

POPULATION SURVEY MONITOR

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30am, 10 OCTOBER 1994

The Population Survey Monitor is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia. Results are available to clients within six weeks of the completion of interviewing. This publication only contains a small portion of the available information.

THIS QUARTER'S TOPICS

- **Sport and recreation**
This dataset contains information on the sporting and recreation activities of Australians. Activities include organised and social sport, and selected physical activities. Data on gambling activities, attendance and watching/listening to sporting events were also collected as was sporting activities of children 5-14 years.
- **Consumer expectations**
This is an experimental dataset which contains data on the anticipated consumption by households of major items in the September quarter.
- **Occupation study**
This dataset contains information on the occupation of the respondent's parents and the sex and occupation of four of the respondents friends.
- **Health issues**
This dataset contains information about a number of health issues, including the incidence of smoking, exercising, alcohol consumption and other health issues for persons aged 18 years and over. The dataset contains more detailed information on wine consumption such as the drinking of bottled or cask wine.
- **Asthma Incidence**
This dataset contains information about the incidence of asthma and the number of days spent hospitalised and away from work for persons aged 18 years and over.
- **Compensation**
This dataset contains information on persons in households that require personal care or home help such as the aged or disabled.
- **Work Related Health Problems**
This dataset contains information about the number of days absent from work due to a health problem and whether it was work related, the industry in which the health problem occurred and impact on employment for persons aged 18 years and over.
- **Classification of videotapes**
This dataset contains information about the awareness and understanding of the 'R' classification on videotapes and opinions on safeguards in place to stop people under 18 years from viewing 'R' rated videotapes.
- **Domestic pets**
This dataset contains information about the number of pets, such as dogs, cats, rabbits etc. It also contains information on the cost to feed and care for cats/dogs.
- **Conservation (Victoria only)**
This dataset contains information about people's opinion towards environmental issues such as feral animals and bushwalking and four-wheel driving. It also has information on some gardening issues.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these statistics, contact Theo Neumann on (08) 237 7303

THIS QUARTER'S KEY POINTS

Sport and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.7% of females aged 18 years and over participated in either organised aerobics or callisthenics in the 2 weeks prior to survey and 4.1% of males aged 18 years and over played an organised game of golf. • 78.8% of children aged 5-14 years regularly take part in sporting activities during school hours and 15.3% have taken part in a school sporting activity after school hours in the last two weeks.
Consumer expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42.5% of households indicated that they intend to purchase a major item in the December quarter. • 14.2% of households indicated that they intend to go on a holiday worth more than \$500 in the next quarter, and 11.8% intend to pay for home alterations or additions worth more than \$500.
Health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27.3% of males and 21.8% of females aged 18 years and over currently smoke. The highest percentage of male smokers was in the 18-24 age group (33.9%) and in the 45-54 age group (33.4%) and for females was in the 18-24 age group (32.0%). • 65.3% of males and 42.9% of females consumed an alcoholic drink in the last week. • 24.2% of persons aged 18 years and over consumed some sort of wine in the last week. 17.8% of people indicated that they drank wine mainly with a meal.
Asthma Incidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14.0% of persons 18 years and over indicated that they had been told by a doctor or a hospital that they suffer from asthma.
Work Related Health Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.7% of employed persons stayed away from work for all or most of a day in the last two weeks because of health problems.
Domestic Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 59.2% of households have at least one domestic pet. 37.5% of households have at least one dog and 26.7% of households have at least one cat.

Estimates of standard errors for the tables contained in this publication are given on page 6.

P Gardner
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician
South Australia

TABLE 1: PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: SELECTED ORGANISED SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS BY SEX, AUGUST 1994.

Activity	Males		Females		Total	
	('000's)	Per cent	('000's)	Per cent	('000's)	Per cent
Aerobic/callisthenics	68	1.1	242	3.7	310	2.4
Golf	258	4.1	67	1.0	326	2.6
Lawn bowls	162	2.6	126	2.0	288	2.3
Squash	69	1.1	35	0.5	104	0.8
Tennis	92	1.5	126	2.0	218	1.7
Basketball	83	1.3	55	0.9	138	1.1
Netball (indoor/outdoor)	*	*	244	3.8	n.a	n.a

* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

n.a not available

TABLE 2: PERSONS AGED 18 AND OVER: DESCRIPTION PROVIDED FOR THE 'R' FILM AND VIDEOTAPE CLASSIFICATION, AUGUST 1994.

