# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra 

THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

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## MAIN FEATURES

NOTE. The survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraphs 15 to 18. Standard errors are shown in Table 1 and on page 3.

- In February 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was $6,472,900(4,135,400)$ males and $2,337,500$ females) comprising $6,018,900$ employed persons ( $3,893,600$ males and $2,125,400$ females) and 453,900 unemployed persons (241,800 males and 212,100 females).
- Between January and February 1979 the number of full-time workers increased by $8,300(+23,200$ males, $-14,900$ females) and the number of part-time workers increased by 70,700 of whom 65,900 were married women.
- An estimated 47,600 part-time workers were actively looking for full-time work.
- An estimated 243,600 teenagers left school between the beginning of 1978 and the survey date. Of these an estimated 198,000 were in the labour force in February, 135,200 being employed and 62,800 unemployed ( 58,100 looking for full-time work).


## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This bulletin contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the monthly population survey. More detailed estimates will be published in The Labour Force (6203.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates have been issued in advance of this publication in Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates (6201.0).

## The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews generally being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of
each month. The information obtained relates to the week prior to the interview (i.e. the survey week). Because of operational problems arising from the Christmas and New Year holidays, the December 1978 survey commenced a week earlier than usual (i.e. on 4 December), but most interviews were conducted during the following week. The January 1979 survey commenced a week later than usual (i.e. on 15 January).

## Scope

3. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except : members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

## Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions recommended by the ILO.
5. Employed persons comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:
(a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
(b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
(c) 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 survey 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 survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
(d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
6. Unemployed persons are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and
(a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and :
(i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
(ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;
or (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.
7. Unemployed persons looking for first job are those who had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job.
8. The unemployment rate for any group is the number unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
9. The labour force comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed, as defined in paragraphs 5 and 6.
10. The labour force participation rate for any group is the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
11. Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.
12. Persons not in the labour force are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed'.

## Revision of series

13. The survey estimates for February 1978 and subsequent months are based on population estimates derived from the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for under-enumeration, and were obtained by using a new sample and revised questionnaire. Estimates from August 1971 have been revised to the new basis and are not comparable with those in issues of this publication prior to February 1978.

## Comparability of series

14. When comparing labour force estimates for February 1978 and subsequent months with those for
earlier periods it should be noted that with the introduction of monthly surveys the interviews are now conducted during a two-week period, whereas formerly the period was four weeks. The change of timing may affect the level of the figures for any month, but particularly for months during which the employment status of the population may be changing rapidly.

## Reliability of the estimates

15. Since the survey estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they, and the movements derived from them, are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ by chance from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the surveys. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.
16. Standard errors of estimates for the latest month and of estimates of movements since the previous month are shown in Table 1. Standard errors of other estimates and other monthly movements should be determined by using Tables A and B on page 3.
17. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative stondard error. Very small estimates are subject to such high relative standard errors as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. Estimates below the levels shown in Table A have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.
18. Examples of the calculation and use of standard errors are given below :
(a) From Table A it will be seen that the estimate of 2,125,400 employed females in February 1979 has a standard error of about 11,500 and 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 be within the range $2,113,900$ to $2,136,900$ and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will be within the range $2,102,400$ to $2,148,400$.
(b) The estimate of movement in the number of employed females from January to February 1979 is an increase of 54,700 . Table B relates the standard error of the monthly movement to the larger of the two estimates from which the movement is derived. In this case the February 1979 estimate $(2,125,400)$ is the larger. From Table B it will be seen that the standard error of the monthly movement is about 8,300 . Therefore there are about two chances in three that if all dwellings had been included in the surveys the movement would have been within the range 46,400 to 63,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range 38,100 to 71,300 .

## Seasonally adjusted estimates

19. Seasonally adjusted quarterly estimates of the labour force are shown in Table 1. Calculation of seasonally adjusted monthly figures will not be possible until results of monthly surveys for two or three years are available. The move to the higher level of unemployment since 1974 appears to have been accompanied by shifts in the pattern of seasonal variation. For this reason the publication of seasonally adjusted quarterly figures of unemployment was suspended as from November 1977. The matter will be kept under review.

