



1995

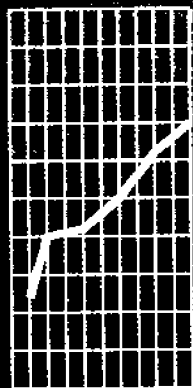
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# National Health Survey

## Summary of Results

Australia

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# NOTES

## INTRODUCTION

The 1995 National Health Survey (NHS) was conducted during the 12 month period from February 1995 to January 1996. Approximately 54,000 people from all States and Territories and across all age groups provided information about their health and related topics.

The survey was designed to obtain national benchmark information on a wide range of health issues, and to enable trends in health to be monitored over time. Objectives of the survey were to provide indicators of:

- the health status of the Australian population;
- use of health services; and
- other health-related behaviours (e.g. risk behaviours).

These indicators enable the evaluation of health policies and initiatives, in turn providing governments and other health professionals with information required to:

- improve existing health services;
- implement new services; and
- develop policies which assist in the prevention of illness and injury and promotion of healthy lifestyles and behaviours.

The Explanatory Notes provide a brief description of the survey, its concepts, definitions, methodology and procedures. Complete information on the nature of the NHS, its objectives, content, and the concepts, methods and procedures used in the collection of data are provided in *National Health Survey: Users' Guide, 1995* (Cat. no. 4363.0) and *1995 National Health Survey Data Reference Package*.

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## INQUIRIES

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

For further information about these statistics, contact Brian Richings on Canberra (02) 6252 5786, Ilona Brockway (02) 6252 6086 or Freecall 1800 060 050.

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Acting Australian Statistician

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# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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## INTRODUCTION

This publication presents an overview of final results from the 1995 National Health Survey (NHS). Included are indicators of health status (e.g. prevalence of illness), information about factors which may influence health (e.g. smoking, exercise), and information on health-related actions taken by people in response to illness/injury or for other reasons associated with their health. Some information from the 1989-90 NHS is also provided, enabling comparisons of health characteristics over time.

## HEALTH STATUS

The majority of Australians aged 15 years and over consider themselves as being in good health with 83% reporting their health status as good, very good or excellent (table 1). Similar proportions were reported by males and females. The proportion of people reporting fair or poor health increased with age; 9% of those aged 15-24 years to 41% of those aged 75 years and over.

Three-quarters of the population experienced one or more long-term conditions (conditions of six months or more duration) (table 2). Although this was markedly higher than the proportion recorded in the previous survey (66% in 1989-90), the increase is in part attributable to the different methodologies used in the surveys (see paragraph 13 of Explanatory Notes). The proportion of those reporting a recent medical condition (illness or injury experienced in the two weeks prior to the survey) was unchanged between surveys (around 70%).

How people rated their health was strongly related to their illness experience. Of the 14% who reported having no medical condition, either recent or long-term, 74% assessed their health as very good or excellent. In contrast, of those people who reported both recent and long-term conditions (58%), only 47% rated their health as very good or excellent, and 22% rated their health as fair or poor.

## RECENT ILLNESS

Diseases of the respiratory system were the most commonly reported recent illness group (22%). This group included conditions such as the common cold (6%) and asthma (7%). The proportion of persons reporting illnesses in this group was highest for children (28% of children under five years of age) and decreased consistently with age (table 4).

The most commonly reported individual recent illness condition was headache (13%). Persons aged 25-44 years were more likely to report headaches than persons in other age groups.

Hypertension was the second most commonly reported recent illness (8%). As expected the prevalence of hypertension was very low in the younger age groups, increasing to approximately 36% in those aged over 65 years.

Based on age/sex standardised estimates, there were some differences in the proportions of people in States and Territories who reported a recent illness. The lowest proportion was recorded in the Northern Territory (64%), the highest in Western Australia (73%) (table 5).