Description provided of 'R' classification	AGE (years)						Total (⁰⁰⁰ 's)	
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over		
	MALES (Per cent)							
Parental guidance recommended for persons under 18	5.4	6.8	1.3	5.3	3.8	1.3	4.1	254
Persons under 18 years not admitted to a cinema unless accompanied by an adult	3.2	4.0	4.3	4.3	7.9	8.3	5.0	314
Restricted to persons 18 years and over	75.1	77.0	80.2	69.8	49.4	39.7	67.9	4229
Recommended for mature audiences	9.8	7.6	9.6	13.0	20.5	24.2	13.0	811
Don't know	6.6	4.5	4.6	7.6	18.4	26.4	10.0	620
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Parental guidance recommended for persons under 18	3.7	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.2	7.1	4.2	269
Persons under 18 years not admitted to a cinema unless accompanied by an adult	1.8	3.9	6.5	4.0	3.2	4.8	4.2	272
Restricted to persons 18 years and over	76.8	73.0	73.4	68.6	51.1	33.4	64.0	4132
Recommended for mature audiences	14.6	12.1	10.7	15.4	22.7	16.8	14.6	946
Don't know	3.0	7.6	5.5	8.6	19.9	37.8	13.0	839

TABLE 3: HOUSEHOLDS INTENDING TO PURCHASE IN DECEMBER 1994 QUARTER: ITEM TO BE PURCHASED, AUGUST 1994.

Item	('000's)	Per cent
A brand new car	91	1.4
A secondhand car	400	6.3
Household item worth more than \$200	1430	22.5
Home alterations or additions worth more than \$500	749	11.8
Landscaping worth more than \$500	288	4.5
A holiday worth more than \$500	898	14.2
A personal computer	162	2.6
Any other item worth more than \$500	274	4.3
Total intending to purchase	2692	42.5
<i>Total (Households)*</i>	<i>6341</i>	

* The sum of the components is larger than the total number of households as a number of households intend to purchase more than one item.

TABLE 4: PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: HEALTH ISSUES BY AGE AND SEX, AUGUST 1994.

	AGE (years)						Total (<i>'000's</i>)	
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over		
MALES (Per cent)								
Exercised in the last 2 weeks	60.0	50.4	63.4	58.1	55.8	60.9	58.0	3609
Currently smoke	33.9	30.1	24.8	33.4	21.5	16.4	27.3	1697
Consumed an alcoholic drink last week	63.5	59.9	73.5	66.2	69.4	58.3	65.3	4065
<i>Total Males (<i>'000's</i>)</i>	<i>943</i>	<i>1343</i>	<i>1304</i>	<i>1069</i>	<i>723</i>	<i>846</i>		<i>6228</i>
FEMALES (Per cent)								
Exercised in the last 2 weeks	68.5	62.1	62.4	65.6	58.7	46.1	60.6	3916
Currently smoke	32.0	30.0	19.4	19.7	18.7	9.5	21.8	1411
Consumed an alcoholic drink last week	34.8	43.3	48.4	53.5	39.8	34.1	42.9	2768
<i>Total Females (<i>'000's</i>)</i>	<i>933</i>	<i>1380</i>	<i>1328</i>	<i>1038</i>	<i>716</i>	<i>1063</i>		<i>6458</i>

TABLE 5: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH DOMESTIC PETS, AUGUST 1994.

Type of domestic pets	('000's)	Per cent
Cats	1696	26.7
Dogs	2379	37.5
Birds	1009	15.9
Fish	546	8.6
Other domestic pets	450	7.1
Households with no pets	2589	40.8
<i>Total (Households)*</i>	<i>6341</i>	

* The sum of the components is larger than the total number of households as a number of households have more than one pet.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction	<p>The Population Survey Monitor (PSM) is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia of approximately 2000 households. The PSM has been introduced to meet the needs of government agencies and non profit organisations. It is a user-funded survey where clients pay to include the topic of their choice. Each survey asks a set of core questions of each usual resident aged 15 years and over within the selected household. Questions for each client's topic can be asked of a randomly selected person or a particular person within the selected household.</p>																			
Scope/Coverage	<p>The survey covers rural and urban areas across all States and Territories of Australia except sparsely settled areas. All persons living in non-private dwellings are excluded. All usual residents in private households are included in the PSM.</p>																			
Sample size	<p>For each quarterly survey, an initial sample of approximately 2,700 private dwellings is chosen. This sample is considered sufficient to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• detailed information for Australia;• relatively detailed data for capital city/ urban/ rural areas for Australia; <p>at an acceptable level of accuracy and reliability after allowing for sample loss through factors such as vacant dwellings inadvertently selected in the sample, non-contacts, persons out of scope etc.</p>																			
Expected Sample Distribution	<p>Details of the approximate sample distribution for a quarterly PSM are set out below:</p> <table><tr><td>New South Wales</td><td>482</td></tr><tr><td>Victoria</td><td>416</td></tr><tr><td>Queensland</td><td>340</td></tr><tr><td>South Australia</td><td>241</td></tr><tr><td>Western Australia</td><td>254</td></tr><tr><td>Tasmania</td><td>136</td></tr><tr><td>Northern Territory</td><td>44</td></tr><tr><td>Australian Capital Territory</td><td>87</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>2000</td></tr></table>		New South Wales	482	Victoria	416	Queensland	340	South Australia	241	Western Australia	254	Tasmania	136	Northern Territory	44	Australian Capital Territory	87	Total	2000
New South Wales	482																			
Victoria	416																			
Queensland	340																			
South Australia	241																			
Western Australia	254																			
Tasmania	136																			
Northern Territory	44																			
Australian Capital Territory	87																			
Total	2000																			
Data Collection	<p>Information is obtained in the PSM by face to face interviews with adult members of selected households. Interviewers for the PSM are obtained from a panel of trained interviewers who have extensive experience in conducting household surveys.</p> <p>The willing co-operation of selected households is sought. Measures taken to encourage respondent co-operation and maximise response include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advice to selected households by letter, accompanied by an information brochure, explaining that their dwelling has been selected for the survey, the purposes of the survey, its official nature and the confidentiality of the information collected.• Through call-backs and follow-up at selected dwellings every effort is made to contact the occupants of each selected dwelling and to conduct the survey in those dwellings.																			

