



Reference No. 6.46

FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1974

MAIN FEATURES

- In August 1974 three of every five employed wage and salary earners (58.8 per cent) were paid at least weekly, one third (33.7 per cent) were paid fortnightly and 6 per cent were paid monthly.
- The proportion of employees paid weekly or more frequently varied from 63 per cent in Victoria to 31 per cent in the Northern Territory, while the proportion paid fortnightly varied from 61 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 29 per cent in Victoria.
- More than 80 per cent of employees in manufacturing, in wholesale and retail trade and in entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services were paid weekly.

Introduction

In August 1974 a survey, based on the quarterly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about the frequency of pay of wage and salary earners. The results of a similar inquiry conducted in February 1969 were published in *Labour Force Experience During 1968* (Reference No. 6.26).

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 being carried out during a four-week period.

Scope

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over, except members of the permanent armed forces, 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., for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

4. For the purposes of this survey questions were asked of employed wage and salary earners, excluding those persons whose main activity during the survey week was attendance at an educational institution, even though they may have done some work for pay or profit for an employer. Employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers were excluded from the survey.

Symbol used in this bulletin

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See page 5, paragraph 5.

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

TABLE 1. — EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : INDUSTRY AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUSTRALIA
AUGUST 1974

Industry	Frequency of pay							
	Weekly or more often		Fortnightly		Monthly		Total (b)	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
Agriculture	31.1	33.1	21.6	23.0	28.4	30.2	94.0	100.0
Forestry, fishing and hunting	6.8	34.9	8.1	41.9	*	*	19.4	100.0
Mining and quarrying	27.4	40.6	33.6	49.8	6.4	9.5	67.4	100.0
Manufacturing	730.2	77.4	132.7	14.1	79.0	8.4	943.2	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	43.3	46.6	49.2	53.0	*	*	92.8	100.0
Construction	251.1	71.1	87.5	24.8	12.8	3.6	353.1	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	415.4	80.6	36.0	7.0	61.6	12.0	515.6	100.0
Transport and storage	110.3	49.9	99.7	45.1	9.3	4.2	221.0	100.0
Communication	*	*	91.0	97.8	*	*	93.0	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	53.2	28.1	109.5	57.8	24.4	12.9	189.5	100.0
Public administration and defence	20.5	12.3	144.3	86.7	*	*	166.4	100.0
Community services	35.0	13.9	190.0	75.5	20.4	8.1	251.7	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	79.0	80.0	13.3	13.5	5.6	5.7	98.8	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,805.1</i>	<i>58.1</i>	<i>1,016.3</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>250.6</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>3,105.8</i>	<i>100.0</i>
FEMALES								
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.	8.1	49.8	*	*	*	*	16.3	100.0
Mining and quarrying	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0
Manufacturing	317.9	91.6	20.1	5.8	7.4	2.1	347.1	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	*	*	4.9	65.0	*	*	7.6	100.0
Construction	15.0	81.7	*	*	*	*	18.3	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	345.3	90.6	22.3	5.8	9.6	2.5	381.0	100.0
Transport and storage	22.6	64.8	11.0	31.4	*	*	34.9	100.0
Communication	*	*	29.9	93.8	*	*	31.9	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	79.1	43.5	91.9	50.6	7.3	4.0	181.9	100.0
Public administration and defence	7.4	9.7	67.4	88.2	*	*	76.4	100.0
Community services	75.5	17.4	333.9	76.8	14.9	3.4	434.8	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	145.5	88.6	12.0	7.3	*	*	164.3	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,020.9</i>	<i>60.1</i>	<i>600.8</i>	<i>35.4</i>	<i>49.9</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1,698.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>
PERSONS								
Agriculture	38.2	35.1	24.0	22.0	30.9	28.4	108.9	100.0
Forestry, fishing and hunting	7.8	37.3	8.5	41.0	*	*	20.8	100.0
Mining and quarrying	28.5	40.1	35.6	50.1	6.7	9.5	71.0	100.0
Manufacturing	1,048.1	81.2	152.7	11.8	86.4	6.7	1,290.2	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	45.9	45.8	54.1	53.9	*	*	100.4	100.0
Construction	266.1	71.6	90.0	24.2	13.7	3.7	371.5	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	760.7	84.8	58.3	6.5	71.3	7.9	896.6	100.0
Transport and storage	132.9	51.9	110.6	43.2	10.5	4.1	255.9	100.0
Communication	*	*	120.9	96.8	*	*	124.9	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	132.3	35.6	201.4	54.2	31.7	8.5	371.4	100.0
Public administration and defence	27.9	11.5	211.7	87.2	*	*	242.8	100.0
Community services	110.5	16.1	523.9	76.3	35.2	5.1	686.4	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	224.6	85.4	25.3	9.6	9.2	3.5	263.1	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,826.0</i>	<i>58.8</i>	<i>1,617.1</i>	<i>33.7</i>	<i>300.5</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>4,804.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) Non-institutional civilians aged 15 years and over. Excludes persons whose main activity was attendance at an educational institution. For scope of the survey see page 1, paragraphs 3 and 4. (b) Includes 33,900 males and 26,500 females paid at other intervals.