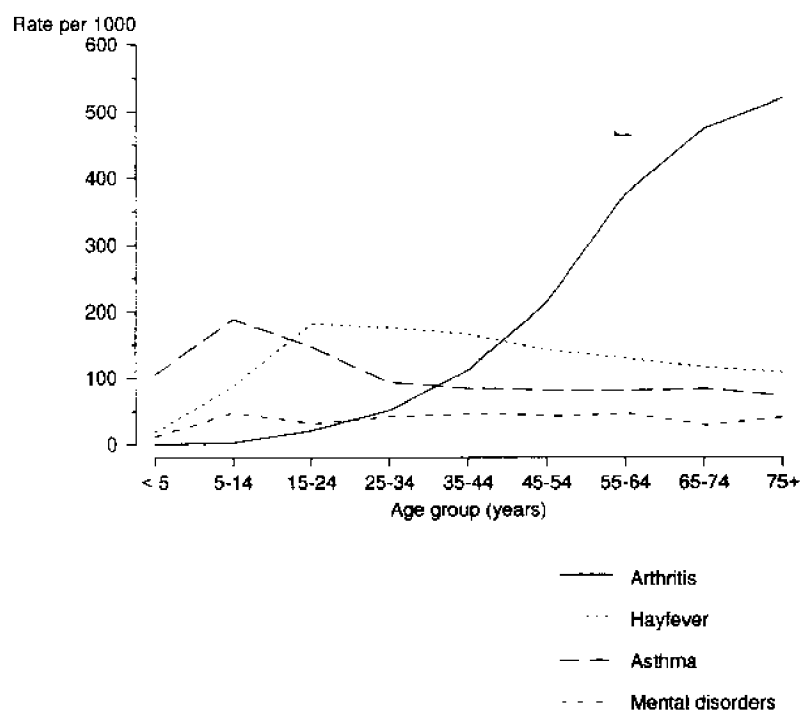
## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### LONG-TERM CONDITIONS

The most commonly reported long-term conditions were problems with eyesight, including long sighted, short sighted and presbyopia (reported by 21%, 20%, 8% of people respectively). Other commonly reported conditions were arthritis (including rheumatoid and osteoarthritis) (15%), hayfever (14%), asthma (11%) and hypertension (10%) (table 6).

For many long-term conditions, the reported prevalence varied between age groups. The prevalence of arthritis increased with age, from about 2% of those aged under 15 years to more than half of those aged 75 years and over. A higher proportion of persons aged 15-34 reported hayfever than other age groups with proportions decreasing by age. Asthma was more common in children.

Selected long-term conditions, by age



The prevalence of long-term conditions varied little by State and Territory. Age/sex standardised rates show that the lowest proportion was recorded in Victoria 73%, the highest by Australian Capital Territory 80% (table 7). The Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest rates of sight problems, respiratory diseases and allergies.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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### ACCIDENTS

In this publication, the term 'accidents' refers to accidents, incidents and exposures resulting in illness or injury (see Glossary). Of those who reported a recent or long-term condition (apart from cold or flu), 18% stated that at least one of their reported conditions was caused by an accident. Males were more likely to have a condition caused by an accident than females (23% and 14% respectively) (table 8).

Of those who reported illness or injury as a result of an accident, 42% reported diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue due to an accident. These included conditions such as arthritis and back problems, reflecting the longer term consequences of injury. Injuries (including fractures, dislocations, sprains and bruising) reflecting more recent accidents were reported by 35%, and diseases of the ear and mastoid process, including deafness, complete or partial by 11%.

The proportions of persons reporting conditions resulting from accidents was highest in middle age groups (20% of those aged 45-64 years) and lowest among children (8% of those aged less than 15). This pattern differs from the pattern of injuries occurring in the population, which shows highest levels at ages less than 25 years. The difference is due in part to the cumulative nature of the conditions information described in this part of the survey.

### WORK-RELATED CONDITIONS

Of those aged 15 years or more who reported a condition due to an accident, incident or exposure, 42% reported that the condition was work-related. Conditions most commonly identified as work-related were deafness and back problems (table 9).

### HEALTH-RELATED ACTIONS

#### People taking health-related actions

Slightly over 75% of persons reported taking one or more health-related actions in the two weeks prior to the survey. Almost 70% of persons reported using medication, the most common health-related action, while 23% of persons consulted a doctor (GP or specialist) (table 10).

Although women were more likely to take a health-related action than men (80% and 70% respectively), they displayed a similar pattern of use. Almost three-quarters of women used medications and over one-quarter consulted a doctor, compared to 63% and 20% respectively of men.

