# WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES (DISTRIBUTION) <br> AUSTRALIA 

## AUGUST 1985

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## - Commonweath of Australia 1986

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

The monthly Population Survey (which is described in The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the August 1985 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.
2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary were asked additional questions. This subset of respondents was asked about their weekly earnings and frequency of pay.

## Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)), except that it was restricted to persons who were employed as wage and salary earners ('employees') in their main job excluding persons on workers' compensation and persons who worked solely for payment in kind.

## Definitions

4. Weekly earnings referred to the amount of 'last total pay' prior to the interview (i.e. before taxation and other deductions had been made). For persons paid other than weekly, earnings were converted to a weekly equivalent. No adjustment was made for any back payment of wage increases or pre-payment of leave, etc.
5. Median weekly earnings is the amount which divides the distribution of individuals into two equal groups, one having earnings above and the other below that amount. Medians were calculated from grouped data, the class intervals in some cases being finer than those published in the tables. Linear interpolation was used within the class interval in which the median fell.
6. Mean weekly earnings is the amount obtained by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of units in that group.
7. The main job was defined as the job in which most hours were usually worked. The second job was defined to include all remaining wage and salary earner jobs in which some hours were worked during the survey week (i.e. the week before the interview week). A person who held more than one job was classified to the industry and occupation of the main job. Service in the reserve defence forces was not regarded as a second job. Persons who by the nature of their employment worked for more than one employer, e.g. domestics, odd-job workers, babysitters, etc., were not counted as having a second job unless they also held another job of a different kind, nor were those who worked for more than one employer solely by reason of changing jobs during the survey week. All jobs comprised main job and second job as defined above.
8. Hours paid for referred to the number of hours for which an employee was paid and not necessarily to the
number of hours actually worked (e.g. an employee on paid leave for the week was asked to report the number of hours for which he was paid).
9. Hours worked referred to actual hours worked during the survey week, not necessarily hours paid for. Thus, if a person had been on leave for the whole week, hours worked would have been recorded as nil.
10. Full-time employees are those who usually worked 35 hours a week or more (in all jobs) and others who, although usually part-time employees, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. It should be noted that some full-time employees may have worked or been paid for less than a full 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.
11. Persons are classified as married if they are reported as being married (including de facto) and their spouse was a usual resident of the household at the time of the survey. The not-married category includes persons who have never married, or are separated, widowed or divorced, as well as those who, although reported as being married, did not have a spouse who usually lived in the household.
12. Family status characteristics are explained in detail in The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0). It should be noted that they were not obtained for all persons included in the survey. Family information was not collected for the following persons (identified in tables as 'not family coded):
(a) all persons enumerated in non-private dwellings (including hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions);
(b) persons enumerated as visitors to, rather than usual residents of, private dwellings; and
(c) where it was not possible to obtain family information relating to all the usual residents of a household, e.g. where one member of the family was a member of the permament defence forces and therefore outside the scope of the survey.
13. Further definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

## Results of the survey

14. Additional tables available but not included in this publication are listed on page 19. A preliminary publication (6309.0) containing a summary of the results of the survey was released on 29 November 1985.
15. Results of similar surveys, the first conducted in August 1975, have been given in previous issues of this publication.

## Comparability of series

16. The survey was conducted primarily to obtain statistics on the distribution of earnings of employees classified by characteristics such as marital status, sex, age and whether the earnings came from the main job or any second job. Caution should be exercised when comparing the means of distributions of earnings in this publication with estimates of average weekly earnings included in the quarterly publication Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (6302.0) which are compiled from a survey of employers. There are important differences in the scope of and methodology used in the two surveys. The quarterly survey of average weekly earnings excludes employees in the industries of Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (ASIC Division A) and Private Households Employing Staff (ASIC Subdivision 94) both of which are included in the August household survey. Data from the quarterly survey of average weekly earnings are collected from employers who fill in a mailed questionnaire giving details of their employees' weekly earnings. For the August household survey, respondents are either interviewed personally at their dwelling or another adult member of their household responds on their behalf.

## Reliability of the estimates

17. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:
(a) sampling error: since the estimates 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. More information about this topic and tables of estimated standard errors for this survey will be found in the Technical note;
(b) non-sampling error: inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or 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. In many cases the answer to the question on earnings was based on the knowledge of one person (generally the housewife). Respondents were asked to indicate the amount of earnings in terms of ranges. (The earnings ranges used are those shown in Table 3.) It is considered that there may be some understatement in the estimates because of imperfect recall of minor or irregular sources of earnings. Other errors may be due to genuine misunderstanding.

## Related publications

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

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (6302.0)-issued quarterly

Earnings and Hours of Employees, Distribution and Composition, Australia (6306.0)-sample survey conducted in May (once every two years).

Income of Individuals, Australia, 1981-82 (6502.0)

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0)-issued monthly

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) (\$1.20, \$2.10 incl. postage)-issued monthly.
19. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publication, Australia (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a Publications Advice (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

## Symbols and other usages

* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 17 above
. . not applicable
n.e.c. not elsewhere classified

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

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

NOTE. Estimates from the Survey of Weekly Earnings shown in this publication enable valuable comparisons and analyses to be made of the distribution of earnings, especially in relation to demographic characteristics such as age, sex, marital status and family status and other characteristics such as hours paid for, full-time/part-time status and occupation. As mentioned in paragraph 16 of the Explanatory Notes (page 2), care should be exercised when comparing the means derived from distributions of earnings in this publication with estimates of average weekly earnings included in Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (6302.0). There are many factors which account for differences bet ween the two series, including the lack of consultation of records by respondents to the household survey, misunderstanding of the type of earnings required (i.e. gross rather than net earnings), earnings being reported in ranges, lack of recognition of irregular sources of earnings and lack of awareness of earnings of other household members not answering for themselves.

The mean weekly earnings in all jobs for the $3,298,800$ male employees was $\$ 382$ compared with $\$ 251$ for the $2,214,200$ female employees. There was little difference between earnings in main jobs only and all jobs - males earned $\$ 381$ per week in their main job and females $\$ 249$ per week.

