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WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES (DISTRIBUTION), AUGUST 1979 (PRELIMINARY)


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## MAIN FEATURES

In August 1979 the estimated percentages of full-time employees aged 20 years and over earning less than various weekly amounts were as follows:

| Males | Females |
| :---: | :---: |
| $(\$)$ | $(\$)$ |


| 25 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 50 | per cent earned less than | 175 | 147 |
| 50 | $"$ | $"$, | 211 |
| $75 "$ | 173 |  |  |
| $90 "$ | $"$ | $"$ | 271 |
| 207 | 354 | 257 |  |

Average weekly earnings of full-time employees were:

|  | Males | Females |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | $(\$)$ | $(\$)$ |
| Aged 20 years and over | 235 | 185 |
| Aged 15 to 19 years | 123 | 113 |

## EXIPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

In August 1979 a sample survey, based on the monthly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about the earnings of wage and salary earners. For the sake of brevity, wage and salary eamers are referred to in the tables as "employees". Similar surveys relating to earnings have been conducted annually since August 1975.
2. This publication contains a summary of results of the survey. The estimates shown are preliminary and subject to revision; further estimates will be published in Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) (6310.0). Although the survey obtained separate particulars of earnings from main and other jobs, this publication contains only details of earnings from all jobs (except in Table 4).

## The population survey

3. 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 conducted during the two weeks beginning on 6 August 1979.

## Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over except:
(a) members of the permanent defence forces
(b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
(c) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia
(d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia, and
(e) patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc.

## Interpretation of results

5. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. (See Technical Note, page 9). 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 possible that the estimates may be somewhat understated. Other errors may be due to genuine misunderstanding.

## Definitions

6. Weekly earnings refers to gross weekly wages and salaries before taxation and other deductions have been made.
7. 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.
8. Full-time employees 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 employees 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.
9. 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.
10. Mean (average) weekly earnings is the amount obtained by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of units in that group.

Comparability of estimates with those for previous years 11. Results of the 1978 and 1979 surveys are based on revised population benchmarks, derived from the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for underenumeration. Hence, estimates of numbers of employees in these surveys are not compatible with those from earlier surveys. Because of resource constraints it is not feasible to calculate estimates on the revised basis for earlier years. However, it is considered that the estimates of mean and median earnings would have been only slightly affected by the change.

## Reliability of the estimates

12. Since the estimates in this publication 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. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 9. See also paragraph 7 of the Technical Note regarding non-sampling errors.

## Related publications

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

## Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) (6310.0)

Average Weekly Earnings, (Preliminary) (6301.0), and Final Bulletin (6302.0) - quarterly.

Earnings and Hours of Employees, Distribution and Composition (Preliminary) - (6305.0), and Final Bulletin (6306.0) - sample survey conducted annually in May.
Earnings and Hours of Employees (Preliminary) (6303.0), and Final Bulletin - (6304.0) - sample survey conducted annually in October.
Income Distribution 1973-74 - Part 1 (6502.0), Part 2 (6503.0) and Part 3 (6504.0)
Wage Rates (6312.0) - monthly.
The Labour Force (6203.0) - monthly.
Symbols and other usages

* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 12 above.
. . not applicable

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

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TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1979


MALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES (b)

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TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1979 - continued


FEMALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES (b)


[^0]TABLE 2. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALX JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRUTORIES, CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGES, AUGUST 1979 (Per cent)

