



UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

AUSTRALIA

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C O N T E N T S

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Conceptual framework	3
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS	
Part-time workers who want more hours	5
Usually work full-time	8
TABLES	
List of tables	9
Overview	10
Employed persons	10
Usually work part-time and want more hours	12
Looking for or available to start work with more hours	19
Populations	24
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Explanatory notes	25
Appendix: Populations and data items list	29
Technical notes	32
Glossary	36
Supplementary surveys list	39

- For further information about these statistics, contact Tim Wardrop on Canberra (02) 6252 7204 or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about underemployed workers. The number of underemployed workers supplements other measures of labour market slack such as the number of unemployed persons and discouraged jobseekers. It also highlights the aspirations of many workers for adequate work and greater earnings.

Underemployment can be considered in two forms. Visible underemployment reflects an insufficient volume of work. Invisible underemployment reflects an insufficient use of skills and experience or low productivity. The information presented in this publication relates only to visible underemployment.

The term underemployment in this publication is a generic term used to refer to a range of situations of visible underemployment. The conceptual framework which follows identifies various categories of underemployed workers.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) *Underemployed Workers* survey conducted throughout Australia in September 1997 as a supplement to the ABS Labour Force Survey.

Data from the survey relate to all persons aged 15 years and over. Persons who worked less than 35 hours in the week prior to the survey who would have preferred to work more hours were asked about whether they were looking for work with more hours, available to start work with more hours, and their experience in looking for work with more hours. Other information includes the duration of the current period of insufficient work, and the number of extra hours preferred.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CES	Commonwealth Employment Service
ILO	International Labour Organisation
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	Relative Standard Error
SE	Standard Error
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses
. .	not applicable

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

STATE INQUIRIES

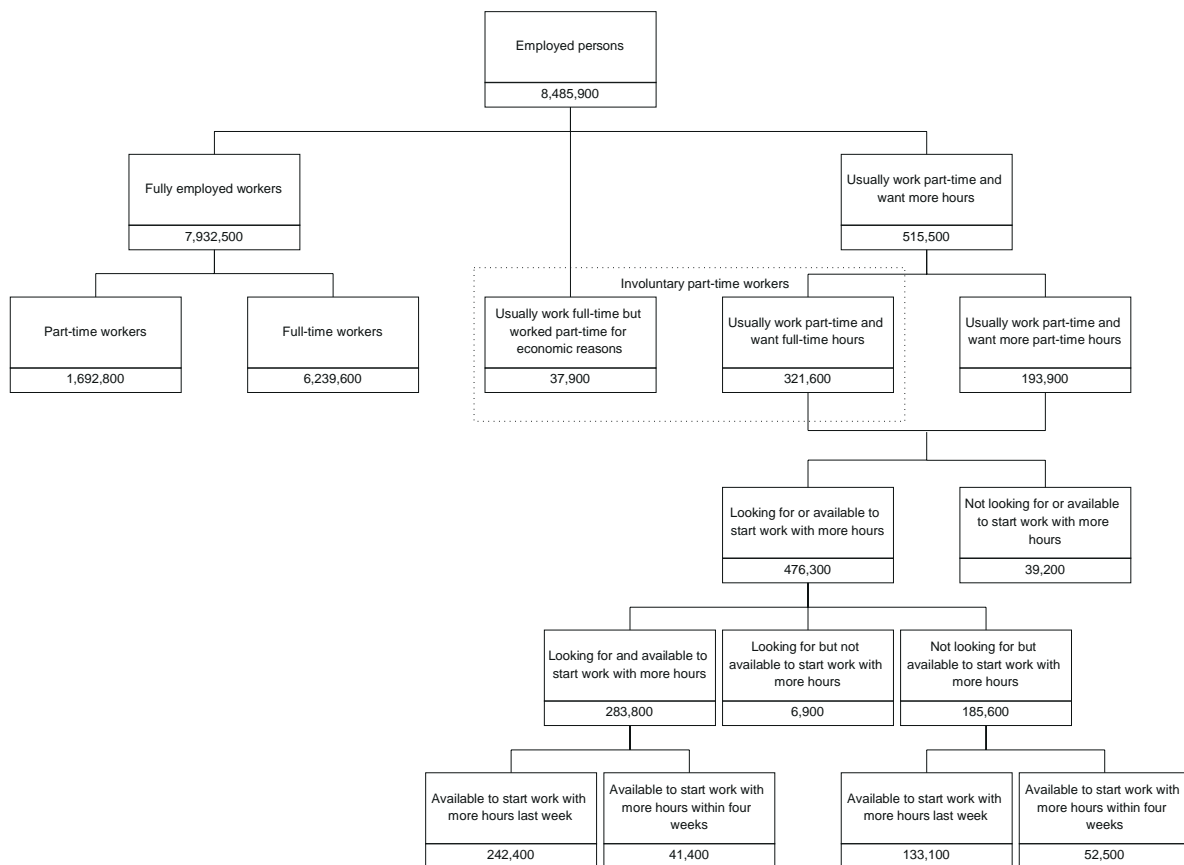
For State office contact numbers see the Supplementary Surveys list in the back of this publication.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The conceptual framework within which underemployed workers are classified is based on separating employed persons into three mutually exclusive groups: fully employed workers, workers who usually work part-time and want more hours, and workers who usually work full-time but worked part-time hours in the reference week.

Fully employed workers comprise all full-time workers, including persons who usually work part-time but worked 35 hours or more in the reference week, and all part-time workers who do not desire additional hours of work.



Employed workers who usually work part-time and want more hours can be split into two groups: those who want to work full-time hours, and those who want to work more part-time hours.

The identification of workers who usually work part-time but would prefer to be working full-time hours enables the measurement of involuntary part-time workers, when this group is combined with those workers who usually work full-time but worked less than 35 hours in the survey reference week (see below). The concept of involuntary part-time has been developed by the OECD. It uses the concept of visible underemployment to provide a supplementary measure of labour market slack by identifying those persons involuntarily working less than full-time hours.

Further classification of employed workers who usually work part-time and want more hours is based on whether they were looking for and/or available to start work with more hours. Employed workers who usually work part-time and want more hours are separated on the basis of whether they had looked for extra work during the four weeks prior to the survey and whether they were firstly, available to start extra work in the week prior to the survey (last week) or, then, within four weeks after the survey.

The criterion of availability to start work with more hours last week was introduced in 1994 to more closely align the survey with ILO recommendations on underemployment.

Persons who usually work full-time but worked part-time for economic reasons, are separately identified in the underemployment framework as they represent a special case of underemployment. These workers worked less than 35 hours in the reference week due to being stood down, or due to insufficient work being available. For these people it is assumed that they wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so. These workers are also considered to be involuntary part-time workers.

The underemployed group satisfying the criteria which most closely aligns with the ABS definition of unemployment are those who have actively looked for work in the last four weeks and were available to start work last week.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS

In September 1997, 6.1% or 515,500 of the 8,485,900 employed persons aged 15 years and over usually worked part-time and wanted to work more hours. Of these, 62% reported that they would like to work full-time hours.

Between September 1996 and September 1997, there was an increase of 3% in the number of persons working part-time and wanting more work. Total employment increased 1% over the same period.

From a low of 2.8% in May 1985 (when this survey was first conducted), the proportion of the labour force identified as working part-time and wanting more work has risen to its highest recorded level (5.6%) in September 1997.

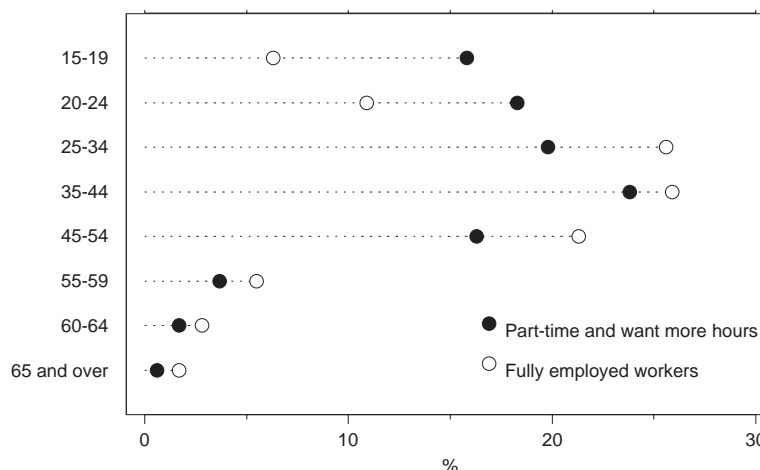
Of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours who were actually looking for or available to start work with more hours, 242,400 were looking and available to start work in the week before the survey. Females made up the majority (54%) of this group. This is the group of underemployed workers which most closely align with criteria applied in the ABS definition of unemployment.

Characteristics of part-time workers who want more hours

An estimated 62% of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were female. This number has increased by 8% since September 1996. The proportion of males has increased from the mid 1980s, with only 29% recorded in May 1985, to 41% in September 1996. Males were more likely to want full-time work (79%) than females (52%).

The proportion of males and females was similar in all age groups except for the 35–44 years age group, where there was a difference of 9 percentage points (males 18%, females 27%). There was a greater proportion of older persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours in September 1997 (22% were aged 45 years and over), than there were in May 1985 (17% were aged 45 years and over).

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATUS



Over half (54%) of all persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were under 35 years of age, while only 43% of fully employed workers were under 35 years. The youngest age groups (15–19 and 20–24 years) contributed 16% and 18% respectively of all persons working part-time and wanting more hours. This compares to 6% and 11% respectively for fully employed workers.

Other characteristics of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were:

- the distribution of reported hours of work was 0–10 hours (39%), 11–20 hours (32%) and 21–29 hours (20%), 30 and over (10%);
- the same proportion as for fully employed workers were own account workers (both 10%);
- 60% of females and 59% of males had no post-school qualifications; and
- 9% were lone parents (compared with 4% of fully employed workers), and another 9% were dependent students (compared with 4% of fully employed workers).

Duration of insufficient work The median duration of the current period of insufficient work for persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours was 26 weeks for both males and females.

Duration generally increased with age for both males and females. For females, the median duration ranged from 22 weeks for those aged 15–19 years, to 104 weeks for those aged 60–64 years. For males the median duration ranged from 20 weeks for those aged 15–19 years to 52 weeks for those aged 60 years and over.

Looking for or available to start work Of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours 82% (423,800) were looking for work with more hours or available to start work with more hours last week.