Generally the proportion of persons taking an action increased with age after the preschool years (under five years), from 60% of persons aged 5-14 years, to 94% of those aged 75 years or more. Exceptions to this pattern occurred with dental consultations and days away from work/school where the highest proportions were recorded in the 5-14 year age group.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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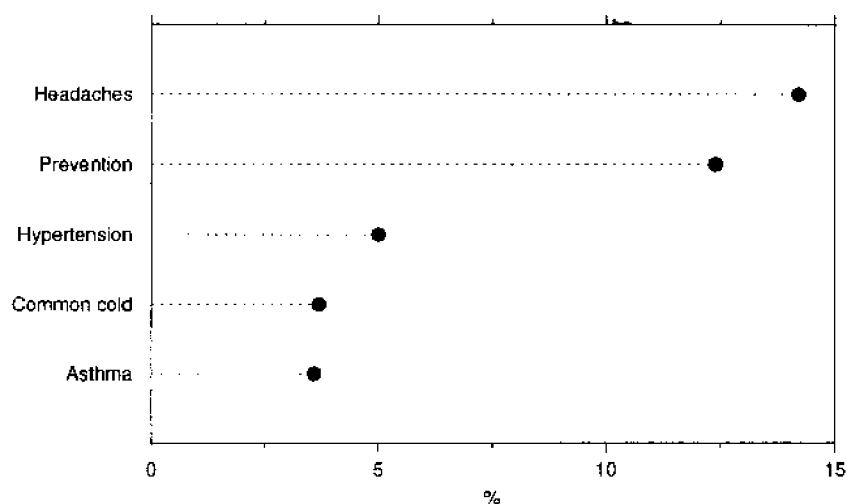
### People taking health-related actions *continued*

The most commonly reported reasons for doctor consultations were diseases of the respiratory system (20% of those who consulted a doctor) (table 13), including conditions such as asthma, hayfever and the common cold. Other commonly reported reasons for consultation were check-up/examination (20%) and diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (9%).

### People using medications

In the two weeks prior to the survey 26% of the population took vitamins/minerals, 24% used pain relievers, 11% used medication for heart problems and blood pressure, 10% used skin ointments and creams, and 9% of the population reported using natural or herbal medicines (table 18). Vitamins and minerals were primarily taken for preventive health reasons, while other types of medications were generally taken for specific conditions.

#### Commonly reported reasons for using medications



Over 90% of those aged 65 years or more reported using medications in the previous two weeks. Of these, 23% reported using five or more medications other than vitamins, minerals and natural/herbal medicines.

### Days away from work

Of employed persons 9% reported having one or more days off work due to illness or injury in the two weeks prior to interview (table 22). The most commonly reported reason(s) were diseases of the respiratory system, in particular influenza which was reported by 19% of those taking time off work. Slightly more people employed in clerical occupations (11%) reported taking days off work than those employed in other occupations. Managers and administrators recorded the lowest proportion (7%). For those who took time off work, the average time away was 2.9 days in the last two weeks.

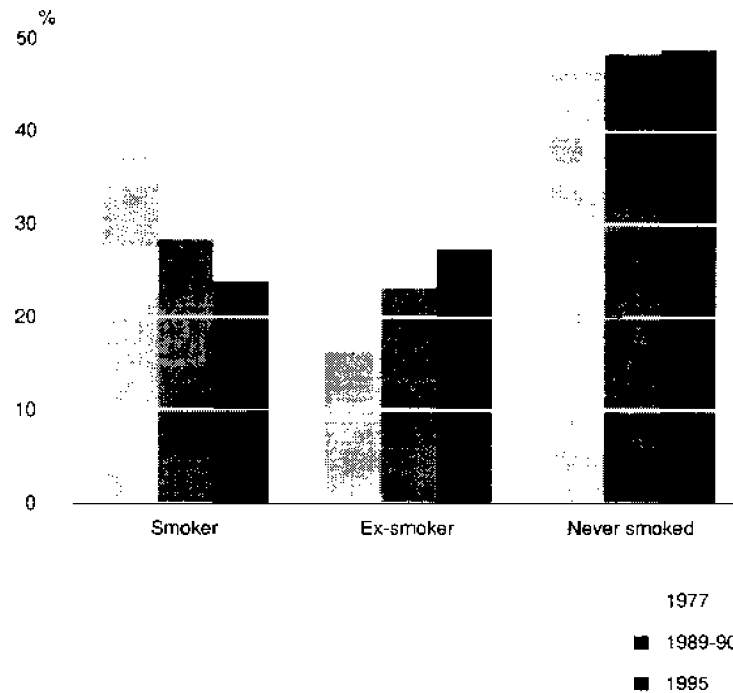
# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

## RISK FACTORS

### Smoking

In 1995, 24% of adults were smokers, 27% were ex-smokers and 49% had never smoked (table 24). The proportion of adults who smoke has decreased significantly over time, while the number of ex-smokers has increased. Notably, the proportions of those never taking up smoking have remained similar for nearly 20 years.

