

# National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey

## VICTORIA





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**1994 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
SURVEY  
VICTORIA**

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**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

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- INQUIRIES
- *for further information about statistics in this publication, and the availability of related statistics, contact Tony Barnes at the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (NCATSIS) in Darwin on (08) 8943 2190.*
  - *for information about ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.*
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## PREFACE

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Victoria* is one of a series of seven statistical publications, one for each State and the Northern Territory, which present results from the first nationwide survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people conducted in 1994. The purpose of these publications is to provide detailed information at the State and Territory levels about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They provide a range of information to assist State and Northern Territory Governments and non-government agencies to plan programs and services to meet the needs of Indigenous people.

The survey was conducted as a part of the Government's response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. It was the paucity of statistical information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population which led to recommendation 49 of the Royal Commission:

That proposals for a special national survey covering a range of social, demographic, health and economic characteristics of the Aboriginal population with full Aboriginal participation at all levels be supported.

In response to this recommendation, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from April to July 1994. Initial results of this survey were published in *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0). Publications of *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: ATSI Regional Statistics* (4190.00.001-036), a thematic publication on *Australia's Indigenous Youth* (4197.0) and *Employment Outcomes for Australia's Indigenous Peoples* (4199.0) have been released this year. Other thematic publications on Australia's Indigenous peoples housing, health and law and justice will be released during 1996.

This series of publications contains a range of statistics relating to family and culture; health; housing; education and training; employment and income; and law and justice. The publications are presented in a common format to allow information for different States and the Northern Territory to be compared easily with each other and with the national results presented in *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0). For reasons of accuracy, less detail is presented in some tables in this publication compared with the national results. A standard set of tabulations in the same format with slightly more detail is available on request to the Bureau's National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (08 8943 2192).

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## FAMILY AND CULTURE

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and cultures and covers the following topics:

- family characteristics;
- separation from families;
- child-care;
- cultural activities;
- identification with clan, tribal or language group;
- role of elders;
- homelands; and
- language.

### FAMILIES

Families form an important unit within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies and as such the survey collected information on types of families and their characteristics. Families included in this survey were those in which one or more members of the family had identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

In 33% of families, all family members were Indigenous (60% nationally), while 67% had both Indigenous and non-Indigenous members (40% nationally).

Couple families with children constituted 49% of families (53% nationally), one-parent families 30% (29% nationally) and couple families without children 19% (15% nationally).

In one-parent families, 79% of parents were not employed. For couple families 24% had neither partner employed.

#### Separation from families

About 10% of persons aged 25 years and over reported being taken away from their natural family by a mission, the government, or welfare.

#### Child-care

The majority of families (76%) with children aged 12 years and under did not use formal child-care. Approximately 46% had their children looked after by family or friends while 30% looked after their children themselves.

### CULTURE

Information relating to participation in Indigenous cultural activities, use of Indigenous languages, the extent to which people identify with clan, tribal or language groups and recognition of and access to homelands, was used in this survey to give an indication of the level of cultural identity and maintenance.

#### Cultural activities

Over the past year, 61% (72% nationally), of people attended at least one Indigenous cultural activity. Some 40% (54% nationally), of people attended a funeral, 31% festivals and carnivals (43% nationally), 10% ceremonies (21% nationally) and 34% (22% nationally), were involved with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations.

Some 13% of persons could not attend one or more cultural activities.

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | Nearly 40% of persons 13 years and over said they had a place to meet for cultural activities.  |
| Identification with clan, tribal or language group | An estimated 45% of persons aged 13 years and over (60% nationally) said they identified with a clan, tribal or language group. A greater proportion of persons aged 25 years and over (50%) identified with a clan, tribal or language group.  |
| Role of elders                                     | Of the persons aged 13 years and over, 81% said that the role of the elders was important, as did 88% of other urban and rural residents.   |
| Homelands  | For the purposes of this survey, 'homelands' refers to an area of land to which people have ancestral and/or cultural links. The results show of people aged 13 years and over, approximately 71% (75% nationally) recognised an area as their homelands, with 23% currently living there. In Melbourne, recognition of homelands was lower (66%), and a lower proportion of people were currently living on their homelands (15%). |
| Language   | Of persons aged 13 years and over, 99% reported that they spoke English as their main language and 13% reported having difficulty with English.   |

**TABLE 1. FAMILY AND CULTURE: STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY  
AND VICTORIA ATSC REGIONS, 1994**

|                              | <i>Families</i>            |                                      | <i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i> |                               |                                       |                             | <i>Persons aged 5 years and over</i> |                                      |                 |               |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                              | <i>One parent families</i> | <i>Couple families with children</i> | <i>Total</i>                          | <i>Identifies with a clan</i> | <i>Sees elders as being important</i> | <i>Recognises homelands</i> | <i>Attended cultural activities</i>  | <i>Speaks an Indigenous language</i> |                 |               |
|                              | <i>per cent</i>            | <i>(‘000)</i>                        |                                       |                               |                                       |                             |                                      |                                      | <i>per cent</i> | <i>(‘000)</i> |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(b)</b>          | <b>28.5</b>                | <b>52.8</b>                          | <b>84.9</b>                           | <b>59.8</b>                   | <b>84.4</b>                           | <b>75.2</b>                 | <b>72.1</b>                          | <b>197.5</b>                         | <b>21.0</b>     | <b>258.7</b>  |
| New South Wales              | 28.9                       | 51.2                                 | 23.9                                  | 47.8                          | 82.3                                  | 68.6                        | 67.1                                 | 52.0                                 | 2.7             | 68.6          |
| Victoria                     | 30.3                       | 48.6                                 | 6.3                                   | 45.1                          | 80.5                                  | 70.6                        | 60.5                                 | 12.6                                 | **2.4           | 16.2          |
| Queensland                   | 26.6                       | 56.3                                 | 22.1                                  | 57.2                          | 81.9                                  | 75.0                        | 72.3                                 | 52.1                                 | 15.1            | 67.7          |
| South Australia              | 38.3                       | 46.1                                 | 5.2                                   | 67.9                          | 87.6                                  | 80.4                        | 75.4                                 | 11.9                                 | 23.4            | 15.8          |
| Western Australia            | 30.1                       | 54.3                                 | 12.2                                  | 63.7                          | 86.3                                  | 75.4                        | 80.7                                 | 30.2                                 | 20.9            | 40.1          |
| Tasmania                     | 18.6                       | 54.9                                 | 4.0                                   | 17.7                          | 66.5                                  | 39.9                        | 31.5                                 | 6.6                                  | **1.0           | 8.7           |
| Northern Territory           | 26.8                       | 53.9                                 | 10.5                                  | 92.0                          | 94.7                                  | 93.8                        | 84.5                                 | 30.9                                 | 74.1            | 40.1          |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSC REGIONS</b> |                            |                                      |                                       |                               |                                       |                             |                                      |                                      |                 |               |
| Wangaratta                   | 25.1                       | 58.9                                 | 2.9                                   | 41.0                          | 73.4                                  | 69.8                        | 49.4                                 | 6.0                                  | **2.6           | 7.7           |
| Ballarat                     | 34.7                       | 39.8                                 | 3.4                                   | 48.5                          | 86.0                                  | 70.4                        | 70.7                                 | 6.6                                  | **1.9           | 8.5           |

(a) Total includes couple families without children and families of other related individuals. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 2. ALL FAMILIES : FAMILY TYPE BY ABORIGINALITY OF FAMILY MEMBERS  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Family type</i>             | <i>Family members</i>  |                 |                                      |                 | <i>Total</i>  |                 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                                | <i>Indigenous only</i> |                 | <i>Indigenous and non-indigenous</i> |                 | <i>(‘000)</i> | <i>per cent</i> |
|                                | <i>(‘000)</i>          | <i>per cent</i> | <i>(‘000)</i>                        | <i>per cent</i> |               |                 |
| One parent family              | 1.5                    | 70.7            | ** 0.4                               | ** 10.6         | 1.9           | 30.3            |
| Couple family without children | ** 0.1                 | ** 3.8          | 1.1                                  | 25.6            | 1.2           | 18.5            |
| Couple family with children    | ** 0.5                 | ** 22.2         | 2.6                                  | 61.5            | 3.1           | 48.6            |
| Other related individuals only | ** 0.1                 | ** 3.3          | ** 0.1                               | ** 2.3          | ** 0.2        | ** 2.6          |
| <b>All families</b>            | <b>2.1</b>             | <b>100.0</b>    | <b>4.2</b>                           | <b>100.0</b>    | <b>6.3</b>    | <b>100.0</b>    |

**TABLE 3. ONE PARENT AND COUPLE FAMILIES : FAMILY TYPE BY LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF PARTNERS AND MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME  
VICTORIA, 1994  
('000)**

| Family type                               | Labour Force Status    |                         |                             |               | Main Source of Income |                     |               |               | Total      |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
|   | Both partners employed | One partner(a) employed | Neither partner employed(b) | Not stated    | Earned income         | Government payments | Nil income    | Not stated    |            |
| One parent family                         | ..                     | ** 0.4                  | 1.5                         | ** 0.0        | ** 0.3                | 1.5                 | ** 0.0        | ** 0.1        | 1.9        |
| Couple family                             | 1.0                    | 2.0                     | 1.0                         | ** 0.2        | 2.3                   | 1.5                 | ** 0.0        | ** 0.4        | 4.2        |
| <b>All one parent and couple families</b> | <b>1.0</b>             | <b>2.4</b>              | <b>2.5</b>                  | <b>** 0.2</b> | <b>2.6</b>            | <b>3.0</b>          | <b>** 0.0</b> | <b>** 0.5</b> | <b>6.1</b> |

(a) Includes sole parents in one parent families. (b) Includes partners who are unemployed or not in the labour force.

**TABLE 4. ALL PERSONS: WHETHER TAKEN AWAY FROM NATURAL FAMILY BY AGE  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| Whether taken away from natural family | 0-24         | 25-44        | 45 and over  | Total        |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | — per cent — |              |              |              |
| Taken away                             | ** 4.5       | 13.3         | ** 3.3       | 7.0          |
| Not taken away                         | 92.3         | 83.0         | 96.7         | 90.0         |
| No answer                              | ** 3.2       | ** 3.7       | ** 0.0       | ** 3.0       |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                    | <b>11.2</b>  | <b>5.7</b>   | <b>2.3</b>   | <b>19.2</b>  |



**TABLE 5. PERSONS AGED 12 YEARS AND UNDER AND THEIR FAMILIES : CURRENT CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS BY AGE AND FAMILIES  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|  | <i>Children (Age)</i> |             |              | <i>Families</i> | <i>Families<br/>(per cent)</i> |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
|  | <i>0-4</i>            | <i>5-12</i> | <i>Total</i> |                 |                                |
|  | — '000 —              |             |              |                 |                                |
| <b>Current child care arrangements</b>   |                       |             |              |                 |                                |
| Formal care only/or with family/friends  | 0.8                   | ** 0.1      | 0.9          | 0.7             | 18.6                           |
| Family/friends private arrangements only | 1.4                   | 2.1         | 3.5          | 1.7             | 45.9                           |
| Does not use child care                  | 0.8                   | 1.4         | 2.2          | 1.1             | 30.0                           |
| Not stated                               | ** 0.0                | ** 0.0      | ** 0.0       | ** 0.2          | ** 5.5                         |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>3.0</b>            | <b>3.7</b>  | <b>6.6</b>   | <b>3.8</b>      | <b>100.0</b>                   |

**TABLE 6. PERSONS 13 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER ATTENDED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND TYPE OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY ATTENDED BY PART OF STATE AND SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Cultural activities attended</i> | <i>Part of State</i> |                               | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                     | <i>Capital city</i>  | <i>Other urban/<br/>Rural</i> |              |                |                |
|                                     | — per cent —         |                               |              |                |                |
| Persons who attended(a)             | 51.9                 | 68.6                          | 53.9         | 67.0           | 60.5           |
| Funerals                            | 30.6                 | 48.6                          | 35.8         | 43.8           | 39.9           |
| Ceremonies                          | 11.0                 | ** 8.9                        | 9.7          | 10.2           | 9.9            |
| Festivals and carnivals             | 29.5                 | 31.4                          | 30.0         | 31.0           | 30.5           |
| Involved with organisations         | 39.4                 | 28.0                          | 28.1         | 38.8           | 33.5           |
| Persons who did not attend          | 48.1                 | 31.0                          | 45.7         | 33.0           | 39.3           |
| Not stated                          | ** 0.0               | ** 0.4                        | ** 0.4       | ** 0.0         | ** 0.2         |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                 | <b>6.1</b>           | <b>6.5</b>                    | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

(a) Persons may have attended more than one cultural activity.

**TABLE 7. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER COULD ATTEND ALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY PART OF STATE AND SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|                                 | <i>Part of State</i> |                               | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                 | <i>Capital city</i>  | <i>Other urban/<br/>Rural</i> |              |                |                |
|                                 | — per cent —         |                               |              |                |                |
| Persons who could not attend(a) | 12.4                 | 12.8                          | 13.8         | 11.5           | 12.6           |
| Persons who could attend        | 84.4                 | 86.1                          | 84.0         | 86.5           | 85.3           |
| Don't know/not stated           | ** 3.1               | ** 1.2                        | ** 2.2       | ** 2.1         | ** 2.1         |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>             | <b>6.1</b>           | <b>6.5</b>                    | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

(a) Persons may have given more than one reason for not being able to attend.

TABLE 8. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: SELECTED CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS BY PART OF STATE AND AGE VICTORIA, 1994

| Selected cultural characteristics                            | Part of State |                       | Age group (years) |                | Total        |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
|  | Capital city  | Other urban/<br>Rural | 13-24             | 25 and<br>over |              |
| — per cent —   |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| <b>Whether has a place to meet for cultural activities</b>   |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| Has a place  | 30.9          | 48.0                  | 38.2              | 40.6           | 39.7         |
| Does not have a place  | 55.4          | 45.4                  | 45.2              | 53.1           | 50.2         |
| Don't know/Not stated/not applicable                         | 13.7          | ** 6.6                | 16.6              | ** 6.3         | 10.1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>          | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether identifies with clan tribal or language group</b> |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| Identifies   | 44.3          | 45.9                  | 36.6              | 50.0           | 45.1         |
| Does not identify  | 48.5          | 49.4                  | 53.5              | 46.3           | 48.9         |
| Don't know / Not stated                                      | ** 7.2        | ** 4.7                | ** 10.0           | ** 3.7         | 6.0          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>          | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Importance of elders</b>                                  |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| Role of elders is important                                  | 72.9          | 87.7                  | 78.1              | 81.9           | 80.5         |
| Role of elders is not important                              | 21.4          | ** 8.0                | ** 11.8           | 16.0           | 14.5         |
| Don't know/Not stated  | ** 5.7        | ** 4.3                | ** 10.1           | ** 2.1         | 5.0          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>          | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Recognition of homelands</b>                              |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| Recognises area  |               |                       |                   |                |              |
| Living there now   | 15.1          | 30.3                  | 23.6              | 22.6           | 22.9         |
| Not living there now   | 51.4          | 44.1                  | 40.4              | 51.7           | 47.6         |
| Does not recognise area                                      | 32.4          | 25.1                  | 33.8              | 25.7           | 28.6         |
| Not stated   | ** 1.1        | ** 0.5                | ** 2.3            | ** 0.0         | ** 0.8       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>          | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>  | <b>6.1</b>    | <b>6.5</b>            | <b>4.6</b>        | <b>8.0</b>     | <b>12.6</b>  |

TABLE 9. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER: MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN AND WHETHER HAS DIFFICULTY WITH ENGLISH VICTORIA, 1994

|   | Total        |
|---|--------------|
|   | — per cent — |
| <b>Main language</b>  |              |
| English   | 99.1         |
| Aboriginal English  | ** 0.3       |
| Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language                             | ** 0.2       |
| Not stated  | ** 0.3       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether has difficulty with English</b>                                |              |
| Would use an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander interpreter service     | ** 4.5       |
| Would not use an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander interpreter service | 8.8          |
| Does not have difficulty with English                                     | 86.7         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>   | <b>12.6</b>  |

## HEALTH

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and covers the following areas:

- health status;
- disability;
- access and attitudes to health services;
- health risk factors; and
- attitudes to health.

### HEALTH STATUS

An indication of an individual's health status can be drawn from information about illness experienced and the individual's own assessment of their health.

#### Recent illness

An estimated 54% of persons (41% nationally), stated they had experienced a recent illness, i.e. during the two weeks before interview.

Diseases of the respiratory system were the most commonly reported recent illness, being reported by 35% of the persons.

#### Health actions

An estimated 57% (44% nationally) of people stated they took a health action in the two weeks prior to the survey. Some of the most common actions taken by these persons were:

- used medication, 76%;
- consulted a doctor, 52%;
- reduced daily activities, 34%;
- visited emergency/outpatients clinic, 16%; and
- consulted an Aboriginal health worker, 6%.

#### Health conditions

The most commonly stated conditions were asthma and ear or hearing problems, reported by 23% and 13% of the population respectively. Some 4% of people reported heart problems and 4% were diabetics.

#### Self-assessed health status

The majority (84%) of people considered themselves to be in good, very good or excellent health, with only 16% of the population describing their health as fair or poor. Patterns were similar for males and females.

### DISABILITY

Of persons aged five years and over, some 5% of persons stated they had a handicap resulting from a condition or disability, which had lasted or was expected to last, for six months or more. The data covered in this section on disability is not displayed in a table.

### ACCESS AND ATTITUDES TO HEALTH SERVICES

Distance to the nearest health facilities and availability of services provide a measure of the level of access Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to services such as, hospitals, community health centres, Aboriginal medical services and doctors. Information on attitudes to health services highlights people's satisfaction with local health services.

Distance      An estimated 89% (81% nationally) of households were located within 10 km of the nearest community health centre.

The majority (79%) of households also lived within 10 km of the nearest hospital while 21% lived over 10 km away.

Fewer people lived close to Aboriginal medical services and detoxification centres. An estimated 64% and 59% of households respectively, lived over 10 km from the nearest service.

In other urban and rural areas, more people lived further from health facilities, although 85% of households lived within 10 km of the nearest hospitals compared with 71% of those in Melbourne.