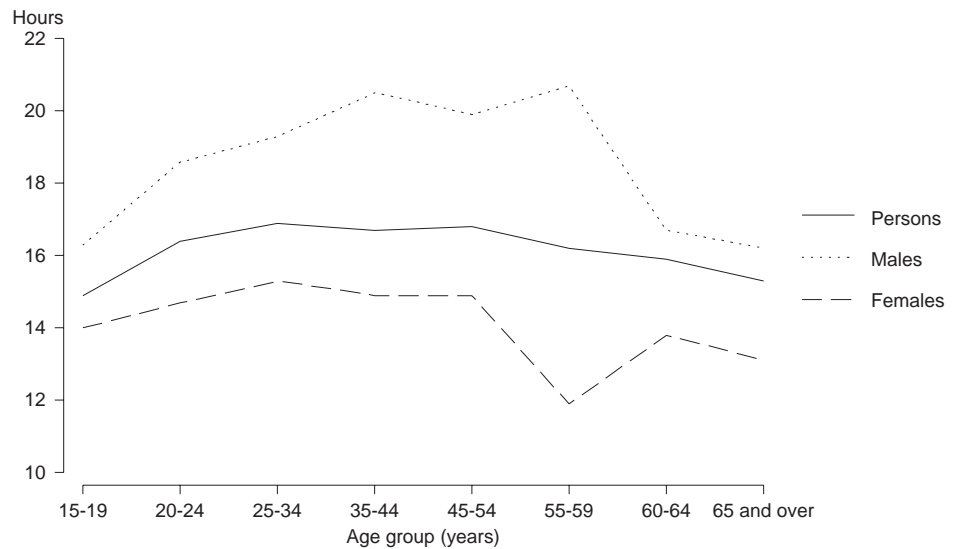
The number of underemployed workers in this group has increased 2% since September 1996. Females made up the majority (60%). A higher proportion of males (81%) preferred to work a total of more than 35 hours per week compared to females (52%). Some 73% of females and 51% of males preferred to work up to 19 extra hours. The majority (57%) of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were looking for and available to start work last week.

The average duration of insufficient work for these workers was 52.3 weeks for males and 60.9 weeks for females.

There were an additional 52,500 persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours who were not looking for work with more hours, and who, while not available last week, were available to start work within the next four weeks.

Extra hours wanted Of those working part-time and wanting to work more hours and who were looking for, or available to start work with more hours last week, 42% wanted 10–19 extra hours of work each week, and 23% wanted 20–29 hours. The average number of extra hours wanted was 16.4 (19.0 hours for males, 14.7 hours for females). The average number of extra hours wanted was higher for males than females in every age group.

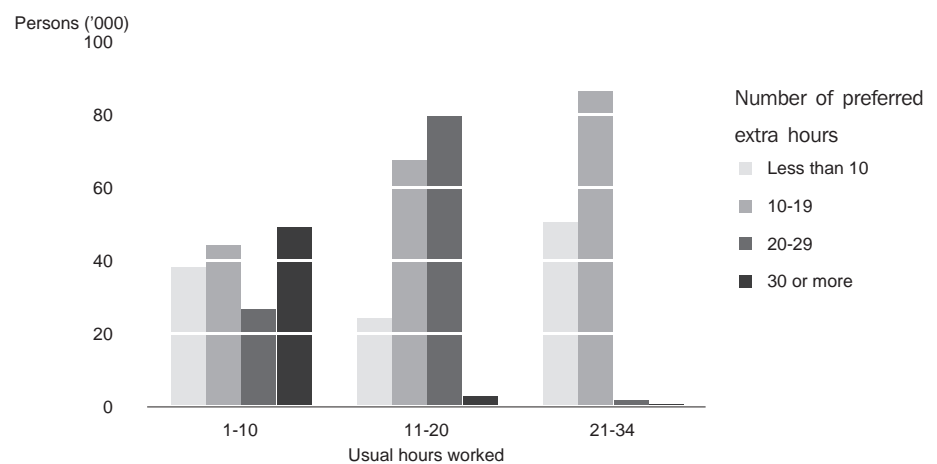
USUALLY WORK PART-TIME: AVERAGE EXTRA HOURS WANTED



Those who usually worked 21–34 hours were more likely to prefer up to 19 extra hours (98%) than 20 hours or more. The majority who usually worked 11–20 hours preferred 10–29 extra hours (84%). Of those who usually worked less than 10 hours a week, about half (52%) wanted up to 19 extra hours and the remainder wanted 20 or more extra hours a week.

Out of a total of 7,791,200 additional hours wanted per week, males wanted an extra 3,494,600 hours, and females wanted 4,296,600 hours.

USUALLY WORK PART-TIME: USUAL HOURS WORKED AND PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS



Job search experience Some 92% (476,300) of persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were actually looking for or available to start work.

The main difficulties in finding work with more hours that were most commonly reported were 'no vacancies in line of work' (21%), 'no vacancies at all' (14%), 'considered too young/old by employers' (10%) and 'lacked necessary skills/education' (10%). Females also reported that 'unsuitable hours' (9%) was a main difficulty experienced.

The steps most frequently taken to find work with more hours were 'contacting prospective employers' (81%), 'looking in newspapers' (65%) and 'registering with the CES' (44%).

USUALLY WORK FULL-TIME

In September 1997, there were 37,900 persons who usually work full-time, but worked part-time hours in the reference week due to economic reasons (being stood down, short time or insufficient work). This represents a 21% decrease from September 1996, following a 30% decrease from September 1995. Males made up the majority (88%) of this group.

LIST OF TABLES

Overview

- | | | |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | Civilian population: labour force status, September 1995 to September 1997 | 10 |
|---|--|----|

Employed persons

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 2 | Underemployment status, September 1995 to September 1997 | 10 |
| 3 | Usually work part-time and want more hours, September 1995 to September 1997 | 10 |
| 4 | Fully employed workers and workers who usually work part-time and want more hours | 11 |

Usually work part-time and want more hours

- | | | |
|---|--|----|
| 5 | Number and proportion of the labour force May 1985 to September 1997 | 12 |
| 6 | Duration of current period of insufficient work | 13 |
| 7 | Looking for or available to start work with more hours last week | 16 |

Looking for or available to start work with more hours

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 8 | Preferred number of extra hours | 19 |
| 9 | Total number of extra hours preferred | 22 |
| 10 | All steps taken to find work in the last four weeks | 23 |

Populations

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|
| 11 | State or Territory of usual residence | 24 |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|

TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION: LABOUR FORCE STATUS
(*000)

	September 1995		September 1996		September 1997		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Persons aged 15 and over</i>	6,977.7	7,194.8	7,090.5	7,314.8	7,160.2	7,401.5	14,561.8
Not in the labour force	1,779.8	3,288.8	1,846.4	3,328.9	1,901.3	3,381.8	5,283.1
In the labour force	5,197.8	3,906.1	5,244.0	3,985.8	5,259.0	4,019.7	9,278.7
Unemployed	463.7	299.6	465.8	334.5	469.5	323.3	792.8
Employed	4,734.2	3,606.4	4,778.3	3,651.3	4,789.4	3,696.5	8,485.9

TABLE 2. UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATUS OF EMPLOYED PERSONS
(*000)

	September 1995		September 1996		September 1997		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Employed persons</i>	4,734.2	3,606.4	4,778.3	3,651.3	4,789.4	3,696.5	8,485.9
Fully employed workers	4,494.1	3,278.7	4,536.0	3,347.1	4,559.3	3,373.2	7,932.5
Full-time workers	4,155.1	2,055.6	4,162.9	2,066.9	4,174.1	2,065.5	6,239.6
Part-time workers	339.0	1,223.1	373.1	1,280.2	385.1	1,307.6	1,692.8
Usually work full-time but worked part-time	51.9	16.5	39.6	8.2	33.2	4.8	37.9
Usually work part-time and want more hours	188.2	311.2	202.7	296.1	197.0	318.5	515.5
Usually work part-time and want more part-time hours	43.6	139.2	43.7	141.0	41.8	152.1	193.9
Usually work part-time and want full-time hours	144.6	172.0	159.0	155.0	155.2	166.4	321.6

TABLE 3. USUALLY WORK PART-TIME AND WANT MORE HOURS
(*000)

	September 1995		September 1996		September 1997		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
Had been looking for work with more hours —							
Were available to start —							
Last week	101.3	123.6	120.7	123.3	112.2	130.2	242.4
Not last week but within four weeks	12.0	28.1	12.4	27.4	13.9	27.5	41.4
Were not available to start	*4.2	5.8	*4.2	*3.2	*2.5	*4.4	6.9
Had not been looking for work with more hours —							
Were available to start —							
Last week	42.2	87.5	38.0	84.8	40.1	93.0	133.1
Not last week but within four weeks	13.0	41.6	13.0	33.8	15.5	37.0	52.5
Were not available to start	15.5	24.6	14.3	23.6	12.8	26.4	39.2
<i>Total</i>	188.2	311.2	202.7	296.1	197.0	318.5	515.5
Usually work part-time and want more part-time hours	43.6	139.2	43.7	141.0	41.8	152.1	193.9
Usually work part-time and want full-time hours	144.6	172.0	159.0	155.0	155.2	166.4	321.6

TABLE 4. EMPLOYED PERSONS

	<i>Usually work part-time and want more hours</i>				<i>Fully employed workers</i>			
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	
		<i>— '000 —</i>	<i>(Per cent)</i>			<i>— '000 —</i>	<i>(Per cent)</i>	
<i>State or Territory of usual residence —</i>								
New South Wales	59.7	98.5	158.2	30.7	1,538.3	1,127.0	2,665.3	33.6
Victoria	51.4	75.6	127.0	24.6	1,132.1	855.5	1,987.6	25.1
Queensland	37.4	61.8	99.1	19.2	829.0	620.9	1,449.9	18.3
South Australia	19.2	32.5	51.7	10.0	354.3	256.7	611.0	7.7
Western Australia	17.5	32.8	50.3	9.8	476.1	340.2	816.3	10.3
Tasmania	6.1	10.1	16.2	3.1	104.8	69.0	173.8	2.2
Northern Territory	* 1.2	1.7	2.9	0.6	44.0	37.0	80.9	1.0
Australian Capital Territory	4.4	5.6	10.1	2.0	80.8	66.9	147.7	1.9
<i>Age group (years) —</i>								
15-19	32.2	49.5	81.7	15.9	257.7	241.6	499.4	6.3
20-24	39.1	55.2	94.3	18.3	456.4	405.3	861.7	10.9
25-34	40.7	61.5	102.3	19.8	1,175.6	857.8	2,033.4	25.6
35-44	36.4	86.3	122.7	23.8	1,177.1	880.4	2,057.5	25.9
45-54	31.1	52.7	83.8	16.3	966.9	725.5	1,692.4	21.3
55-59	9.0	10.1	19.2	3.7	273.3	159.2	432.6	5.5
60-64	6.4	* 2.3	8.6	1.7	152.7	67.2	219.9	2.8
65 and over	* 2.0	* 0.9	* 2.9	* 0.6	99.6	36.1	135.7	1.7
<i>Relationship in household —</i>								
Family member	152.5	260.5	413.0	80.1	3,728.7	2,788.8	6,517.5	82.2
Husband or wife	84.6	142.0	226.6	44.0	2,924.1	2,035.1	4,959.2	62.5
With dependants present	53.2	95.2	148.4	28.8	1,772.6	1,115.7	2,888.3	36.4
Without dependants present	31.4	46.9	78.2	15.2	1,151.4	919.4	2,070.9	26.1
Lone parent	* 3.1	41.3	44.4	8.6	67.8	207.2	274.9	3.5
With dependants present	* 2.0	35.7	37.7	7.3	42.2	166.4	208.6	2.6
Without dependants present	* 1.1	5.6	6.7	1.3	25.6	40.8	66.3	0.8
Dependent student	23.5	24.6	48.1	9.3	131.1	181.1	312.2	3.9
Non-dependent child	36.8	45.4	82.2	15.9	525.1	304.7	829.8	10.5
Other family person	* 4.5	7.2	11.7	2.3	80.6	60.6	141.3	1.8
Non-family member	40.1	47.0	87.1	16.9	693.6	464.6	1,158.2	14.6
Lone person	22.0	21.0	43.0	8.3	365.5	223.7	589.2	7.4
Not living alone	18.1	26.1	44.1	8.6	328.1	240.9	569.0	7.2
Not determined	* 4.3	11.0	15.3	3.0	137.0	119.8	256.8	3.2
<i>Birthplace —</i>								
Born in Australia	153.3	254.4	407.7	79.1	3,395.6	2,565.5	5,961.1	75.1
Born outside Australia	43.6	64.2	107.8	20.9	1,163.7	807.7	1,971.4	24.9
Born in main English speaking countries	14.1	25.4	39.5	7.7	479.1	358.4	837.5	10.6
Born in other countries	29.5	38.8	68.3	13.2	684.6	449.3	1,133.9	14.3
<i>Full-time and part-time workers —</i>								
Full-time workers	..	..	..	..	4,174.1	2,065.5	6,239.6	78.7
Part-time workers	197.0	318.5	515.5	100.0	385.2	1,307.6	1,692.8	21.3
<i>Status in employment —</i>								
Employer	* 0.5	* 1.7	* 2.3	* 0.4	201.9	109.7	311.6	3.9
Own account worker	26.3	23.1	49.3	9.6	509.3	254.9	764.3	9.6
Contributing family worker	* 4.9	6.8	11.7	2.3	21.5	34.5	55.9	0.7
Employee	165.2	286.9	452.1	87.7	3,826.6	2,974.0	6,800.6	85.7
<i>Number of hours worked in reference week —</i>								
0-5	36.0	62.0	98.0	19.0	263.5	339.2	602.8	7.6
6-10	41.8	60.4	102.2	19.8	101.7	237.0	338.7	4.3
11-15	28.7	51.0	79.7	15.5	64.8	196.0	260.9	3.3
16-20	30.3	52.6	83.0	16.1	91.6	236.6	328.1	4.1
21-29	36.8	65.0	101.9	19.8	133.7	326.7	460.4	5.8
30-34	23.3	27.4	50.7	9.8	209.7	288.9	498.6	6.3
35 or more	..	..	..	..	3,694.3	1,748.7	5,443.0	68.6
Total	197.0	318.5	515.5	100.0	4,559.3	3,373.2	7,932.5	100.0