## Related publications

20. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request :

Unemployment (Preliminary estimates) (6201.0)

## The Labour Force (6203.0)

Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications (1101.0), which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

## Symbols and other usages

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 17, page 2.
n.a. not available.
.. not applicable.
Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.
R. J. CAMERON

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TABLE A - STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate | $N_{0} S_{\text {S }} W_{0}$ | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. <br> - number | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Per cent of estimate |
| 1,500 |  |  |  |  |  | 300 |  |  |  |  |
| 2,000 |  |  |  | - | - | 340 | 470 | 440 |  |  |
| 2,500 |  |  |  | 510 | 510 | 380 | 510 | 480 |  |  |
| 3,000 |  |  | $\overline{70}$ | 550 | 560 | 410 | 550 | 510 |  |  |
| 3,500 |  |  | 740 | 590 | 590 | 430 | 590 | 540 |  |  |
| 4,000 | $\underline{\square}$ | - | 780 | 620 | 630 | 460 | 620 | 560 | - | - |
| 4,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 820 | 650 | 660 | 480 | 650 | 590 | 970 | 21.6 |
| 5,000 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 860 | 680 | 690 | 500 | 680 | 610 | 1,000 | 20.0 |
| 6,000 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 930 | 730 | 750 | 530 | 740 | 650 | 1,100 | 18.0 |
| 10,000 | 1,500 | 1,400 | 1,200 | 900 | 920 | 640 | 910 | 750 | 1,400 | 14.0 |
| 20,000 | 2,000 | 1,900 | 1,500 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 810 | 1,200 | 910 | 2,000 | 10.0 |
| 50,000 | 3,000 | 2,700 | 2,200 | 1,600 | 1,700 | 1,100 | 1,700 | 1,100 | 2,900 | 5.8 |
| 100,000 | 3,900 | 3,500 | 2,800 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 1,300 |  | 1,300 | 3,900 | 3.9 |
| 200,000 | 5,000 | 4,400 | 3,600 | 2,600 | 2,600 | 1,500 |  |  | 5,100 | 2.6 |
| 300,000 | 5,800 | 5,000 | 4,100 | 2,900 | 2,900 |  |  |  | 6,000 | 2.0 |
| 500,000 | 6,900 | 5,800 | 4,800 | 3,300 | 3,300 |  |  |  | 7,200 | 1.4 |
| 1,000,000 | 8,500 | 7,000 | 5,900 |  |  |  |  |  | 9,100 | 0.9 |
| 2,000,000 | 10,000 | 8,400 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 11,000 15,000 | 0.6 0.3 |
| 5,000,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15,000 | 0.3 |

TABLE B - STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF MONTHLY MOVEMENTS (a)

| Size of larger estimate | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W. A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1,500 |  |  |  |  |  | 250 |  | - |  |
| 2,000 |  |  |  | - | - | 270 | 380 | 370 |  |
| 2,500 |  |  |  | 490 | 490 | 290 | 420 | 390 |  |
| 3,000 |  |  | - | 520 | 530 | 310 | 460 | 410 |  |
| 3,500 |  |  | 730 | 540 | 560 | 330 | 490 | 430 |  |
| 4,000 |  |  | 760 | 570 | 580 | 340 | 520 | 450 |  |
| 4,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 790 | 590 | 610 | 360 | 550 | 460 | 1,100 |
| 5,000 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 820 | 610 | 630 | 370 | 570 | 480 | 1,200 |
| 6,000 | 1,200 | 1,200 | 880 | 650 | 670 | 390 | 620 | 500 | 1,200 |
| 10,000 | 1,400 | 1,400 | 1,000 | 760 | 790 | 460 | 760 | 570 | 1,500 |
| 20,000 | 1,800 | 1,700 | 1,300 | 930 | 970 | 550 | 1,000 | 670 | 2,000 |
| 50,000 | 2,500 | 2,300 | 1,700 | 1,200 | 1,300 | 690 | 1,400 | 790 | 2,700 |
| 100,000 | 3,200 | 2,800 | 2,100 | 1,400 | 1,500 | 810 |  | 880 | 3,400 |
| 200,000 | 3,900 | 3,300 | 2,500 | 1,700 | 1,800 | 920 |  |  | 4,300 |
| 300,000 | 4,400 | 3,700 | 2,800 | 1,900 | 1,900 |  |  |  | 4,900 |
| 500,000 | 5,100 | 4,200 | 3,200 | 2,100 | 2,200 |  |  |  | 5,700 |
| 1,000,000 | 6,100 | 4,900 | 3,800 |  |  |  |  |  | 6,800 |
| 2,000,000 | 7,200 | 5,600 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8,200 10,000 |
| 5,000,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10,000 |