| Weekly earnings(\$) |  | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | $W \cdot A$. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under | 80 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 2.7 | 3.1 | * | * | 2.2 |
| " | 100 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 7.1 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 6.5 | * | * | 4.7 |
| " | 110 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 9.4 | 7.4 | 7.9 | 9.3 | * | * | 6.7 |
|  | 120 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 11.1 | 9.2 | 9.6 | 11.6 | * | * | 8.4 |
|  | 130 | 9.6 | 9.6 | 13.8 | 12.2 | 12.0 | 16.4 | * | * | 10.9 |
| " | 140 | 12.0 | 12.4 | 16.6 | 15.1 | 14.4 | 19.7 | * | * | 13.5 |
|  | 150 | 15.4 | 16.0 | 19.8 | 18.4 | 17.6 | 23.6 | 11.6 | 7.6 | 16.9 |
|  | 160 | 20.4 | 21.6 | 25.3 | 24.9 | 23.0 | 27.7 | 13.3 | 10.2 | 22.2 |
|  | 170 | 25.6 | 27.7 | 31.5 | 31.2 | 28.5 | 33.2 | 16.8 | 13.5 | 27.9 |
|  | 180 | 31.2 | 34.0 | 37.7 | 38.3 | 34.7 | 39.3 | 21.3 | 17.4 | 33.9 |
|  | 190 | 37.6 | 40.2 | 44.1 | 45.7 | 40.6 | 46.0 | 25.4 | 20.9 | 40.3 |
|  | 200 | 43.4 | 45.8 | 50.7 | 52.1 | 46.3 | 52.3 | 27.8 | 23.3 | 46.2 |
|  | 210 | 52.4 | 52.8 | 56.9 | 59.6 | 53.1 | 60.5 | 41.1 | 29.5 | 53.9 |
|  | 220 | 57.8 | 58.6 | 62.2 | 64.9 | 57.7 | 64.7 | 45.7 | 33.4 | 59.2 |
|  | 230 | 62.5 | 63.2 | 66.5 | 68.6 | 62.3 | 69.5 | 47.0 | 39.6 | 63.7 |
| " | 240 | 66.0 | 67.8 | 70.3 | 71.3 | 65.6 | 73.0 | 48.8 | 43.7 | 67.4 |
|  | 250 | 69.9 | 71.2 | 74.0 | 74.9 | 68.8 | 76.3 | 50.7 | 46.6 | 71.0 |
|  | 260 | 73.8 | 75.0 | 77.5 | 79.1 | 73.5 | 79.4 | 53.7 | 51.2 | 74.9 |
| " | 280 | 77.7 | 79.7 | 81.5 | 82.4 | 78.1 | 83.7 | 58.8 | 55.7 | 79.1 |
|  | 300 | 81.6 | 84.1 | 85.0 | 85.7 | 82.4 | 87.3 | 62.6 | 62.2 | 83.1 |
|  | 320 | 85.7 | 88.2 | 88.5 | 88.8 | 86.5 | 91.4 | 65.7 | 66.7 | 87.0 |
|  | 340 | 88.4 | 90.3 | 90.9 | 91.1 | 88.4 | 93.4 | 71.2 | 71.0 | 89.4 |
|  | 360 | 90.9 | 92.6 | 92.5 | 93.0 | 90.5 | 94.5 | 76.7 | 73.9 | 91.6 |
|  | 380 | 92.4 | 94.1 | 93.7 | 94.7 | 92.5 | 95.8 | 80.9 | 80.3 | 93.2 |
|  | 400 | 93.7 | 95.2 | 94.9 | 96.2 | 94.1 | 97.0 | 85.6 | 85.1 | 94.6 |
| $"$ | 450 | 95.7 | 97.1 | 96.5 | 97.6 | 95.7 | 98.2 | 88.5 | 91.8 | 96.5 |
|  | 500 | 97.4 | 98.2 | 97.7 | 98.4 | 96.6 | 99.0 | 92.6 | 94.5 | 97.8 |
|  | 550 | 98.2 | 98.8 | 98.2 | 98.6 | 97.5 | 99.4 | 94.1 | 96.5 | 98.5 |
| Total |  | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| MALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES (b) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under | 20 | 15.9 | 19.8 | 21.7 | 26.1 | 19.5 | * | * | * | 19.0 |
| " | 40 | 31.6 | 39.0 | 44.7 | 45.7 | 40.7 | * | * | * | 37.5 |
| " | 60 | 42.2 | 51.2 | 54.1 | 55.9 | 50.4 | * | * | * | 48.1 |
| " | 80 | 49.5 | 61.5 | 62.4 | 65.6 | 57.2 | * | * | * | 56.4 |
| $"$ | 100 | 59.4 | 67.7 | 68.2 | 75.7 | 59.8 | 69.7 | * | * | 64.2 |
| " | 200 | 83.8 | 83.4 | 87.4 | 91.0 | 82.1 | 94.7 | * | * | 84.8 |
| Total |  | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

For footnotes see Table 1.