In the twelve months to August 1985 mean weekly earnings in all jobs for all employees increased by 6.8 per cent to $\$ 329$. Full-time mean weekly earnings in all jobs for males increased by 7.6 per cent and for females by 6.6 per cent. The differential growth in earnings for part-time male and female employees was much greater, with male earnings increasing by only 0.6 per cent but female earnings by 10.2 per cent.

DIAGRAM 1. ALL EMPLOYEES: ANNUUAL CHANGE IN MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS (Source of data: Table 2)


The distribution of weekly earnings varied considerably between males and females: more than one-third of females ( 35.4 per cent) earned less than $\$ 200$ per week in all jobs, compared with only 10.7 per cent of males whilst only 5.4 per cent of females, compared with 22.7 per cent of males earned $\$ 480$ per week or more in all jobs.

DIAGRAM 2. ALL EMPLOYEES: DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS, AUGUST 1985


Mean weekly earnings for all full-time female employees (\$305) were 77.2 per cent of that for full-time male employees (\$395) but there was a marked variability depending on age. Whereas females aged 15-19 earned, on average, 93.5 per cent of male earnings in this age group, those aged $45-54$ earned only 73.0 per cent of male earnings in that group.


The distribution of weekly earnings differed not only according to sex and age, but also according to family status and whether there were children aged 0-14 present in the household. Mean weekly earnings in all jobs of husbands with children aged 0-14 present were $\$ 429$, higher than those of husbands without children aged $0-14$ present ( $\$ 407$ ). The reverse is true for wives-those with children aged $0-14$ present earned $\$ 225$ per week, compared with $\$ 278$ per week for wives without children aged $0-14$ present. For males, the category of family status with highest mean weekly earnings was husbands with children aged 0-14 present (\$429); females who were not members of families had the highest female mean weekly earnings at $\$ 309$.

DIAGRAM 4. HUSBANDS AND WIVES: DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS. AUGUST 1985


For full-time employees, mean weekly earnings in the main job was $\$ 394$ for males and $\$ 303$ for females. However, 50 per cent of males earned less than $\$ 357$ per week and 50 per cent of females earned less than $\$ 287$ per week (the median earnings estimates). The highest-paid 10 per cent of males earned $\$ 579$ or more which was about 28 per cent more than the $\$ 453$ earned by the highest-paid 10 per cent of females. There was a similar difference between the weekly earnings of the lowest-paid 10 per cent of males (\$221 or less) and females (\$172 or less).

TABLE 1. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES: DECILES(a) OF WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB, AUGUST 1985

| Per cent of individuals earning below the levels shown | Aged 20 years and over |  |  | Total all ages |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Fernales | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
|  | -dollars- |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | 249 | 210 | 235 | 221 | 172 | 202 |
| 20 | 286 | 243 | 267 | 269 | 217 | 249 |
| 30 | 312 | 262 | 293 | 300 | 246 | 279 |
| 40 | 339 | 281 | 317 | 327 | 266 | 304 |
| 50 | 369 | 300 | 345 | 357 | 287 | 332 |
| 60 | 403 | 320 | 377 | 392 | 309 | 364 |
| 70 | 450 | 349 | 420 | 438 | 337 | 405 |
| 80 | 509 | 39] | 480 | 501 | 378 | 468 |
| 90 | 585 | 466 | 560 | 579 | 453 | 551 |

(a) Calculated from group data using linear interpolation.

TABLE 2. ALL EMPLOYEES: FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS AND MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS, AUGUST 1980 TO AUGUST 1985
(dollars)

