

**UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS**

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Annette Milnes on Canberra 02 6252 7240.

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about underemployed workers. The number of underemployed workers is an important component of underutilised labour resources in the economy, along with the number of unemployed and some persons with marginal attachment to the labour force. A range of information is presented on underemployed workers including the number of hours usually worked, number of preferred hours, steps taken to find work with more hours, and difficulties finding work with more hours.

## ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Underemployed Workers Survey conducted throughout Australia in September 2001 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Monthly 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 and who would have preferred to work more hours were asked about whether they were looking for work with more hours, whether they were available to start work with more hours, and their experience in looking for work with more hours. Other information sought included the duration of the current period of insufficient work, and the number of extra hours preferred.

## COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS YEARS' DATA

Following a review of methodology used in processing the 2000 survey, estimates for the 2000 reference period have been revised for this publication. See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes for more details.

The estimates of part-time workers wanting more hours of work has increased by five percentage points since 2000 to 25% of part-time workers. It is possible that these estimates may have been affected by a number of factors, including a minor change to the 2001 Labour Force Survey (LFS) questionnaire (see paragraph 16 of the Explanatory Notes for more details).

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSCQ	Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ICLS	International Conference of Labour Statisticians
ILO	International Labour Organisation
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

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Acting Australian Statistician

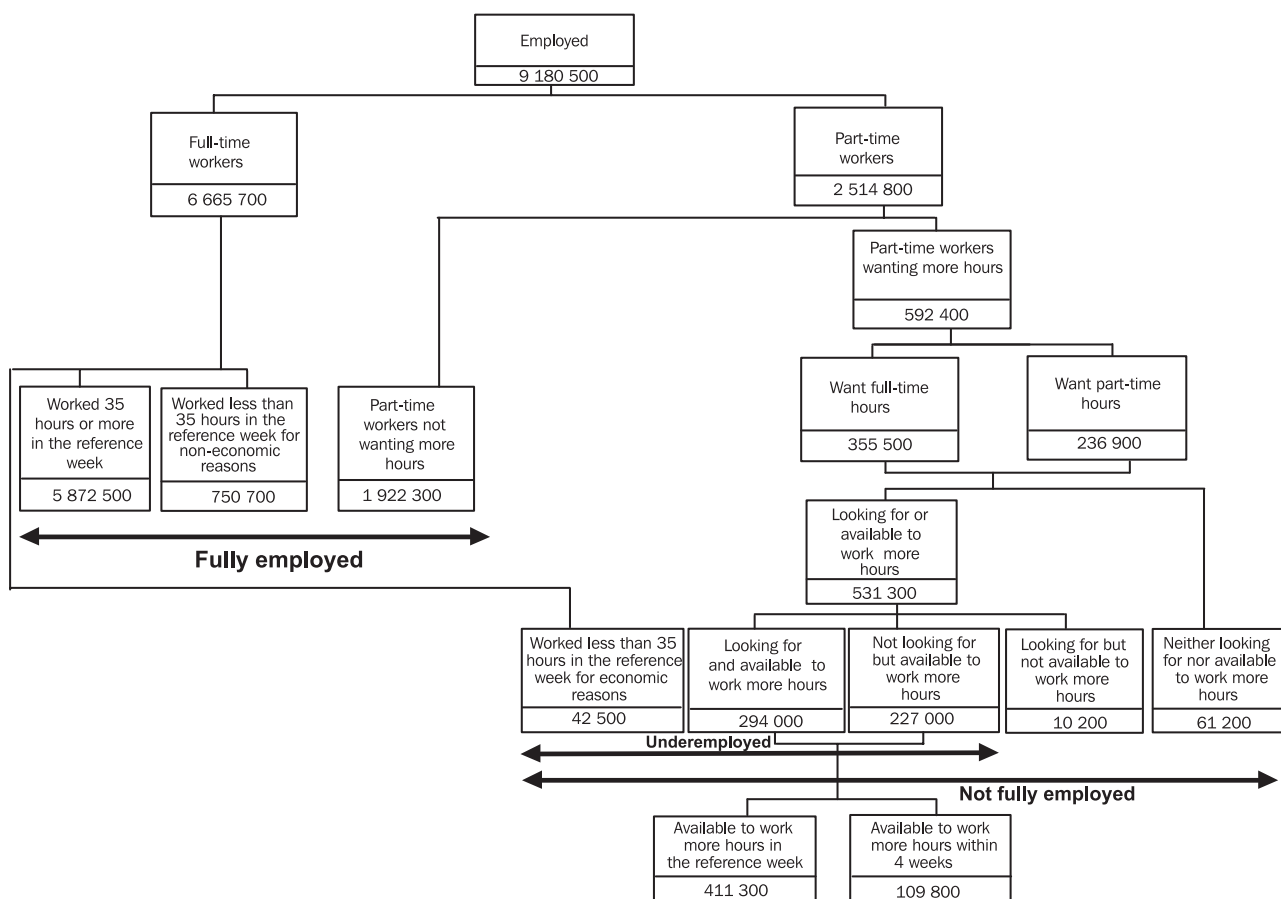
## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The ABS conceptual framework for underemployment separates employed persons into two mutually exclusive groups:

- workers who are fully employed
- workers who are not fully employed, comprising:
  - part-time workers who want to work more hours
  - full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (due to insufficient work being available or being stood down).

Fully employed workers comprise: employed persons who worked full-time during the reference week (includes persons who usually work part-time); employed persons who usually work full-time but worked part-time in the reference week for non-economic reasons (including illness or injury; leave, holiday or flextime; and personal reasons) and part-time workers (usually work part-time and did so in the reference week) who do not want additional hours of work.



The ABS underemployment framework classifies persons who are not fully employed according to whether they are looking for and/or available to start work with more hours. The framework separately identifies persons wanting full-time hours and persons wanting more part-time hours. These persons are further classified according to whether they had looked for extra work during the four weeks prior to the survey, and whether they were available to start extra work (either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey).

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK *continued*

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK *continued*

Persons who usually work full-time, but worked part-time in the reference week for economic reasons, are separately identified in the underemployment framework. It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

### DEFINITION OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT

The ABS definition of the underemployed is consistent with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of time-related underemployment.

According to the ILO definition adopted in 1998, time-related underemployment exists when the hours of work of an employed person are below a threshold, and are insufficient in relation to an alternative employment situation in which the person is willing and available to engage. More specifically, persons in time-related underemployment comprise all employed persons (as defined) who satisfy the following three criteria:

- willingness to work additional hours — the ILO recommends that those who have actively sought to work additional hours should be distinguished from those who have not
- availability to work additional hours, within a specified subsequent period
- worked less than a threshold (determined according to national circumstances) relating to working time — the ABS underemployment framework uses a threshold based on the boundary between full-time and part-time work. Only those persons working less than 35 hours in the reference week may be further classified as not fully employed.

### UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS SURVEY

The Underemployed Workers Survey is the primary ABS data source on underemployment. It provides a wide range of information about underemployed workers, including information on the number of hours usually worked, number of preferred hours, steps taken to find work with more hours, and difficulties finding work with more hours.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) collects summary information on underemployed workers on a quarterly basis. It measures only those underemployed workers who were actively looking for more hours of work in the four weeks to the end of the reference week and were available to work more hours in the reference week. Availability to work more hours in the four weeks subsequent to the survey is not currently measured in the LFS.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### OVERVIEW

There were 9,180,500 employed persons aged 15 years and over in September 2001. Of these:

- 592,400 (6%) usually work part-time and wanted to work more hours
- 42,500 (0.5%) usually work full-time but worked part-time hours in the reference week due to economic reasons (being stood down, on short time, or having insufficient work)
- 521,100 (6%) usually work part-time and wanted more hours and were available to start such work with more hours last week, or within four weeks.

### PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS

Between September 2000 and September 2001, the number of persons working part-time and wanting more hours of work increased by 25%. In 2001, males made up 39% of these persons wanting more hours, whereas females comprised 61%. This distribution has not changed significantly since 2000.

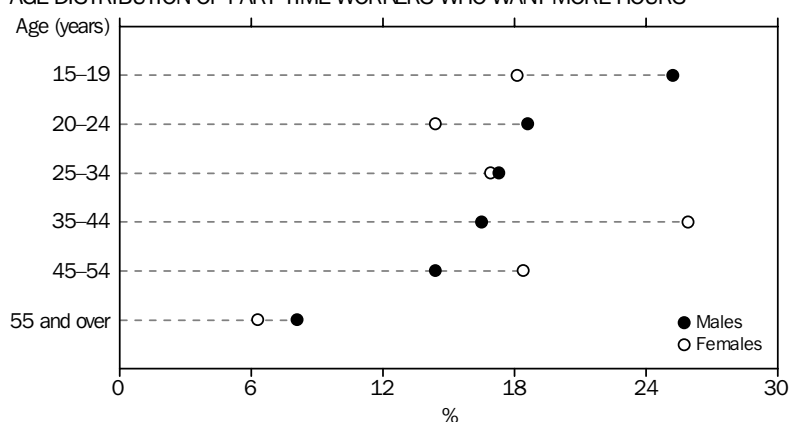
In September 2001, there were 2,514,800 part-time workers. Of these, 24% wanted to work more hours, an increase of five percentage points since September 2000. The proportion of part-time workers wanting more hours was higher for males (32%) than for females (20%). A similar pattern occurred in previous years.

