

THE LABOUR FORCE, MARCH 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526565 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

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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 March 1979 the estimated number of persons in the civilian labour force was 6,486,600 (4,127,400 males and 2,359,200 females), comprising 6,061,600 employed persons (3,904,200 males and 2,157,400 females) and 425,000 unemployed persons (223,100 males and 201,800 females).
- Between February and March 1979 there was little change in the number of persons employed full-time. The number employed part-time increased by 46,300 (15,500 males, 30,800 females). Married women in part-time employment increased by 18,600.
- In the twelve months to March 1979 the number of persons in the labour force increased by 78,500 (39,800 males, 38,700 females), and the number not in the labour force by 113,600.

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

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

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 1966 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 standard 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 2,157,400 employed females in March 1979 has a standard error of about 11,600 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 2,145,800 to 2,169,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will be within the range 2,134,200 to 2,180,600.
- (b) The estimate of movement in the number of employed females from February to March 1979 is an increase of 32,000. 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 March 1979 estimate (2,157,400) is the larger. From Table B it will be seen that the standard error of the monthly movement is about 8,400. 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 23,600 to 40,400 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range 15,200 to 48,800.

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.

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TABLE A - STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
— number —									Per cent of estimate	
1,500						300				
2,000						340	470	440		
2,500				510	510	380	510	480		
3,000				550	560	410	550	510		
3,500			740	590	590	430	590	540		
4,000			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	0.6
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
5,000,000									10,000

(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.

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

Month	Employed	Unemployed				Labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate	Participation rate		
		Looking for full-time work		Looking for part-time work	Total						
		Aged 15-19 years looking for first job	Total								
										Original	Seasonally adjusted
- '000 -											
- per cent -											
MALES											
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
March	3,870.1	26.1	200.2	17.3	217.6	4,087.6	n.a.	1,056.6	5,144.2	5.3	79.5
April	3,867.7	21.9	196.2	14.6	210.9	4,078.5	n.a.	1,073.9	5,152.4	5.2	79.2
May	3,863.5	18.0	194.8	14.4	209.1	4,072.6	4,071.7	1,087.2	5,159.8	5.1	78.9
June	3,860.0	16.7	205.4	11.3	216.7	4,076.7	n.a.	1,091.0	5,167.7	5.3	78.9
July	3,848.2	14.1	202.4	8.7	211.1	4,059.3	n.a.	1,114.8	5,174.1	5.2	78.5
August	3,832.3	18.1	207.3	14.2	221.5	4,053.8	4,077.7	1,126.6	5,180.4	5.5	78.3
September	3,840.9	19.9	204.7	13.4	218.1	4,059.0	n.a.	1,126.9	5,186.0	5.4	78.3
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	n.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
March	3,904.2	24.1	206.6	16.5	223.1	4,127.4	n.a.	1,111.3	5,238.6	5.4	78.8
Standard error of -											
March estimates	13.8	2.1	5.2	1.8	5.3	14.0	..	9.4	..	0.1	0.3
February to March movement	9.7	2.4	4.5	1.8	4.6	9.8	..	7.1	..	0.1	0.2
MARRIED WOMEN											
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
March	1,352.8	*	50.7	37.6	88.3	1,441.1	n.a.	1,958.2	3,399.3	6.1	42.4
April	1,354.0	*	47.5	35.4	82.9	1,437.0	n.a.	1,956.2	3,393.2	5.8	42.4
May	1,356.5	*	49.8	34.1	83.9	1,440.4	1,445.3	1,958.7	3,399.1	5.8	42.4
June	1,345.4	*	46.0	34.5	80.5	1,425.9	n.a.	1,977.6	3,403.5	5.6	41.9
July	1,368.7	*	44.1	28.2	72.4	1,441.1	n.a.	1,967.8	3,408.9	5.0	42.3
August	1,357.7	*	47.0	30.3	77.2	1,434.9	1,441.1	1,977.5	3,412.4	5.4	42.1
September	1,358.9	*	40.5	29.9	70.4	1,429.3	n.a.	1,979.2	3,408.5	4.9	41.9
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	n.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
March	1,364.7	*	48.2	36.6	84.8	1,449.5	n.a.	2,002.7	3,452.1	5.8	42.0
Standard error of -											
March estimates	10.0	..	2.9	2.6	3.7	10.2	..	11.3	..	0.3	0.3
February to March movement	7.4	..	2.7	2.5	3.3	7.6	..	8.2	..	0.2	0.2

For footnotes see page 5.

TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (a) – continued

Month	Unemployed					Labour force		Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	
	Employed	Looking for full-time work		Looking for part-time work	Total	Original	Seasonally adjusted				
		Aged 15-19 years looking for first job	Total								
- '000 -											
- per cent -											
ALL FEMALES											
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
March	2,117.8	30.7	145.4	57.3	202.7	2,320.5	n.a.	2,947.5	5,268.0	8.7	44.0
April	2,136.1	24.5	137.3	53.0	190.3	2,326.4	n.a.	2,951.7	5,278.0	8.2	44.1
May	2,135.3	23.9	136.8	49.3	186.2	2,321.4	2,335.2	2,964.5	5,285.9	8.0	43.9
June	2,131.9	18.0	125.2	50.5	175.6	2,307.5	n.a.	2,987.6	5,295.1	7.6	43.6
July	2,149.8	17.8	123.0	43.9	166.9	2,316.8	n.a.	2,984.8	5,301.6	7.2	43.7
August	2,137.2	20.8	125.3	48.9	174.2	2,311.5	2,329.5	2,997.3	5,308.7	7.5	43.5
September	2,144.1	19.3	120.1	46.3	166.4	2,310.5	n.a.	3,003.4	5,313.9	7.2	43.5
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
March	2,157.4	30.8	146.9	54.9	201.8	2,359.2	n.a.	3,006.5	5,365.7	8.6	44.0
Standard error of -											
March estimates	11.6	2.4	4.6	3.1	5.1	11.9	..	12.8	..	0.2	0.2
February to March movement	8.4	2.4	3.9	2.9	4.4	8.6	..	9.1	..	0.2	0.2
PERSONS											
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
March	5,987.9	56.8	345.7	74.6	420.3	6,408.1	n.a.	4,004.1	10,412.2	6.6	61.5
April	6,003.8	46.5	333.5	67.6	401.1	6,404.9	n.a.	4,025.6	10,430.5	6.3	61.4
May	5,998.7	41.8	331.6	63.7	395.3	6,394.0	6,405.6	4,051.7	10,445.7	6.2	61.2
June	5,991.9	34.6	330.5	61.8	392.3	6,384.2	n.a.	4,078.6	10,462.8	6.1	61.0
July	5,998.1	31.9	325.4	52.6	378.0	6,376.1	n.a.	4,099.6	10,475.7	5.9	60.9
August	5,969.6	38.9	332.6	63.1	395.7	6,365.3	6,410.8	4,123.8	10,489.1	6.2	60.7
September	5,985.1	39.2	324.8	59.7	384.5	6,369.6	n.a.	4,130.3	10,499.9	6.0	60.7
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
March	6,061.6	54.9	353.5	71.4	425.0	6,486.6	n.a.	4,117.7	10,604.3	6.6	61.2
Standard error of -											
March estimates	15.6	3.1	6.3	3.4	6.8	15.9	..	14.0	..	0.1	0.2
February to March movement	10.7	3.0	5.2	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, MARCH 1979 (a)