|  | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 255 | 245 | 241 | 237 | 253 | 239 | 308 | 300 | 249 |
| 1981 | 282 | 273 | 271 | 259 | 283 | 266 | 342 | 334 | 277 |
| 1982 | 328 | 317 | 315 | 304 | 326 | 292 | 375 | 394 | 322 |
| 1983 | 346 | 335 | 338 | 323 | 347 | 323 | 404 | 416 | 341 |
| 1984 | 377 | 359 | 353 | 349 | 379 | 348 | 449 | 452 | 367 |
| 1985 | 399 | 392 | 389 | 378 | 403 | 358 | 471 | 482 | 395 |
| Part-time- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 108 | 102 | 109 | 84 | 121 | 116 | * | 101 | 106 |
| 1981 | 129 | 99 | 107 | 93 | 104 | 88 | * | 110 | 112 |
| 1982 | 166 | 138 | 112 | 93 | 148 | 153 | * | 127 | 142 |
| 1983 | 177 | 147 | 145 | 144 | 125 | 141 | * | 131 | 156 |
| 1984 | 188 | 147 | 155 | 137 | 135 | 179 | - | 186 | 163 |
| 1985 | 185 | 177 | 132 | 140 | 142 | 170 | * | 115 | 164 |
| Total- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 249 | 238 | 235 | 230 | 247 | 236 | 301 | 289 | 243 |
| 1981 | 274 | 264 | 265 | 251 | 274 | 260 | 337 | 320 | 269 |
| 1982 | 319 | 307 | 305 | 293 | 317 | 288 | 371 | 378 | 311 |
| 1983 | 336 | 325 | 328 | 314 | 335 | 313 | 398 | 396 | 331 |
| 1984 | 366 | 347 | 343 | 338 | 366 | 342 | 434 | 436 | 356 |
| 1985 | 387 | 380 | 373 | 365 | 388 | 350 | 463 | 456 | 382 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Full-time- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 196 | 192 | 188 | 190 | 192 | 183 | 211 | 221 | 193 |
| 1981 | 220 | 216 | 211 | 216 | 214 | 211 | 253 | 263 | 218 |
| 1982 | 248 | 245 | 237 | 239 | 243 | 237 | 285 | 292 | 245 |
| 1983 | 268 | 268 | 260 | 260 | 264 | 259 | 304 | 309 | 267 |
| 1984 | 293 | 283 | 269 | 284 | 290 | 274 | 320 | 324 | 286 |
| 1985 | 309 | 303 | 287 | 303 | 312 | 295 | 352 | 355 | 305 |
| Part-time- 90.8080090 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 101 | 96 | 90 | 90 | 88 | 90 | 140 | 107 | 96 |
| 1981 | 114 | 105 | 104 | 102 | 100 | 102 | 136 | 122 | 108 |
| 1982 | 126 | 117 | 118 | 116 | 112 | 107 | 137 | 149 | 120 |
| 1983 | 132 | 124 | 127 | 132 | 114 | 124 | 127 | 157 | 127 |
| 1984 | 147 | 136 | 127 | 131 | 126 | 116 | 159 | 165 | 137 |
| 1985 | 164 | 148 | 139 | 144 | 138 | 139 | 175 | 162 | 151 |
| Total- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 166 | 161 | 153 | 155 | 151 | 151 | 192 | 187 | 161 |
| 1981 | 185 | 184 | 173 | 174 | 169 | 173 | 219 | 218 | 181 |
| 1982 | 208 | 204 | 198 | 193 | 192 | 189 | 239 | 244 | 202 |
| 1983 | 223 | 221 | 214 | 209 | 207 | 207 | 271 | 259 | 219 |
| 1984 | 245 | 233 | 219 | 222 | 229 | 207 | 278 | 265 | 234 |
| 1985 | 261 | 250 | 232 | 238 | 243 | 237 | 305 | 292 | 251 |
|  |  |  | PERS |  |  |  |  | - |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 238 | 228 | 226 | 224 | 236 | 224 | 281 | 273 | 233 |
| 1981 | 264 | 255 | 255 | 246 | 263 | 251 | 318 | 310 | 259 |
| 1982 | 304 | 294 | 293 | 285 | 302 | 277 | 346 | 360 | 299 |
| 1983 | 321 | 314 | 315 | 305 | 323 | 305 | 369 | 377 | 318 |
| 1984 | 350 | 335 | 328 | 330 | 352 | 329 | 407 | 409 | 342 |
| 1985 | 370 | 364 | 358 | 355 | 375 | 340 | 432 | 433 | 367 |
| Part-time- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $1980$ | 102. | 97 | 93 | 89 | 94 | 93 | 138 | 106 | 97 |
| 1981 | 117 | 104 | 105 | 100 | 101 | 100 | 143 | 119 | 108 |
| 1982 | 134 | 122 | 117 | 112 | 118 | 114 | 148 | 145 | 125 |
| 1983 | 142 | 128 | 131 | 134 | 116 | 127 | 150 | 151 | 133 |
| 1984 | 156 | 138 | 132 | 132 | 128 | 125 | 151 | 169 | 142 |
| 1985 | 168 | 154 | 137 | 144 | 138 | 144 | 172 | 153 | 153 |
| Total- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 218 | 208 | 205 | 202 | 210 | 206 | 264 | 247 | 212 |
| 1981 | 241 | 233 | 231 | 222 | 234 | 229 | 297 | 277 | 236 |
| 1982 | 278 | 267 | 265 | 255 | 268 | 252 | 319 | 323 | 271 |
| 1983 | 292 | 284 | 285 | 273 | 285 | 274 | 349 | 336 | 288 |
| 1984 | 318 | 302 | 295 | 292 | 312 | 292 | 374 | 362 | 308 |
| 1985 | 336 | - 328 | 318 | 313 | 330 | 307 | 401 | 380 | 329 |

TABLE 3. ALL EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, AUGUST 1985


TABLE 3. ALL EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR
PART-TIME STATUS, AUGUST 1985-continued

|  | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | $S . A$ | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES(a) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weekly earnings (\$)- | -'000- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 40 | 14.2 | 12.3 | 10.6 | 5.3 | 5.7 | * | * | * | 49.7 |
| 40 and under 80 | 9.3 | 7.6 | 4.9 | 2.4 | 3.1 | * | * | * | 29.6 |
| $80 \sim 120$ | 7.0 | 5.9 | 3.4 | 1.9 | 2.1 | * | * | * | 21.2 |
| 120 " $\quad 160$ | 5.5 | 5.3 | * | * | * | * | * | * | 16.9 14.1 |
| 160 " 200 | 6.3 | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | 14.1 |
| 200 " 280 | 8.1 | 6.3 | 3.7 | * | * | * | * | * | 21.5 |
| 280 and over | 14.4 | 11.5 | 3.6 | 2.0 | 2.5 | * | * | * | 35.2 |
| Total | 64.8 | 51.3 | 31.1 | 15.2 | 17.0 | 3.8 | * | 4.1 | 188.1 |
|  | -dollars- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings | $134$ | 119 177 | $\begin{array}{r} 80 \\ 127 \end{array}$ | 79 140 | $\begin{array}{r} 77 \\ 142 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 109 \\ & 170 \end{aligned}$ | * | $\begin{array}{r} 76 \\ 115 \end{array}$ | 108 164 |
| Mean earnings | $185$ | $177$ | $132$ | 140 | $142$ | $170$ | * | $115$ | 164 |


| Weekly earnings (\$)- | -'000- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Under 40 | 24.1 | 27.0 | 20.5 | 10.4 | 11.1 | 2.2 | * | 2.1 | 97.8 |
| 40 and under 80 | 33.3 | 34.0 | 17.3 | 12.2 | 12.2 | 3.9 | * | 2.1 | 115.7 |
| $80 \sim 120$ | 41.7 | 32.6 | 17.3 | 12.7 | 13.7 | 2.6 | * | 1.7 | 122.9 |
| $120 \cdots 160$ | 39.4 | 35.9 | 21.2 | 14.0 | 14.8 | 3.9 | * | 2.2 | 132.0 |
| 160 n. 200 | 38.5 | 25.8 | 16.6 | 9.2 | 9.9 | 3.5 | * | 2.5 | 107.1 |
| $200 \times 240$ | 30.0 | 19.7 | 12.3 | 7.6 | 7.1 | 2.4 | * | 2.4 | 82.8 |
| $240 \times 280$ | 20.5 | 8.5 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 1.0 | * | * | 48.1 |
| 280 and over | 29.0 | 20.8 | 7.9 | 6.5 | 6.1 | 1.0 | * | 2.0 | 74.2 |
| Total | 256.4 | 204.3 | 121.3 | 77.9 | 78.2 | 20.5 | 5.9 | 16.2 | 780.7 |
| -dollars- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings | 150 | 130 | 130 | 130 | 125 | 136 | 181 | 160 | 136 |
| Mean earnings | 164 | 148 | 139 | 144 | 138 | 139 | 175 | 162 | 151 |



[^0]TABLE 4. ALL EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS, MARITAL STATUS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, AUGUST 1985

(a) As 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 some school teachers, academic staff in universities, air crew, etc.