Availability      Overall, the availability of health professionals and services on a permanent basis within 25 km of where people lived was relatively high for:

- doctors, 96%;
- nurses, 97%;
- Aboriginal health workers, 74%; and
- baby health services, 85%.

However, in other urban or rural areas, availability of health professionals was lower:

- doctors, 93%;
- nurses, 96%;
- Aboriginal health workers, 74%; and
- baby health services, 73%.

Attitudes to health services      An estimated 73% of people aged 13 years and over thought that it was important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be involved in the provision of their health care. For the same population, 84% said they were happy, or sometimes happy, with the local health services provided.

#### HEALTH RISK FACTORS

Health risk factors relate to lifestyle, diet and community practices which may impact on the overall health of the individual. The main features of the health risk factors measured in this survey are outlined below.

Food security      For persons aged 15 years and over, some 31% worried or sometimes worried about going without food. Females (36%) worried more than males (25%).

Alcohol and tobacco use      Information on the period since a person last drank alcohol is an indication of the frequency at which an individual consumed alcohol. The following estimates relate to alcohol and tobacco use for persons aged 13 years and over.

Some 71% (62% nationally) of persons consumed alcohol within the previous 12 months, with 73% of males and 70% of females having

consumed alcohol. More males (55%) than females (46%) reported having consumed alcohol in the previous week.

Approximately 57% of people smoked cigarettes, males were less likely to smoke (53%) than females (61%).

Relative weight Persons aged 13 years and over, who had their weight and height measurements taken, were grouped according to their body mass index (BMI) scores. On this basis:

- 43% were overweight or obese;
- 44% were underweight or an acceptable weight; and
- 13% were not stated.

Diet The following information on relative fat and sugar consumption levels was derived from the amount of specific foods people consumed the previous day.

An estimated 31% of the population, aged 13 years and over, had a moderate to high or high fat consumption and 50% had moderate to high or high sugar consumption.

There were more males than females in the moderate to high or high consumption categories, for fat (42% compared with 20%) and sugar (60% compared with 40%).

Breastfeeding It was found that of children aged 12 years and under, 62% were breastfed as infants (71% nationally), 58% in other urban and rural areas, 66% in Melbourne. Some 26% were breastfed for six months or longer.

#### ATTITUDES TO HEALTH

Attitudes to health indicates the concerns Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have in their area.

For persons aged 13 years and over, some 38% (59% nationally) of people perceived alcohol to be one of the main health problems in their area.

Drugs were seen as the next major health problem, by 27% of persons.

**TABLE 10. HEALTH : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994**

|                                | <i>Persons aged 12 years and under</i> |              | <i>All persons Experienced illness</i> |                  |                 | <i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i>                             |   |                 |                |              |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|--|------------------|-----------------|---|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                | <i>Was breastfed</i>                   | <i>Total</i> | <i>Specified</i>                       |                  | <i>Total</i>    | <i>Alcohol considered to be main health problem in local area</i> | <i>Happy with local health services</i> | <i>Total(a)</i> | <i>Smokers</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|                                |  |              | <i>Recent</i>                          | <i>long term</i> |                 |   |   |                 |                |              |
|                                |  |              | <i>per cent</i>                        | <i>per cent</i>  |                 |   |   |                 |                |              |
|                                | <i>(000)</i>                           | <i>(000)</i> | <i>(000)</i>                           | <i>(000)</i>     | <i>per cent</i> | <i>(000)</i>  | <i>per cent</i>                         | <i>(000)</i>    |                |              |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(b)</b>            | <b>70.7</b>                            | <b>105.7</b> | <b>41.2</b>                            | <b>34.8</b>      | <b>303.3</b>    | <b>58.8</b>   | <b>79.3</b>                             | <b>194.4</b>    | <b>49.7</b>    | <b>197.5</b> |
| New South Wales                | 60.0                                   | 28.6         | 43.6                                   | 38.4             | 80.5            | 59.9  | 74.0                                    | 51.1            | 50.8           | 52.0         |
| Victoria                       | 61.5                                   | 6.6          | 53.9                                   | 46.3             | 19.2            | 38.4  | 81.6                                    | 12.4            | 57.1           | 12.6         |
| Queensland                     | 72.1                                   | 27.8         | 38.0                                   | 33.4             | 79.8            | 58.6  | 81.8                                    | 51.3            | 48.4           | 52.1         |
| South Australia                | 60.1                                   | 6.5          | 44.0                                   | 37.8             | 18.4            | 58.4  | 78.8                                    | 11.7            | 55.7           | 11.9         |
| Western Australia              | 76.3                                   | 17.0         | 37.8                                   | 31.8             | 47.3            | 75.4  | 78.6                                    | 29.5            | 48.2           | 30.2         |
| Tasmania                       | 70.8                                   | 3.5          | 48.1                                   | 41.6             | 10.1            | 26.2  | 66.1                                    | 6.6             | 45.9           | 6.6          |
| Northern Territory             | 89.7                                   | 15.2         | 38.3                                   | 26.7             | 46.0            | 57.4  | 87.5                                    | 30.4            | 47.3           | 30.9         |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS</b> |  |              |  |                  |                 |   |   |                 |                |              |
| Wangaratta                     | 69.2                                   | 3.3          | 53.0                                   | 45.4             | 9.4             | 36.6  | 83.0                                    | 6.0             | 52.5           | 6.0          |
| Ballarat                       | 53.5                                   | 3.3          | 54.6                                   | 46.6             | 9.8             | 39.8  | 80.4                                    | 6.6             | 59.7           | 6.6          |

(a) Total includes couple families without children and families of other related individuals. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

**TABLE 11. ALL PERSONS : WHETHER HAVE EXPERIENCED A RECENT ILLNESS AND TYPE OF CONDITION (a)  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(000)**

|  | <i>Persons</i> |
|--|----------------|
| <b>Have experienced a recent illness condition</b>                   |                |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | ** 0.3         |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | ** 0.5         |
| Mental disorders   | 0.7            |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 1.2            |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 1.2            |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 3.7            |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 0.7            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 0.9            |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 1.4            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 1.8            |
| Injury and poisoning   | 1.4            |
| Other conditions or unspecified                                      | 0.8            |
| <b>Total persons who experienced recent illness(b)</b>               | <b>10.3</b>    |
| <b>Total persons who did not experience recent illness</b>           | <b>8.8</b>     |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>19.2</b>    |

(a) Condition groups based on chapter headings of the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD9). (b) Columns do not add to 'Total persons who experienced recent illness' because more than one illness may have been reported.

**TABLE 12. ALL PERSONS : WHETHER TOOK A HEALTH RELATED ACTION AND TYPE OF ACTION TAKEN IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

|                                      | <i>Persons</i> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Took an action                       | 10.9           |
| Type of actions taken(a)             |                |
| Visited emergency/outpatients clinic | 1.7            |
| Was admitted to hospital             | ** 0.3         |
| Consulted doctor                     | 5.7            |
| Consulted Aboriginal health worker   | 0.6            |
| Consulted nurse                      | 0.9            |
| Used medication                      | 8.3            |
| Used bush medicine                   | 0.7            |
| Reduced daily activities             | 3.7            |
| Took no action                       | 8.3            |
| <b>Total Persons(b)</b>              | <b>19.2</b>    |

(a) Persons may have taken more than one type of action. (b) Includes persons who did not state if they took an action.

**TABLE 13. ALL PERSONS : TYPE OF SPECIFIED CURRENT CONDITION  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

| <i>Type of condition(a)</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Asthma                      | 4.5            |
| Diabetes                    | 0.7            |
| Heart problems              | 0.8            |
| Chest problems              | 1.5            |
| Skin problems               | 2.4            |
| High blood pressure         | 2.0            |
| Ear or hearing problems     | 2.5            |
| Eye problems(b)             | 0.7            |
| Kidney problems             | 0.8            |
| <b>Total Persons(c)</b>     | <b>19.2</b>    |

(a) Figures are comparable with those listed as 'All sufferers' in Detailed Findings 4190.0 (b) Excludes eye problems which can be corrected by glasses. (c) Includes persons who did not have a specified current condition.

**TABLE 14. ALL PERSONS : SELF ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS BY AGE AND SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Self assessed health status</i> | <i>Age group (years)</i> |              |                    | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | <i>0-14</i>              | <i>15-44</i> | <i>45 and over</i> |              |                |                |
|                                    |                          |              | — per cent —       |              |                |                |
| Excellent                          | 35.1                     | 16.3         | 34.5               | 26.3         | 25.2           | 25.7           |
| Very good                          | 32.7                     | 33.5         | ** 14.4            | 32.0         | 29.9           | 30.9           |
| Good                               | 25.7                     | 28.1         | 28.9               | 27.0         | 27.5           | 27.3           |
| Fair or poor                       | ** 6.4                   | 22.1         | ** 22.2            | 14.7         | 17.4           | 16.1           |
| Not stated                         | ** 0.0                   | ** 0.0       | ** 0.0             | ** 0.0       | ** 0.0         | ** 0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total (<sup>'000</sup>)</b>     | <b>7.4</b>               | <b>9.5</b>   | <b>2.3</b>         | <b>9.6</b>   | <b>9.6</b>     | <b>19.2</b>    |

TABLE 15. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : TYPE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND SERVICES BY PART OF STATE  
BY AVAILABILITY WITHIN 25 KM  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Type of health professionals and services | Permanent    | Visiting | Not available | Total(a) | Total ('000) |
|---|--------------|----------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| CAPITAL CITY                              |              |          |               |          |              |
|   | — per cent — |          |               |          |              |
| Doctor/GP                                 | 100.0        | ** 0.0   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Nurse                                     | 98.9         | ** 1.1   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Aboriginal Health Worker                  | 73.5         | ** 4.6   | 19.3          | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Dentist                                   | 98.9         | ** 1.1   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Mental Health Services                    | 77.5         | ** 17.9  | ** 4.6        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Health Promotional Services               | 77.7         | ** 3.6   | ** 18.7       | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Ante-natal Services                       | 94.3         | ** 1.1   | ** 4.6        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Diabetic Services                         | 94.3         | ** 1.1   | ** 4.6        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Women's Health Services                   | 98.9         | ** 1.1   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Baby Health Services                      | 98.9         | ** 1.1   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic      | 91.6         | ** 3.6   | ** 4.8        | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| Flying Medical Services                   | ..           | ** 3.0   | 94.8          | 100.0    | 3.1          |
| OTHER URBAN/RURAL                         |              |          |               |          |              |
|   | — per cent — |          |               |          |              |
| Doctor/GP                                 | 93.0         | ** 7.0   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Nurse                                     | 96.0         | ** 4.0   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Aboriginal Health Worker                  | 74.0         | ** 7.8   | 18.2          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Dentist                                   | 44.8         | 31.0     | 24.2          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Mental Health Services                    | 63.1         | 25.5     | ** 11.4       | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Health Promotional Services               | 48.6         | 25.3     | 26.0          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Ante-natal Services                       | 59.0         | 33.6     | ** 7.4        | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Diabetic Services                         | 74.6         | ** 8.6   | 16.8          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Women's Health Services                   | 62.6         | 26.2     | ** 11.2       | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Baby Health Services                      | 72.9         | 25.9     | ** 1.2        | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic      | 61.0         | ** 16.0  | 22.9          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| Flying Medical Services                   | ..           | ** 0.0   | 91.3          | 100.0    | 3.6          |
| TOTAL                                     |              |          |               |          |              |
|   | — per cent — |          |               |          |              |
| Doctor/GP                                 | 96.3         | ** 3.7   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Nurse                                     | 97.3         | ** 2.7   | ** 0.0        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Aboriginal Health Worker                  | 73.7         | ** 6.3   | 18.7          | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Dentist                                   | 69.9         | 17.1     | 13.0          | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Mental Health Services                    | 69.8         | 22.0     | ** 8.2        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Health Promotional Services               | 62.1         | 15.2     | 22.7          | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Ante-natal Services                       | 75.4         | 18.5     | ** 6.1        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Diabetic Services                         | 83.8         | ** 5.1   | 11.1          | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Women's Health Services                   | 79.4         | 14.5     | ** 6.0        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Baby Health Services                      | 85.0         | 14.4     | ** 0.6        | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic      | 75.2         | 10.2     | 14.5          | 100.0    | 6.7          |
| Flying Medical Services                   | ..           | ** 1.4   | 92.9          | 100.0    | 6.7          |

(a) The very small number of 'Not stated' respondents have not been displayed, hence the rows do not always add to 100%.



TABLE 16. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DISTANCE FROM NEAREST HEALTH FACILITIES BY PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Type of service                                | 0-10 km          | 11 km and over | Not stated | Total | Total ('000) |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------|-------|--------------|
| CAPITAL CITY                                   |                  |                |            |       |              |
|  | --- per cent --- |                |            |       |              |
| Hospital                                       | 71.2             | 28.8           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| Community Health Centre                        | 90.7             | ** 9.3         | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| Chemist or Dispensary                          | 98.6             | ** 1.4         | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| Birthing Centre                                | 51.3             | 46.6           | ** 2.1     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| Detoxification Centre                          | 51.8             | 46.1           | ** 2.1     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post | ** 12.1          | 85.2           | ** 2.6     | 100.0 | 3.1          |
| OTHER URBAN/RURAL                              |                  |                |            |       |              |
|  | --- per cent --- |                |            |       |              |
| Hospital                                       | 85.0             | ** 15.0        | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| Community Health Centre                        | 87.6             | ** 12.4        | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| Chemist or Dispensary                          | 88.8             | ** 11.2        | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| Birthing Centre                                | 66.3             | 33.7           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| Detoxification Centre                          | 29.4             | 70.6           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post | 55.1             | 44.9           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| TOTAL  |                  |                |            |       |              |
|  | --- per cent --- |                |            |       |              |
| Hospital                                       | 78.6             | 21.4           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 6.7          |
| Community Health Centre                        | 89.1             | 10.9           | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 6.7          |
| Chemist or Dispensary                          | 93.3             | ** 6.7         | ** 0.0     | 100.0 | 6.7          |
| Birthing Centre                                | 59.3             | 39.7           | ** 1.0     | 100.0 | 6.7          |
| Detoxification Centre                          | 39.8             | 59.2           | ** 1.0     | 100.0 | 6.7          |
| Aboriginal Medical Service or Medical Aid Post | 35.2             | 63.6           | ** 1.2     | 100.0 | 6.7          |

TABLE 17. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a): SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS BY WHETHER WORRIES ABOUT GOING WITHOUT FOOD  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Selected characteristics of persons                               | Worries or sometimes worries |            |        | Total | Total ('000) |
|---|------------------------------|------------|--------|-------|--------------|
|   | Does not worry               | Not stated |        |       |              |
| — per cent —  |                              |            |        |       |              |
| Males   | 24.6                         | 75.2       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 5.7          |
| Females   | 36.2                         | 63.7       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 6.0          |
| Persons   | 30.6                         | 69.3       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 11.6         |
| <b>Age group (years)</b>  |                              |            |        |       |              |
| 15-44   | 29.7                         | 70.2       | ** 0.2 | 100.0 | 9.3          |
| 45 and over   | 34.2                         | 65.8       | ** 0.0 | 100.0 | 2.3          |
| <b>Educational attainment</b>                                     |                              |            |        |       |              |
| Still at school   | ** 33.4                      | ** 66.6    | ** 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.7          |
| Below Year 10   | 43.0                         | 56.8       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 5.1          |
| Year 10 or higher   | 19.4                         | 80.5       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 5.9          |
| <b>Part of State</b>  |                              |            |        |       |              |
| Capital city  | 29.9                         | 70.1       | ** 0.0 | 100.0 | 5.7          |
| Other urban/<br>Rural   | 31.2                         | 68.5       | ** 0.3 | 100.0 | 6.0          |
| <b>Persons living in households with an annual income of (\$)</b> |                              |            |        |       |              |
| 0-25,000  | 37.0                         | 62.7       | ** 0.2 | 100.0 | 3.9          |
| 25,001 or more  | 26.4                         | 73.6       | ** 0.0 | 100.0 | 6.4          |
| Not stated  | ** 31.5                      | 68.0       | ** 0.5 | 100.0 | 1.4          |
| <b>Persons living in households where</b>                         |                              |            |        |       |              |
| No one working  | 49.3                         | 50.4       | ** 0.2 | 100.0 | 3.6          |
| One or more working   | 22.0                         | 77.9       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 8.0          |
| <b>Persons living in households with</b>                          |                              |            |        |       |              |
| No dependant children   | 30.2                         | 69.6       | ** 0.2 | 100.0 | 5.2          |
| One or more dependant children                                    | 30.8                         | 69.1       | ** 0.1 | 100.0 | 6.5          |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

TABLE 18. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : NUMBER OF CIGARETTES SMOKED DAILY AND PERIOD SINCE LAST DRANK ALCOHOL BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Number of cigarettes smoked daily and period since last drank alcohol | — per cent — |         |         |
|---|--------------|---------|---------|
|   | Males        | Females | Persons |
| <b>Number of cigarettes smoked daily</b>                              |              |         |         |
| 1-10  | 15.0         | 25.6    | 20.3    |
| 11-20   | 17.3         | 21.5    | 19.4    |
| 21 or more  | 20.0         | 13.5    | 16.7    |
| Not stated  | ** 0.6       | ** 0.5  | ** 0.6  |
| Total smokers   | 52.9         | 61.2    | 57.1    |
| <b>Period since last drank alcohol</b>                                |              |         |         |
| One week or less ago  | 55.1         | 45.5    | 50.2    |
| More than 1 week to less than 12 mths ago                             | 17.4         | 24.4    | 20.9    |
| Total drinkers  | 72.5         | 69.8    | 71.1    |
| Total persons aged 13 years and over ('000)                           | 6.2          | 6.3     | 12.6    |

TABLE 19. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER (a): PERCEIVED HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE PROBLEMS IN LOCAL AREA BY PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Perceived health and<br>substance use problems | Part of State |                       | Total       |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|  | Capital city  | Other urban/<br>Rural |             |
|  | — per cent —  |                       |             |
| <b>Health problems (b)</b>                     |               |                       |             |
| Alcohol problems                               | 25.7          | 50.1                  | 38.4        |
| Drugs  | 21.4          | 32.6                  | 27.3        |
| Other substances                               | ** 3.3        | ** 2.0                | ** 2.7      |
| Diabetes                                       | ** 7.3        | 16.2                  | 11.9        |
| Heart problems                                 | ** 7.2        | 9.3                   | 8.3         |
| Diet/nutrition                                 | 11.3          | 9.3                   | 10.3        |
| Skin problems                                  | ** 3.3        | ** 4.9                | ** 4.1      |
| Other  | ** 7.6        | ** 5.8                | 6.7         |
| Don't know/not stated                          | 56.6          | 38.9                  | 47.4        |
| <b>Substance use<br/>problems (b)</b>          |               |                       |             |
| Alcohol  | 61.0          | 78.6                  | 70.2        |
| Marijuana                                      | 39.0          | 58.9                  | 49.4        |
| Other drugs                                    | 25.7          | 39.4                  | 32.8        |
| Petrol sniffing                                | ** 8.3        | 11.3                  | 9.9         |
| Glue sniffing                                  | ** 6.6        | ** 7.7                | 7.2         |
| Other dangerous<br>substances                  | ** 7.9        | ** 8.0                | 8.0         |
| Not stated                                     | ** 2.4        | ** 0.4                | ** 1.4      |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                            | <b>6.0</b>    | <b>6.5</b>            | <b>12.4</b> |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Persons may have given more than one answer.