Adult smoker status



In 1995 younger people (aged less than 35 years) reported higher rates of smoking (31%) than people in older age groups, the proportion decreasing with age to less than 8% of those aged 75 years and over. This pattern may in part reflect mortality rates in the older age groups. Overall, females were less likely to have taken up smoking than males (57% and 40% respectively who had never smoked). However the pattern differed for the younger age group: of those aged 18–24 years, 42% of males and 41% of females were smokers or ex-smokers. Among those who had started to smoke, the proportion who had given up smoking was similar for males and females (males 54%, females 53%).



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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### - Alcohol consumption

Over half (55%) of the adult population (aged 18 years or more) reported having consumed a drink containing alcohol in the week prior to the survey. Proportions of those drinking were similar across age groups until 65 years, where proportions began to decline to less than 40% of those aged 75 years or more (table 24).

Age/sex standardised rates show that a higher proportion of adults in the Australian Capital Territory (64%) reported alcohol consumption in the previous week, than in the other States and Territories. The lowest was recorded in New South Wales (53%).

The majority of those persons who drank alcohol in the reference week did so at levels considered to be of low risk to their health (85%) (see Glossary). Differences in consumption levels were evident by age and sex. For example, males who drank alcohol were more likely than females to consume alcohol at high risk levels (8% and 3% respectively). Over 17% of younger people (aged 18-24 years) who consumed alcohol in the previous week reported drinking at levels which were medium or high risk. Proportions declined with age to 8% of those aged 75 years and over.

The average daily consumption of alcohol (millilitres of pure alcohol) by those who drank in the week before the survey was 47 ml. On average, males reported consuming more alcohol per day than females (58 ml to 33 ml respectively). Full strength beer was the major contributor to alcohol intake of both males and females. Daily averages of 79 ml for males and 54 ml for females were reported for those who drank full strength beer, equivalent to five and a half 10 oz glasses for males and almost four glasses for females.

### Exercise

Two-thirds of persons aged 15 years and over reported taking part in some type of exercise for sport, recreation or fitness in the two weeks prior to interview; this represents a small increase since 1989-90 (table 24).

People were grouped into exercise levels based on reported frequency, duration and types of exercise undertaken (see Glossary). While the proportions of males and females who exercised were similar (68% and 66% respectively), males reported exercising at higher levels than females. Young persons (15-24 years) were more likely to exercise than their older counterparts and more likely to exercise at higher levels.

Walking was the most commonly reported activity by those who exercised in the fortnight prior to interview (73%). The majority of those who walked for exercise (93%) reported an average duration of one hour or more per session.

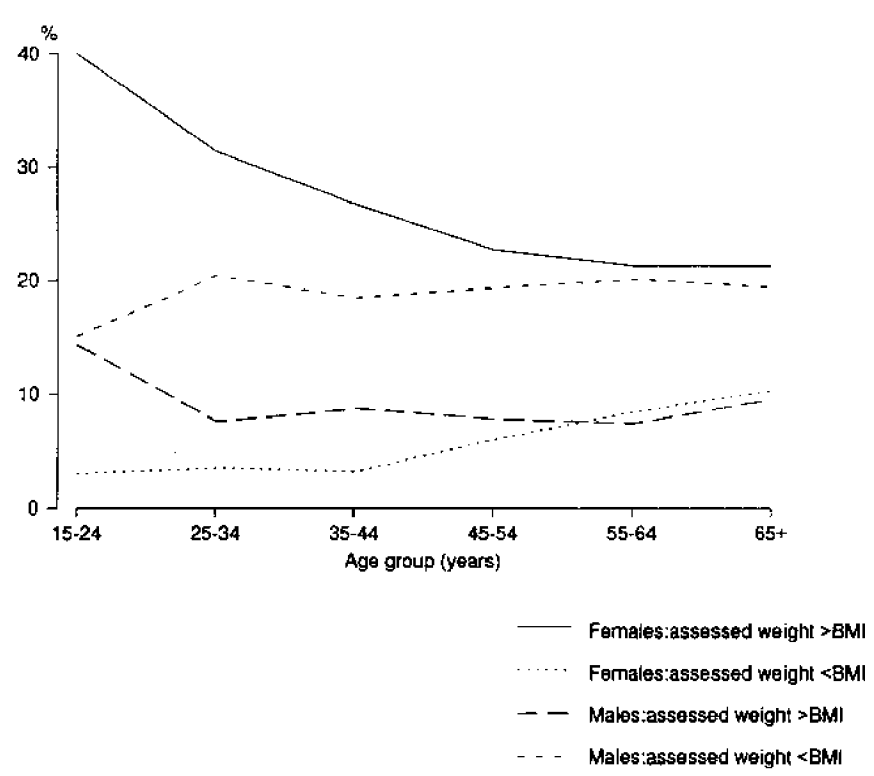
**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS** *continued*

Body mass

Persons aged 15 years and over were grouped according to their Body Mass Index (BMI) based on self-reported height and weight (see Glossary). Over half (55%) of both males and females recorded an index within the acceptable weight range for their height. A higher proportion of males (40%) than females (28%) were recorded as being overweight or obese, with the reverse pattern for those recorded as being underweight, 16% of females compared to 6% of males. BMI could not be calculated for 7% of males and 12% of females.