State or Territory	Employed	Unemployed		Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
— '000 —					— per cent —				
MALES									
N.S.W.	1,367.5	72.6	5.0	77.6	1,445.1	407.1	1,852.2	5.4	78.0
Vic.	1,048.1	44.4	*	48.8	1,096.9	296.9	1,393.8	4.4	78.7
Qld	583.4	34.4	*	36.8	620.2	175.1	795.2	5.9	78.0
S.A.	353.0	23.9	*	26.2	379.2	97.7	476.9	6.9	79.5
W.A.	349.1	19.7	*	20.3	369.4	86.9	456.3	5.5	81.0
Tas.	114.2	6.3	*	6.6	120.8	29.9	150.6	5.5	80.2
N.T.	33.2	*	*	*	34.4	7.1	41.5	*	82.9
A.C.T.	55.8	4.3	*	5.6	61.4	10.6	72.0	9.2	85.3
Australia	3,904.2	206.6	16.5	223.1	4,127.4	1,111.3	5,238.6	5.4	78.8
FEMALES									
N.S.W.	746.8	47.0	18.8	65.8	812.6	1,102.3	1,914.9	8.1	42.4
Vic.	610.3	36.0	13.7	49.7	660.0	781.4	1,441.4	7.5	45.8
Qld	298.1	26.8	8.4	35.2	333.3	476.3	809.6	10.6	41.2
S.A.	206.7	17.1	4.9	22.0	228.7	263.8	492.5	9.6	46.4
W.A.	183.5	14.5	6.0	20.5	204.0	242.1	446.1	10.1	45.7
Tas.	60.6	3.8	*	5.5	66.2	87.0	153.1	8.4	43.2
N.T.	14.4	*	*	*	14.8	17.9	32.6	*	45.2
A.C.T.	37.0	*	*	2.7	39.7	35.6	75.4	6.8	52.7
Australia	2,157.4	146.9	54.9	201.8	2,359.2	3,006.5	5,365.7	8.6	44.0
PERSONS									
N.S.W.	2,114.3	119.6	23.8	143.4	2,257.7	1,509.4	3,767.1	6.4	59.9
Vic.	1,658.4	80.4	18.1	98.5	1,756.9	1,078.3	2,835.2	5.6	62.0
Qld	881.5	61.2	10.8	72.0	953.5	651.4	1,604.9	7.6	59.4
S.A.	559.7	41.0	7.2	48.2	607.9	361.5	969.5	7.9	62.7
W.A.	532.6	34.2	6.7	40.9	573.4	329.1	902.5	7.1	63.5
Tas.	174.8	10.2	2.0	12.1	186.9	116.8	303.7	6.5	61.5
N.T.	47.6	*	*	*	49.1	25.0	74.1	*	66.3
A.C.T.	92.8	5.7	2.7	8.3	101.1	46.3	147.4	8.2	68.6
Australia	6,061.6	353.5	71.4	425.0	6,486.6	4,117.7	10,604.3	6.6	61.2

For footnotes see Table 1.

TABLE 3. EMPLOYED PERSONS, MARCH 1979 (a)

	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)					
All employed persons	3,904.2	1,364.7	792.7	2,157.4	6,061.6
Full-time workers	3,705.8	779.4	636.5	1,416.0	5,121.7
Part-time workers	198.5	585.3	156.2	741.4	939.9
Preferred not to work more hours	158.8	536.9	121.3	658.2	817.0
Preferred to work more hours	39.7	48.3	34.9	83.2	122.9
Were actively looking for full-time work	18.7	11.5	15.8	27.4	46.0
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (c)					
All employed persons	39.7	28.5	31.8	29.7	36.1
Full-time workers	40.9	38.0	36.2	37.2	39.9
Part-time workers	16.1	15.9	13.6	15.4	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, MARCH 1979 (a)
(000)

Age group (years)	Employed			Unemployed			Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Full- time	Part- time	Total	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work	Total			
15-19	527.2	130.3	657.5	124.9	20.3	145.2	802.7	482.3	1,284.9
Left school – 1978 to survey date	121.9	28.4	150.2	47.4	*	51.3	201.6	51.1	252.7
20-24	791.4	79.1	870.5	80.8	10.5	91.3	961.8	237.6	1,199.3
25 and over	3,803.2	730.5	4,533.7	147.8	40.7	188.5	4,722.2	3,397.9	8,120.0
Total	5,121.7	939.9	6,061.6	353.5	71.4	425.0	6,486.6	4,117.7	10,604.3

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

TABLE 5. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, MARCH 1979 (a)