TABLE 5. EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO USUALLY WORK PART-TIME AND WANT MORE HOURS

	<i>Number ('000)</i>			<i>Proportion of labour force (%)</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
<i>May</i>						
1985	58.5	141.1	199.6	1.3	5.0	2.8
1988	72.7	163.6	236.3	1.5	5.1	3.0
1991	134.3	256.2	390.4	2.7	7.2	4.6
<i>September</i>						
1994	179.1	281.3	460.5	3.5	7.3	5.2
1995	188.2	311.2	499.3	3.6	8.0	5.5
1996	202.7	296.1	498.7	3.9	7.4	5.4
1997	197.0	318.5	515.5	3.7	7.9	5.6
1998						

TABLE 6. DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK

	<i>Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Average duration</i>	<i>Median duration</i>
	<i>1-3</i>	<i>4-12</i>	<i>13-51</i>	<i>52 and over</i>			
MALES							
	— '000 —					— weeks —	
<i>State or Territory of usual residence —</i>							
New South Wales	* 3.7	11.6	23.8	20.6	59.7	55.1	30
Victoria	5.9	11.5	18.1	15.8	51.4	54.3	26
Queensland	* 1.1	10.2	14.8	11.2	37.4	37.0	26
South Australia	* 1.1	* 3.0	6.3	8.8	19.2	74.4	40
Western Australia	* 2.9	* 4.3	6.0	* 4.3	17.5	36.8	15
Tasmania	* 0.5	* 0.9	* 2.2	* 2.5	6.1	* 62.4	39
Northern Territory	* 0.3	* 0.3	* 0.6	* 0.0	* 1.2	* 12.5	* 8
Australian Capital Territory	* 0.6	* 1.6	* 0.9	* 1.3	* 4.4	* 56.2	* 13
<i>Age group (years) —</i>							
15-19	* 4.9	8.4	13.4	5.5	32.2	26.7	20
20-24	* 5.0	11.0	16.5	6.7	39.1	31.0	16
25-34	* 1.4	11.6	17.6	10.2	40.7	30.8	26
35-44	* 3.6	* 5.1	11.6	16.1	36.4	65.2	43
45-54	* 0.6	5.7	9.4	15.3	31.1	83.8	45
55-59	* 0.2	* 1.0	* 1.9	5.9	9.0	112.2	52
60-64	* 0.5	* 0.6	* 1.8	* 3.5	6.4	90.3	52
65 and over	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 1.4	* 2.0	* 140.9	* 52
<i>Birthplace and period of arrival —</i>							
Born in Australia	12.5	34.1	57.0	49.8	153.3	51.5	26
Born outside Australia	* 3.7	9.4	15.8	14.7	43.6	52.3	26
Arrived before 1961	* 0.0	* 0.9	* 1.2	* 2.2	* 4.4	* 79.4	* 52
Arrived 1961-1970	* 1.7	* 0.8	* 1.5	* 2.8	6.8	52.4	36
Arrived 1971-1980	* 0.7	* 1.2	* 2.6	* 3.4	7.8	92.9	30
Arrived 1981-1990	* 0.0	* 2.3	5.3	* 5.0	12.5	45.4	31
Arrived 1991 to survey date	* 1.4	* 4.1	5.2	* 1.4	12.1	23.2	15
Born in main English speaking countries	* 1.1	* 2.1	* 4.5	6.4	14.1	68.0	32
Born in other countries	* 2.6	7.2	11.3	8.3	29.5	44.7	26
<i>Educational attainment —</i>							
With post-school qualifications(a)	* 4.0	14.8	22.1	27.2	68.1	66.4	35
Higher degree	* 0.0	* 0.4	* 0.8	* 0.7	* 1.9	* 48.9	* 34
Post-graduate diploma	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 0.7	* 0.9	* 1.9	* 55.4	* 39
Bachelor degree	* 0.9	* 4.8	5.5	* 3.7	14.8	45.7	17
Diploma	* 0.9	* 3.0	* 3.2	6.3	13.4	85.0	36
Vocational qualification	* 2.3	6.2	11.9	15.6	36.0	69.6	43
Without post-school qualifications	9.7	25.3	46.1	35.7	116.8	46.1	26
Completed highest level of secondary school	* 3.8	11.0	21.3	10.0	46.1	33.8	26
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	5.9	14.3	24.8	25.7	70.7	54.0	26
Still at school	* 2.5	* 3.3	* 4.6	* 1.7	12.1	22.6	13
<i>Status in employment —</i>							
Employer	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 0.5	* 43.7	* 45
Own account worker	* 1.1	* 4.0	11.3	9.9	26.3	62.8	36
Contributing family worker	* 0.0	* 1.4	* 1.9	* 1.6	* 4.9	* 35.4	* 26
Employee	15.1	38.0	59.0	53.0	165.2	50.4	26
<i>Total</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>43.5</i>	<i>72.8</i>	<i>64.6</i>	<i>197.0</i>	<i>51.7</i>	<i>26</i>

TABLE 6. DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK—continued

	Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)				Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1-3	4-12	13-51	52 and over			
FEMALES							
	— '000 —				— weeks —		
<i>State or Territory of usual residence —</i>							
New South Wales	6.2	21.0	30.3	41.0	98.5	75.4	35
Victoria	6.6	13.6	28.1	27.3	75.6	58.0	28
Queensland	5.3	9.7	25.2	21.6	61.8	54.7	26
South Australia	* 1.3	7.4	10.0	13.8	32.5	71.7	36
Western Australia	* 3.3	8.6	10.8	10.1	32.8	42.4	22
Tasmania	* 0.5	* 1.5	* 3.2	* 4.9	10.1	77.1	43
Northern Territory	* 0.3	* 0.4	* 0.6	* 0.4	* 1.7	* 31.1	* 13
Australian Capital Territory	* 0.2	* 0.6	* 2.7	* 2.1	5.6	* 50.8	* 40
<i>Age group (years) —</i>							
15-19	* 4.9	10.7	21.2	12.8	49.5	32.6	22
20-24	5.6	12.5	22.4	14.6	55.2	38.6	23
25-34	5.7	14.3	19.8	21.7	61.5	48.1	26
35-44	* 4.6	15.9	27.1	38.7	86.3	78.8	38
45-54	* 1.7	8.6	16.8	25.7	52.7	97.5	48
55-59	* 1.3	* 0.8	* 2.9	* 5.1	10.1	87.1	52
60-64	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 1.7	* 2.3	* 107.1	* 104
65 and over	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.9	* 0.9	* 278.6	* 287
<i>Birthplace and period of arrival —</i>							
Born in Australia	18.2	48.2	92.5	95.4	254.4	62.0	30
Born outside Australia	5.5	14.6	18.2	25.9	64.2	66.2	28
Arrived before 1961	* 0.7	* 2.1	* 2.2	* 2.8	7.7	61.7	28
Arrived 1961-1970	* 1.0	* 1.3	* 2.2	5.3	9.8	113.2	52
Arrived 1971-1980	* 0.6	* 3.1	5.3	5.4	14.4	78.4	26
Arrived 1981-1990	* 2.2	* 4.9	* 4.4	8.9	20.5	52.6	32
Arrived 1991 to survey date	* 0.9	* 3.2	* 4.1	* 3.5	11.8	38.7	26
Born in main English speaking countries	* 1.7	6.3	8.2	9.3	25.4	63.8	28
Born in other countries	* 3.8	8.3	10.0	16.6	38.8	67.8	26
<i>Educational attainment —</i>							
With post-school qualifications(a)	6.6	23.8	42.7	42.2	115.4	66.7	30
Higher degree	* 0.4	* 0.3	* 1.4	* 1.4	* 3.5	* 48.0	* 40
Post-graduate diploma	* 0.0	* 2.1	* 0.6	* 1.1	* 3.8	* 52.8	* 9
Bachelor degree	* 1.4	* 4.0	12.2	8.3	25.9	53.5	35
Diploma	* 1.9	* 4.9	8.1	8.9	23.8	66.4	26
Vocational qualification	* 2.7	12.2	19.9	21.8	56.7	76.0	30
Without post-school qualifications	15.9	36.3	63.5	75.3	191.0	62.6	30
Completed highest level of secondary school	6.2	12.3	24.9	22.8	66.2	54.8	26
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	9.7	24.0	38.6	52.5	124.8	66.7	32
Still at school	* 1.2	* 2.7	* 4.5	* 3.8	12.1	30.5	26
<i>Status in employment —</i>							
Employer	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.2	* 0.9	* 1.7	* 45.5	* 52
Own account worker	* 1.5	* 5.0	7.7	8.9	23.1	70.7	30
Contributing family worker	* 0.4	* 1.0	* 2.3	* 3.1	6.8	50.8	37
Employee	21.8	56.2	100.5	108.4	286.9	62.6	30
<i>Total</i>	23.7	62.8	110.7	121.3	318.5	62.9	30

