

**JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE
OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS**

AUSTRALIA

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- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Robert Bibo on Canberra 02 6252 6661, facsimile 02 6252 7784 or any ABS office shown on the back of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION This publication presents information about the job search experience of unemployed persons, in terms of the steps they have taken to find work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. Demographic information is provided about these persons along with certain information about their previous employment.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE During the reference period of this survey, the 12 months to July 1998, the Commonwealth government made significant changes to the manner in which it provided employment services to the community. Estimates relating to active steps taken to find work may not be directly comparable with those from previous surveys and should be used with caution. Further information about the changes to employment service arrangements and the effect on data presented in this publication can be found in the Summary of Findings.

JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS SURVEY The statistics in this publication are compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in July 1998 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Data from the survey relate to persons who were unemployed in July 1998, except for those unemployed persons who were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been stood down. All tables in this publication, with the exception of table 1, exclude this group of unemployed persons.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CES	Commonwealth Employment Service
DSS	Department of Social Security
LFS	Labour Force Survey
n.a.	not available
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

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

In July 1998, there were 696,400 unemployed persons, with the majority (82%) searching for full-time work. The number of unemployed persons decreased three per cent from 717,500 in July 1997. This decline followed steady increases in the previous two years. Most males (90%) were seeking full-time work, as where the majority of females (69%). This publication presents information on the job search experience of these people, in terms of the steps they took to find work and the barriers they encountered in obtaining work.

CHANGES IN THE PROVISION OF LABOUR MARKET SERVICES

During the reference period of this survey, the 12 months to July 1998, the Government made significant changes to the manner in which it provided employment services to the community. As a result, the nature of job search activity undertaken by jobseekers changed.

Prior to the change in employment service arrangements, the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) provided jobseekers with access to labour market assistance and offices of the then Department of Social Security (DSS) provided jobseekers with access to income support.

Centrelink offices started opening from September 1997. Centrelink is a government shopfront that provides the first point of contact for people requiring a range of government assistance, including income support and job search assistance. Centrelink progressively replaced CES and DSS shopfronts.

A competitive employment services market, the Job Network, was launched on 1 May 1998. The Job Network consists of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment services to the community. As from that date, jobseekers register with Centrelink for job search assistance and can choose to go to any of the Job Network employment agencies. The agency then attempts to match jobseekers with jobs that are registered with them by employers.

During the transition to the new employment services market, Centrelink performed a similar role to the CES. Jobseekers registered at either a CES or Centrelink office, depending on which was operating in their area, for income support and/or job search assistance.

In this publication, registration with either the CES or Centrelink for job search assistance have been combined. As CES operations were replaced by Centrelink and the Job Network during the reference period of the survey, estimates relating to active steps taken to find work may not be directly comparable with those from previous surveys and should be used with caution.

JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE

In July 1998, 70% of unemployed persons were registered with Centrelink/CES and also contacted prospective employers. A further 26% contacted prospective employers but were not registered with Centrelink/CES.

Of those looking for full-time work, the majority (80%) were registered with Centrelink/CES and had contacted prospective employers. In contrast, the most common active step taken by those looking for part-time work was contacting prospective employers without registering with Centrelink/CES (64%).

The main difficulties in finding work most commonly reported were:

- considered too young or too old by employers (16%);
- too many applicants for available jobs (14%);
- lacked necessary skills/education (11%); and
- no vacancies at all (11%).

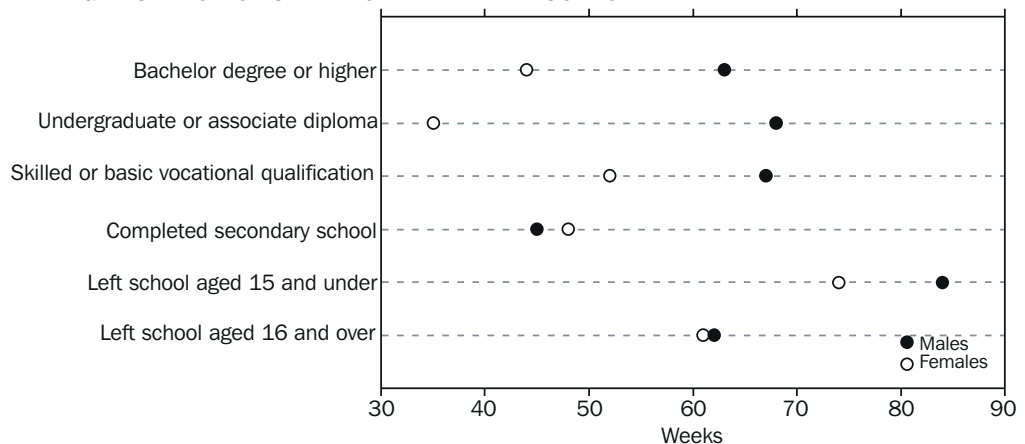
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In July 1998, 443,400 unemployed persons (64%) did not have post-school qualifications. The proportion of unemployed persons without post-school qualifications remained unchanged from July 1997.

The main difficulty in finding work reported by unemployed persons was that they were considered too young or too old by employers. This barrier was most commonly reported irrespective of educational attainment, being reported by 16% of unemployed persons with post-school qualifications and 17% of those without.

For unemployed persons without post-school qualifications, lacking necessary skills/education (14%) was a greater problem than insufficient work experience (11%). In contrast, unemployed persons with post-school qualifications reported insufficient work experience (11%) as a greater problem than lacking necessary skills/education (9%).

AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



Unemployed persons who had not completed the highest level of secondary school were generally unemployed for longer than those who had. Those who had completed the highest level of secondary school had an average duration of unemployment of 46 weeks compared with 71 weeks for those who had not.

YOUNG UNEMPLOYED

Over a third (36%) of unemployed persons were aged 15–24 years. The number of young unemployed persons decreased from 268,800 (or 37% of jobseekers) in July 1997 to 253,100 in July 1998. Three-quarters (74%) of young unemployed persons wanted full-time work. More males (80%) wanted full-time work than females (65%).

The main difficulties in gaining employment that young unemployed persons reported were insufficient work experience (16%) and too many applicants for available jobs (15%). The perception that there were no vacancies at all (14%) and lack of necessary skills/education sought by the employer (13%) were also common problems.

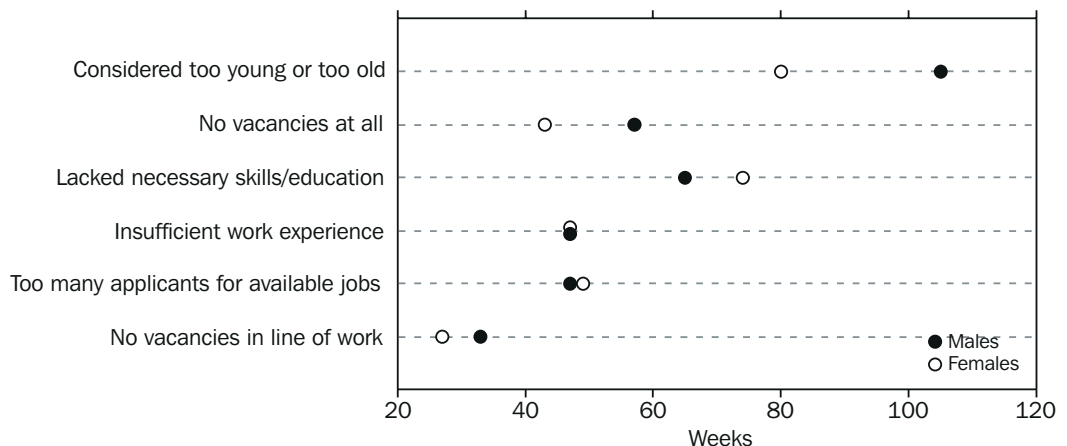
Young unemployed persons were more likely to have ceased their last job voluntarily than older unemployed persons. Of the 105,000 young unemployed persons who had previously held a full-time job, 40% were job leavers, whereas only 28% of those aged 25 years or more were job leavers. Half (50%) of the 42,500 young unemployed persons who had left their last job voluntarily reported they left because of unsatisfactory working arrangements.

FEMALE UNEMPLOYED

In July 1998, 43% of labour force participants were female. The number of female unemployed persons was 277,600 (40% of unemployed) and approximately two-thirds (69%) were looking for full-time work.

Unsuitable hours and difficulties with child care or other family responsibilities were not major problems for female unemployed persons. Only 9% of female unemployed persons reported one of these as the main difficulty in finding work. The perception they were considered too young or too old by employers (16%) or there were too many applicants for available jobs (14%) were the most commonly reported difficulties.

AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND MAIN DIFFICULTIES FINDING WORK



Females were generally unemployed for shorter periods than males. They had an average duration of unemployment of 54 weeks compared with 64 weeks for males.

THE LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED

In July 1998, 242,600 of unemployed persons (or 35%) were unemployed for twelve months or longer and as such, were considered long-term unemployed. The majority (89%) were seeking full-time work. Most (90%) long-term unemployed persons reported they had not received any offers of employment in the previous 12 months.

The most common main difficulty in finding work reported by long-term unemployed persons was they were considered too young or too old by employers (26%). Lack of the necessary skills or education sought by employers (14%) and the perception there were too many applicants for available jobs (12%) were other commonly reported difficulties.

Of the long-term unemployed, 166,600 persons (or 69%) were without post-school qualifications. Of these, 78% had not completed the highest level of secondary school.