Respondents were also asked to assess themselves as being of acceptable weight, overweight or underweight. Excluding those for whom BMI could not be calculated, 64% of males considered themselves to be acceptable weight, 30% overweight and 6% underweight; corresponding proportions for females were 58%, 39% and 3% respectively (table 30). Comparing the distribution by BMI categories to these proportions reveals that females were more likely than males to consider themselves to be in a higher weight category than their BMI indicates. This pattern also differed by age. Almost 40% of young women (15-24 years) considered themselves to be heavier than their BMI indicated, compared to 28% of women of all ages. In particular, over 27% of young women (15-24 years) were underweight and considered themselves to be acceptable weight. Only 6% of women considered themselves to be in a lower weight category than their BMI indicated, compared with 19% of men.

Self-assessed weight compared with BMI



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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### - Sun protection

Most people (82% of males and 83% of females) reported they had deliberately taken measures in the last month to protect themselves against the sun's ultra violet rays. Males who protected themselves against the sun were more likely to wear a hat than females (81% compared with 62%), and less likely to use a sunscreen than females (47% and 61%). Among children aged less than 15 years, 87% had used some form of sun protection in the last month, most commonly hats, and 84% reported that they always or usually used sun protection (table 31).

Proportions of those who used sun protective measures differed by the State or Territory in which they lived. The lowest rates of sun protection use were recorded by those living in Victoria (72%), the highest by those in Queensland (92%).

There were 60% of the population who reported that they regularly checked their skin (or had their skin checked by a doctor) for any changes to freckles and moles. Females were more likely than males to have their skin checked (64% and 56% respectively).

### Breastfeeding

Of children under four years, 86% had been breastfed at some time (table 32). Proportions of babies who were currently being breastfed declined from 65% of all those aged less than two months, to around 50% at six months of age, to less than 10% of those aged over one year.

The average time of being exclusively breastfed was 16 weeks, with solid food most commonly introduced between 17 and 28 weeks. Only 8% of breastfed children were reported as being exclusively breastfed for longer than 28 weeks.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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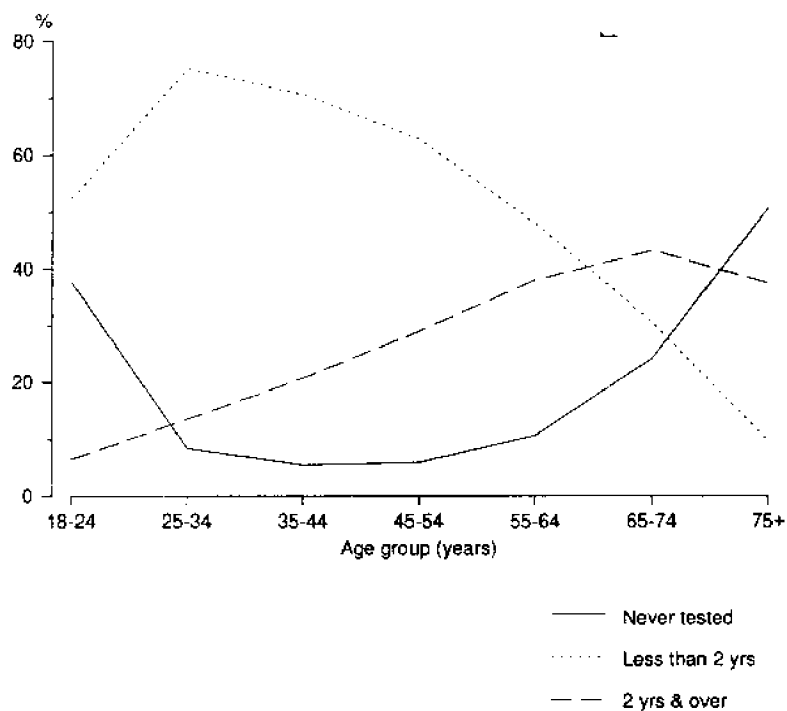
### WOMEN'S HEALTH

Information was obtained from women aged 18 years and over on a range of health issues specific to women including screening for breast and cervical cancer, use of hormone replacement therapy and breastfeeding.