TABLE 6. DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK—continued

	Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)				Total	Average duration	Median duration
	1-3	4-12	13-51	52 and over			
PERSONS							
	— '000 —					— weeks —	
<i>State or Territory of usual residence —</i>							
New South Wales	9.9	32.6	54.1	61.6	158.2	67.7	34
Victoria	12.5	25.1	46.2	43.2	127.0	56.5	26
Queensland	6.4	19.9	40.0	32.8	99.1	48.0	26
South Australia	* 2.3	10.4	16.3	22.6	51.7	72.7	36
Western Australia	6.2	12.9	16.7	14.4	50.3	40.4	20
Tasmania	* 1.1	* 2.4	5.4	7.4	16.2	71.6	39
Northern Territory	* 0.6	* 0.7	* 1.2	* 0.4	* 2.9	* 23.2	* 13
Australian Capital Territory	* 0.8	* 2.2	* 3.6	* 3.4	10.1	53.1	34
<i>Age group (years) —</i>							
15-19	9.8	19.1	34.6	18.3	81.7	30.3	20
20-24	10.6	23.5	38.9	21.3	94.3	35.5	20
25-34	7.0	26.0	37.4	31.9	102.3	41.2	26
35-44	8.2	21.0	38.7	54.8	122.7	74.8	39
45-54	* 2.3	14.3	26.2	41.0	83.8	92.4	48
55-59	* 1.6	* 1.8	* 4.8	11.0	19.2	98.9	52
60-64	* 0.5	* 0.6	* 2.4	5.2	8.6	94.8	52
65 and over	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 2.3	* 2.9	* 182.1	* 104
<i>Birthplace and period of arrival —</i>							
Born in Australia	30.7	82.3	149.5	145.2	407.7	58.1	26
Born outside Australia	9.2	23.9	34.0	40.6	107.8	60.6	26
Arrived before 1961	* 0.7	* 3.0	* 3.4	* 5.0	12.1	68.1	30
Arrived 1961-1970	* 2.6	* 2.1	* 3.8	8.1	16.6	88.3	48
Arrived 1971-1980	* 1.3	* 4.3	7.9	8.7	22.2	83.5	30
Arrived 1981-1990	* 2.2	7.2	9.6	13.9	33.0	49.9	31
Arrived 1991 to survey date	* 2.3	7.3	9.3	* 4.9	23.9	30.8	21
Born in main English speaking countries	* 2.8	8.4	12.6	15.7	39.5	65.3	30
Born in other countries	6.4	15.5	21.4	25.0	68.3	57.8	26
<i>Educational attainment —</i>							
With post-school qualifications(a)	10.7	38.6	64.8	69.4	183.5	66.6	32
Higher degree	* 0.4	* 0.7	* 2.1	* 2.2	5.4	* 48.3	* 34
Post-graduate diploma	* 0.0	* 2.4	* 1.3	* 2.0	5.7	* 53.7	* 16
Bachelor degree	* 2.3	8.8	17.6	12.0	40.8	50.6	30
Diploma	* 2.8	7.9	11.3	15.2	37.2	73.1	35
Vocational qualification	* 5.0	18.4	31.8	37.4	92.7	73.5	34
Without post-school qualifications	25.6	61.7	109.6	111.0	307.8	56.3	26
Completed highest level of secondary school	10.1	23.3	46.2	32.8	112.3	46.2	26
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	15.5	38.4	63.4	78.2	195.5	62.1	30
Still at school	* 3.7	6.0	9.1	5.4	24.2	26.5	20
<i>Status in employment —</i>							
Employer	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.8	* 0.9	* 2.3	* 45.0	* 45
Own account worker	* 2.6	9.0	19.0	18.8	49.3	66.5	36
Contributing family worker	* 0.4	* 2.4	* 4.2	* 4.7	11.7	44.4	26
Employee	36.9	94.2	159.6	161.4	452.1	58.2	26
Total	39.9	106.3	183.5	185.8	515.5	58.6	26

(a) Includes nursing level unknown.

TABLE 7. LOOKING OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS LAST WEEK
(*000)

	<i>Whether had been looking for work with more hours and whether available to start such work last week</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>Looking or available</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Not looking and not available</i>	
	<i>Looking and available</i>	<i>Looking but not available</i>	<i>Not looking but available</i>			
MALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	14.3	* 0.9	9.1	24.3	8.0	32.2
20-24	23.1	* 3.7	9.2	36.1	* 3.0	39.1
25-34	24.4	* 4.1	* 5.0	33.4	7.3	40.7
35-44	22.9	* 4.6	5.2	32.7	* 3.7	36.4
45-54	19.7	* 2.3	5.4	27.5	* 3.6	31.1
55-59	* 4.0	* 0.6	* 3.1	7.7	* 1.3	9.0
60-64	* 3.0	* 0.2	* 1.8	* 5.0	* 1.4	6.4
65 and over	* 0.9	* 0.0	* 1.2	* 2.0	* 0.0	* 2.0
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	84.3	11.6	32.0	127.9	24.6	152.5
Husband	49.2	7.5	16.1	72.8	11.8	84.6
With dependants present	31.5	* 4.8	8.2	44.5	8.7	53.2
Without dependants present	17.7	* 2.7	7.9	28.3	* 3.1	31.4
Lone parent	* 1.9	* 0.2	* 0.4	* 2.5	* 0.6	* 3.1
With dependants present	* 1.1	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 1.4	* 0.6	* 2.0
Without dependants present	* 0.8	* 0.2	* 0.1	* 1.1	* 0.0	* 1.1
Dependent student	6.6	* 1.1	7.7	15.5	8.0	23.5
Non-dependent child	22.9	* 2.3	7.4	32.6	* 4.2	36.8
Other family person	* 3.6	* 0.5	* 0.4	* 4.5	* 0.0	* 4.5
Non-family member	25.1	* 4.3	7.2	36.6	* 3.5	40.1
Lone person	14.1	* 1.9	* 4.4	20.3	* 1.7	22.0
Not living alone	11.0	* 2.4	* 2.9	16.3	* 1.8	18.1
Not determined	* 2.9	* 0.5	* 0.9	* 4.2	* 0.1	* 4.3
Born in Australia	85.8	12.9	32.1	130.8	22.5	153.3
Born outside Australia	26.4	* 3.6	8.0	37.9	5.7	43.6
Born in main English speaking countries	8.4	* 1.3	* 2.0	11.6	* 2.5	14.1
Born in other countries	18.0	* 2.3	6.0	26.3	* 3.3	29.5
<i>Preferred total number of hours —</i>						
Less than 35	16.6	* 2.3	13.6	32.5	9.3	41.8
More than 35	95.6	14.1	26.5	136.2	19.0	155.2
<i>Preferred number of extra hours —</i>						
Less than 10	14.8	* 3.3	13.6	31.7	11.4	43.1
10-19	32.3	5.8	16.0	54.2	8.7	62.9
20-29	36.8	* 3.5	7.7	48.1	* 4.8	52.9
30 or more	28.3	* 3.7	* 2.7	34.7	* 3.4	38.1
<i>Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change employer	35.3	5.7	8.7	49.6	6.9	56.6
Would prefer not to change employer	44.4	9.3	23.9	77.7	16.4	94.1
No preference	32.5	* 1.4	7.5	41.4	* 4.9	46.3
<i>Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change occupation	46.2	6.4	14.7	67.3	10.6	77.9
Would prefer not to change occupation	29.6	6.0	20.4	56.1	13.5	69.6
No preference	36.4	* 4.0	* 4.9	45.3	* 4.2	49.6
<i>Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)</i>						
1-3	10.0	* 1.3	* 2.1	13.3	* 2.9	16.2
4-12	24.8	* 3.2	9.9	37.9	5.6	43.5
13-51	43.5	5.2	11.6	60.3	12.5	72.8
52 and over	33.8	6.7	16.6	57.1	7.4	64.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>112.2</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>40.1</i>	<i>168.7</i>	<i>28.3</i>	<i>197.0</i>
— weeks —						
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>	49.7	60.4	56.2	52.3	48.2	51.7
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>	26	26	30	26	26	26

TABLE 7. LOOKING OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS LAST WEEK
 ('000)—*continued*

	<i>Whether had been looking for work with more hours and whether available to start such work last week</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>Looking or available</i>			<i>Total</i>	<i>Not looking and not available</i>	
	<i>Looking and available</i>	<i>Looking but not available</i>	<i>Not looking but available</i>			
FEMALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	25.0	* 3.3	15.5	43.9	5.7	49.5
20-24	27.3	5.5	13.7	46.4	8.7	55.2
25-34	26.6	7.8	13.2	47.5	14.0	61.5
35-44	29.1	9.6	27.1	65.8	20.5	86.3
45-54	19.2	5.5	16.4	41.1	11.6	52.7
55-59	* 2.3	* 0.2	* 5.2	7.7	* 2.5	10.1
60-64	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 1.3	* 1.8	* 0.5	* 2.3
65 and over	* 0.2	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.9	* 0.0	* 0.9
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	104.6	25.0	75.9	205.5	55.0	260.5
Wife	48.5	13.4	42.4	104.3	37.7	142.0
With dependants present	33.1	7.9	27.6	68.5	26.7	95.2
Without dependants present	15.5	5.5	14.8	35.8	11.1	46.9
Lone parent	16.5	5.5	13.4	35.4	5.9	41.3
With dependants present	13.8	* 4.8	11.5	30.2	5.5	35.7
Without dependants present	* 2.7	* 0.8	* 1.8	5.2	* 0.4	5.6
Dependent student	10.1	* 2.4	9.0	21.5	* 3.1	24.6
Non-dependent child	24.9	* 3.1	9.3	37.4	8.0	45.4
Other family person	* 4.6	* 0.5	* 1.9	7.0	* 0.2	7.2
Non-family member	22.2	5.4	11.9	39.4	7.6	47.0
Lone person	8.8	* 2.5	* 4.9	16.3	* 4.7	21.0
Not living alone	13.3	* 2.8	6.9	23.1	* 2.9	26.1
Not determined	* 3.4	* 1.6	5.2	10.2	* 0.8	11.0
Born in Australia	101.7	26.9	77.3	205.9	48.4	254.4
Born outside Australia	28.5	* 5.0	15.7	49.2	15.0	64.2
Born in main English speaking countries	11.4	* 2.7	5.8	19.9	5.5	25.4
Born in other countries	17.1	* 2.3	9.9	29.3	9.4	38.8
<i>Preferred total number of hours —</i>						
Less than 35	55.1	14.4	53.7	123.2	29.0	152.1
More than 35	75.1	17.5	39.3	132.0	34.4	166.4
<i>Preferred number of extra hours —</i>						
Less than 10	23.3	10.0	30.5	63.8	21.4	85.2
10-19	59.6	16.5	45.3	121.4	30.1	151.4
20-29	35.8	* 4.6	12.6	53.1	10.0	63.1
30 or more	11.5	* 0.8	* 4.6	16.8	* 2.0	18.8
<i>Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change employer	46.5	11.8	23.0	81.3	12.0	93.3
Would prefer not to change employer	55.4	15.0	54.3	124.8	43.8	168.5
No preference	28.2	* 5.1	15.7	49.0	7.7	56.7
<i>Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change occupation	56.7	15.8	31.0	103.4	18.2	121.7
Would prefer not to change occupation	44.2	11.9	47.3	103.4	35.1	138.5
No preference	29.3	* 4.2	14.7	48.3	10.1	58.4
<i>Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)</i>						
1-3	13.9	* 2.0	* 3.9	19.8	* 3.9	23.7
4-12	26.1	9.0	12.3	47.4	15.5	62.8
13-51	49.1	7.5	34.3	90.8	19.9	110.7
52 and over	41.2	13.4	42.5	97.1	24.1	121.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>130.2</i>	<i>31.9</i>	<i>93.0</i>	<i>255.1</i>	<i>63.4</i>	<i>318.5</i>
			— weeks —			
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>	<i>51.7</i>	<i>67.0</i>	<i>71.6</i>	<i>60.9</i>	<i>70.9</i>	<i>62.9</i>
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>30</i>