TABLE 2. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGES, AUGUST 1979 -continued (Per cent)

| Week | kly earnings <br> (\$) | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FEMALE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under |  | 2.6 | 2.7 | 7.2 | 4.8 | 5.4 | 6.9 | * | * | 3.7 |
| $"$ | 100 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 14.4 | 10.3 | 11.9 | 13.4 | * | * | 8.7 |
| " | 110 | 10.3 | 10.3 | 19.9 | 14.1 | 15.2 | 18.2 | * | * | 12.4 |
| " | 120 | 14.0 | 14.3 | 25.5 | 18.9 | 18.5 | 24.8 | * | * | 16.6 |
| " | 130 | 20.1 | 20.0 | 31.9 | 26.0 | 24.0 | 30.8 | * | * | 22.6 |
| " | 140 | 26.2 | 28.6 | 37.5 | 33.8 | 31.2 | 36.6 | * | * | 29.5 |
| " | 150 | 34.0 | 37.8 | 44.9 | 41.4 | 37.2 | 43.5 | 31.7 | 18.3 | 37.4 |
| " | 160 | 43.0 | 45.8 | 52.9 | 49.3 | 45.8 | 50.4 | 37.9 | 29.3 | 45.8 |
| " | 170 | 52.6 | 53.3 | 62.9 | 56.3 | 55.2 | 58.1 | 43.7 | 36.9 | 54.5 |
| " | 180 | 60.9 | 61.9 | 69.5 | 64.0 | 63.7 | 63.7 | 56.3 | 46.4 | 62.6 |
| " | 190 | 68.3 | 69.7 | 75.2 | 71.9 | 69.5 | 68.7 | 62.0 | 54.3 | 69.7 |
| " | 200 | 73.6 | 75.3 | 78.3 | 76.7 | 74.5 | 74.5 | 69.7 | 60.3 | 74.8 |
| " | 210 | 79.2 | 81.0 | 82.9 | 81.2 | 78.6 | 79.2 | 76.3 | 67.5 | 80.1 |
| " | 220 | 82.7 | 84.8 | 86.4 | 85.1 | 81.4 | 82.9 | 79.9 | 72.8 | 83.7 |
| " | 230 | 85.7 | 87.3 | 89.5 | 88.3 | 84.1 | 86.0 | 83.1 | 75.9 | 86.6 |
| " | 240 | 87.9 | 89.3 | 91.2 | 89.9 | 86.4 | 87.7 | 86.5 | 78.4 | 88.6 |
| " | 250 | 89.4 | 91.0 | 91.9 | 91.7 | 89.3 | 88.9 | 90.6 | 80.3 | 90.2 |
| " | 260 | 91.2 | 92.9 | 93.0 | 94.0 | 91.9 | 91.9 | 90.6 | 82.0 | 92.1 |
| " | 280 | 94.1 | 95.3 | 94.6 | 95.8 | 93.8 | 94.3 | 94.5 | 87.4 | 94.5 |
| " | 300 | 95.7 | 96.4 | 95.8 | 96.3 | 95.4 | 96.2 | 94.5 | 89.1 | 95.8 |
| Total |  | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

FEMALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES (b)

| Under | 20 | 7.9 | 10.3 | 13.8 | 9.0 | 14.6 | 9.6 | * | * | 10.0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| " | 40 | 20.7 | 23.5 | 27.7 | 23.2 | 28.6 | 21.9 | * | * | 23.2 |
| " | 60 | 30.6 | 36.4 | 40.2 | 34.9 | 41.7 | 38.5 | * | 22.0 | 35.0 |
| " | 80 | 43.5 | 49.0 | 53.4 | 48.0 | 55.3 | 51.8 | * | 33.8 | 48.0 |
| " | 100 | 57.6 | 62.5 | 66.6 | 62.8 | 71.0 | 64.5 | * | 52.0 | 62.1 |
| " | 110 | 65.5 | 70.9 | 73.3 | 72.0 | 76.9 | 76.3 | * | 62.7 | 70.1 |
| " | 120 | 71.5 | 76.0 | 78.1 | 79.5 | 81.1 | 81.7 | * | 66.7 | 75.6 |
| " | 130 | 77.4 | 80.0 | 81.6 | 84.2 | 84.2 | 87.4 | * | 71.6 | 80.3 |
| " | 140 | 80.8 | 84.0 | 85.6 | 87.9 | 87.1 | 90.5 | * | 74.4 | 83.9 |
| " | 160 | 87.1 | 88.9 | 92.2 | 92.4 | 91.2 | 95.0 | * | 83.2 | 89.5 |
| " | 180 | 91.6 | 92.5 | 94.7 | 95.2 | 92.6 | 95.7 | * | 90.0 | 92.9 |
| Total |  | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

For footnotes see Table 1.

