281.0
<i>Number of employers/businesses —</i>						
One	5,506.4	295.2	37.8	193.8	2,015.1	8,048.3
Two	559.6	131.1	13.2	81.0	229.3	1,014.2
Three	97.6	54.8	5.4	23.2	73.5	254.5
Four or more	37.8	24.4	*2.6	13.7	24.6	103.0
Total	6,201.3	505.5	59.0	311.7	2,342.5	9,420.0

9. PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING YEAR ENDING FEB. 1989 TO FEB. 1999

	<i>February 1989</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>March 1993</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>February 1999</i>
	'000					
<i>Sex —</i>						
Males	845.1	982.0	1,229.9	1,105.0	1,075.3	973.8
Females	757.3	766.7	880.1	863.4	851.2	803.7
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	409.8	400.9	396.9	378.2	360.8	348.7
20-24	302.0	348.3	421.0	400.2	369.1	333.5
25-34	414.7	453.0	531.2	468.8	480.7	425.0
35-44	269.6	300.6	400.0	365.6	360.8	329.9
45-54	128.6	160.6	244.1	231.2	248.6	240.1
55-59	45.7	49.8	68.9	79.0	77.4	67.8
60-64	28.6	30.4	43.5	39.8	24.3	29.3
65-69	*3.3	5.1	4.5	5.7	4.8	3.3
<i>State and Territory of usual residence —</i>						
New South Wales	540.0	532.8	686.3	633.1	606.1	557.4
Victoria	358.9	438.5	552.6	501.3	497.4	435.2
Queensland	311.0	342.2	395.0	374.1	380.2	357.0
South Australia	137.7	146.9	165.7	168.4	156.7	149.0
Western Australia	162.1	196.4	205.7	183.3	190.3	185.3
Tasmania	48.0	48.0	50.8	56.3	49.7	52.2
Northern Territory	19.0	17.8	20.6	20.4	14.6	13.8
Australian Capital Territory	25.5	26.1	33.4	31.6	31.5	27.5
<i>Educational attainment —</i>						
With post-school qualifications(a)	554.1	n.a.	n.a.	719.8	798.1	731.8
Higher degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	18.2	13.7	19.4
Post-graduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	23.2	20.5	17.0
Bachelor degree	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	129.3	142.6	144.9
Undergraduate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	32.1	24.1	21.7
Associate diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	105.0	105.7	84.0
Skilled vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	319.7	304.6	275.0
Basic vocational qualification	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	92.2	181.4	165.2
Without post-school qualifications	945.1	n.a.	n.a.	1,126.2	1,010.0	914.5
Completed highest level of secondary school	264.4	n.a.	n.a.	380.0	345.1	339.6
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	671.7	n.a.	n.a.	745.9	664.9	573.4
Never attended school	*3.8	n.a.	n.a.	*0.3	*2.3	*1.6
Still at school	103.1	n.a.	n.a.	122.4	116.1	131.2
Total	1,602.3	1,748.7	2,110.1	1,968.4	1,926.5	1,777.5

(a) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c.

10. PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999

	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-69	
MALES							
— '000 —							
<i>Number of spells of looking for work —</i>							
One	135.9	122.9	180.3	123.1	102.9	57.1	722.1
Two	20.3	26.9	28.4	17.4	12.5	7.5	113.0
Three	7.6	9.1	13.3	9.0	6.6	4.8	50.5
Four or more	11.6	14.2	21.9	17.4	12.5	10.6	88.1
<i>Time worked (weeks) —</i>							
Nil	80.6	44.4	55.9	47.9	49.0	36.5	314.4
Worked at some time	94.7	128.7	188.0	119.0	85.4	43.6	659.3
1 and under 4	9.8	5.2	5.3	* 4.4	* 4.0	* 2.0	30.7
4 and under 13	23.8	14.8	16.5	13.1	4.6	5.5	78.3
13 and under 26	20.3	22.4	27.2	15.7	14.3	7.9	107.8
26 and under 39	21.1	32.6	44.2	26.3	21.1	9.9	155.2
39 and under 52	19.7	53.8	94.7	59.5	41.4	18.3	287.4
<i>Time spent looking for work (weeks) —</i>							
1 and under 4	36.7	22.9	37.8	22.2	16.7	6.5	142.8
4 and under 13	67.8	53.8	74.6	43.7	35.6	20.3	295.8
13 and under 26	24.3	32.6	41.9	28.0	18.2	11.9	156.9
26 and under 39	17.9	28.4	30.0	23.2	17.5	10.6	127.6
39 and under 52	15.2	13.3	23.3	17.0	11.8	9.6	90.3
52	13.4	22.2	36.3	32.8	34.6	21.1	160.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>175.3</i>	<i>173.2</i>	<i>243.8</i>	<i>166.9</i>	<i>134.4</i>	<i>80.1</i>	<i>973.8</i>
— weeks —							
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	16.3	20.9	21.2	23.8	25.8	27.6	21.9
Median duration of time spent looking for work	9.0	16.0	14.0	19.1	22.1	26.0	15.1
FEMALES							
— '000 —							
<i>Number of spells of looking for work —</i>							
One	136.7	123.0	134.8	121.1	76.5	14.5	606.5
Two	15.8	18.4	18.8	13.0	10.2	* 2.6	78.9
Three	9.4	6.0	10.9	11.2	6.4	* 0.3	44.2
Four or more	11.4	12.9	16.8	17.7	12.5	* 2.8	74.0
<i>Time worked (weeks) —</i>							
Nil	78.9	52.7	74.1	77.8	49.4	10.6	343.4
Worked at some time	94.5	107.6	107.1	85.1	56.3	9.7	460.3
1 and under 4	9.2	6.1	6.0	* 3.7	4.7	* 0.4	30.2
4 and under 13	19.1	13.6	11.0	10.6	6.7	* 1.2	62.1
13 and under 26	23.1	17.1	18.4	14.9	13.3	* 2.2	89.0
26 and under 39	18.1	23.7	28.0	23.9	12.6	* 2.4	108.7
39 and under 52	25.0	47.0	43.7	32.1	19.0	* 3.5	170.3
<i>Time spent looking for work (weeks) —</i>							
1 and under 4	40.6	22.5	39.1	28.8	14.8	* 4.4	150.0
4 and under 13	68.9	58.7	54.9	55.7	26.7	* 3.8	268.8
13 and under 26	22.3	24.0	27.0	25.3	15.5	4.7	118.8
26 and under 39	20.5	20.9	24.2	14.1	16.7	* 2.6	99.1
39 and under 52	10.6	14.7	12.8	12.3	10.8	* 0.3	61.5
52	10.6	19.4	23.3	26.7	21.2	* 4.4	105.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>173.3</i>	<i>160.3</i>	<i>181.2</i>	<i>162.9</i>	<i>105.6</i>	<i>20.3</i>	<i>803.7</i>
— weeks —							
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	14.8	19.7	19.1	20.0	24.6	21.5	19.3
Median duration of time spent looking for work	9.0	12.1	12.0	12.0	20.1	18.0	12.0

10. PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999—continued

	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-69	
	PERSONS						
	— '000 —						
<i>Number of spells of looking for work —</i>							
One	272.6	245.9	315.0	244.2	179.3	71.7	1,328.6
Two	36.2	45.3	47.2	30.4	22.7	10.2	191.9
Three	17.0	15.2	24.2	20.2	13.0	5.1	94.7
Four or more	23.0	27.1	38.6	35.1	25.0	13.4	162.2
<i>Time worked (weeks) —</i>							
Nil	159.5	97.1	130.0	125.7	98.4	47.1	657.8
Worked at some time	189.2	236.3	295.1	204.1	141.7	53.3	1,119.6
1 and under 4	19.0	11.3	11.4	8.1	8.7	* 2.4	60.8
4 and under 13	42.9	28.3	27.5	23.7	11.2	6.8	140.5
13 and under 26	43.4	39.6	45.6	30.5	27.6	10.1	196.8
26 and under 39	39.2	56.3	72.2	50.2	33.7	12.3	263.8
39 and under 52	44.7	100.8	138.5	91.6	60.4	21.7	457.7
<i>Time spent looking for work (weeks) —</i>							
1 and under 4	77.2	45.3	76.8	50.9	31.5	10.9	292.7
4 and under 13	136.7	112.5	129.5	99.4	62.4	24.1	564.6
13 and under 26	46.5	56.6	68.9	53.3	33.7	16.7	275.6
26 and under 39	38.4	49.4	54.2	37.3	34.2	13.3	226.7
39 and under 52	25.8	28.1	36.1	29.3	22.6	9.9	151.8
52	24.0	41.6	59.6	59.6	55.7	25.5	266.0
Total	348.7	333.5	425.0	329.9	240.1	100.4	1,777.5
	— weeks —						
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	15.5	20.3	20.3	21.9	25.3	26.4	20.7
Median duration of time spent looking for work	9.0	13.0	13.0	15.0	21.1	23.1	13.0

11. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 1999

Main activity when not in the labour force	Time not in the labour force during the year (weeks)						Total
	1 and under 4	4 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 39	39 and under 52	52	
MALES							
				— '000 —			
Retired or voluntarily inactive	8.5	24.1	16.3	20.3	19.2	391.5	480.0
Home duties or childcare	9.1	19.4	9.1	8.0	8.0	53.9	107.5
Attended an educational institution	16.5	49.8	43.4	79.9	173.5	230.2	593.2
Own illness or injury	26.5	36.1	22.0	13.0	16.6	123.1	237.3
Own disability or handicap	*0.6	*1.1	*2.2	*0.8	*4.5	93.3	102.5
Looking after ill or disabled person	*1.6	*2.9	*0.3	*1.7	*1.5	13.8	21.7
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	241.4	195.5	38.5	23.3	17.7	40.6	556.9
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*0.9	*3.4	*2.0	*2.2	*3.7	18.0	30.2
Other	15.4	13.7	7.5	6.7	*3.1	7.2	53.6
Total	320.4	345.8	141.2	156.0	247.9	971.5	2,182.9
FEMALES							
				— '000 —			
Retired or voluntarily inactive	5.9	10.6	5.6	7.3	11.2	294.0	334.5
Home duties or childcare	37.2	169.6	123.1	146.9	216.5	1,294.8	1,988.1
Attended an educational institution	18.6	50.2	49.4	79.6	156.2	219.1	573.1
Own illness or injury	24.2	24.8	13.6	7.1	7.1	52.0	128.8
Own disability or handicap	*0.2	*0.2	*1.0	*0.4	*0.3	40.3	42.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	*1.8	*4.6	*3.7	*1.8	*3.4	40.3	55.8
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	197.5	175.0	24.4	11.2	10.2	22.1	440.5
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*2.0	*2.3	*3.7	*2.2	*3.4	32.9	46.6
Other	6.6	11.9	*2.5	*2.4	*1.9	*4.2	29.5
Total	293.9	449.2	227.1	259.0	410.2	1,999.9	3,639.4
PERSONS							
				— '000 —			
Retired or voluntarily inactive	14.4	34.7	21.9	27.6	30.4	685.5	814.5
Home duties or childcare	46.3	189.0	132.2	154.9	224.5	1,348.7	2,095.6
Attended an educational institution	35.0	100.0	92.8	159.5	329.7	449.3	1,166.3
Own illness or injury	50.7	60.8	35.6	20.1	23.7	175.2	366.1
Own disability or handicap	*0.8	*1.3	*3.2	*1.3	*4.8	133.6	144.9
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.4	7.5	*4.0	*3.5	*5.0	54.1	77.5
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	439.0	370.5	62.9	34.6	27.9	62.7	997.5
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*2.9	5.7	5.7	*4.4	7.2	50.9	76.7
Other	22.0	25.6	10.0	9.2	*4.9	11.5	83.1
Total	614.4	795.1	368.4	415.0	658.1	2,971.4	5,822.3