TABLE 7. LOOKING OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS LAST WEEK
 ('000)—continued

	Whether had been looking for work with more hours and whether available to start such work last week			Total	Not looking and not available	Total
	Looking or available					
	Looking and available	Looking but not available	Not looking but available			
PERSONS						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	39.3	* 4.2	24.6	68.1	13.6	81.7
20-24	50.4	9.2	22.9	82.6	11.7	94.3
25-34	50.9	11.9	18.1	81.0	21.3	102.3
35-44	52.0	14.1	32.4	98.5	24.2	122.7
45-54	38.9	7.9	21.8	68.6	15.2	83.8
55-59	6.3	* 0.8	8.3	15.4	* 3.8	19.2
60-64	* 3.5	* 0.2	* 3.1	6.8	* 1.9	8.6
65 and over	* 1.1	* 0.0	* 1.8	* 2.9	* 0.0	* 2.9
<i>Relationship in household —</i>						
Family member	188.9	36.6	107.9	333.4	79.6	413.0
Husband or wife	97.8	20.9	58.5	177.1	49.5	226.6
With dependants present	64.6	12.7	35.8	113.0	35.4	148.4
Without dependants present	33.2	8.1	22.7	64.1	14.2	78.2
Lone parent	18.4	5.8	13.7	37.9	6.5	44.4
With dependants present	15.0	* 4.8	11.8	31.6	6.1	37.7
Without dependants present	* 3.4	* 1.0	* 1.9	6.3	* 0.4	6.7
Dependent student	16.7	* 3.5	16.7	37.0	11.2	48.1
Non-dependent child	47.8	5.5	16.7	70.0	12.2	82.2
Other family person	8.2	* 1.0	* 2.3	11.5	* 0.2	11.7
Non-family member	47.2	9.7	19.1	76.0	11.2	87.1
Lone person	22.9	* 4.4	9.3	36.6	6.4	43.0
Not living alone	24.3	5.3	9.8	39.4	* 4.7	44.1
Not determined	6.2	* 2.0	6.1	14.4	* 0.9	15.3
Born in Australia	187.5	39.8	109.4	336.7	71.0	407.7
Born outside Australia	54.9	8.5	23.7	87.1	20.7	107.8
Born in main English speaking countries	19.8	* 4.0	7.7	31.5	8.0	39.5
Born in other countries	35.1	* 4.5	15.9	55.6	12.7	68.3
<i>Preferred total number of hours —</i>						
Less than 35	71.6	16.7	67.3	155.7	38.3	193.9
More than 35	170.8	31.6	65.8	268.2	53.4	321.6
<i>Preferred number of extra hours —</i>						
Less than 10	38.0	13.3	44.2	95.5	32.8	128.3
10-19	91.9	22.3	61.3	175.5	38.8	214.4
20-29	72.6	8.2	20.4	101.2	14.7	115.9
30 or more	39.8	* 4.5	7.3	51.6	5.4	56.9
<i>Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change employer	81.8	17.5	31.7	131.0	18.9	149.9
Would prefer not to change employer	99.9	24.4	78.2	202.4	60.2	262.6
No preference	60.7	6.5	23.2	90.4	12.6	103.0
<i>Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours —</i>						
Would prefer to change occupation	102.9	22.2	45.7	170.7	28.8	199.5
Would prefer not to change occupation	73.8	17.9	67.8	159.5	48.6	208.0
No preference	65.8	8.2	19.7	93.6	14.3	107.9
<i>Duration of current period of insufficient work (weeks)</i>						
1-3	23.8	* 3.3	6.0	33.1	6.8	39.9
4-12	50.9	12.1	22.2	85.3	21.0	106.3
13-51	92.6	12.7	45.8	151.1	32.4	183.5
52 and over	75.0	20.2	59.1	154.3	31.6	185.8
Total	242.4	48.3	133.1	423.8	91.7	515.5
— weeks —						
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>	50.7	64.8	67.0	57.4	63.9	58.6
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>	26	32	38	30	26	26

TABLE 8. PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS

	Preferred number of extra hours				Average preferred number of extra hours	
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	(hours)
MALES						
— '000 —						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	10.3	6.2	7.2	* 3.7	27.4	16.3
20-24	8.5	10.8	13.3	* 5.0	37.7	18.6
25-34	7.0	12.5	10.1	8.9	38.5	19.3
35-44	5.3	12.4	7.7	9.1	34.6	20.5
45-54	* 4.7	9.6	8.6	6.5	29.4	19.9
55-59	* 0.7	* 3.4	* 3.0	* 1.8	8.8	20.7
60-64	* 1.4	* 2.6	* 0.8	* 0.9	5.7	16.7
65 and over	* 0.0	* 1.8	* 0.2	* 0.0	* 2.0	* 16.2
<i>Status in employment —</i>						
Employer	* 0.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.1	* 0.5	* 8.8
Own account worker	* 3.7	6.1	6.5	6.4	22.7	21.9
Contributing family worker	* 0.1	* 1.3	* 0.8	* 2.8	* 4.9	* 27.6
Employee	33.7	52.0	43.6	26.7	156.0	18.3
<i>Usual number of hours worked —</i>						
1-5	* 5.0	* 2.0	* 1.7	12.0	20.8	26.5
6-10	8.2	* 3.4	6.9	20.1	38.6	24.2
11-15	* 3.3	* 4.2	19.8	* 1.7	29.0	21.8
16-20	* 2.1	12.3	21.3	* 1.2	37.0	19.1
21-29	* 4.3	25.1	* 0.5	* 0.9	30.8	13.8
30-34	13.8	12.4	* 0.7	* 0.0	26.8	9.0
35 or more	* 1.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 1.3	* 5.0
<i>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move interstate	5.4	19.2	13.4	12.4	50.3	21.0
Would not move interstate	28.6	31.8	30.0	17.3	107.7	17.7
Might move interstate	* 3.4	5.5	6.8	5.4	21.1	20.9
Don't know	* 0.5	* 2.9	* 0.8	* 0.9	* 5.0	* 18.3
<i>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move intrastate	7.6	20.9	19.6	18.0	66.1	21.7
Would not move intrastate	24.3	26.9	21.0	10.0	82.2	16.4
Might move intrastate	5.5	8.8	9.8	7.0	31.2	20.3
Don't know	* 0.6	* 2.7	* 0.4	* 1.0	* 4.6	* 16.7
<i>Main difficulty in finding work —</i>						
Had been looking for work with more hours	18.1	38.2	40.3	32.0	128.6	21.1
Own ill health or disability	* 0.6	* 1.9	* 1.8	* 0.6	* 5.0	* 19.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	* 2.1	* 4.5	* 4.5	* 2.9	14.0	20.7
Unsuitable hours	* 2.4	* 1.0	* 0.3	* 0.5	* 4.2	* 13.4
Too far to travel/transport problems	* 1.2	* 1.4	* 1.4	* 2.7	6.7	23.7
Lacked necessary skills/education	* 0.9	* 3.5	* 5.0	* 3.4	12.8	22.6
Language difficulties	* 0.6	* 0.4	* 1.4	* 0.5	* 3.0	* 20.0
Insufficient work experience	* 0.8	* 2.6	* 3.9	* 3.1	10.4	23.1
No vacancies in line of work	* 4.1	9.5	7.9	* 4.1	25.7	19.1
Too many applicants for available jobs	* 1.3	* 3.4	* 4.6	* 4.7	14.1	23.3
No vacancies at all	* 1.9	* 4.9	5.9	6.4	19.1	22.9
Difficulties with childcare	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 15.0
Other family responsibilities	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0
Other difficulties	* 0.9	* 3.8	* 2.6	* 2.6	9.9	20.6
No difficulties reported	* 1.2	* 0.9	* 0.8	* 0.5	* 3.4	* 16.9
Had not been looking for work with more hours	19.8	21.2	10.6	* 4.0	55.6	14.0
<i>Total</i>	37.9	59.4	50.9	36.0	184.2	19.0
— weeks —						
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>	47.3	48.9	54.4	50.8	50.4	..
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>	19	26	30	27	26	..

TABLE 8. PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS—continued

	Preferred number of extra hours				Average preferred number of	
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	extra hours
FEMALES						
— '000 —						
(hours)						
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	16.3	18.0	9.1	* 3.8	47.2	14.0
20-24	14.9	24.2	9.5	* 3.1	51.7	14.7
25-34	12.5	27.5	12.1	* 3.8	55.9	15.3
35-44	18.9	38.2	16.3	* 3.7	77.2	14.9
45-54	11.0	24.3	9.6	* 2.9	47.7	14.9
55-59	* 2.4	6.0	* 0.8	* 0.0	9.3	11.9
60-64	* 1.1	* 0.7	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 2.3	* 13.8
65 and over	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.2	* 0.0	* 0.9	* 13.1
<i>Status in employment —</i>						
Employer	* 0.4	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 0.2	* 1.1	* 13.2
Own account worker	* 4.1	10.8	* 4.2	* 1.9	21.0	15.3
Contributing family worker	* 0.4	* 3.1	* 1.0	* 0.7	* 5.2	* 18.2
Employee	72.2	125.2	52.9	14.5	264.8	14.6
<i>Usual number of hours worked —</i>						
1-5	12.9	14.7	6.7	9.9	44.2	17.6
6-10	12.2	24.3	11.5	7.2	55.1	16.2
11-15	8.8	19.7	24.9	* 0.2	53.6	17.2
16-20	10.3	31.5	14.4	* 0.0	56.2	14.9
21-29	16.1	41.0	* 0.2	* 0.0	57.3	11.6
30-34	16.4	8.0	* 0.5	* 0.0	24.9	7.9
35 or more	* 0.5	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.8	* 6.4
<i>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move interstate	9.8	21.6	12.4	* 3.1	47.0	16.1
Would not move interstate	62.4	108.9	40.8	9.9	222.0	14.1
Might move interstate	* 4.5	6.3	* 3.1	* 3.1	17.0	17.2
Don't know	* 0.4	* 2.8	* 1.8	* 1.1	6.2	19.7
<i>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move intrastate	15.6	33.6	18.0	6.3	73.5	16.3
Would not move intrastate	57.1	94.1	32.0	7.5	190.7	13.7
Might move intrastate	* 4.5	10.0	7.9	* 2.1	24.5	17.0
Don't know	* 0.0	* 1.9	* 0.2	* 1.3	* 3.4	* 21.8
<i>Main difficulty in finding work —</i>						
Had been looking for work with more hours	33.3	76.1	40.5	12.3	162.1	16.1
Own ill health or disability	* 0.4	* 0.6	* 0.7	* 0.0	* 1.7	* 17.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	* 1.3	7.1	* 4.7	* 1.7	14.9	18.2
Unsuitable hours	6.1	5.4	* 2.1	* 0.3	13.9	11.9
Too far to travel/transport problems	* 1.7	* 3.5	* 2.0	* 0.9	8.1	17.0
Lacked necessary skills/education	* 2.8	6.0	* 5.1	* 2.0	15.9	18.4
Language difficulties	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.5	* 1.1	* 27.4
Insufficient work experience	* 1.4	* 3.2	* 1.9	* 0.4	6.9	15.9
No vacancies in line of work	* 4.3	18.5	9.3	* 1.9	34.0	16.6
Too many applicants for available jobs	* 3.6	9.1	* 2.8	* 1.6	17.1	15.1
No vacancies at all	* 2.2	10.1	7.0	* 2.5	21.7	18.8
Difficulties with childcare	* 1.1	* 2.4	* 0.2	* 0.0	* 3.7	* 12.1
Other family responsibilities	* 0.5	* 1.2	* 0.8	* 0.0	* 2.5	* 17.0
Other difficulties	* 4.8	5.4	* 3.3	* 0.3	13.7	13.1
No difficulties reported	* 3.0	* 3.6	* 0.0	* 0.2	6.8	11.7
Had not been looking for work with more hours	43.9	63.5	17.7	* 4.9	130.0	13.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>77.1</i>	<i>139.6</i>	<i>58.1</i>	<i>17.2</i>	<i>292.1</i>	<i>14.7</i>
— weeks —						
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>	55.8	54.8	63.5	85.5	59.1	..
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>	26	26	37	28	26	..