#### Cancer screening

The current national women's health policy recommends that all women, including those who have no symptoms or history suggestive of cervical pathology, should have a routine Pap smear at least every two years. There were 84% of women who had undergone at least one Pap smear, the majority of those had had their last test within the two years prior to the survey (68%) (table 33). Women in the youngest age group (18-24 years) and those in the eldest age groups (75 years and over) were least likely to have had a Pap smear at some time in their life (38% and 51% respectively had never been tested).

#### Time since last Pap smear



## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

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### *Cancer screening continued*

A screening mammogram is considered to be the most effective method currently available for the detection of breast cancer, particularly in its early stages. The current national program on breast cancer screening recommends that all women aged 50 years and over should be screened every two years. Overall, 39% of women had undergone a mammogram at some time in their life, 66% of those reported having the test less than two years prior to the interview. Women in the 45–64 year age group were most likely to have had a mammogram (70%).

The most commonly reported reasons for having a mammogram were general check up (50%) and the presence of symptoms for breast cancer (e.g. lumps) (24%).

Other actions to detect breast cancer include regular breast examinations. Of women aged 45–64, 56% reported regular breast examination by a doctor or medical assistant, and 73% reported regularly examining their own breasts.

### Hormone replacement therapy (HRT)

HRT is commonly prescribed as a treatment for symptoms associated with menopause and as a preventive measure for osteoporosis: a quarter of women aged 45–54 years and 30% of those aged 55–64 years reported using HRT at the time of the survey.

### CONTRACEPTION

Of women aged 18–49 years 44% reported that a contraceptive method was used by either themselves or their partner (table 34). The most common method was the oral contraceptive pill, used by 27% of women. Younger women (18–24 years) were more likely to report the use of a contraceptive (61%), in particular a higher proportion reported using the contraceptive pill (43%). Among older age groups, the most commonly reported reasons for not using a contraceptive were hysterectomy/tubal ligation (21% of those aged 35–44 years, 34% of those aged 45–49 years) and partner sterilised (including vasectomy) reported by 17% of those aged 35–49 years.

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TABLE 1. PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER: SELF ASSESSED HEALTH STATUS BY AGE AND SEX BY WHETHER REPORTED RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM CONDITION(S)  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
Per cent