[^0]TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (a)

| Month | Employed | Unemployed |  |  |  | Labour force |  | Not in labour force | Civilian <br> popula- <br> tion <br> aged <br> 15 years <br> and <br> over | Unem- Parti- <br> ployment cipation <br> rate rate <br> - per cent -  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Looking for full-time work |  | Looking  <br> for  <br> part-  <br> time  <br> work Total <br>  - $000-$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aged } \\ & 15-19 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | looking for first job | Total |  |  | Original | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1977 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November | 3,867.3 | 16.2 | 165.1 | 18.0 | 183.1 | 4,050.4 | 4,061.0 | 1,055.7 | 5,106.1 | 4.5 | 79.3 |
| 1978 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 3,857.4 | 40.2 | 235.4 | 19.5 | 255.0 | 4,112.4 | 4,086.0 | 1,023.2 | 5,135.6 | 6.2 | 80.1 |
| October | 3,854.7 | 19.1 | 194.0 | 13.9 | 207.9 | 4,062.7 | n.a. | 1,128.5 | 5,191.1 | 5.1 | 78.3 |
| November | 3,846.1 | 18.0 | 191.0 | 15.4 | 206.4 | 4,052.4 | 4,063.2 | 1,147.5 | 5,199.9 | 5.1 | 77.9 |
| December | 3,923.7 | 40.4 | 219.9 | 21.6 | 241.6 | 4,165.3 | ก.a. | 1,048.9 | 5,214.1 | 5.8 | 79.9 |
| 1979 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 3,869.2 | 42.4 | 235.2 | 14.8 | 250.0 | 4,119.3 | n.a. | 1,098.9 | 5,218.2 | 6.1 | 78.9 |
| February | 3,893.6 | 33.0 | 229.5 | 12.3 | 241.8 | 4,135.4 | 4,108.8 | 1,091.9 | 5,227.3 | 5.8 | 79.1 |
| Standard error of - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February estimates | 13.8 | 2.5 | 5.4 | 1.6 | 5.5 | 14.0 | . | 9.3 | . | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| January to February movement | 9.7 | 2.6 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 4.6 | 9.8 | . | 7.0 | . | 0.1 | 0.2 |

MARRIED WOMEN

| 1977 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November | 1,368.9 | * | 34.4 | 33.4 | 67.7 | 1,436.6 | 1,424.1 | 1,963.7 | 3,400.3 | 4.7 | 42.3 |
| 1978 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1,320.9 | * | 53.2 | 39.6 | 92.8 | 1,413.6 | 1,417.2 | 1,994.4 | 3,408.1 | 6.6 | 41.5 |
| October | 1,368.7 | * | 38.7 | 28.2 | 66.9 | 1,435.6 | n.a. | 1,971.3 | 3,406.9 | 4.7 | 42.1 |
| November | 1,373.4 | * | 34.9 | 28.5 | 63.4 | 1,436.8 | 1,424.7 | 1,983.6 | 3,420.5 | 4.4 | 42.0 |
| December | 1,373.6 | * | 31.5 | 24.0 | 55.5 | 1,429.2 | n.a. | 2,006.7 | 3,435.9 | 3.9 | 41.6 |
| 1979 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 1,281.6 | * | 38.4 | 25.4 | 63.8 | 1,345.4 | п.a. | 2,101.9 | 3,447.4 | 4.7 | 39.0 |
| February | 1,346.1 | * | 45.5 | 40.3 | 85.7 | 1,431.8 | 1,435.7 | 2,024.9 | 3,456.7 | 6.0 | 41.4 |
| Standard error of February estimates | 10.0 | $\ldots$ | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 10.2 | . | 11.4 | . | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| January to February movement | 7.4 | $\ldots$ | 2.6 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 7.5 | . | 8.3 | . . | 0.2 | 0.2 |