TABLE 20. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS BY RELATIVE FAT AND SUGAR CONSUMPTION  
VICTORIA, 1994

| Characteristics of persons                                 | Fat Consumption |                 |                  | Sugar Consumption |            |          | Total<br>(000) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|----------|----------------|
|  | Low             | Low to moderate | Moderate to high | High              | Not stated | Total    |                |
| Males  | 16.6            | 39.4            | 34.4             | ** 7.9            | ** 1.8     | 100.0    | 6.2            |
| Females  | 16.6            | 61.8            | 16.1             | ** 4.2            | ** 1.3     | 100.0    | 6.3            |
| Persons  | 16.6            | 50.7            | 25.2             | 6.0               | ** 1.6     | 100.0    | 12.6           |
| Age group (years)  |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| 13-14(a)   | ** 19.7         | ** 52.5         | ** 10.5          | ** 4.9            | ** 12.4    | 100.0    | 0.8            |
| 15-44  | 15.6            | 48.5            | 28.4             | 6.6               | ** 1.0     | 100.0    | 9.5            |
| 45 and over  | ** 19.6         | 59.3            | ** 16.9          | ** 4.2            | ** 0.0     | 100.0    | 2.3            |
| Educational attainment                                     |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| Still at school  | ** 19.0         | 51.0            | ** 17.8          | ** 5.5            | ** 6.7     | 100.0    | 1.5            |
| Below year 10  | 14.3            | 53.6            | 22.9             | ** 7.5            | ** 1.7     | 100.0    | 5.2            |
| Year 10 or above   | 18.0            | 48.0            | 29.0             | ** 4.9            | ** 0.2     | 100.0    | 5.9            |
| Relative weight  |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| Underweight or acceptable weight                           | 14.4            | 53.9            | 22.7             | ** 7.5            | ** 1.5     | 100.0    | 5.5            |
| Overweight or obese  | 19.2            | 45.3            | 29.1             | ** 6.3            | ** 0.2     | 100.0    | 5.4            |
| Not stated   | ** 15.3         | 57.5            | ** 20.8          | ** 0.3            | ** 6.1     | 100.0    | 1.7            |
| Part of State  |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| Capital city   | 13.0            | 46.3            | 30.7             | ** 7.4            | ** 2.6     | 100.0    | 6.1            |
| Other urban/Rural  | 19.9            | 54.8            | 20.0             | ** 4.7            | ** 0.6     | 100.0    | 6.5            |
| Persons living in households with an annual income of (\$) |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| 0-25,000   | 20.6            | 52.6            | 17.1             | ** 7.9            | ** 1.9     | 100.0    | 4.0            |
| 25,001 or more   | 12.5            | 50.0            | 30.7             | ** 4.9            | ** 1.8     | 100.0    | 6.9            |
| Not stated/not applicable                                  | ** 23.5         | 48.9            | ** 21.7          | ** 6.0            | ** 0.0     | 100.0    | 1.6            |
| Whether smokes   |                 |                 |                  |                   |            |          |                |
| Smokes   | 18.1            | 49.7            | 24.2             | ** 6.9            | ** 1.2     | 100.0    | 7.2            |
| Doesn't smoke  | 14.8            | 53.0            | 27.0             | ** 4.9            | ** 0.3     | 100.0    | 5.3            |
| Not stated   | ** 0.0          | ** 0.0          | ** 0.0           | ** 0.0            | ** 100.0   | ** 100.0 | ** 0.1         |

(a) This age group is included to maintain comparability between tables however all figures in it should be treated as unreliable.

TABLE 21. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER (a): ATTITUDES TO LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES  
VICTORIA, 1994

| <i>Attitudes to local health services</i>  | <i>Persons</i><br>— per cent — |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Importance of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander involvement in health services</b> |                                |
| Important  | 72.6                           |
| Not important  | 22.5                           |
| Don't know   | ** 4.2                         |
| Not stated   | ** 0.8                         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>                   |
| <b>Whether happy with local health services</b>  |                                |
| Happy or sometimes happy   | 84.0                           |
| Not happy  | 8.4                            |
| No contact with health services/Not stated   | 7.6                            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>                   |
| <b>Problems with local health services(b)</b>  |                                |
| No problems with services  | 75.6                           |
| Problems with services   | 12.6                           |
| Other/don't use/don't know/not stated  | 13.6                           |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>  | <b>12.4</b>                    |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Columns do not add to 100% because more than one answer may be given.

TABLE 22. PERSONS AGED 12 YEARS AND UNDER : WHETHER BREASTFED AND DURATION BY SELECTED HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS  
VICTORIA, 1994

| <i>Whether breastfed</i> | <i>Part of State</i> |                          | <i>Annual household income</i> |                           | <i>Person living in households where</i> |                       |                            | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
|                          | <i>Capital city</i>  | <i>Other urban/Rural</i> | <i>\$25,000 and under</i>      | <i>More than \$25,000</i> | <i>Not stated</i>                        | <i>No one working</i> | <i>One or more working</i> |              |
|                          | — per cent —         |                          |                                |                           |  |                       |                            |              |
| Was breastfed            |                      |                          |                                |                           |  |                       |                            |              |
| Less than 6 months       | 26.6                 | 27.7                     | 27.2                           | 26.4                      | ** 34.6                                  | 24.8                  | 28.7                       | 27.2         |
| 6 months or more         | 25.3                 | 26.2                     | 25.4                           | 26.5                      | ** 20.8                                  | 27.6                  | 24.7                       | 25.8         |
| Currently breastfeeding  | ** 13.6              | ** 3.9                   | ** 8.5                         | ** 9.3                    | ** 0.0                                   | ** 8.3                | ** 8.5                     | ** 8.4       |
| Not stated               | ** 0.0               | ** 0.2                   | ** 0.3                         | ** 0.0                    | ** 0.0                                   | ** 0.3                | ** 0.0                     | ** 0.1       |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>65.5</b>          | <b>58.0</b>              | <b>61.4</b>                    | <b>62.2</b>               | <b>** 55.4</b>                           | <b>61.0</b>           | <b>61.8</b>                | <b>61.5</b>  |
| Was not breastfed        | 34.5                 | 36.2                     | 38.3                           | 32.6                      | ** 44.6                                  | 37.3                  | 34.2                       | 35.4         |
| Don't know/not stated    | ** 0.0               | ** 5.8                   | ** 0.3                         | ** 5.2                    | ** 0.0                                   | ** 1.7                | ** 3.9                     | ** 3.1       |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>100.0</b>         | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b>                   | <b>100.0</b>              | <b>** 100.0</b>                          | <b>100.0</b>          | <b>100.0</b>               | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>      | <b>3.1</b>           | <b>3.5</b>               | <b>2.4</b>                     | <b>3.8</b>                | <b>** 0.4</b>                            | <b>2.5</b>            | <b>4.1</b>                 | <b>6.6</b>   |

## HOUSING

### INTRODUCTION

Information on housing provides an insight into the living conditions of people and it has a considerable bearing on other aspects of people's lives, such as health. Of all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households, 98% were living in private dwellings and 2% in special dwellings (e.g. boarding schools and hostels). Just under 2% of all private dwellings were improvised homes.

### PRIVATE DWELLINGS

The majority of private dwellings were rented (63%), while 36% were being purchased or were owned by a usual resident(s) of the household.

Over half of rented dwellings (53%) were rented for less than \$77 per week. In rural and in other urban areas more dwellings were rented for less than \$77 per week (58%), than in Melbourne (45%).

#### Satisfaction with dwelling

Approximately 81% of renters reported that the dwelling satisfied the needs of the household. In comparison, more purchasers and owners (88%) were satisfied. The majority (94%) of private dwellings had garbage collected and were serviced by a sealed road (91%).

#### Size of dwelling

For private dwellings, the average number of persons in each household was 3.5.

TABLE 23. HOUSING : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

| <i>Households in private dwellings</i> |                                |                                  |                          |   |  |                |                     |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|----------------|---------------------|
|  | <i>Running water connected</i> | <i>Electricity/gas connected</i> | <i>Garbage collected</i> | <i>Dwelling situated on sealed road</i> | <i>Satisfied with current dwelling</i> | <i>Renters</i> | <i>Total</i>        |
|  | — per cent —                   |                                  |                          |   |  |                | ( <sup>'000</sup> ) |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(a)</b>                    | <b>96.1</b>                    | <b>96.4</b>                      | <b>93.0</b>              | <b>81.6</b>                             | <b>77.3</b>                            | <b>69.0</b>    | <b>86.4</b>         |
| New South Wales                        | 96.9                           | 98.0                             | 93.9                     | 87.0                                    | 76.9                                   | 66.7           | 27.0                |
| Victoria                               | 99.8                           | 99.8                             | 94.1                     | 90.6                                    | 84.0                                   | 62.6           | 6.7                 |
| Queensland                             | 95.6                           | 96.4                             | 94.8                     | 82.5                                    | 83.2                                   | 72.2           | 21.4                |
| South Australia                        | 99.2                           | 97.7                             | 94.9                     | 86.0                                    | 82.3                                   | 79.1           | 5.3                 |
| Western Australia                      | 93.9                           | 93.4                             | 96.7                     | 72.2                                    | 73.0                                   | 73.0           | 12.3                |
| Tasmania                               | 98.8                           | 99.6                             | 72.3                     | 83.4                                    | 90.6                                   | 46.3           | 4.4                 |
| Northern Territory                     | 91.2                           | 90.4                             | 88.0                     | 63.6                                    | 52.3                                   | 72.2           | 8.3                 |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS</b>         |                                |                                  |                          |   |  |                |                     |
| Wangaratta                             | 99.8                           | 99.8                             | 91.0                     | 96.8                                    | 83.2                                   | 58.7           | 3.1                 |
| Ballarat                               | 99.7                           | 99.8                             | 96.8                     | 85.2                                    | 84.7                                   | <b>66.0</b>    | 3.6                 |

(a) includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 24. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : SATISFACTION WITH DWELLING BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY VICTORIA, 1994

|  | <i>Renters</i> | <i>Purchasers/owners</i> | <i>Other/not stated</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|  | — per cent —   |                          |                         |              |
| <b>Whether dwelling satisfies the needs of the household</b> |                |                          |                         |              |
| Satisfied  | 81.4           | 88.1                     | ** 91.5                 | 84.0         |
| Not satisfied  | 18.6           | ** 11.9                  | ** 0.0                  | 15.8         |
| Not stated   | ** 0.0         | ** 0.0                   | ** 8.5                  | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>** 100.0</b>         | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total (<sup>'000</sup>)</b>                               | <b>4.2</b>     | <b>2.4</b>               | <b>** 0.1</b>           | <b>6.7</b>   |

**TABLE 25. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : NUMBER OF BEDROOMS IN DWELLING BY PART OF STATE BY AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Number of bedrooms in dwelling</i> | <i>Average number of persons per household</i> | <i>Households ('000)</i> |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>CAPITAL CITY</b>                   |  |                          |
| 0-2 bedrooms                          | 2.2  | ** 0.4                   |
| 3 bedrooms                            | 3.4  | 2.2                      |
| 4 or more bedrooms                    | 5.4  | ** 0.5                   |
| <b>Total(a)</b>                       | <b>3.6</b>                                     | <b>3.1</b>               |
| <b>OTHER URBAN/RURAL</b>              |  |                          |
| 0-2 bedrooms                          | 2.6  | 0.7                      |
| 3 bedrooms                            | 3.7  | 2.5                      |
| 4 or more bedrooms                    | 4.0  | ** 0.4                   |
| <b>Total(a)</b>                       | <b>3.5</b>                                     | <b>3.6</b>               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          |  |                          |
| 0-2 bedrooms                          | 2.4  | 1.2                      |
| 3 bedrooms                            | 3.6  | 4.6                      |
| 4 or more bedrooms                    | 4.8  | 0.9                      |
| <b>Total(a)</b>                       | <b>3.5</b>                                     | <b>6.7</b>               |

(a) Includes number of bedrooms not stated.

**TABLE 26. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Dwelling characteristics</i>                       | <i>Total</i> |
|---|--------------|
|   | — per cent — |
| <b>Number of toilets</b>                              |              |
| No toilet   | ** 0.0       |
| One toilet  | 86.2         |
| Two or more toilets                                   | 13.6         |
| Not stated  | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether dwelling has bathroom/shower</b>           |              |
| Yes   | 99.8         |
| No / Not Stated                                       | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether running water connected</b>                |              |
| Running water connected                               | 99.8         |
| No running water connected                            | ** 0.1       |
| Not stated  | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether dwelling has electricity/gas connected</b> |              |
| Yes   | 99.8         |
| No  | ** 0.0       |
| Not stated  | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Other services</b>                                 |              |
| Garbage collected                                     | 94.1         |
| Dwelling situated on a sealed road                    | 90.6         |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                                   | <b>6.7</b>   |



TABLE 27. RENTED PRIVATE DWELLINGS : WEEKLY RENT BY PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994

|                         | <i>Capital city</i> | <i>Other urban/<br/>Rural</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
|                         | — per cent —        |                               |              |
| <b>Weekly rent (\$)</b> |                     |                               |              |
| 0-77                    | 44.7                | 57.6                          | 53.0         |
| 78 and over             | 55.3                | 42.4                          | 47.0         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>100.0</b>        | <b>100.0</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>     | <b>1.5</b>          | <b>2.7</b>                    | <b>4.2</b>   |

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a statistical summary on the education and training of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and includes the following:

- schooling;
- attitudes to schooling;
- educational attainment and training;
- current study and further study; and
- access to educational institutions.

### SCHOOLING

Participation rates at school, type of school, Indigenous content in curricula and involvement of Indigenous teachers are all important characteristics of the education of young Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

School participation rates declined significantly with age. For 14 year olds the participation rate was 98%, while for 17 year olds the rate had fallen to 43% (31% nationally). Females had a higher participation rate than males until age 17.

More than one-third (37%) of all students were taught about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures at school.

Approximately 22% of students were taught by an Indigenous teacher, education worker, or had a community member attend the school regularly to take lessons.

#### Attitudes to schooling

Approximately 42% of people with children at school would have preferred to send them to an Aboriginal community controlled school. However, 38% preferred not to send the children to this type of school, 19% didn't know or did not state a response.

#### Educational attainment

Of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over, who had left school, 24% had attained a post-school educational qualification.

There was very little variation in level of attainment between the sexes. Some 29% of males had obtained a post-school qualification while 19% of females had obtained a qualification at this level.

A higher proportion of persons with post-school qualifications (65%) were employed than persons without qualifications, (41%). Similarly, persons with post-school qualifications were more likely to earn a higher income than persons without post-school qualifications. Some 33% of persons with post-school qualifications earned more than \$25,000 per annum, compared to 12% of people without post-school qualifications.

#### Current post-school study

An estimated 700 persons, aged 15 years and over, who had left school were currently participating in post-school education.

### TRAINING

Of 11,100 persons aged 15 years and over who had left school, an estimated 1,600 (14%) had undertaken training courses in the last 12 months (9%

nationally). Approximately 66% of these people undertook training courses of nine weeks or more duration (61% nationally).

#### Further study and training

An estimated 50% of people aged 15 years and over, who had left school, wanted to do further study or training. Some of these people felt they would have problems attending study or training courses and some difficulties were:

- lack of transport/travel, 7%;
- financial problems, 7%; and
- lack of child-care, 6%.

#### Access to educational institutions

Distance has been used as a guide to the level of access Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to educational institutions.

The majority of households were within 10 km of the nearest preschool (94%), primary school (95%), and secondary school providing classes up to year 12 (91%). However, the level of access to TAFE colleges and universities was much lower, 79% were within 10 km of the nearest TAFE college. Over one-third (39%) were within 10 km of the nearest university while 60% were over 10 km away.

**TABLE 28. EDUCATION : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY  
AND VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994**

| Area                           | Persons aged<br>3-5 years(a) |             | Persons aged<br>5-18 years |              | Persons aged 15 years<br>and over who have<br>left school |              | Persons with children attending<br>primary or secondary school |  |             |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|--|--|-------------|
|                                | Attending<br>pre-school      | Total       | Attending<br>school        | Total        | With<br>post-<br>school<br>qualifi-<br>cation             | Total        | Happy<br>with<br>children's<br>education                       | Would<br>prefer<br>children to<br>attend<br>Aboriginal<br>controlled<br>school | Total       |
|                                | per cent                     | ('000)      | per cent                   | ('000)       | per cent  | ('000)       | per cent   |  | ('000)      |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(b)</b>            | <b>40.3</b>                  | <b>28.2</b> | <b>81.7</b>                | <b>100.3</b> | <b>16.9</b>   | <b>171.5</b> | <b>85.8</b>  | <b>33.2</b>  | <b>60.8</b> |
| New South Wales                | 38.9                         | 8.3         | 86.8                       | 26.4         | 20.3  | 45.2         | 77.3   | 42.0   | 14.8        |
| Victoria                       | **37.0                       | 1.5         | 83.7                       | 5.9          | 23.8  | 11.1         | 74.9   | 42.3   | 3.8         |
| Queensland                     | 38.9                         | 7.2         | 80.8                       | 26.6         | 16.2  | 44.4         | 90.8   | 31.4   | 16.2        |
| South Australia                | 42.4                         | 1.7         | 82.4                       | 6.0          | 23.1  | 10.6         | 80.0   | 23.4   | 4.3         |
| Western Australia              | 41.2                         | 4.2         | 79.4                       | 16.1         | 12.8  | 26.8         | 89.9   | 24.6   | 9.5         |
| Tasmania                       | 44.8                         | 0.8         | 81.3                       | 3.5          | 23.1  | 5.6          | 76.0   | 27.0   | 1.8         |
| Northern Territory             | 43.1                         | 4.3         | 75.8                       | 15.5         | 8.8   | 26.7         | 94.8   | 33.4   | 10.0        |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS</b> |                              |             |                            |              |   |              |  |  |             |
| Wangaratta                     | **34.0                       | 0.7         | 80.1                       | 2.9          | 24.9  | 5.2          | 71.0   | 38.6   | 2.0         |
| Ballarat                       | 39.4                         | 0.9         | 87.2                       | 3.0          | 23.2  | 5.9          | 79.4   | 46.7   | 1.8         |

(a) Excludes persons attending school. (b) Includes ACT and Jarvis Bay.