TABLE 8. PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS—continued

	Preferred number of extra hours				Average preferred number of	
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	extra hours
	PERSONS					
	— '000 —				(hours)	
<i>Age group (years) —</i>						
15-19	26.6	24.2	16.3	7.5	74.6	14.9
20-24	23.5	35.1	22.8	8.1	89.4	16.4
25-34	19.5	40.0	22.2	12.7	94.4	16.9
35-44	24.2	50.6	24.0	12.9	111.8	16.7
45-54	15.7	33.9	18.1	9.4	77.1	16.8
55-59	* 3.1	9.4	* 3.8	* 1.8	18.1	16.2
60-64	* 2.5	* 3.3	* 1.3	* 0.9	8.0	15.9
65 and over	* 0.0	* 2.5	* 0.4	* 0.0	* 2.9	* 15.3
<i>Status in employment —</i>						
Employer	* 0.9	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 0.3	* 1.7	* 11.7
Own account worker	7.8	16.9	10.7	8.3	43.7	18.7
Contributing family worker	* 0.5	* 4.3	* 1.8	* 3.5	10.1	22.8
Employee	105.9	177.2	96.5	41.2	420.8	16.0
<i>Usual number of hours worked —</i>						
1-5	18.0	16.7	8.4	21.9	65.0	20.4
6-10	20.3	27.7	18.4	27.3	93.7	19.5
11-15	12.0	23.9	44.6	* 1.9	82.5	18.8
16-20	12.4	43.8	35.7	* 1.2	93.2	16.6
21-29	20.4	66.1	* 0.7	* 0.9	88.0	12.4
30-34	30.1	20.4	* 1.2	* 0.0	51.7	8.5
35 or more	* 1.8	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 2.1	* 5.5
<i>Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move interstate	15.2	40.8	25.8	15.5	97.3	18.7
Would not move interstate	91.0	140.7	70.8	27.2	329.7	15.3
Might move interstate	7.9	11.7	9.9	8.5	38.0	19.3
Don't know	* 0.9	5.7	* 2.6	* 2.0	11.2	19.1
<i>Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job —</i>						
Would move intrastate	23.2	54.5	37.6	24.3	139.6	18.9
Would not move intrastate	81.3	121.0	53.1	17.5	273.0	14.5
Might move intrastate	10.0	18.9	17.7	9.1	55.7	18.8
Don't know	* 0.6	* 4.6	* 0.6	* 2.3	8.1	18.8
<i>Main difficulty in finding work —</i>						
Had been looking for work with more hours	51.4	114.2	80.8	44.3	290.7	18.3
Own ill health or disability	* 1.1	* 2.5	* 2.5	* 0.6	6.7	18.8
Considered too young or too old by employers	* 3.4	11.7	9.2	* 4.6	28.9	19.4
Unsuitable hours	8.5	6.3	* 2.5	* 0.8	18.2	12.2
Too far to travel/transport problems	* 2.8	* 4.8	* 3.4	* 3.7	14.7	20.0
Lacked necessary skills/education	* 3.7	9.5	10.1	5.3	28.7	20.3
Language difficulties	* 0.6	* 0.4	* 2.0	* 1.0	* 4.0	* 22.0
Insufficient work experience	* 2.2	5.8	5.9	* 3.4	17.4	20.2
No vacancies in line of work	8.4	28.1	17.2	6.1	59.7	17.7
Too many applicants for available jobs	* 5.0	12.5	7.5	6.2	31.2	18.8
No vacancies at all	* 4.0	15.1	12.9	8.9	40.8	20.7
Difficulties with childcare	* 1.1	* 2.7	* 0.2	* 0.0	* 4.0	* 12.3
Other family responsibilities	* 0.5	* 1.2	* 0.8	* 0.0	* 2.5	* 17.0
Other difficulties	5.7	9.2	5.8	* 2.9	23.7	16.3
No difficulties reported	* 4.2	* 4.4	* 0.8	* 0.7	10.2	13.4
Had not been looking for work with more hours	63.7	84.8	28.2	9.0	185.6	13.3
Total	115.0	199.0	109.0	53.2	476.3	16.4
<i>Average duration of insufficient work</i>						
	52.7	52.6	59.2	63.3	55.4	..
<i>Median duration of insufficient work</i>						
	26	26	33	27	26	..

TABLE 9. TOTAL NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS PREFERRED
(*000 hours per week)

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
<i>State or Territory of usual residence —</i>			
New South Wales	1,033.8	1,351.4	2,385.1
Victoria	885.3	901.6	1,786.9
Queensland	675.9	876.3	1,552.2
South Australia	369.7	446.6	816.3
Western Australia	300.0	484.6	784.6
Tasmania	134.9	149.7	284.6
Northern Territory	25.4	22.1	47.6
Australian Capital Territory	69.6	64.3	133.9
<i>Age group (years) —</i>			
15-19	448.5	661.2	1,109.7
20-24	700.1	762.3	1,462.4
25-34	742.0	854.2	1,596.2
35-44	709.3	1,153.1	1,862.5
45-54	583.2	712.5	1,295.7
55-59	183.1	110.2	293.2
60-64	95.6	31.6	127.2
65 and over	32.9	11.4	44.3
<i>Status in employment —</i>			
Employer	4.8	14.9	19.7
Own account worker	496.6	321.5	818.1
Contributing family worker	136.0	94.0	230.0
Employee	2,857.3	3,866.2	6,723.5
<i>Educational attainment —</i>			
With post-school qualifications(a)	1,213.9	1,550.5	2,764.3
Higher degree	19.3	38.5	57.8
Post-graduate diploma	32.6	71.7	104.3
Bachelor degree	249.8	302.5	552.3
Diploma	219.6	291.9	511.5
Vocational qualification	692.6	817.9	1,510.5
Without post-school qualifications	2,192.5	2,624.0	4,816.5
Completed highest level of secondary school	762.7	823.3	1,586.0
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	1,429.8	1,800.7	3,230.5
Still at school	88.3	122.1	210.4
Total	3,494.6	4,296.6	7,791.2

(a) Includes nursing level unknown.

TABLE 10. ALL STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK IN THE LAST FOUR WEEKS

<i>All steps taken to find work in the last four weeks</i>	<i>Preferred number of extra hours</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Average preferred number of extra hours</i>
	<i>Less than 10</i>	<i>10-19</i>	<i>20-29</i>	<i>30 or more</i>		
MALES						
			— '000 —			(hours)
Registered with CES	7.8	16.7	24.0	23.4	71.7	23.2
Contacted prospective employers	14.3	31.9	35.3	29.6	111.0	21.6
Checked factory or CES noticeboards	* 2.4	10.2	13.6	11.6	37.9	23.3
Checked or registered with any other employment agency	* 2.8	* 2.9	* 2.8	* 2.7	11.2	21.0
Looked in newspapers	11.4	22.0	27.8	21.3	82.5	21.7
Answered a newspaper ad for a job	* 5.1	8.8	14.5	9.4	37.8	22.0
Advertised or tendered for work	* 1.1	* 3.9	6.1	* 2.7	13.7	21.3
Contacted friends or relations	7.0	15.7	16.2	12.5	51.4	21.0
Other steps	* 2.4	* 3.9	5.6	* 4.1	16.0	21.4
Had not been looking for work with more hours	19.8	21.2	10.6	* 4.0	55.6	14.0
FEMALES						
			— '000 —			(hours)
Registered with CES	5.5	27.0	17.8	7.2	57.6	18.8
Contacted prospective employers	23.7	57.7	32.3	11.4	125.1	16.6
Checked factory or CES noticeboards	* 1.3	12.4	11.9	* 4.4	30.0	20.4
Checked or registered with any other employment agency	* 3.4	* 4.6	* 2.6	* 0.0	10.6	13.1
Looked in newspapers	16.9	53.1	28.9	9.1	107.9	16.8
Answered a newspaper ad for a job	7.7	20.2	10.5	* 4.8	43.3	16.8
Advertised or tendered for work	* 2.3	* 3.3	* 2.9	* 0.6	9.1	16.4
Contacted friends or relations	10.9	20.3	14.0	* 5.1	50.3	16.5
Other steps	* 4.8	5.9	* 4.1	* 0.4	15.2	14.8
Had not been looking for work with more hours	43.9	63.5	17.7	* 4.9	130.0	13.0
PERSONS						
			— '000 —			(hours)
Registered with CES	13.3	43.7	41.8	30.6	129.3	21.3
Contacted prospective employers	38.0	89.6	67.6	41.0	236.2	18.9
Checked factory or CES noticeboards	* 3.8	22.6	25.5	16.0	67.9	22.0
Checked or registered with any other employment agency	6.2	7.5	5.4	* 2.7	21.8	17.2
Looked in newspapers	28.2	75.0	56.7	30.4	190.4	18.9
Answered a newspaper ad for a job	12.9	29.0	25.0	14.2	81.1	19.3
Advertised or tendered for work	* 3.4	7.2	8.9	* 3.2	22.8	19.3
Contacted friends or relations	17.9	36.0	30.1	17.6	101.6	18.8
Other steps	7.2	9.7	9.7	* 4.5	31.2	18.2
Had not been looking for work with more hours	63.7	84.8	28.2	9.0	185.6	13.3