ALL FEMALES

| 1977 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November | 2,128.2 | 16.8 | 112.4 | 51.4 | 163.7 | 2,291.9 | 2,233.8 | 2,935.3 | 5,227.2 | 7.1 | 43.8 |
| 1978 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 2,074.8 | 40.5 | 160.3 | 61.8 | 222.1 | 2,296.9 | 2,285.9 | 2,961.8 | 5,258.7 | 9.7 | 43.7 |
| October | 2,151.9 | 17.4 | 111.9 | 47.7 | 159.6 | 2,311.5 | n.a. | 3,007.6 | 5,319.0 | 6.9 | 43.5 |
| November | 2,151.2 | 20.3 | 117.9 | 45.5 | 163.3 | 2,314.6 | 2,307.4 | 3,014.5 | 5,329.1 | 7.1 | 43.4 |
| December | 2,173.8 | 47.1 | 153.9 | 45.8 | 199.7 | 2,373.5 | n.a. | 2,970.9 | 5,344.3 | 8.4 | 44.4 |
| 1979 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 2,070.7 | 45.3 | 155.9 | 40.2 | 196.1 | 2,266.8 | n.a. | 3,081.1 | 5,347.9 | 8.7 | 42.4 |
| February | 2,125.4 | 36.1 | 152.2 | 59.9 | 212.1 | 2,337.5 | 2,326.9 | 3,019.6 | 5,357.1 | 9.1 | 43.6 |
| Standard error of - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February estimates | 11.5 | 2.6 | 4.6 | 3.2 | 5.2 | 11.9 | $\ldots$ | 12.8 | . | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| January to February movement | 8.3 | 2.6 | 4.0 | 2.9 | 4.4 | 8.5 | . | 9.1 |  | 0.2 | 0.2 |


| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1977 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| November | 5,995.4 | 33.0 | 277.4 | 69.4 | 346.8 | 6,342.2 | 6,343.7 | 3,991.0 | 10,333.2 | 5.5 | 61.4 |
| 1978 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 5,932.3 | 80.6 | 395.8 | 81.3 | 477.0 | 6,409.3 | 6,368.7 | 3,985.0 | 10,394.3 | 7.4 | 61.7 |
| October | 6,006.6 | 36.5 | 305.9 | 61.6 | 367.5 | 6,374.1 | n.a. | 4,136.1 | 10,510.2 | 5.8 | 60.6 |
| November | 5,997.3 | 38.3 | 308.8 | 60.9 | 369.7 | 6,367.0 | 6,369.5 | 4,162.0 | 10,529.1 | 5.8 | 60.5 |
| December | 6,097.5 | 87.5 | 373.8 | 67.4 | 441.2 | 6,538.7 | n.a. | 4,019.8 | 10,558.5 | 6.7 | 61.9 |
| 1979 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 5,939.9 | 87.7 | 391.1 | 55.0 | 446.2 | 6,386.1 | n.a. | 4,180.0 | 10,566.1 | 7.0 | 60.4 |
| February | 6,018.9 | 69.1 | 381.7 | 72.3 | 453.9 | 6,472.9 | 6,432.4 | 4,111.5 | 10,584.4 | 7.0 | 61.2 |
| Standard error of February estimates | 15.6 | 3.4 | 6.5 | 3.4 | 6.9 | 15.9 | . | 14.0 | . . | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| January to February movement | 10.7 | 3.3 | 5.3 | 3.1 | 5.5 | 10.9 | . . | 9.8 | . . | 0.1 | 0.1 |

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraphs 4 to 12 . Seasonally adjusted figures are available only at quarterly intervals. See paragraph 19. See paragraph 14 for details of change in timing of survey from February 1978. For information on standard errors see paragraphs 15 to 18.