**TABLE 29. PERSONS AGED 13 TO 18 YEARS : AGE BY SCHOOL PARTICIPATION RATE(a) BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(per cent)**

| Age (years) | Males | Females | Persons |
|-------------|-------|---------|---------|
| 13          | 100   | 100     | 100     |
| 14          | 96    | 100     | 98      |
| 15          | 39    | 98      | 68      |
| 16          | 26    | 58      | 43      |
| 17          | 50    | 40      | 43      |
| 18          | 6     | (b)     | 4       |

(a) The school participation rate measures the number of school students of a particular age expressed as a proportion of the estimated resident population of the same age and sex. (b) Insufficient records to provide value.

TABLE 30. SCHOOL STUDENTS : CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHOOLING  
VICTORIA, 1994

| <i>Characteristics of schooling</i>  | <i>Total</i> |
|--|--------------|
|  | — per cent — |
| <b>Level of school attending</b>   |              |
| Primary school   | 63.3         |
| Secondary school   | 36.7         |
| Combined Primary/Secondary school  | ** 0.0       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether taught about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures at school</b>                        |              |
| Taught about culture   | 36.7         |
| Not taught about culture   | 63.3         |
| Not stated   | ** 0.0       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether taught Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander languages at school</b>                             |              |
| Taught language  | ** 3.2       |
| Not taught language  | 95.0         |
| Don't know/not stated  | ** 1.8       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Whether taught by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander teacher/education worker/community member</b> |              |
| Yes  | 22.2         |
| No   | 73.9         |
| Don't know/not stated  | ** 3.9       |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>  | <b>5.0</b>   |

TABLE 31. PERSONS WITH CHILDREN ATTENDING PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL : ATTITUDES TO CHILDREN'S SCHOOLING  
VICTORIA, 1994

| <i>Attitudes to children's schooling</i>  | <i>Persons</i> |
|---|----------------|
|   | — per cent —   |
| <b>Whether happy with education children are receiving at school</b>                |                |
| Happy with education  | 74.9           |
| Not happy with education  | 18.4           |
| Don't know/not stated   | ** 6.8         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Whether made to feel welcome at children's school</b>                            |                |
| Feels welcome   | 83.8           |
| Sometimes feels/does not feel welcome or don't know                                 | ** 13.4        |
| Does not go to the school   | ** 2.8         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Whether involved in decision making at children's school</b>                     |                |
| Involved  | 34.2           |
| Not involved  | 65.8           |
| Not stated  | ** 0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Whether preferred to send children to Aboriginal community controlled school</b> |                |
| Would have preferred  | 42.3           |
| Would not have preferred  | 38.3           |
| Already attends   | ** 0.8         |
| Don't know/not stated   | 18.7           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>   | <b>3.8</b>     |

**TABLE 32. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION VICTORIA, 1994**

|                                    | <i>With post-school educational qualifications</i> | <i>Without post-school educational qualifications</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Total ('000)</i> |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------|---------------------|
|                                    |  | — per cent —  |              |                     |
| Males                              | 28.6   | 71.4  | 100.0        | 5.6                 |
| Females                            | 18.8   | 81.2  | 100.0        | 5.5                 |
| <b>Persons</b>                     | <b>23.8</b>  | <b>76.2</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>11.1</b>         |
| <b>Age group (years)</b>           |  |   |              |                     |
| 15-24                              | ** 12.3  | 87.7  | 100.0        | 3.1                 |
| 25-44                              | 30.6   | 69.4  | 100.0        | 5.7                 |
| 45 and over                        | ** 22.1  | 77.9  | 100.0        | 2.3                 |
| <b>Part of state</b>               |  |   |              |                     |
| Capital city                       | 28.4   | 71.6  | 100.0        | 5.5                 |
| Other urban                        | 15.6   | 84.4  | 100.0        | 4.4                 |
| Rural                              | ** 32.4  | 67.6  | 100.0        | 1.2                 |
| <b>Labour force status</b>         |  |   |              |                     |
| Employed                           | 37.6   | 62.4  | 100.0        | 4.6                 |
| Unemployed                         | ** 20.1  | 79.9  | 100.0        | 2.8                 |
| Not in Labour Force                | ** 9.6   | 90.4  | 100.0        | 3.6                 |
| Not applicable                     | ** 12.0  | ** 88.0   | ** 100.0     | ** 0.2              |
| <b>Annual personal income (\$)</b> |  |   |              |                     |
| 0-12,000                           | 13.7   | 86.3  | 100.0        | 5.5                 |
| 12,001-25,000                      | 28.3   | 71.7  | 100.0        | 3.5                 |
| 25,001 or more                     | 45.9   | 54.1  | 100.0        | 1.9                 |
| Not stated/not applicable          | ** 11.2  | ** 88.8   | ** 100.0     | ** 0.2              |

**TABLE 33. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL : WHETHER WANTS TO DO FURTHER STUDY OR TRAINING BY MAIN DIFFICULTY VICTORIA, 1994**

|   | <i>Persons</i> |
|---|----------------|
|   | — per cent —   |
| Wants to do further study or training         |                |
| Main difficulty                               |                |
| No childcare available                        | 5.7            |
| Lack of transport/travel                      | 7.0            |
| Financial problems                            | 6.6            |
| Lack of English proficiency                   | ** 2.5         |
| Lack of pre-requisites                        | 5.6            |
| No courses available                          | ** 0.9         |
| Other difficulty                              | 11.9           |
| No difficulty                                 | 9.5            |
| Not stated                                    | ** 0.2         |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>49.9</b>    |
| Does not want to do further study or training | 50.1           |
| Not stated                                    | ** 0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                           | <b>11.1</b>    |

**TABLE 34. PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL AND ARE CURRENTLY STUDYING FOR A QUALIFICATION : LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION AND TYPE OF INSTITUTION ATTENDING AND PART OF STATE AND SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

Due to the small numbers of people in senior secondary and higher education  
this table is not published for Victoria

**TABLE 35. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL AND WHO ATTENDED A TRAINING COURSE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS: DETAILS OF MAIN TRAINING COURSE ATTENDED  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Details of main training course</i>            | <i>Persons</i><br>— per cent — |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Provider of course</b>                         |                                |
| TAFE / Employer                                   | 66.5                           |
| Other / Not stated                                | ** 33.5                        |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>100.0</b>                   |
| <b>Whether completed</b>                          |                                |
| Completed   | 65.5                           |
| Didn't complete, still studying,<br>or not stated | ** 34.5                        |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>100.0</b>                   |
| <b>Length of course</b>                           |                                |
| Less than 9 weeks                                 | ** 34.5                        |
| 9 weeks or more                                   | 65.5                           |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>100.0</b>                   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                               | <b>1.6</b>                     |

**TABLE 36. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : DISTANCE FROM NEAREST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Distance in kms to nearest institution</i>       | <i>Total</i> |
|---|--------------|
|   | — per cent — |
| <b>Distance to nearest pre-school</b>               |              |
| 0-10 km   | 94.0         |
| Other   | ** 6.0       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Distance to nearest primary school</b>           |              |
| 0-10 km   | 95.0         |
| Other   | ** 5.0       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Distance to nearest secondary school-year 10</b> |              |
| 0-10 km   | 90.9         |
| Over 10 km  | 9.1          |
| Not stated  | ** 0.0       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Distance to nearest secondary school-year 12</b> |              |
| 0-10 km   | 90.9         |
| Over 10 km  | 9.1          |
| Not stated  | ** 0.0       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Distance to nearest TAFE college</b>             |              |
| 0-10 km   | 79.4         |
| Over 10 km  | 18.9         |
| Not stated  | ** 1.7       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Distance to nearest University</b>               |              |
| 0-10 km   | 39.4         |
| Over 10 km  | 60.4         |
| Not stated  | ** 0.2       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                                 | <b>6.7</b>   |



## EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the main findings on employment and income including:

- labour force status;
- jobs and cultural obligation;
- difficulties finding a job;
- voluntary work; and
- level and source of income.

### EMPLOYMENT

The importance of work (paid or unpaid) is a feature of adult life. A person's labour force status can often be linked to education and income and may impact on their socio-economic well-being.

#### Labour force status

The total number of people in the labour force was estimated at 7,500 persons (4,600 employed and 2,900 unemployed). The labour force participation rate was 64% for persons aged 15 years and over and 58% nationally. There was a sizeable difference in the participation rate for males, 78% (72% nationally) and females, 51% (44% nationally).

The overall unemployment rate was 38% (38% nationally). The unemployment rate was greatest in the 15–24 age group at 55%. Females generally had a much higher unemployment rate (48%) than males (32%), except for the 25–44 age group where males had a rate of 34% and females 35%.

An estimated 34% of persons were not able to meet their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural obligations because of work commitments. Rates were similar across geographic areas.

#### Nature of jobs

Of the 4,600 employed persons, 25% worked for a public sector organisation while 71% were employed in the private sector. In the private sector, 19% worked for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community organisation.

Over the 12 months prior to interview 6,000 persons aged 15 and over, had at least one job. More than half of those people (62%) worked for the full 12 months.

#### Unemployment

Of the 2,900 unemployed persons, 62% had been out of work and looking for work for less than 12 months and 73% of unemployed persons were looking for full-time employment.

#### Persons not in the labour force

Of the 4,100 persons not in the labour force, that is, who were not working and not looking for work, 36% wanted a job.

#### Voluntary work

Around 3,700 persons, or 32% of persons aged 15 years and over, were engaged in voluntary work (27% nationally).

### INCOME

Information on the level and source of income assists in understanding financial well-being. Regular income, regardless of source, is the main

means by which individuals and households finance consumption. For persons aged 15 years and over, the main findings on income follow.

**Personal income** An estimated 53% (59% nationally) received an annual income of \$12,000 or less, while 16% received more than \$25,000 (11% nationally).

Government payments were the main source of income for 52% of persons. An estimated 13% of persons had no income.

The mean annual income was \$15,402 (\$18,264 for males and \$12,677 for females). The highest mean annual income was accrued by persons in earned income (\$23,461) and the lowest mean annual income was government payments (\$9,887).

Of the estimated 6,900 persons who received government payments:

- 45% received family payments;
- 26% received Newstart or Jobsearch; and
- 23% received a sole parent pension (of whom 88% were female).

**Household income** The annual income of around 43% (37% nationally) of private dwelling households was determined to have an annual income of \$25,000 or less; 48% (45% nationally) had a determined income over \$25,001.

Household income and the proportion of households with incomplete income information generally increased with household size.

TABLE 37. EMPLOYMENT : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND VICTORIA ATSI C REGIONS, 1994

|                                | <i>Persons aged 15 years and over in the labour force</i> |                   |   |                 | <i>Persons aged 15 years and over</i> |                           |                 |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|                                | <i>Employed</i>   | <i>Unemployed</i> | <i>Unemployed for 12 months or more</i> | <i>Total(a)</i> | <i>Not in labour force</i>            | <i>Participation rate</i> | <i>Total(a)</i> |
|                                |   |                   |   |                 |                                       |                           |                 |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(b)</b>            | <b>61.8</b>   | <b>38.2</b>       | <b>18.9</b>                             | <b>105.2</b>    | <b>42.0</b>                           | <b>58.0</b>               | <b>181.5</b>    |
| New South Wales                | 54.4  | 45.6              | 25.8                                    | 28.5            | 40.5                                  | 59.5                      | 47.9            |
| Victoria                       | 61.9  | 38.1              | 14.0                                    | 7.5             | 35.6                                  | 64.4                      | 11.6            |
| Queensland                     | 66.9  | 33.1              | 13.2                                    | 28.2            | 41.1                                  | 58.9                      | 47.8            |
| South Australia                | 55.4  | 44.6              | 26.2                                    | 6.2             | 43.9                                  | 56.1                      | 11.1            |
| Western Australia              | 63.4  | 36.6              | 19.0                                    | 15.9            | 42.0                                  | 58.0                      | 27.5            |
| Tasmania                       | 71.5  | 28.5              | 13.1                                    | 3.8             | 37.4                                  | 62.6                      | 6.1             |
| Northern Territory             | 63.4  | 36.6              | 18.4                                    | 13.9            | 50.3                                  | 49.7                      | 28.0            |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSI C REGIONS</b> |   |                   |   |                 |                                       |                           |                 |
| Wangaratta                     | 64.3  | 35.7              | 11.9                                    | 3.4             | 39.1                                  | 60.9                      | 5.6             |
| Ballarat                       | 61.1  | 38.9              | 15.3                                    | 4.2             | 31.6                                  | 68.4                      | 6.1             |

(a) Total for Australia, States and Northern Territory excludes persons in prison. (b) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 38. PERSONAL INCOME : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND VICTORIA ATSI C REGIONS, 1994

|                                | <i>Main Source of Income</i>  |                              |                            |                  |                                       |                                    |                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                | <i>Earned income Non-CDEP</i> | <i>Earned income CDEP(a)</i> | <i>Government payments</i> | <i>No income</i> | <i>Annual income \$12,000 or less</i> | <i>Annual income over \$25,000</i> | <i>Total(b)</i> |
|                                | — per cent —                  |                              |                            |                  |                                       |                                    |                 |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(c)</b>            | <b>24.1</b>                   | <b>8.5</b>                   | <b>54.9</b>                | <b>10.7</b>      | <b>59.4</b>                           | <b>11.3</b>                        | <b>181.5</b>    |
| New South Wales                | 25.9                          | 4.3                          | 56.5                       | 11.1             | 56.9                                  | 13.0                               | 47.9            |
| Victoria                       | 32.1                          | ** 3.2                       | 51.6                       | 13.0             | 53.3                                  | 16.2                               | 11.6            |
| Queensland                     | 24.2                          | 11.6                         | 50.1                       | 11.7             | 55.8                                  | 11.1                               | 47.8            |
| South Australia                | 21.1                          | 6.3                          | 62.0                       | 7.4              | 62.3                                  | 11.3                               | 11.1            |
| Western Australia              | 20.0                          | 13.1                         | 56.6                       | 9.1              | 63.7                                  | 9.3                                | 27.5            |
| Tasmania                       | 41.3                          | ** 0.2                       | 47.6                       | 10.3             | 53.6                                  | 14.1                               | 6.1             |
| Northern Territory             | 16.9                          | 11.3                         | 60.4                       | 10.4             | 69.7                                  | 6.8                                | 28.0            |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSI C REGIONS</b> |                               |                              |                            |                  |                                       |                                    |                 |
| Wangaratta                     | 32.5                          | ** 3.6                       | 50.1                       | 13.8             | 58.9                                  | 18.8                               | 5.6             |
| Ballarat                       | 32.7                          | ** 2.8                       | 52.4                       | 11.9             | 46.9                                  | 14.6                               | 6.1             |

(a) Community Development Employment Projects. (b) Total for Australia, States and Northern Territory excludes persons in prison, refer to Explanatory notes. (c) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 39. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY SEX BY AGE AND PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(\*000)

|                               | Age group (years) |            |               | Part of State |                      | Total       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|
|                               | 15-24             | 25-44      | 45 and over   | Capital city  | Other urban<br>Rural |             |
| <b>MALES</b>                  |                   |            |               |               |                      |             |
| Employed                      | 0.8               | 1.5        | 0.7           | 2.1           | 1.0                  | 3.0         |
| Unemployed                    | 0.6               | 0.8        | ** 0.0        | ** 0.4        | 1.0                  | 1.4         |
| Unemployment rate (per cent)  | 41.7              | 33.9       | 4.3           | 17.6          | 49.7                 | 31.5        |
| <b>Total Labour Force</b>     | <b>1.4</b>        | <b>2.2</b> | <b>0.7</b>    | <b>2.5</b>    | <b>1.9</b>           | <b>4.4</b>  |
| Not in Labour Force           | ** 0.4            | ** 0.5     | ** 0.4        | ** 0.2        | 1.0                  | 1.2         |
| Participation rate (per cent) | 79.7              | 81.8       | 67.6          | 92.8          | 65.0                 | 78.4        |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>1.8</b>        | <b>2.7</b> | <b>1.1</b>    | <b>2.7</b>    | <b>2.9</b>           | <b>5.7</b>  |
| <b>FEMALES</b>                |                   |            |               |               |                      |             |
| Employed                      | ** 0.3            | 1.1        | ** 0.2        | 0.8           | 0.9                  | 1.6         |
| Unemployed                    | 0.8               | ** 0.6     | ** 0.1        | 0.7           | 0.7                  | 1.5         |
| Unemployment rate (per cent)  | 71.9              | 34.8       | 23.9          | 49.2          | 46.3                 | 47.7        |
| <b>Total Labour Force</b>     | <b>1.1</b>        | <b>1.6</b> | <b>** 0.3</b> | <b>1.5</b>    | <b>1.6</b>           | <b>3.1</b>  |
| Not in Labour Force           | 0.7               | 1.3        | 0.9           | 1.5           | 1.4                  | 2.9         |
| Participation rate (per cent) | 62.3              | 54.9       | 24.6          | 49.8          | 52.5                 | 51.2        |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>1.8</b>        | <b>3.0</b> | <b>1.2</b>    | <b>3.0</b>    | <b>3.0</b>           | <b>6.0</b>  |
| <b>PERSONS</b>                |                   |            |               |               |                      |             |
| Employed                      | 1.2               | 2.5        | 0.9           | 2.8           | 1.8                  | 4.6         |
| Unemployed                    | 1.4               | 1.3        | ** 0.1        | 1.2           | 1.7                  | 2.9         |
| Unemployment rate (per cent)  | 55.1              | 34.3       | 9.8           | 29.3          | 48.1                 | 38.1        |
| <b>Total Labour Force</b>     | <b>2.6</b>        | <b>3.9</b> | <b>1.0</b>    | <b>4.0</b>    | <b>3.5</b>           | <b>7.5</b>  |
| Not in Labour Force           | 1.1               | 1.8        | 1.2           | 1.7           | 2.5                  | 4.1         |
| Participation rate (per cent) | 70.9              | 67.9       | 45.3          | 70.3          | 58.7                 | 64.4        |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>3.6</b>        | <b>5.7</b> | <b>2.3</b>    | <b>5.7</b>    | <b>6.0</b>           | <b>11.6</b> |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