TABLE 6. ALL EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND HOURS PAID FOR, AUGUST 1985


TABLE 7. FULL TIME EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND AGE, AUGUST 1985


TABLE 8. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND INDUSTRY, AUGUST 1985

| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| . | Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc. | Mining | Manufacturing | Electricity, gas and water | Construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Transport and storage |
| Weekly earnings (\$)- | -'000- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 120 | 8.2 | - | 8.7 | * | * | 11.4 | * |
| 120 and under 160 | 5.0 | * | 21.9 | * | 10.8 | 25.3 | - |
| 160 " 200 | 7.7 | * | 21.6 | * | 8.5 | 23.9 | 4.9 |
| 200 " 240 | 13.8 | * | 39.6 | 5.9 | 11.9 | 33.9 | 9.7 |
| $240 \sim$ " 280 | 13.7 | , | 92.7 | 8.9 | 18.6 | 73.8 | 22.7 |
| $280 \sim 320$ | 13.3 | 5.1 | 129.2 | 13.2 | 32.9 | 92.9 | 32.4 |
| $\begin{array}{lll}320 & n & 360 \\ 360\end{array}$ | 7.6 | 5.2 | 119.9 | 21.6 | 40.4 | 75.2 | 35.3 |
| $360 \sim 400$ | 4.2 | 6.3 | 88.8 | 20.2 | 43.1 | 53.6 | 26.2 |
| $400 \times 440$ | 3.5 | 6.3 | 64.2 | 12.5 | 27.2 | 36.6 | 25.0 |
| $440 \sim \square \quad 480$ | * | 7.0 | 40.2 | 9.3 | 16.3 | 19.6 | 20.3 |
| $580 \sim \sim 520$ | * | 9.3 | 35.0 | 8.3 | 16.8 | 18.1 | 19.3 |
| $520 \sim 560$ | * | 6.5 | 30.8 | 5.4 | 10.3 | 14.3 | 12.6 |
| 560 " 600 | * | 10.7 | 23.6 | 6.0 | 9.7 | 16.9 | 11.9 |
| 600 and over | * | 27.1 | 34.6 | 10.3 | 12.1 | 22.4 | 21.9 |
| Total | 86.4 | 89.4 | 750.9 | 125.7 | 261.6 | 518.0 | 246.2 |
| -dollars- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings Mean earnings | 265 | 519 | 341 | 378 | 364 | 319 | 381 |
|  | 284 | 580 | 369 | 409 | 382 | 348 | 419 |
| Communication |  | Finance. property and business services |  |  | munity services | Recreation, personal and other services | Total |
| Weekly earnings (5)- | -'000- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 120 | * | - | - | * | 6.1 | * | 44.9 |
| 120 and under 160 | * | 5.5 |  | 4 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 85.2 |
| $160 \sim 200$ | * | 8.6 |  | 4.4 | 6.1 |  | 94.0 |
| 200 240 | 4.2 | 12.9 |  | 8.9 | 10.9 | 9.0 | 162.3 |
| $240 \sim \square{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{O}$ | 9.3 | 18.8 |  | 24.2 | 24.0 | 15.1 | 324.9 |
| 280 " 320 | 18.0 | 30.8 |  | 34.1 | 39.1 | 14.1 | 455.0 |
| $320 \times 360$ | 17.8 | 25.1 |  | 27.2 | 32.4 | 12.3 | 419.9 |
| 360 " $\quad 400$ | 18.4 | 24.5 |  | 16.6 | 31.4 | 12.3 | 345.6 |
| $400 \times 440$ | 9.6 | 25.0 |  | 12.7 | 29.8 | 7.1 | 259.6 |
| $440 \quad \square \quad 480$ | 9.3 | 19.9 |  | 14.2 | 31.0 | 5.5 | 194.5 |
| 480 520 | 6.4 | 24.2 |  | 14.6 | 39.9 | 5 | 198.3 |
| $520 \sim{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{n}$ - 560 | 5.3 | 14.9 |  | 11.3 | 31.9 | 4.5 | 149.8 |
| $560 \times 600$ | 4.4 | 16.4 |  | 7.4 | 31.3 | * | 141.1 |
| 600 and over | 5.1 | 26.4 |  | 21.3 | 45.9 | 6.0 | 235.5 |
| Total | 111.1 | 256.2 |  | 99.8 | 364.3 | 100.9 | 3,110.7 |
| -dollars- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings | 367 | 398 |  | 357 | 437 | 329 | 357 |
| Mean earnings | 387 | 427 |  | 407 | 456 | 361 | 394 |

