
THE LABOUR FORCE

MARCH 1978

Catalogue No. 6203.0

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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Note. Some additional tables are included in other issues of this publication. For details see paragraph 33 of the explanatory notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the population survey, which is now conducted monthly. Until February 1978, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year.

2. A summary of the survey results is published in advance of this more detailed bulletin in *The Labour Force (Preliminary)* (6202.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates are also issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

3. Although emphasis in the survey is placed on the regular collection of data on demographic and labour force characteristics of the population, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. Statistics from supplementary surveys are published in bulletins which are available free on request. A list of titles is given on page 19.

The population survey

4. 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 conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

Scope

5. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen 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) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

Definitions

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

7. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week :

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were : on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

8. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and :
 - (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
 - (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;

or (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

9. *Unemployed persons looking for first job* are those who had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job.

10. The *unemployment rate* for any group is the number unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force (i.e. employed plus unemployed) in the same group.

11. The *labour force* comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed, as defined in paragraphs 7 and 8.

12. The *labour force participation rate* for any group is the labour force expressed as a percentage of

the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Because it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace of persons in institutions (who are classified as not in the labour force), labour force participation rates for persons classified by birthplace are calculated by using population estimates which exclude those in institutions.

13. *Full-time workers* are those who usually work 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 work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

14. *Hours of work.* The figures of aggregate hours and of average hours refer to actual hours worked during the survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, injury, accident and industrial disputes; and stoppages of work due to bad weather, plant breakdown etc. When hours of work are recorded fractions of an hour are disregarded and this results in slightly lower figures than would be the case if actual time worked was recorded. Persons stood down for the whole of the survey week without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment are regarded as employed and therefore are included (working no hours) in the calculation of average hours worked. Persons stood down in the survey week for reasons other than bad weather and plant breakdown and waiting to be called back to their job are regarded as unemployed and are therefore excluded from the calculation.

15. *Persons not in the labour force* are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed'. This category includes persons who were keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (school, university, etc.), retired, voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work, inmates of institutions, trainee teachers, members of contemplative religious orders, and persons whose only activity during the survey week was jury service or unpaid voluntary work for a charitable organisation, provided they had not actively looked for work in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week, and

(a) in the survey week :

- (i) were without a job, business or farm; or
- (ii) had worked for less than one hour for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind; or
- (iii) had worked for less than 15 hours without pay in a family business or farm;

or (b) had been stood down without pay for four weeks or more up to the end of the survey week.

16. Although the wording of the above definitions of employed persons and unemployed persons is different from that appearing in issues of this bulletin

prior to February 1978, the changes were made mainly for clarity; they do not signify any change of substance in the definitions, which still conform to the international standard definitions specified by the I.L.O.

Classification of industry and occupation

17. Industry is classified according to the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC)* and occupation according to the *Classification and Classified List of Occupations, Revised June 1971*.

Revision of series

18. Because survey estimates for February 1978 and subsequent months are based on revised population estimates derived from the results of the 1976 Population Census and were obtained by using a new sample and revised questionnaire, they are not comparable with those in issues of this publication prior to February 1978.

19. In order to provide a series for earlier periods as comparable as possible with the February 1978 estimates, the survey estimates for August 1976 to November 1977 have been revised. Information concerning the methods used in the revision was given in the February 1978 issue.

20. *Population benchmarks.* The population survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex. As a consequence, whenever these population "benchmarks" are revised it becomes necessary to revise the labour force estimates also.

21. The survey estimates for the period from August 1976 have been revised by using population benchmarks based on the results of the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for underenumeration. For information concerning these population estimates see *Population and Vital Statistics (Preliminary) : December Quarter 1976 (3211.0)*.

22. *The new sample and revised questionnaire.* The new sample was selected in order to reflect the changes in the distribution of the population shown by the 1976 Population Census results. The questionnaire, which had undergone little change since 1960 except for the inclusion in 1975 of additional questions on job-seeking, was revised to provide more accurate and more detailed information concerning the labour force.

23. Copies of both the current questionnaire and the one previously used, together with a description of the main features of the questionnaire, are contained in *Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)* issued on 17 March 1978.

Comparability of series

24. When comparing estimates for February 1978 and subsequent months with those for earlier periods it should be noted that with the introduction of monthly surveys the interviews are now conducted during a two-week period, whereas formerly the period was four weeks. (See paragraph 4.) This change of timing may

affect the level of the figures for any month, but particularly for months such as February, during which unemployment may be changing rapidly.

25. As explained in paragraph 18 the estimates in this bulletin are not comparable with those shown in issues prior to February 1978. Revised figures for periods before August 1976 will be published as soon as they become available.

26. Discontinuities in earlier series are explained in issues of this bulletin prior to February 1978.

Reliability of the estimates

27. 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. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 17.

Differences between population census and population survey estimates

28. The results of the 1971 population census, which have been published in a series of bulletins entitled *Summary of Population* (2221.0–2229.0), show that the census labour force estimates differ substantially from the corresponding estimates derived from the population surveys of May and August 1971.

29. The labour force definition used in the population census is similar to that used in the survey (see paragraphs 7 to 16). However, evidence from census post-enumeration surveys indicates that the personal interview approach, as used in the population survey, tends to identify a larger number of persons as being in the labour force than does the filling in of the questions on the census schedule by the householder, and that this tendency increased between the 1966 and 1971 censuses.

30. These considerations should be borne in mind if comparisons of the total labour force or of labour force participation rates are made between the 1971 census and the 1971 labour force survey estimates.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

31. As explained in previous issues of this publication, the move to the higher level of unemployment since 1974 appears to have been accompanied by shifts in the pattern of seasonal variation. For this reason the publication of seasonally adjusted figures of unemployment has been suspended. The matter will be kept under review.

32. Seasonally adjusted figures of employed persons, the labour force and labour force participation rates are published in the February, May, August and November issues. Calculation of seasonally adjusted monthly figures will not be possible until survey results for two or three years are available.

Additional tables

33. Certain tables are included in only some issues of this bulletin, as shown below.

February, May, August and November –

Average weekly hours worked by industry and occupation

Employed married women : Industry and hours worked

Unemployment rates : Industry and occupation

Seasonally adjusted series.

The following tables are available for February, May, August and November but are published only for the months shown.

February –

Employed persons –

Industry and marital status

Industry and birthplace

Occupation and marital status

Occupation and birthplace.

May –

Employed persons : Occupation – major and minor groups.

August –

Employed persons : Industry by occupation.

Related publications

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

Unemployment : Preliminary Estimates (6201.0)

The Labour Force (Preliminary) (6202.0)

Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)

Employment and Unemployment (6213.0)

Publications listed on page 19.