**TABLE 11. POPULATIONS BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE
(’000)**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
MALES									
<i>Population 1:</i> Persons aged 15 years and over	2,426.5	1,784.2	1,307.8	582.5	697.0	181.8	64.9	115.5	7,160.2
<i>Population 2:</i> Employed persons	1,610.8	1,188.9	874.2	375.2	496.9	112.5	45.3	85.7	4,789.4
<i>Population 3:</i> Fully employed workers	1,538.3	1,132.1	829.0	354.3	476.1	104.8	44.0	80.8	4,559.3
<i>Population 4:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours	59.7	51.4	37.4	19.2	17.5	6.1	* 1.2	4.4	197.0
<i>Population 5:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours who had been looking for or were available to start work with more hours	54.4	49.4	35.3	18.6	15.4	6.0	* 1.1	4.1	184.2
FEMALES									
<i>Population 1:</i> Persons aged 15 years and over	2,517.7	1,862.9	1,339.6	603.3	706.6	188.0	64.1	119.3	7,401.5
<i>Population 2:</i> Employed persons	1,226.0	932.9	684.0	289.9	373.3	79.2	38.6	72.6	3,696.5
<i>Population 3:</i> Fully employed workers	1,127.0	855.5	620.9	256.7	340.2	69.0	37.0	66.9	3,373.2
<i>Population 4:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours	98.5	75.6	61.8	32.5	32.8	10.1	1.7	5.6	318.5
<i>Population 5:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours who had been looking for or were available to start work with more hours	90.5	66.9	57.9	29.9	31.1	9.4	1.6	4.8	292.1
PERSONS									
<i>Population 1:</i> Persons aged 15 years and over	4,944.2	3,647.1	2,647.4	1,185.9	1,403.6	369.8	129.0	234.8	14,561.8
<i>Population 2:</i> Employed persons	2,836.8	2,121.8	1,558.2	665.0	870.1	191.7	84.0	158.3	8,485.9
<i>Population 3:</i> Fully employed workers	2,665.3	1,987.6	1,449.9	611.0	816.3	173.8	80.9	147.7	7,932.5
<i>Population 4:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours	158.2	127.0	99.1	51.7	50.3	16.2	2.9	10.1	515.5
<i>Population 5:</i> Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours who had been looking for or were available to start work with more hours	144.9	116.3	93.2	48.4	46.5	15.4	2.7	8.9	476.3

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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

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

SCOPE

3 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for the handicapped), and inmates of prisons are further excluded from all supplementary surveys.

4 Also out of scope were some 47,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia. The exclusion of these persons has only a minor impact on aggregate estimates for individual States and Territories.

5 This survey was restricted to persons who worked less than 35 hours in the week prior to the survey week, who would have preferred more hours.

COVERAGE

6 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in September 1997. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection. See *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0).

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 further information on sampling error, refer to 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	<p>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.</p>
CHANGES IN CLASSIFICATIONS	<p>9 From August 1996, occupation data are classified according to <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations</i>, Second Edition 1997 (Cat. no. 1220.0).</p>
COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES	<p>10 Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1994 to take account of the results of the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted after February 1994 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.</p> <p>11 Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Apart from the scope exclusions listed on the previous page, since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. For this survey the sample was restricted to seven-eighths. This reduction in sample size means that the standard errors for this survey differ from those applicable to previous surveys.</p> <p>12 Since September 1994, underemployed workers who usually work part-time and were available to start work within four weeks have been asked whether they were also available to start work last week. This question was added to the survey so that estimates of underemployment could be more closely aligned with ILO recommendations on underemployment.</p>
COMPARABILITY WITH LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STATISTICS	<p>13 Estimates as at September 1997 of employed and unemployed persons, and those not in the labour force, also appear in the September 1996 issue of <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0). Estimates of the total number of underemployed workers may be derived from data published in 6203.0:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ part-time workers who preferred to work more hours; and ■ full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours for economic reasons, i.e. stood down, on short time or insufficient work. <p>14 Estimates of underemployed workers who usually work full-time or part-time from this survey are not comparable with those from the LFS (published in 6203.0). This is due to differences in stratification necessary in weighting procedures.</p>

COMPARABILITY WITH ILO
DEFINITION

15 According to the ILO, underemployment exists when a person's employment is inadequate, in relation to specified norms or alternative employment. Underemployment can be considered in two forms:

- visible underemployment, reflecting an insufficient volume of work (i.e. the hours worked); and
- invisible underemployment, reflecting an insufficient use of skills and experience or low productivity.

16 The ILO recommends that statistical measurement be limited to visible underemployment, given the serious conceptual difficulties associated with measuring invisible underemployment. The ILO identifies persons visibly underemployed on the basis of three criteria:

- working less than normal duration;
- doing so on an involuntary basis; and
- seeking or being available for additional work during the reference period.

17 This survey is very closely aligned with this definition of visible underemployment. The ABS underemployment framework firstly identifies all persons working less than 35 hours last week who would have preferred more hours as underemployed. Search and availability criteria are then applied in relation to whether persons had looked for work with more hours during the last four weeks, were available to start work with more hours in the next four weeks, or were available to start work with more hours last week. Visible underemployment as strictly defined by the ILO can be calculated by adding those who had been looking for work with more hours to those who had not been looking but who had been available to start work with more hours last week.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

18 Underemployed Workers was collected every three years in May between 1985 and 1991. In 1994, the survey became an annual survey, collected in September. Results of previous surveys have been published in:

- *Underemployed Workers, Australia, May 1985, May 1988, May 1991, September 1996* (Cat. no. 6265.0)
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia, September 1994, September 1995* (Cat. no. 6265.0.40.001)

NEXT SURVEY

19 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 1998.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

20 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued co-operation 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 strictest confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

21 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (Cat. no. 6222.0)
- *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)
- *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6206.0)
- *Labour Mobility, Australia* (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6245.0)
- *Working Arrangements, Australia* (Cat. no. 6342.0)

22 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (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 ITEM LIST

POPULATIONS

POPULATION	1	Persons aged 15 years and over.
POPULATION	2	Employed persons.
POPULATION	3	Fully employed persons.
POPULATION	4	Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours.
POPULATION	5	Employed persons who usually work part-time and want more hours who had been looking for or were available to start work with more hours.

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
1 STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	6B RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (2)	ALL
New South Wales		Family member	
Victoria		Husband or wife	
Queensland		With children under 15	
South Australia		Without children under 15	
Western Australia		Lone parent	
Tasmania		With children under 15	
Northern Territory		With dependent students but without children under 15	
Australian Capital Territory		Without dependants present	
		Dependent student	
2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Non-dependent child	
Capital City		Other family person	
Balance of State/Territory		Non-family member	
		Lone person	
3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE	ALL	Not living alone	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Not determined	
4 SEX	ALL	7A BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL	ALL
Males		Born in Australia	
Females		Born outside Australia	
		Arrived before 1961	
5 MARITAL STATUS	ALL	Arrived 1961–1970	
Married		Arrived 1971–1980	
Not married		Arrived 1981–1990	
		Arrived 1991 to survey date	
6A RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (1)	ALL	7B BIRTHPLACE (1)	ALL
Family member		Born in Australia	
Husband or wife		Born outside Australia	
With dependants present		Born in main English-speaking countries	
Without dependants present		Born in other countries	
Lone parent			
With dependants present			
Without dependants present			
Dependent student			
Non-dependent child			
Other family person			
Non-family member			
Lone person			
Not living alone			
Not determined			

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
7C BIRTHPLACE (2)	ALL
Born in Australia	
Born outside Australia	
The Middle East and North Africa	
Africa (excluding North Africa)	
Northern America	
South America, Central America and the Caribbean	
Northeast Asia	
Southeast Asia	
Southern Asia	
Europe and the former USSR	
Former Yugoslav Republics	
Germany	
Greece	
Italy	
Netherlands	
United Kingdom and Ireland	
Oceania and Antarctica	
New Zealand	
Note: Available at individual country level according to Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics.	
8 AGE	ALL
15–19 years	
20–24 years	
25–34 years	
35–44 years	
45–54 years	
55–59 years	
60–64	
65 years and over	
9 FULLY EMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORK STATUS (1)	1–2
Employed persons	
Fully employed workers	
Full-time workers	
Part-time workers	
Usually work full-time but worked part-time	
Usually work part-time and want more hours	
9A USUALLY WORK PART-TIME AND WANT MORE HOURS (2)	1–2
Had been looking for work with more hours –	
Were available to start –	
Last week	
Not last week but within four weeks	
Were not available to start	
Had not been looking for work with more hours –	
Were available to start –	
Last week	
Not last week but within four weeks	
Were not available to start	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
10 FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME WORKERS	2
Part-time workers	
Full-time workers	
11 WHETHER FULLY EMPLOYED OR WORKED PART-TIME AND WANT MORE HOURS	2
Fully employed	
Usually work part-time and want more hours	
12 STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT	2–5
Employer	
Own account worker	
Contributing family worker	
Employee	
13 NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED IN THE REFERENCE WEEK	2–5
1–5	
6–10	
11–15	
16–20	
21–29	
30–34	
35 hours or more	
14 TYPE OF INSUFFICIENT WORK	4
Part-time	
Full-time	
15 DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK	4–5
1–3 weeks	
4–12 weeks	
13–51 weeks	
52 weeks and over	
16 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	4–5
With post-school qualifications	
Higher degree	
Post-graduate diploma	
Bachelor degree	
Diploma	
Vocational qualification	
Nursing level unknown	
Without post-school qualifications	
Completed highest level of secondary school	
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	
Left aged 13 years or less	
Left 14 years or less	
Left 15 years or less	
Left 16 years or less	
Left 17 years or less	
Left 18 years and over	
Never attended school	
Still at school	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
17 WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTERSTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	4-5
Would move interstate	
Would not move interstate	
Might move interstate	
Don't know	
18 WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB	4-5
Would move intrastate	
Would not move intrastate	
Might move intrastate	
Don't know	
19 WHETHER WOULD PREFER TO CHANGE OCCUPATION TO WORK MORE HOURS	4-5
Would prefer to change occupation	
Would prefer not to change occupation	
No preference	
20 WHETHER WOULD PREFER TO CHANGE EMPLOYER TO WORK MORE HOURS	4-5
Would prefer to change employer	
Would prefer not to change employer	
No preference	
21 PART-TIME UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATUS	4
Had been looking for work with more hours —	
And were available to start last week	
And were available to start within four weeks	
But were not available to start within four weeks	
Had not been looking for work with more hours —	
But were available to start last week	
But were available to start within four weeks	
And were not available to start within four weeks	
22 ALL STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK IN THE LAST FOUR WEEKS	4-5
Wrote, telephoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	
Checked factory or CES noticeboards	
Been registered with the CES	
Checked or registered with any other employment agency	
Advertised or tendered for work	
Contacted friends or relations	
Looked in newspapers	
Other steps	
Had not been looking for work with more hours	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
23 WHETHER REGISTERED WITH CES	4-5
Registered with the CES	
Not registered with the CES	
Had not been looking for work with more hours	
24 PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS	4-5
Less than 10	
10-19	
20-29	
30 or more	
25 MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK	4
Had been looking for work with more hours	
Own ill health or disability	
Considered too young or too old by employers	
Unsuitable hours	
Too far to travel/transport problems	
Lacked necessary skills or education	
Language difficulties	
Insufficient work experience	
No vacancies in line of work	
Too many applicants for available jobs	
No vacancies at all	
Difficulties with ethnic background	
Difficulties with childcare	
Other family responsibilities	
Other difficulties	
No difficulties reported	
Had not been looking for work with more hours	
26 USUAL NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED	4
1-5	
6-10	
11-15	
16-20	
21-29	
30-34	
35 hours or more	
27 PREFERRED TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS	4
Less than 30	
30-34	
35-39	
40 and over	

TECHNICAL NOTES

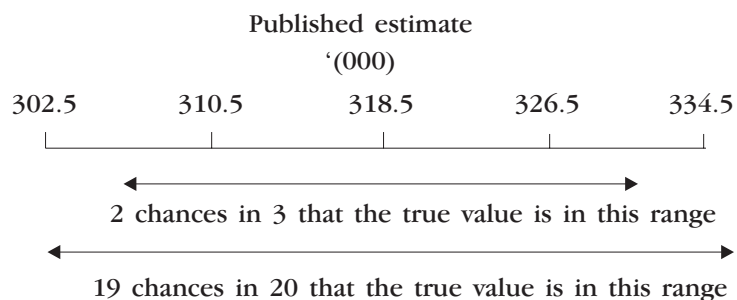
INTRODUCTION

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 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 averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics these numbers will not give a precise measure of the 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 SE in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 2 shows the estimated total number of female workers who usually work part-time and want more hours was 318,500. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000 table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 7,850 and 9,650 and can be approximated by interpolation as 8,000 (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 310,500 to 326,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 302,500 to 334,500. 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 these tables, 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 SE's and should be used with caution.

