



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526573 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

## EVENING AND NIGHT WORK, NOVEMBER 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- In November 1976, 24.9 per cent of employees had worked in the evening or at night (i.e. between 7 p.m. and 5.30 a.m.) at least once in the four weeks before the survey. The corresponding figure for males was 26.1 per cent and for females 22.9 per cent.
- The average number of times that employees had engaged in such work was 9 for both males and females. The highest average (13) was recorded in the food, beverage and tobacco industry.
- 48.6 per cent of employees in entertainment, recreation and personal services had worked in the evening or at night at least once in the previous four weeks but only 9.0 per cent of construction employees had done so.
- 26.3 per cent of married employees had worked between 7 p.m. and 5.30 a.m. The percentage for males was 28.6 per cent and for females 21.7 per cent.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

In November 1976 a survey, based on the quarterly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about the number of wage and salary earners who, in their main job, had worked between 7 p.m. and 5.30 a.m. at anytime during a specified four-week period. Employed wage and salary earners are referred to in this statement as "employees".

2. This statement contains a summary of the more important results of the survey. More detailed estimates, which will be published in a bulletin to be issued as soon as possible, are available on request. The estimates shown are preliminary and are subject to revision.

#### The population survey

3. 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 by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. Interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that in each of the months to which the survey relates, there are four survey weeks, chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

#### Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over who were employees in their main job, except persons in institutions, members of the permanent defence forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. Persons in institutions are those who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

#### Definitions

5. *Employees who worked in the evening or at night* are wage and salary earners who had worked in their main job at any time between 7 p.m. and 5.30 a.m. on at least one occasion in the four weeks before the interview. Evening and night work includes work done at home (e.g. unpaid work at home by executives or teachers).

6. *Type of evening or night work.* Respondents were asked to choose, in respect of any employee who had worked in the evening or at night, the classification

which *best described* the type of work in which the employee had been engaged. The classification of type of work shown in Tables 3 and 4 should therefore be used with caution because, although employees were coded to only one classification, it does not necessarily follow that they had engaged in only one type of evening or night work in the four-week period. Persons classified as "on call" were employees on stand-by who had been called out in the evening or at night during the period.

#### Reliability of the estimates

7. 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 the levels shown below have not been shown in the tables as they are subject to sampling variability too high (more than about 20 per cent) for most practical uses. More information on this topic, together with a table of estimated standard errors, is given in the quarterly bulletin *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20).

#### Related publications

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

- . *The Labour Force* (Quarterly, Reference No. 6.20)
- . *The Labour Force* (Annual, Reference No. 6.22)
- . *Work Patterns of Employees*, November 1976 (Preliminary) (Reference No. 6.64)

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Reference No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS Office.

#### Symbols and other usages

- \* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding. The figures showing the average number of times worked have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Size of Estimate (persons)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
	4,000	4,000	3,000	2,500	2,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	4,000

TABLE 1. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES: EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THE EVENING OR AT NIGHT(a) AND OTHER EMPLOYEES, NOVEMBER 1976

State or Territory	Worked in the evening or at night (a)				Other			Total		
	Persons		No.	Per cent of total employees	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	Males	Females								
	- '000 -			%			- '000 -			
N.S.W.	296.0	141.4	437.4	24.7	833.6	499.7	1,333.3	1,129.6	641.1	1,770.6
Vic	224.4	122.2	346.7	25.4	631.5	388.0	1,019.5	856.0	510.2	1,366.2
Qld	103.9	48.4	152.2	22.8	332.8	181.6	514.4	436.7	229.9	666.6
S.A.	77.6	44.1	121.7	26.3	212.8	128.2	341.0	290.4	172.3	462.7
W.A.	70.7	33.8	104.5	25.6	189.5	114.9	304.3	260.2	148.7	408.8
Tas.	24.2	12.0	36.2	25.4	69.7	36.4	106.1	93.9	48.4	142.3
N.T.	3.8	1.6	5.4	14.5	21.2	10.5	31.8	25.1	12.1	37.2
A.C.T.	17.7	7.6	25.3	32.1	31.3	22.4	53.6	48.9	30.0	78.9
Australia	818.2	411.1	1,229.3	24.9	2,322.5	1,381.5	3,704.0	3,140.7	1,792.6	4,933.3

(a) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5.