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS STATES AND TERRITORIES, FEBRUARY 1979 (a)


For footnotes see Table 1.

TABLE 3. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), FEBRUARY 1979

|  | Males | Married women | Other females (b) | All females | Persons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NUMBER ('000) |  |  |  |  |  |
| All employed persons | 3,893.6 | 1,346.1 | 779.3 | 2,125.4 | 6,018.9 |
| Full-time workers | 3,710.5 | 779.4 | 635.4 | 1,414.8 | 5,125.3 |
| Part-time workers | 183.0 | 566.7 | 143.9 | 710.6 | 893.6 |
| Preferred not to work more hours | 144.0 | 517.1 | 108.5 | 625.5 | 769.6 |
| Preferred to work more hours | 39.0 | 49.6 | 35.4 | 85.0 | 124.1 |
| Were actively looking for full-time work | 20.9 | 8.6 | 18.0 | 26.7 | 47.6 |
| AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (c) |  |  |  |  |  |
| All employed persons | 40.0 | 28.9 | 33.0 | 30.4 | 36.6 |
| Full-time workers | 41.2 | 38.4 | 37.2 | 37.9 | 40.3 |
| Part-time workers | 15.8 | 15.9 | 14.5 | 15.6 | 15.6 |

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraphs 4 to 12 . (b) Comprises never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Averages have been calculated by using actual hours worked during the survey week, not hours paid for. All employed persons, including those who did not work during the survey week, have been included in the calculations. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the average hours figures. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc.

TABLE 4. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND AGE (a) FEBRUARY 1979 ('000)

|  | Employed |  |  | Unemployed |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age group (years) | Full. time | Parttime | Total | Looking for full-time work | Looking for part-time work | Total | Labour force | Not in labour force | Civilian population aged 15 years and over |
| 15-19 | 532.9 | 120.7 | 653.7 | 139.9 | 18.7 | 158.5 | 812.2 | 465.4 | 1,277.6 |
| Left school 1978 to survey |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| date | 108.2 | 27.0 | 135.2 | 58.1 | 4.7 | 62.8 | 198.0 | 45.6 | 243.6 |
| November or <br> December 1978 | 80.3 | 24.3 | 104.6 | 43.5 | * | 47.7 | 152.3 | 39.2 | 191.5 |
| 20-24 | 806.8 | 74.2 | 881.0 | 84.5 | 11.1 | 95.5 | 976.5 | 224.6 | 1,201.1 |
| 25 and over | 3,785.6 | 698.7 | 4,484.3 | 157.4 | 42.5 | 199.9 | 4,684.2 | 3,421.5 | 8,105.6 |
| Total | 5,125.3 | 893.6 | 6,018.9 | 381.7 | 72.3 | 453.9 | 6,472.9 | 4,111.5 | 10,584.4 |

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraph 4 to 12.

TABLE 5. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, FEBRUARY 1979 (a)