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (1101.0), which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

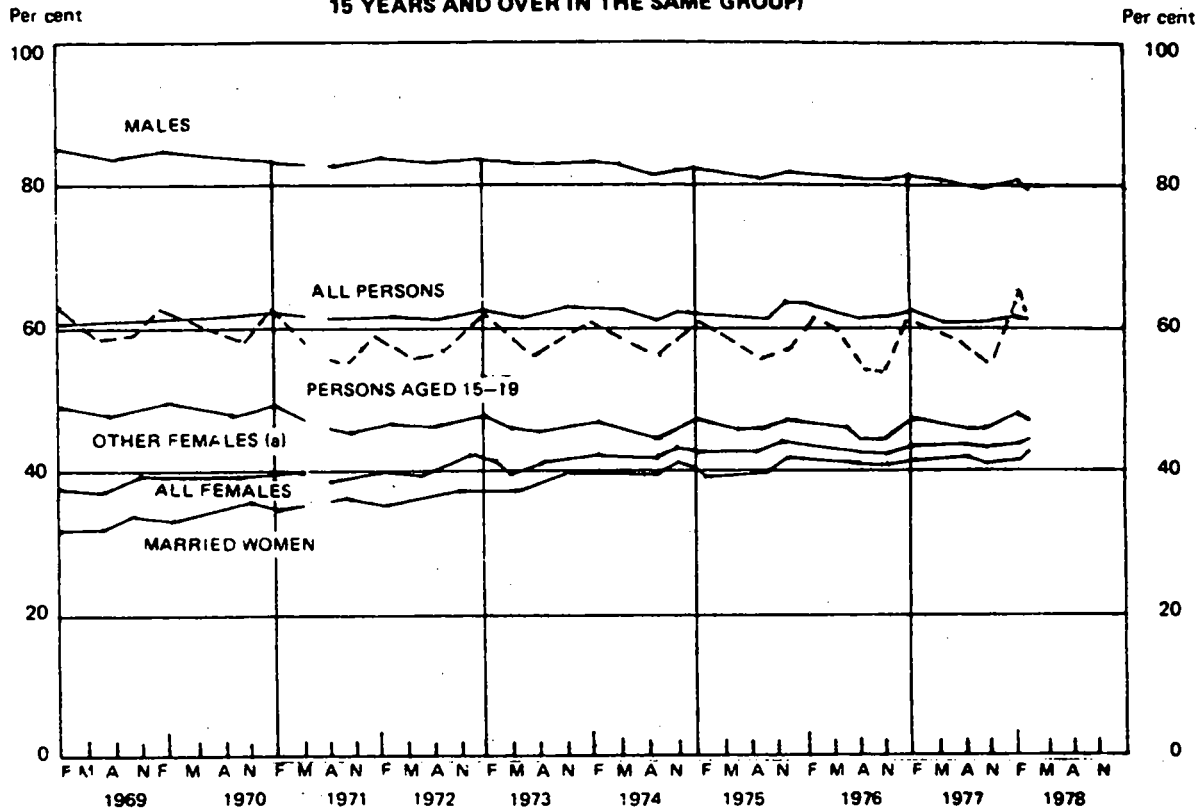
- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 17.
- † Affected by industrial dispute.
- .. Figures not available or not applicable.

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

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Australian Statistician

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE SAME GROUP)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE IN THE SAME GROUP)