12. PERSONS WHO WERE WORKING AT FEBRUARY 1999

	<i>Worked for whole year</i>			<i>Worked for part of year</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>
	— '000 —								
<i>Industry at February 1999 —</i>									
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	205.5	89.1	294.6	57.0	34.6	91.6	262.5	123.7	386.2
Mining	52.2	5.5	57.7	8.2	* 1.3	9.5	60.4	6.8	67.2
Manufacturing	646.1	204.8	850.9	132.5	77.4	209.8	778.5	282.2	1,060.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	47.4	8.1	55.6	* 3.1	* 0.9	* 4.0	50.5	9.0	59.5
Construction	346.3	57.5	403.8	194.5	23.1	217.7	540.9	80.6	621.5
Wholesale trade	294.7	108.3	403.0	53.6	49.7	103.3	348.3	158.1	506.4
Retail trade	467.4	390.5	857.9	184.2	275.5	459.7	651.6	666.0	1,317.6
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	116.3	112.6	228.9	65.2	104.2	169.4	181.6	216.8	398.3
Transport and storage	249.8	87.2	337.0	74.8	26.3	101.2	324.6	113.6	438.1
Communication services	86.9	37.5	124.4	14.5	6.6	21.1	101.3	44.1	145.5
Finance and insurance	133.1	143.1	276.2	19.5	29.5	49.0	152.7	172.6	325.2
Property and business services	382.1	258.1	640.2	141.2	143.6	284.8	523.3	401.8	925.1
Government administration and defence	175.8	119.2	295.0	19.0	32.1	51.1	194.7	151.3	346.0
Education	169.1	291.3	460.4	31.6	98.4	130.0	200.7	389.8	590.5
Health and community services	154.6	454.5	609.2	40.3	175.5	215.8	194.9	630.1	825.0
Cultural and recreational services	78.7	58.8	137.5	30.5	36.9	67.5	109.2	95.7	204.9
Personal and other services	135.1	98.3	233.3	32.3	57.3	89.6	167.3	155.6	322.9
<i>Occupation at February 1999 —</i>									
Managers and administrators	411.1	122.5	533.6	51.5	16.3	67.9	462.6	138.8	601.5
Professionals	659.7	553.6	1,213.3	139.4	183.0	322.4	799.1	736.6	1,535.7
Associate professionals	493.9	260.8	754.8	82.2	69.0	151.3	576.2	329.8	906.0
Tradespersons and related workers	783.1	66.6	849.8	250.8	43.2	293.9	1,033.9	109.8	1,143.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	37.1	255.6	292.7	7.5	80.0	87.5	44.6	335.6	380.2
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	336.7	710.8	1,047.5	89.5	337.8	427.2	426.2	1,048.6	1,474.8
Intermediate production and transport workers	499.2	70.8	570.0	178.1	31.0	209.2	677.3	101.8	779.1
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	199.5	305.1	504.6	106.7	279.6	386.3	306.2	584.6	890.8
Labourers and related workers	320.7	178.7	499.4	196.2	133.2	329.4	516.9	311.9	828.8
<i>Time worked with current employer/business —</i>									
Under 1 year	304.3	218.0	522.3	615.2	592.8	1,208.0	919.5	810.8	1,730.3
1 and under 4 weeks	32.3	23.8	56.2	105.4	92.6	198.0	137.7	116.4	254.2
4 and under 13 weeks	59.2	41.7	100.8	156.3	143.1	299.4	215.4	184.8	400.2
13 and under 26 weeks	69.7	50.8	120.5	146.6	147.1	293.7	216.3	197.9	414.2
26 and under 39 weeks	98.0	72.0	170.0	138.2	148.1	286.3	236.2	220.0	456.3
39 and under 52 weeks	45.1	29.7	74.8	68.8	61.9	130.6	113.8	91.6	205.4
1 and under 2 years	468.1	354.1	822.2	94.7	136.8	231.5	562.8	490.9	1,053.7
2 and under 3 years	379.5	299.5	679.0	81.4	91.4	172.9	461.0	390.9	851.9
3 and under 5 years	596.7	435.6	1,032.3	87.2	123.8	211.0	683.9	559.4	1,243.3
5 and under 10 years	743.0	541.1	1,284.1	91.6	121.1	212.6	834.5	662.2	1,496.7
10 years and over	1,249.5	676.3	1,925.8	131.9	107.1	239.0	1,381.4	783.4	2,164.8
10 and under 20 years	752.5	498.5	1,251.0	77.9	81.9	159.9	830.4	580.4	1,410.8
20 years and over	497.0	177.8	674.8	54.0	25.1	79.2	551.0	203.0	754.0
Total	3,741.0	2,524.5	6,265.6	1,102.1	1,173.0	2,275.1	4,843.1	3,697.6	8,540.7