TABLE 40. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER<sup>(a)</sup> : NUMBER OF JOBS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND NUMBER OF MONTHS WORKED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

|  | <i>Total</i> |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Number of jobs in the last twelve months</b>          |              |
| None   | 5.3          |
| One  | 5.1          |
| Two or more  | 0.9          |
| Not stated   | ** 0.3       |
| <b>Number of months worked in the last twelve months</b> |              |
| Less than 3  | 5.9          |
| 3 to less than 6   | 0.9          |
| 6 to less than 9   | 0.6          |
| 9 to less than 12  | ** 0.2       |
| 12 months  | 3.7          |
| Not stated   | ** 0.3       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>11.6</b>  |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

TABLE 41. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE EMPLOYED : WHETHER WORK ALLOWS CULTURAL OBLIGATIONS TO BE MET BY PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994

|                                   | <i>Capital city</i> | <i>Other urban/<br/>Rural</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
|                                   | — per cent —        |                               |              |
| <b>All workers</b>                |                     |                               |              |
| Can meet obligations              | 33.3                | 52.3                          | 40.8         |
| Cannot meet obligations           | 34.1                | 32.7                          | 33.6         |
| Doesn't have cultural obligations | 32.6                | ** 14.3                       | 25.4         |
| Not stated                        | ** 0.0              | ** 0.7                        | ** 0.3       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>100.0</b>        | <b>100.0</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total (<sup>'000</sup>)</b>    | <b>2.8</b>          | <b>1.8</b>                    | <b>4.6</b>   |

TABLE 42. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE EMPLOYED : SECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT  
VICTORIA, 1994

| <i>Sector of employment</i>    | <i>Persons</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
|                                | — per cent —   |
| <b>Public Sector</b>           | <b>25.2</b>    |
| <b>Private Sector</b>          |                |
| Community                      | 18.8           |
| Other Private                  | 52.5           |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>71.3</b>    |
| Not stated                     | ** 3.5         |
| <b>Total (<sup>'000</sup>)</b> | <b>4.6</b>     |

**TABLE 43. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED : LENGTH OF TIME UNEMPLOYED BY SEX, AGE AND PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

|                          | <i>Less than 12 months</i> | <i>12 months or more</i> | <i>Not stated</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Males                    | 0.8                        | 0.6                      | ** 0.0            | 1.4          |
| Females                  | 1.0                        | ** 0.5                   | ** 0.0            | 1.5          |
| <b>Age group (years)</b> |                            |                          |                   |              |
| 15-24                    | 0.8                        | ** 0.6                   | ** 0.0            | 1.4          |
| 25-44                    | 0.9                        | ** 0.5                   | ** 0.0            | 1.3          |
| 45 and over              | ** 0.1                     | ** 0.0                   | ** 0.0            | ** 0.1       |
| <b>Part of state</b>     |                            |                          |                   |              |
| Capital city             | 0.9                        | ** 0.2                   | ** 0.0            | 1.2          |
| Other urban/Rural        | 0.9                        | 0.8                      | ** 0.0            | 1.7          |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>1.8</b>                 | <b>1.0</b>               | <b>** 0.0</b>     | <b>2.9</b>   |

**TABLE 44. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED : WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|  | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|--|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | — per cent — |                |                |
| <b>Whether looking for full-time or part-time work</b> |              |                |                |
| Full-time  | 93.9         | 52.4           | 72.7           |
| Part-time  | ** 6.1       | 47.6           | 27.3           |
| Not stated   | ** 0.0       | ** 0.0         | ** 0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |

**TABLE 45. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO ARE NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE : WHETHER WOULD LIKE A JOB BUT NOT LOOKING FOR WORK BY PART OF STATE, AGE AND SEX  
QUEENSLAND, 1994**

|   | <i>Part of State</i> |                    |              | <i>Age group (years)</i> |              |                    | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | <i>Capital city</i>  | <i>Other urban</i> | <i>Rural</i> | <i>15-24</i>             | <i>25-44</i> | <i>45 and over</i> |              |                |                |
|   | — per cent —         |                    |              |                          |              |                    |              |                |                |
| Would like a job but not looking for work | 40.0                 | 39.9               | 28.4         | 50.1                     | 41.9         | ** 13.3            | 41.3         | 33.6           | 35.8           |
| Would not like a job                      | 44.3                 | 52.2               | 61.8         | 35.4                     | 48.6         | 80.8               | 49.4         | 56.0           | 54.1           |
| Did not state if would like a job         | ** 15.7              | ** 7.9             | ** 9.8       | ** 14.5                  | ** 9.5       | ** 5.9             | ** 9.3       | 10.4           | 10.1           |
| <b>Total (<sup>'000</sup>)</b>            | <b>3.9</b>           | <b>8.8</b>         | <b>7.0</b>   | <b>6.7</b>               | <b>6.8</b>   | <b>6.1</b>         | <b>5.8</b>   | <b>13.9</b>    | <b>19.6</b>    |

**TABLE 46. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER ENGAGED IN VOLUNTARY WORK AND TYPE OF VOLUNTARY WORK UNDERTAKEN  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|   | <i>Total ('000)</i> |
|---|---------------------|
| Person engaged in voluntary work                | 3.7                 |
| Caring for sick or aged people                  | 0.7                 |
| Working for community or sporting organisations | 1.8                 |
| Working at a school or with youth groups        | 0.9                 |
| Working on committees                           | 1.3                 |
| Hunting, fishing or gathering bush food         | 0.8                 |
| Other   | ** 0.3              |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes.

**TABLE 47. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : SEX, PART OF STATE AND MEAN ANNUAL INCOME BY MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|                                    | <i>Main source of income</i> |                            |                              |                  |                   | <i>Total</i> | <i>Total ('000)</i> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
|                                    | <i>Earned income</i>         | <i>Government payments</i> | <i>All income recipients</i> | <i>No income</i> | <i>Not stated</i> |              |                     |
|                                    | — per cent —                 |                            |                              |                  |                   |              |                     |
| Males                              | 47.9                         | 39.4                       | 87.3                         | 12.5             | ** 0.2            | 100.0        | 5.7                 |
| Females                            | 23.4                         | 63.2                       | 86.6                         | 13.4             | ** 0.0            | 100.0        | 6.0                 |
| Persons                            | 35.3                         | 51.6                       | 87.0                         | 13.0             | ** 0.1            | 100.0        | 11.6                |
| <b>Part of State</b>               |                              |                            |                              |                  |                   |              |                     |
| Capital city                       | 45.0                         | 42.7                       | 87.7                         | 12.1             | ** 0.2            | 100.0        | 5.7                 |
| Other urban                        | 20.4                         | 64.3                       | 84.7                         | 15.3             | ** 0.0            | 100.0        | 4.8                 |
| Rural                              | ** 48.6                      | ** 43.6                    | 92.2                         | ** 7.8           | ** 0.0            | 100.0        | 1.2                 |
| <b>Annual personal income (\$)</b> |                              |                            |                              |                  |                   |              |                     |
| 0-12,000                           | ** 8.0                       | 67.6                       | 75.7                         | 24.3             | ..                | 100.0        | 6.2                 |
| 12,001-25,000                      | 52.4                         | 47.6                       | 100.0                        | ..               | ..                | 100.0        | 3.5                 |
| 25,001 or more                     | 93.2                         | ** 6.8                     | 100.0                        | ..               | ..                | 100.0        | 1.9                 |
| Not stated                         | ..                           | ..                         | ..                           | ..               | ** 100.0          | ** 100.0     | ** 0.0              |
| <b>Mean annual income —</b>        |                              |                            | — \$ —                       |                  |                   |              |                     |
| Males                              | 25,316                       | 9,680                      | 18,264                       | ..               | ..                | ..           | ..                  |
| Females                            | 19,875                       | 10,009                     | 12,677                       | ..               | ..                | ..           | ..                  |
| Persons                            | 23,461                       | 9,887                      | 15,402                       | ..               | ..                | ..           | ..                  |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

**TABLE 48. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER RECEIVING GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS BY TYPE OF PAYMENT BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994  
('000)**

|   | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Persons receiving Government payments     | 2.6          | 4.4            | 6.9            |
| Allowances and pensions                   |              |                |                |
| Newstart allowance                        | 0.7          | ** 0.3         | 1.0            |
| Jobsearch allowance                       | ** 0.5       | ** 0.3         | 0.8            |
| Age pension or sickness allowance         | ** 0.3       | 0.8            | 1.0            |
| Disability support pension                | 0.6          | ** 0.3         | 1.0            |
| Sole parent pension                       | ** 0.2       | 1.4            | 1.6            |
| Other payments(b)                         |              |                |                |
| Family payment                            | ** 0.4       | 2.7            | 3.1            |
| Rent assistance                           | 0.6          | 1.2            | 1.8            |
| Other                                     | ** 0.3       | 0.8            | 1.2            |
| Persons not receiving Government payments | 3.1          | 1.6            | 4.7            |
| Not stated                                | ** 0.0       | ** 0.0         | ** 0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>5.7</b>   | <b>6.0</b>     | <b>11.6</b>    |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes. (b) Persons may be receiving an allowance or pension in addition to one or more of these payments.

**TABLE 49. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : NUMBER OF DEPENDANTS BY WHETHER ANY PERSON WORKING  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Number of dependent children in the household</i> | <i>Number of persons working</i>   |                       | <i>Total</i> | <i>Total ('000)</i> |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|
|  | <i>One or more persons working</i> | <i>No one working</i> |              |                     |
|  | — per cent —                       |                       |              |                     |
| None   | 75.2                               | 24.8                  | 100.0        | 2.8                 |
| One  | 56.3                               | 43.7                  | 100.0        | 1.5                 |
| Two or more  | 60.4                               | 39.6                  | 100.0        | 2.3                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>65.7</b>                        | <b>34.3</b>           | <b>100.0</b> | <b>6.7</b>          |

**TABLE 50. HOUSEHOLDS IN PRIVATE DWELLINGS : HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY NUMBER OF USUAL RESIDENTS IN HOUSEHOLD BY PART OF STATE  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Annual household income (\$)</i> | <i>Number of usual residents</i> |                  | <i>Part of State</i> |                          | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
|                                     | <i>1 to 3</i>                    | <i>4 or more</i> | <i>Capital city</i>  | <i>Other urban/Rural</i> |              |
|                                     | — per cent —                     |                  |                      |                          |              |
| 0-25,000                            | 62.3                             | 20.6             | 40.8                 | 44.9                     | 43.0         |
| 25,001 or more                      | 31.9                             | 67.5             | 48.2                 | 48.5                     | 48.3         |
| Not stated                          | ** 5.8                           | ** 11.9          | ** 11.0              | ** 6.6                   | ** 8.6       |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>100.0</b>                     | <b>100.0</b>     | <b>100.0</b>         | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                 | <b>3.6</b>                       | <b>3.1</b>       | <b>3.1</b>           | <b>3.6</b>               | <b>6.7</b>   |



## LAW AND JUSTICE

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the survey results covering the following issues:

- use of legal services;
- arrests;
- personal safety including family violence; and
- attitudes to and relations with police.

### LEGAL INTERACTIONS

During the 12 months before interview, 25% (17% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over needed to use legal services. Of these, 12% used the Aboriginal Legal Service, while 10% used Legal Aid and other legal services. Male needs for legal services (31%) were higher than females (20%).

#### Arrests

An estimated 23% of persons aged 13 years and over had been arrested in the last five years. A higher proportion of males 36% (32% nationally) than females 9% (9% nationally) had been arrested. Over one-quarter (28%) of persons aged between 15–44 years had been arrested. Some 45% of males aged between 15–44 years had been arrested.

A greater proportion of persons who had not been taken away from their natural families as children, reported not being arrested (80%) compared to those who had been separated from their natural families (62%).

Rates of arrest were lower in Melbourne (20%) than in other urban areas and in rural areas (25%).

Rates of arrest were similar for persons who had completed year 10 (25%) compared to those who had left school below year 10 (24%).

An estimated 44% of unemployed persons had been arrested. In comparison, 16% of persons who were working or 15% who were not in the labour force reported being arrested.

#### Personal safety

Approximately 25% (13% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over had been physically attacked or verbally threatened in the 12 months preceding interview. More males (29%) than females (22%) were attacked or verbally threatened. Of persons who had been physically attacked or verbally threatened 33% had suffered verbal threats, 32% physical attacks and 35% suffered both.

Of persons physically attacked or verbally threatened in the last incident, 54% reported the incident to the police.

#### Family violence

Approximately 39% (45% nationally) of persons aged 13 years and over perceived family violence to be a common problem in their local area while 27% felt that it was not and 33% did not know. Slightly less females (38%) than males (40%) felt that family violence was a common problem.

Persons in Melbourne were less sure about whether family violence was a problem, with 40% saying they did not know if it was a problem in their

area. Only 26% reported don't know in other urban areas and in rural areas.

#### Relations with police

The survey asked questions relating to incidents of friction with police, including whether a person reported being hassled or physically assaulted by the police in the last year.

Some 21% of all persons aged 13 years and over reported being hassled by police during the 12 months prior to being interviewed (10% nationally). Some 28% of males said they were hassled compared to 14% of females.

Approximately 8% of persons aged 13 years and over said they were physically assaulted by the police in the 12 months before interview.

People's assessment of whether relations with the police had changed over the last five years, indicated that 39% felt that people get along with police about the same as five years ago (39% nationally). About one-fifth (21%) felt that current police relations are better, 22% worse, and 17% did not know. The estimates were similar for both males and females.

Approximately 51% of persons aged 13 years and over thought the police performed well when dealing with crime and violence (37% nationally). A lower proportion expressed satisfaction at police dealings with family violence, 35%. The proportion of persons who thought the police did not do a good job in the following areas were:

- dealing with crime, 33%;
- dealing with violence, 23%; and
- dealing with family violence, 22%.

TABLE 51. LAW AND JUSTICE AND VOTING PATTERNS : STATES, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS, 1994

|                                | <i>Persons aged 13 years and over</i>             |  |                                 |   | <i>Total</i> | <i>Persons aged 18 years and over</i> |                                 |              |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
|                                | <i>Physically attacked or verbally threatened</i> | <i>Needed legal services in last 12 Months</i> | <i>Arrested in last 5 years</i> | <i>Believe that people get on better with police now than 5 years ago</i> |              | <i>Voted in Federal election</i>      | <i>Voted in ATSIIC election</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|                                | per cent  | per cent                                       | per cent                        | per cent  | ('000)       | per cent                              | per cent                        | ('000)       |
| <b>AUSTRALIA(a)</b>            | <b>12.9</b>                                       | <b>16.9</b>                                    | <b>20.4</b>                     | <b>21.5</b>   | <b>197.5</b> | <b>66.2</b>                           | <b>39.4</b>                     | <b>163.8</b> |
| New South Wales                | 14.6  | 17.2   | 22.5                            | 19.6  | 52.0         | 64.2                                  | 25.0                            | 43.0         |
| Victoria                       | 25.2  | 25.3   | 22.6                            | 21.1  | 12.6         | 67.2                                  | 29.9                            | 10.6         |
| Queensland                     | 8.8   | 14.2   | 14.9                            | 18.7  | 52.1         | 70.1                                  | 43.3                            | 43.1         |
| South Australia                | 15.4  | 22.1   | 28.5                            | 24.1  | 11.9         | 57.7                                  | 30.3                            | 10.1         |
| Western Australia              | 13.5  | 17.3   | 25.4                            | 20.6  | 30.2         | 60.6                                  | 48.2                            | 25.0         |
| Tasmania                       | 13.4  | 17.4   | 12.6                            | 15.4  | 6.6          | 87.1                                  | 20.0                            | 5.4          |
| Northern Territory             | 10.2  | 14.7   | 19.6                            | 30.6  | 30.9         | 66.9                                  | 59.8                            | 25.5         |
| <b>VICTORIA ATSIIC REGIONS</b> |   |  |                                 |   |              |                                       |                                 |              |
| Wangaratta                     | 19.0  | 19.6   | 19.4                            | 27.2  | 6.0          | 70.2                                  | 28.8                            | 4.9          |
| Ballarat                       | 32.4  | 29.6   | 24.0                            | 15.3  | 6.6          | 67.0                                  | 31.3                            | 5.6          |

(a) Includes ACT and Jervis Bay.

TABLE 52. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER NEEDED TO USE LEGAL SERVICES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND TYPE OF LEGAL SERVICE USED BY SEX VICTORIA, 1994

|                               | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | — per cent — |                |                |
| Need legal services(a)        | 30.5         | 20.3           | 25.3           |
| Used Aboriginal legal service | 12.4         | 11.4           | 11.9           |
| Used other legal service      | 12.8         | ** 8.0         | 10.4           |
| Did not use legal service     | ** 7.4       | ** 1.2         | ** 4.3         |
| Did not need legal services   | 68.0         | 78.5           | 73.3           |
| Not stated                    | ** 1.6       | ** 1.2         | ** 1.4         |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>           | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

(a) Persons may have used more than one type of legal service.