Estimation Procedures

Estimates obtained from the survey are derived using a complex ratio estimation procedure that ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the total population by age, sex and area (rather than to the age-sex-area distribution within the sample itself). The estimation procedure is designed to adjust estimates in such a way as to reduce any non-response bias by adjusting the weights of responding persons' records in each age-sex-area cell to compensate for under-enumeration in that cell.

Expansion factors or 'weights' are inserted into responding person's records to enable the data provided by these persons to be expanded to provide estimates relating to the whole population within the scope of the survey.

Reliability of estimates

The two types of error possible in an estimate based on a sample survey are:

- Non sampling error which arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. The most significant of these errors are: misreporting of data items; deficiencies in coverage; non-response; and processing errors. Every effort is made to minimise these errors by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures.
- Sampling error which occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all establishments in the survey is given by the standard error, see below.

Standard Errors

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 in-scope units had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

The standard errors for some statistics are relatively high and users are advised to exercise caution in interpreting these statistics. Users interested in obtaining further information should contact the number shown in the Inquiries box on page 1 of this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS FOR ALL PUBLICATION TABLES

Size of estimate (^{'000's})	Standard Error (^{'000's})
100	23
200	31
500	45
800	56
1000	59
2000	76
5000	105

Example using the standard error table

Table 4 on Page 4 shows that the estimated percentage of males aged between 25 and 34 who consumed an alcoholic drink last week was 59.9%. This represents about 804,000 males. The standard error table above shows that the standard error on an estimate of this size is approximately 56,000. This means that there are two chances in three that the true figure is in the range 748,000 to 860,000 and nineteen chances in twenty that the true figure is in the range 692,000 to 916,000.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS - CORE DATA ITEMS

Age	Age is the age of the person at their last birthday.
Birthplace	A person's birthplace is the country where the person was born.
Dependents	All family members under 15 years of age; family members aged 15 to 19 attending school or aged 15 to 24 attending a tertiary educational institution full time, except those classified as husbands, wives, sole parents or other family heads.
Dwelling structure	<p>This classifies the type of structure of the private dwellings selected in the survey. The information is recorded by the interviewer. A dwelling is classified as one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate house • Semi-detached/ row or terrace house/ town house • Other flat/ unit / apartment • Other dwelling structure
Employed	<p>Persons 15 and over who, during the reference week:</p> <p>a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business or on a farm; or</p> <p>b) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm; or</p> <p>c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were on leave; or</p> <p>d) were employers, self-employed persons or unpaid family helpers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</p>
Household	A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, ie at other times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but not meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of family and non-family members.
Income	Income is the gross annual income before tax and superannuation are deducted. This includes such things as family allowance, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, wages, salary, overtime, dividends, rents received, interest received, business or farm income and workers compensation expenses.
Labour force status	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Marital status	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.
Nature of occupancy	Households are classified as renting, purchasing or owning the private dwelling in which they live.
Not in the labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily out of the workforce, studying, recovering from illness or injury, caring for an aged/ill/disabled person, or doing unpaid voluntary work.
Occupation	Classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) 1986 (ABS Catalogue No. 1222.0).
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 and over who were not employed during the reference week, and had actively looked for full time or part time work at any time in the last four weeks up to the end of the reference period and were available to work in the reference week.

November 1994 Survey

Topics to be included	Sport and recreation participation Consumer expectations Health risk factors Asthma incidence Health index Work related injuries Wine consumption Botanical gardens Books Agency bargaining
Key dates	Closing dates for topics 7 Oct 1994 Interviewing commences 21 Nov 1994. Standard output available 9 Jan 1995.

February 1995 Survey

Topics to be included	Sport and recreation participation Consumer expectations Health risk factors Asthma incidence Health Index Work related injuries Wine consumption Botanical gardens
Key dates	Closing dates for topics 9 Jan 1995 Interviewing commences 20 Feb 1995. Standard output available 10 Apr 1995.

Space is still available for topics on the February 1995 survey.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSM please contact:

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