13. POPULATIONS: BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, FEBRUARY 1999

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
MALES									
— '000 —									
<i>Population 1:</i> All persons aged 15-69 years	2,213.5	1,638.5	1,195.8	513.8	642.4	160.9	57.0	106.4	6,528.3
<i>Population 2:</i> Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,855.6	1,399.3	1,029.0	430.2	566.2	131.5	52.2	92.8	5,556.7
<i>Population 3:</i> Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,757.1	1,315.5	974.7	401.0	538.3	118.4	50.6	86.7	5,242.3
<i>Population 4:</i> Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 1999	300.3	236.4	193.9	85.6	104.2	31.5	6.8	15.1	973.8
<i>Population 5:</i> Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	730.0	537.3	408.0	174.5	221.2	58.2	15.9	37.9	2,182.9
<i>Population 6:</i> Persons who were working at February 1999	1,635.7	1,219.7	891.9	367.2	492.5	106.4	48.1	81.7	4,843.1
FEMALES									
— '000 —									
<i>Population 1:</i> All persons aged 15-69 years	2,210.7	1,648.5	1,191.2	514.1	631.8	162.2	51.4	111.0	6,521.0
<i>Population 2:</i> Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,486.9	1,138.2	850.1	348.7	460.0	106.9	43.4	87.1	4,521.1
<i>Population 3:</i> Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,368.4	1,049.0	786.0	323.1	430.0	97.6	41.7	82.0	4,177.7
<i>Population 4:</i> Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 1999	257.0	198.9	163.0	63.5	81.1	20.7	7.1	12.4	803.7
<i>Population 5:</i> Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,219.8	921.3	680.2	300.9	346.2	95.2	23.4	52.5	3,639.4
<i>Population 6:</i> Persons who were working at February 1999	1,231.1	928.1	685.3	282.7	373.2	84.7	37.1	75.4	3,697.6

13. POPULATIONS: BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, FEBRUARY 1999—continued

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
	PERSONS								
	— '000 —								
<i>Population 1:</i>									
All persons aged 15-69 years	4,424.2	3,287.0	2,387.0	1,027.8	1,274.2	323.1	108.5	217.5	13,049.3
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	3,342.5	2,537.5	1,879.1	778.9	1,026.2	238.4	95.6	179.9	10,077.9
<i>Population 3:</i>									
Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999	3,125.5	2,364.6	1,760.7	724.1	968.3	215.9	92.2	168.7	9,420.0
<i>Population 4:</i>									
Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 1999	557.4	435.2	357.0	149.0	185.3	52.2	13.8	27.5	1,777.5
<i>Population 5:</i>									
Persons not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999	1,949.7	1,458.7	1,088.2	475.3	567.3	153.4	39.3	90.3	5,822.3
<i>Population 6:</i>									
Persons who were working at February 1999	2,866.8	2,147.8	1,577.2	649.9	865.6	191.0	85.2	157.1	8,540.7

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The Labour Force Experience Survey was conducted as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 For further information about the LFS, see *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0). This monthly publication contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

SCOPE

3 In addition to persons excluded from the LFS, there were approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who were out of scope of this survey. The exclusion of these persons has only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates produced for individual States and Territories, except the Northern Territory. Please contact the person listed on the front cover of this publication if you require more information.

4 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with handicaps), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

5 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, persons aged 70 years and over are also excluded from this survey.

COVERAGE

6 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in February 1999. In the LFS, 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 Cat. no. 6203.0.

7 Not all persons with labour force experience during the period were covered because of emigration, deaths etc. Labour force experience may relate to experience outside Australia.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

8 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information see the Technical Notes.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, 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 processing procedures.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

9 The educational attainment data in this survey has been classified according to *ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCO)* (Cat. no. 1262.0) which was introduced in 1993.

10 From August 1996, occupation data are classified according to *ASCO — Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (Cat. no. 1220.0). The new version of the classification replaces *ASCO First Edition*, which was adopted in the survey in August 1986. Like *ASCO First Edition*, *ASCO Second Edition* is a skills based classification of occupation.

11 From August 1994, industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (*ANZSIC*), a detailed description of which appears in *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993* (Cat. no. 1292.0). Like the previous Australian Standard Industrial Classification, *ANZSIC* classifies businesses according to their economic activities, in a structure consisting of four levels (Division, Subdivision, Group and Class). Supplementary survey data are coded at the Group level, as was the practice under the Australian Standard Industrial Classification.

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

12 Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 1999 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.

13 Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Apart from the scope exclusions listed on the previous page, since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. For this survey seven-eighths of the LFS sample was used. This reduction in sample size means that the standard errors for this survey differ from those applicable to surveys prior to August 1994.

