



LABOUR FORCE STATUS AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1985 (PRELIMINARY)

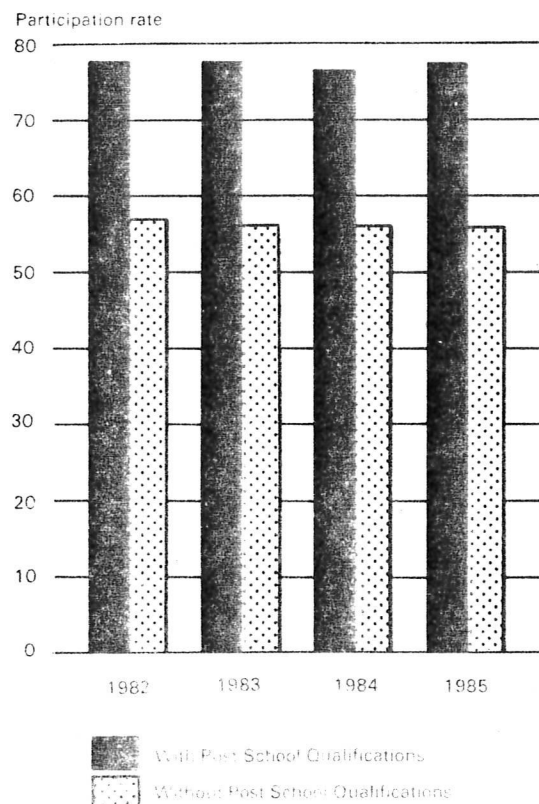
PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics*—contact Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062) 52 6661 or any of our State offices.
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MAIN FEATURES

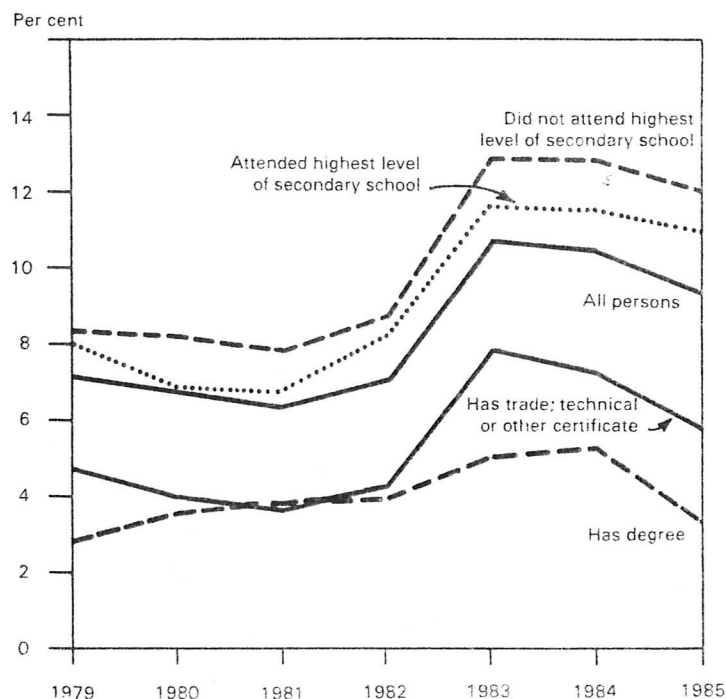
Note: Survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraph 13 following.

CIVILIAN POPULATION : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, PARTICIPATION RATES, FEBRUARY 1982 TO FEBRUARY 1985



Participation in the labour force varied according to educational attainment—77.2 per cent of persons with post-school qualifications were in the labour force in February 1985 compared with 56.1 per cent of persons without post-school qualifications.

CIVILIAN POPULATION : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, FEBRUARY 1979 TO FEBRUARY 1985



The diagram above illustrates the unemployment rate for persons with different educational qualifications over the period February 1979 to February 1985.