	Number ('000)			Unemployment rate (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK						
Total	206.6	146.9	353.5	5.3	9.4	6.5
Married	71.2	48.2	119.3	2.6	5.8	3.4
Not married (b)	135.5	98.8	234.2	11.5	13.4	12.2
Aged 15-19 years	59.1	65.8	124.9	16.4	22.5	19.2
Attending school	*	*	5.8	*	*	n.a.
Aged 20-24 years	49.1	31.8	80.8	9.4	9.0	9.3
Aged 25 years and over	98.5	49.3	147.8	3.2	5.4	3.7
Born in Australia	147.0	111.2	258.3	5.1	9.7	6.4
Born outside Australia	59.6	35.7	95.3	5.7	8.6	6.5
Arrived before 1971	45.2	21.4	66.6	5.4	7.1	5.9
1971 to 1977	11.0	10.7	21.8	5.9	10.7	7.6
1978 and 1979	*	*	6.9	*	*	15.9
LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK						
Total	16.5	54.9	71.4	7.7	6.9	7.1
Aged 15-19 years	6.9	13.4	20.3	10.3	16.0	13.5
Attending school	5.0	7.0	12.1	13.0	17.3	15.2
Aged 20-24 years	*	7.1	10.5	*	11.3	11.7
Aged 25 years and over	6.3	34.4	40.7	5.2	5.3	5.3

For footnotes see Table 3.

TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : STATE CAPITAL CITIES, MARCH 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	70.5	17.2	87.7	5.6	7.6	5.9
Melbourne	56.1	13.6	69.7	5.2	7.0	5.4
Brisbane	25.5	5.2	30.7	6.6	7.6	6.7
Adelaide	33.3	5.7	39.0	9.3	7.3	8.9
Perth	25.1	5.8	30.9	7.6	8.1	7.7
Hobart	4.9	*	6.1	7.6	*	7.8
Total	215.4	48.7	264.1	6.2	7.5	6.4

(a) See note (a) to Table 4.

TABLE 7. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, MARCH 1979 (a)

<i>Industry division or sub-division</i>	<i>Number (^{'000})</i>	<i>Occupation group</i>	<i>Number (^{'000})</i>
Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	269.8	Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	269.8
Agriculture and services to agriculture	14.3	Professional, technical, etc.	16.2
Manufacturing	62.0	Administrative, executive and managerial	5.3
Food, beverages and tobacco	12.6	Clerical	32.0
Metal products, machinery and equipment	10.9	Sales	30.8
Other manufacturing	38.6	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	17.5
Construction	37.2	Miners, quarrymen, etc.	*
Wholesale and retail trade	64.1	Transport and communication	9.3
Transport and storage	9.8	Tradesmen, production - process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	120.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	14.5	Service, sport and recreation	31.4
Community services	21.5		
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	25.4		
Other industries	14.7		
Stood down (b)	6.3		
Other (c)	155.1		
Total	425.0		

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 3. For definitions see paragraphs 4 to 12. (b) For definition, see paragraph 6(b). (c) 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 8. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, MARCH 1979 (a)

	Persons						
	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Looking for –		Total
					Full-time work	Part-time work	
NUMBER ('000)							
Duration of unemployment (weeks) –							
Under 2	14.1	12.8	6.1	18.8	19.4	13.6	33.0
2 and under 4	22.8	13.0	13.5	26.5	34.1	15.2	49.3
4 and under 8	30.1	16.0	17.3	33.3	48.9	14.5	63.4
8 and under 13	34.6	12.0	19.1	31.1	57.2	8.5	65.7
13 and under 26	42.7	8.6	27.1	35.7	72.3	6.1	78.4
26 and under 39	24.3	7.6	11.7	19.4	38.1	5.5	43.6
39 and under 52	10.7	*	*	5.4	15.6	*	16.1
52 and over	43.8	13.1	18.6	31.8	68.1	7.5	75.5
Total	223.1	84.8	117.1	201.8	353.5	71.4	425.0
AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (weeks)							
All unemployed persons	29.9	21.9	25.0	23.7	29.3	15.4	27.0
Aged 15-19 years	22.6	13.9	22.5	22.0	23.9	12.0	22.2
Aged 20 years and over	33.0	22.4	29.5	24.8	32.2	16.8	29.4

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