|  | Number ('000) |  |  | Unemployment rate (per cent) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 229.5 | 152.2 | 381.7 | 5.8 | 9.7 | 6.9 |
| Married | 80.4 | 45.5 | 125.8 | 2.9 | 55 | 3.5 |
| Not married (b) | 149.1 | 106.8 | 255.9 | 12.4 | 14.4 | 13.1 |
| Aged 15-19 y ears | 69.9 | 69.9 | 139.9 | 18.7 | 23.5 | 20.8 |
| Attending school | 5.9 | * | 7.7 | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. |
| Aged 20-24 years | 50.2 | 34.3 | 84.5 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.5 |
| Aged 25 years and over | 109.3 | 48.0 | 157.4 | 3.6 | 5.3 | 4.0 |
| Born in Australia | 163.4 | 112.7 | 276.1 | 5.7 | 9.8 | 6.9 |
| Born outside Australia | 66.0 | 39.5 | 105.6 | 6.2 | 9.4 | 7.1 |
| Arrived before 1971 | 48.5 | 24.7 | 73.2 | 5.7 | 8.1 | 6.3 |
| 1971 to 1977 | 13.3 | 9.6 | 22.9 | 6.9 | 9.6 | 7.8 |
| 1978 and 1979 | * | 5.2 | 9.4 | * | 33.8 | 22.0 |
| LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 12.3 | 59.9 | 72.3 | 6.3 | 7.8 | 7.5 |
| Aged 15-19 years | 6.8 | 11.8 | 18.7 | 11.9 | 14.4 | 13.4 |
| Attending school | * | 6.6 | 10.6 | * | 16.4 | 14.5 |
| Aged 20-24 years <br> Aged 25 years and over | $\} 5.5$ | $\left\{\begin{array}{r}9.4 \\ 38.6\end{array}\right.$ | 11.1 42.5 | 4.0 | 15.8 6.1 | 13.0 5.7 |

For footnotes see Table 3.

TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, FEBRUARY 1979 (a)

| Industry division or sub-division | Number ('000) | Unempl- <br> oyment rate (per cent) | Occupation group | Number ('000) | Unemployment rate (per cent) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years | 281.2 | 4.5 | Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years | 281.2 | 4.5 |
| Agriculture and services to agriculture | 14.4 | 3.8 | Professional, technical, etc. | 17.7 | , |
| Manufacturing | 66.1 | 5.2 | Administrative, executive and managerial | 61 | 1.6 |
| Food, beverages and tobacco | 15.0 | 7.1 | Clerical | 35.8 | 3.3 |
| Metal products, machinery and |  |  | Sales | 31.0 | 5.4 |
| equipment | 7.8 | 3.9 | Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc. | 19.2 | 4.3 |
| Other manufacturing | 43.4 | 5.1 | Miners, quarrymen, etc. | * | * |
| Construction | 37.5 | 7.3 | Transport and communication | 14.1 | 4.0 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 68.0 | 5.3 | Tradesmen, production - process workers |  |  |
| Transport and storage | 11.9 | 3.4 | and labourers, n.e.c. | 121.1 | 6.2 |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and business services | 12.1 | 2.4 | Service, sport and recreation | 34.2 | 5.7 |
| Community services | 25.6 | 2.7 |  |  |  |
| Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services | 28.4 | 7.1 |  |  |  |
| Other industries | 17.1 | 2.6 |  |  |  |
| Other (b) | 172.8 | .. |  |  |  |
| Total | 453.9 | 7.0 |  |  |  |

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraphs 4 to 12. (b) Had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job or had not done so in the last two years. Industry and occupation were not obtained for these persons.

TABLE 7. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 1979 (a)

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraphs 4 to 12. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

TABLE 8. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : STATE CAPITAL CITIES, FEBRUARY 1979 (a)

| Capital city | Number ('000) |  |  | Unemployment rate (per cent) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Looking for full-time work | Looking for part-time work | Total | Looking for full-time work | Looking for part-time work | Total |
| Sydney | 75.0 | 16.3 | 91.2 | 5.9 | 7.6 | 6.2 |
| Melbourne | 67.5 | 15.7 | 83.2 | 6.2 | 8.4 | 6.5 |
| Brisbane | 29.9 | 4.7 | 34.6 | 7.7 | 6.9 | 7.6 |
| Adelaide | 35.4 | 4.8 | 40.2 | 9.7 | 6.5 | 9.1 |
| Perth | 29.7 | 5.8 | 35.5 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 8.8 |
| Hobart | 5.2 | * | 5.9 | 8.0 | * | 7.8 |
| Total | 242.5 | 47.9 | 290.5 | 6.9 | 7.7 | 7.0 |

(a) See note (a) to Table 7.


[^0]:    (a) Movements between corresponding months of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive months will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Table B. Standard errors of quarterly movements can be obtained by multiplying the figures in Table B by 1.4.