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

14 From March 1990, persons aged 70 years and over have been excluded from this supplementary survey.

COMPARABILITY WITH LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STATISTICS

15 Due to the differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

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

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

17 Results of similar surveys on labour force experience conducted in February 1969, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, annually from February 1979 to February 1989, and annually from March 1990 to March 1994, have been given in previous issues of the publication *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6206.0) and the Standard Data Service *Labour Force Experience on Hardcopy, Australia* (Cat. no. 6209.0.40.001).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

18 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

NEXT SURVEY

19 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in February 2001.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

20 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, First Results, 1994 to 1996* (Cat. no. 6289.0)
- *Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, Jobseekers, 1994 to 1997* (Cat. no. 6286.0)
- *Career Experience, Australia, November 1998* (Cat. no. 6254.0)
- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, July 1998* (Cat. no. 6222.0)
- *Labour Mobility, Australia, February 1998* (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia, September 1998* (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia, July 1998* (Cat. no. 6245.0)

RELATED PUBLICATIONS
continued

21 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office or from the ABS Information Service on the World Wide Web, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

APPENDIX: POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has available a range of unpublished data from the Labour Force Experience Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. BIRTHPLACE (2)).

To obtain unpublished data or more information about our customised data service contact Sue Barker on Canberra 02 6252 6503, or by facsimile on 02 6252 7784.

POPULATION 1:	All persons aged 15–69 years.
POPULATION 2:	Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999.
POPULATION 3:	Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 1999.
POPULATION 4:	Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 1999.
POPULATION 5:	Persons who were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999.
POPULATION 6:	Persons who were working at February 1999.
NOTE:	All populations exclude persons aged 70 years or more, institutionalised persons, boarding school pupils and persons living in remote and sparsely settled areas of Australia. (See paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Explanatory Notes.)

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
1 STATE AND TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL	ALL
New South Wales		Born in Australia	
Victoria		Born outside Australia	
Queensland		Arrived before 1971	
South Australia		Arrived 1971–80	
Western Australia		Arrived 1981–90	
Tasmania		Arrived 1991 to survey date	
Northern Territory			
Australian Capital Territory		7B BIRTHPLACE (1)	ALL
2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Born in Australia	
State capital city		Born outside Australia	
Balance of State/Territory		Born in main English-speaking countries	
3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Born in other countries	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		7C BIRTHPLACE (2)	ALL
4 SEX	ALL	Born in Australia	
Male		Born outside Australia	
Female		The Middle East and North Africa	
5 MARITAL STATUS	ALL	Africa (excluding North Africa)	
Married		Northern America	
Not married		South America, Central America and the Caribbean	
6A RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (1)	ALL	Northeast Asia	
Family member		Southeast Asia	
Husband or wife		Southern Asia	
With dependants		Europe and the former USSR	
Without dependants		Former Yugoslav Republics	
Lone parent		Germany	
With dependants		Greece	
Without dependants		Italy	
Dependent student		Netherlands	
Non-dependent child		United Kingdom and Ireland	
Other family person		Oceania and Antarctica	
Non-family member		New Zealand	
Lone person		8 AGE GROUP (YEARS)	ALL
Not living alone		15–19	
Family status not determined		20–24	
6B RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (2)	ALL	25–34	
Family member		35–44	
Husband or wife		45–54	
With children under 15		55–64	
Without children under 15		65–69	
Lone parent		9 LABOUR FORCE STATUS AT FEBRUARY 1999	ALL
With children under 15		In the labour force	
With dependent students but without children under 15		Working	
Without dependants		Looking for work	
Dependent student		Not in the labour force	
Non-dependent child		10 STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT AT FEBRUARY 1999	ALL
Other family person		Working	
Non-family member		Employer	
Lone person		Own account worker	
Not living alone		Employee	
Family status not determined		Contributing family worker	
		Not working	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
11 FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS AT FEBRUARY 1999	6	16 TIME NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Full-time		Nil weeks	
Part-time		In the labour force at some time	
Not determined		1 and under 4 weeks	
		4 and under 13 weeks	
		13 and under 26 weeks	
		26 and under 39 weeks	
		39 and under 52 weeks	
		52 weeks	
12 INDUSTRY AT FEBRUARY 1999	6	17 NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS/ BUSINESSES DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Agriculture, forestry and fishing		None	
Mining		One	
Manufacturing		Two	
Electricity, gas and water supply		Three	
Construction		Four or more	
Wholesale trade			
Retail trade			
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants			
Transport and storage			
Communication services			
Finance and insurance			
Property and business services			
Government administration and defence			
Education			
Health and community services			
Cultural and recreational services			
Personal and other services			
13 OCCUPATION AT FEBRUARY 1999	6	18 FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS OF WEEKS WORKED	ALL
Managers and administrators		Worked at some time	
Professionals		All full-time	
Associate professionals		More full-time than part-time	
Tradespersons and related workers		Same full-time as part-time	
Advanced clerical and service workers		More part-time than full-time	
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers		All part-time	
Intermediate production and transport workers		Did not work at any time	
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers			
Labourers and related workers			
14 TIME IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR	ALL	19 TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Nil weeks		Nil weeks	
In the labour force at some time		In the labour force at some time	
1 and under 4 weeks		1 and under 4 weeks	
4 and under 13 weeks		4 and under 13 weeks	
13 and under 26 weeks		13 and under 26 weeks	
26 and under 39 weeks		26 and under 39 weeks	
39 and under 52 weeks		39 and under 52 weeks	
52 weeks		52 weeks	
15 TIME WORKED DURING THE YEAR	ALL	20 NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Nil weeks		Looked for work at some time	
In the labour force at some time		One	
1 and under 4 weeks		Two	
4 and under 13 weeks		Three	
13 and under 26 weeks		Four or more	
26 and under 39 weeks			
39 and under 52 weeks			
52 weeks			
		21 MAIN ACTIVITY WHEN NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE	ALL
		Not in the labour force at some time	
		Retired or voluntarily inactive	
		Home duties or childcare	
		Attended an educational institution	
		Own illness or injury	
		Own disability or handicap	
		Looking after ill or disabled person	
		Holiday or travel or leisure activity	
		Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	
		Other	
		In the labour force for whole year	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
22 WHETHER CEASED A JOB DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Worked at some time	
Ceased a job	
Did not cease a job	
Did not work at any time	
23 WHETHER IN LABOUR FORCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR	ALL
In the labour force at some time	
For whole year	
For part of year	
Not in the labour force at any time	
24 WHETHER LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Looked for work at some time	
For whole year	
For part of year	
Did not look for work at any time	
25 WHETHER WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Worked at some time	
For whole year	
For part of year	
Did not work at any time	
26 TIME WORKED PART-TIME DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Nil weeks	
Worked part-time at some time	
1 and under 4 weeks	
4 and under 13 weeks	
13 and under 26 weeks	
26 and under 39 weeks	
39 and under 52 weeks	
52 weeks	
27 TIME WORKED FULL-TIME DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Nil weeks	
Worked full-time at some time	
1 and under 4 weeks	
4 and under 13 weeks	
13 and under 26 weeks	
26 and under 39 weeks	
39 and under 52 weeks	
52 weeks	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
28 WHETHER HAD AN UNPAID ABSENCE FROM WORK DURING THE YEAR	ALL
Working at February 1999	
With current employer for one year or more	
Had an unpaid absence from work	
Did not have an unpaid absence from work	
With current employer for less than one year	
Not working at February 1999	
29 TIME WORKED WITH CURRENT EMPLOYER/BUSINESS	ALL
Working at February 1999	
Under 1 year	
1 and under 4 weeks	
4 and under 13 weeks	
13 and under 26 weeks	
26 and under 39 weeks	
39 and under 52 weeks	
1 and under 2 years	
2 and under 3 years	
3 and under 5 years	
5 and under 10 years	
10 years and over	
10 and under 20 years	
20 years and over	
Not working at February 1999	
30 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	ALL
With post-school qualifications	
Higher degree	
Postgraduate diploma	
Bachelor degree	
Undergraduate diploma	
Associate diploma	
Skilled vocational qualification	
Basic vocational qualification	
Other	
Level unknown (nursing)	
Without post-school qualifications	
Completed highest level of secondary school	
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	
Left aged under 14 years	
Left aged 14 years	
Left aged 15 years	
Left aged 16 years	
Left aged 17 years	
Left aged 18 years	
Left aged 19 years	
Left aged 20 years	
Left aged 21 years or more	
Never attended school	
Still at school	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
31 STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE 12 MONTHS AGO	ALL
New South Wales	
Victoria	
Queensland	
South Australia	
Western Australia	
Tasmania	
Northern Territory	
Australian Capital Territory	
Overseas	