3,069,600 persons in the labour force (42.3 per cent) had a post-school qualification and 907,200 persons not in the labour force (20.4 per cent) had a post-school qualification. Of persons not in the labour force, 486,500 (53.6 per cent) were females with a trade; technical or other certificate.

Although the number of unemployed persons, both with and without post-school qualifications, fell between February 1984 and February 1985, the average duration of unemployment of those unemployed persons rose for both over the same period. In February 1985, the average duration of unemployment for unemployed persons with post-school qualifications was 35.2 weeks (February 1984—30.9 weeks) compared with 49.4 weeks (February 1984—48.1 weeks) for unemployed persons without post-school qualifications.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The monthly Population Survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the February 1985 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary were asked additional questions. This subset of respondents was asked about their highest educational qualifications. For persons with post-school qualifications, the information sought includes field of study, and for those who did not complete their schooling, it includes the age at which they left school.

Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) except that it excluded students boarding at school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and inmates of jails, reformatories etc.

Definitions

4. Definitions of the principal labour force categories appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0), but it should be noted that there are slight differences in the estimates for labour force categories shown in these publications. This is due to the different sizes of the samples used and the inability to obtain from a small number of persons the additional information required for the educational qualifications survey. Although the estimation procedures take account of these factors, estimates for some characteristics will be affected.

5. *Persons with a post-school qualification* are those who had left school and answered 'Yes' to the question: 'Since leaving school have you obtained a certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification?'

6. *Classification of post-school qualifications.* Respondents indicate which one of the following groups best describes their highest qualification:

- (a) *Degree:* a bachelor degree (including honours), a graduate or post-graduate diploma, masters degree or a doctorate;
- (b) *Trade; technical or other certificate:* completion of an approved trade/technician apprenticeship or training course, other certificate or diploma in secretarial or business studies, administration, teaching, nursing, etc.;
- (c) *Other:* completion of other post-secondary education e.g. adult education, preparatory/bridging course or hobby course.

7. *Highest level of secondary school available* refers to the highest level of secondary schooling (or equivalent) offered by the education system at the time the respondent left school.

8. *Still at school.* Current school attendance is recorded only for persons aged fifteen to twenty years.

Results of the survey

9. This publication contains only a summary of results of the survey. Estimates shown are preliminary and may be revised. Further information is available on request and a more detailed publication will be released as soon as possible.

10. Results of similar surveys, the first conducted in February 1979, have been published in *Labour Force, Status and Educational Attainment, Australia* (6235.0).

Comparability of the estimates

11. Educational attainment of persons not in the labour force is not available for the February 1979, 1980 and 1981 surveys which only covered persons in the labour force.

12. Estimates in this series are not strictly comparable with those from the population censuses due to differences in questions and coding methodology.

Reliability of the estimates

13. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:

- (a) *sampling error:* since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is they may differ from the figures 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*. More information about this topic will be found in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). A table of estimated standard errors for this survey follows these notes. Estimates with a standard error of more than about 25 per cent have not been shown in this publication, as the degree of sampling variability would seriously detract from their value for most reasonable uses. Although figures for these small components can, in some cases, be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable.
- (b) *Non-sampling error:* inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of 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 operating procedures.

Related publications

14. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly (\$1.10, \$1.90 incl. postage).

Transition from Education to Work, Australia, May 1984 (6227.0)

15. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 13 above.
- n.e.c. not elsewhere classified
- .. not applicable

16. Because figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (Persons)	Approximate standard error of estimates		Size of estimate (Persons)	Approximate standard error of estimates	
	Persons	Per cent of estimate		Persons	Per cent of estimate
4,500	1,050	23.9	200,000	6,100	3.0
6,000	1,250	20.7	500,000	8,700	1.7
10,000	1,600	16.0	1,000,000	11,200	1.1
20,000	2,250	11.1	2,000,000	14,200	0.7
50,000	3,400	6.8	5,000,000	19,100	0.4
100,000	4,550	4.6	10,000,000	23,500	0.2
			12,000,000	24,700	0.2

TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND LABOUR FORCE STATUS, FEBRUARY 1985

Educational attainment	Employed			Unem- ployed	In the labour force	Not in the labour force	Total	Partic- ipation rate	Unem- ployment rate
	Full-time	Part-time	Total						
— '000—									
— per cent—									
MALES									
With post-school qualifications	1,824.0	68.7	1,892.7	93.9	1,986.6	318.3	2,304.8	86.2	4.7
Degree	417.8	19.0	436.7	12.1	448.8	56.6	505.4	88.8	2.7
Trade; technical or other certificate	1,360.3	47.3	1,407.6	77.6	1,485.1	255.1	1,740.3	85.3	5.2
Other	45.9	*	48.4	*	52.6	6.6	59.2	88.9	*
Without post-school qualifications	2,013.8	128.7	2,142.5	283.4	2,425.9	802.0	3,227.9	75.2	11.7
Attended highest level of secondary school available	457.9	44.3	502.2	60.0	562.2	107.3	669.5	84.0	10.7
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	1,550.6	84.1	1,634.7	222.7	1,857.4	680.8	2,538.1	73.2	12.0
Left at age—									
18 years or over	26.5	*	29.3	5.5	34.8	6.9	41.7	83.5	15.9
16 or 17 years	520.6	24.0	544.6	73.8	618.3	76.0	694.4	89.0	11.9
14 or 15 years	849.5	46.2	895.7	124.9	1,020.6	423.4	1,444.0	70.7	12.2
13 years or under	154.0	11.2	165.2	18.4	183.6	174.5	358.1	51.3	10.0
Never attended school	5.3	*	5.6	*	6.3	13.9	20.3	31.3	*
Still at school	*	35.5	37.4	13.0	50.5	189.2	239.6	21.1	25.8
Total	3,839.8	232.8	4,072.5	390.4	4,462.9	1,309.5	5,772.4	77.3	8.7
FEMALES									
With post-school qualifications	700.6	312.1	1,012.6	70.5	1,083.1	588.9	1,672.0	64.8	6.5
Degree	175.8	52.0	227.8	10.8	238.7	73.4	312.1	76.5	4.5
Trade; technical or other certificate	500.6	242.4	743.0	54.5	797.5	486.5	1,284.0	62.1	6.8
Other	24.2	17.6	41.8	5.1	46.9	29.0	75.9	61.8	10.9
Without post-school qualifications	901.5	538.0	1,439.5	191.3	1,630.8	2,376.7	4,007.5	40.7	11.7
Attended highest level of secondary school available	217.7	109.0	326.7	41.0	367.8	285.2	652.9	56.3	11.2
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	683.3	428.3	1,111.6	150.3	1,261.9	2,061.7	3,323.6	38.0	11.9
Left at age—									
18 years or over	10.2	5.2	15.5	*	19.8	12.7	32.5	60.9	*
16 or 17 years	281.2	128.0	409.2	61.0	470.1	424.4	894.5	52.6	13.0
14 or 15 years	343.9	267.6	611.5	76.9	688.4	1,319.4	2,007.8	34.3	11.2
13 years or under	48.0	27.5	75.5	8.1	83.6	305.2	388.8	21.5	9.7
Never attended school	*	*	*	*	*	29.8	30.9	*	*
Still at school	*	50.9	51.7	21.4	73.1	171.1	244.2	29.9	29.3
Total	1,602.8	901.0	2,503.7	283.2	2,787.0	3,136.7	5,923.7	47.0	10.2
PERSONS									
With post-school qualifications	2,524.6	380.7	2,905.3	164.4	3,069.6	907.2	3,976.8	77.2	5.4
Degree	593.6	71.0	664.6	22.9	687.5	130.0	817.5	84.1	3.3
Trade; technical or other certificate	1,860.9	289.7	2,150.6	132.1	2,282.7	741.6	3,024.3	75.5	5.8
Other	70.1	20.0	90.1	9.3	99.5	35.6	135.0	73.7	9.4
Without post-school qualifications	2,915.3	666.6	3,581.9	474.8	4,056.7	3,178.7	7,235.4	56.1	11.7
Attended highest level of secondary school available	675.6	153.4	828.9	101.0	929.9	392.5	1,322.4	70.3	10.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	2,233.8	512.5	2,746.3	373.0	3,119.3	2,742.5	5,861.8	53.2	12.0
Left at age—									
18 years or over	36.7	8.0	44.7	9.9	54.6	19.6	74.2	73.6	18.1
16 or 17 years	801.7	152.0	953.7	134.8	1,088.5	500.4	1,588.9	68.5	12.4
14 or 15 years	1,193.4	313.8	1,507.2	201.8	1,709.0	1,742.8	3,451.8	49.5	11.8
13 years or under	202.0	38.7	240.7	26.5	267.2	479.7	746.9	35.8	9.9
Never attended school	5.9	*	6.7	*	7.5	43.7	51.2	14.6	*
Still at school	*	86.4	89.1	34.5	123.6	360.3	483.9	25.5	27.9
Total	5,442.5	1,133.8	6,576.3	673.6	7,249.9	4,446.2	11,696.1	62.0	9.3