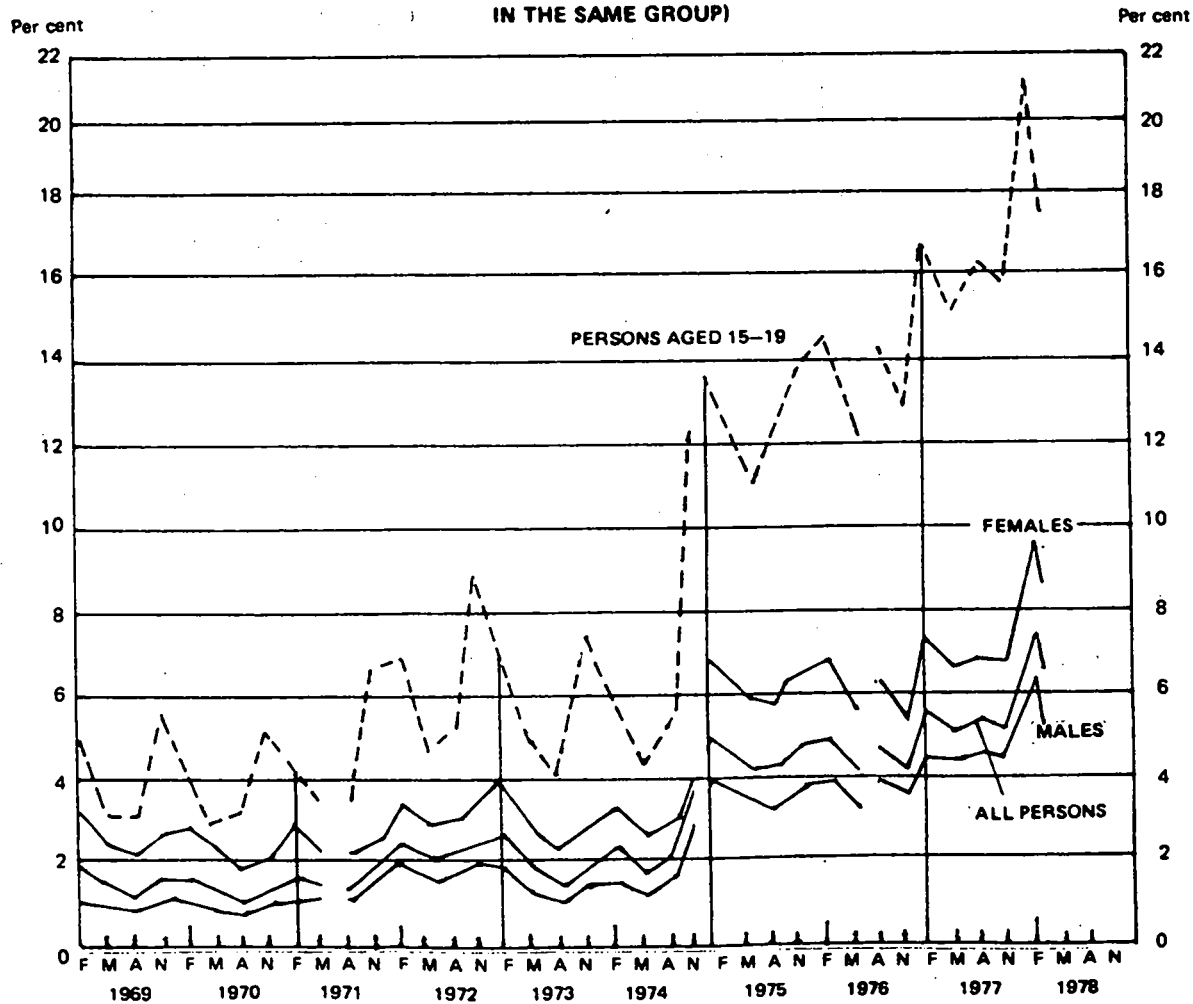


TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Month	Unemployed (a)									
	Employed (a)	Looking for full-time work		Looking for part-time work	Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (a)
		Aged 15-19 years looking for first job (a)	Total							
- '000 -										
MALES										
1976 -										
November	3,866.0	13.3	137.6	17.6	155.2	4,021.2	991.7	5,012.9	3.9	80.2
1977 -										
February	3,890.2	21.8	166.1	20.0	186.1	4,076.2	963.1	5,039.4	4.6	80.9
May	3,891.5	13.4	163.0	21.7	184.7	4,076.2	985.8	5,062.0	4.5	80.5
August	3,866.8	12.6	168.5	21.6	190.1	4,056.9	1,024.9	5,081.8	4.7	79.8
November	3,867.3	16.2	165.1	18.0	183.1	4,050.4	1,055.7	5,106.1	4.5	79.3
1978 -										
February (b)	3,857.4	40.2	235.4	19.5	255.0	4,112.4	1,023.2	5,135.6	6.2	80.1
March	3,870.1	26.1	200.2	17.3	217.6	4,087.6	1,056.6	5,144.2	5.3	79.5
Standard error of -										
March estimates (c)	13.9	1.8	4.1	1.5	4.3	14.3	8.2	..	0.1	0.3
February to March movement (c)	8.0	2.1	3.9	1.6	3.9	8.2	5.8	..	0.1	0.2
MARRIED WOMEN										
1976 -										
November	1,361.6	*	27.0	24.3	51.4	1,412.9	1,968.9	3,381.8	3.6	41.8
1977 -										
February	1,355.5	*	42.2	40.5	82.8	1,438.3	1,963.3	3,401.6	5.8	42.3
May	1,382.0	*	42.7	31.9	74.6	1,456.6	1,950.4	3,407.0	5.1	42.8
August	1,374.5	*	42.0	34.7	76.8	1,451.2	1,953.5	3,404.7	5.3	42.6
November	1,368.9	*	34.4	33.4	67.7	1,436.6	1,963.7	3,400.3	4.7	42.3
1978 -										
February (b)	1,320.9	*	53.2	39.6	92.8	1,413.6	1,994.4	3,408.1	6.6	41.5
March	1,352.8	*	50.7	37.6	88.3	1,441.1	1,958.2	3,399.3	6.1	42.4
Standard error of -										
March estimates (c)	9.0	..	2.4	2.1	3.0	9.3	10.6	..	0.2	0.3
February to March movement (c)	6.2	..	2.4	2.1	2.8	6.3	6.9	..	0.2	0.2
ALL FEMALES										
1976 -										
November	2,089.0	13.4	87.4	38.9	126.3	2,215.3	2,914.9	5,130.2	5.7	43.2
1977 -										
February	2,095.1	27.2	124.4	61.8	186.2	2,281.3	2,874.0	5,155.3	8.2	44.3
May	2,132.7	16.1	112.8	56.3	169.1	2,301.8	2,878.4	5,180.2	7.3	44.4
August	2,128.6	17.5	114.8	54.4	169.2	2,297.8	2,904.3	5,202.1	7.4	44.2
November	2,128.2	16.8	112.4	51.4	163.7	2,291.9	2,935.3	5,227.2	7.1	43.8
1978 -										
February (b)	2,074.8	40.5	160.3	61.8	222.1	2,296.9	2,961.8	5,258.7	9.7	43.7
March	2,117.8	30.7	145.4	57.3	202.7	2,320.5	2,947.5	5,268.0	8.7	44.0
Standard error of -										
March estimates (c)	10.9	1.9	3.6	2.5	4.1	11.3	12.5	..	0.2	0.2
February to March movement (c)	6.9	2.1	3.4	2.4	3.7	7.1	7.6	..	0.2	0.1
PERSONS										
1976 -										
November	5,955.0	26.7	225.0	56.5	281.5	6,236.5	3,906.7	10,143.2	4.5	61.5
1977 -										
February	5,985.2	49.0	290.5	81.8	372.3	6,357.5	3,837.1	10,194.6	5.9	62.4
May	6,024.2	29.5	275.8	78.0	353.8	6,378.0	3,864.2	10,242.2	5.5	62.3
August	5,995.4	30.1	283.3	76.0	359.3	6,354.7	3,929.2	10,283.9	5.7	61.8
November	5,995.4	33.0	277.4	69.4	346.8	6,342.2	3,991.0	10,333.2	5.5	61.4
1978 -										
February (b)	5,932.3	80.6	395.8	81.3	477.0	6,409.3	3,985.0	10,394.3	7.4	61.7
March	5,987.9	56.8	345.7	74.6	420.3	6,408.1	4,004.1	10,412.2	6.6	61.5
Standard error of -										
March estimates (c)	16.6	2.4	5.2	2.8	5.6	17.0	14.2	..	0.1	0.2
February to March movement (c)	8.9	2.8	4.3	2.8	4.6	9.1	8.1	..	0.1	0.1

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 1. (b) First of monthly series. Figures relate mainly to two weeks ending February 5 and 12, in contrast to figures for earlier months which relate mainly to four weeks spread throughout the month. (c) For information on standard errors see Technical Note, page 17.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND MARITAL STATUS, MARCH 1978

	Employed (a)	Unemployed (a)		Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemploy- ment rate (a)	Participa- tion rate (a)
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
				- '000 -				- per cent -	
Males -									
Married	2,745.4	77.8	*	80.6	2,825.9	556.2	3,382.1	2.9	83.6
Other (b)	1,124.7	122.4	14.6	137.0	1,261.7	500.4	1,762.1	10.9	71.6
Total	3,870.1	200.2	17.3	217.6	4,087.6	1,056.6	5,144.2	5.3	79.5
Females -									
Married	1,352.8	50.7	37.6	88.3	1,441.1	1,958.2	3,399.3	6.1	42.4
Other (b)	764.9	94.8	19.7	114.4	879.4	989.3	1,868.7	13.0	47.1
Total	2,117.8	145.4	57.3	202.7	2,320.5	2,947.5	5,268.0	8.7	44.0
Persons	5,987.9	345.7	74.6	420.3	6,408.1	4,004.1	10,412.2	6.6	61.5

For footnotes see below.