TECHNICAL NOTES

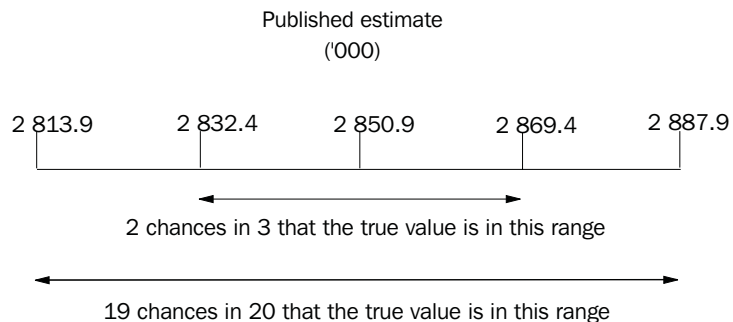
INTRODUCTION

1 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 estimates 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 (SE), 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 SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 SEs for general application are given in table T1. Since they are based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics, these numbers will not give a precise measure of the SE of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 1 shows the estimated number of persons in the labour force for part of the year only was 2,850,900. Since this estimate is between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 16,050 and 24,600 and can be approximated by interpolation as 18,500 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 2,832,400 to 2,869,400 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 2,813,900 to 2,887,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR *continued*

4 As can be seen from the SE table, the smaller the estimate, the higher is the RSE. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high SEs (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 RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution.

AVERAGES AND MEDIANS

5 The RSEs of estimates of average duration of unemployment and median duration of unemployment are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the average or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the relevant number so obtained by the following relevant factors:

average duration of time spent looking for work: 0.76

median duration of time spent looking for work: 1.63

6 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 10 shows that the estimated median duration of looking for work for males in Australia was 15.1 weeks and the number of males was estimated as 973,800. From table T1 it can be calculated that the estimate (973,800) has a SE of about 12,000 and therefore a RSE of about 1.2%. The RSE of the estimate of median duration of unemployment is calculated by multiplying this number (1.2%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 1.63): $1.2 \times 1.63 = 2.0\%$. The SE of this estimate of median duration of unemployment is therefore 2.0% of 15.1, i.e. about 0.3 weeks. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 14.8–15.4 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 14.5–15.7 weeks.