There were 248,300 part-time workers looking for work with more hours who were available to start work with more hours in the week before the survey. This is the group of underemployed workers which most closely aligns with criteria applied in the ABS definition of unemployment, that is, actively looking for work, and available for work in the reference week. Females comprised just over half of these workers (54%).

#### *Characteristics of part-time workers who want more hours*

There were 592,400 persons who worked part-time and wanted more hours in September 2001. As in previous years, the majority (61%) were female, and the majority of persons wanted to work full-time (60%). The proportion of persons who wanted to work part-time increased by two percentage points since September 2000. More males (73%) wanted to work full-time than females (52%). One-third (37%) of all persons working part-time and wanting to work more hours were under 25 years of age.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### *Characteristics of part-time workers who want more hours continued*

The proportion of male and female part-time workers wanting more hours varied according to age. Twenty-five per cent of males working part-time and wanting more hours were aged 15–19 years, compared with 18% of females. A further 19% of males were aged 20–24 years, compared with 14% of females. The proportion for both males and females aged 25–34 years was 17%. The gap then widened considerably for the 35–44 years age group, with 16% of males in this age range wanting more hours, compared with 26% of females.

### *Duration of insufficient work*

The median duration of the current period of insufficient work for persons who worked part-time and wanted to work more hours was 26 weeks for both males and females. For males aged 45–54 years, the median duration of insufficient work was 39 weeks, compared to 52 weeks for females.

### *Available to start work with more hours last week*

Of those persons working part-time who wanted to work more hours, 79% (467,200) had looked for work with more hours in the four weeks prior to the survey, or were available to start work with more hours in the reference week. The remaining 21% (125,300 people) were not looking for work with more hours and were not available in the reference week. Of these, 64,100 were available to start work with more hours within the next four weeks.

Of the 248,300 persons looking and available for work with more hours last week, 43% preferred 10–19 extra hours.

### LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK

Ninety per cent (531,300) of part-time workers wanting more hours were looking for or available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks. This proportion has remained steady since September 2000. More than half of these were female (61%) in September 2001.

### *Extra hours wanted*

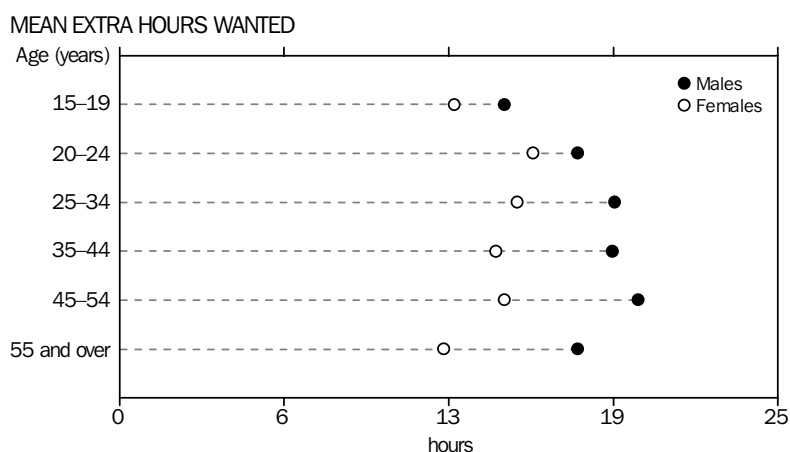
Of those part-time workers who were looking for or available to start work with more hours:

- 27% wanted to work less than 10 extra hours each week
- 42% wanted to work 10–19 extra hours
- 21% wanted to work 20–29 extra hours
- 9% wanted to work an additional 30 hours or more.

The mean preferred number of extra hours each week was 15.5 hours. On average, males wanted to work more extra hours (17.5 hours) than females (14.3 hours). The mean preferred number of extra hours was highest for persons aged 25–34 years (16.6 hours) and lowest for persons aged 15–19 years (13.6 hours).

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### *Extra hours wanted continued*



Of those persons who usually work 10 hours or less per week, just over half (55%) wanted up to 19 extra hours. Forty per cent of those who usually work 11–20 hours wanted 20–29 extra hours, and 38% wanted to work 10–19 extra hours per week. Nearly all those who usually work 21–34 hours (97%) wanted less than 20 extra hours.

### *Job search experience*

Information on job search experience was sought from the 304,200 part-time workers who were looking for work with more hours.

The main reasons given for not having found work with additional hours were:

- 'no vacancies in line of work' (21%)
- 'no vacancies at all' (11%)
- 'too many applicants' (10%)
- 'lacked necessary skills or education' (10%)
- 'considered too young or too old by employers' (9%).

The steps most frequently taken to find work with more hours were:

- 'contacted prospective employers' (66%)
- 'looked in newspapers' (60%)
- 'asked current employer' (53%)
- 'registered with Centrelink' (27%)
- 'contacted friends or relatives' (25%)
- 'answered a newspaper advertisement' (21%)
- 'searched Internet sites' (18%).

### USUALLY WORK FULL-TIME

There were 42,500 persons who usually work full-time but worked part-time hours in the reference week due to economic reasons (being stood down, on short time or insufficient work). The majority of these were male (80%).

The number of people who usually work full-time but worked part-time due to economic reasons decreased by 19% from September 2000. This follows an increase of 45% from September 1999 to September 2000.

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# 1

## EMPLOYED PERSONS

	SEPTEMBER 1999		SEPTEMBER 2000(a)		SEPTEMBER 2001		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Employed persons	4 964.4	3 868.9	5 099.9	4 038.3	5 109.9	4 070.6	9 180.5
Full-time workers	4 382.9	2 227.0	4 427.4	2 275.3	4 394.8	2 270.9	6 665.7
Worked 35 hours or more in the reference week	3 927.2	1 948.7	3 842.2	1 923.6	3 900.3	1 972.2	5 872.5
Worked less than 35 hours in the reference week	455.7	278.4	585.2	351.7	494.5	298.7	793.3
For non-economic reasons	428.0	269.9	541.3	343.1	460.4	290.3	750.7
For economic reasons	27.7	8.5	43.9	8.6	34.1	8.4	42.5
Part-time workers	581.5	1 641.9	672.5	1 762.9	715.1	1 799.7	2 514.8
Not wanting more hours	408.0	1 344.1	492.4	1 468.2	482.9	1 439.5	1 922.3
Want more hours	173.5	297.8	180.1	294.8	232.2	360.2	592.4
Want more part-time hours	41.7	138.1	45.0	135.8	63.4	173.5	236.9
Want full-time hours	131.8	159.6	135.0	159.0	168.8	186.7	355.5

(a) 2000 estimates have been revised. See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

# 2

## UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

	SEPTEMBER 1999		SEPTEMBER 2000(a)		SEPTEMBER 2001		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for economic reasons	27.7	8.5	43.9	8.6	34.1	8.4	42.5
Part-time workers wanting more hours who were available to start work with more hours	101.6	153.3	111.2	142.1	126.3	167.7	294.0
Looking and available to start	52.5	111.8	53.0	115.4	78.8	148.3	227.0
Not looking but available to start							
<b>Total underemployed</b>	<b>181.8</b>	<b>273.7</b>	<b>208.1</b>	<b>266.1</b>	<b>239.3</b>	<b>324.3</b>	<b>563.6</b>

(a) 2000 estimates have been revised. See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

## PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS

	SEPTEMBER 1999		SEPTEMBER 2000(a)		SEPTEMBER 2001		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Had been looking for work with more hours	107.4	157.9	113.0	146.8	129.2	175.0	304.2
Looking and available to start	101.6	153.3	111.2	142.1	126.3	167.7	294.0
Looking and available last week	87.7	123.7	95.7	109.3	113.5	134.9	248.3
Looking and not available last week but within four weeks	13.9	29.6	15.5	32.7	12.9	32.8	45.7
Looking and not available to start	5.8	4.6	*1.8	4.7	*2.9	7.3	10.2
Had not been looking for work with more hours	66.1	139.8	67.1	148.0	103.0	185.2	288.2
Not looking and available to start	52.5	111.8	53.0	115.4	78.8	148.3	227.0
Not looking and available last week	40.2	72.2	39.1	75.4	61.5	101.4	162.9
Not looking and not available last week but within four weeks	12.3	39.6	13.9	40.1	17.2	46.9	64.1
Not looking and not available to start	13.6	28.0	14.0	32.6	24.2	37.0	61.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>173.5</b>	<b>297.8</b>	<b>180.1</b>	<b>294.8</b>	<b>232.2</b>	<b>360.2</b>	<b>592.4</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) 2000 estimates have been revised. See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