TABLE 3. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, MARCH 1978

State or Territory	Employed (a)	Unemployed (a)		Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemploy- ment rate (a)	Participa- tion rate (a)
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
				- '000 -				- per cent -	
MALES									
N.S.W.	1,351.6	71.2	5.1	76.2	1,427.8	390.1	1,817.9	5.3	78.5
Vic.	1,043.4	44.1	5.3	49.3	1,092.7	276.6	1,369.4	4.5	79.8
Qld	575.6	38.3	*	40.9	616.5	165.1	781.6	6.6	78.9
S.A.	357.0	19.9	*	21.8	378.8	93.6	472.4	5.8	80.2
W.A.	344.0	15.8	*	17.1	361.1	83.4	444.5	4.7	81.2
Tas.	109.8	6.5	*	6.8	116.6	32.1	148.7	5.8	78.4
N.T.	31.8	1.9	*	2.0	33.9	6.0	39.9	6.0	84.9
A.C.T.	57.0	2.7	*	3.3	60.3	9.6	69.9	5.5	86.2
Australia	3,870.1	200.2	17.3	217.6	4,087.6	1,056.6	5,144.2	5.3	79.5
FEMALES									
N.S.W.	735.5	49.9	22.5	72.5	808.0	1,073.0	1,881.0	9.0	43.0
Vic.	586.8	40.9	13.6	54.5	641.3	775.5	1,416.8	8.5	45.3
Qld	298.0	24.8	8.5	33.3	331.3	462.6	793.9	10.1	41.7
S.A.	204.8	12.9	4.9	17.7	222.5	264.4	486.9	8.0	45.7
W.A.	183.7	11.3	5.3	16.6	200.3	235.0	435.3	8.3	46.0
Tas.	57.0	3.3	1.5	4.7	61.7	89.2	151.0	7.7	40.9
N.T.	14.8	*	*	*	15.8	15.2	31.0	6.5	51.1
A.C.T.	37.2	*	*	2.3	39.5	32.8	72.2	5.8	54.6
Australia	2,117.8	145.4	57.3	202.7	2,320.5	2,947.5	5,268.0	8.7	44.0
PERSONS									
N.S.W.	2,087.1	121.1	27.6	148.7	2,235.8	1,463.1	3,698.9	6.7	60.4
Vic.	1,630.2	85.0	18.9	103.8	1,734.1	1,052.1	2,786.2	6.0	62.2
Qld	873.5	63.1	11.1	74.3	947.8	627.7	1,575.5	7.8	60.2
S.A.	561.8	32.8	6.8	39.6	601.4	357.9	959.3	6.6	62.7
W.A.	527.7	27.1	6.6	33.7	561.4	318.4	879.7	6.0	63.8
Tas.	166.8	9.8	1.8	11.5	178.3	121.4	299.7	6.5	59.5
N.T.	46.6	2.8	*	3.1	49.7	21.2	70.9	6.1	70.1
A.C.T.	94.1	4.0	1.6	5.6	99.7	42.4	142.1	5.6	70.2
Australia	5,987.9	345.7	74.6	420.3	6,408.1	4,004.1	10,412.2	6.6	61.5

(a) For scope of the estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 4. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS,
STATE CAPITAL CITIES, MARCH 1978

STATE CAPITAL CITIES, MARCH 1978									
Capital City	Employed (a)	Unemployed (a)		Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (a)
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
- '000 -					- per cent -				
MALES									
Sydney	855.0	45.6	4.0	49.6	904.7	244.3	1,148.9	5.5	78.7
Melbourne	742.9	32.7	4.3	37.1	780.0	197.9	978.0	4.8	79.8
Brisbane	266.0	17.6	*	19.0	285.0	75.1	360.1	6.7	79.1
Adelaide	251.5	16.0	*	17.7	269.2	71.2	340.3	6.6	79.1
Perth	229.2	12.8	*	13.9	243.0	61.8	304.8	5.7	79.7
Hobart	44.9	1.9	*	2.0	46.8	13.1	59.9	4.2	78.1
Total	2,389.5	126.6	12.6	139.2	2,528.7	663.4	3,192.1	5.5	79.2
FEMALES									
Sydney	505.7	30.4	14.7	45.1	550.8	671.7	1,222.4	8.2	45.1
Melbourne	437.6	30.4	11.3	41.7	479.3	545.6	1,025.0	8.7	46.8
Brisbane	150.7	11.4	4.2	15.6	166.3	219.3	385.6	9.4	43.1
Adelaide	153.0	9.2	3.9	13.1	166.1	195.8	361.9	7.9	45.9
Perth	138.7	8.3	4.4	12.7	151.3	169.0	320.4	8.4	47.2
Hobart	26.2	*	*	1.7	27.9	33.9	61.8	5.9	45.1
Total	1,411.9	90.7	39.1	129.9	1,541.8	1,835.4	3,377.2	8.4	45.7
PERSONS									
Sydney	1,360.7	76.0	18.6	94.7	1,455.4	915.9	2,371.4	6.5	61.4
Melbourne	1,180.5	63.2	15.7	78.8	1,259.3	743.6	2,002.9	6.3	62.9
Brisbane	416.7	29.1	5.6	34.6	451.3	294.4	745.8	7.7	60.5
Adelaide	404.5	25.1	5.6	30.8	435.3	267.0	702.3	7.1	62.0
Perth	367.8	21.0	5.5	26.6	394.4	230.8	625.2	6.7	63.1
Hobart	71.1	2.9	*	3.6	74.7	47.0	121.7	4.9	61.4
Total	3,801.4	217.3	51.8	269.1	4,070.5	2,498.8	6,569.3	6.6	62.0

(a) For scope of the estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 5. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA, MARCH 1978