AVERAGES AND MEDIANS

5 The RSEs of estimates of *average duration of insufficient work*, *median duration of insufficient work* and *average preferred number of extra hours* are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the estimate (see table T1) and then multiplying the figure so obtained by the following relevant factors:

- average duration of insufficient work: 1.8;
- median duration of insufficient work: 2.1; and
- average preferred number of extra hours: 1.0.

6 The following is an example of the calculation of SE's where the use of a factor is required. Table 2 shows the estimated total number of male workers who usually work part-time and want more hours was 197,000 with a median duration of insufficient work of 26 weeks. The SE can be approximated by interpolation as 6,500 which is 3.3% as a RSE. The factor of 2.1 (see paragraph 5) is applied to the RSE of 3.3% to obtain 6.9%. Therefore the SE for the median duration of insufficient work is 6.9% of 26 weeks, i.e. about 2 (rounded to the nearest whole week). So there are two chances in three that the median duration of insufficient work is between 24 and 28 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it is between 22 and 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:

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

8 Considering the example from paragraph 3, table 2 shows that of the 318,500 female underemployed workers, 121,300 or 38.1% had had insufficient work for more than a year. The SE of 121,300 is approximately 5,300 so the RSE is 4.4%. The RSE for 318,500 is 2.5%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $\sqrt{(4.4)^2 - (2.5)^2}$ or 3.6%, giving a SE for the proportion (38.1%) of 1.4 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of underemployed part-time females who had had insufficient work for more than a year was between 36.7% and 39.5% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 35.3% to 40.9%.

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 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the SE, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

12 SE's contained in table T1 are applicable to all estimates from this survey. The levels at which averages and medians 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.	RSE
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	..	..	..	130	..	90	130	90	..	..
200	..	..	230	190	210	140	180	120	200	110.0
300	340	310	280	240	260	170	210	150	260	86.7
500	450	410	360	310	340	220	270	190	340	68.0
700	530	480	430	360	400	260	310	220	420	60.0
1,000	630	580	520	430	470	310	360	260	510	51.0
1,500	770	710	630	520	570	370	440	310	630	42.0
2,000	890	820	720	600	650	420	500	350	740	37.0
2,500	1,000	900	800	650	700	450	550	400	850	34.0
3,000	1,100	1,000	900	700	800	500	600	400	900	30.0
3,500	1,150	1,100	950	750	850	550	650	450	1,000	28.6
4,000	1,250	1,150	1,000	800	900	550	700	450	1,050	26.3
5,000	1,400	1,300	1,100	900	1,000	600	750	500	1,200	24.0
7,000	1,600	1,500	1,300	1,050	1,150	700	900	600	1,400	20.0
10,000	1,900	1,750	1,500	1,250	1,350	800	1,050	700	1,700	17.0
15,000	2,250	2,100	1,800	1,450	1,600	950	1,250	800	2,050	13.7
20,000	2,600	2,400	2,050	1,650	1,800	1,000	1,450	900	2,350	11.8
30,000	3,050	2,850	2,450	1,950	2,100	1,150	1,750	1,050	2,850	9.5
40,000	3,450	3,250	2,750	2,200	2,350	1,250	2,000	1,200	3,250	8.1
50,000	3,800	3,550	3,050	2,400	2,600	1,350	2,200	1,300	3,600	7.2
100,000	5,050	4,700	4,050	3,100	3,400	1,650	3,050	1,650	4,900	4.9
150,000	5,950	5,550	4,750	3,650	4,000	1,800	3,700	1,900	5,850	3.9
200,000	6,650	6,200	5,300	4,050	4,450	1,950	4,250	2,100	6,600	3.3
300,000	7,750	7,200	6,150	4,650	5,200	2,100	..	2,400	7,850	2.6
500,000	9,400	8,700	7,450	5,550	6,250	2,350	..	..	9,650	1.9
1,000,000	12,050	11,100	9,550	7,050	7,950	..	..	..	12,600	1.3
2,000,000	15,300	14,050	12,150	8,800	10,050	..	..	..	16,300	0.8
5,000,000	20,600	18,800	16,400	..	..	..	..	..	22,500	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,300	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 insufficient work	17,500	15,400	11,800	8,000	9,300	4,100	5,800	3,000	14,600
Median duration of insufficient work	23,000	20,300	15,500	10,500	12,100	5,300	5,800	4,000	19,700
Average preferred number of extra hours	6,000	5,200	4,000	2,800	3,200	1,500	2,000	1,100	4,500
All other estimates	6,000	5,200	4,000	2,800	3,200	1,500	2,000	1,100	4,500

GLOSSARY

Average duration of insufficient work	The average duration of insufficient work is obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has had insufficient work by the number of persons in that group.
Average preferred number of extra hours	The average preferred number of extra hours is obtained by dividing the total preferred number of extra hours reported by a group by the number of persons in that group.
CES	The Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) is a referral service for jobseekers and employers, which also attempts to redress skill shortages through labour market programs.
Duration of insufficient work	The duration of insufficient work is the length of time underemployed workers have been working less than 35 hours a week. As periods of insufficient work are recorded in full weeks this results in a slight understatement of duration.
Employed persons	Employed persons are all persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference period: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were on paid leave, on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week, stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week, on strike or locked out, on worker's compensation and expected to be returning to their job, or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or■ were employers, own account workers or contributing family workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Full-time workers	Full-time workers are employed persons who worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Fully employed workers	<p>Fully employed person are employed persons who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ worked part-time hours in the reference week and did not prefer to work more hours; or ■ usually work part-time and prefer to work more hours, but worked full-time hours in the reference week; or ■ usually work full-time and worked full-time hours in the reference week; or ■ usually work full-time, but did not work full-time hours in the reference week for non-economic reasons.
Looking for work with more hours	<p>Looking for work with more hours at some time during the four weeks up to the end of the reference week.</p>
Main English speaking countries	<p>The main English-speaking countries are the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.</p>
Median duration of insufficient work	<p>The median duration of insufficient work is obtained by dividing underemployed workers into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose duration of insufficient work is above the median and the other, persons whose duration is below it.</p>
Part-time workers	<p>Employed persons who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the reference week.</p>
Preferred number of extra hours	<p>The number of extra hours a week an underemployed worker would have preferred to work.</p>
Relationship in household	<p>Two or more related persons (relationship includes relationships by blood, marriage or adoption) usually resident in the same household at the time of the survey. A family comprises a married couple or a family head as defined, together with any persons having any of the following relationships to them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ sons or daughters of any age, if not married and with no children of their own present; ■ other relatives if not accompanied by a spouse, sons or daughters, or parents of their own; or ■ any children under 15 years of age who do not have a parent present.
Status in employment	<p>Employed persons classified by whether they were employers, own account workers, employees, or contributing family workers.</p>
Underemployed workers	<p>Underemployed workers are employed persons who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ worked part-time hours in the reference week and preferred to work more hours; or ■ usually work full-time, but did not work full-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons.

Usually work full-time This group includes full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for economic reasons (being stood down, short time or insufficient work). They are assumed to have been available to work extra hours in the reference week and no job search criterion is applied.

Usually work part-time Persons who worked part-time and wanted more part-time hours and persons who worked part-time and wanted to work full-time hours are included in this group. They are classified into whether they were looking for work with more hours or were available to start any work with more hours.

Usual number of hours The number of hours usually worked in a week.

We've got the answers ... we just can't fit them all into this publication!

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

The good news is that the information is available. In fact, we have volumes of detailed information that cannot be placed into the publications but can provide you with more information on the area of interest to you.

Meeting your needs with a customised approach

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

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

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

Tailored to your specifications

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

Take a look at the list of populations and data items in the previous pages. This contains a comprehensive list of the variables available that you may be interested in for this supplementary survey. These data items can be cross-classified for your exact requirements, offering you the best cost effective solution. The cost will depend on what you have selected and their degree of detail. Payment for this information may be made by credit card or by invoice.

Other ABS information is also available

Contact Tim Wardrop on Canberra (02) 6252 7204 to talk about any inquiries you may have about the information from this survey or to order your special data requirements.

For information about a wider range of ABS data, see contact details on the back of the cover.

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The supplementary and special surveys collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is a historical list of supplementary and special labour force surveys. The data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. It may be possible to order unpublished data on the following supplementary and special surveys by contacting the ABS.

TITLE	CATALOGUE NUMBER
■ Career Experience. Irregular. Latest issue November 1996	6254.0
■ Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications. Irregular. Latest issue 1993	6243.0
■ Child Care. Irregular. Latest issue March 1996	4402.0
■ Employment Benefits. Discontinued. Latest issue August 1994	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	6235.0
■ Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families. Annual. Latest issue June 1997	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 1996	6272.0
■ Persons Employed at Home. Irregular. Latest issue September 1995	6275.0
■ Persons Not in the Labour Force. Annual. Latest issue September 1998	6220.0
■ Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force. Discontinued. Latest issue July 1995	6264.0.40.001
■ Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force. Discontinued. Latest issue September 1994	6267.0.40.001
■ Retirement and Retirement Intentions. Irregular. Latest issue November 1997	6238.0
■ Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 1998	6245.0
■ Superannuation. Irregular. Latest issue November 1995	6319.0
■ Trade Union Members. Two-yearly. Latest issue August 1996	6325.0
■ Training and Education Experience. Irregular. Latest issue 1993	6278.0
■ Transition from Education to Work. Annual. Irregular. Latest issue May 1996	6227.0
■ Underemployed Workers. Annual. Latest issue September 1997	6265.0
■ Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution). Annual. Latest issue August 1998	6310.0
■	6342.0
■ Working Arrangements. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997	

FORTHCOMING SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Topic	Survey month	Release
Career Experience	November 1998	1999
Labour Force Experience	February 1999	1999
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons	July 1999	December 1999
Persons Employed at Home	July 1999	2000

INQUIRIES

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PERTH	(08) 9360 5943	CANBERRA	(02) 6207 0283