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1. ALL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK

	June 1991	July 1992	July 1993	July 1994	July 1995	July 1996	July 1997	July 1998
ALL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS								
— '000 —								
<i>Looking for full-time work</i>								
Males	421.6	529.0	510.2	419.1	377.8	368.3	391.8	382.2
Females	214.9	257.5	251.4	233.6	195.5	206.2	205.1	199.3
Persons	636.4	786.6	761.7	652.7	573.2	574.5	596.9	581.4
<i>Looking for part-time work</i>								
Males	31.3	36.5	35.7	39.0	40.4	43.1	42.1	50.5
Females	72.4	78.3	77.4	89.1	72.0	86.9	80.8	95.9
Persons	103.6	115.0	113.1	128.1	112.4	130.0	122.9	146.4
<i>Persons who were stood down</i>								
Males	8.8	10.6	11.4	9.7	14.2	10.7	13.7	12.1
Females	15.2	14.2	14.3	13.4	9.7	16.4	17.4	15.2
Persons	24.1	24.8	25.7	23.1	23.9	27.1	31.1	27.3
<i>Total, all unemployed persons</i>								
Males	461.7	576.1	557.3	467.8	432.4	422.1	447.6	432.7
Females	302.5	350.0	343.2	336.1	277.2	309.5	303.3	295.1
Persons	764.1	926.4	900.5	803.9	709.6	731.6	750.9	727.8
PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE								
— '000 —								
Males	4,905.9	4,999.9	4,985.5	5,053.5	5,136.6	5,194.7	5,241.8	5,306.1
Females	3,529.8	3,599.6	3,587.6	3,735.3	3,866.5	3,916.8	3,961.2	4,058.5
Persons	8,435.7	8,599.5	8,573.1	8,788.9	9,003.1	9,111.5	9,203.0	9,364.6
PROPORTION OF THE LABOUR FORCE								
— % —								
<i>Looking for full-time work</i>								
Males	8.6	10.6	10.2	8.3	7.4	7.1	7.5	7.2
Females	6.1	7.2	7.0	6.3	5.1	5.3	5.2	4.9
Persons	7.5	9.1	8.9	7.4	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.2
<i>Looking for part-time work</i>								
Males	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0
Females	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.4
Persons	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.6
<i>Persons who were stood down</i>								
Males	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Females	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Persons	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
<i>Total, all unemployed persons</i>								
Males	9.4	11.5	11.2	9.3	8.4	8.1	8.5	8.1
Females	8.6	9.7	9.6	9.0	7.2	7.9	7.7	7.3
Persons	9.1	10.8	10.5	9.1	7.9	8.0	8.2	7.8

2. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

	June 1991	July 1992	July 1993	July 1994	July 1995	July 1996	July 1997	July 1998	
	—%—								'000
<i>Active steps taken to find work—</i>									
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —									
Took no other active steps	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.5	*0.4	*0.6	*3.9
Contacted prospective employers	74.5	77.9	78.3	75.9	74.0	74.5	74.1	70.1	488.1
Took other active steps	3.4	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.6	2.9	2.1	2.1	14.7
Total	78.5	82.4	82.7	80.5	78.6	78.0	76.6	72.8	506.7
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —									
Contacted prospective employers	19.5	15.5	15.8	18.2	20.2	20.3	21.9	25.7	178.7
Took other active steps	2.0	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.5	1.6	11.0
Total	21.5	17.6	17.3	19.5	21.4	22.0	23.4	27.2	189.7
<i>Main difficulty in finding work —</i>									
Considered too young or too old by employers	11.7	13.8	16.9	17.3	15.4	13.5	14.5	16.0	111.4
Insufficient work experience	7.9	8.0	9.5	11.7	12.3	10.1	10.4	10.9	75.9
Too many applicants for available jobs(c)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11.6	13.0	14.5	13.7	95.6
Lacked necessary skills or education	8.9	9.5	10.0	11.3	11.0	11.1	12.1	11.5	80.0
No vacancies at all	33.4	31.9	24.8	17.1	10.9	11.9	12.7	11.2	78.3
No vacancies in line of work	18.4	17.1	16.4	14.1	10.6	11.6	9.1	8.5	59.2
Too far to travel or transport problems	3.6	3.9	4.5	5.6	7.2	5.2	5.3	6.2	42.9
Own ill health or disability	3.8	4.2	4.0	4.4	5.0	5.5	6.0	5.9	41.3
Language difficulties	2.2	2.6	2.5	3.9	4.2	3.2	2.6	1.9	13.3
Unsuitable hours	2.2	1.9	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.3	3.1	21.5
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities(d)	n.a.	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.6	2.4	1.7	12.2
Other difficulties(e)	5.1	2.6	3.2	4.3	2.4	3.9	3.0	2.9	20.2
No difficulties reported	2.7	3.2	3.9	6.3	5.9	6.5	5.3	6.4	44.6
<i>Whether would move interstate —</i>									
Would move interstate	28.9	31.5	28.5	24.2	25.6	25.5	26.0	24.7	171.9
Would not move interstate	58.3	55.0	57.4	61.2	61.6	62.9	61.3	62.8	437.6
May move interstate	10.2	10.4	11.4	11.4	10.0	8.7	9.4	9.3	64.8
Depending on job conditions	5.0	4.6	5.3	5.4	6.2	4.5	5.2	5.0	35.1
Depending on other conditions	5.2	5.8	6.1	5.9	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.3	29.7
Undecided	2.7	3.2	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.9	3.3	3.2	22.1
<i>Whether would move intrastate —</i>									
Would move intrastate	42.6	44.9	41.7	37.5	36.8	37.3	39.4	37.3	259.9
Would not move intrastate	43.3	39.9	42.6	47.0	48.5	49.1	47.4	48.4	337.2
May move interstate	12.2	12.9	13.2	13.1	12.2	10.3	10.3	11.6	80.6
Depending on job conditions	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.4	3.9	4.2	4.7	32.9
Depending on other conditions	7.5	8.0	8.1	7.6	6.8	6.5	6.1	6.8	47.7
Undecided	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	3.2	2.9	2.7	18.9
<i>Duration of current period of unemployment —</i>									
Under 1 year	75.3	63.2	62.0	63.5	65.4	70.3	66.8	65.2	453.8
1 and under 4 weeks	11.4	8.9	10.7	12.3	11.9	14.9	12.0	13.2	91.7
4 and under 8 weeks	11.0	8.5	9.3	9.8	10.2	11.0	10.4	10.8	75.2
8 and under 13 weeks	11.0	7.3	7.5	6.9	8.7	9.7	7.9	8.6	59.9
13 and under 26 weeks	22.5	15.1	13.7	15.4	14.7	14.3	15.5	13.3	92.3
26 and under 52 weeks	19.4	23.4	20.8	19.0	19.8	20.4	20.9	19.3	134.6
1 year and over	24.8	36.8	38.0	36.5	34.6	29.7	33.2	34.8	242.6
1 and under 2 years	13.9	20.6	17.3	15.4	14.5	14.1	15.4	15.2	106.2
2 years and over	10.9	16.2	20.8	21.2	20.1	15.6	17.8	19.6	136.4
	—'000—								
Total	740.1	900.0	871.3	774.2	683.9	701.7	717.5	696.4	
	—weeks—								
<i>Average duration of unemployment</i>	44	55	60	62	60	53	56	60	
<i>Median duration of unemployment</i>	22	30	29	27	26	26	26	26	

(a) Excludes persons who were stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Changes to employment service arrangements occurred during the reference period of the July 1998 survey. See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Collected separately for the first time in 1995. (d) Collected separately for the first time in 1992. (e) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

3. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, BY WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK

	Looking for full-time work			Looking for part-time work			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
— '000 —									
<i>Age group (years) —</i>									
15-19	47.4	31.3	78.7	21.5	24.2	45.7	69.0	55.5	124.4
20-24	68.3	39.7	108.0	7.2	13.5	20.6	75.5	53.2	128.7
25-34	99.0	44.2	143.2	*4.6	16.1	20.6	103.6	60.3	163.8
35-44	72.0	39.8	111.8	*3.3	16.9	20.2	75.3	56.7	132.0
45-54	55.4	28.2	83.6	*1.6	11.5	13.2	57.0	39.8	96.8
55 and over	35.9	9.1	44.9	*2.7	*3.1	5.7	38.5	12.1	50.7
<i>Relationship in household —</i>									
Family member	262.8	142.2	405.1	30.0	70.4	100.5	292.9	212.6	505.5
Husband or wife	144.9	65.2	210.1	*3.8	30.0	33.7	148.6	95.2	243.8
With dependants	98.0	35.4	133.4	*2.1	21.7	23.8	100.1	57.1	157.2
Without dependants	46.9	29.8	76.7	*1.7	8.2	9.9	48.6	38.0	86.6
Lone parent	6.9	31.0	37.9	*1.6	13.5	15.1	8.5	44.5	53.0
Other family person(b)	111.1	46.0	157.0	24.7	27.0	51.7	135.8	73.0	208.7
Non-family member	94.6	43.6	138.1	7.0	11.7	18.8	101.6	55.3	156.9
Lone person	52.4	22.0	74.5	*3.4	5.9	9.3	55.8	28.0	83.8
Not living alone	42.1	21.5	63.7	*3.7	5.8	9.5	45.8	27.4	73.1
Not determined	20.6	6.5	27.1	*3.8	*3.1	6.9	24.4	9.6	34.0
<i>Birthplace —</i>									
Born in Australia	279.7	137.9	417.6	29.4	64.3	93.7	309.1	202.2	511.3
Born outside Australia	98.3	54.4	152.7	11.4	21.0	32.4	109.7	75.4	185.1
Born in main English speaking countries	36.8	15.3	52.0	*4.6	6.0	10.6	41.4	21.2	62.7
Born in other countries	61.5	39.1	100.6	6.8	15.0	21.8	68.3	54.1	122.4
<i>Educational attainment —</i>									
With post-school qualifications(c)	126.0	61.5	187.5	7.0	22.4	29.4	133.1	83.9	216.9
Bachelor degree or higher	22.1	14.0	36.1	*1.4	5.1	6.5	23.4	19.2	42.6
Undergraduate or associate diploma	18.7	11.3	30.0	*1.6	7.5	9.1	20.2	18.9	39.1
Skilled or basic vocational qualification	85.3	35.7	121.0	*4.1	9.7	13.8	89.4	45.4	134.8
Without post-school qualifications(d)	249.7	129.2	378.8	19.5	45.1	64.6	269.2	174.2	443.4
Completed highest level of secondary school	55.9	42.2	98.1	10.0	17.4	27.4	65.9	59.5	125.5
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	193.8	86.4	280.2	9.5	27.7	37.2	203.3	114.1	317.4
Left aged 15 and under	94.8	38.3	133.1	5.7	15.1	20.8	100.5	53.4	154.0
Left aged 16 and over	98.9	48.1	147.1	*3.8	12.6	16.4	102.7	60.7	163.4
Still at school	*2.3	*1.7	*4.0	14.3	17.8	32.1	16.6	19.5	36.0
<i>Active steps taken to find work —</i>									
Registered with Centrelink/CES(e) —									
Took no other active steps	*1.4	*2.0	*3.4	*0.1	*0.4	*0.5	*1.5	*2.4	*3.9
Contacted prospective employers	315.6	138.9	454.4	10.4	23.3	33.7	325.9	162.2	488.1
Took other active steps	7.3	*3.1	10.4	*1.8	*2.5	*4.3	9.0	5.7	14.7
Total	324.2	144.0	468.2	12.3	26.2	38.5	336.5	170.3	506.7
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(e) —									
Contacted prospective employers	51.1	46.5	97.6	26.7	54.5	81.1	77.7	101.0	178.7
Took other active steps	*2.7	*1.8	*4.5	*1.9	*4.6	6.5	*4.6	6.3	11.0
Total	53.8	48.3	102.1	28.6	59.0	87.6	82.4	107.3	189.7
<i>Duration of current period of unemployment —</i>									
Under 1 year	229.0	125.0	354.0	33.9	65.8	99.7	262.9	190.9	453.8
1 and under 4 weeks	37.0	21.8	58.9	13.0	19.8	32.8	50.0	41.6	91.7
4 and under 8 weeks	33.4	25.9	59.3	5.8	10.2	16.0	39.2	36.1	75.2
8 and under 13 weeks	32.6	14.1	46.7	*4.6	8.6	13.2	37.2	22.7	59.9
13 and under 26 weeks	49.4	25.9	75.3	5.0	12.0	17.0	54.4	37.9	92.3
26 and under 39 weeks	57.6	30.5	88.0	*4.3	14.3	18.6	61.9	44.8	106.7
39 and under 52 weeks	19.0	6.8	25.8	*1.1	*1.0	*2.1	20.1	7.8	28.0
1 year and over	149.0	67.3	216.2	7.0	19.4	26.4	155.9	86.7	242.6
1 and under 2 years	61.8	31.9	93.7	*2.0	10.4	12.4	63.8	42.3	106.2
2 years and over	87.2	35.4	122.5	4.9	9.0	13.9	92.1	44.4	136.4
Total	378.0	192.3	570.3	40.9	85.3	126.1	418.8	277.6	696.4
— weeks —									
<i>Average duration of unemployment</i>	67	62	66	32	34	33	64	54	60
<i>Median duration of unemployment</i>	30	26	28	8	13	13	28	26	26

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Comprises dependent student, non-dependent child and other family person. (c) Includes nursing level unknown. (d) Includes persons who never attended school. (e) Changes to employment service arrangements occurred during the reference period of the survey. See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes.