	Employed (a)		Unemployed (a)		Labour force (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (b)
	Full-time	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total			
	- '000 -							- per cent -
MALES							
Born in Australia	2,649.2	2,804.2	134.1	147.3	2,951.4	5.0	79.6
Born outside Australia	1,027.0	1,065.9	66.1	70.3	1,136.2	6.2	82.1
Italy	..	118.6	..	6.4	125.0	5.1	84.2
Greece	..	61.3	..	5.6	66.8	8.3	83.7
Yugoslavia	..	71.0	..	6.0	77.0	7.8	89.0
U.K. and Ireland	..	389.2	..	25.6	414.8	6.2	79.2
New Zealand	..	47.2	..	*	50.5	*	82.5
Other	..	378.6	..	23.4	402.0	5.8	83.1
Arrived before 1961	464.4	482.9	21.7	22.7	505.6	4.5	77.1
1961-1965	158.1	164.7	12.1	13.3	178.0	7.5	88.3
1966-1970	212.9	218.2	15.5	16.5	234.6	7.0	86.8
1971-1976	158.3	166.0	13.3	14.3	180.3	7.9	86.5
Jan. 1977 to Mar. 1978	33.2	34.2	*	*	37.7	*	79.0
MARRIED WOMEN							
Born in Australia	512.5	949.8	28.6	55.1	1,004.9	5.5	40.3
Born outside Australia	266.7	403.1	22.1	33.1	436.2	7.6	48.6
Italy	..	40.3	..	*	42.7	*	43.6
Greece	..	27.1	..	*	29.7	*	49.2
Yugoslavia	..	33.7	..	*	36.7	*	61.9
U.K. and Ireland	..	149.0	..	11.2	160.2	7.0	47.1
New Zealand	..	13.6	..	*	15.0	*	51.2
Other	..	139.4	..	12.4	151.9	8.2	48.9
Arrived before 1961	93.5	158.2	5.8	9.2	167.4	5.5	41.2
1961-1965	47.6	75.0	*	5.7	80.7	7.0	56.9
1966-1970	61.6	88.1	5.0	7.3	95.4	7.6	53.9
1971-1976	57.9	74.1	4.5	7.3	81.4	9.0	55.8
Jan. 1977 to Mar. 1978	6.0	7.7	*	*	11.3	*	43.2
ALL FEMALES							
Born in Australia	1,021.6	1,579.8	104.5	146.7	1,726.4	8.5	43.7
Born outside Australia	376.1	538.0	41.0	56.0	594.0	9.4	48.4
Italy	..	47.6	..	*	50.8	*	43.4
Greece	..	31.8	..	*	35.4	*	49.2
Yugoslavia	..	38.3	..	4.1	42.4	9.6	58.6
U.K. and Ireland	..	210.3	..	21.3	231.6	9.2	46.4
New Zealand	..	24.5	..	*	27.5	*	57.9
Other	..	185.5	..	20.7	206.3	10.0	49.1
Arrived before 1961	120.6	193.7	8.2	12.2	205.8	5.9	38.0
1961-1965	72.9	105.5	8.2	11.7	117.2	10.0	59.0
1966-1970	89.4	121.5	9.7	13.0	134.5	9.7	55.2
1971-1976	78.2	99.3	8.6	12.2	111.5	11.0	57.0
Jan. 1977 to Mar. 1978	15.0	18.0	6.2	6.9	24.9	27.7	51.7
PERSONS							
Born in Australia	3,670.8	4,384.0	238.6	293.9	4,677.9	6.3	61.1
Born outside Australia	1,403.0	1,603.9	107.0	126.3	1,730.2	7.3	66.2
Italy	..	166.2	..	9.6	175.8	5.4	66.2
Greece	..	93.1	..	9.2	102.3	9.0	67.4
Yugoslavia	..	109.3	..	10.0	119.4	8.4	75.2
U.K. and Ireland	..	599.5	..	46.9	646.5	7.3	63.2
New Zealand	..	71.6	..	6.4	78.1	8.2	71.7
Other	..	564.1	..	44.2	608.3	7.3	67.3
Arrived before 1961	585.0	676.6	30.0	34.8	711.4	4.9	59.4
1961-1965	231.1	270.2	20.3	25.0	295.2	8.5	73.8
1966-1970	302.3	339.7	25.3	29.5	369.1	8.0	71.8
1971-1976	236.5	265.3	21.9	26.5	291.8	9.1	72.2
Jan. 1977 to Mar. 1978	48.2	52.2	9.6	10.5	62.7	16.7	62.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Excludes persons in institutions. See definition, paragraph 12.

* Less than 4,000 or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 6. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, MARCH 1978

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Participation rate (a) (per cent)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	411.7	19.2	377.1	788.8	63.4	51.8	60.4	61.9
20-24	534.8	184.4	412.4	947.2	91.0	58.2	70.1	80.5
25-34	1,071.2	445.4	565.6	1,636.8	96.0	47.2	51.3	73.8
35-44	806.3	396.7	451.7	1,258.0	96.2	55.4	56.3	76.7
45-54	727.0	287.7	348.5	1,075.5	92.5	45.1	46.6	70.1
55-59	290.3	77.0	106.2	396.5	85.4	29.4	30.9	58.0
60-64	171.8	20.8	37.4	209.1	61.5	10.0	12.4	36.0
65 and over	74.6	9.9	21.6	96.2	13.6	3.6	2.9	7.4
Total	4,087.6	1,441.1	2,320.5	6,408.1	79.5	42.4	44.0	61.5

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

TABLE 7. LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, MARCH 1978 (Per cent)

Age group (years)	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	64.6	60.6	62.7	59.1	59.3	59.2
20-24	92.3	70.4	81.3	89.7	69.5	79.6
25-34	97.0	49.6	73.0	95.3	56.6	76.8
35-44	96.8	53.8	75.0	96.3	62.6	81.0
45-54	92.6	44.8	68.1	94.1	52.4	76.2
55-59	85.3	29.8	56.1	87.5	34.9	64.1
60-64	60.5	12.6	35.5	67.6	12.1	39.3
65 and over	14.7	2.7	7.7	12.9	4.7	8.7
Total	79.6	43.7	61.1	82.1	48.4	66.2

(a) Excludes persons in institutions. See definitions, paragraph 12.

TABLE 8. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a); FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS, BY AGE, MARCH 1978 ('000)

	Age group (years)						
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	Total
MALES							
Full-time workers (a)	293.3	464.0	1,000.7	763.7	688.8	465.6	3,676.2
Part-time workers (a)	55.0	23.5	25.8	16.2	18.8	54.6	193.9
Total	348.3	487.6	1,026.5	779.9	707.6	520.2	3,870.1
MARRIED WOMEN							
Full-time workers (a)	14.1	132.1	221.3	196.6	159.8	55.3	779.2
Part-time workers (a)	*	35.7	190.2	179.7	116.7	49.3	573.7
Total	16.1	167.9	411.5	376.3	276.6	104.6	1,352.8
ALL FEMALES							
Full-time workers (a)	231.5	313.3	315.8	241.2	205.6	90.3	1,397.7
Part-time workers (a)	70.1	58.3	205.3	188.1	128.7	69.7	720.1
Total	301.5	371.6	521.1	429.3	334.3	160.0	2,117.8
PERSONS							
Full-time workers (a)	524.7	777.4	1,316.5	1,004.9	894.4	555.9	5,073.9
Part-time workers (a)	125.1	81.8	231.0	204.3	147.5	124.3	914.0
Total	649.8	859.2	1,547.5	1,209.2	1,041.9	680.2	5,987.9

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 9. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY HOURS WORKED (a), MARCH 1978

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (b)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
NUMBER EMPLOYED ('000)					
Weekly hours worked (a) –					
0(c)	194.7	64.7	38.4	103.1	297.8
1–15	103.8	264.7	89.6	354.2	458.0
16–29	173.9	243.3	56.0	299.3	473.1
30–34	244.3	119.2	64.1	183.3	427.6
35–39	465.5	189.1	162.9	352.0	817.6
40	1,316.8	318.4	255.9	574.4	1,891.2
41–44	281.1	43.1	41.9	85.0	366.1
45–48	352.5	34.4	26.4	60.8	413.4
49 and over	737.4	76.0	29.7	105.7	843.1
Total	3,870.1	1,352.8	764.9	2,117.8	5,987.9

WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (a)

Aggregate weekly hours worked (a) (million)	155.9	39.4	24.8	64.3	220.1
By full-time workers (a)	152.5	30.1	22.8	52.9	205.4
By part-time workers (a)	3.4	9.3	2.0	11.3	14.7
Average weekly hours worked (a)	40.3	29.1	32.5	30.3	36.8
By full-time workers (a)	41.5	38.7	36.9	37.9	40.5
By part-time workers (a)	17.5	16.2	13.9	15.7	16.1
By wage and salary earners	38.6	28.8	32.3	30.2	35.5
By others (d)	48.8	30.6	35.4	31.2	43.8

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. The figures relate to hours worked, not hours paid for. See paragraph 14. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Persons who had a job but were not at work. See definition, paragraph 14. (d) Employers; self-employed persons; unpaid family helpers who worked 15 hours or more in the survey week.