| Self assessed health status     | Age (years)  |              |              |              |              |              |                | Males        | Females      | Persons      |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                 | 15 - 24      | 25 - 34      | 35 - 44      | 45 - 54      | 55 - 64      | 65 - 74      | 75 and over    |              |              |              |
| Recent condition(s) only        |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |              |              |              |
| Excellent                       | 32.1         | 29.5         | 29.2         | 30.7         | * 39.2       | —            | —              | 30.6         | 30.2         | 30.4         |
| Very good                       | 41.6         | 42.2         | 45.4         | 44.8         | **0.9        | **7.0        | —              | 41.5         | 43.5         | 42.5         |
| Good                            | 21.2         | 22.1         | 21.6         | 22.3         | * 42.2       | 76.6         | —              | 22.4         | 21.3         | 21.9         |
| Fair                            | 4.5          | 5.8          | 3.7          | * 2.2        | * 11.6       | **3.3        | * 83.0         | 5.1          | 4.4          | 4.8          |
| Poor                            | 0.7          | * 0.4        | **0.1        | —            | **6.1        | * 13.0       | —              | * 0.4        | 0.6          | 0.5          |
| <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>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| Long-term condition(s) only     |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |              |              |              |
| Excellent                       | 26.0         | 22.5         | 26.4         | 30.3         | 28.9         | 25.5         | 24.7           | 24.9         | 28.4         | 26.4         |
| Very good                       | 41.7         | 44.8         | 42.9         | 38.7         | 32.7         | 36.6         | 31.0           | 41.1         | 39.9         | 40.6         |
| Good                            | 25.2         | 26.3         | 25.0         | 24.7         | 28.4         | 29.7         | 27.0           | 26.2         | 25.6         | 25.9         |
| Fair                            | 6.6          | 6.0          | 5.0          | 5.9          | 9.4          | 6.9          | 14.1           | 7.3          | 5.4          | 6.5          |
| Poor                            | 0.5          | * 0.3        | 0.7          | * 0.3        | * 0.7        | * 1.3        | * 3.2          | 0.5          | 0.7          | 0.6          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| Recent and long-term conditions |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |              |              |              |
| Excellent                       | 16.6         | 16.6         | 16.2         | 17.6         | 11.1         | 8.2          | 8.7            | 14.0         | 14.5         | 14.3         |
| Very good                       | 39.5         | 40.1         | 37.8         | 31.8         | 27.4         | 22.9         | 19.2           | 31.6         | 33.5         | 32.6         |
| Good                            | 30.8         | 29.4         | 30.6         | 31.0         | 31.7         | 32.6         | 28.4           | 31.2         | 30.4         | 30.8         |
| Fair                            | 11.6         | 11.5         | 11.9         | 14.6         | 21.8         | 24.5         | 28.9           | 16.8         | 16.4         | 16.6         |
| Poor                            | 1.5          | 2.4          | 3.4          | 4.9          | 8.0          | 11.7         | 14.7           | 6.5          | 5.3          | 5.8          |
| <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>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| No condition reported           |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |              |              |              |
| Excellent                       | 38.6         | 30.4         | 32.5         | 35.8         | 25.8         | 51.0         | * 40.6         | 34.3         | 34.4         | 34.3         |
| Very good                       | 38.1         | 42.1         | 42.4         | 34.6         | 29.6         | * 24.9       | * 29.9         | 40.4         | 39.2         | 39.9         |
| Good                            | 20.3         | 24.3         | 22.0         | 26.0         | 29.5         | * 20.0       | * 29.5         | 21.7         | 23.7         | 22.5         |
| Fair                            | 2.8          | 2.8          | 2.5          | 3.6          | 15.0         | **4.1        | —              | 3.4          | 2.3          | 3.0          |
| Poor                            | * 0.2        | * 0.4        | * 0.5        | —            | —            | —            | —              | 0.3          | * 0.3        | 0.3          |
| <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>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                    |              |              |              |              |              |              |                |              |              |              |
| Excellent                       | 24.8         | 21.4         | 21.2         | 21.3         | 14.2         | 10.2         | 10.2           | 19.9         | 19.2         | 19.5         |
| Very good                       | 40.0         | 41.6         | 40.0         | 33.6         | 28.3         | 24.4         | 20.3           | 35.3         | 35.6         | 35.4         |
| Good                            | 26.3         | 27.2         | 27.8         | 29.3         | 31.1         | 32.4         | 28.3           | 28.4         | 28.5         | 28.4         |
| Fair                            | 7.9          | 8.4          | 8.8          | 12.1         | 19.7         | 22.5         | 27.6           | 12.4         | 12.8         | 12.6         |
| Poor                            | 0.9          | 1.5          | 2.3          | 3.7          | 6.7          | 10.5         | 13.6           | 4.1          | 3.9          | 4.0          |
| <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>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

**TABLE 2. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED RECENT AND/OR LONG TERM CONDITIONS BY AGE AND SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1995 AND 1989-90**