## FEMALES

|  | Manufacturing | Wholesale and retail trade | Transport and storage | Communication | Finance, property and business services |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Weekly earnings (\$)- |  |  | - $000-$ |  |  |
| Under 120 | * | 7.4 | * | * | 4.8 |
| 120 and under 160 | 8.4 | 27.2 | * | * | 13.1 |
| 160 " 200 | 16.3 | 26.2 | * | * | 17.7 |
| $200 \times 240$ | 52.2 | 37.7 | * | * | 23.7 |
| $240 \times 280$ | 59.9 | 62.8 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 39.4 |
| 280 - 320 | 41.3 | 42.8 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 41.8 |
| 320 》 360 | 22.3 | 23.8 | 6.9 | 4.0 | 28.3 |
| $360 \sim 400$ | 10.3 | 11.6 | * | $\stackrel{ }{*}$ | 16.3 |
| $400 \times 440$ | 7.2 | 4.1 | * | * | 8.8 |
| 440 and over | 7.4 | 9.4 | 3.5 | * | 13.7 |
| Total | 227.6 | 253.2 | 36.8 | 27.4 | 207.5 |
|  | -dollars- |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings Mean earnings | 263 | 258 | 304 | 300 | 285 |
|  | 274 | 260 | 309 | 310 |  |
|  | Public administration and defence | Community services | Recreation, personal and other services | Other(a) | Total |
| Weekly earnings (\$)- | '000- |  |  |  |  |
| Under 120 | * | 7.5 | 6.5 | 3.8 | 34.5 |
| 120 and under 160 | * | 13.2 | 7.9 | * | 78.2 |
| $160 \sim 200$ | 4.7 | 19.2 | 7.5 | 4.4 | 99.8 |
| $200 \times 240$ | 9.6 | 30.6 | 10.8 | 5.2 | 173.8 |
| 240 - 280 | 17.7 | 61.0 | 24.5 | 6.7 | 283.9 |
| 280 - 320 | 23.1 | 76.1 | 11.6 | 8.7 | 261.4 |
| 320 " 360 | 14.6 | 52.7 | 7.6 | 8.2 | 168.4 |
| $360 \times 400$ | 10.6 | 40.8 | 6.3 | 4.6 | 105.6 |
| $400 \times 440$ | 3.7 | 35.5 | * | * | 67.2 |
| 440 and over | 11.7 | 103.2 | 4.8 | 4.1 | 160.5 |
| Total | 99.7 | 439.8 | 90.2 | 51.5 | 1,433.5 |
|  | -dollars- |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings Mean earnings | 304 | 329 | 260 | 292 | 287 |
|  | 322 | 351 | 264 | 288 | 303 |

(a) Comprises agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.; mining; electricity, gas and water, and construction.

TABLE 9. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND OCCUPATION, AUGUST 1985

(a) Includes miners and quarry workers.

TABLE 10. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN A SECOND JOB : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND WEEKLY EARNINGS IN SECOND JOB, AUGUST 1985

|  | Males |  |  |  | Females |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Weekly earnings in second job |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Mean } \\ \text { weekly } \\ \text { earring in } \\ \text { second job } \end{array}$ | Weekly earnings in second job |  |  |  |  |
|  | Under \$30 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 30 \text { and } \\ & \text { over } \end{aligned}$ | Total |  | Under \$30 | $\begin{gathered} \$ 30 \text { and } \\ \text { under } \$ 80 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 80 \text { and } \\ & \text { over } \end{aligned}$ | Total |  |
| Weekly earnings in main job (\$)- | '000 | '000 | '000 | \$ | '000 | '000 | -000 | -000 | S |
| Under 120 | - | * | 5.0 | 59 | 5.6 | 7.9 | 4.7 | 18.2 | 61 |
| ${ }_{200}^{120}$ and under 200 | * | 4.0 | 6.1 | 79 61 87 | * | 4.8 | 4.0 | 11.3 58 58 | 73 74 93 |
| 240 " 320 | * | 7.8 | 9.0 | 87 | - | 3.7 | 4.5 | 8.9 | 93 |
| 320 and over | 4.6 | 27.0 | 31.6 | 95 | * | * | 4.8 | 9.6 | 93 |
| Total | 11.2 | 43.2 | 54.4 | 87 | 12.3 | 21.5 | 20.0 | 53.8 | 76 |
|  |  |  |  |  | -dollars |  |  |  |  |
| Median earnings in main job. Mean earnings in main job | $\begin{aligned} & 268 \\ & 288 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 370 \\ & 381 \end{aligned}$ | 358 362 | . | $\begin{aligned} & 131 \\ & 157 \end{aligned}$ | 170 188 | 227 235 | 178 199 | .. |

TABLE 11. ALL EMPLOYEES : STATES AND TERRITORIES AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1985

| State or Territory | Frequency of pay |  |  |  | * |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Weekly |  | Fortnightly. |  | Monthly |  | Total(a) |  |
|  | ('000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Per cent) |
|  | MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New South Wales | 614.9 | 54.1 | 398.5 | 35.1 | 104.2 | 9.2 | 1,136.0 | 100.0 |
| New South Wales | 498.2 | 55.3 | 294.3 | 32.7 37 | 95.3 | 10.6 | 901.4 | 100.0 100.0 |
| Queensland | 271.2 | 53.5 | 190.3 | 37.5 | 38.0 | 7.5 | 507.3 | 100.0 |
| South Australia | 129.3 | 47.1 | 118.6 | 43.2 | 22.8 | 8.3 | 274.3 | 100.0 |
| Western Australia | 130.5 | 44.0 | 133.3 | 45.0 | 27.7 | 9.3 | 296.3 | 100.0 |
| Tasmania | 36.6 | 40.4 | 47.7 | 52.6 | 5.3 | 5.8 | 90.7 | 100.0 |
| Northern Territory | 13.0 | 37.3 | 18.8 | 54.1 | 2.2 | 6.3 | 34.7 | 100.0 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 14.7 | 25.4 | 37.8 | 65.1 | 4.4 | 7.5 | 58.1 | 100.0 |
| Australia | 1.708 .3 | 51.8 | 1.239.2 | 37.6 | 299.8 | 9.1 | 3.298 .8 | 100.0 |
|  | FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New South Wales | 401.0 | 52.3 | 320.5 | 41.8 | 37.7 | 4.9 | 767.4 | 100.0 |
| Victoria | 308.7 | 51.2 | 250.8 | 41.6 | 31.0 | 5.1 | 603.3 | 100.0 |
| Queensland | 164.1 | 50.3 | 146.5 | 44.9 | 11.5 | 3.5 | 326.3 | 100.0 |
| South Australia | 89.5 | 46.8 | 90.6 | 47.4 | 7.9 | 4.1 | 191.3 | 100.0 |
| Western Australia | 86.7 | 43.6 | 97.9 | 49.2 | 9.6 | 4.8 | 198.9 | 100.0 |
| Tasmania | 22.9 | 41.9 | 29.2 | 53.4 | 1.8 | 3.4 | 54.7 | 100.0 |
| Northern Territory | 8.5 | 37.8 | 12.7 | 56.6 | * | * | 22.5 | 100.0 100.0 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 13.8 | 27.6 | 34.4 | 68.8 | - | * | 49.9 | 100.0 |
| Australia | 1.095.2 | 49.5 | 982.6 | 44.4 | 101.8 | 4.6 | 2,214.2 | 100.0 |
|  | PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New South Wales | 1,016.0 | 53.4 | 718.9 | 37.8 | 141.9 | 7.5 | 1,903.4 | 100.0 |
| Victoria | 806.9 | 53.6 | 545.2 | 36.2 | 126.3 | 8.4 | 1,504.7 | 100.0 |
| Queensland | 435.3 | 52.2 | 336.8 | 40.4 | 49.5 | 5.9 | 833.7 | 100.0 |
| South Australia | 218.7 | 47.0 | 209.2 | 44.9 | 30.7 | 6.6 | 465.6 | 100.0 |
| Western Australia | 217.2 | 43.9 | 231.2 | 46.7 | 37.3 | 7.5 | 495.2 | 100.0 |
| Tasmania | 59.5 | 40.9 | 76.9 | 52.9 | 7.1 | 4.9 | 145.4 | 100.0 |
| Northern Territory | 21.4 | 37.5 | 31.5 | 55.1 | 3.1 | 5.4 | 57.2 | 100.0 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 28.5 | 26.4 | 72.2 | 66.8 | 5.6 | 5.2 | 108.0 | 100.0 |
| Australia | 2,803.5 | 50.9 | 2,221.9 | 40.3 | 401.6 | 7.3 | 5,513.0 | 100.0 |