## PART-TIME WORKERS WHO WANT MORE HOURS, Looking or available last week

	LOOKING OR AVAILABLE LAST WEEK				Not looking and not available last week	
	Looking and available	Looking and not available	Not looking and available	Total	Not looking and not available last week	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Age group (years)						
15–19	23.4	*2.6	21.0	46.9	11.4	58.4
20–24	21.5	4.6	10.8	37.0	6.1	43.1
25–34	23.6	*1.6	6.9	32.1	8.0	40.1
35–44	19.7	*4.1	8.1	31.9	6.3	38.2
45–54	16.7	*1.9	9.0	27.5	6.0	33.5
55 and over	8.5	*1.0	5.8	15.3	*3.7	18.9
Relationship in household						
Family member	90.0	13.2	45.9	149.1	37.1	186.2
Husband, wife or partner	42.2	6.4	19.4	68.1	17.5	85.6
Lone parent	*2.1	—	*2.1	*4.2	—	*4.2
Dependent student	10.3	*2.6	12.7	25.6	10.8	36.5
Non-dependent child	32.9	*3.8	9.5	46.1	7.3	53.4
Other family person	*2.5	**0.3	*2.2	5.1	*1.5	6.6
Non-family member	19.8	*2.0	12.3	34.1	*3.8	37.9
Relationship not determined	*3.7	**0.5	*3.3	7.5	**0.6	8.1
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	10.7	*2.1	*3.7	16.5	*4.1	20.6
Advanced diploma or diploma	6.8	*0.9	*3.7	11.4	*1.5	12.9
Certificate	16.6	4.6	8.6	29.8	5.3	35.1
Year 12(c)	32.7	4.6	17.9	55.3	11.3	66.6
Year 11(c)	12.9	*1.4	5.5	19.9	*4.3	24.2
Year 10 and below(c)	32.5	*2.1	21.7	56.3	14.7	71.0
Status in employment						
Employee	98.6	12.9	50.9	162.4	31.5	194.0
Employer	**0.2	—	**0.2	**0.4	**0.3	*0.8
Own account worker	13.0	*2.5	9.8	25.3	9.1	34.4
Contributing family worker	*1.6	**0.5	**0.5	*2.6	**0.5	*3.1
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	21.9	*3.4	23.5	48.8	14.6	63.4
35 or more	91.6	12.4	38.0	142.0	26.9	168.8
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	13.7	*4.2	20.6	38.5	13.9	52.4
10–19	45.1	5.3	23.4	73.8	18.2	91.9
20–29	33.8	4.9	10.6	49.3	5.5	54.7
30 or more	21.0	*1.4	6.8	29.2	*3.9	33.1
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	37.0	7.6	16.1	60.7	10.5	71.2
Would prefer not to change employer	49.6	5.6	37.4	92.7	23.2	115.9
No preference	26.8	*2.6	8.0	37.4	7.8	45.1
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	48.5	8.5	26.7	83.7	17.5	101.2
Would prefer not to change occupation	42.0	5.8	25.9	73.7	19.7	93.4
No preference	22.9	*1.5	9.0	33.4	*4.2	37.6
Total	113.5	15.8	61.5	190.8	41.4	232.2

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order highest to lowest. See paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

	LOOKING OR AVAILABLE LAST WEEK				Not looking and not available last week	Total
	Looking and available	Looking and not available	Not looking and available	Total		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES						
Age group (years)						
15–19	27.3	6.0	17.0	50.4	14.8	65.2
20–24	24.2	8.0	9.2	41.4	10.4	51.8
25–34	24.2	7.4	15.6	47.3	13.5	60.8
35–44	32.5	8.3	30.4	71.1	22.3	93.4
45–54	20.1	8.4	21.7	50.2	16.2	66.4
55 and over	6.5	*2.0	7.5	16.0	6.6	22.6
Relationship in household						
Family member	109.7	34.2	90.8	234.7	67.6	302.3
Husband, wife or partner	56.8	15.4	53.3	125.5	37.4	162.9
Lone parent	18.6	7.2	14.8	40.6	10.5	51.1
Dependent student	10.1	5.0	10.7	25.8	10.4	36.2
Non-dependent child	21.5	6.4	10.6	38.4	7.6	46.0
Other family person	*2.7	**0.3	*1.4	*4.5	*1.7	6.2
Non-family member	19.8	4.9	8.7	33.4	11.5	44.9
Relationship not determined	5.4	*0.9	*1.9	8.2	4.7	12.9
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	17.0	7.3	11.2	35.5	9.5	45.0
Advanced diploma or diploma	9.1	*3.1	6.7	18.9	*3.1	22.0
Certificate	15.1	*4.4	8.5	28.1	9.3	37.4
Year 12(c)	37.2	11.4	19.4	68.0	20.9	88.8
Year 11(c)	15.2	*3.3	14.0	32.4	7.8	40.2
Year 10 and below(c)	40.3	10.6	40.4	91.2	32.4	123.6
Status in employment						
Employee	121.0	37.9	89.5	248.3	76.5	324.8
Employer	**0.3	—	*1.8	*2.1	**0.7	*2.7
Own account worker	10.7	*2.2	9.1	22.0	6.4	28.4
Contributing family worker	*2.8	**0.1	*1.1	*4.0	**0.3	*4.3
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	52.8	17.8	59.9	130.5	43.0	173.5
35 or more	82.0	22.3	41.5	145.9	40.8	186.7
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	26.0	14.2	38.7	78.9	36.4	115.3
10–19	63.0	17.0	41.9	121.9	34.2	156.1
20–29	33.0	7.2	18.1	58.2	10.0	68.2
30 or more	12.9	*1.7	*2.7	17.4	*3.2	20.6
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	49.5	14.5	31.3	95.3	19.7	115.0
Would prefer not to change employer	55.4	20.2	55.4	131.0	53.5	184.6
No preference	29.9	5.4	14.7	50.0	10.6	60.7
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	65.3	15.8	39.8	120.9	30.5	151.4
Would prefer not to change occupation	47.1	20.5	50.3	117.9	44.4	162.4
No preference	22.4	*3.8	11.3	37.6	8.9	46.5
Total	134.9	40.1	101.4	276.4	83.8	360.2

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order highest to lowest. See paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

## LOOKING OR AVAILABLE LAST WEEK

Looking and available	Looking and not available	Not looking and available	Total	Not looking and not available last week	Total
'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000

## PERSONS

Age group (years)						
15-19	50.7	8.6	38.0	97.3	26.3	123.6
20-24	45.8	12.6	20.1	78.4	16.5	94.9
25-34	47.8	9.0	22.5	79.3	21.5	100.9
35-44	52.2	12.3	38.5	103.1	28.5	131.6
45-54	36.8	10.3	30.7	77.7	22.2	99.9
55 and over	15.0	*3.1	13.2	31.3	10.2	41.5
Relationship in household						
Family member	199.7	47.5	136.7	383.9	104.7	488.5
Husband, wife or partner	99.0	21.8	72.7	193.6	54.9	248.4
Lone parent	20.7	7.2	16.9	44.8	10.5	55.3
Dependent student	20.4	7.6	23.4	51.4	21.2	72.6
Non-dependent child	54.3	10.2	20.0	84.6	14.9	99.4
Other family person	5.2	*0.7	*3.7	9.5	*3.2	12.8
Non-family member	39.5	7.0	21.0	67.5	15.3	82.9
Relationship not determined	9.1	*1.5	5.2	15.8	5.3	21.0
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	27.7	9.5	14.9	52.0	13.6	65.6
Advanced diploma or diploma	15.8	*4.0	10.4	30.3	4.6	34.9
Certificate	31.7	9.0	17.1	57.9	14.6	72.5
Year 12(c)	70.0	16.0	37.3	123.3	32.1	155.4
Year 11(c)	28.2	4.7	19.5	52.3	12.1	64.5
Year 10 and below(c)	72.8	12.7	62.0	147.5	47.1	194.6
Status in employment						
Employee	219.6	50.7	140.4	410.7	108.0	518.7
Employer	**0.6	—	*2.0	*2.5	*1.0	*3.5
Own account worker	23.7	4.7	18.9	47.3	15.5	62.8
Contributing family worker	*4.5	**0.5	*1.6	6.6	*0.8	7.4
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	74.8	21.2	83.4	179.3	57.6	236.9
35 or more	173.6	34.7	79.6	287.8	67.7	355.5
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	39.7	18.3	59.4	117.4	50.3	167.7
10-19	108.0	22.3	65.3	195.7	52.4	248.0
20-29	66.7	12.1	28.7	107.5	15.5	123.0
30 or more	33.9	*3.1	9.5	46.6	7.1	53.7
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	86.6	22.0	47.4	156.1	30.1	186.2
Would prefer not to change employer	105.0	25.8	92.8	223.7	76.8	300.4
No preference	56.7	8.0	22.7	87.4	18.4	105.8
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	113.8	24.3	66.5	204.7	47.9	252.6
Would prefer not to change occupation	89.1	26.3	76.1	191.6	64.2	255.8
No preference	45.4	5.2	20.3	70.9	13.2	84.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>248.3</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>162.9</b>	<b>467.2</b>	<b>125.3</b>	<b>592.4</b>