* See page 5, paragraph 5.

TABLE 2. — EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : OCCUPATION AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUSTRALIA
AUGUST 1974

Occupation	Frequency of pay							
	Weekly or more often		Fortnightly		Monthly		Total (b)	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
Professional and technical	69.6	19.4	215.7	60.1	66.8	18.6	359.1	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	104.7	44.2	54.7	23.1	73.3	31.0	236.7	100.0
Clerical	95.0	30.3	198.8	63.5	18.9	6.0	313.3	100.0
Sales	120.3	69.5	25.5	14.8	26.0	15.0	173.2	100.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters etc.	51.4	37.2	39.8	28.7	30.4	22.0	138.3	100.0
Transport and communication	129.0	55.6	96.7	41.7	4.4	1.9	231.9	100.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. (including miners, quarrymen and related workers)	1,150.8	76.9	315.3	21.1	27.8	1.9	1,496.1	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	84.2	53.6	69.7	44.3	*	*	157.3	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,805.1</i>	<i>58.1</i>	<i>1,016.3</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>250.6</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>3,105.8</i>	<i>100.0</i>
FEMALES								
Professional and technical	42.2	15.3	213.4	77.3	11.9	4.3	276.1	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	15.9	68.7	*	*	*	*	23.2	100.0
Clerical	348.7	57.1	233.8	38.3	22.1	3.6	610.9	100.0
Sales	171.0	93.4	5.7	3.1	*	*	183.2	100.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters etc.	7.8	60.0	*	*	*	*	13.0	100.0
Transport and communication	17.6	41.8	22.2	52.5	*	*	42.2	100.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. (including miners, quarrymen and related workers)	248.2	94.7	10.7	4.1	*	*	262.2	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	169.4	58.9	109.6	38.1	4.2	1.4	287.4	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,020.9</i>	<i>60.1</i>	<i>600.8</i>	<i>35.4</i>	<i>49.9</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1,698.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>
PERSONS								
Professional and technical	111.8	17.6	429.1	67.6	78.7	12.4	635.2	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	120.6	46.4	58.5	22.5	75.7	29.1	259.9	100.0
Clerical	443.7	48.0	432.5	46.8	41.0	4.4	924.2	100.0
Sales	291.4	81.8	31.2	8.8	29.9	8.4	356.4	100.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters etc.	59.2	39.2	41.5	27.5	31.9	21.1	151.3	100.0
Transport and communication	146.6	53.5	118.8	43.4	6.3	2.3	274.0	100.0
Tradesmen, production process workers and labourers n.e.c. (including miners, quarrymen and related workers)	1,399.1	79.6	326.0	18.5	30.0	1.7	1,758.3	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	253.6	57.0	179.3	40.3	7.0	1.6	444.7	100.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,826.0</i>	<i>58.8</i>	<i>1,617.1</i>	<i>33.7</i>	<i>300.5</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>4,804.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

For footnotes see Table 1. * See page 5, paragraph 5.