(a) Includes individuals paid at intervals other than those indicated.

TABLE 12. ALL EMPLOYEES : OCCUPATION AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1985

| Occupation | Frequency of pay |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Weekly |  | Fortnightly |  | Monthly |  | Total(a) |  |
|  | (000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Per cent) | (0000) | (Per cent) | (000) | (Per cent) |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Professional, technical, etc. | 74.9 | 15.1 | 322.0 | 65.1 | 90.7 | 18.3 | 494.4 | 100.0 |
| Administrative, executive and managerial | 100.9 | 37.4 | 74.2 | 27.5 | 89.7 | 33.2 | 270.0 | 100.0 |
| Clerical | 81.5 | 25.6 | 211.0 | 66.2 | 24.1 | 7.6 | 318.8 | 100.0 |
| Sales | 144.9 | 67.6 | 29.4 | 13.7 | 35.3 | 16.5 | 214.4 | 100.0 |
| Farmers, fisherpersons and timbergetters, etc. | 58.1 | 45.7 | 41.2 | 32.4 | 15.0 | 11.8 | 127.1 | 100.0 |
| Transport and communication | 111.7 | 50.5 | 100.4 | 45.4 | 3.8 | 1.7 | 221.1 | 100.0 |
| Trades and production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.(b) | 1,040.4 | 71.7 | 361.3 | 24.9 | 39.2 | 2.7 | 1,451.5 | 100.0 |
| Service, sport and recreation | 96.0 | 47.6 | 99.7 | 49.5 | . | * | 201.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 1,708.3 | 51.8 | 1.239 .2 | 37.6 | 299.8 | 9.1 | 3,298.8 | 100.0 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Professional, technical, etc. | 56.3 | 12.6 | 354.4 | 79.4 | 27.2 | 6.1 | 446.6 | 100.0 |
| Administrative, executive and managerial | 27.1 | 60.5 | 10.6 | 22.0 | 8.8 | 18.3 | 48.1 | 100.0 |
| Clerical | 383.4 | 47.1 | 377.0 | 46.3 | 47.2 | 5.8 | 814.8 | 100.0 |
| Sales | 229.2 | 90.5 | 13.9 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 2.3 | 253.3 | 100.0 |
| Farmers, fisherpersons and timbergetters, etc. | 14.6 | 65.5 | 3.6 | 16.1 | , | , | 22.3 | 100.0 |
| Transport and communication | 12.1 | 31.7 | 22.9 | 59.9 | * | * | 38.2 | 100.0 |
| Trades and production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.(b) | 192.1 | 91.3 | 15.5 | 7.4 | ${ }^{*}$ | ${ }_{1}^{*}$ | 210.4 | 100.0 |
| Service, sport and recreation | 180.4 | 47.4 | 184.8 | 48.6 | 6.6 | 1.7 | 380.5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 1,095.2 | 49.5 | 982.6 | 44.4 | 101.8 | 4.6 | 2,214.2 | 100.0 |
| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 131.2 | 13.9 | 676.4 | 71.9 | 117.9 | 12.5 | 941.0 | 100.0 |
| Administrative, executive and managerial | 128.0 | 40.2 | 84.8 | 26.7 | 98.5 | 31.0 | 318.1 | 100.0 |
| Clerical | 464.9 | 41.0 | 588.0 | 51.9 | 71.3 | 6.3 | 1,133.6 | 100.0 |
| Sales | 374.1 | 80.0 | 43.2 | 9.2 | 41.2 | 8.8 | . 467.6 | 100.0 |
| Farmers, fisherpersons and timbergetters, etc. | 72.7 | 48.7 | 44.8 | 30.0 | 17.1 | 11.4 | 149.4 | 100.0 |
| Transport and communication | 123.8 | 47.7 | 123.3 | 47.6 | 6.3 | 2.4 | 259.3 | 100.0 |
| Trades and production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.(b) | 1,232.5 | 74.2 | 376.8 | 22.7 | 40.8 | 2.5 | 1,661.9 | 100.0 |
| Service, sport and recreation | 276.4 | 47.5 | -284.6 | 48.9 | 8.6 | 1.5 | 582.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 2,803.5 | 50.9 | 2,221.9 | 40.3 | 401.6 | 7.3 | 5,513.0 | 100.0 |