**TABLE 53. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : SELECTED PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS BY WHETHER ARRESTED IN LAST 5 YEARS  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|  | <i>Not arrested</i> | <i>Arrested</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Total ('000)</i> |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| — per cent —   |                     |                 |              |                     |
| <b>Males-Age group (years)</b>                           |                     |                 |              |                     |
| 13-14(a)   | ** 78.9             | ** 21.1         | ** 100.0     | ** 0.4              |
| 15-44  | 55.2                | 44.8            | 100.0        | 4.7                 |
| 45 and over  | 95.8                | ** 4.2          | 100.0        | 1.1                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>64.0</b>         | <b>36.0</b>     | <b>100.0</b> | <b>6.2</b>          |
| <b>Females-Age group (years)</b>                         |                     |                 |              |                     |
| 13-14(a)   | ** 100.0            | ** 0.0          | ** 100.0     | ** 0.4              |
| 15-44  | 87.8                | ** 12.2         | 100.0        | 4.8                 |
| 45 and over  | 99.0                | ** 1.0          | 100.0        | 1.2                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>90.6</b>         | <b>9.4</b>      | <b>100.0</b> | <b>6.3</b>          |
| <b>Persons-Age group (years)</b>                         |                     |                 |              |                     |
| 13-14(a)   | 88.3                | ** 11.7         | 100.0        | 0.8                 |
| 15-44  | 71.7                | 28.3            | 100.0        | 9.5                 |
| 45 and over  | 97.5                | ** 2.5          | 100.0        | 2.3                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>77.4</b>         | <b>22.6</b>     | <b>100.0</b> | <b>12.6</b>         |
| <b>Part of State</b>                                     |                     |                 |              |                     |
| Capital city   | 80.3                | 19.7            | 100.0        | 6.1                 |
| Other urban/Rural  | 74.7                | 25.3            | 100.0        | 6.5                 |
| <b>Whether taken away from natural family as a child</b> |                     |                 |              |                     |
| Taken away as a child                                    | 61.7                | ** 38.3         | 100.0        | 1.1                 |
| Not taken away as a child                                | 79.7                | 20.3            | 100.0        | 11.0                |
| No answer/not stated                                     | ** 60.8             | ** 39.2         | ** 100.0     | ** 0.4              |
| <b>Whether recognises homelands</b>                      |                     |                 |              |                     |
| Recognises homelands                                     | 75.0                | 25.0            | 100.0        | 8.9                 |
| Does not recognise homelands                             | 82.8                | 17.2            | 100.0        | 3.6                 |
| Not stated   | ** 100.0            | ** 0.0          | ** 100.0     | ** 0.1              |
| <b>Educational attainment</b>                            |                     |                 |              |                     |
| Still at school  | 90.3                | ** 9.7          | 100.0        | 1.5                 |
| Below year 10  | 75.9                | 24.1            | 100.0        | 5.2                 |
| Year 10 and above  | 75.5                | 24.5            | 100.0        | 5.9                 |
| <b>Whether working</b>                                   |                     |                 |              |                     |
| Employed   | 84.1                | 15.9            | 100.0        | 4.6                 |
| Unemployed   | 56.0                | 44.0            | 100.0        | 2.9                 |
| Not in Labour Force                                      | 85.5                | 14.5            | 100.0        | 4.1                 |
| Not applicable   | 73.8                | ** 26.2         | 100.0        | 0.9                 |

(a) This age group is included to maintain comparability between tables however all figures in it should be treated as unreliable.

**TABLE 54. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER PHYSICALLY ATTACKED OR VERBALLY THREATENED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX VICTORIA, 1994**

|  | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|--|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | — per cent — |                |                |
| Verbally threatened or physically attacked     |              |                |                |
| Verbally threatened only                       | ** 5.8       | 10.9           | 8.4            |
| Physically attacked only                       | 11.9         | ** 4.3         | 8.1            |
| Verbally threatened and physically attacked    | 11.0         | ** 6.6         | 8.8            |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>28.7</b>  | <b>21.8</b>    | <b>25.2</b>    |
| Not verbally threatened or physically attacked | 71.3         | 78.2           | 74.8           |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                            | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

**TABLE 55. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE PHYSICALLY ATTACKED OR VERBALLY THREATENED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS : WHETHER LAST INCIDENT WAS REPORTED TO POLICE BY AGE AND SEX VICTORIA, 1994**

|   | <i>Age group (years)</i> |                    | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons(b)</i> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | <i>13-24</i>             | <i>25 and over</i> |              |                |                   |
|   | — per cent —             |                    |              |                |                   |
| Whether last physical attack reported(a)                |                          |                    |              |                |                   |
| Not reported  | —                        | —                  | —            | —              | 53.7              |
| Reported  | —                        | —                  | —            | —              | 45.5              |
| <b>Total last incident was a physical attack ('000)</b> | <b>0.6</b>               | <b>0.9</b>         | <b>0.9</b>   | <b>0.6</b>     | <b>1.5</b>        |
| Whether last verbal attack reported(a)                  |                          |                    |              |                |                   |
| Not reported  | —                        | —                  | —            | —              | 86.1              |
| Reported  | —                        | —                  | —            | —              | ** 13.7           |
| <b>Total last incident was a verbal threat ('000)</b>   | <b>0.7</b>               | <b>0.9</b>         | <b>0.9</b>   | <b>0.8</b>     | <b>1.6</b>        |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                                     | <b>1.3</b>               | <b>1.9</b>         | <b>1.8</b>   | <b>1.4</b>     | <b>3.2</b>        |

(a) Cells containing symbol '-' suppressed due to very low response rates (b) The very small number of 'Not stated' responses have not been displayed, hence the column does not always add to 100%.

**TABLE 56. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER FAMILY VIOLENCE IS A COMMON PROBLEM IN THE LOCAL AREA BY PART OF STATE BY SEX VICTORIA, 1994**

|                                  | <i>Part of state</i> |                |                          |                |              |                | <i>Persons</i> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                  | <i>Capital city</i>  |                | <i>Other urban/Rural</i> |                | <i>Total</i> |                |                |
|                                  | <i>Males</i>         | <i>Females</i> | <i>Males</i>             | <i>Females</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |                |
|                                  | — per cent —         |                |                          |                |              |                |                |
| Family violence is a problem     | 35.4                 | 25.4           | 43.2                     | 49.4           | 39.5         | 37.7           | 38.6           |
| Family violence is not a problem | 26.4                 | 28.0           | 30.8                     | 24.1           | 28.7         | 26.0           | 27.3           |
| Don't know                       | 35.7                 | 44.2           | 25.0                     | 26.6           | 30.1         | 35.1           | 32.7           |
| Not stated                       | ** 2.4               | ** 2.4         | ** 1.0                   | ** 0.0         | ** 1.7       | ** 1.2         | ** 1.4         |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>100.0</b>         | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>              | <b>2.9</b>           | <b>3.1</b>     | <b>3.2</b>               | <b>3.3</b>     | <b>6.1</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.4</b>    |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

**TABLE 57. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : WHETHER HASSLED OR PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY POLICE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|  | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|--|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| — per cent —   |              |                |                |
| <b>Whether hassled by the police in the last year</b>      |              |                |                |
| Hassled by the police                                      | 28.4         | 14.0           | 21.2           |
| Not hassled by the police                                  | 70.0         | 84.8           | 77.5           |
| Not stated   | ** 1.6       | ** 1.2         | ** 1.4         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Whether physically assaulted by police in last year</b> |              |                |                |
| Assaulted by the police                                    | 11.1         | ** 4.0         | 7.5            |
| Not assaulted by the police                                | 87.4         | 94.8           | 91.1           |
| Not stated   | ** 1.6       | ** 1.2         | ** 1.4         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>  | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

**TABLE 58. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER : PERCEPTION OF CURRENT RELATIONS WITH POLICE COMPARED TO 5 YEARS AGO BY SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

|   | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| — per cent —  |              |                |                |
| <b>Whether Aboriginal and Torres Strait<br/>Islander people get along with the police<br/>better now than 5 years ago</b> |              |                |                |
| Better  | 21.0         | 21.2           | 21.1           |
| About the same  | 37.3         | 39.9           | 38.6           |
| Worse   | 21.2         | 23.2           | 22.2           |
| Don't know  | 19.0         | 14.4           | 16.7           |
| Not stated  | ** 1.6       | ** 1.2         | ** 1.4         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>   | <b>6.2</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.6</b>    |

**TABLE 59. PERSONS AGED 13 YEARS AND OVER(a) : WHETHER POLICE DO A GOOD JOB DEALING WITH CRIME, VIOLENCE AND FAMILY VIOLENCE BY AGE AND SEX  
VICTORIA, 1994**

| <i>Whether police do a good job</i>  | <i>Age group (years)</i> |              |                    | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Persons</i> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                      | <i>13-24</i>             | <i>25-44</i> | <i>45 and over</i> |              |                |                |
|                                      | — per cent —             |              |                    |              |                |                |
| <b>Dealing with crime</b>            |                          |              |                    |              |                |                |
| Police do or sometimes do a good job | 49.3                     | 47.0         | 62.0               | 47.6         | 53.5           | 50.6           |
| Police don't do a good job           | 32.6                     | 34.7         | 27.8               | 35.2         | 30.3           | 32.7           |
| Don't know/not stated                | 18.0                     | 18.4         | ** 10.1            | 17.2         | 16.3           | 16.7           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Dealing with violence</b>         |                          |              |                    |              |                |                |
| Police do or sometimes do a good job | 51.2                     | 51.7         | 50.0               | 58.0         | 44.7           | 51.2           |
| Police don't do a good job           | 20.1                     | 27.7         | ** 14.8            | 21.7         | 23.4           | 22.6           |
| Don't know/not stated                | 28.7                     | 20.6         | 35.2               | 20.3         | 31.9           | 26.2           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Dealing with family violence</b>  |                          |              |                    |              |                |                |
| Police do or sometimes do a good job | 34.1                     | 36.9         | 33.2               | 40.8         | 29.9           | 35.2           |
| Police don't do a good job           | 21.3                     | 22.6         | ** 21.5            | 17.9         | 25.8           | 21.9           |
| Don't know/not stated                | 44.6                     | 40.5         | 45.2               | 41.3         | 44.3           | 42.8           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>100.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |
| <b>Total ('000)</b>                  | <b>4.4</b>               | <b>5.7</b>   | <b>2.3</b>         | <b>6.1</b>   | <b>6.3</b>     | <b>12.4</b>    |

(a) Excludes persons in prisons, refer to Explanatory notes

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents one of the first national surveys of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and includes estimates of the demographic, social and economic characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. In these notes all numerical details refer to the whole of Australia.

### SCOPE

#### Persons

**2** The survey sample was selected from all people identifying as Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders who live in Australia. Non-Indigenous people usually residing in households with Indigenous people were included so that information for families and households would be complete. Solely non-Indigenous households were excluded from the survey.

#### Dwellings

**3** The survey included both private and special dwellings and where possible, people not living in a dwelling (campers-out). Private dwellings include houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and improvised houses. Special dwellings are prisons, educational institutions, nursing homes, caravan parks, hostels, staff quarters, etc.

#### Geographical area

**4** The survey encompassed remote, rural and urban areas and included all States and Territories.

### COVERAGE

**5** Rules were applied to ensure each person within the scope of the survey had only one chance of selection. The reference period for determining coverage was the current calendar month, i.e. the month in which interviews were conducted in the area. A person was interviewed at their usual residence unless they were away from the selected dwelling for the full calendar month. Persons away from their usual residence for the full calendar month had their chance of selection as a visitor at another dwelling.

**6** Visitors and campers-out with no specific place of residence were interviewed where found.

### SURVEY DESIGN

**7** The estimates contained in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of approximately 5,000 dwellings throughout Australia which comprised about 6.6% (17,500 persons) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, as reported in the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. Households were selected at random using a multistage sample design stratified by the 35 ATSI Regions and Torres Strait area. This design ensured the sample was nationally representative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in different circumstances across the country.

**8** A sample of prisoners was included in the survey to ensure that estimates at the State, Northern Territory and national levels reflect the characteristics and attitudes of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including those in prison. The sample was not designed to produce separate estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prison population itself. A clustered sample of male and female prisoners in 15 establishments, distributed across all States and the Northern



Territory, was selected in a way that conformed with the above aims, and was consistent with the costs and operational constraints of conducting the survey.

**9** It was not possible to select a prison sample that enabled prisoners to be included in statistics for ATSI Regions. The prison sample was clustered in each State and the Northern Territory, and so prisoners are over represented in some ATSI Regions and under represented or not represented at all in others. To produce regional estimates on this basis would distort regional characteristics particularly in those regions in which the prison sample was selected. This problem was overcome by not using the additional prisoner sample when compiling the regional estimates, although regional estimates still reflect the total demographic population estimates used to benchmark the survey. As a consequence of this, there are small differences between the summation of ATSI regional data to State and Northern Territory or national levels compared with the State and Northern Territory and national estimates contained in the publication tables.

More details on the techniques used in selecting the sample and compiling the estimates are given in the section Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability.

## METHODOLOGY

**10** Based on 1991 Population Census data, a scientifically selected sample of 694 Census collection districts was chosen. To ensure that the sample properly took into account where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people lived in 1994, ABS utilised its workforce of survey interviewers who conduct regular household surveys of the full Australian population. These interviewers approached approximately 135,500 private and special dwellings in the selected urban and rural Census collection districts, to find approximately 6,700 dwellings where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were currently living. A random sample of these dwellings was selected for inclusion in the survey. In some parts of Australia, particularly remote areas, the sample was able to be selected directly, without first finding dwellings where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were living.

**11** The survey data was collected by trained Indigenous interviewers from the selected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through personal interviews during the period April–July 1994. For children under 13 years of age, information was obtained from an adult responsible for the child. Persons aged 13–17 years were interviewed with the consent of the parent or guardian. Non-Indigenous people aged 15 years and over, living in the selected dwellings, were also interviewed and asked a reduced range of questions pertaining to employment status and income, so that information for families and households would be complete.

**12** Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations assisted in the recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interviewers. The interviewers were provided with a comprehensive one-week training course and were supported throughout the survey by ABS State Survey Managers.

**13** The survey content covers both attitudinal and factual data which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the ABS, through a widespread consultation process, worked out to be the most important information to collect in the survey. An important outcome of the consultation process is that the information collected in the survey and the methods used to collect it took account of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural values and priorities.

The consultation process involved a number of interlinking steps which are summarised below.

**14** A Survey Advisory Committee (SAC) was established and chaired by an ATSIC Commissioner with representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, State and Commonwealth government departments and research groups. The SAC gave ABS advice on data Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people would be asked to provide and on the way the survey would be conducted.

**15** Five Technical Reference Groups (TRGs) were set up with members having expertise in particular topic areas. The main role of the TRGs was to provide advice to the SAC and the ABS on data priorities and collection methodology, within the respective topic areas. A TRG was formed for the following areas: family and culture; health; education and training; income and employment.

The majority of members of the groups were Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Less formal groups also provided advice on law and justice and on housing issues.

**16** In December 1992, the ABS wrote to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations that had an interest in the survey, to explain that it was to be conducted and to ask for advice about the information that it should collect and how it should be collected.

**17** Discussion with ATSIC and its Board, together with widespread discussions with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations, continued during the entire survey development period. Papers on the draft and final survey content were broadly circulated and, when required, were followed up with organisations to further explain the issues and understand the organisation's views.

**18** Three newsletters were distributed to approximately 2,000 people and organisations and two survey videos were widely distributed through the Broadcasting to Remote Aboriginal Communities System (BRACS) network. A third video was produced by the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) and was used to publicise the survey.

**19** Content of the survey was also shaped by feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and people during testing and from the results of the testing itself. A series of survey tests were conducted in November/December 1992, April, July and September 1993 with the final

test in November/December 1993. Testing was conducted in capital cities through to remote communities. Questions that were not generally acceptable to the people interviewed during testing were excluded from the final survey. In this way it was assured that the survey questions would be understood and acceptable to the vast majority of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who took part in the survey.

The data collected is listed below under the broad topic areas. A more detailed listing of all data items is available from the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics.

**20 Family and culture includes data on:**

- household composition;
- families;
- age and sex;
- fertility;
- child-care;
- cultural activities undertaken;
- homelands; and
- languages spoken.

**21 Health includes data on:**

- recent illness;
- health actions;
- specific illness conditions;
- disability;
- access and attitudes to health services;
- food security;
- relative weight;
- fat and sugar consumption;
- breastfeeding;
- alcohol and tobacco use; and
- attitudes to health.

**22 Housing includes data on:**

- type of dwelling;
- type of landlord;
- housing costs; and
- provision and failure of basic services.

**23** Education and training includes data on:

- schooling being undertaken;
- attitudes to school;
- age and year left school;
- educational attainment;
- current post-school study;
- training undertaken in the last year;
- further study and training; and
- access to educational institutions.

**24** Employment and income includes data on:

- labour force status;
- nature of jobs;
- unemployment;
- voluntary work;
- level of income; and
- source of income.

**25** Law and justice includes data on:

- access to and use of legal services;
- victims of crime;
- attitudes to family violence;
- attitudes to policing;
- experiences with the justice system; and
- voting patterns.

## INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

**26** Every care was taken to ensure that the results of this survey are as accurate as possible. The survey was extensively tested and used a culturally appropriate methodology, including the recruitment and training of a panel of Indigenous interviewers to collect the survey data (refer to Methodology, paragraphs 10–12, in these notes for details). There remains, however, factors which affect the reliability of the results to some extent and for which no specific adjustments can be made. For instance, the estimates are based on a sample, and so they are subject to sampling variability. More details on the techniques used in selecting the sample and compiling the estimates are given in the Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability.

**27** Inaccuracies may also arise from errors in responses. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors, and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or a sample. The following factors should be considered when interpreting these estimates.