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES

7 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 RSE of a proportion is given below:

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

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGE *continued*

8 Considering the example from the previous page, of the 2,850,900 persons in the force for part of the year only, 439,700, or 15.4%, looked for work at some time in the year. The SE of 439,700 is approximately 8,800 so the RSE is 2.0%. The RSE for 2,850,900 is 0.6%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $\sqrt{(2.0)^2 - (0.6)^2}$ or 1.9%, giving a SE for the proportion (15.4%) of 0.3 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of persons in the labour force for part of the year only is between 15.1% and 15.7% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 14.8% to 16.0%.

DIFFERENCES

9 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 SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

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

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

11 SEs contained in table T1 are applicable to all estimates from this survey. The levels at which averages have a RSE of 25% are shown in table T2.

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	Aust.	
									SE no.	RSE %
100	100	110	..	..	..	110	120	140	80	80.0
200	170	180	..	220	230	150	160	170	140	70.0
300	230	240	330	270	280	180	190	190	200	66.7
500	340	340	420	330	350	220	230	230	290	58.0
700	430	420	490	380	410	250	260	250	370	52.9
1 000	550	530	580	440	480	290	300	280	470	47.0
1 500	720	670	690	520	570	340	350	330	610	40.7
2 000	860	790	790	590	650	380	400	360	730	36.5
2 500	1 000	900	850	650	700	400	450	400	850	34.0
3 000	1 100	1 000	950	700	750	450	450	400	950	31.7
3 500	1 200	1 050	1 000	750	800	500	500	450	1 050	30.0
4 000	1 300	1 150	1 100	800	850	500	500	450	1 100	27.5
5 000	1 450	1 250	1 200	850	950	550	550	500	1 250	25.0
7 000	1 700	1 500	1 400	1 000	1 100	650	650	600	1 550	22.1
10 000	2 050	1 750	1 600	1 150	1 250	700	750	650	1 850	18.5
15 000	2 450	2 100	1 900	1 350	1 500	850	850	800	2 250	15.0
20 000	2 800	2 350	2 200	1 500	1 650	950	950	900	2 600	13.0
30 000	3 300	2 750	2 600	1 800	1 950	1 100	1 100	1 050	3 150	10.5
40 000	3 650	3 100	2 900	2 000	2 200	1 250	1 200	1 150	3 550	8.9
50 000	3 950	3 300	3 200	2 200	2 350	1 350	1 300	1 300	3 900	7.8
100 000	4 950	4 200	4 250	2 900	3 050	1 750	1 700	1 750	5 100	5.1
150 000	5 600	4 850	5 050	3 400	3 500	2 000	1 950	2 100	5 900	3.9
200 000	6 150	5 450	5 650	3 800	3 900	2 250	2 150	2 400	6 550	3.3
300 000	7 200	6 450	6 650	4 450	4 450	2 600	..	2 850	7 650	2.6
500 000	8 900	8 100	8 150	5 450	5 300	3 100	..	..	9 300	1.9
1 000 000	12 450	11 350	10 700	7 150	6 600	..	..	..	12 150	1.2
2 000 000	18 300	16 450	13 950	9 350	8 150	..	..	..	16 050	0.8
5 000 000	32 850	28 350	19 650	..	..	..	..	..	24 600	0.5
10 000 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43 150	0.4

T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE A RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR OF 25%

	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	Aust. no.
Average duration of time spent looking for work during the year	3 900	3 100	2 900	1 500	2 300	700	1 000	600	2 700
Median duration of time spent looking for work during the year	17 000	12 900	10 900	6 100	7 300	2 900	3 000	2 600	14 500
All other estimates	6 800	5 200	4 600	2 600	3 200	1 300	1 400	900	5 400

GLOSSARY

- Family** Two or more related persons (*relationship* includes relationships by blood, marriage or adoption) usually resident in the same household at the time of the survey. A family comprises a married couple or a family head as defined, together with any persons having any of the following relationships to them:
- sons or daughter of any age, if not married and with no children of their own present;
 - other relatives if not accompanied by a spouse, sons or daughters, or parents of their own; or
 - any children under 15 years of age who do not have a parent present.

Further details on the determination of family relationships are in *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0).

- Full-time status of weeks worked during the year** Any weeks of the year that a person perceived they had worked full-time.
- In the labour force at some time during the year** Persons who had worked or looked for work for one week or more during the year.
- In the labour force during the whole year** Persons who had either worked or looked for work every week during the year.
- In the labour force for part of the year only** Persons who had either worked or looked for work for some weeks during the year, but had some weeks when they did neither activity.
- Looked for work at some time during the year** Persons who were not working and looked for work for one week or more during the year.
- Main English-speaking countries** Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
- Mean duration of time spent looking for work** Obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been looking for work by the number of persons in that group.
- Median duration of time looking for work** The duration which divides persons who looked for work into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose time spent looking for work during the year is above the median, and the other, persons whose time spent looking is below it. This can be useful as a measure of central tendency or value, where the arithmetic mean is unrepresentative due to extreme high or low values.
- Not in the labour force at some time during the year** Persons had neither worked nor looked for work for one week or more during the year.
- Number of employers/businesses during the year** The number of employers/businesses a person worked for during the year, excluding second jobs of multiple jobholders.