[^1]TABLE 13. ALL EMPLOYEES : INDUSTRY AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1985

| Industry | Frequency of pay |  |  |  |  |  | Total(a) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Weekly |  | Fortnightly |  | Monthly |  |  |  |
|  | ('000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Per cent) | ('000) | (Percent) | ('000) | (Per cent) |
|  | MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc. | 36.6 | 39.2 | 29.1 | 31.2 | 15.4 | 16.5 | 93.4 | 100.0 |
| Mining | 38.5 | 43.1 | 36.8 | 41.2 | 12.6 | 14.1 | 89.4 | 100.0 |
| Manufacturing | 562.2 | 73.1 | 118.7 | 15.4 | 83.6 | 10.9 | 768.8 | 100.0 |
| Electricity, gas and water | 55.0 | 43.5 | 70.7 | 55.9 | * | * | 126.4 | 100.0 |
| Construction | 199.8 | 74.6 | 45.6 | 17.0 | 16.7 | 6.2 | 267.9 | 100.0 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 444.1 | 76.9 | 47.5 | 8.2 | 79.1 | 13.7 | 577.9 | 100.0 |
| Transport and storage | 100.5 | 39.4 | 138.9 | 54.4 | 10.3 | 4.0 | 255.2 | 100.0 |
| Communication | * | * | 111.2 | 98.5 | * | * | 113.0 | 100.0 |
| Finance, property and business services | 67.6 | 24.8 | 146.3 | 53.6 | 51.9 | 19.0 | 272.7 | 100.0 |
| Public administration and defence | 57.9 | 28.5 | 143.7 | 70.8 | * | - | 203.0 | 100.0 |
| Community services | 47.3 | 11.9 | 325.4 | 81.9 | 21.8 | 5.5 | 397.5 | 100.0 |
| Recreation, personal and other services | 97.8 | 73.1 | 25.3 | 18.9 | 6.1 | 4.6 | 133.7 | 100.0 |
| Total | 1,708.3 | 51.8 | 1,239.2 | 37.6 | 299.8 | 9.1 | 3,298.8 | 100.0 |


| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Manufacturing | 245.7 | 86.7 | 19.7 | 7.0 | 14.8 | 5.2 | 283.2 | 100.0 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 404.1 | 87.5 | 34.3 | 7.4 | 18.0 | 3.9 | 461.6 | 100.0 |
| Transport and storage | 25.1 | 53.2 | 19.1 | 40.4 | * | * | 47.2 | 100.0 |
| Communication | * | * | 33.1 | 92.4 | * | * | 35.8 | 100.0 |
| Finance, property and business services | 99.7 | 35.6 | 151.8 | 54.2 | 24.1 | 8.6 | 279.9 | 100.0 |
| Public administration and defence | 20.3 | 16.6 | 98.5 | 80.7 | * | * | 122.1 | 100.0 |
| Community services | 94.9 | 13.4 | 579.3 | 81.7 | 24.7 | 3.5 | 709.1 | 100.0 |
| Recreation, personal and other services | 160.0 | 82.3 | 23.4 | 12.1 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 194.3 | 100.0 |
| Other(b) | 44.6 | 55.1 | 23.4 | 28.9 | 9.6 | 11.8 | 80.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 1,095.2 | 49.5 | 982.6 | 44.4 | 101.8 | 4.6 | 2,214.2 | 100.0 |

PERSONS

| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc. | 51.2 | 43.0 | 34.1 | 28.6 | 19.1 | 16.0 | 119.0 | 100.0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mining | 40.2 | 41.0 | 41.1 | 42.0 | 15.0 | 15.3 | 97.9 | 100.0 |
| Manufacturing | 807.9 | 76.8 | 138.4 | 13.2 | 98.4 | 9.4 | 1,052.0 | 100.0 |
| Electricity, gas and water | 58.7 | 42.9 | 77.5 | 56.6 | * | 6.6 | 137.0 | 100.0 |
| Construction | 224.4 | 73.8 | 52.9 | 17.4 | 20.2 | 6.6 | 304.1 | 100.0 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 848.2 | 81.6 | 81.8 | 7.9 | 97.1 | 9.3 | 1,039.5 | 100.0 |
| Transport and storage | 125.6 | 41.5 | 158.0 | 52.2 | 12.9 | 4.3 | 302.5 | 100.0 |
| Communication | * | * | 144.3 | 97.0 | * | * | 148.7 | 100.0 |
| Finance, property and business services | 167.3 | 30.3 | 298.2 | 54.0 | 76.0 | 13.8 | 552.6 | 100.0 100.0 |
| Public administration and defence | 78.2 | 24.1 | 242.2 | 74.5 | 46.4 | 42 | 1 106.6 | 100.0 |
| Community services | 142.2 | 12.9 | 904.7 | 81.8 | 46.4 | 4.2 | 1,106.6 | 100.0 |
| Recreation, personal and other services | 257.8 | 78.6 | 48.7 | 14.9 | 10.8 | 3.3 | 328.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 2,803.5 | 50.9 | 2,221.9 | 40.3 | 401.6 | 7.3 | 5,513.0 | 100.0 |

[^2]
## ADDITIONAL TABLES

The following is a list of additional tables of results from this survey which are available to users on request. These tables show a selection of estimates on an Australia-wide basis. Tables disaggregated by State/Territory and other tables may also be available. All tables are dissected by sex.

## Employed wage and salary earners in main job

Weekly earnings in all jobs and age
Weekly earnings in main job-
Industry, age and full-time or part-time status
Industry, birthplace and frequency of pay in main job
Occupation, age and full-time or part-time status
Occupation, birthplace and frequency of pay in main job
Occupation and hours paid for in main job
Age, region and frequency of pay in main job
Age, family status and full-time or part-time status
Hours paid for in main job-
Industry
Occupation
Age and region
Weekly earnings in all jobs, birthplace and period of arrival (for persons born overseas)
Hours worked in all jobs and full-time or part-time status
Whether government or non-government employee
Hours worked in main job, industry, occupation and age
Frequency of pay in main job, age and marital status

## Full-time employees

Weekly earnings in all jobs-
Occupation and birthplace
Birthplace and period of arrival (for persons born overseas)

## Employed wage and salary earners in both jobs who worked in second job in survey week

Hours worked in second job-
Industry and whether government or non-government employee
Occupation
Hours worked in main job and weekly earnings in all jobs
Age and weekly earnings in second job
Weekly earnings in main job
Region
Birthplace
Weekly earnings in second job-
Region
Birthplace
Weekly earnings in main job and whether government or non-government employee

## TECHNICAL NOTE

## Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age and sex, rather than to the corresponding 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. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.
3. . Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors applicable to persons estimates is given on the following page (Table A). Since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics, these figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.
4. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. From Table 3 on page 8, the estimated number of females who, in August 1985, were part-time employees is 780,700 . Since this estimate is between 500,000 and $1,000,000$ in Table A, the standard error for Australia will be between 7,500 and 9,700 and can be approximated as 8,700 (rounded to the nearest 100 ). 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 in the range 772,000 to 789,400 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 763,320 to 798,100 . This example is illustrated in the following diagram.