4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK

Active steps taken to find work	Age group (years)					55 and over	Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54		
MALES LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.0	*0.5	*0.9	*0.0	*0.0	*1.4
Contacted prospective employers	35.4	57.7	85.4	60.0	46.2	30.9	315.6
Took other active steps	*2.8	*1.7	*1.1	*0.9	*0.8	*0.0	7.3
<i>Total</i>	38.2	59.4	86.9	61.8	47.0	30.9	324.2
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	8.2	8.4	11.7	9.9	7.9	5.0	51.1
Took other active steps	*1.1	*0.5	*0.4	*0.2	*0.6	*0.0	*2.7
<i>Total</i>	9.3	8.9	12.0	10.1	8.4	5.0	53.8
<i>Total</i>	47.4	68.3	99.0	72.0	55.4	35.9	378.0
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	80.4	86.9	87.8	85.9	84.8	86.2	85.8
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	19.6	13.1	12.2	14.1	15.2	13.8	14.2
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.3	*0.6	*0.0	*0.8	*0.0	*0.3	*2.0
Contacted prospective employers	24.6	32.9	31.7	25.4	16.9	7.5	138.9
Took other active steps	*0.6	*0.4	*0.2	*0.8	*0.9	*0.3	*3.1
<i>Total</i>	25.5	33.8	32.0	26.9	17.8	8.0	144.0
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	5.8	5.4	11.3	12.9	10.1	*1.0	46.5
Took other active steps	*0.0	*0.5	*0.9	*0.0	*0.3	*0.0	*1.8
<i>Total</i>	5.8	5.9	12.2	12.9	10.4	*1.0	48.3
<i>Total</i>	31.3	39.7	44.2	39.8	28.2	9.1	192.3
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	81.4	85.1	72.3	67.7	63.2	88.5	74.9
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	18.6	14.9	27.7	32.3	36.8	*11.5	25.1
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.3	*0.6	*0.5	*1.7	*0.0	*0.3	*3.4
Contacted prospective employers	59.9	90.5	117.1	85.4	63.1	38.4	454.4
Took other active steps	*3.4	*2.1	*1.3	*1.7	*1.7	*0.3	10.4
<i>Total</i>	63.6	93.2	118.9	88.8	64.8	38.9	468.2
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	14.0	13.8	23.0	22.8	18.0	6.0	97.6
Took other active steps	*1.1	*1.0	*1.3	*0.2	*0.9	*0.0	*4.5
<i>Total</i>	15.1	14.9	24.3	23.0	18.8	6.0	102.1
<i>Total</i>	78.7	108.0	143.2	111.8	83.6	44.9	570.3
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	80.8	86.2	83.1	79.4	77.5	86.6	82.1
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	19.2	13.8	16.9	20.6	22.5	13.4	17.9
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK—continued

Active steps taken to find work	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.1	*0.0	*0.5	*0.9	*0.0	*0.0	*1.5
Contacted prospective employers	37.2	60.4	87.5	61.7	47.6	31.5	325.9
Took other active steps	*3.2	*1.7	*1.6	*1.4	*0.8	*0.3	9.0
Total	40.6	62.1	89.6	64.0	48.3	31.8	336.5
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	25.8	12.5	13.6	10.9	8.1	6.7	77.7
Took other active steps	*2.6	*0.8	*0.4	*0.3	*0.6	*0.0	*4.6
Total	28.4	13.4	14.0	11.3	8.6	6.7	82.4
Total	69.0	75.5	103.6	75.3	57.0	38.5	418.8
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	58.8	82.3	86.5	85.0	84.8	82.6	80.3
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	41.2	17.7	13.5	15.0	15.2	17.4	19.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.3	*0.6	*0.0	*0.8	*0.4	*0.3	*2.4
Contacted prospective employers	26.7	39.9	36.9	29.6	20.8	8.3	162.2
Took other active steps	*0.6	*1.5	*0.9	*1.3	*0.9	*0.4	5.7
Total	27.6	41.9	37.8	31.7	22.1	9.0	170.3
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	27.8	10.2	20.5	22.8	17.0	*2.6	101.0
Took other active steps	*0.0	*1.1	*2.0	*2.2	*0.6	*0.5	6.3
Total	27.8	11.2	22.5	25.0	17.6	*3.1	107.3
Total	55.5	53.2	60.3	56.7	39.8	12.1	277.6
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	49.8	78.8	62.7	55.9	55.7	74.5	61.3
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	50.2	21.2	37.3	44.1	44.3	*25.5	38.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
— '000 —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Took no other active steps	*0.5	*0.6	*0.5	*1.7	*0.4	*0.3	*3.9
Contacted prospective employers	63.9	100.3	124.4	91.3	68.4	39.8	488.1
Took other active steps	*3.8	*3.2	*2.5	*2.8	*1.7	*0.8	14.7
Total	68.2	104.1	127.4	95.7	70.5	40.9	506.7
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b) —							
Contacted prospective employers	53.7	22.7	34.1	33.7	25.1	9.4	178.7
Took other active steps	*2.6	*1.9	*2.4	*2.6	*1.1	*0.5	11.0
Total	56.2	24.6	36.5	36.3	26.3	9.8	189.7
Total	124.4	128.7	163.8	132.0	96.8	50.7	696.4
— % —							
Registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	54.8	80.9	77.7	72.5	72.9	80.6	72.8
Not registered with Centrelink/CES(b)	45.2	19.1	22.3	27.5	27.1	19.4	27.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Changes to employment service arrangements occurred during the reference period of the survey. See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes.

5. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS

Number of spells of looking for work in the previous twelve months	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
— '000 —							
One	60.3	65.1	88.5	67.8	52.6	35.6	369.9
Two or more	8.6	10.4	15.1	7.5	*4.4	*2.9	49.0
Total	69.0	75.5	103.6	75.3	57.0	38.5	418.8
FEMALES							
— '000 —							
One	51.6	44.5	52.5	51.8	37.3	12.0	249.7
Two or more	*3.8	8.6	7.8	4.9	*2.5	*0.2	27.8
Total	55.5	53.2	60.3	56.7	39.8	12.1	277.6
PERSONS							
— '000 —							
One	112.0	109.6	141.0	119.6	89.9	47.6	619.6
Two	8.6	14.6	15.8	10.6	4.8	*1.6	56.0
Three or more	*3.9	*4.5	7.1	*1.9	*2.0	*1.5	20.8
Total	124.4	128.7	163.8	132.0	96.8	50.7	696.4

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT IN CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Number of offers of employment in current period of unemployment	Duration of current period of unemployment							Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over			
MALES										
— '000 —										
None	42.8	34.1	32.8	47.1	69.9	56.6	82.7	365.9	64	28
One or more	7.3	5.1	*4.5	7.4	12.2	7.2	9.4	53.0	65	26
Three or more	*1.4	*0.2	*0.4	*0.9	*2.8	*1.2	6.4	13.3	142	70
Total	50.0	39.2	37.2	54.4	82.0	63.8	92.1	418.8	64	28
FEMALES										
— '000 —										
None	33.7	30.7	19.8	32.8	47.8	37.8	40.3	242.9	56	26
One or more	7.9	5.3	*2.9	5.2	*4.8	*4.5	*4.1	34.7	39	16
Three or more	*1.1	*0.8	*0.5	*0.5	*0.2	*1.4	*1.6	6.1	*66	32
Total	41.6	36.1	22.7	37.9	52.6	42.3	44.4	277.6	54	26
PERSONS										
— '000 —										
None	76.5	64.8	52.5	79.8	117.7	94.4	123.0	608.7	61	26
One	10.7	7.9	5.4	8.0	11.5	8.2	*4.1	55.9	36	17
Two	*2.0	*1.5	*1.0	*3.1	*2.4	*0.9	*1.4	12.3	39	19
Three or more	*2.4	*1.1	*0.9	*1.4	*3.0	*2.6	8.0	19.4	118	52
Total	91.7	75.2	59.9	92.3	134.6	106.2	136.4	696.4	60	26