- Information recorded in this survey is essentially 'as reported' by respondents, and hence may differ from that which might be obtained from other sources or via other methodologies. Responses may be effected by imperfect recall or different understandings of some of the questions asked in parts of the survey. Lack of uniformity in interviewing ability and experience is also a potential source of error together with impressions made upon respondents by the interviewer's personal characteristics such as age, sex and appearance.
- Some attitudinal information was collected from respondents. Examples include: relations with the police; the role of elders; the extent to which people are happy with their children's education; self-assessed health status; whether people are happy with their local health service; whether people feel that family violence is a common problem in their area and whether people feel that the dwelling they live in meets their needs. Responses may have been influenced by the circumstances of the interview itself such as the presence of another family member. They may also have reflected momentary or short-term views due to some recent event, rather than the usual feelings or circumstances. Indeed, attitudes are continually evolving. As a result, some caution should be used in interpreting these data as necessarily indicative of general or usual perceptions.
- Further, a general caution is made concerning people's desire to conform or provide responses they feel are expected rather than those that more accurately fit the question. Through the development and adoption of a culturally appropriate survey methodology, every effort has been made to minimise such bias.

The influence of all of the above factors can be seen in different parts of the survey results and the following paragraphs draw attention to some specific areas.

#### Family and culture

**28** The classification of family types was undertaken from the relationship information collected from all persons living in the selected households. The coding was undertaken according to the standard ABS family classification, which does not always align with the traditional family composition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households. Because it was known that respondents in different parts of Australia would provide a mixture of traditional and non-traditional relationship information, it was decided for comparability reasons that Indigenous interviewers should record relationships in a form consistent with the standard ABS family classification.

**29** Derived information on the number of single-parent families may have been influenced by a lower than expected number of males aged between 20–30 years interviewed in the survey. Interviewer comments suggest that there was sometimes an inclination for this group not to identify as family members in de facto relationships. As a result, these persons were not included in the survey and the estimated number of single-parent families may be higher than would be expected had all males

in this age group taken part in this survey and identified their family relationship.

**30** Some difficulties were experienced in collecting sufficient information to identify all multi-family households, resulting in some undercount of this household type. Difficulties mainly stemmed from misinterpretation of questions and a low response to the questions necessary to establish relationships. The difficulties were mainly experienced in large households and confined primarily to the more rural and remote areas.

**31** There is evidence to suggest that people visiting selected households for periods longer than a few weeks were included in the survey as usual residents of those households rather than visitors. No specific time period was defined to delineate a usual resident from a visitor, the distinction was based on the respondent's perception. Testing had indicated that the application of a time period to distinguish usual residents from visitors would be too arbitrary because of mobility between dwellings and in many instances the association with multiple usual residences. The extent to which visitors reported themselves as usual residents cannot be quantified. However, in comparison to the 1991 Population Census this survey shows a higher number of the family type 'other related individuals' and a lower proportion of visitors, indicating that some visitors reported themselves as usual members of the household.

**32** Respondents were asked a series of questions on cultural issues including whether they had gone to any Indigenous cultural activities such as ceremonies, funerals and festivals in the last year, and whether they had a place to meet for cultural activities. Because of traditional sensitivities associated with some of these questions a level of under-reporting is expected to have occurred. Debriefings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interviewers indicate that there was probably a higher level of non-response or mis-reporting to these and other cultural questions in the rural and remote communities than there was in the urban areas. The effect on survey estimates cannot be quantified.

#### Health

**33** Self-reported information on medical conditions was not medically verified, and was not necessarily based on diagnoses by medical practitioners or medical records kept by respondents. Some people may be unaware of minor or major conditions, or may have conditions that have not been diagnosed. It is also probable that in some instances conditions which respondents were unwilling to talk about at an interview were not reported.

**34** Obtaining correct terminology or sufficient information to describe different health conditions was sometimes a difficulty experienced by interviewers. Although this survey adopted a health action approach to recent conditions similar to that used in the 1989-90 National Health Survey (NHS), caution should be adopted when making comparisons of different medical conditions because of the greater emphasis on prompting to elicit all health actions and conditions in the NHS. In a survey focusing on health, it was possible to give more emphasis to prompting than it was

in this survey where the interview time that could be devoted to health was limited.

**35** Similarly, definitional differences exist between this survey and the NHS and must be taken into account when comparisons are being made. An example is long-term eye problems which are defined in the NHS to include all eye conditions lasting six months or more, irrespective of whether the condition(s) can be corrected by glasses. In the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey, the definition of long-term eye problems excludes conditions that can be corrected by glasses. It is recommended that users familiarise themselves with the concepts and definitions used in the NHS (*1989-90 National Health Survey Summary of Results, Australia* (4364.0) and *1989-90 National Health Survey, Users' Guide* (4363.0)) before undertaking comparisons.

**36** Information on self-assessed health status should be used to complement, rather than as a substitute for, more objective measures on recent and/or long-term illness. Self-assessment may be influenced by many extraneous factors and its subjectivity is compounded by the variation in reference points used by individuals when assessing or comparing their health. Similar problems are experienced when collecting information from the broader Australian population. Information of this type complements measures of ill-health in the analysis of health-related actions and demand for health services. A person's self-assessed health status also has an influence on lifestyle behaviours such as smoking, diet and exercise.

**37** Some under-reporting of the quantity of cigarette smoking and whether people worry about going without food is expected to have occurred. Reasons may include social pressures, guilt/embarrassment (particularly in cases where other household members were present at the interview) and recall problems. Similar problems are experienced when collecting like information from the broader Australian population. The extent to which under-reporting has occurred and the effect on accuracy of survey estimates is not known.

**38** Dietary information was collected using a simplified fat and sugar index questionnaire and a 24 hour recall methodology. An independent test was undertaken by the Nutrition Program, University of Queensland, in November/December 1993 which verified the validity of this approach. Some under-reporting of some food types may still have occurred because of recall problems, embarrassment or misunderstanding. Also, responses to the diet questions may have sometimes been influenced by the day of interview because in some areas the consumption of different food types varies considerably depending on such things as the weather, arrival of supplies in the community and the number of days since 'pay day'. Responses may, therefore, not always reflect the individual's overall consumption pattern or level.

#### Housing

**39** In comparison to the 1991 Population Census, housing type information from this survey shows a lower than expected number of improvised dwellings and a higher proportion of 'other dwelling types' in some ATSI Regions. Possible explanations for these variations are: the

selection of a disproportionately small number of improvised dwellings in the survey's sample caused by the overall small number of communities with improvised dwellings; some level of inconsistency in the classification of dwellings; seasonal factors associated with mobility; and the increased activity in building Aboriginal housing in some areas since the last Census. The impact of these factors is not, however, quantifiable.

#### Education and training

**40** Respondents, when unsure, were sometimes able to refer to their records to provide the full name of the courses they had completed in order that level of qualification could be coded during processing. In cases where full details were unavailable, coding of qualifications was undertaken using the limited amount of information recorded. This is likely to have had some effect on the accuracy of level of qualifications, including a relatively large number of qualifications categorised as 'inadequately described'.

#### Employment and income

**41** Survey estimates of the number of employed persons working in CDEP jobs are lower than the number of CDEP jobs quoted for the same period by ATSIIC. Information collected on whether or not a job was CDEP was not able to be independently verified in the field by the survey interviewers. Respondents were first asked if they had a job last week. Only if they answered 'yes' to that question were they then asked whether it was a CDEP job. It may be that some people on CDEP were not aware of this or may have answered 'no' to having a job because they did not look upon working on CDEP as a job.

**42** Labour force definitions adopted in this survey align with the standard ABS definitions of employed, unemployed and not in the labour force. During the development of this survey it was recognised that these definitions do not adequately recognise many traditional life style activities such as hunting and gathering and unpaid community work as 'employment'. Under the standard definitions, persons involved in such unpaid activities would be classified to either unemployed or not in the labour force even though in the eyes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people such activities are clearly work important to families and/or communities. It was an important objective that this survey deliver information that would enable the comparison of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the broader Australian population and for this reason it was decided that the standard definition of labour force status be adopted. In recognition of the important unpaid work some people undertake within their communities a question on 'voluntary work' was included in this survey.

**43** In comparison to the 1991 Population Census this survey has estimated a higher unemployment rate. Investigations undertaken on the data indicate the possible primary reasons for the difference to be the inclusion of an additional question in the NATSIS relating to CES registration.

- In the NATSIS and the Population Census, respondents not working were asked if they had been looking for work at any time in the four weeks prior to interview/Census night. The Census question gives examples of recognised activities that constitute actively looking for



work, one of which is being registered with the CES. Actively looking and being available to start work classifies a respondent to unemployed. Should both conditions not hold, the respondent is classified to not in the labour force.

- In the NATSIS, some respondents answered 'no' to looking for work; even though they were registered with the CES. This misinterpretation leads to a lowering of the unemployment rate because more respondents are classified to not in the labour force rather than unemployed. In recognition of this problem and the relatively high number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people registered with the CES, it was decided that it was necessary to add a specific question on CES registration. This enabled the survey to capture those respondents who answered 'no' to looking for work to also have the opportunity to report whether or not they were registered with the CES. To illustrate the effect this extra question has had on survey results, in comparison with the 1991 Population Census unemployment rate of 30.8% the NATSIS rate is 38.2% and 31.3% if the effect of the CES question is removed.

**44** The survey collected income information only on wages and salaries, business income and government payments. Testing showed that this was a reasonable proxy for total income as relatively few Indigenous people receive other types of income such as investment income. Limitation on the length of the interview made it impracticable to pursue other sources of income.

**45** Although some respondents referred to their records, in many cases the answers to the questions on income were based on memory. As a consequence, some mis-reporting of the gross amounts received and income sources may be expected because of imperfect recall, misunderstanding or a reluctance to reveal the actual amount. Similar problems occur when collecting similar information from the broader Australian population. During processing, any incomes reported on a net basis were 'grossed up' through the application of an algorithm that took account of reported income levels and the appropriate Australian Taxation Office's tax scales.

Law and justice

**46** Because of the sensitivities associated with issues such as personal safety and family violence some under-reporting is expected to have occurred. Similar problems occur when collecting sensitive information from the broader Australian population. The extent to which under-reporting has occurred and the effect on accuracy of survey estimates is not known.

Demographic  
structure of population

**47** There are clear differences in the age structures of the Australian Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations (1991 Population Census results show 40% of Indigenous persons are aged less than 15 years in comparison to 22% for the non-Indigenous population). When making comparisons of survey results with the broader Australian population this factor must be kept in mind because of the effect age distribution has on

such things as health conditions and the level of profound or severe disabilities, and many other statistics.

**48** Some collection difficulties were experienced by interviewers when obtaining age details. These difficulties were more prevalent in the rural/remote areas and experienced more with older people in selected households. In such situations, estimates of age were obtained. These reporting difficulties flow through to the survey demographic estimates and it is recommended that in preference, users refer to the demographically estimated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population details contained in the section Population Estimates and Benchmarks.

#### Prisoners

**49** Included in the survey was a sample of male and female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners. Because of their incarceration, prisoners were asked a subset of the questions asked of all other people selected in the survey. Excluded were questions to do with labour force status and income; diet; questions relating to their local area, for example the level of contentment with local health services; and questions relating to their children's education.

**50** As a consequence, some table populations contain prisoners and others do not, and small differences in population totals can be observed between tables of otherwise like populations.

#### SYMBOLS

**51** The following symbols, where shown in a column of figures or elsewhere in tables, mean:

.. not applicable

\*\* subject to high sampling variability (see Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability).

All figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between the sums of the components items and totals.

#### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**52** *1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Detailed Findings* (4190.0)

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: ATSI Regional Statistics* (4196.0.00.001-036)

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Australia's Indigenous Youth* (4197.0)

*Employment Outcomes for Australia's Indigenous Peoples* (4199.0)

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Housing Characteristics and Conditions* (4187.0)

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: Health of Indigenous Australian's* (4395.0)

*1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey: A Social Atlas* (4155.0)

#### INQUIRES ABOUT THESE STATISTICS

**53** For further information about Indigenous statistics contact the: National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics, Australian Bureau of Statistics

GPO Box 3796

DARWIN NT 0801

Phone: (08) 8943 2192

Fax: (08) 8941 0715

## TECHNICAL NOTES ON SAMPLE DESIGN AND VARIABILITY

### AIMS OF THE SAMPLE DESIGN

The aim of the sample was to produce estimates with relative standard errors (see below) no higher than 3.5% at the Australian level, 10% at State level and 16% at ATSIC regional level, for characteristics held by 10% of the total Aboriginal population. For instance, an estimate of 10% for, say, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people suffering from ear or hearing problems across Australia, was expected to have a relative standard error of 3.5%.

### SAMPLE DESIGN

The required sample size was calculated by determining that needed to measure a characteristic that is spread randomly throughout the Indigenous population, then inflating this by 20% to take account of an assumed clustering of characteristics within this population by area.

The sample design was a multistage stratified sample. Each census collection district (CD) in Australia was assigned a measure of size derived from the 1991 Population Census, being the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enumerated in the CD at the time of the 1991 Population Census. Each of the CDs was placed in a stratum defined by ATSIC Region, its section of State and whether it was a large CD or small CD. The distinction between these last two groups varied across regions according to the distributions of population reported at the time of the 1991 Population Census.

### SAMPLE SELECTION

Selection of the sample was undertaken in several stages. For the strata consisting of large CDs, a selection of CDs was chosen with probability proportional to size. This meant that it was more likely for a CD with a large Indigenous population to be included in the sample than a CD with a smaller population.

For small CDs, the situation was more complex. There are many CDs with very few Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and they could not be excluded from the sample design because they represented particular kinds of people — including well scattered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in urban areas. To ensure that a sufficient number of small CDs were represented in the sample, a sample selection scheme for strata consisting of this CD type was designed to reflect both the size of small CDs and the cost of enumerating them. This resulted in small CDs being selected with equal probability, with the modifications that CDs with a size of zero had their probabilities of selection reduced to one-fifth of their value in the initial optimum design, and CDs with a size of one or two had their probabilities reduced by a half. Additionally, the sample selection was modified to ensure that all ATSIC Regions had a minimum of five CDs selected in the first stage of the sample.

For large CDs a second stage of selection entailed selecting a random subsample of Indigenous households within each selected CD. For the small CDs, all the Indigenous households in them were selected in the survey.

The final stage of selection involved enumerating all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within selected households.

## ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

Estimates of numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons with particular characteristics were derived from the survey by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that the survey estimates conform to both an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex at capital city/balance of State level, and an independently estimated distribution of the population across the 35 ATSI Regions and the Torres Strait area. The method of ensuring conformity between the survey estimates and these independent estimates is called benchmarking. Benchmarking improves consistency between different surveys, and reduces non-sampling error, by incorporating external information at a broad level. (Refer to the section on Population Estimates and Benchmarks for an explanation of how these 'benchmark' population estimates were compiled).

Estimates for groupings of people (e.g. households and families) were derived from the survey by using a complex procedure that formed an average measure of the contributions of the individual members of the group.

## RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

This measure accounted for different age and sex characteristics amongst the members of the group. Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error. The sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants from 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 the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all the 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. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer also to the size of the estimate. Standard errors and relative standard errors were calculated based on a range of estimates, due to the large number of estimates involved. While these measures of variability are applicable to most estimates, they may be less appropriate for characteristics which are highly clustered geographically, examples include CDEP participation and improvised dwellings. 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 respondents, errors made in the collection such as recording and coding data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. It is not possible to quantify non-sampling error, but every effort is made to reduce it to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures. In practice,

the potential for non-sampling error adds to the uncertainty of the estimates caused by sampling variability.

Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of the estimates in this publication. Standard error of estimates of numbers of each of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons, families and households can be obtained from tables A and B.

An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons, families and households is as follows. In Australia the estimated number of persons aged 13 years and over who spoke an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language as their main language, was 28,045 (14% of 197,500). Since this estimate is between 20,000 and 30,000, the standard error for Australia will be between 553 and 628 in the standard error table A and can be approximated as 613. 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 27,431 to 28,659 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 26,818 to 29,272.

The size of the standard error of an estimate of a number of persons increases with the level of the estimate, so that the larger the estimate the larger is 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.

As the standard errors in tables A and B show, 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 purposes. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with relative standard error of 25% or less, and percentages based on such estimates, are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by two asterisks if it is greater than 25% (e.g. \*\*2.5), indicating they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

TABLE A. STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSONS, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

| Size of estimate | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA  | WA  | Tas. | NT  | Aust. | Relative standard error, Aust. % |
|------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-------|----------------------------------|
| 50               | 42  | 38   | 39  | 34  | 30  | 20   | 34  | 37    | 74.2                             |
| 100              | 63  | 61   | 65  | 54  | 48  | 29   | 53  | 55    | 54.7                             |
| 200              | 91  | 92   | 103 | 80  | 74  | 42   | 80  | 79    | 39.6                             |
| 300              | 109 | 112  | 132 | 96  | 93  | 53   | 100 | 97    | 32.4                             |
| 500              | 135 | 138  | 175 | 116 | 123 | 70   | 130 | 125   | 25.0                             |
| 700              | 152 | 156  | 208 | 128 | 146 | 84   | 153 | 147   | 20.9                             |
| 1 000            | 171 | 173  | 247 | 138 | 173 | 101  | 179 | 173   | 17.3                             |
| 1 500            | 191 | 190  | 295 | 145 | 207 | 126  | 213 | 207   | 13.8                             |
| 2 000            | 205 | 199  | 332 | 148 | 234 | 148  | 238 | 234   | 11.7                             |
| 2 500            | 215 | 205  | 361 | 149 | 256 | 167  | 258 | 256   | 10.3                             |
| 3 000            | 222 | 209  | 385 | 160 | 275 | 184  | 275 | 276   | 9.2                              |
| 4 000            | 233 | 212  | 423 | 180 | 306 | 215  | 303 | 310   | 7.7                              |
| 5 000            | 240 | 213  | 453 | 198 | 331 | 243  | 325 | 338   | 6.8                              |
| 7 000            | 248 | 246  | 497 | 227 | 370 | 292  | 358 | 384   | 5.5                              |
| 10 000           | 253 | 287  | 541 | 263 | 413 | ..   | 393 | 436   | 4.4                              |
| 15 000           | 255 | ..   | 586 | ..  | 461 | ..   | 431 | 502   | 3.3                              |
| 20 000           | 277 | ..   | 614 | ..  | 495 | ..   | 456 | 553   | 2.8                              |
| 30 000           | 313 | ..   | 646 | ..  | 542 | ..   | 489 | 628   | 2.1                              |
| 50 000           | 364 | ..   | 672 | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..  | 732   | 1.5                              |
| 70 000           | ..  | ..   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..  | 804   | 1.1                              |
| 100 000          | ..  | ..   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..  | 884   | 0.9                              |
| 150 000          | ..  | ..   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..  | 979   | 0.7                              |

TABLE B. STANDARD ERRORS FOR PERSONS, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS, VICTORIA ATSIK REGIONS

| Size of estimate | Wangaratta | Ballarat |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| 50               | 27         | 30       |
| 100              | 41         | 44       |
| 200              | 62         | 61       |
| 300              | 78         | 72       |
| 500              | 101        | 85       |
| 700              | 119        | 92       |
| 1 000            | 141        | 99       |
| 1 500            | 169        | 105      |
| 2 000            | 190        | 107      |
| 2 500            | 208        | 108      |
| 3 000            | 223        | 109      |
| 4 000            | 248        | 120      |
| 5 000            | 268        | 129      |
| 7 000            | 301        | 145      |
| 10 000           | ..         | ..       |
| 15 000           | ..         | ..       |

## POPULATION ESTIMATES AND BENCHMARKS

A sample survey cannot produce more accurate estimates of the size of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population than the quinquennial Census of Population and Housing. The best projection of current population size can be derived from 1991 Census figures by using demographic techniques to improve and update them. The ABS derived such projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population and used them as 'benchmarks' (refer to the section Technical Notes on Sample Design and Variability for details) when compiling the estimates for this survey.