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order highest to lowest. See paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

	DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)					
	1-12	13-51	52 and over	Total	Mean duration	Median duration
	'000	'000	'000	'000	weeks	weeks
MALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	20.3	27.5	10.6	58.4	30.2	22
20-24	14.7	17.8	10.6	43.1	39.9	25
25-34	15.0	13.1	12.0	40.1	56.4	20
35-44	12.0	12.2	13.9	38.2	54.1	32
45-54	10.2	7.8	15.5	33.5	87.0	39
55 and over	*4.5	4.9	9.5	18.9	127.7	*52
Relationship in household						
Family member	61.9	68.4	55.9	186.2	53.6	26
Husband, wife or partner	28.4	25.7	31.5	85.6	65.6	26
Lone parent	*0.9	*1.7	*1.5	*4.2	*76.6	**30
Dependent student	12.5	14.8	9.2	36.5	37.4	26
Non-dependent child	16.2	25.1	12.0	53.4	46.8	26
Other family person	*3.9	*1.1	*1.6	6.6	*27.2	*12
Non-family member	12.6	11.3	14.0	37.9	74.4	26
Relationship not determined	*2.1	*3.7	*2.2	8.1	*43.2	*26
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	8.6	6.1	5.8	20.6	72.1	*18
Advanced diploma or diploma	7.4	*2.5	*2.9	12.9	*25.2	*8
Certificate	9.4	12.4	13.3	35.1	69.0	33
Year 12(c)	19.1	29.2	18.2	66.6	50.0	26
Year 11(c)	8.1	6.2	9.9	24.2	55.9	32
Year 10 and below(c)	23.7	26.4	20.9	71.0	56.4	25
Status in employment						
Employee	65.3	71.3	57.4	194.0	54.1	26
Employer	**0.2	**0.2	**0.3	*0.8	**53.4	**26
Own account worker	9.9	10.4	14.1	34.4	74.0	33
Contributing family worker	*1.4	*1.5	**0.3	*3.1	**23.9	**13
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	22.7	23.4	17.3	63.4	52.6	22
35 or more	54.0	60.0	54.9	168.8	58.1	26
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	19.5	19.3	13.6	52.4	48.3	24
10-19	30.1	31.8	30.0	91.9	61.7	26
20-29	16.4	23.0	15.4	54.7	51.7	26
30 or more	10.7	9.3	13.1	33.1	63.7	30
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	25.1	26.8	19.3	71.2	48.8	25
Would prefer not to change employer	37.6	40.0	38.3	115.9	61.9	26
No preference	14.0	16.6	14.6	45.1	55.1	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	33.1	39.8	28.3	101.2	51.0	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	33.4	29.6	30.3	93.4	59.8	26
No preference	10.2	14.0	13.5	37.6	63.8	30
Total	76.7	83.4	72.1	232.2	56.6	26

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

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(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

	DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)					
	1-12	13-51	52 and over	Total	Mean duration	Median duration
	'000	'000	'000	'000	weeks	weeks
FEMALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	26.1	26.9	12.2	65.2	30.1	19
20-24	20.6	15.0	16.2	51.8	44.1	19
25-34	23.0	15.6	22.2	60.8	58.9	26
35-44	27.2	24.3	41.9	93.4	82.4	38
45-54	13.9	19.0	33.6	66.4	108.7	52
55 and over	5.1	6.6	10.9	22.6	116.3	50
Relationship in household						
Family member	97.6	88.6	116.1	302.3	71.0	26
Husband, wife or partner	46.2	46.8	69.9	162.9	87.1	36
Lone parent	17.3	11.6	22.2	51.1	68.2	35
Dependent student	13.1	13.0	10.1	36.2	43.9	26
Non-dependent child	17.4	15.6	13.1	46.0	44.0	20
Other family person	*3.6	*1.6	*0.9	6.2	*29.0	*6
Non-family member	14.1	15.3	15.5	44.9	68.6	28
Relationship not determined	*4.2	*3.5	5.3	12.9	*63.9	*28
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	13.9	15.6	15.5	45.0	57.7	26
Advanced diploma or diploma	8.0	6.1	7.9	22.0	55.9	30
Certificate	11.6	8.8	16.9	37.4	89.6	35
Year 12(c)	34.6	27.3	27.0	88.8	52.4	26
Year 11(c)	12.8	10.8	16.6	40.2	69.2	28
Year 10 and below(c)	34.4	38.2	51.0	123.6	85.8	30
Status in employment						
Employee	104.7	98.3	121.7	324.8	68.9	26
Employer	*0.9	**0.6	*1.3	*2.7	**57.9	**48
Own account worker	8.8	7.1	12.5	28.4	90.5	27
Contributing family worker	*1.5	*1.4	*1.4	*4.3	*63.5	**15
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	57.6	51.6	64.3	173.5	63.4	26
35 or more	58.3	55.8	72.6	186.7	77.0	30
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	38.4	31.7	45.2	115.3	75.0	26
10-19	49.1	49.2	57.7	156.1	65.6	26
20-29	20.4	20.9	27.0	68.2	76.7	30
30 or more	8.0	5.6	7.0	20.6	61.1	*26
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	40.4	30.9	43.7	115.0	66.3	26
Would prefer not to change employer	52.5	59.3	72.8	184.6	75.2	32
No preference	23.0	17.1	20.5	60.7	63.8	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	50.8	41.9	58.7	151.4	71.7	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	48.5	48.1	65.8	162.4	73.5	34
No preference	16.6	17.4	12.5	46.5	55.8	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>115.9</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>136.9</b>	<b>360.2</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>26</b>

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(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

	DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF INSUFFICIENT WORK (WEEKS)					
	1-12	13-51	52 and over	Total	Mean duration	Median duration
	'000	'000	'000	'000	weeks	weeks
PERSONS						
Age group (years)						
15-19	46.4	54.4	22.8	123.6	30.2	21
20-24	35.3	32.8	26.8	94.9	42.2	20
25-34	37.9	28.8	34.2	100.9	57.9	26
35-44	39.3	36.5	55.8	131.6	74.2	35
45-54	24.1	26.7	49.1	99.9	101.4	50
55 and over	9.5	11.6	20.4	41.5	121.5	50
Relationship in household						
Family member	159.5	157.0	172.1	488.5	64.4	26
Husband, wife or partner	74.6	72.5	101.4	248.4	79.7	32
Lone parent	18.2	13.3	23.8	55.3	68.8	34
Dependent student	25.6	27.8	19.3	72.6	40.6	26
Non-dependent child	33.6	40.7	25.1	99.4	45.5	26
Other family person	7.5	*2.7	*2.5	12.8	*28.1	*10
Non-family member	26.7	26.6	29.5	82.9	71.2	26
Relationship not determined	6.3	7.2	7.5	21.0	55.9	*28
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or above	22.5	21.7	21.3	65.6	62.2	26
Advanced diploma or diploma	15.4	8.6	10.8	34.9	44.6	20
Certificate	21.0	21.2	30.3	72.5	79.7	33
Year 12(c)	53.7	56.5	45.2	155.4	51.4	26
Year 11(c)	20.9	17.0	26.5	64.5	64.2	30
Year 10 and below(c)	58.1	64.6	71.9	194.6	75.1	26
Status in employment						
Employee	170.0	169.6	179.2	518.7	63.3	26
Employer	*1.1	*0.8	*1.6	*3.5	*57.0	**48
Own account worker	18.7	17.6	26.6	62.8	81.5	30
Contributing family worker	*2.8	*2.8	*1.7	7.4	*46.7	*15
Preferred total number of hours						
Less than 35	80.3	75.1	81.6	236.9	60.5	26
35 or more	112.3	115.7	127.5	355.5	68.0	26
Preferred number of extra hours						
Less than 10	57.9	51.0	58.8	167.7	66.6	26
10-19	79.2	81.1	87.8	248.0	64.1	26
20-29	36.8	43.8	42.4	123.0	65.6	26
30 or more	18.7	14.9	20.1	53.7	62.7	26
Whether would prefer to change employer						
Would prefer to change employer	65.5	57.8	62.9	186.2	59.6	26
Would prefer not to change employer	90.0	99.3	111.1	300.4	70.1	29
No preference	37.0	33.7	35.1	105.8	60.1	26
Whether would prefer to change occupation						
Would prefer to change occupation	83.9	81.7	87.0	252.6	63.4	26
Would prefer not to change occupation	82.0	77.7	96.1	255.8	68.5	27
No preference	26.7	31.3	26.0	84.1	59.4	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>192.6</b>	<b>190.8</b>	<b>209.1</b>	<b>592.4</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>26</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily in order from highest to lowest. See paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Excludes no educational attainment and level not determined.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.



# PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Selected characteristics

## PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS

Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	Mean preferred number of extra hours
'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	hours

## MALES

Age group (years)						
15-19	20.1	17.8	9.6	5.0	52.5	14.6
20-24	7.0	15.3	11.2	5.1	38.6	17.4
25-34	*4.2	15.8	11.3	5.0	36.4	18.8
35-44	6.1	12.1	9.2	5.7	33.2	18.7
45-54	*3.8	12.6	6.8	6.7	30.0	19.7
55 and over	*3.7	7.3	*3.8	*2.6	17.4	17.4
Status in employment						
Employee	41.8	68.5	44.4	23.1	177.7	17.0
Employer	**0.2	**0.2	—	—	**0.4	**10.3
Own account worker	*2.5	11.0	7.2	6.2	26.9	20.6
Contributing family worker	**0.4	*1.3	**0.4	*0.9	*3.0	*19.8
Usual number of hours worked						
1-5	8.8	6.3	*0.7	10.2	26.0	19.5
6-10	7.1	6.3	10.0	14.8	38.2	22.6
11-15	5.7	*2.6	16.9	*2.4	27.6	20.6
16-20	*3.5	17.4	20.6	*1.7	43.2	18.6
21-29	5.6	36.2	*2.6	**0.4	44.8	13.7
30-34	14.2	12.3	*1.1	**0.6	28.2	9.8
Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job						
Would move interstate	5.4	20.0	13.7	10.9	50.0	20.5
Would not move interstate	37.3	52.4	30.1	15.2	135.0	15.9
Might move interstate	*1.5	6.6	5.9	*3.4	17.4	20.3
Don't know	**0.7	*1.9	*2.3	**0.6	5.6	20.3
Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job						
Would move intrastate	7.0	28.9	18.9	13.4	68.1	19.8
Would not move intrastate	34.0	38.5	22.4	11.4	106.2	15.3
Might move intrastate	*3.4	11.3	8.5	5.2	28.4	19.8
Don't know	**0.5	*2.3	*2.2	**0.2	5.3	18.3
Total	44.9	81.0	51.9	30.1	208.0	17.5

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Availability refers to last week or within four weeks.

# PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Selected characteristics *continued*

## PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS

	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	Mean preferred number of extra hours
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	hours

## FEMALES

Age group (years)						
15-19	23.2	21.3	11.1	*1.9	57.5	12.7
20-24	10.5	22.9	10.4	*3.5	47.2	15.7
25-34	14.9	25.1	9.1	*4.4	53.5	15.1
35-44	26.6	38.0	16.9	*4.4	85.8	14.3
45-54	17.4	27.0	11.0	*3.9	59.3	14.6
55 and over	7.7	8.0	*3.5	*0.7	19.9	12.3
Status in employment						
Employee	92.6	130.2	55.3	14.8	292.9	14.0
Employer	*0.8	*1.0	**0.2	—	*2.1	*10.7
Own account worker	6.1	9.4	5.9	*2.6	24.1	16.4
Contributing family worker	*0.7	*1.7	**0.6	*1.3	*4.3	20.6
Usual number of hours worked						
1-5	12.2	15.1	6.5	8.1	41.9	17.2
6-10	14.4	23.7	15.1	10.2	63.5	17.3
11-15	15.0	16.8	22.7	—	54.5	15.8
16-20	12.7	35.7	16.9	**0.4	65.6	14.9
21-29	18.8	43.1	**0.5	—	62.4	11.1
30-34	27.1	8.0	**0.2	—	35.3	7.6
Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job						
Would move interstate	13.3	22.0	11.1	*4.5	50.9	15.9
Would not move interstate	82.3	105.2	43.5	12.3	243.2	13.7
Might move interstate	*3.0	11.6	5.4	*2.0	22.0	17.1
Don't know	*1.6	*3.5	*2.0	—	7.1	14.4
Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job						
Would move intrastate	19.7	33.4	17.4	5.2	75.7	15.6
Would not move intrastate	69.9	90.3	33.3	9.8	203.2	13.4
Might move intrastate	9.0	16.4	9.5	*3.4	38.3	16.4
Don't know	*1.7	*2.3	*1.9	**0.3	6.1	14.7
Total	100.2	142.3	62.0	18.7	323.3	14.3

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Availability refers to last week or within four weeks.

# PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Selected characteristics *continued*

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	hours
PERSONS						
Age group (years)						
15-19	43.3	39.1	20.7	6.9	110.0	13.6
20-24	17.5	38.2	21.5	8.6	85.8	16.5
25-34	19.1	41.0	20.5	9.3	89.9	16.6
35-44	32.7	50.1	26.1	10.1	119.0	15.5
45-54	21.2	39.6	17.8	10.6	89.3	16.3
55 and over	11.3	15.4	7.3	*3.3	37.3	14.7
Status in employment						
Employee	134.4	198.7	99.6	37.8	470.6	15.2
Employer	*1.0	*1.3	**0.2	—	*2.5	*10.6
Own account worker	8.6	20.5	13.1	8.8	51.0	18.6
Contributing family worker	*1.2	*2.9	*0.9	*2.2	7.2	20.3
Usual number of hours worked						
1-5	21.0	21.4	7.3	18.2	67.9	18.1
6-10	21.5	30.0	25.2	25.0	101.7	19.3
11-15	20.8	19.4	39.6	*2.4	82.1	17.5
16-20	16.2	53.1	37.5	*2.1	108.9	16.3
21-29	24.5	79.3	*3.1	**0.4	107.2	12.2
30-34	41.3	20.3	*1.3	**0.6	63.5	8.6
Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job						
Would move interstate	18.8	42.0	24.8	15.4	100.9	18.2
Would not move interstate	119.6	157.7	73.6	27.5	378.3	14.5
Might move interstate	*4.6	18.2	11.3	5.4	39.4	18.5
Don't know	*2.3	5.5	*4.3	**0.6	12.6	17.0
Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job						
Would move intrastate	26.7	62.3	36.2	18.6	143.8	17.6
Would not move intrastate	103.8	128.8	55.6	21.1	309.4	14.0
Might move intrastate	12.4	27.7	18.0	8.7	66.7	17.8
Don't know	*2.2	*4.5	*4.1	**0.5	11.4	16.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>145.2</b>	<b>223.3</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>531.3</b>	<b>15.5</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Availability refers to last week or within four weeks.

# PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), Main difficulty in finding work

	NUMBER			MEAN PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Main difficulty in finding work</i>	'000	'000	'000	hours	hours	hours
Had been looking for work with more hours						
Own ill health or disability	*4.2	*3.4	7.6	19.9	15.3	17.9
Considered too young or too old by employers	13.2	14.8	27.9	20.5	18.5	19.4
Unsuitable hours	5.4	16.0	21.4	11.9	13.7	13.2
Too far to travel/transport problems	*3.4	6.5	10.0	19.0	14.3	15.9
Lacked necessary skills or education	14.2	15.1	29.3	20.2	19.0	19.6
Language difficulties	*0.7	**0.6	*1.4	*21.8	*27.7	*24.6
Insufficient work experience	7.3	10.8	18.1	20.7	18.7	19.5
No vacancies in line of work	29.0	35.4	64.4	21.0	15.2	17.8
Too many applicants for available jobs	14.6	16.6	31.2	18.9	15.9	17.3
No vacancies at all	16.2	17.7	33.9	18.7	17.0	17.8
Difficulties with ethnic background	**0.5	**0.3	*0.8	*16.8	**11.0	*14.4
Difficulties with childcare	**0.2	*3.2	*3.5	**6.0	17.6	16.8
Other family responsibilities	*1.5	*2.2	*3.7	*22.9	*18.2	20.2
Other difficulties	10.0	18.7	28.7	17.5	14.2	15.3
No difficulties reported	8.7	13.6	22.3	16.3	14.2	15.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>129.2</i>	<i>175.0</i>	<i>304.2</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>16.0</i>	<i>17.4</i>
Had not been looking for work with more hours	78.8	148.3	227.0	14.6	12.2	13.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>208.0</b>	<b>323.3</b>	<b>531.3</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>15.5</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Availability refers to last week or within four weeks.