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

7. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK

Main difficulty in finding work	Duration of current period of unemployment					Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over			
MALES								
	— '000 —						— weeks —	
Considered too young or too old by employers	5.0	8.9	15.2	12.1	27.1	68.4	105	60
Insufficient work experience	9.1	9.3	9.7	5.8	4.9	38.8	47	26
Too many applicants for available jobs	13.6	15.0	9.9	11.0	8.1	57.6	47	26
Lacked necessary skills/education	5.6	9.5	9.2	7.9	12.7	44.9	65	38
No vacancies at all	11.1	12.7	11.6	7.0	10.9	53.3	57	26
No vacancies in line of work	11.5	12.2	8.8	*4.8	*3.8	41.0	33	13
Too far to travel/transport problems	*4.2	8.4	6.4	*4.8	6.5	30.3	90	30
Own ill health or disability	5.2	5.2	*4.5	5.0	12.3	32.3	101	52
Language difficulties	*0.7	*1.0	*0.7	*1.5	*1.3	5.2	19	52
Unsuitable hours	*2.0	*1.8	*0.7	*1.8	*0.1	6.5	*32	19
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.8	*0.0	*0.4	*0.5	*0.0	*1.6	*32	23
Other difficulties(b)	*1.7	*4.1	*2.2	*1.5	*3.0	12.7	61	28
No difficulties at all	18.7	*3.6	*2.6	*0.2	*1.2	26.3	16	*3
Total	89.2	91.6	82.0	63.8	92.1	418.8	64	28
FEMALES								
	— '000 —						— weeks —	
Considered too young or too old by employers	6.0	7.7	6.4	9.6	13.2	43.0	80	52
Insufficient work experience	8.9	7.7	8.6	6.5	5.6	37.2	47	26
Too many applicants for available jobs	11.0	9.6	7.7	*4.1	5.7	38.1	49	21
Lacked necessary skills/education	6.1	6.7	9.1	6.1	7.1	35.1	74	30
No vacancies at all	5.9	6.0	*4.7	5.5	*2.9	24.9	43	26
No vacancies in line of work	7.9	*3.9	*3.9	*1.1	*1.3	18.1	27	16
Too far to travel/transport problems	*3.2	*2.9	*2.5	*1.4	*2.6	12.5	92	26
Own ill health or disability	*3.1	*2.3	*1.1	*0.8	*1.7	8.9	87	14
Language difficulties	*1.5	*1.8	*1.7	*1.6	*1.6	8.2	59	26
Unsuitable hours	5.5	*3.9	*2.8	*1.9	*0.9	15.0	26	17
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*3.5	*3.3	*0.4	*2.4	*1.0	10.6	40	8
Other difficulties(b)	*1.5	*2.1	*2.5	*0.7	*0.9	7.5	*44	26
No difficulties at all	13.6	*2.7	*1.3	*0.8	*0.0	18.4	8	3
Total	77.7	60.6	52.6	42.3	44.4	277.6	54	26
PERSONS								
	— '000 —						— weeks —	
Considered too young or too old by employers	11.0	16.6	21.7	21.8	40.2	111.4	95	52
Insufficient work experience	18.0	17.0	18.2	12.3	10.5	75.9	47	26
Too many applicants for available jobs	24.5	24.5	17.6	15.2	13.8	95.6	48	24
Lacked necessary skills/education	11.7	16.2	18.4	14.0	19.8	80.0	68	31
No vacancies at all	17.0	18.7	16.3	12.4	13.8	78.3	53	26
No vacancies in line of work	19.4	16.1	12.7	5.9	5.1	59.2	31	13
Too far to travel/transport problems	7.4	11.3	8.9	6.1	9.1	42.9	91	26
Own ill health or disability	8.3	7.4	5.6	5.8	14.0	41.3	98	43
Language difficulties	*2.2	*2.8	*2.4	*3.0	*2.9	13.3	62	30
Unsuitable hours	7.6	5.7	*3.5	*3.7	*1.0	21.5	28	17
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*4.3	*3.3	*0.8	*2.8	*1.0	12.2	39	8
Other difficulties(b)	*3.2	6.2	*4.7	*2.2	*3.9	20.2	55	26
No difficulties at all	32.2	6.3	*3.9	*1.0	*1.2	44.6	12	3
Total	166.9	152.2	134.6	106.2	136.4	696.4	60	26

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

8. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK, BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>	<i>Educational attainment</i>							<i>Total(c)</i>	<i>Total(d)</i>
	<i>With post-school qualifications</i>				<i>Without post-school qualifications</i>				
	<i>Bachelor degree or higher</i>	<i>Under-graduate or associate diploma</i>	<i>Skilled or basic vocational qualification</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Completed highest level of secondary school</i>	<i>Did not complete highest level of secondary school</i>			
MALES									
— '000 —									
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.0	6.4	14.1	24.5	10.8	32.8	43.6	68.4	
Insufficient work experience	5.4	*2.2	5.2	12.8	9.9	14.2	24.1	38.8	
Too many applicants for available jobs	*3.0	*1.3	13.3	17.6	10.7	24.8	35.4	57.6	
Lacked necessary skills/education	*1.2	*1.5	7.2	9.9	6.9	28.1	34.9	44.9	
No vacancies at all	*0.8	*0.8	10.5	12.1	7.9	30.7	38.6	53.3	
No vacancies in line of work	*4.0	*3.7	10.5	18.2	*4.0	18.5	22.4	41.0	
Too far to travel/transport problems	*0.8	*1.0	8.3	10.2	*2.8	16.8	19.6	30.3	
Own ill health or disability	*0.9	*1.5	10.0	12.4	*2.3	17.6	19.8	32.3	
Language difficulties	*0.2	*0.2	*0.6	*1.0	*1.9	*2.2	*4.1	5.2	
Unsuitable hours	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*0.7	*2.4	*1.4	*3.8	6.5	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.4	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4	*0.5	*0.8	*1.3	*1.6	
Other difficulties(e)	*1.4	*1.4	*2.8	5.7	*1.4	5.4	6.8	12.7	
No difficulties at all	*1.3	*0.2	6.0	7.6	*4.6	10.0	14.6	26.3	
<i>Total</i>	<i>23.4</i>	<i>20.2</i>	<i>89.4</i>	<i>133.1</i>	<i>65.9</i>	<i>203.3</i>	<i>269.2</i>	<i>418.8</i>	
FEMALES									
— '000 —									
Considered too young or too old by employers	*1.2	*1.5	8.3	11.0	7.7	22.1	30.0	43.0	
Insufficient work experience	*3.1	*3.3	4.8	11.1	8.4	15.3	23.7	37.2	
Too many applicants for available jobs	*3.9	*3.5	6.3	14.1	8.1	12.1	20.2	38.1	
Lacked necessary skills/education	*0.6	*1.7	6.3	8.7	8.0	16.9	25.2	35.1	
No vacancies at all	*1.0	*1.3	*4.3	6.5	4.9	9.7	14.6	24.9	
No vacancies in line of work	*3.9	*1.0	*3.5	8.3	5.1	*3.7	8.9	18.1	
Too far to travel/transport problems	*0.0	*0.3	*1.2	*1.5	*1.1	8.9	10.0	12.5	
Own ill health or disability	*0.5	*0.2	*1.0	*1.6	*1.6	5.7	7.3	8.9	
Language difficulties	*0.8	*0.7	*0.9	*2.4	*1.4	*4.4	5.7	8.2	
Unsuitable hours	*0.6	*2.7	*0.8	*4.2	4.9	*4.2	9.1	15.0	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.7	*0.8	*1.2	*2.7	*1.7	6.1	7.9	10.6	
Other difficulties(e)	*1.1	*0.0	*3.2	*4.4	*0.9	*1.9	*2.8	7.5	
No difficulties at all	*1.8	*1.9	*3.6	7.3	5.7	*3.2	8.9	18.4	
<i>Total</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>18.9</i>	<i>45.4</i>	<i>83.9</i>	<i>59.5</i>	<i>114.1</i>	<i>174.2</i>	<i>277.6</i>	
PERSONS									
— '000 —									
Considered too young or too old by employers	5.2	7.9	22.4	35.5	18.4	54.9	73.6	111.4	
Insufficient work experience	8.5	5.5	10.0	24.0	18.2	29.5	47.7	75.9	
Too many applicants for available jobs	6.9	*4.7	19.6	31.6	18.8	36.9	55.7	95.6	
Lacked necessary skills/education	*1.8	*3.2	13.6	18.6	14.9	44.9	60.2	80.0	
No vacancies at all	*1.8	*2.1	14.8	18.7	12.8	40.4	53.2	78.3	
No vacancies in line of work	7.9	*4.7	13.9	26.5	9.1	22.2	31.3	59.2	
Too far to travel/transport problems	*0.8	*1.3	9.6	11.7	*3.9	25.6	29.6	42.9	
Own ill health or disability	*1.3	*1.7	11.0	14.1	*3.9	23.2	27.1	41.3	
Language difficulties	*1.0	*0.9	*1.5	*3.5	*3.3	6.6	9.9	13.3	
Unsuitable hours	*0.6	*2.7	*1.5	4.9	7.3	5.6	12.9	21.5	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.1	*0.8	*1.2	*3.1	*2.2	7.0	9.1	12.2	
Other difficulties(e)	*2.6	*1.4	6.1	10.1	*2.2	7.4	9.6	20.2	
No difficulties at all	*3.1	*2.1	9.6	14.8	10.3	13.2	23.5	44.6	
Total	42.6	39.1	134.8	216.9	125.5	317.4	443.4	696.4	

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes nursing level unknown. (c) Includes persons who never attended school. (d) Includes persons still at school. (e) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

9. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK, BY BIRTHPLACE

Main difficulty in finding work	Born in Australia		Born outside Australia		Total		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
— '000 —							
Considered too young or too old by employers	44.3	30.4	24.1	12.5	68.4	43.0	111.4
Insufficient work experience	26.8	25.7	12.0	11.5	38.8	37.2	75.9
Too many applicants for available jobs	45.1	30.0	12.5	8.1	57.6	38.1	95.6
Lacked necessary skills/education	34.8	27.1	10.1	8.0	44.9	35.1	80.0
No vacancies at all	44.5	20.9	8.9	*4.0	53.3	24.9	78.3
No vacancies in line of work	29.0	12.8	12.0	5.3	41.0	18.1	59.2
Too far to travel, transport problems	26.0	10.2	*4.3	*2.3	30.3	12.5	42.9
Own ill health or disability	22.8	7.1	9.5	*1.8	32.3	8.9	41.3
Language difficulties	*0.0	*0.0	5.2	8.2	5.2	8.2	13.3
Unsuitable hours	5.2	10.4	*1.3	*4.6	6.5	15.0	21.5
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.2	8.9	*0.5	*1.7	*1.6	10.6	12.2
Other difficulties(b)	9.3	4.9	*3.4	*2.6	12.7	7.5	20.2
No difficulties at all	20.2	13.7	6.1	*4.6	26.3	18.4	44.6
Total	309.1	202.2	109.7	75.4	418.8	277.6	696.4
— % —							
Considered too young or too old by employers	14.3	15.0	22.0	16.6	16.3	15.5	16.0
Insufficient work experience	8.7	12.7	10.9	15.3	9.3	13.4	10.9
Too many applicants for available jobs	14.6	14.8	11.4	10.7	13.7	13.7	13.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	11.2	13.4	9.2	10.7	10.7	12.7	11.5
No vacancies at all	14.4	10.3	8.1	*5.4	12.7	9.0	11.2
No vacancies in line of work	9.4	6.4	11.0	7.0	9.8	6.5	8.5
Too far to travel, transport problems	8.4	5.1	*3.9	*3.1	7.2	4.5	6.2
Own ill health or disability	7.4	3.5	8.7	*2.4	7.7	3.2	5.9
Language difficulties	*0.0	*0.0	4.7	10.9	1.2	2.9	1.9
Unsuitable hours	1.7	5.1	*1.2	*6.1	1.5	5.4	3.1
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.4	4.4	*0.4	*2.3	*0.4	3.8	1.8
Other difficulties(b)	3.0	2.4	*3.1	*3.4	3.0	2.7	2.9
No difficulties at all	6.5	6.8	5.5	*6.2	6.3	6.6	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

10. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK, BY AGE

Main difficulty in finding work	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
— % —							
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.5	*5.8	*3.8	14.0	36.5	66.4	16.3
Insufficient work experience	15.1	13.3	13.6	*3.1	*3.4	*0.0	9.3
Too many applicants for available jobs	19.4	13.1	15.8	15.3	9.7	*2.2	13.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	11.4	15.7	13.4	11.0	*5.2	*0.0	10.7
No vacancies at all	19.4	14.5	13.9	8.7	9.0	*7.8	12.7
No vacancies in line of work	*2.9	13.3	10.2	14.2	*7.8	*8.5	9.8
Too far to travel, transport problems	*6.1	7.9	9.8	7.9	*4.8	*3.3	7.2
Own ill health or disability	*1.5	7.6	6.6	9.7	14.9	*7.6	7.7
Language difficulties	*0.0	*0.6	*1.8	*2.0	*0.9	*2.1	1.2
Unsuitable hours	*4.7	*1.0	*0.9	*1.9	*0.3	*0.0	1.5
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*1.2	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4
Other difficulties(b)	*4.3	*1.7	*3.7	*5.1	*0.9	*0.7	3.0
No difficulties at all	10.6	*5.4	5.8	*5.9	*6.6	*1.5	6.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	69.0	75.5	103.6	75.3	57.0	38.5	418.8
FEMALES							
— % —							
Considered too young or too old by employers	*6.8	10.4	9.0	13.2	37.1	49.6	15.5
Insufficient work experience	19.7	19.5	13.0	*8.3	*7.7	*2.7	13.4
Too many applicants for available jobs	13.6	14.8	18.3	11.3	*10.9	*7.5	13.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	14.0	12.4	13.8	16.0	*7.8	*2.7	12.7
No vacancies at all	13.0	*7.9	9.2	10.4	*5.3	*0.0	9.0
No vacancies in line of work	*6.9	*4.7	*7.7	*7.9	*6.7	*0.0	6.5
Too far to travel, transport problems	*7.4	*4.9	*5.2	*2.3	*0.7	*9.1	4.5
Own ill health or disability	*2.3	*1.0	*1.1	*5.1	*8.1	*3.1	3.2
Language difficulties	*0.0	*2.2	*5.0	*2.5	*2.3	*13.7	2.9
Unsuitable hours	*6.2	*6.3	*4.9	*7.3	*2.2	*1.4	5.4
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.8	*6.4	*6.5	*2.7	*3.3	*0.0	3.8
Other difficulties(b)	*1.1	*3.7	*1.2	*5.5	*2.1	*2.7	2.7
No difficulties at all	*8.3	*5.9	*5.2	*7.6	*5.8	*7.5	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	55.5	53.2	60.3	56.7	39.8	12.1	277.6
PERSONS							
— % —							
Considered too young or too old by employers	5.5	7.7	5.7	13.6	36.7	62.4	16.0
Insufficient work experience	17.1	15.9	13.4	5.3	5.1	*0.6	10.9
Too many applicants for available jobs	16.8	13.8	16.7	13.6	10.2	*3.4	13.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	12.6	14.3	13.5	13.2	6.3	*0.6	11.5
No vacancies at all	16.5	11.7	12.2	9.4	7.5	*5.9	11.2
No vacancies in line of work	4.7	9.7	9.3	11.5	7.4	*6.5	8.5
Too far to travel, transport problems	6.7	6.7	8.1	5.5	*3.1	*4.7	6.2
Own ill health or disability	*1.9	4.9	4.5	7.7	12.1	*6.5	5.9
Language difficulties	*0.0	*1.3	3.0	*2.2	*1.5	*4.9	1.9
Unsuitable hours	5.3	*3.2	*2.4	4.2	*1.1	*0.3	3.1
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.4	*2.6	*2.8	*1.8	*1.3	*0.0	1.8
Other difficulties(b)	*2.8	*2.5	*2.8	5.3	*1.4	*1.2	2.9
No difficulties at all	9.6	5.6	5.6	6.6	6.3	*2.9	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	124.4	128.7	163.8	132.0	96.8	50.7	696.4

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

11. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK

<i>All difficulties in finding work</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-19</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55 and over</i>	
MALES							
— % —							
Too many applicants for available jobs	38.1	39.9	48.0	45.4	45.5	32.4	42.7
No vacancies in line of work	18.8	34.0	34.8	37.2	34.5	40.8	33.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	24.8	20.4	18.3	34.1	66.8	85.8	35.4
Language difficulties	*2.6	*2.9	4.8	*4.6	*4.7	*8.7	4.4
Lacked necessary skills/education	32.4	45.6	39.9	31.5	32.5	22.4	35.6
No vacancies at all	37.8	32.6	35.3	34.3	31.9	29.5	34.0
Too far to travel/transport problems	21.9	25.8	22.9	17.2	16.4	*11.4	20.3
Own ill health or disability	*4.3	13.8	11.8	18.3	24.2	22.6	14.8
Unsuitable hours	8.7	*5.0	5.9	*4.3	*3.6	*3.7	5.4
Insufficient work experience	38.5	43.7	39.0	23.2	18.0	*9.5	31.4
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.0	*0.0	*2.8	*1.7	*0.3	*0.0	*1.0
Other difficulties(b)	8.0	*4.8	9.5	12.9	*7.9	*4.1	8.3
— '000 —							
<i>Total</i>	<i>69.0</i>	<i>75.5</i>	<i>103.6</i>	<i>75.3</i>	<i>57.0</i>	<i>38.5</i>	<i>418.8</i>
FEMALES							
— % —							
Too many applicants for available jobs	40.8	50.2	48.7	45.6	49.8	42.5	46.7
No vacancies in line of work	18.9	23.2	29.5	31.6	31.8	*24.1	26.7
Considered too young or too old by employers	29.2	30.3	23.3	37.4	59.1	68.5	35.8
Language difficulties	*1.2	*3.9	8.7	*8.0	*6.2	*19.1	6.2
Lacked necessary skills/education	36.9	41.4	37.9	39.7	40.2	*26.8	38.6
No vacancies at all	30.1	33.7	25.2	31.1	28.3	*25.8	29.5
Too far to travel/transport problems	18.6	22.3	17.9	16.4	18.9	*22.9	19.0
Own ill health or disability	*4.0	*5.4	*6.1	15.9	17.4	*13.0	9.5
Unsuitable hours	15.7	13.2	18.1	17.2	*10.4	*1.4	14.7
Insufficient work experience	44.7	47.2	34.9	29.1	31.3	*13.0	36.6
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.8	*8.7	14.9	10.0	*5.3	*0.0	7.9
Other difficulties(b)	*2.9	*9.0	*2.7	*8.4	*3.7	*2.7	5.2
— '000 —							
<i>Total</i>	<i>55.5</i>	<i>53.2</i>	<i>60.3</i>	<i>56.7</i>	<i>39.8</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>277.6</i>
PERSONS							
— % —							
Too many applicants for available jobs	39.3	44.2	48.3	45.5	47.3	34.8	44.3
No vacancies in line of work	18.9	29.5	32.9	34.8	33.4	36.8	30.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	26.7	24.5	20.2	35.5	63.6	81.7	35.6
Language difficulties	*2.0	*3.3	6.2	6.1	5.3	11.2	5.1
Lacked necessary skills/education	34.4	43.9	39.2	35.0	35.7	23.5	36.8
No vacancies at all	34.4	33.0	31.6	32.9	30.4	28.6	32.2
Too far to travel/transport problems	20.4	24.4	21.1	16.8	17.4	14.2	19.8
Own ill health or disability	4.1	10.3	9.7	17.3	21.4	20.3	12.7
Unsuitable hours	11.8	8.4	10.4	9.8	6.4	*3.2	9.1
Insufficient work experience	41.3	45.2	37.5	25.7	23.5	10.3	33.4
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.4	*3.6	7.2	5.3	*2.4	*0.0	3.8
Other difficulties(b)	5.7	6.5	7.0	11.0	6.2	*3.7	7.1
— '000 —							
Total	124.4	128.7	163.8	132.0	96.8	50.7	696.4

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS

Relationship in household	Time spent looking for work in the previous twelve months							Total
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 39 weeks	39 and under 52 weeks	52 weeks	
MALES								
— '000 —								
Family member	31.5	24.1	25.1	41.3	47.6	17.2	106.1	292.9
Husband	13.1	11.8	10.0	22.9	19.7	7.5	63.6	148.6
With dependants	11.1	8.0	7.4	14.8	12.6	5.0	41.1	100.1
Without dependants	*2.0	*3.8	*2.5	8.1	7.1	*2.6	22.5	48.6
Lone parent	*0.0	*0.8	*0.8	*0.2	*2.2	*1.0	*3.6	8.5
Dependent student	8.6	*3.5	*3.9	*2.7	5.2	*0.0	*1.7	25.6
Non-dependent child	9.6	7.9	8.6	13.8	18.1	7.2	30.1	95.2
Other family person	*0.1	*0.2	*1.9	*1.7	*2.6	*1.5	7.1	15.0
Non-family member	8.8	6.7	6.2	14.9	17.0	5.9	42.1	101.6
Lone person	*4.4	*2.8	*2.7	5.1	7.3	*2.5	30.9	55.8
Not living alone	*4.4	*3.9	*3.5	9.7	9.7	*3.4	11.1	45.8
Not determined	*2.7	*1.7	*2.4	*3.1	*4.6	*2.1	7.8	24.4
Total	43.0	32.5	33.8	59.3	69.2	25.1	155.9	418.8
FEMALES								
— '000 —								
Family member	28.3	27.8	19.5	29.2	35.6	9.6	62.6	212.6
Wife	13.8	13.7	10.7	13.0	10.8	*3.2	30.0	95.2
With dependants	7.7	9.5	5.1	8.5	7.3	*1.9	17.1	57.1
Without dependants	6.1	*4.2	5.6	*4.5	*3.5	*1.4	12.9	38.0
Lone parent	5.4	7.0	*3.5	5.8	6.7	*1.5	14.6	44.5
Dependent student	*3.8	*2.6	*2.8	*4.4	6.3	*0.7	*4.6	25.2
Non-dependent child	*4.3	*4.5	*2.5	*4.5	10.6	*3.5	11.0	40.9
Other family person	*1.1	*0.0	*0.0	*1.5	*1.2	*0.6	*2.5	6.9
Non-family member	5.4	5.6	*4.7	7.8	8.5	*2.4	20.9	55.3
Lone person	*2.1	*2.8	*2.0	*4.3	*3.1	*2.1	11.4	28.0
Not living alone	*3.3	*2.8	*2.7	*3.5	5.4	*0.3	9.5	27.4
Not determined	*1.8	*1.5	*0.2	*1.6	*1.2	*0.0	*3.2	9.6
Total	35.6	34.9	24.5	38.6	45.4	12.0	86.7	277.6
PERSONS								
— '000 —								
Family member	59.8	51.9	44.7	70.5	83.2	26.8	168.6	505.5
Husband or wife	26.9	25.5	20.7	35.9	30.5	10.8	93.5	243.8
With dependants	18.8	17.5	12.5	23.4	19.9	6.8	58.2	157.2
Without dependants	8.1	7.9	8.1	12.6	10.6	*3.9	35.3	86.6
Lone parent	5.4	7.8	*4.3	6.0	8.8	*2.5	18.3	53.0
Dependent student	12.5	6.1	6.7	7.1	11.4	*0.7	6.3	50.8
Non-dependent child	13.9	12.4	11.1	18.3	28.7	10.7	41.0	136.0
Other family person	*1.2	*0.2	*1.9	*3.2	*3.8	*2.1	9.5	21.9
Non-family member	14.2	12.3	10.9	22.6	25.5	8.3	63.0	156.9
Lone person	6.6	5.7	*4.8	9.4	10.4	*4.6	42.3	83.8
Not living alone	7.7	6.7	6.2	13.2	15.1	*3.6	20.6	73.1
Not determined	*4.5	*3.1	*2.7	*4.7	5.8	*2.1	11.0	34.0
Total	78.6	67.4	58.3	97.9	114.6	37.1	242.6	696.4