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION : EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND AGE, FEBRUARY 1985
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Educational attainment	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
With post-school qualifications	24.9	243.3	656.4	580.3	353.2	446.7	2,304.8
Degree	*	42.3	167.9	145.3	70.8	79.0	505.4
Trade; technical or other certificate	19.4	195.4	470.4	421.6	274.7	358.7	1,740.3
Other	5.4	5.6	18.1	13.4	7.6	9.0	59.2
Without post-school qualifications	378.5	414.2	602.1	496.4	426.2	910.6	3,227.9
Attended highest level of secondary school available	120.7	153.3	170.2	93.0	46.7	85.6	669.5
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	257.5	260.9	429.9	399.6	375.7	814.5	2,538.1
Left at age—							
18 years or over	*	10.3	12.6	7.1	*	*	41.7
16 or 17 years	135.7	143.4	186.2	102.6	52.7	73.8	694.4
14 or 15 years	117.1	104.0	210.0	243.9	247.5	521.5	1,444.0
13 years or under	*	*	21.0	45.9	71.9	214.8	358.1
Never attended school	*	*	*	*	*	10.5	20.3
Still at school	239.6	*	..	..	..	..	239.6
Total	643.0	657.5	1,258.5	1,076.7	779.3	1,357.3	5,772.4
FEMALES							
With post-school qualifications	57.2	235.2	524.5	398.0	201.2	255.9	1,672.0
Degree	*	42.8	129.7	77.7	31.5	29.6	312.1
Trade; technical or other certificate	52.0	180.2	375.1	300.6	160.0	216.1	1,284.0
Other	4.5	12.2	19.7	19.6	9.7	10.1	75.9
Without post-school qualifications	325.8	424.2	738.8	690.9	548.4	1,279.5	4,007.5
Attended highest level of secondary school available	115.1	139.2	144.9	85.9	52.0	115.8	652.9
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	210.7	284.5	591.8	602.7	490.9	1,142.9	3,323.6
Left at age—							
18 years or over	*	8.2	10.0	*	*	5.6	32.5
16 or 17 years	115.1	159.1	256.1	154.4	80.7	129.1	894.5
14 or 15 years	91.5	111.1	301.1	385.1	336.5	782.5	2,007.8
13 years or under	*	6.1	24.6	59.2	72.8	225.7	388.8
Never attended school	*	*	*	*	5.4	20.7	30.9
Still at school	243.9	*	..	..	..	..	244.2
Total	627.0	659.7	1,263.3	1,088.8	749.6	1,535.3	5,923.7
PERSONS							
With post-school qualifications	82.1	478.5	1,180.9	978.3	554.4	702.6	3,976.8
Degree	*	85.2	297.6	223.1	102.3	108.6	817.5
Trade; technical or other certificate	71.4	375.6	845.5	722.2	434.8	574.8	3,024.3
Other	10.0	17.7	37.8	33.0	17.3	19.1	135.0
Without post-school qualifications	704.3	838.4	1,340.9	1,187.2	974.5	2,190.0	7,235.4
Attended highest level of secondary school available	235.8	292.4	315.1	179.0	98.7	201.5	1,322.4
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	468.2	545.4	1,021.7	1,002.3	866.7	1,957.4	5,861.8
Left at age—							
18 years or over	7.3	18.5	22.6	11.2	4.5	10.0	74.2
16 or 17 years	250.8	302.5	442.3	257.0	133.4	202.9	1,588.9
14 or 15 years	208.6	215.1	511.1	629.0	584.0	1,304.0	3,451.8
13 years or under	*	9.3	45.7	105.1	144.7	440.5	746.9
Never attended school	*	*	*	5.9	9.2	31.2	51.2
Still at school	483.6	*	..	..	..	..	483.9
Total	1,269.9	1,317.2	2,521.9	2,165.5	1,529.0	2,892.6	11,696.1