5. The relative standard errors of estimates of mean and median weekly earnings are obtained by first finding the relative standard error of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the estimate (see Table A) and then multiplying the figure by the following relevant factors:

Mean weekly earnings

| -Part-time employees | 1.0 |
| :--- | :--- |
| -Full-time employees | 0.7 |
| -All employees | 0.9 |

Median weekly earnings

| -Part-time employees | 1.4 |
| :--- | :--- |
| -Full-time employees | 0.7 |
| -All employees | 1.0 |

6. An example of the calculation of standard errors by the use of the above factors is as follows:

From Table 3 on page 7, the estimate of median weekly earnings of female full-time employees in New South Wales in August 1985 was $\$ 29$ I and the estimate of total number of employees contributing to this estimate was 510,900 . From Table A, the standard error of this figure ( 510,900 ) is about 7,200 and therefore a relative standard error of about 1.4 per cent. The relative standard error of the estimate of median weekly earnings is calculated by multiplying this figure (1.4) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 0.7) : 1.4 x $0.7=0.98$ per cent. The standard error of this estimate of median weekly earnings is therefore 0.98 per cent of $\$ 291$, i.e. about $\$ 2.85$. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the median weekly earnings of female fulltime employees in New South Wales would fall within the range $\$ 288.15$ to $\$ 293.85$, and about nineteen chances in twenty that they would fall within the range $\$ 285.30$ to \$296.70.
7. As can be seen from the standard error tables, 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 standard error table have not been published. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.
8. Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling error. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. An approximate relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion may be calculated by the following formula:

$$
\operatorname{RSE}(x-y)=\sqrt{[\operatorname{RSE}(x)]^{2}-[\operatorname{RSE}(y)]^{2}}
$$

9. Considering the example from paragraph 4, the 780,700 females employed part-time represented 35.3 per cent of all 2,214,200 female employees in August 1985. The standard error of $2,214,200$ is approximately 12,500 so the relative standard error is 0.6 per cent. The relative standard error for 780,700 is 1.1 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(1.1)^{2}-(0.6)^{2}}$ or 0.9 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion ( 35.3 per cent) of 0.3 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three
that the proportion of females who were part-time employees is between 35.0 per cent and 35.6 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion is within the range 34.7 per cent to 35.9 per cent.
10. Published figures may also be used to estimate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such a figure is itself an estimate and is therefore subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates ( $x-y$ ) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$
\operatorname{SE}(x-y)=\sqrt{[\operatorname{SE}(x)]^{2}+[\operatorname{SE}(y)]^{2}}
$$

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.
11. 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 and errors made in the coding and processing of data. 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.

TABLE A.-STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

| Size of estimate (persons) | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | $\begin{gathered} \text { W.A. } \\ \text {-number- } \end{gathered}$ | Tas. | N.T. | A.C. $T$ | Australia |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Per cent of estimate |
| 1.000 |  |  |  |  |  | 250 |  |  |  |  |
| 1,300 |  |  |  |  |  | 280 |  | 310 |  |  |
| 1.500 |  |  |  |  |  | 300 |  | 330 |  |  |
| 1.800 |  |  |  | 430 |  | 330 | 410 | 350 |  |  |
| 2,000 |  |  |  | 460 | 480 | 340 | 430 | 370 |  |  |
| 2.500 |  |  |  | 500 | 530 | 380 | 470 | 400 |  |  |
| 3,000 |  |  | 690 | 550 | 580 | 410 | 500 | 430 |  |  |
| 3,500 |  |  | 750 | 590 | 620 | 440 | 530 | 450 | 820 | 23.4 |
| 4.000 | 950 | 960 | 800 | 620 | 660 | 460 | 560 | 470 | 880 | 21.9 |
| 4,500 | 1.000 | 1,000 | 840 | 650 | 690 | 480 | 590 | 500 | 930 | 20.7 |
| 5,000 | 1.050 | 1.050 | 880 | 690 | 720 | 500 | 610 | 510 | 980 | 19.6 |
| 6,000 | 1,150 | 1,150 | 960 | 740 | 780 | 540 | 650 | 550 | 1,100 | 17.9 |
| 10.000 | 1.450 | 1.450 | 1.200 | 920 | 970 | 660 | 790 | 650 | 1.400 | 13.9 |
| 20.000 | 2.000 | 1.950 | 1.650 | 1,200 | 1,300 | 860 | 1,050 | 810 | 1.950 | 9.7 |
| 50,000 | 2,900 | 2.850 | 2,350 | 1,700 | 1.800 | 1.150 | 1,450 | 1,050 | 2,950 | 5.9 |
| 100,000 | 3,850 | 3.700 | 3.050 | 2.200 | 2,300 | 1,450 |  | 1.250 | 3.950 | 4.0 |
| 200,000 | 5,100 | 4.750 | 3,950 | 2,750 | 2,950 | 1,750 |  |  | 5,300 | 2.6 |
| 300,000 | 5,900 | 5,500 | 4,500 | 3,100 | 3.350 |  |  |  | 6.200 | 2.1 |
| 500,000 | 7,200 | 6.500 | 5,300 | 3,650 | 3.900 |  |  |  | 7.500 | 1.5 |
| 1,000,000 | 9,200 | 8,100 | 6,600 |  |  |  |  |  | 9,700 | 1.0 |
| 2,000,000 | 11.600 | 9.900 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 12,300 | 0.6 |
| 5,000.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 16,500 | 0.3 |
| 10,000,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 20,300 | 0.2 |


[^0]:    (a) As 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 some school teachers academic staff in universities, air crew, etc.

[^1]:    (a) Includes individuals paid at intervals other than those indicated. (b) Includes miners and quarry workers.

[^2]:    (a) Includes individuals paid at intervals other than those indicated. (b) Comprises agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.; mining; electricity, gas and water, and construction.