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Educational attainment	Duration of current period of unemployment					Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over			
MALES								
— '000 —						— weeks —		
With post-school qualifications(b)	28.4	28.1	26.1	22.6	27.9	133.1	66	30
Bachelor degree or higher	5.3	*4.7	5.1	*2.6	5.8	23.4	63	28
Undergraduate or associate diploma	*2.8	*3.5	6.3	*3.3	*4.3	20.2	68	39
Skilled or basic vocational qualification	20.3	19.9	14.7	16.7	17.8	89.4	67	27
Without post-school qualifications(c)	52.4	58.7	53.2	40.8	64.1	269.2	66	30
Completed highest level of secondary school	16.7	15.6	14.8	10.2	8.6	65.9	45	26
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	35.7	43.1	38.4	30.6	55.4	203.3	73	31
Left aged 15 and under	14.7	19.0	18.0	16.4	32.5	100.5	84	43
Left aged 16 and over	21.0	24.1	20.4	14.2	22.9	102.7	62	26
Still at school	8.4	4.9	*2.6	*0.5	*0.1	16.6	12	6
Total	89.2	91.6	82.0	63.8	92.1	418.8	64	28
FEMALES								
— '000 —						— weeks —		
With post-school qualifications(b)	25.4	19.1	17.8	9.6	12.0	83.9	46	21
Bachelor degree or higher	7.7	*4.0	*3.6	*1.1	*2.7	19.2	44	12
Undergraduate or associate diploma	6.2	*4.7	*4.1	*2.3	*1.6	18.9	35	17
Skilled or basic vocational qualification	11.5	10.4	9.6	6.2	7.7	45.4	52	26
Without post-school qualifications(c)	46.8	37.1	28.7	29.9	31.8	174.2	60	26
Completed highest level of secondary school	17.8	12.2	12.3	11.6	5.7	59.5	48	24
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	29.0	24.9	16.3	18.1	25.8	114.1	67	26
Left aged 15 and under	12.2	10.7	6.5	9.1	14.8	53.4	74	31
Left aged 16 and over	16.8	14.2	9.8	8.9	10.9	60.7	61	22
Still at school	5.5	*4.4	6.1	*2.9	*0.6	19.5	25	24
Total	77.7	60.6	52.6	42.3	44.4	277.6	54	26
PERSONS								
— '000 —						— weeks —		
With post-school qualifications(b)	53.8	47.2	43.9	32.2	39.9	216.9	58	26
Bachelor degree or higher	13.0	8.8	8.7	*3.6	8.5	42.6	54	24
Undergraduate or associate diploma	9.0	8.1	10.5	5.6	6.0	39.1	52	26
Skilled or basic vocational qualification	31.8	30.3	24.3	23.0	25.4	134.8	62	27
Without post-school qualifications(c)	99.2	95.8	81.9	70.7	95.9	443.4	64	26
Completed highest level of secondary school	34.5	27.7	27.2	21.7	14.3	125.5	46	29
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	64.7	68.0	54.7	48.7	81.2	317.4	71	39
Left aged 15 and under	26.9	29.6	24.5	25.6	47.4	154.0	81	26
Left aged 16 and over	37.8	38.4	30.2	23.1	33.9	163.4	62	12
Still at school	13.9	9.3	8.8	*3.3	*0.7	36.0	19	26
Total	166.9	152.2	134.6	106.2	136.4	696.4	60	30

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes nursing level unknown. (c) Includes persons who never attended school.

14. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), FORMER FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

	<i>Reason for ceasing last full-time job</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>Job loser</i>			<i>Job leaver</i>			
	<i>Laid off or retrenched</i>	<i>Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory work arrangements</i>	<i>Other(c)</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years)—</i>							
15-19	10.8	*4.1	16.4	8.7	7.0	15.7	32.1
20-24	31.2	10.3	46.0	12.6	14.2	26.8	72.9
25-34	39.0	14.2	56.4	10.5	19.3	29.8	86.2
35-44	27.2	9.2	41.1	7.9	8.0	16.0	57.1
45-54	22.3	*4.7	30.6	*3.9	*4.4	8.3	38.8
55 and over	10.3	*3.3	15.5	*1.0	*1.7	*2.7	18.2
<i>Birthplace —</i>							
Born in Australia	105.6	36.9	158.5	36.0	39.0	75.0	233.5
Born outside Australia	35.2	8.8	47.5	8.8	15.6	24.3	71.8
Born in main English-speaking countries	13.9	*4.6	20.0	*4.5	5.6	10.1	30.1
Born in other countries	21.3	*4.2	27.5	*4.3	9.9	14.2	41.7
<i>Duration of last full-time job —</i>							
Less than 1 year	71.3	40.5	121.4	23.7	27.2	51.0	172.3
2 and under 4 weeks	5.7	8.5	14.7	*4.0	*2.0	6.0	20.7
4 and under 8 weeks	7.7	8.7	17.9	*2.8	*2.4	5.2	23.1
8 and under 26 weeks	32.1	16.1	51.9	9.6	11.3	20.9	72.8
26 and under 52 weeks	25.7	7.2	36.8	7.4	11.6	18.9	55.7
1 and under 2 years	22.1	*4.1	28.8	8.5	8.5	17.0	45.8
2 and under 5 years	23.7	*0.9	27.8	7.7	11.3	19.0	46.7
5 years and over	23.7	*0.3	28.0	*4.8	7.6	12.4	40.4
<i>Industry of last full-time job —</i>							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	*4.7	9.1	15.9	*1.5	*2.9	*4.4	20.4
Manufacturing	38.0	5.6	48.9	8.2	6.7	14.9	63.8
Construction	15.2	5.2	20.6	*2.1	*2.9	5.0	25.6
Wholesale trade	10.6	*1.7	12.9	5.3	*3.4	8.7	21.6
Retail trade	19.1	*3.5	25.0	8.8	11.5	20.3	45.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	10.5	*1.1	12.5	6.1	4.9	11.0	23.5
Transport and storage	6.9	*0.4	7.6	*2.0	*2.4	*4.4	11.9
Communication services	5.2	*0.6	5.8	*0.4	*2.0	*2.3	8.1
Property and business services	6.6	5.1	15.4	*2.8	*3.7	6.5	21.8
Government administration and defence	*4.6	*2.5	7.0	*0.3	*2.8	*3.1	10.1
Education	*2.6	*4.0	8.1	*0.8	*1.3	*2.1	10.2
Health and community services	*4.1	*2.8	7.4	*2.6	5.3	7.9	15.3
Cultural and recreational services	*3.8	*2.0	6.2	*1.1	*1.1	*2.1	8.3
Personal and other services	*2.8	*1.1	5.5	*1.5	*1.7	*3.2	8.7
All other industries(d)	6.2	*1.0	7.2	*1.5	*1.9	*3.4	10.6
<i>Occupation of last full-time job —</i>							
Managers and administrators	*3.6	*0.9	5.3	*0.3	*0.9	*1.2	6.5
Professionals	5.9	*3.7	10.4	*1.9	7.6	9.5	19.9
Associate professionals	8.4	*1.6	11.6	*4.6	*4.7	9.3	21.0
Tradespersons and related workers	26.0	5.0	33.4	7.3	*2.5	9.8	43.2
Advanced clerical and service workers	*1.9	*0.8	*4.5	*2.3	*2.8	5.0	9.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	17.4	7.4	27.2	7.7	9.0	16.7	43.9
Intermediate production and transport workers	27.6	5.6	36.6	8.9	8.4	17.3	53.9
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	17.0	*3.4	21.9	*4.5	8.3	12.8	34.6
Labourers and related workers	33.0	17.3	55.1	7.3	10.5	17.7	72.9
<i>Usual gross weekly pay in last full-time -job —</i>							
Australian currency	135.7	44.5	199.6	43.3	47.4	90.7	290.3
Under 160	*3.8	*1.2	5.8	*1.9	*1.5	*3.4	9.2
160 and under 320	24.1	10.2	39.4	11.2	13.2	24.4	63.9
320 and under 480	50.6	15.8	73.6	16.8	15.2	32.0	105.6
480 and under 640	28.9	8.8	41.3	10.0	9.5	19.5	60.8
640 and under 800	9.3	*3.6	14.5	*2.5	*3.6	6.2	20.7
800 and over	19.0	4.9	25.0	*0.8	*4.4	5.2	30.2
Other(e)	5.1	*1.2	6.3	*1.5	7.1	8.6	15.0
Total	140.8	45.7	206.0	44.7	54.6	99.3	305.3

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who had left their job because of their own ill health or disability. (c) Includes 'Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies' and 'Other reasons'. (d) Includes Mining; Electricity, gas and water supply and Finance and insurance. (e) Includes 'Not determined', 'Non-Australian currency' and 'Payment in kind'.

15. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a), FORMER FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, BY DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB

Age group (years)	Duration of last full-time job						Total
	Under 1 year			Total	1 and under 5 years	5 years and over	
	2 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks				
MALES							
— '000 —							
15-19	6.4	6.2	*3.8	16.4	*3.0	*0.0	19.4
20-24	7.0	10.2	11.4	28.5	18.3	*1.0	47.9
25-34	9.2	17.5	11.8	38.5	15.3	*4.6	58.3
35-44	*4.1	7.3	6.8	18.2	14.4	7.0	39.5
45-54	*4.3	4.9	*2.4	11.6	8.7	7.1	27.4
55 and over	*1.3	*1.1	*1.3	*3.7	5.0	6.1	14.9
Total	32.3	47.0	37.5	116.9	64.7	25.8	207.3
FEMALES							
— '000 —							
15-19	*3.2	*3.8	*1.4	8.4	*4.4	*0.0	12.8
20-24	*4.2	8.7	*3.9	16.9	7.6	*0.5	25.0
25-34	*2.2	8.0	6.7	16.9	7.1	*3.9	27.9
35-44	*1.1	*2.7	5.0	8.8	*4.2	*4.6	17.6
45-54	*0.5	*1.8	*0.5	*2.8	*4.0	*4.6	11.4
55 and over	*0.3	*0.7	*0.7	*1.6	*0.6	*1.0	*3.3
Total	11.5	25.7	18.2	55.4	27.9	14.6	98.0
PERSONS							
— '000 —							
15-19	9.5	10.1	5.2	24.8	7.3	*0.0	32.1
20-24	11.2	18.9	15.3	45.4	25.9	*1.5	72.9
25-34	11.4	25.5	18.5	55.4	22.4	8.4	86.2
35-44	5.2	10.0	11.8	27.0	18.6	11.6	57.1
45-54	4.9	6.6	*2.9	14.4	12.7	11.7	38.8
55 and over	*1.6	*1.7	*2.0	5.3	5.7	7.2	18.2
Total	43.8	72.8	55.7	172.3	92.6	40.4	305.3

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

16. POPULATIONS, BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE

	<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>									
Unemployed persons(a)	123.6	99.3	89.3	41.2	39.5	15.4	3.2	7.3	418.8
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	58.6	48.0	48.5	18.6	20.7	7.6	*1.5	3.8	207.3
FEMALES									
— '000 —									
<i>Population 1:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a)	84.9	76.2	57.2	24.8	23.3	6.4	*0.8	4.0	277.6
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	31.6	23.1	21.6	7.6	11.0	*1.0	*0.5	1.5	98.0
PERSONS									
— '000 —									
<i>Population 1:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a)	208.4	175.5	146.6	66.0	62.8	21.8	4.0	11.3	696.4
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	90.1	71.1	70.1	26.2	31.8	8.6	*2.0	5.4	305.3

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication are compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in July 1998 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the 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. Further details can be obtained by contacting the person listed on the front cover of this publication.

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 The number of unemployed persons in this publication differs from that published in *Labour Force, Australia, July 1998* (Cat. no. 6203.0) because persons who were stood down were excluded from this survey, as it was inappropriate to ask them about their job search experience.

COVERAGE

6 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in July 1998. 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 in the survey.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

7 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.

SEASONAL FACTORS

8 The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

9 During the reference period of this survey, the 12 months to July 1998, the Government made significant changes to the manner in which it provided employment services to the community. As a result, the nature of job search activity undertaken by jobseekers changed.

10 Prior to the change in employment service arrangements, the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) provided jobseekers with access to labour market assistance and offices of the then Department of Social Security (DSS) provided jobseekers with access to income support.

11 Centrelink offices started opening from September 1997. Centrelink is a government shopfront that provides the first point of contact for people requiring a range of government assistance, including income support and job search assistance. Centrelink progressively replaced CES and DSS shopfronts. A competitive employment services market, the Job Network, was launched on 1 May 1998. The Job Network consists of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment services to the community. As from that date, jobseekers register with Centrelink for job search assistance and can choose to go to any of the Job Network employment agencies. The agency then attempts to match jobseekers with jobs that are registered with them by employers.

12 During the transition to the new employment services market, Centrelink performed a similar role to the CES. Jobseekers registered at either a CES or Centrelink office, depending on which was operating in their area, for income support and/or job search assistance.

13 In this publication, registration with either the CES or Centrelink for job search assistance have been combined. As CES operations were replaced by Centrelink and the Job Network during the reference period of the survey, estimates relating to active steps taken to find work may not be directly comparable with those from previous surveys and should be used with caution.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

14 Results of similar surveys on job search experience conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991, and annually from July 1992 were published in previous issues of *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (Cat. no. 6222.0).

GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

15 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*.

RELATED STATISTICS

16 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6245.0)
- *Labour Mobility, Australia* (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6206.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia* (Cat. no. 6266.0)
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (Cat. no. 6265.0)

17 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 ABS has available a range of unpublished data from the Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons 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 the person named on the cover of this publication.

POPULATIONS

POPULATION 1: Unemployed persons (excluding those who were stood down).

POPULATION 2: Unemployed persons (excluding those who were stood down) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years.

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
1 STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	6A RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (1)	ALL
New South Wales		Family member	
Victoria		Husband or wife	
Queensland		With dependants	
South Australia		Without dependants	
Western Australia		Lone parent	
Tasmania		With dependants	
Northern Territory		Without dependants	
Australian Capital Territory		Dependent student	
		Non-dependent child	
		Other family person	
2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Non-family member	
State capital city		Lone person	
Balance of State		Not living alone	
Territory		Not determined	
3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	6B RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (2)	ALL
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Family member	
4 SEX	ALL	Husband or wife	
Male		With children under 15	
Female		Without children under 15	
5 MARITAL STATUS	ALL	Lone parent	
Married		With children under 15	
Not married		With dependent students but without children under 15	
		Without dependants	
		Dependent student	
		Non-dependent child	
		Other family person	
		Non-family member	
		Lone person	
		Not living alone	
		Not determined	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL	ALL	9 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	ALL
Born in Australia		With post-school qualifications	
Born outside Australia		Higher degree	
Arrived before 1971		Postgraduate diploma	
Arrived 1971–1980		Bachelor degree	
Arrived 1981–1990		Undergraduate or associate diploma	
Arrived 1991 to survey date		Skilled or basic vocational qualification	
		Nursing level unknown	
		Without post-school qualifications	
7B BIRTHPLACE (1)	ALL	Completed highest level of secondary school	
Born in Australia		Didn't complete highest level of secondary school	
Born outside Australia		Left school aged under 15 years	
Born in main English-speaking countries		Left school aged 15 years	
Born in other countries		Left school aged 16 years	
		Left school aged 17 years	
		Left school aged 18 years or more	
7C BIRTHPLACE (2)	ALL	Never attended school	
Born in Australia		Still at school	
Born outside Australia			
The Middle East and North Africa		10 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND WHETHER QUALIFICATION OBTAINED OVERSEAS OR IN AUSTRALIA	ALL
Lebanon		Born in Australia	
Africa (excluding North Africa)		Born outside Australia	
Republic of South Africa		With post-school qualifications	
Northern America		Educational qualification obtained overseas	
United States of America		Educational qualification obtained in Australia	
South America, Central America and the Caribbean		Without post-school qualifications	
Chile		Still school	
Northeast Asia			
China (including Hong Kong SAR)		11 WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK	ALL
Southeast Asia		Looking for full-time work	
Philippines		Looking for part-time work	
Viet Nam			
Southern Asia		12 DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT	ALL
India		Under 1 year	
Europe and the former USSR		1 and under 4 weeks	
Former Yugoslav Republics		4 and under 8 weeks	
Germany		8 and under 13 weeks	
Greece		13 and under 26 weeks	
Italy		26 and under 39 weeks	
Netherlands		39 and under 52 weeks	
Poland		1 year and over	
United Kingdom and Ireland		1 and under 2 years	
Oceania and Antartica		2 years and over	
New Zealand			
8 AGE GROUP (YEARS)	ALL		
15–19			
20–24			
25–34			
35–44			
45–54			
55 and over			

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
13A ALL ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contacted prospective employers Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job Checked Centrelink or CES touchscreens Checked factory noticeboards Registered with Centrelink or the CES Contacted an employment agency Advertised or tendered for work Contacted friends or relatives 	
13B ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered with Centrelink or CES and — Took no other active steps Contacted prospective employers Took other active steps Not registered with Centrelink or CES and — Contacted prospective employers Took other active steps 	
14A WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTERSTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would move interstate Would not move interstate May move interstate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Other Undecided 	
14B WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTERSTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has applied for a job interstate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would move interstate May move interstate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Personal/family reasons Specific state Other Has not applied for a job interstate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would move interstate May move interstate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Personal/family reasons Specific state Other Would not move interstate Undecided 	
15A WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would move intrastate Would not move intrastate May move intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Other Undecided 	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
15B WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has applied for a job intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would move intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May move intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Personal/family reasons Specific part of the state Other Has not applied for a job intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would not move intrastate May move intrastate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on job conditions Personal/family reasons Specific part of the state Other Would not move intrastate Undecided 	
16 NUMBER OF OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None One or more <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Two Three or more 	
17 ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many applicants for available jobs No vacancies in line of work Considered too young or too old by employers Insufficient work experience Lacked necessary skills/education No vacancies at all Too far to travel/transport problems Own ill health or disability Unsuitable hours Language difficulties Other family responsibilities Difficulties with child care Difficulties because of ethnic background Other difficulties No difficulties at all 	
18 MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK	ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considered too young or too old by employers Insufficient work experience Too many applicants for available jobs Lacked necessary skills/education No vacancies at all No vacancies in line of work Too far to travel/transport problems Own ill health or disability Language difficulties Unsuitable hours Difficulties with child care Other family responsibilities Difficulties because of ethnic background Other difficulties No difficulties at all 	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
19 NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS	ALL
One	
Two	
Three or more	
20 TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS (weeks)	ALL
1 and under 2	
2 and under 4	
4 and under 8	
8 and under 13	
13 and under 26	
26 and under 39	
39 and under 52	
52 weeks	
21 WHETHER HAD WORKED FULL-TIME	1
Had never worked full-time	
Had worked full-time	
22 INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB	ALL
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
Mining	
Manufacturing	
Electricity, gas and water supply	
Construction	
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	
Has not worked full-time in the last 2 years	
Has never worked	
23 OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB	ALL
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Managers and administrators	
Professionals	
Associate professionals	
Tradespersons and related workers	
Advanced clerical and service workers	
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	
Intermediate production and transport workers	
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	
Labourers and related workers	
Has not worked full-time in the last 2 years	
Has never worked	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
24 USUAL GROSS WEEKLY PAY IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB	2
Australian currency (\$)	
Under 80	
80 and under 160	
160 and under 240	
240 and under 320	
320 and under 400	
400 and under 480	
480 and under 560	
560 and under 640	
640 and under 720	
720 and under 800	
800 and under 880	
880 and under 960	
960 and under 1,040	
1,040 and under 1,120	
1,120 and under 1,200	
1,200 and under 1,280	
1,280 and under 1,360	
1,360 and over	
Don't know, not stated	
Non-Australian currency	
Payment in kind	
25 DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)	ALL
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Less than 1 year	
2 and under 4 weeks	
4 and under 8 weeks	
8 and under 26 weeks	
26 and under 52 weeks	
1 and under 2 years	
2 and under 5 years	
5 years and over	
Has not worked full-time in the last 2 years	
Has never worked	
26 REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB	ALL
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Job loser	
Laid off or retrenched	
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	
Own ill health or disability	
Job leaver	
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	
Other	
Has not worked full-time in the last 2 years	
Has never worked	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
27 STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB	ALL
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Employee	
Employer	
Own account worker	
Contributing family worker	
Unpaid voluntary worker	
Has not worked full-time in the last 2 years	
Has never worked	