TABLE 10. FULL-TIME WORKERS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS, BY REASON, MARCH 1978 ('000)

<i>Reason for working less than 35 hours</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (b)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Leave, holiday or flextime	303.7	63.7	62.3	126.0	429.7
Own illness or injury	127.2	36.6	27.2	63.8	191.0
Bad weather, plant breakdown, etc.	7.7	*	*	*	8.8
Began or left job in the survey week	16.6	*	4.9	8.4	25.0
Stood down, on short time, insufficient work	29.5	4.9	*	6.6	36.1
Other reasons	38.0	8.5	5.4	14.0	52.0
Total	522.7	118.1	101.7	219.8	742.5

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

**TABLE 11. PART-TIME WORKERS (a) : WHETHER PREFERRED TO WORK MORE HOURS AND WHETHER
LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK, BY AGE, MARCH 1978**
(000)

	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
Total	55.0	23.5	25.8	16.2	18.8	54.6	193.9
Preferred not to work more hours	42.9	17.6	20.7	11.7	14.5	50.7	158.0
Preferred to work more hours	12.1	5.9	5.0	4.5	4.3	*	35.9
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	7.9	4.9			5.0		17.8
MARRIED WOMEN							
Total	*	35.7	190.2	179.7	116.7	49.3	573.7
Preferred not to work more hours	*	29.2	168.1	160.1	110.3	48.2	517.2
Preferred to work more hours	*	6.6	22.0	19.7	6.4	*	56.5
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	*	*	6.6		*	*	10.0
ALL FEMALES							
Total	70.1	58.3	205.3	188.1	128.7	69.7	720.1
Preferred not to work more hours	55.3	45.8	180.5	167.3	120.7	67.9	637.7
Preferred to work more hours	14.7	12.5	24.7	20.8	8.0	*	82.4
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	7.2	5.5	4.6	4.6		*	22.0
PERSONS							
Total	125.1	81.8	231.0	204.3	147.5	124.3	914.0
Preferred not to work more hours	98.2	63.5	201.3	179.0	135.2	118.6	795.7
Preferred to work more hours	26.9	18.4	29.8	25.3	12.3	5.7	118.3
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	15.1	8.2	6.8	5.2	4.6		39.8

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Had actively looked for full-time work in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK, MARCH 1978

	Number unemployed ('000)					Unemployment rate (a) (per cent)				
	Married males	All males	Married females	All females	All persons	Married males	All males	Married females	All females	All persons
LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK (a)										
Total	77.8	200.2	50.7	145.4	345.7	2.8	5.2	6.1	9.4	6.4
Aged 15-19 years	*	54.8	*	62.1	116.9	*	15.7	*	21.2	18.2
Looking for first job (a)	*	26.1	*	30.7	56.8	..	..	..	..	..
Not looking for first job	*	28.7	*	31.5	60.2	..	..	..	..	..
Attending school	*	*	*	*	6.3	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	77.2	145.4	48.4	83.3	228.7	2.8	4.1	6.0	6.7	4.8
20-24 years	8.5	42.9	12.0	33.5	76.4	5.6	8.5	8.3	9.7	9.0
25-34 years	24.1	42.2	17.9	26.5	68.7	2.9	4.0	7.5	7.7	5.0
35-44 years	44.6	26.2	9.8	11.3	37.5	2.5	3.3	4.8	4.5	3.6
45-54 years		19.1	7.4	9.7	28.8		2.7	4.4	4.5	3.1
55 years and over		15.0	*	*	17.3		3.1	*	*	3.0
LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK (a)										
Total	*	17.3	37.6	57.3	74.6	*	8.2	6.2	7.4	7.5
Aged 15-19 years	*	8.6	*	13.5	22.1	*	13.6	*	16.1	15.0
Attending school	*	5.4	*	8.0	13.4	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	*	8.7	36.7	43.8	52.5	*	5.9	6.0	6.3	6.2
20-24 years	*	4.3	4.5	7.3	11.6	*	15.4	11.3	11.2	12.5
25-34 years	4.4	10.6	16.0	18.0	20.5	3.7	5.6	7.8	8.1	8.2
35-44 years			10.6	11.1	11.2			5.6	5.6	5.2
45-54 years			*	4.4	4.7			*	3.3	3.1
55 years and over			*	*	4.4			*	*	3.4
TOTAL										
Total	80.6	217.6	88.3	202.7	420.3	2.9	5.3	6.1	8.7	6.6
Aged 15-19 years	*	63.4	*	75.6	139.0	*	15.4	*	20.0	17.6
Attending school	*	8.4	*	11.3	19.7	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	80.0	154.1	85.1	127.1	281.2	2.8	4.2	6.0	6.5	5.0
20-24 years	8.8	47.2	16.5	40.8	88.1	5.7	8.8	9.0	9.9	9.3
25-34 years	25.4	44.7	33.9	44.5	89.2	3.0	4.2	7.6	7.9	3.5
35-44 years	20.8	26.3	20.4	22.4	48.8	2.9	3.3	5.1	5.0	3.9
45-54 years	13.6	19.4	11.2	14.1	33.5	2.1	2.7	3.9	4.1	3.1
55 years and over	11.3	16.4	*	5.2	21.6	2.4	3.1	*	3.1	3.1

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, STATES, MARCH 1978 ('000)

Age group (years)	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Australia (b)
MALES							
15-19	21.5	13.1	12.4	7.4	4.8	2.3	63.4
20-34	32.6	19.6	18.3	9.2	7.1	2.6	91.9
35 and over	22.2	16.6	10.2	5.3	5.2	1.9	62.2
Total	76.2	49.3	40.9	21.8	17.1	6.8	217.6
FEMALES							
15-19	26.1	20.3	12.3	7.4	6.2	2.2	75.6
20-34	29.9	22.7	15.1	7.1	7.3	1.8	85.4
35 and over	16.4	11.5	5.9	3.3	3.2	*	41.7
Total	72.5	54.5	33.3	17.7	16.6	4.7	202.7
PERSONS							
15-19	47.6	33.4	24.7	14.7	11.0	4.5	139.0
20-34	62.5	42.4	33.4	16.3	14.4	4.3	177.3
35 and over	38.7	28.0	16.1	8.6	8.3	2.7	103.9
Total	148.7	103.8	74.3	39.6	33.7	11.5	420.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 14. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, MARCH 1978

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)			Unemployment rate (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
BORN IN AUSTRALIA						
15-19	52.5	63.9	116.3	14.7	19.7	17.1
20 and over	94.8	82.8	177.6	3.7	5.9	4.4
20-24	34.6	31.2	65.8	7.9	9.3	8.5
25-34	28.0	28.8	56.7	3.7	7.2	4.9
35 and over	32.2	22.9	55.1	2.3	3.4	2.7
Total	147.3	146.7	293.9	5.0	8.5	6.3
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA						
15-19	11.0	11.7	22.7	20.3	22.1	21.2
20 and over	59.3	44.3	103.6	5.5	8.2	6.4
20-24	12.6	9.7	22.3	12.7	12.5	12.6
25-34	16.7	15.8	32.5	5.5	9.6	6.9
35 and over	30.0	18.8	48.8	4.4	6.3	5.0
Total	70.3	56.0	126.3	6.2	9.4	7.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