This means that the tables in this publication which cover the full Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population add to 303,261 persons, the ABS projection of the size of the population at 30 June 1994.

Compiling projections of  
the Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander  
populations, 30 June  
1994

A series of experimental estimates of the Indigenous population, by sex and age, States and Territories of Australia was published by the ABS in November 1994 in *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, June 1986 to June 1991* (3230.0) and in May 1996, *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, June 1991 to June 2001* (3231.0). These experimental estimates were based on the 1991 Census of Population and Housing and life tables of the Indigenous population prepared by Dr Alan Gray of the Australian National University. The publication also detailed the method of estimation used to derive these estimates.

These estimates are referred to as 'experimental' in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and internal migration are not generally available. As a result a method based on the use of life tables is used. The estimates are also affected by changes in the propensity of people to identify as being of Indigenous origin.

The method of estimation was canvassed with major users of Indigenous population statistics and comments taken into account in the compilation of these estimates.

The 30 June 1991 experimental estimates were then updated to provide benchmarks for this survey as at 30 June 1994 using the cohort-component method which applied assumptions for each sex by single year of age regarding future mortality and migration. Assumed age-specific fertility rates were applied to the female populations of child-bearing ages to provide the new cohort of births. This procedure was repeated for each year in the projection period for each part of State (capital city/rest of State) for each State and the Northern Territory, and for the Australian Capital Territory as a whole.

The 30 June 1991 experimental estimates were originally calculated at the State and Territory level only. These were split to the part of State level, by age and sex, according to 1991 Indigenous population Census counts, based on usual residence adjusted for sex ratio anomalies. The benchmarks were also adjusted to ensure that the totals for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders at the ATSI regional level were in the same proportion to each other within each capital city and rest of State as they were in 1991 Census statistics.

## Projection assumptions

- Fertility** Estimates of fertility of the Indigenous population were published in *Australian Social Trends, 1994* (4102.0). These estimates of fertility for the financial years 1988–89 to 1990–91 were adjusted, by age, to accord with the experimental estimates. The average of the adjusted age-specific fertility rates for these three financial years were assumed to apply to Indigenous women of child-bearing ages over the three financial years of the projection period (1991–92, 1992–93 and 1993–94). Account was taken of births of Indigenous children to non-Indigenous mothers.
- Mortality** Life tables of the Indigenous population for the intercensal periods 1981–86 and 1986–91 for each State and Territory have been calculated by Alan Gray of the Australian National University. The mid points of these two intercensal periods (1983–84 and 1988–89) were established, and the average annual rates of change of the age specific mortality rates were calculated between these two points. These rates of change, which reflect an overall improvement in mortality over the 1981–86 to 1986–91 intercensal periods, were assumed to apply for the three financial years of the projection period.
- Migration** The method of estimation used to derive the experimental estimates of the Indigenous population June 1986 to June 1991 assumed no internal or overseas migration of the Indigenous population. Analysis of 1991 Census data also shows insignificant migration across parts of States. Accordingly, all net migration flows were assumed to be zero for these projections.

The resulting benchmarks which were used to compile the estimates from this survey are shown in the Explanatory Notes.

These benchmarks can be used by analysts who wish to understand the influence demographic characteristics of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population have on the statistics in this publication.

The ABS did not compile similar benchmarks at the ATSI regional level. Estimates of the regional demographic characteristics are available from the survey itself. Analysts who require this information should contact the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics in Darwin (see page iii for details).



TABLE C. PROJECTIONS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
POPULATION, 30 JUNE 1994

| Age (years)    | Victoria     |                  |               | Australia(a)   |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
|                | Capital city | Balance of State | Total         |                |
| <b>MALES</b>   |              |                  |               |                |
| 0-4            | 744          | 760              | 1 504         | 22 844         |
| 5-9            | 572          | 706              | 1 278         | 20 229         |
| 10-14          | 415          | 592              | 1 007         | 17 755         |
| 15-19          | 415          | 517              | 932           | 15 826         |
| 20-24          | 498          | 489              | 987           | 16 103         |
| 25-29          | 473          | 408              | 881           | 14 038         |
| 30-34          | 405          | 371              | 776           | 11 777         |
| 35-39          | 324          | 320              | 644           | 9 268          |
| 40-44          | 230          | 257              | 487           | 7 171          |
| 45-49          | 169          | 175              | 344           | 5 135          |
| 50-54          | 121          | 134              | 255           | 3 900          |
| 55-59          | 69           | 83               | 152           | 2 797          |
| 60-64          | 49           | 62               | 111           | 2 185          |
| 65-69          | 51           | 54               | 105           | 1 461          |
| 70-74          | 25           | 38               | 63            | 919            |
| 75 and above   | 36           | 34               | 70            | 998            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>4 595</b> | <b>4 999</b>     | <b>9 594</b>  | <b>152 406</b> |
| <b>FEMALES</b> |              |                  |               |                |
| 0-4            | 720          | 730              | 1 450         | 21 680         |
| 5-9            | 521          | 673              | 1 194         | 19 317         |
| 10-14          | 393          | 571              | 964           | 16 796         |
| 15-19          | 395          | 500              | 895           | 15 078         |
| 20-24          | 479          | 471              | 950           | 15 448         |
| 25-29          | 461          | 398              | 859           | 13 793         |
| 30-34          | 401          | 367              | 768           | 11 805         |
| 35-39          | 326          | 322              | 648           | 9 472          |
| 40-44          | 256          | 264              | 520           | 7 683          |
| 45-49          | 183          | 216              | 399           | 5 604          |
| 50-54          | 133          | 132              | 265           | 4 113          |
| 55-59          | 90           | 95               | 185           | 3 132          |
| 60-64          | 82           | 86               | 168           | 2 545          |
| 65-69          | 58           | 58               | 116           | 1 796          |
| 70-74          | 37           | 44               | 81            | 1 161          |
| 75 and above   | 65           | 62               | 127           | 1 431          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>4 601</b> | <b>4 988</b>     | <b>9 589</b>  | <b>150 855</b> |
| <b>PERSONS</b> |              |                  |               |                |
| 0-4            | 1 465        | 1 490            | 2 955         | 44 524         |
| 5-9            | 1 093        | 1 379            | 2 472         | 39 546         |
| 10-14          | 808          | 1 163            | 1 971         | 34 552         |
| 15-19          | 810          | 1 017            | 1 827         | 30 904         |
| 20-24          | 977          | 960              | 1 937         | 31 551         |
| 25-29          | 934          | 805              | 1 739         | 27 831         |
| 30-34          | 805          | 738              | 1 543         | 23 582         |
| 35-39          | 651          | 642              | 1 293         | 18 740         |
| 40-44          | 485          | 521              | 1 006         | 14 854         |
| 45-49          | 351          | 391              | 742           | 10 739         |
| 50-54          | 254          | 266              | 520           | 8 013          |
| 55-59          | 159          | 178              | 337           | 5 929          |
| 60-64          | 132          | 147              | 279           | 4 730          |
| 65-69          | 109          | 113              | 222           | 3 257          |
| 70-74          | 63           | 82               | 145           | 2 080          |
| 75 and above   | 101          | 96               | 197           | 2 429          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>9 196</b> | <b>9 987</b>     | <b>19 183</b> | <b>303 261</b> |

(a) Includes the ACT

## GLOSSARY

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Aboriginal</b>                                | A person who identifies themselves to be of Aboriginal origin. In ABS collections this is ascertained by asking the question 'Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?' In the NATSIS, persons aged 13 years and over were asked directly, whereas persons aged 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.               |
| <b>Aboriginal community controlled school</b>    | Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make decisions on the curricula, teachers employed, school budget and school policy.  |
| <b>Aboriginal English</b>                        | Includes Broken English, Pidgin English and Kriol/Creoles.   |
| <b>Aboriginal independent school</b>             | A school run solely by Aboriginal people, who make decisions on school policy, staffing, curricula and school budget.  |
| <b>Aboriginal legal services</b>                 | Established to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with legal matters.   |
| <b>Aboriginality</b>                             | Where a person identifies as being of Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.   |
| <b>Actions taken</b>                             | Refers to specific actions persons took with regard to their health in the two weeks prior to interview.   |
| <b>Actively looking for work</b>                 | Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering a newspaper advertisement for a job; checking factory or Commonwealth Employment Service noticeboards; being registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives. |
| <b>Adult</b>                                     | Person aged 15 years or more.  |
| <b>ATSIC Regions and Torres Strait Area</b>      | Refers to 36 defined geographic areas, each represented by an ATSIC Regional Council or the Torres Strait Regional Authority.  |
| <b>Attack</b>                                    | Where a person has suffered physical force from another person(s), for example, pushed, hit, kicked or speared.  |
| <b>Arrested</b>                                  | Where a person has been arrested and taken into custody/remand by the police.  |
| <b>CDEP</b>                                      | See Community Development Employment Projects.   |
| <b>Clan, tribal or language group</b>            | Refers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups within Australia.   |
| <b>Combined primary and secondary school</b>     | A school which teaches students at both primary and secondary levels.  |
| <b>Community Development Employment Projects</b> | The Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) scheme, operates through grants from ATSIC to Indigenous community organisations to enable individuals to undertake community managed activities in return for wages.   |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Couple-only family</b>   | Two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage without children present in the household.   |
| <b>Crime</b>                | Includes crimes relating to drugs, thefts, vandalism as well as violence.   |
| <b>Cultural activities</b>  | Includes funerals, ceremonies, Indigenous festivals and carnivals and involvement with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations.  |
| <b>Cultural obligations</b> | Refers to attending Indigenous cultural activities such as funerals, ceremonies and festivals and extended family responsibilities.   |
| <b>Earned income</b>        | Income derived from wages and salaries, or from own business, trade or profession.  |
| <b>Education worker</b>     | A person who assists a teacher during class lessons and may give some lessons such as story telling.  |
| <b>Employed persons</b>     | Persons aged 15 years and over who in the week prior to the interview worked for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and self-employed persons).   |
| <b>Full-time employment</b> | Employed persons who worked 35 hours or more a week.  |
| <b>Family</b>               | Two or more persons who live in the same household and are related to each other by blood, marriage (including de facto marriage), fostering or adoption. For the purpose of this survey, one or more members of the family had identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. |
| <b>Family violence</b>      | Includes verbal threats, intimidation, fear of physical attacks and actual physical attacks, occurring between family members within a household.   |
| <b>Formal child-care</b>    | Refers to regulated care such as preschool/kindergarten before and afterschool care program, long day care centres, family day care and other formal care.  |
| <b>Government payments</b>  | Includes Newstart allowance, Jobsearch, age pension, sickness allowance, disability support pension, sole parent pension, family payments, rent assistance, ABSTUDY and other government payments.  |
| <b>Homelands</b>            | An area of land to which Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people have ancestral and/or cultural links.  |
| <b>Household</b>            | Consists of a person living alone, or two or more related or unrelated persons who live and eat together in private residential accommodation. For the purpose of this survey, one or more members of the household had identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.     |
| <b>Household income</b>     | Refers to the total gross income from wages and salaries and government payments of all persons 15 years and over who usually live in the household. The total household income was not calculated if usual residents of the household were missing at the time of the interview.                   |
| <b>Indigenous</b>           | Persons 13 years and over, who identified themselves to be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.  |
| <b>Indigenous language</b>  | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. Excludes Aboriginal English and Kriol/Creoles.   |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Labour force</b>                   | Persons aged 15 years and over who were either employed or unemployed.   |
| <b>Labour force status</b>            | A classification of persons 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.  |
| <b>Language spoken</b>                | A person was considered to be able to speak a language (such as an Aboriginal language) if they could hold a conversation in that language.  |
| <b>Last year</b>                      | 12 month period prior to interview.  |
| <b>Legal Aid Commission</b>           | Available to all Australians who meet certain income requirements and is commonly referred to as 'Legal Aid'.  |
| <b>Long-term condition</b>            | Condition (illness, injury, or disability) which had lasted for six months or more.  |
| <b>Main language</b>                  | Refers to the language the person is most comfortable with or speaks most fluently.  |
| <b>Making decisions at the school</b> | Includes involvement in the Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness Program (ASSPA) and Parents and Citizens (P&C) school meetings where decisions about fund raising and maintenance of the school are made.                  |
| <b>Non-family household</b>           | A one-person household or a household consisting of two or more unrelated people.  |
| <b>Not in the labour force</b>        | Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed or unemployed as defined.   |
| <b>One-parent family</b>              | Family that consists of one parent and that parent's children plus all other people in the household related to them, provided those people do not have a spouse or child of their own.  |
| <b>Other government landlord</b>      | Refers to dwellings owned by the Commonwealth Government, and State, Territory and local governments other than housing authorities and employer provided housing.   |
| <b>Other legal services</b>           | Includes private solicitors and barristers.  |
| <b>Perceived health problems</b>      | A respondents' opinions of the main health problems confronting people in their local area.  |
| <b>Personal income</b>                | Refers to the gross income a person received at the time of interview in the form of wages and salaries and government payments.   |
| <b>Post-school study</b>              | Attendance at a course at the time of the survey to gain a qualification.  |
| <b>Private landlord</b>               | All privately owned dwellings rented directly or through a real estate agent.  |
| <b>Private dwelling</b>               | The premises occupied by a household and includes houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and improvised houses. It excludes hostels, hospitals, prisons and so on.  |
| <b>Private sector</b>                 | Non-government organisations. The private sector has been split into 'Community organisations' and 'Other private'. Community organisations are those private organisations that have been declared to be eligible for ATSIIC funding. |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Public sector</b>   | Includes all government authorities, departments, agencies and authorities created by the Commonwealth Parliament or State and Territory Parliaments. Also covered are organisations such as the Northern or Central Land Councils which were created by Commonwealth legislation and the New South Wales Land Council which was created by New South Wales legislation. |
| <b>Recent illness</b>  | Conditions (illness, injury or disability) experienced in the two weeks prior to interview. It may include long-term conditions experienced in the period.   |
| <b>Relative fat and sugar</b>                                | Amount of selected food types consumed the day prior to interview, have been used to rate a person's level of fat and sugar consumption.   |
| <b>Relative weight</b>                                       | Weight and height measurements taken during interview have been used to derive a person's body mass. The body mass index equals a person's weight in kilograms divided by the square of the person's height in metres. The categories used are consistent with recommendations of the National Health and Medical Research Council.                                      |
| <b>School participation</b>                                  | The number of enrolled school students of a particular age, expressed as a proportion of the population of the same age.   |
| <b>Self-assessed health status</b>                           | Refers to the overall level of health as reported by respondents 13 years and over. For persons 12 years and under, information was provided by the child's parent or a responsible adult member of the household.   |
| <b>Specific long-term condition</b>                          | Where a person had one of the following conditions which had lasted for six months or more: asthma, diabetes, heart problems, chest problems, skin problems, high blood pressure, ear or hearing problems, eye or sight problems not corrected by glasses and/or kidney problems.  |
| <b>State housing (landlord)</b>                              | Refers to dwellings owned by State or Territory housing authorities.   |
| <b>Take away from natural family</b>                         | People who have been removed from their natural family as a child as part of a government policy. 'Family' may include parents and siblings and extended family members such as aunts, uncles and grandparents. Excludes people who were removed from their family for less than six months.   |
| <b>Taught Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander languages</b> | Students who are taught to speak, read or write an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language.  |
| <b>Taught about Indigenous culture</b>                       | Includes subjects which give an understanding of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultures, e.g. history and language.   |
| <b>Taught by a community member</b>                          | Where community members teach at least once in a month or on 10 or more occasions over the school year.  |
| <b>Torres Strait Islander</b>                                | Persons 13 years and over, who identified themselves to be of Torres Strait Islander origin. Persons 12 years and under were identified by a responsible adult in the household, usually a parent.   |
| <b>Training course</b>                                       | Includes courses which are planned to develop skills or assist in learning about a subject. Excludes courses leading to an educational qualification and on-the-job training.  |
| <b>Type of landlord</b>                                      | Refers to the legal entity to which rent is paid.  |

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| <b>Unemployed persons</b>   | Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the week prior to interview, and who had actively looked for work at any time during the four weeks prior to interview, and who were available to start work in the last week. |
| <b>Usual residents</b>      | Persons who live in a particular private dwelling and regard it as their own or main home.   |
| <b>Verbal threats</b>       | Any verbal abuse to a person where no weapon was seen and no physical violence occurred. It includes verbal threats to harm the respondent or his/her property.  |
| <b>Violence</b>             | Refers to violence in the community, that is streets, hotels, schools, etc. It includes fights, bashing, rape, murder or any act which involves violence.  |
| <b>Voluntary work</b>       | Includes any unpaid community work such as caring for sick or aged people, working for community or sporting organisations, working at a school or with youth groups, working on committees and hunting, fishing or gathering bush food.   |
| <b>Year 10 Certificates</b> | Completion of a Year 10 Certificate, Aboriginal Access Course or equivalent.   |
| <b>Year 12 Certificates</b> | Completion of a Year 12 Certificate, General Certificate of Education or equivalent.   |





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