TABLE 3. MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS : FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES, STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS, AUGUST 1979

- \$ -

|  | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 238 | 227 | 223 | 217 | 226 | 216 |
| Other areas | 213 | 211 | 209 | 204 | 229 | 202 |
| Part-time (b) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 115 | 100 | 95 | 76 | 98 | * |
| Other areas | 88 | 91 | 94 | 61 | * | 94 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time (a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 179 | 175 | 172 | 169 | 173 | 160 |
| Other areas | 170 | 171 | 159 | 168 | 176 | 175 |
| Part-time (b) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital city | 100 | 91 | 89 | 88 | 83 | 86 |
| Other areas | 85 | 80 | 76 | 72 | 79 | 83 |

For footnotes see Table 1.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN A SECOND JOB : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND WEEKLY EARNINGS IN SECOND JOB, AUGUST 1979

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \& \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{Males} \& \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{Females} <br>
\hline \& \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{Weekly earnings in second job} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Mean weekly earnings in second job} \& \multicolumn{3}{|r|}{Weekly earnings in second job} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{Mean weekly earnings in second job} <br>
\hline \& Under \$ $\$ 30$ \& $\$ 30$ and over \& Total \& \& Under \$30 \& \$30 and over \& Total \& <br>
\hline \& '000 \& '000 \& '000 \& \$ \& '000 \& '000 \& '000 \& \$ <br>
\hline Weekly earnings in main job (\$) Under 140 \& 4.6 \& 5.7 \& 10.2 \& 41 \& 11.4 \& 9.1 \& 20.5 \& 34 <br>
\hline $\begin{array}{llll}140 & \text { and under } & 160 \\ 160 & " & \# & 180 \\ 180 & " & \# & 200 \\ 200 & " & \# & 220\end{array}$ \& 6.9 \& $\}$
7.3

8.0 \& $*$
6.7
5.4
6.4 \& $\left.\begin{array}{l}48 \\ 60 \\ 46 \\ 56\end{array}\right\}$ \& * \& 7.4 \& 10.5 \& 53 <br>
\hline 220 and over \& 6.4 \& 18.1 \& 24.5 \& 58 ] \& \& \& \& <br>
\hline Total \& 17.9 \& 39.1 \& 57.0 \& 53 \& 14.4 \& 16.5 \& 31.0 \& 41 <br>
\hline \multicolumn{9}{|c|}{- dollars -} <br>
\hline Median earnings in main job \& 195 \& 212 \& 208 \& . \& 77 \& 129 \& 109 \& . <br>
\hline Mean earnings in main job \& 199 \& 218 \& 212 \& . \& 87 \& 144 \& 117 \& . . <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

| 65 and | Total 20 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| over | and over | TOTAL |