# PART-TIME WORKERS LOOKING FOR OR AVAILABLE TO START WORK WITH MORE HOURS(a), All steps taken to find work

	PREFERRED NUMBER OF EXTRA HOURS					Mean preferred number of extra hours
	Less than 10	10-19	20-29	30 or more	Total(b)	
All steps taken to find work in the last four weeks	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	hours
MALES						
Asked current employer for more work	7.4	30.0	19.2	11.3	67.8	18.9
Contacted prospective employers	9.7	35.9	28.3	16.3	90.1	19.7
Registered with Centrelink	*2.9	12.5	12.8	11.4	39.5	22.2
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	*2.1	5.9	7.9	9.1	25.0	23.4
Checked factory noticeboards	**0.5	**0.2	*2.4	*1.9	5.0	24.3
Contacted an employment agency	*3.3	8.4	12.5	6.1	30.3	20.8
Looked in newspapers	8.6	29.3	22.9	13.7	74.5	19.8
Searched Internet sites	*3.5	11.1	8.0	5.4	28.0	19.2
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	*3.3	10.9	10.2	6.9	31.4	20.5
Advertised or tendered for work	*0.7	5.3	*3.6	*2.1	11.7	20.1
Contacted friends or relations	*3.9	12.0	13.5	10.3	39.8	21.9
Other steps taken to find work	*1.4	*2.3	*2.8	*2.8	9.3	22.4
Had not been looking for work with more hours	27.1	30.6	13.3	7.8	78.8	14.6
FEMALES						
Asked current employer for more work	23.5	44.5	20.2	6.1	94.3	15.4
Contacted prospective employers	20.8	48.6	30.9	11.5	111.9	17.3
Registered with Centrelink	4.6	17.2	12.1	7.3	41.2	19.8
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	*1.8	13.4	8.0	*3.4	26.5	19.5
Checked factory noticeboards	*0.8	*2.2	*2.5	*1.1	6.6	20.1
Contacted an employment agency	*2.6	14.7	11.6	*4.2	33.1	19.3
Looked in newspapers	20.9	52.4	26.5	8.3	108.0	16.4
Searched Internet sites	*4.4	13.8	6.2	*3.0	27.5	17.0
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	5.0	17.8	7.9	*2.7	33.4	16.9
Advertised or tendered for work	*2.0	*4.3	*2.8	**0.6	9.7	16.9
Contacted friends or relations	6.0	19.2	8.5	*2.1	35.8	16.3
Other steps taken to find work	5.3	7.8	*3.8	*1.5	18.4	15.1
Had not been looking for work with more hours	60.1	62.4	21.8	*4.0	148.3	12.2
PERSONS						
Asked current employer for more work	30.9	74.5	39.3	17.4	162.1	16.9
Contacted prospective employers	30.5	84.5	59.2	27.8	202.1	18.3
Registered with Centrelink	7.5	29.6	24.9	18.7	80.7	20.9
Checked Centrelink touchscreens	*3.8	19.2	16.0	12.5	51.5	21.4
Checked factory noticeboards	*1.4	*2.3	4.9	*3.0	11.6	21.9
Contacted an employment agency	5.9	23.1	24.0	10.3	63.4	20.0
Looked in newspapers	29.5	81.7	49.4	22.0	182.5	17.8
Searched Internet sites	8.0	25.0	14.2	8.4	55.5	18.1
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	8.3	28.7	18.1	9.6	64.8	18.7
Advertised or tendered for work	*2.7	9.6	6.4	*2.7	21.4	18.7
Contacted friends or relations	9.9	31.2	22.0	12.4	75.5	19.2
Other steps taken to find work	6.7	10.0	6.7	*4.3	27.7	17.6
Had not been looking for work with more hours	87.2	93.0	35.1	11.8	227.0	13.0

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Availability refers to last week or within four weeks.

(b) Refers to all steps taken to find work in the last four weeks, therefore persons may appear in more than one category.

## POPULATIONS BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
<b>Population 1</b>									
Employed persons	1 732.5	1 306.4	936.2	372.1	519.2	109.3	44.7	89.6	5 109.9
<b>Population 2</b>									
Full-time workers	1 498.7	1 118.6	804.9	316.4	447.7	95.1	39.9	73.6	4 394.8
<b>Population 3</b>									
Part-time workers	233.8	187.8	131.3	55.8	71.5	14.1	4.8	16.1	715.1
<b>Population 4</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours	72.5	53.5	53.0	20.8	20.6	5.9	*1.2	4.8	232.2
<b>Population 5</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	62.0	46.5	48.7	19.7	19.7	5.7	*1.1	4.7	208.0
<b>Population 6</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who are available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	61.1	45.0	48.4	19.5	19.7	5.6	*1.1	4.7	205.1
FEMALES									
<b>Population 1</b>									
Employed persons	1 356.5	1 034.0	757.8	303.6	410.5	90.6	37.4	80.3	4 070.6
<b>Population 2</b>									
Full-time workers	787.9	579.0	412.6	158.0	210.2	47.0	26.3	49.9	2 270.9
<b>Population 3</b>									
Part-time workers	568.6	455.0	345.2	145.6	200.3	43.6	11.1	30.3	1 799.7
<b>Population 4</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours	97.0	90.2	82.6	34.2	39.6	8.2	*3.5	4.9	360.2
<b>Population 5</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	83.1	82.3	75.2	31.2	36.5	7.5	*3.0	4.6	323.3
<b>Population 6</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who are available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	81.1	81.0	73.8	30.1	35.3	7.5	*3.0	*4.4	315.9

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 7 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS									
<b>Population 1</b>									
Employed persons	3 088.9	2 340.4	1 694.0	675.7	929.6	199.9	82.1	169.9	9 180.5
<b>Population 2</b>									
Full-time workers	2 286.6	1 697.6	1 217.5	474.3	657.9	142.2	66.2	123.5	6 665.7
<b>Population 3</b>									
Part-time workers	802.4	642.8	476.5	201.4	271.8	57.7	15.9	46.4	2 514.8
<b>Population 4</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours	169.5	143.7	135.6	55.0	60.1	14.1	4.8	9.7	592.4
<b>Population 5</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who had been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	145.0	128.8	123.9	50.9	56.2	13.2	*4.1	9.3	531.3
<b>Population 6</b>									
Part-time workers who want more hours who are available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks	142.3	126.0	122.2	49.5	54.9	13.1	*4.1	9.0	521.1

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 7 of the Explanatory Notes.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Underemployed Workers Survey conducted throughout Australia in September 2001 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 monthly 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 monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

**3** From April 2001 the LFS has been conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional data items and some minor definitional changes. These changes also affect the supplementary surveys. For further details, see *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) and *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0).

### CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

**4** The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0) which is also available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (About Statistics—Concepts and Classifications).

### SCOPE

**5** The scope of the LFS is restricted to persons aged 15 years and over and excludes the following persons:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

**6** 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.

**7** This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except in the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

### COVERAGE

**8** The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in September 2001. 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. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

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



## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES *continued*

- 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 see the Technical Note.
- 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

**10** 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.

### CLASSIFICATIONS USED

**11** Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), 1998* (cat. no. 1269.0).

**12** This publication contains highest level of educational attainment which has been classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED). The ASCED is a new national standard classification which spans all sectors of the formal Australian education system; that is, School, Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education. From 2001 ASCED replaces a number of classifications used in administrative and statistical systems, including the ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ). The ASCED comprises two classifications: Level of Education and Field of Education (see *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001* (cat. no. 1272.0)). For further details on how highest educational attainment is determined, see *Education and Work, Australia* (cat. no. 6227.0).

### COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

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

**14** Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. Since it was introduced, this survey has been conducted on various proportional samples and therefore sampling error associated with previous surveys may vary from sampling error for this survey.

**15** Prior to September 1994, part-time workers who wanted more hours of work were asked whether they were available to start work with more hours within the subsequent four weeks. From September 1994, an additional question was added to also determine their availability to start work with more hours during the reference week. This question was added to the survey so that estimates of underemployment could be more easily aligned with the then current International Labour Organisation (ILO) recommendations on underemployment.

**16** As part of the redesign in 2001 of the LFS questionnaire, persons who were on short-term unpaid leave initiated by the employer, are now classified as employed. This approach is consistent with ILO recommendations on formal job attachment. Analysis of data from the LFS shows that many of these persons usually worked part-time, and that a number of these had a preference to work

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

more hours. However, overall, these persons contribute only marginally to the change in part-time workers wanting more hours.

**17** Historical estimates for the reference period September 2000 have been revised in this publication following an evaluation of weighting strategy and procedures used for that survey. For further information about this revision, please contact the person listed on the front cover of this publication.