TABLE 3. — EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : FREQUENCY OF PAY,
AUGUST 1974

State or Territory	Frequency of pay							
	Weekly or more often		Fortnightly		Monthly		Total (b)	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
New South Wales	684.0	59.8	349.6	30.6	98.1	8.6	1,144.0	100.0
Victoria	521.0	62.8	230.8	27.8	72.6	8.8	829.7	100.0
Queensland	257.0	59.4	139.6	32.3	31.0	7.2	432.6	100.0
South Australia	156.5	54.3	111.4	38.7	17.2	6.0	287.9	100.0
Western Australia	123.0	49.5	100.3	40.4	18.1	7.3	248.5	100.0
Tasmania	39.8	43.7	43.9	48.2	6.4	7.1	91.1	100.0
Northern Territory	9.2	33.0	14.0	50.1	4.2	15.2	27.9	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	14.6	33.1	26.6	60.4	2.8	6.5	44.1	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>1,805.1</i>	<i>58.1</i>	<i>1,016.3</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>250.6</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>3,105.8</i>	<i>100.0</i>
FEMALES								
New South Wales	397.6	63.8	200.3	32.1	16.4	2.6	623.5	100.0
Victoria	307.7	64.4	148.2	31.0	17.1	3.6	477.4	100.0
Queensland	121.2	56.6	83.4	38.9	5.0	2.3	214.2	100.0
South Australia	92.9	58.1	61.0	38.2	3.7	2.3	159.9	100.0
Western Australia	66.7	50.2	57.8	43.5	4.6	3.5	133.0	100.0
Tasmania	21.5	47.4	21.5	47.3	1.7	3.6	45.5	100.0
Northern Territory	3.4	27.4	8.4	67.8	*	*	12.4	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	9.9	30.7	20.1	62.5	*	*	32.2	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>1,020.9</i>	<i>60.1</i>	<i>600.8</i>	<i>35.4</i>	<i>49.9</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1,698.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>
PERSONS								
New South Wales	1,081.6	61.2	549.8	31.1	114.5	6.5	1,767.5	100.0
Victoria	828.7	63.4	379.0	29.0	89.7	6.9	1,307.1	100.0
Queensland	378.2	58.5	223.0	34.5	36.0	5.6	646.8	100.0
South Australia	249.4	55.7	172.5	38.5	20.9	4.7	447.8	100.0
Western Australia	189.7	49.7	158.2	41.5	22.7	6.0	381.5	100.0
Tasmania	61.4	44.9	65.4	47.9	8.1	5.9	136.6	100.0
Northern Territory	12.6	31.2	22.4	55.6	3.9	9.7	40.3	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	24.5	32.1	46.8	61.3	4.6	6.1	76.3	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>2,826.0</i>	<i>58.8</i>	<i>1,617.1</i>	<i>33.7</i>	<i>300.5</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>4,804.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

For footnotes see Table 1. * See page 5, paragraph 5.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly 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 statement are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. 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, and not the whole population, was enumerated. 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 from a comparable complete enumeration, 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 statement. A table of *standard errors* for general application to estimates from the revised sample is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of the table is as follows: if an estimate obtained for Australia from the sample is 100,000 and the standard error is 3,000, there

are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

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 standard 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 numerators can be obtained from the table below.

5. 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 statement estimates less than the levels given in the table below have not been shown. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. 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 (persons)	N.S.W. No.	Vic. No.	Qld No.	S.A. No.	W.A. No.	Tas. No.	N.T. No.	A.C.T. No.	Australia	
									No.	per cent of estimate
1,000							200			
1,500						250	250			
2,000					400	250	250	350		
2,500				500	450	250	300	350		
3,000			600	500	450	300	300	350		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	350	350	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	350	400	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	600	700	400	400	500	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	800	1,000	400	400	600	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,000	1,500	500	500	1,000	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,100	2,000	600			3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	1,200	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	1,500	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5 above.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Power on 639111 extension 2346 or, in each State capital by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