TABLE 3. EMPLOYED PERSONS : OCCUPATION AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1985
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Occupation group	With post-school qualifications			Without post-school qualifications				
	Degree	Trade; technical or other certificate	Total (a)	Attended highest secondary level	Did not attend highest level of secondary school and left at age (years)		Total (b)	Total (c)
					16 or over	15 or under		
Professional, technical, etc.	473.4	412.7	891.8	75.6	36.7	30.0	142.3	1,034.4
Administrative, executive and managerial	58.8	158.2	224.2	69.6	56.1	103.7	229.4	453.8
Clerical	67.1	334.6	424.0	259.9	247.3	240.4	747.7	1,186.1
Sales	18.1	122.8	153.1	109.4	114.1	170.4	394.3	587.0
Farmers, fisherpersons and timbergetters, etc.	11.9	95.0	115.1	47.5	81.4	202.8	333.2	453.6
Miners and quarry workers	*	13.9	14.9	*	5.0	12.0	18.9	33.8
Transport and communication	*	79.6	86.9	29.7	58.2	155.1	243.3	332.5
Trades and production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	19.0	756.1	791.9	147.5	298.7	590.0	1,040.4	1,844.8
Service, sport and recreation	12.4	177.7	203.6	87.7	100.9	243.3	432.4	650.3
Total	664.6	2,150.6	2,905.3	828.9	998.4	1,747.9	3,581.9	6,576.3

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school. (c) Includes persons aged 15 to 20 years still at school.

TABLE 4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS : DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, FEBRUARY 1985

Duration of current period of unemployment (weeks)	With post-school qualifications			Without post-school qualifications				
	Degree	Trade; technical or other certificate	Total (a)	Attended highest secondary level	Did not attend highest level of secondary school and left at age (years)		Total (b)	Total (c)
					16 or over	15 or under		
					— ' 000 —			
1 and under 4	*	28.7	33.6	18.8	21.3	30.2	70.2	112.6
4 8	5.9	21.4	29.1	18.0	15.2	25.7	59.0	95.1
8 13	*	14.5	20.1	20.2	22.4	22.8	65.4	92.5
13 26	*	18.3	21.9	14.9	17.0	29.0	61.0	86.9
26 52	*	15.3	19.5	8.1	22.9	29.1	60.1	84.5
52 and over	*	33.9	40.1	21.0	45.8	91.7	159.0	202.0
Total	22.9	132.1	164.4	101.0	144.6	228.4	474.8	673.6
					— weeks —			
Average duration	27.3	36.2	35.2	29.2	42.3	62.4	49.4	44.2
Median duration	10.2	13.4	12.8	10.9	22.4	26.8	20.7	16.6

(a) Includes persons with other post-school qualifications. (b) Includes persons who never attended school. (c) Includes persons aged 15 to 20 years still at school.