### COMPARABILITY WITH LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STATISTICS

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

**19** Core LFS series from April 1986 to March 2001 have been revised on the basis of the redesigned LFS questionnaire. Supplementary survey data have not been revised.

### COMPARABILITY WITH ILO DEFINITIONS

**20** Comparability of the concepts and definitions used in the Underemployed Workers Survey are discussed in Conceptual Framework on page 3. More detailed discussion is included in *Labour Statistics: Concepts Sources and Methods, 2001* (cat. no. 6102.0), Chapter 5.

### CHANGES IN TERMINOLOGY

**21** In August 2000, the Australian Bureau of Statistics Supplementary Survey Program replaced the terms 'Permanent' and 'Casual' in classifying employees, in order to more accurately reflect the concepts being measured in practice. The term 'Permanent' has been replaced with 'With leave entitlements', and 'Casual' has been replaced with 'Without leave entitlements'. A definition of 'Leave entitlements' is included in the Glossary.

### PREVIOUS SURVEYS

**22** The Underemployed Workers Survey was conducted in May 1985, 1988 and 1991. In 1994, the survey became an annual survey, collected each September. Results of previous surveys were published in: *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0); and the standard data service *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0.40.001) for 1994 and 1995.

### NEXT SURVEY

**23** The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 2002.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**24** 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 PUBLICATIONS

**25** ABS 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  
*Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, cat. no. 6102.0  
*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

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

*continued*

**26** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

### DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Underemployed Workers Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be 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. Country of birth (2)).

To obtain data available on request, or for more information about our customised data service, contact Annette Milnes on Canberra 02 6252 7240, or by facsimile on 02 6252 5172, or by email to <a.milnes@abs.gov.au>.

<b>Population 1</b>	Employed persons.
<b>Population 2</b>	Full-time workers.
<b>Population 3</b>	Part-time workers.
<b>Population 4</b>	Part-time workers who want more hours.
<b>Population 5</b>	Part-time workers who want more hours who have been looking for work with more hours or were available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks.
<b>Population 6</b>	Part-time workers who want more hours who are available to start work with more hours last week or within four weeks.

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
<b>1 State or territory of usual residence</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>8 Age group (years)</b>	<b>All</b>
New South Wales		15–19	
Victoria		20–24	
Queensland		25–34	
South Australia		35–44	
Western Australia		45–54	
Tasmania		55–59	
Northern Territory		60–64	
Australian Capital Territory		65 and over	
		Note: Age collected in single years	
<b>2 Area of usual residence</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>9 Underemployment (1)</b>	<b>1</b>
State capital city		Worked less than 35 hours in the	
Balance of state/territory		reference week for economic reasons	
<b>3 Region of usual residence</b>	<b>All</b>	Part-time workers wanting more hours	
Standard labour force dissemination		who were available to work more hours	
regions		Looking and available to start	
<b>4 Sex</b>	<b>All</b>	Not looking but available to start	
Males		<b>9A Employed persons (2)</b>	<b>1</b>
Females		Employed persons	
<b>5 Marital status</b>	<b>All</b>	Full-time workers	
Married		Worked 35 hours or more in the	
Not married		reference week	
<b>6 Relationship in household (1)</b>	<b>All</b>	Worked less than 35 hours in the	
Family member		reference week	
Husband, wife or partner		For non-economic reasons	
With dependants		For economic reasons	
Without dependants		Part-time workers	
Lone parent		Not wanting more hours	
With dependants		Want more hours	
Without dependants		Want more part-time hours	
Dependent student		Want full-time hours	
Non-dependent child		<b>10 Full-time and part-time workers</b>	<b>1</b>
Other family person		Full-time workers	
Non-family member		Part-time workers	
Lone person		<b>11 Whether fully employed</b>	<b>1</b>
Not living alone		Fully employed	
Relationship not determined		Part-time workers who want more hours	
<b>7A Country of birth and period of arrival</b>	<b>All</b>	and persons who worked less than	
Born in Australia		35 hours in the reference week for	
Born overseas		economic reasons	
Arrived before 1971		<b>12 Status in employment</b>	<b>All</b>
Arrived 1971–1980		Employee	
Arrived 1981–1990		Employer	
Arrived 1991–2000		Own account worker	
Arrived 2001 to survey date		Contributing family worker	
<b>7B Country of birth (1)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>13 Number of hours worked in the reference</b>	<b>All</b>
Born in Australia		week	
Born overseas		0–5	
Born in main English-speaking		6–10	
countries		11–15	
Born in other than main		16–20	
English-speaking countries		21–29	
<b>7C Country of birth (2)</b>	<b>All</b>	30–34	
Born in Australia		35 or more	
Born overseas		<b>14 Type of insufficient work</b>	<b>4–6</b>
The Middle East and North Africa		Full-time	
Africa (excluding North Africa)		Part-time	
Northern America		<b>15 Duration of current period of insufficient</b>	<b>4–6</b>
South America, Central America and		work	
the Caribbean		1–3 weeks	
North-East Asia		4–12 weeks	
South-East Asia		13–51 weeks	
Southern Asia		52 weeks and over	
Europe and the Former USSR			
Oceania and Antarctica			

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data Items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
<b>16 Level of highest educational attainment</b>	<b>4-6</b>	<b>23 Whether registered with Centrelink</b>	<b>4-6</b>
Postgraduate degree		Registered with Centrelink for job search assistance	
Graduate diploma or graduate certificate		Not registered with Centrelink for job search assistance	
Bachelor degree		Had not been looking for work with more hours	
Advanced diploma or diploma			
Certificate III or IV			
Certificate I or II			
Certificate n.f.d.			
Year 12		<b>24 Preferred number of extra hours</b>	<b>4-6</b>
Year 11		Less than 10	
Year 10 and below		10-19	
Other education		20-29	
Level not determined		30 or more	
No educational attainment/attendance			
<b>17 Whether would move interstate if offered a suitable job</b>	<b>4-6</b>	<b>25 Main difficulty in finding work</b>	<b>4-6</b>
Would move interstate		Had been looking for work with more hours	
Would not move interstate		Own ill health or disability	
Might move interstate		Considered too young or too old by employers	
Don't know		Unsuitable hours	
		Too far to travel/transport problems	
<b>18 Whether would move intrastate if offered a suitable job</b>	<b>4-6</b>	Lacked necessary skills or education	
Would move intrastate		Language difficulties	
Would not move intrastate		Insufficient work experience	
Might move intrastate		No vacancies in line of work	
Don't know		Too many applicants for available jobs	
		No vacancies at all	
<b>19 Whether would prefer to change occupation to work more hours</b>	<b>4-6</b>	Difficulties with ethnic background	
Would prefer to change occupation		Difficulties with childcare	
Would prefer not to change occupation		Other family responsibilities	
No preference		Other difficulties	
		No difficulties reported	
<b>20 Whether would prefer to change employer to work more hours</b>	<b>4-6</b>	Had not been looking for work with more hours	
Would prefer to change employer			
Would prefer not to change employer		<b>26 Usual number of hours worked</b>	<b>4-6</b>
No preference		1-5	
		6-10	
<b>21 Part-time underemployment status</b>	<b>4</b>	11-15	
Had been looking for work with more hours		16-20	
Looking and available to start		21-29	
Looking and available last week		30-34	
Looking and not available last week but within four weeks			
Looking and not available to start		<b>27 Preferred total number of hours</b>	<b>4-6</b>
Had not been looking for work with more hours		Less than 30	
Not looking and available to start		30-34	
Not looking and available last week		35-39	
Not looking and not available last week but within four weeks		40 and over	
Not looking and not available to start			
<b>22 All steps taken to find work in the last four weeks</b>	<b>4-6</b>		
Asked current employer for more work			
Contacted prospective employers			
Registered with Centrelink			
Checked Centrelink touchscreens			
Checked factory noticeboards			
Contacted an employment agency			
Looked in newspapers			
Searched Internet sites			
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job			
Advertised or tendered for work			
Contacted friends or relations			
Other steps taken to find work			
Had not been looking for work with more hours			

## APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

### SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program collects data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary surveys to the monthly labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. Additional data from these surveys is available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	<i>cat. no.</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Latest issue</i>
Career Experience, Australia	6254.0	Irregular	November 1998
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications, Australia	6243.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1993
Child Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 1999
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2001
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2001
Employment Benefits, Australia	6334.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Irregular	August 2001
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2001
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2001
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia	6235.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia(a)	6224.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Irregular	November 1999
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2002
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	June 2000
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Participation in Education, Australia	6272.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1999
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2001
Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia	6264.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, Australia	6267.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Irregular	November 1997
Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia	6266.0	Irregular	July 2001
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia	6245.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Superannuation, Australia	6319.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Trade Union Members, Australia	6325.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1996
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2001
Working Arrangements, Australia	6342.0	Irregular	November 2000
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	September 2000

(a) Latest data available on request June 2002.