MALES
'000 -

| Weekly earnings (\$) Under 100 |  |  |  | 95.6 | 11.5 | 12.1 | 6.7 | 6.2 |  | 5.8 | 6.1 | 43.8 | 139.4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100 | and | der | 110 | 33.8 | 10.1 | 6.81 | 6.8 |  | , |  |  | 28.0 | 61.9 |
| 110 | " | " | 120 | 27.0 | 10.4 | $6.4\}$ | 6.8 |  | 5.8 |  |  | 25.8 | 52.8 |
| 120 | " | " | 130 | 24.8 | 16.9 | 10.2 | 6.9 | 9.9 |  |  |  | 50.2 | 75.0 |
| 130 | " | " | 140 | 23.0 | 18.0 | 13.3 | 10.6 | 6.5 | 4.8 \} |  |  | 56.1 | 79.1 |
| 140 | $"$ | " | 150 | 16.4 | 26.9 | 18.7 | 16.3 | 15.9 | 5.6 |  |  | 87.5 | 103.9 |
| 150 | " | " | 160 | 11.2 | 40.4 | 33.0 | 27.0 | 27.8 | 11.9 | 8.0 |  | 150.3 | 161.5 |
| 160 | $"$ | " | 170 | 10.8 | 35.9 | 44.0 | 26.3 | 29.1 | 16.3 | 9.2 | 6.5 | [162.9 | 173.7 |
| 170 | " | " | 180 | 8.0 | 43.0 | 46.7 | 30.8 | 31.8 | 15.0 | 7.3 |  | \{ 175.9 | 183.9 |
| 180 | $"$ | " | 190 | 5.0 | 35.4 | 53.5 | 35.5 | 34.5 | 19.5 | 9.6 |  | 189.1 | 194.1 |
| 190 | " | " | 200 | 5.1 | 32.1 | 53.4 | 36.2 | 29.3 | 14.3 | 6.2 |  | 173.7 | 178.8 |
| 200 | " | " | 210 | 5.5 | $\{31.7$ | 72.4 | 51.2 | 44.6 | 19.6 | 11.0 |  | 231.6 | 235.1 |
| 210 | " | " | 220 |  | \{22.4 | 57.1 | 32.9 | 30.5 | 9.8 | 7.2 |  | 160.6 | 162.6 |
| 220 | " | " | 230 | 6.0 | [18.2 | 46.9 | 28.5 | 24.2 | 13.2 | 4.5 |  | 135.6 | 138.0 |
| 230 | " | " | 240 |  | 13.9 | 41.4 | 25.3 | 19.0 | 8.4 | 10.4 |  | 112.5 | 113.7 |
| 240 | $"$ | " | 250 |  | 8.5 | 41.2 | 23.8 | 22.0 | 8.4 |  |  | 108.4 | 109.9 |
| 250 | " | " | 260 |  | 10.1 | 42.0 | 32.5 | 23.8 | 6.4 |  |  | 117.7 | 118.7 |
| 260 | " | $"$ | 280 | 5.3 | 10.3 | 51.4 | 31.0 | 22.0 | 8.2 | 5.9 |  | 126.1 120.8 | 126.8 121.2 |
| 280 | " | " | 300 |  | 8.5 | 43.1 | 31.7 | 25.7 | 8.4 \} |  |  | $\{120.8$ | 121.2 |
| 300 | " | " | 320 |  | 8.3 | 40.1 | 35.2 | 25.0 | 7.2 |  |  | 117.7 | 118.8 |
| 320 | " | " | 340 |  |  | [ 28.7 | 21.1 | 13.7 | 5.5 |  |  | 73.4 | 74.0 |
| 340 | " | " | 360 |  | 11.6 | 21.0 | 21.2 | 14.1 | ) 10.0 |  |  | 67.8 | 68.5 |
| 360 | " | " | 380 |  | 11.6 | 17.9 | 14.4 | 10.9 | \} 10.0 |  |  | 49.3 | 49.3 |
| 380 | $"$ | $"$ | 400 |  |  | [10.9 | 14.0 | 11.6 |  | 12.3 |  | 42.1 | 42.2 |
| 400 | " | " | 450 | $277.4 \quad 431.8$ |  | [ 17.6 | 18.9 | 11.2 | 5.0 |  |  | 57.2 | 57.7 |
| 450 | " | " | 500 |  |  | 9.4 | 13.0 | 10.3 | 4.8 |  |  | 39.7 | 40.2 |
| 500 and over |  |  |  |  |  | 15.1 | 22.2 | 16.5 | 8.9 |  |  | 70.4 | 71.0 |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  | 854.2 | 620.0 | 523.3 | 222.3 | 103.3 | 19.2 | 2,774.2 | 3,051.7 |


|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Median earnings | 113 | 181 | 220 | 228 | 216 | 206 | 199 | 181 | 211 | 205 |
| Mean earnings | 123 | 193 | 239 | 255 | 244 | 238 | 220 | 200 | 235 | 225 |

FEMALES

(a) For definition, see paragraph 8. Some of the full-time employees shown in this table may not have worked, or been paid for, a full week. (b) Aged 60 years and over.

## Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

## Reliability of the estimates

2. 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 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, 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 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, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.
3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication A table of standard errors for general application is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of labour force surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

The estimated number of female full-time employees in the weekly earnings range $\$ 170-180$ in Australia is 101,600 . (Table 1.) From the table below it will be seen that the estimate has a standard error of about 3,900 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 fall within the range 97,700 to 105,500 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 93,800 to 109,400 .
4. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the
numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent staladard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerator can be obtained from the table below.
5. Means and medians published in this publication are also subject to sampling variability. Standard errors vary depending on the size and distribution of the population for which the mean or median has been obtained. Standard errors of means in this publication could generally be expected to be below 6 per cent and standard errors of medians below 7 per cent with the exception of estimates relating to part-time males for which the standard errors are somewhat higher. For populations of 100,000 or more the standard errors of the mean and median would both be less than 2 per cent.
6. As the standard errors in the table below show the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the table below 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.
7. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only 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.

## STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


[^0]:    (a) For definition, see paragraph 8. Some of the full-time employees shown in this table may not have worked, or been paid for, a full week. (b) Since part-time employees are defined as those who usually work less than 35 hours and who did so in the survey week, these figures may include school teachers, academic staff in universities, aircrew, etc.