TABLE 15. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, MARCH 1978

Industry division or sub-division	Total (⁰⁰⁰)	Occupation group	Total (⁰⁰⁰)
Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	260.6	Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	260.6
Agriculture	12.1	Professional and technical	14.1
Manufacturing	74.1	Administrative, executive and managerial	4.1
Food, beverages and tobacco	14.1	Clerical	32.8
Metal products, machinery and equipment	13.3	Sales	29.0
Other manufacturing	46.7	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	17.6
Construction	32.1	Miners and quarrymen	*
Wholesale and retail trade	62.0	Transport and communication	12.3
Transport and storage	8.5	Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	115.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	10.6	Metal and electrical workers	29.8
Community services	22.9	Building workers	25.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	25.2	Other tradesmen, etc.	61.1
Other industries	13.2	Service, sport and recreation	33.5
Other (b)	159.7		
Total	420.3		

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job or had not done so in the last two years. Industry and occupation was not obtained for these persons.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 16. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC., MARCH 1978

Duration of unemployment (weeks) (b)	Age (years)			Married	Not married (c)	Looking for -		Total
	15-19	20-24	25 and over			Full-time work	Part-time work	
MALES								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	6.9	5.1	8.3	6.0	14.3	16.4	7.2	20.3
2 and under 4	6.2	6.8	10.9	8.5	15.4	20.5		
4 and under 8	10.0	7.8	16.0	13.1	20.7	30.1		
8 and under 13	12.8	7.3	15.9	12.7	23.3	33.5	6.2	36.0
13 and under 26	17.6	11.5	22.6	16.9	34.8	49.0		
26 and under 39	4.6	4.5	11.7	8.1	9.8	17.6			*	17.9
39 and under 52			*	*	*	5.8	*	5.8
52 and under 65			8.3	5.7	7.2	12.2	*	12.9
65 and over	5.2	4.3	10.3	7.1	8.3	15.2	*	15.4
Total	63.4	47.2	106.9	80.6	137.0	200.2	17.3	217.6
Average duration of unemployment	16.6	18.4	25.8	23.8	20.2	22.5	10.0	21.5
FEMALES								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	6.3	5.7	13.3	14.0	11.2	15.0	10.3	25.3
2 and under 4	7.6	4.7	12.8	13.0	12.1	14.6	10.6	25.1
4 and under 8	12.9	7.3	17.5	19.6	18.2	23.7	14.1	37.7
8 and under 13	17.1	5.1	12.4	12.9	21.7	25.3	9.3	34.6
13 and under 26	17.9	9.7	9.4	10.1	27.1	32.5	4.6	37.1
26 and under 39	5.6	5.4	9.1	8.5	9.2	13.9	4.5	17.7
39 and under 52	*		*	*	4.1	4.3		5.1
52 and under 65	*		4.3	4.2	4.6	7.0		8.8
65 and over	*	*	5.7	5.0	6.3	9.2	4.0	11.3
Total	75.6	40.8	86.2	88.3	114.4	145.4	57.3	202.7
Average duration of unemployment	16.5	20.1	18.6	17.5	18.6	20.2	12.9	18.1
PERSONS								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	13.2	10.7	21.6	20.0	25.5	31.4	14.1	45.5
2 and under 4	13.8	11.6	23.7	21.5	27.5	35.1	13.9	49.0
4 and under 8	22.9	15.1	33.5	32.6	38.9	53.7	17.8	71.5
8 and under 13	29.9	12.4	28.3	25.6	45.0	58.8	11.8	70.6
13 and under 26	35.5	21.2	32.1	27.0	61.8	81.5	7.2	88.8
26 and under 39	9.0	5.7	20.8	16.6	19.0	31.5	4.1	35.6
39 and under 52	*	5.9	4.4	*	7.3	10.1	5.6	10.8
52 and under 65	6.0		12.6	9.9	11.8	19.2		21.7
65 and over	5.1		16.1	12.1	14.6	24.4		26.7
Total	139.0	88.1	193.1	168.8	251.4	345.7	74.6	420.3
Average duration of unemployment	16.6	19.2	22.6	20.5	19.5	21.5	12.2	19.9

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of the survey week. Periods of unemployment are recorded in complete weeks and this results in a slight understatement of duration. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE 17. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), MARCH 1978
(000)

	Duration of unemployment (b) (weeks)							
	Under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 39	39 and under 65	65 and over	Total
Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	60.4	47.7	40.6	58.5	25.0	20.7	7.7	260.6
Industry division -								
Manufacturing	15.9	10.7	11.2	15.7	9.2	8.4	*	74.0
Construction	7.6	5.5	5.6	6.9	5.3		*	32.1
Wholesale and retail trade	12.6	12.7	9.0	15.7	6.6	5.5		62.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	5.1		4.5		*	*	*	10.6
Community services	7.4	4.2	7.6		*	*	*	22.9
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	6.7	5.4	*	6.0	*	*	*	25.2
Other industries	8.7	5.8	6.6	7.6	4.8		*	33.8
Occupation group (c) -								
Professional and technical	4.5	5.9		*	*	*	*	14.1
Clerical	8.8	8.3	5.3	6.6	*	*	*	32.8
Sales	4.4	6.4	4.3	7.6	4.1	*	*	29.0
Farmers, fishermen, etc.	4.5	6.1		4.0	*	*	*	17.6
Transport and communication	4.2	5.7			*	*	*	12.3
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	23.1	17.4	17.5	28.3	13.2	12.1	4.2	115.9
Metal and electrical workers	5.7	6.2	4.3	6.3	6.5		*	29.8
Building workers	6.8	*	4.8	5.0	4.2		*	25.0
Other tradesmen, etc.	10.7	7.4	8.4	17.0	7.8	6.9	*	61.1
Service, sport and recreation	9.5	6.8	4.4	5.8	6.3		*	33.5
Other (d)	34.1	23.8	30.0	30.3	10.5	11.9	19.0	159.6
Total	94.5	71.5	70.6	88.8	35.6	32.5	26.7	420.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) See footnote (b) to Table 16. Duration of unemployment is not available for all industry or occupational groups because of the high standard error of the estimates. (c) Excludes administrative, executive and managerial workers; and miners, quarrymen and related workers. (d) Had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job or had not done so in the last two years. Industry and occupation was not obtained for these persons.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

**TABLE 18. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ETC.,
MARCH 1978**

	Married males	Other males (b)	All males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons	Per cent of population (c)
Age (years)								
15-19	*	236.9	237.6	17.9	229.4	247.3	484.9	38.1
20-24	4.4	48.2	52.6	132.7	43.7	176.3	229.0	19.5
25-34	19.4	25.7	45.1	498.8	38.4	537.2	582.3	26.2
35-44	19.6	12.0	31.7	318.8	31.5	350.3	381.9	23.3
45-54	42.0	16.8	58.8	349.8	49.5	399.3	458.1	29.9
55-59	39.0	10.6	49.5	185.1	52.8	237.9	287.4	42.0
60-64	87.2	20.3	107.5	187.7	76.7	264.4	371.9	64.0
65 and over	343.8	130.0	473.8	267.5	467.4	734.8	1,208.6	92.6
Total	556.2	500.4	1,056.6	1,958.2	989.3	2,947.5	4,004.1	38.5
Permanently unable to work	..	..	24.0	..	..	18.5	42.6	..
In institutions	..	..	53.4	..	..	86.6	140.0	..
Aged 15-20 years attending school	..	..	189.9	..	..	164.0	353.9	..