(b) Latest data available on request July 2001.

## 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 (67%) 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 (95%) 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** Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

## 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 5 shows the estimated number of female workers who usually work part-time and want more hours was 360,200. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 7,250 and 8,800 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

*SE of estimate*

$$= \text{lower SE} + \left( \left( \frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right)$$

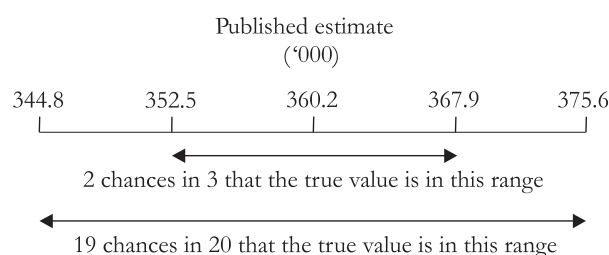
$$= 7,250 + \left( \left( \frac{360,200 - 300,000}{500,000 - 300,000} \right) \times (8,800 - 7,250) \right)$$

$$= 7,700 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}$$

**4** 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 within the range 352,500 to 367,900 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 344,800 to 375,600. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



## CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR *continued*



**5** In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs so that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. \*\*0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

## MEANS AND MEDIANS

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

- mean duration of insufficient work: 1.7
- median duration of insufficient work: 2.1
- mean preferred number of extra hours: 0.8.

**7** The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 5 shows that the estimated number of male workers who usually work part-time and want more hours was 232,200 with a median duration of insufficient work of 26 weeks. The SE of 232,200 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 6,600. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate or  $6,600/232,200 = 2.8\%$ . The RSE of the estimate of median duration of insufficient work is calculated by multiplying this number (2.8%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.1):  $2.8 \times 2.1 = 5.9\%$ . The SE of this estimate of median duration of insufficient work is therefore 5.9% of 26, i.e. about 2 (rounded to the nearest whole week). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of insufficient work for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 24–28 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 22–30 weeks.

**8** Estimates of means and medians produced from population estimates smaller than the values provided in table T2 have RSEs larger than 25% and should be used with caution. Table T2 also indicates the size of population estimates that would produce means and medians with RSEs greater than 50%, which are considered too unreliable for general use.

MEANS AND MEDIANS

*continued*

**9** An example of an estimate with a RSE between 25% and 50% is in table 5. The median duration of insufficient work for males with a bachelor degree, is 18 weeks and the number of persons contributing to the estimate is 20,600. Table T2 shows the level at which estimates of median duration have a RSE of 25% is 21,500. Therefore, the estimate of median duration has a high RSE and is shown in table 5 preceded with an asterisk (i.e. \*18).

PROPORTIONS AND  
PERCENTAGES

**10** 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. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

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

**11** Considering the example from paragraph 3, of the 360,200 females who usually work part-time and want more hours, 136,900 or 38.0% had insufficient work for more than a year. The SE of 136,900 may be calculated by interpolation as 5,400. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or  $5,400/136,900 = 3.9\%$ . The SE for 360,200 was calculated previously as 7,700, which converted to a RSE is  $7,700/360,200 = 2.1\%$ . Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(3.9)^2 - (2.1)^2} = 3.3\%$$

**12** Therefore, the SE for the proportion of females who have a current period of insufficient work of one year or more is 1.3 percentage points ( $= (38.0/100) \times 3.3$ ). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who have a current period of insufficient work of one year or more was between 36.7% and 39.3% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 35.4% to 40.6%.

DIFFERENCES

**13** 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:

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

**14** 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.

# TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

## T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

	STANDARD ERROR									RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	90	100	180	160	160	110	110	130	80	80.0
200	160	170	260	220	220	140	150	160	140	70.0
300	220	230	310	260	260	170	170	180	190	63.3
500	330	320	390	320	340	210	210	220	270	54.0
700	420	400	460	370	390	240	240	240	350	50.0
1,000	530	500	540	420	460	280	280	270	440	44.0
1,500	690	630	650	500	550	330	330	310	580	38.7
2,000	820	750	740	570	620	370	370	350	700	35.0
2,500	950	850	800	600	700	400	400	400	800	32.0
3,000	1 050	950	900	650	750	450	450	400	900	30.0
3,500	1 150	1 000	950	700	800	450	450	450	1 000	28.6
4,000	1 250	1 100	1 000	750	850	500	500	450	1 050	26.3
5,000	1 400	1 200	1 100	850	900	550	550	500	1 200	24.0
7,000	1 650	1 400	1 300	950	1 050	600	600	550	1 450	20.7
10,000	1 950	1 700	1 500	1 100	1 200	700	700	650	1 750	17.5
15,000	2 350	2 000	1 800	1 300	1 450	800	800	750	2 150	14.3
20,000	2 700	2 250	2 050	1 450	1 600	900	900	850	2 450	12.3
30,000	3 150	2 650	2 450	1 700	1 850	1 050	1 050	1 000	2 950	9.8
40,000	3 500	2 900	2 750	1 900	2 100	1 200	1 150	1 100	3 350	8.4
50,000	3 800	3 150	3 000	2 100	2 250	1 300	1 250	1 250	3 700	7.4
100,000	4 750	4 000	4 000	2 750	2 900	1 700	1 600	1 650	4 850	4.9
150,000	5 350	4 600	4 750	3 250	3 350	1 950	1 800	2 000	5 600	3.7
200,000	5 900	5 150	5 300	3 650	3 750	2 150	..	2 300	6 250	3.1
300,000	6 900	6 100	6 250	4 300	4 300	2 500	..	2 750	7 250	2.4
500,000	8 550	7 700	7 650	5 250	5 050	3 050	..	..	8 800	1.8
1,000,000	11 950	10 800	10 050	6 850	6 350	..	..	..	11 550	1.2
2,000,000	17 600	15 650	13 100	9 000	7 800	..	..	..	15 250	0.8
5,000,000	31 550	26 900	18 450	..	..	..	..	..	23 400	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40 950	0.4

.. not applicable

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

### T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
25% RSE									
Mean duration of current period of insufficient work	13 700	12 300	8 300	5 800	6 300	2 900	3 600	1 100	14 300
Median duration of insufficient work	24 200	18 300	15 700	8 600	10 300	4 000	4 100	3 600	21 500
Mean preferred number of extra hours	3 900	3 500	3 100	2 000	2 900	1 000	600	500	3 000
All other estimates	6 200	4 700	4 100	2 500	2 900	1 200	1 200	1 100	4 600
50% RSE									
Mean duration of current period of insufficient work	3 300	3 300	2 400	1 800	1 900	900	1 100	400	3 100
Median duration of insufficient work	6 800	5 200	4 600	2 600	3 200	1 300	1 300	1 200	5 100
Mean preferred number of extra hours	600	700	900	600	900	300	200	200	400
All other estimates	1 200	1 000	1 200	800	900	400	400	400	700

(a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Centrelink</b>	A statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth government services, including registering persons for assistance in finding work and providing referrals to job placement agencies.
<b>Duration of insufficient work</b>	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 and rounded down, this results in a slight understatement of duration.
<b>Employed persons</b>	Persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 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)</li> <li>■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers)</li> <li>■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week</li> <li>■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week</li> <li>■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement</li> <li>■ on strike or locked out</li> <li>■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</li> </ul>
<b>Family</b>	Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
<b>Full-time workers</b>	Full-time workers are employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually worked less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
<b>Fully employed workers</b>	Fully employed workers are employed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ worked full-time during the reference week (including persons who usually work part-time but worked full-time in the reference week)</li> <li>■ usually work full-time but worked less than 35 hours in the reference week for non-economic reasons (such as illness or injury, leave holiday or flextime, or personal reasons)</li> <li>■ part-time workers who do not want to work additional hours.</li> </ul>
<b>Labour Force</b>	The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed persons) and persons not in the labour force.
<b>Looking for work with more hours</b>	Looked for work with more hours at some time during the four weeks up to the end of the reference week.
<b>Main English-speaking countries</b>	The main English-speaking countries are the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
<b>Mean duration of insufficient work</b>	The mean 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.

## GLOSSARY *continued*

<b>Mean preferred number of extra hours</b>	The mean 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.
<b>Median duration of insufficient work</b>	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.
<b>Part-time workers</b>	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work during the reference week.
<b>Preferred number of extra hours</b>	The number of extra hours a week an underemployed worker would have preferred to work.
<b>Reference week</b>	The week before the survey.
<b>Relationship in household</b>	The relationship of persons who live in the same household. Some households may contain more than one family.
<b>Status in employment</b>	Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, or contributing family workers.
<b>Underemployed workers</b>	Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ part-time workers who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey</li><li>■ full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.</li></ul>
<b>Usual number of hours</b>	The number of hours usually worked in a week.



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