TABLE 2. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THE EVENING OR AT NIGHT (a) :  
OCCUPATION AND PERIODS OF WORK, NOVEMBER 1976

Occupation group (b)	Between 7 p.m. and midnight only	Between midnight and 5.30 a.m. only	In both periods (c)	Total
MALES				
Professional and technical	104.1	*	31.3	137.4
Administrative, executive and managerial	74.2	*	16.1	91.8
Clerical	37.0	*	10.0	48.0
Sales	52.2	*	*	57.1
Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	10.4	*	*	17.4
Miners and quarrymen	6.6	*	7.9	16.4
Transport and communication	30.7	10.3	49.1	90.1
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	117.2	22.0	122.1	261.3
Service, sport and recreation	50.6	*	44.3	98.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>483.1</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>287.1</b>	<b>818.2</b>
FEMALES				
Professional and technical	101.8	*	37.6	139.8
Administrative, executive and managerial	7.3	*	*	7.8
Clerical	61.1	*	5.1	66.2
Sales	46.6	*	*	48.2
Transport and communication	11.4	*	*	12.7
Tradeswomen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	16.3	*	7.7	25.0
Service, sport and recreation	82.6	*	24.2	109.9
<b>Total (d)</b>	<b>327.9</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>411.1</b>
PERSONS				
Professional and technical	205.9	*	68.9	277.2
Administrative, executive and managerial	81.5	*	16.3	99.5
Clerical	98.1	*	15.1	114.2
Sales	98.8	*	4.0	105.4
Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	11.2	*	*	18.8
Miners and quarrymen	6.6	*	7.9	16.4
Transport and communication	42.1	10.8	50.0	102.8
Tradesmen production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	133.5	23.0	129.8	286.4
Service, sport and recreation	133.2	6.9	68.5	208.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>811.0</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>364.3</b>	<b>1,229.3</b>

(a) For definition see page 1, paragraph 5. (b) Occupation classification adopted for the 1971 Census of Population. (c) Employees who had worked between 7 p.m. and midnight and between midnight and 5.30 a.m. in the four-week period, but not necessarily on the same occasion. (d) Includes females engaged in farming, fishing, etc. and mining and quarrying occupations.

TABLE 3. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THE EVENING OR AT NIGHT (a) : MARITAL  
STATUS AND TYPE OF WORK (a), NOVEMBER 1976

Marital status	Paid work		Total	Unpaid work	On call	Total
	Paid overtime	Other paid arrangements (b)				
NUMBER ('000)						
Males	126.6	441.4	567.9	192.9	57.4	818.2
Married	89.2	320.4	409.5	167.0	47.8	624.4
Not married (c)	37.4	121.0	158.4	25.9	9.6	193.9
Females	43.0	288.4	331.4	61.6	18.0	411.1
Married	19.4	171.6	191.0	39.6	11.3	241.8
Not married (c)	23.6	116.9	140.5	22.1	6.7	169.2
Persons	169.6	729.8	899.4	254.5	75.4	1,229.3
Married	108.6	491.9	600.5	206.6	59.1	866.2
Not married (c)	61.0	237.8	298.9	47.9	16.3	363.1
PER CENT OF EMPLOYEES (d)						
Males	4.0	14.1	18.1	6.1	1.8	26.1
Married	4.1	14.7	18.7	7.6	2.1	28.6
Not married (c)	3.9	12.7	16.6	2.7	1.0	20.3
Females	2.4	16.1	18.5	3.4	1.0	22.9
Married	1.7	15.4	17.2	3.6	1.0	21.7
Not married (c)	3.5	17.2	20.6	3.2	1.0	24.9
Persons	3.4	14.8	18.2	5.2	1.5	24.9
Married	3.3	14.9	18.2	6.3	1.8	26.3
Not married (c)	3.7	14.6	18.3	2.9	1.0	22.2
AVERAGE NUMBER OF TIMES WORKED (e)						
Persons	4	11	9	8	8	9