Number of spells of looking for work during the year	The number of different periods, including the current period, during which persons were not working but looking for a job.
Part-time status of weeks worked during the year	Any weeks of the year that a person perceived they had worked part-time.
Time in the labour force during the year	The total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked or looked for work.
Time not in the labour force during the year	The total number of weeks persons were reported as having neither worked nor looked for work.
Time spent looking for work during the year	The total number of weeks persons were reported as being out of work and looking for a job.
Time worked during the year	The total number of weeks persons were reported as having either worked or been on paid leave. Periods of one week or more on strike or time off without pay are not classified as time worked.
Worked at some time during the year	Persons who were reported as having worked and/or been on paid leave for one week or more during the reference period.
Worked part of the year	Persons who were reported as having worked and/or been on paid leave for the part of the year.
Working at February 1999	Persons who were either working or on paid leave at February 1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Supplementary and special supplementary surveys collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary and special labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. It may be possible to order unpublished data from these surveys by contacting the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

TITLE	CATALOGUE NUMBER
■ Career Experience. Irregular. Latest issue November 1998	6254.0
■ Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications. Final issue 1993 (Discontinued)	6243.0
■ Child Care. Irregular. Latest issue March 1996	4402.0
■ Education and Training Experience. Irregular. Latest issue 1997	6278.0
■ Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership. Annual. Latest issue August 1998	6310.0
■ Employment Benefits. Final issue August 1994 (Discontinued)	6334.0.40.001
■ Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons. Annual. Latest issue July 1998	6222.0
■ Labour Force Experience. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1999	6206.0
■ Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment. Final issue February 1994 (Discontinued)	6235.0
■ Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families. Annual. Latest issue June 1998	6224.0
■ Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants. Irregular. Latest issue November 1996	6250.0
■ Labour Mobility. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1998	6209.0
■ Multiple Jobholding. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997	6216.0
■ Participation in Education. Annual. Latest issue September 1998	6272.0
■ Persons Employed at Home. Irregular. Latest issue September 1995	6275.0
■ Persons Not in the Labour Force. Annual. Latest issue September 1998	6220.0
■ Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force. Final issue July 1995 (Discontinued)	6264.0.40.001
■ Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force. Final issue September 1994 (Discontinued)	6267.0.40.001
■ Retirement and Retirement Intentions. Irregular. Latest issue November 1997	6238.0
■ Retrenchment and Redundancy. Irregular. Latest issue July 1997	6266.0
■ Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 1998	6245.0
■ Superannuation. Irregular. Latest issue November 1995	6319.0
■ Trade Union Members. Two-yearly. August 1996 (Discontinued)	6325.0
■ Transition from Education to Work. Annual. Irregular. Latest issue May 1998	6227.0
■ Underemployed Workers. Annual. Latest issue September 1998	6265.0
■ Working Arrangements. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997	6342.0

FORTHCOMING SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Topic	Reference month	Expected release
Forms of Employment	August 1998	October 1999
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons	July 1999	December 1999
Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership	August 1999	December 1999

INQUIRIES

Central office: 02 6252 6504

Regional offices:

SYDNEY	02 9268 4212	ADELAIDE	08 8237 7365
MELBOURNE	03 9615 7677	HOBART	03 6222 5841
BRISBANE	07 3222 6068	DARWIN	08 8943 2150
PERTH	08 9360 5943	CANBERRA	02 6207 0283

WE'VE GOT THE ANSWERS ... WE JUST CAN'T FIT THEM ALL INTO THIS PUBLICATION!

Is there more information you would like about this topic or other supplementary survey topics?

The good news is that the information is available. In fact, we have volumes of detailed information that cannot be placed into the publications but can be provided to you.

MEETING YOUR NEEDS WITH A CUSTOMISED APPROACH

Detailed information from every supplementary survey is available—that's where we can help. Contact one of our consultants to discuss your needs. They will provide you with the best possible option to solve your data requests in a written quote, clearly setting out all the costs and time frames.

We can supply you with your requested information in a variety of formats to best suit your needs:

- printed tables
- spreadsheets in a range of formats compatible with your software package
- via email
- floppy disk

TAILORED TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS

We can mix and match from our extensive data holdings to give a complete statistical picture for your policy, planning, research and commercial analysis needs.

Take a look at the list of populations and data items on the previous pages. They contain a comprehensive list of the variables available from the Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons Survey that you may be interested in exploring. These data items can be cross-classified to your exact requirements, offering you the best cost effective solution. The cost will depend on what you select and their degree of detail. Payment for this information may be made by credit card or by invoice.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE

Contact Sue Barker on Canberra 02 6252 6503 to talk about any inquiries you may have about the information from this survey or to order your special data requirements.

For information about wider range of Australian Bureau of Statistics data, see contact details on the back of the cover.

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 75c per minute).
- INTERNET* www.abs.gov.au
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

- PHONE* +61 1300 366 323
- FAX* +61 03 9615 7848

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

ABS offers consultancy services on a user pays basis to help you access published and unpublished data. Data that is already published and can be provided within 5 minutes is free of charge. Statistical methodological services are also available. Please contact:

<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
	Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6207 0282
	Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
	Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
	Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
	Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
	Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
	Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
	Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



2620600002990
ISSN 1031-0398

RRP \$19.50