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Persons not in the labour force as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 17.

TECHNICAL NOTE

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 the estimates and the movements derived from them 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 surveys. 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 bulletin. Standard errors for the latest month are shown in Table 1. Standard errors for general application are shown in Table A, page 18. Because of the reduction in the sample size for November 1977 (see paragraph 27, page 4 of the February 1978 issue of this bulletin), the standard errors for all November estimates except those for unemployed persons looking for full-time work are approximately 15 per cent higher than those shown.

4. The size of the standard error increases with the level of the estimate, so that the larger the estimate the larger the standard error. However, it should be noted that the larger the sample estimate the smaller will be the standard error in percentage terms. Thus, larger sample estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.

5. Very small estimates are 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 bulletin, estimates below the levels shown in Table A 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.

6. As indicated in paragraph 2 the movement in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the movement depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the movement itself. An indication of the magnitude of standard errors of monthly movements in the Australian estimates is given in Table B on page 18. This table can also be used as a guide to standard errors of monthly movements in estimates for the States and Territories. The estimates of standard error of monthly

movements apply only to estimates of movements between two consecutive months. Movements between corresponding months of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive months, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Table B. Standard errors of *quarterly* movements were published in the Technical Note in the February 1978 issue of this bulletin.

7. Examples of the calculation and use of standard errors are given below :

- (a) The estimated number of employed females in March 1978 is 2,117,800. From Table A it will be seen that the estimate has a standard error of about 10,900 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 2,106,900 to 2,128,700 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 2,096,000 to 2,139,600.
- (b) The estimate of movement in the number of employed females from February to March 1978 is an increase of 43,000. As Table B relates the standard error of the monthly movement to the standard error of the larger of the two estimates from which the movement was derived, there are two steps involved in calculating the standard error of this monthly movement.
 - (i) Calculate the standard error of the larger of the two estimates by using Table A, and
 - (ii) Calculate the standard error of the monthly movement by using Table B and the result of (i).

The standard error of the March estimates of employed females (2,117,800) is about 10,900. Use of this figure and Table B indicates that the standard error of the monthly movement (43,000) is about 6,900. Therefore there are about two chances in three that if all dwellings had been included in the surveys the increase would have been within the range 36,100 to 49,900 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range 29,200 to 56,800.

8. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.

9. 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 Table A.

10. 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.

TABLE A
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
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	800	700	400	650	800	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,000	400	900	1,050	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	1,300	1,500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	600		2,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000				4,000	2.0
300,000	5,000	5,000	2,500	2,600	2,400				5,000	1.7
500,000	6,000	6,000	3,000	3,200	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000	3,700						8,000	0.8
2,000,000	10,500	10,500							10,000	0.5
5,000,000									15,500	0.3

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5, page 17.

TABLE B — STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF MONTHLY MOVEMENTS

Standard error of larger estimate	N.S.W. and Vic.	Qld, S.A. and W.A.	Tas., N.T. and A.C.T.	Australia
300	..	..	250	..
400	..	480	300	..
500	..	610	350	600
1,000	1,000	1,000	600	1,200
1,500	1,500	1,300	810	1,600
2,000	1,800	1,600	1,000	2,000
2,500	2,100	1,900		2,500
3,000	2,500	2,100		2,800
4,000	3,100	2,400		3,500
5,000	3,600	2,800		4,200
6,000	4,000			4,800
8,000	4,800			5,800
10,000	5,400			6,600
15,000				8,400

POPULATION SURVEY REPORTS

Although emphasis in the population survey is placed on the regular collection of data on demographic and labour force characteristics, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The results of these surveys are published separately. Copies of the following publications are available free on request.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Catalogue No.</i>
Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption Patterns, February 1977 (Preliminary)	4308.0
Annual Leave, August 1974	6317.0
Assisted and Unassisted Migrants, August 1972	3406.0
Australian Ex-service Personnel, Survey of, November 1966	4403.0
Ex-service Personnel, Widows and Children, November 1971	4403.0
Child Care –	
May 1969; May 1973; May 1977	4402.0
Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments –	
May 1968; May 1974	4305.0
Evening and Night Work, November 1976	6329.0
Family Status and Employment Status of the Population, November 1974 and November 1975	6223.0
Frequency of Pay –	
August 1974; August 1976; August 1977	6320.0
Income Distribution, 1968-69 (Consolidated and Revised Edition)	6505.0
Income Distribution, 1973-74 –	
Part 1	6502.0
Part 2	6503.0
Part 3 (Supplementary Tables)	6504.0
Internal Migration –	
1969-70 to 1972-73 (annually); Twelve months ended April 1972, 1973 and 1974; December 1974; January 1977	3408.0
Job Tenure –	
February 1974; February 1975; August 1976	6211.0
Journey to Work and Journey to School –	
May 1970; August 1974	9205.0
Labour Force Experience –	
During 1968; During 1972; During 1974; During 1975; During 1976	6206.0
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, November 1974	6224.0
Labour Mobility –	
November 1972; February 1975; February 1976	6209.0
Leavers from Schools, Universities and Other Educational Institutions, Survey of –	
February 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967	6227.0
February 1968, 1969 and 1970; February 1971 to February 1974 (Annually); May 1975; May 1976; August 1977	6227.0
Migrants in the Labour Force	6230.0
Multiple Jobholding –	
November 1965; August 1966; August 1967; May 1971; August 1973; August 1975; August 1977	6216.0
Non-School Study Courses, Survey of, August 1968	Not listed
Persons Covered by Hospital and Medical Expenditure Assistance Schemes, August 1972	4303.0
Persons Aged 15 to 64 Years : Employment Status and Period Since Leaving School, May 1976	6225.0
Persons Not in the Labour Force –	
November 1975; May 1977	6220.0
Persons Looking for Work –	
May 1976; November 1976; May 1977	6222.0
School Leavers, 1970 to 1974 : Their Employment Status and Education Experience in May 1975	6226.0
Superannuation, Survey of –	
Victoria, May 1968	Not listed
February 1974	6319.0
The Labour Force : Country of Birth and Period of Residence, February 1972	6207.0
Trade Union Members, November 1976	6325.0
Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) –	
August 1975; August 1976; August 1977	6310.0
Work Patterns of Employees, November 1976	6328.0