(a) For definitions see page 1, paragraphs 5 and 6. (b) Comprises paid shift work, paid roster work and other paid arrangements. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Employees in each group who had worked in the evening or at night as a proportion of all employees in the same group. (e) Within the four-week period.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THE EVENING OR AT NIGHT (a) :  
OCCUPATION AND TYPE OF WORK (a), NOVEMBER 1976

Occupation Group (b)	Paid work			Unpaid Work	On call	Total		
	Paid overtime	Other paid arrangements (c)	Total			Number	Per cent of employees (d)	
	- '000 -							%
Professional and technical	17.0	119.0	136.0	120.0	21.2	277.2	39.5	
Administrative, executive and managerial	5.8	17.5	23.3	65.7	10.5	99.5	38.2	
Clerical	33.7	57.7	91.4	19.4	*	114.2	12.2	
Sales	17.0	61.1	78.2	21.0	6.2	105.4	25.7	
Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	*	6.1	8.2	8.8	*	18.8	13.5	
Miners and quarrymen	*	15.0	16.2	*	*	16.4	54.0	
Transport and communication	15.0	80.1	95.0	*	5.8	102.8	37.5	
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	66.1	193.3	259.4	13.1	13.9	286.4	17.2	
Service, sport and recreation	11.6	180.0	191.7	4.5	12.5	208.7	41.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>169.6</b>	<b>729.8</b>	<b>899.4</b>	<b>254.5</b>	<b>75.4</b>	<b>1,229.3</b>	<b>24.9</b>	
	- per cent -							
Percentage of all persons working in the evening or at night	13.8	59.4	73.2	20.7	6.1	100.0	..	

(a) For definitions see page 1, paragraphs 5 and 6. (b) Occupation classification adopted for the 1971 Census of Population. (c) Comprised paid shiftwork, paid roster work and other paid arrangements. (d) Proportion of employees in each occupation group who worked in the evening or at night.

TABLE 5. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN THE EVENING OR AT NIGHT (a) :  
INDUSTRY, NOVEMBER 1976

Industry (b)	Number ('000)			Per cent of employees (c)			Average number of times worked (d)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	18.0	*	20.0	18.5	*	18.0	11	*	11
Mining	28.4	*	29.2	42.4	*	40.8	12	*	12
Manufacturing -	220.1	30.2	250.3	24.4	9.8	20.7	10	12	11
Food, beverages and tobacco	41.7	4.5	46.2	28.3	9.5	23.7	13	15	13
Metal products, machinery and equipment	51.5	*	54.8	30.0	*	27.6	10	*	10
Other manufacturing	127.0	22.4	149.4	21.7	9.2	18.3	10	11	10
Electricity, gas and water	16.7	*	17.6	18.7	*	17.9	7	*	7
Construction	29.3	*	31.4	8.9	*	9.0	8	*	8
Wholesale and retail trade -	121.8	73.7	195.5	22.2	18.6	20.7	7	5	6
Wholesale trade	47.0	7.3	54.3	21.0	8.7	17.7	8	8	8
Retail trade	74.8	66.4	141.2	23.0	21.3	22.2	7	5	6
Transport and storage; communication	105.6	16.4	122.0	33.4	26.4	32.2	9	10	10
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	48.0	20.0	68.0	23.7	10.4	17.2	8	9	8
Public administration and defence (e)	29.9	7.1	37.0	16.3	8.0	13.6	7	6	7
Community services	136.3	182.2	318.5	46.3	35.0	39.1	9	9	9
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	64.1	75.7	139.8	57.8	42.8	48.6	12	9	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>818.2</b>	<b>411.1</b>	<b>1,229.3</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

(a) For definition, see page 1, paragraph 5. (b) Australian Standard Industrial Classification. (c) Proportion of employees in each industry who worked in the evening or at night. (d) Within the four-week period. (e) Excludes permanent defence forces.

R. J. CAMERON  
Australian Statistician