TECHNICAL NOTES

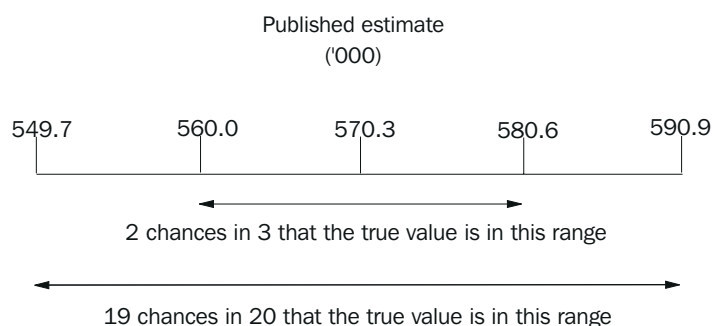
INTRODUCTION

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 3 shows the estimated number of unemployed persons in Australia who were looking for full-time work was 570,300. Since this estimate is between 500,000 and 1,000,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 9,900 and 13,000 and can be approximated by interpolation as 10,300 (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 560,000 to 580,600 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 549,700 to 590,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



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 unemployment: 1.3

median duration of unemployment: 2.0

6 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 3 shows that the estimated median duration of unemployment for unemployed males in Australia was 28 weeks and the number of males was estimated as 418,800. From table T1 it can be calculated that the estimate (418,800) has a SE of about 9,100 and therefore a RSE of about 2.2%. The RSE of the estimate of median duration of unemployment is calculated by multiplying this number (2.2%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.0): $2.2 \times 2.0 = 4.4\%$. The SE of this estimate of median duration of unemployment is therefore 4.4% of 28, i.e. about 1 week. 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 27–29 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 26–30 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:

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

8 Considering the example from the previous page, of the 570,300 unemployed persons who were looking for full-time work 216,200, or 37.9%, had been unemployed for 1 year or more. The SE of 216,200 is approximately 7,000 so the RSE is 3.2%. The RSE for 570,300 is 1.8%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $\sqrt{(3.2)^2 - (1.8)^2}$ or 2.6%, giving a SE for the proportion (37.9%) of 1.0 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed persons is between 36.9% and 38.9% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 35.9% to 39.9%.

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	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.	
									no.	%
100	..	..	..	..	..	100	130	80	..	..
200	..	..	220	200	210	150	180	110	210	105.0
300	360	320	270	250	260	180	220	130	260	86.7
500	470	410	350	320	340	240	270	170	360	72.0
700	560	490	420	380	400	280	310	200	430	61.4
1 000	670	590	500	450	470	330	370	230	520	52.0
1 500	820	730	610	550	570	400	440	270	650	43.3
2 000	950	840	700	630	650	450	510	310	760	38.0
2 500	1 050	950	800	700	700	500	550	350	850	34.0
3 000	1 150	1 000	850	750	800	550	600	350	950	31.7
3 500	1 250	1 100	900	800	850	550	650	400	1 000	28.6
4 000	1 300	1 150	950	850	900	600	700	400	1 100	27.5
5 000	1 450	1 300	1 100	950	1 000	650	750	450	1 250	25.0
7 000	1 700	1 550	1 250	1 100	1 150	750	900	500	1 450	20.7
10 000	2 000	1 800	1 500	1 300	1 350	850	1 050	600	1 750	17.5
15 000	2 400	2 150	1 750	1 550	1 600	1 000	1 300	700	2 100	14.0
20 000	2 750	2 450	2 000	1 750	1 800	1 100	1 450	800	2 450	12.3
30 000	3 250	2 900	2 400	2 050	2 100	1 250	1 750	950	2 950	9.8
40 000	3 700	3 300	2 700	2 300	2 350	1 350	2 000	1 050	3 350	8.4
50 000	4 050	3 600	2 950	2 500	2 600	1 450	2 250	1 100	3 750	7.5
100 000	5 350	4 800	3 900	3 250	3 400	1 750	3 100	1 450	5 050	5.1
150 000	6 300	5 650	4 600	3 800	4 000	1 950	3 750	1 650	6 050	4.0
200 000	7 050	6 300	5 150	4 250	4 450	2 050	4 300	1 850	6 800	3.4
300 000	8 200	7 350	6 000	4 900	5 200	2 250	..	2 100	8 050	2.7
500 000	9 950	8 850	7 250	5 850	6 250	2 500	..	..	9 900	2.0
1 000 000	12 750	11 350	9 250	7 400	7 950	..	..	..	13 000	1.3
2 000 000	16 200	14 300	11 750	9 200	10 050	..	..	..	16 800	0.8
5 000 000	21 850	19 150	15 900	..	..	..	..	..	23 150	0.5
10 000 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29 150	0.3

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

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
Average duration of time spent looking for work during the year	12 500	9 000	6 900	5 600	5 800	2 700	3 500	1 400	9 400
Median duration of time spent looking for work during the year	27 000	19 300	14 800	12 100	12 600	5 600	7 900	2 900	21 900
All other estimates	7 500	5 400	4 200	3 400	3 600	1 700	2 200	900	5 400

GLOSSARY

Active steps taken to find work	<p>Steps taken during the 12 months up to the time of the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work;■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job;■ checking Centrelink or CES touchscreens;■ checking factory noticeboards;■ registering with Centrelink or the CES for job search assistance;■ contacting an employment agency;■ advertising or tendering for work; and■ contacting friends or relatives.
All difficulties in finding work	<p>All difficulties in finding work experienced during the current period of unemployment.</p>
Average duration (of current period of unemployment)	<p>The duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.</p>
Bachelor degree	<p>The entry requirement is the satisfactory completion of Year 12 or its equivalent. The duration of study ranges from three to six years full-time study or its equivalent. Courses are designed to provide students with a systematic and coherent introduction to a broad body of knowledge. The emphasis is on the underlying principles and concepts of that body of knowledge.</p>
Centrelink	<p>Centrelink, officially launched in September 1997, is a statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth Government services, including the registration of persons for job search assistance and income support.</p>
CES	<p>The Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) provided job placement service for jobseekers and managed labour market programs. It also provided the contact point for eligible jobseekers to register for income support. The CES ceased operation at the end of April 1998.</p>
Duration of current period of unemployment	<p>The period from the time the person began looking for work to the end of the reference week. Thus, this item measures the current (and continuing) period of unemployment rather than a completed spell. For persons who may have begun looking for work while still employed, the duration of current period of unemployment is defined as the period from the time the person last worked full-time for two weeks or more to the end of the reference period.</p>

Educational attainment	Measures the highest qualification completed by the respondent, classified according to the ABS Classification of Qualifications. The categories for level of attainment available from this survey are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Higher degree; ■ Postgraduate diploma; ■ Bachelor degree; ■ Undergraduate or associate diploma; ■ Skilled vocational or basic vocational qualification; and ■ Highest level of secondary school.
Former full-time employees	Unemployed persons, excluding persons who were stood down, who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years.
Higher degree	Comprises primarily Doctorates and Master degrees. The minimum entry requirements are usually a Master degree or a first class honours degree for a Doctorate and completion of an honours degree for a Master degree. This level of qualification is designed to recognise significant contributions to original research or the application of knowledge within a given field of study.
Highest level of secondary school available	The highest level of secondary school available to the respondent, as determined by the respondent, at the time he or she left school (i.e. Year 12 or equivalent).
Industry	All occurrences of industry in this publication relate to Divisions as defined by ANZSIC — <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 1993</i> (Cat. no. 1292.0).
Interstate	Between States and Territories.
Intrastate	Within the State or Territory.
Job leavers	Persons who have ceased their last job voluntarily, because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; or ■ the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they left that job to return to studies; or ■ they retired, started a new business, got a better job, left for family or other reasons; or ■ they changed locality but not employer/business for employment, personal or other reasons.

Job losers	Persons who ceased their last job involuntarily, because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ they were retrenched or their business closed down because of financial difficulties; or ■ their job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they did not leave that job to return to studies; or ■ they left their job because of their own ill health or injury.
Job Network	Job Network is a national network of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment placement services to the community. Jobseekers, who are registered with Centrelink for job search assistance are able to contact any Job Network provider in their area to receive this service.
Looking for part-time work	Actively looking for part-time work (less than 35 hours per week) only.
Main difficulty in finding work	The main difficulty experienced during the current period of unemployment.
Main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Median duration (of current period of unemployment)	The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal size groups, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.
Number of offers of employment	The number of separate offers of employment received during the current period of unemployment.
Occupation	All occurrences of occupation in this publication relate to Major Group as defined by ASCO — <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition</i> (Cat. no. 1220.0).
Persons with post-school qualifications	Persons who have obtained a vocational qualification, certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification, since leaving school. Respondents indicated which of the following groups best described their highest qualification: Higher degree; Postgraduate diploma; Bachelor degree; Undergraduate or associate diploma; Skilled vocational or basic vocational qualification.
Persons who were stood down	Persons classed as unemployed who had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks, for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.
Postgraduate diploma	Includes Graduate Certificates. The entry requirement is usually the successful completion of a Bachelor degree or an Undergraduate diploma. Courses usually build on undergraduate studies, and are designed to broaden or develop professional knowledge and skills in a related or new area of studies.

Skilled vocational or basic vocational qualification	The entry requirement for a skilled vocational qualification is usually the completion of Year 10 or its equivalent. In addition, some courses may require a student to be concurrently employed in that specific field. Basic vocational qualifications often require Year 10 completion, however many courses have no formal entry requirements.
Still at school	Current school attendance was recorded only for persons aged 15–20 years.
Undergraduate or associate diploma	The entry requirement is usually the successful completion of Year 12 or its equivalent, for an undergraduate diploma, or the completion of Year 12 or Year 10 and a pre-requisite certificate course for an associate diploma. Certain other qualifications are classified to this level on the basis that their entry requirements, duration of study and theoretical orientation are regarded as being equivalent to those of undergraduate or associate diplomas.
Unemployed persons	<p>Those persons who were not employed during the reference week (i.e. the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place), had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ were available for work in the reference week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week); or ■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then. <p>In this publication, unemployed persons excludes those people who were stood down without pay for less than four weeks, as it was inappropriate to ask them about their job search experience.</p>
Usual gross weekly pay	The amount of usual weekly pay before taxation and other deductions have been made.

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 is available in publication form, by subscription or on request. It may be possible to order unpublished data from these surveys by contacting the ABS.

TITLE	CATALOGUE NUMBER
■ Career Experience. Irregular. Latest issue November 1996	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 1997	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 1997	6272.0
■ Persons Employed at Home. Irregular. Latest issue September 1995	6275.0
■ Persons Not in the Labour Force. Annual. Latest issue September 1997	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 1996	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 1997	6265.0
■ Working Arrangements. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997	6342.0

FORTHCOMING SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Topic	Reference month	Release
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience	July 1998	January 1999
Persons Not in the Labour Force	September 1998	February 1999
Underemployed Workers	September 1998	March 1999

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

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