# WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES (DISTRIBUTION), AUGUST 1977 (PRELIMINARY) 

| INQUIRIES | If you want to know more about these statistics - <br> . ring Mr Graham Angus, Canberra 526572 or our State Office, or <br> . write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 <br> For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices. |
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## MAIN FEATURES

. In August 1977, the estimated percentages of full-time employees aged 20 years and over earning less than various weekly amounts were as follows: Males Females

| 25 per cent earned less than | 150 | 128 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $50 "$ | $"$ | $" \#$ | 181 |
| $75 " \#$ | 150 |  |  |
| $90 "$ | $"$ | $"$ | $"$, |

Average weekly earnings of full-time employees were:

|  | Males <br> $(\$)$ | Females <br> $(\$)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Aged 20 years and over | 200 | 157 |
| Aged 15 to 19 years | 106 | 98 |

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

In August 1977 a sample survey, based on the quarterly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about weekly earnings of wage and salary earners. For the sake of brevity, wage and salary earners are referred to in the tables as "employees".
2. Similar surveys were conducted in August 1975 and 1976 and results were published in Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) (Catalogue No. 6310.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.51). The 1976 survey and the 1977 survey obtained particulars of earnings from main and other jobs separately. In this publication all tables except Table 4 contain details of earnings aggregated for all jobs; Table 4 contains details of earnings from the main job cross-classified by earnings from the second job.
3. This statement contains a summary of results of the survey. Further estimates will be published in a later bulletin. The estimates shown are preliminary and subject to revision.
4. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covered about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information was obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being carried out during a four-week period.
5. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over who were employed as wage or salary earners in their main job, except members of the permanent armed forces, persons on workers' compensation, certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations, and persons who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

## Interpretation of results

6. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. (See paragraph 12). In addition, they are subject to errors of response and reporting. In many cases the answer to the question on earnings was based on the knowledge of one person (generally the housewife), and it is considered that the estimates may be somewhat understated. Other errors may be due to genuine misunderstanding.

## Definitions

7. Weekly earnings refers to gross weekly wages and salaries before taxation and other deductions have been made.
8. The main job was defined as the job at which most hours were worked during the survey week. The second job was defined to include all remaining jobs.
9. Full-time workers are those who usually worked 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 worked less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour were disregarded.
10. Median weekly earnings is the amount which divides the distribution of individuals into two equal groups, one having earnings above that amount and the other having earnings below it. Medians were calculated from grouped data, the class intervals being finer than those published in the tables. Linear interpolation was used within the class interval in which the median fell.
11. Mean weekly earnings is the amount obtained by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of units in that group.

## Reliability of the estimates

12. Since the estimates in this statement are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included in the survey. Estimates less than 4,000 for Australia, New South Wales and Victoria, 3,000 for Queensland, 2,500 for South Australia, 2,000 for Western Australia and 1,500 for Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory have not been shown as they are subject to sampling variability too high (more than about 20 per cent) for most practical uses. Although in some cases figures for these small components can be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin The Labour Force (Catalogue No. 6203.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.20).

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

## Related Publications

13. Users may also wish to refer to the following earnings and income publications which are available on request:

Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) (Catalogue No. 6310.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.51) - see Explanatory Notes, paragraph 2 and 3.

Average Weekly Earnings, Quarterly, (Preliminary) (Catalogue No. 6301.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.48), and Final Bulletin - (Catalogue No. 6302.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.18).

Earnings and Hours of Employees Distribution and Composition (Preliminary) - (Catalogue No. 6305.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.47), and Final Bulletin (Catalogue No. 6306.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.52) - sample survey conducted annually in May

Earnings and Hours of Employees (Preliminary) (Catalogue No. 6303.0. Previously Ref. No. 6.36), and Final Bulletin - (Catalogue No. 6304.0. Previously Ref. No.. 6.40) - sample survey conducted annually in October.

Income Distribution 1968-69 Consolidated and Revised Edition (Catalogue No. 6505.0. Previously Ref. No. 17.17) - sample survey conducted in respect of 1968-69.

Income Distribution Part 1 1973-74 (Catalogue No. 6502.0. Previously Ref. No. 17.6) and Part 2 (Catalogue No. 6503.0. Previously Ref. No. 17.8)

Income Distribution 1973-74, Families (Preliminary) (Catalogue No. 6506.0. Previously Ref. No. 17.27)

Wage Rates Indexes (Preliminary) (Catalogue No. 6311. Previously Ref. No. 6.37) - monthly.

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TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1977 (a)
N.S.W. Vic. Qld S.A. W.A. Tas. N.T. A.C.T. Australia

MALE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES


## MALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

- ’000 -

| Weekly earnings (\$) - , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 20 | 13.7 | 9.5 | 6.2 | 4.4 | 4.0 |  |  |  | ¢ 39.2 |
| 20 and under 40 | 9.2 | 7.8 | 3.6 | 2.8 | 2.2 | 1.8 | * | 1.7 | 26.2 |
| 40 " " 60 | 4.0 | 5.9 |  | * | * |  |  |  | 13.7 |
| 60 " " 80 | \} 5.3 | 5.9 | 3.0 \{ |  |  |  |  |  | 9.2 |
| 80 " " 100 | $\int 5.3$ | 5.9 | 3.0 | 4.3 | 5.2 | * | * | * | 8.6 |
| 100 and over | 16.2 | 11.6 | 5.1 |  |  |  |  |  | (b)42.1 |
| Total | 48.5 | 40.8 | 17.8 | 12.6 | 12.4 | 2.7 | * | 3.0 | 139.1 |
| - dollars - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings | 46 | 50 | 45 | 33 | 40 | 39 | * | 46 | 46 |
| Mean earnings | 90 | 81 | 77 | 71 | 81 | 65 | * | 95 | 84 |

(a) For definitions see page 1. (b) Since part-time employees are defined as those who usually work less than 35 hours and who did so in the survey week, this figure may include school teachers, academic staff in universities, aircrew, etc.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See page 2, paragraph 12.

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1977 (a) - continued


FEMALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES


For footnotes see page 3.

TABLE 2. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGES, AUGUST 1977 (a) (Per cent)


[^0]* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See page 2, paragraph 12.

TABLE 3. MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS : FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES, STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS, AUGUST 1977 (a) - \$ -

|  | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 199 | 196 | 190 | 185 | 196 | 187 |
| Other areas | 185 | 169 | 183 | 177 | 201 | 174 |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 95 | 73 | 66 | 66 | 75 | 62 |
| Other areas | 80 | 101 | 90 | 86 | 103 | 69 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 150 | 149 | 143 | 144 | 146 | 143 |
| Other areas | 144 | 144 | 135 | 136 | 141 | 140 |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 84 | 79 | 72 | 74 | 69 | 73 |
| Other areas | 73 | 67 | 67 | 66 | 61 | 67 |

(a) For definitions see page 1.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYEES WITH A SECOND JOB : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND WEEKLY EARNINGS IN SECOND JOB, AUGUST 1977 (a)

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

(a) For definitions see page 1.

* Less than 4,000. See page 2, paragraph 12. .. Not applicable.


(a) For definitions see page 1. (b) Aged 60 years and over.

* Less than 4,000. See page 2, paragraph 12.


[^0]:    (a) For definitions see page 1.