| Year of survey                  | Age (years) |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             | Males   | Females | Persons  |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
|                                 | Under 5     | 5 - 14  | 15 - 24 | 25 - 34 | 35 - 44 | 45 - 54 | 55 - 64 | 65 - 74 | 75 and over |         |         |          |
| Recent condition(s) only        |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| 1995                            |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 444.6       | 494.7   | 429.0   | 358.3   | 247.5   | 34.9    | * 4.5   | * 3.6   | **1.0       | 1,006.5 | 1,011.5 | 2,018.1  |
| %                               | 34.4        | 19.5    | 15.4    | 12.4    | 8.7     | 1.5     | *0.4    | *0.3    | *0.2        | 11.4    | 11.5    | 11.4     |
| 1989-90(a)                      |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 566.4       | 671.9   | 641.8   | 520.9   | 370.1   | 127.1   | 45.1    | 33.3    | 16.5        | 1,473.5 | 1,519.6 | 2,993.1  |
| %                               | 45.1        | 27.1    | 22.7    | 18.3    | 14.2    | 7.0     | 3.2     | 2.9     | 2.6         | 17.4    | 18.1    | 17.7     |
| Long-term condition(s) only     |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| 1995                            |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 89.6        | 382.8   | 494.3   | 534.4   | 532.6   | 486.8   | 246.3   | 143.4   | 69.7        | 1,701.9 | 1,277.9 | 2,979.9  |
| %                               | 7.7         | 14.9    | 17.6    | 19.1    | 19.8    | 21.8    | 17.2    | 11.3    | 9.2         | 19.2    | 14.5    | 16.8     |
| 1989-90(a)                      |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 68.7        | 276.9   | 366.4   | 394.9   | 403.9   | 317.6   | 211.7   | 107.3   | 50.4        | 1,287.8 | 909.9   | 2,197.7  |
| %                               | 5.6         | 11.4    | 13.7    | 14.2    | 15.9    | 18.0    | 14.4    | 9.2     | 7.5         | 15.3    | 10.8    | 13.1     |
| Recent and long-term conditions |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| 1995                            |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 308.0       | 900.0   | 1,288.0 | 1,530.5 | 1,660.5 | 1,628.7 | 1,237.1 | 1,195.1 | 732.7       | 4,835.7 | 5,644.9 | 10,480.6 |
| %                               | 24.6        | 35.9    | 49.3    | 54.8    | 61.0    | 73.1    | 81.4    | 88.0    | 90.2        | 53.6    | 61.7    | 57.7     |
| 1989-90(a)                      |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 252.4       | 768.7   | 1,160.7 | 1,392.2 | 1,425.3 | 1,229.1 | 1,149.5 | 1,048.2 | 605.3       | 4,131.1 | 4,900.3 | 9,031.4  |
| %                               | 19.9        | 30.4    | 42.3    | 49.8    | 55.8    | 68.1    | 79.2    | 85.7    | 88.3        | 48.3    | 56.7    | 52.5     |
| No condition reported           |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| 1995                            |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 453.1       | 799.8   | 498.9   | 418.5   | 301.2   | 81.9    | 19.5    | * 5.9   | * 3.6       | 1,449.7 | 1,132.8 | 2,582.5  |
| %                               | 33.3        | 29.7    | 17.6    | 13.7    | 10.5    | 3.6     | 1.0     | *0.4    | *0.5        | 15.8    | 12.4    | 14.1     |
| 1989-90(a)                      |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 356.3       | 766.2   | 592.0   | 492.8   | 361.9   | 120.9   | 42.8    | 27.6    | 11.0        | 1,584.2 | 1,187.3 | 2,771.5  |
| %                               | 29.4        | 31.2    | 21.3    | 17.7    | 14.1    | 6.9     | 3.2     | 2.2     | 1.6         | 19.0    | 14.4    | 16.7     |
| Total                           |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| 1995                            |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 1,295.3     | 2,577.4 | 2,710.3 | 2,841.7 | 2,741.8 | 2,232.3 | 1,507.4 | 1,348.0 | 807.0       | 8,993.9 | 9,067.2 | 18,061.1 |
| %                               | 100.0       | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0       | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0    |
| 1989-90(a)                      |             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |         |         |          |
| No.                             | 1,243.7     | 2,483.8 | 2,760.9 | 2,800.8 | 2,561.2 | 1,794.7 | 1,449.1 | 1,216.4 | 683.2       | 8,476.5 | 8,517.1 | 16,993.7 |
| %                               | 100.0       | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0       | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0    |

(a) Due to differences in the way data were collected and classified in the 1995 and 1989-90 surveys, comparisons should be made with care: see paragraph 13 of Explanatory Notes. Age and sex standardised to 1995 Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. PERSONS REPORTING RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM CONDITION: TYPE OF CONDITION BY WHETHER RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)

| Type of condition   | Recent only  | Long-term only | Recent and long-term | Total          |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Infectious and parasitic diseases</b>  |              |                |                      |                |
| Herpes  | 104.6        | 21.3           | 9.8                  | 135.7          |
| Tinea   | 160.0        | 11.0           | 21.6                 | 192.5          |
| Other infectious and parasitic diseases   | 229.4        | 82.5           | 41.4                 | 353.3          |
| <i>Total infectious and parasitic diseases</i>                                    | <i>489.9</i> | <i>114.6</i>   | <i>72.3</i>          | <i>673.4</i>   |
| <b>Neoplasms --</b>   |              |                |                      |                |
| Skin cancer   | 42.2         | 73.5           | 24.2                 | 139.9          |
| Breast cancer   | 3.1          | 25.5           | 8.5                  | 37.1           |
| Neoplasms, NEC  | 18.4         | 132.4          | 63.3                 | 214.1          |
| <i>Total neoplasms</i>  | <i>63.7</i>  | <i>227.4</i>   | <i>95.5</i>          | <i>379.6</i>   |
| <b>Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders --</b>    |              |                |                      |                |
| Diabetes Mellitus -- Type 1   | --           | 4.9            | 74.6                 | 79.5           |
| Diabetes mellitus -- Type 2   | * 1.7        | 60.8           | 121.0                | 183.6          |
| Diabetes, unspecified   | 3.3          | 70.6           | 71.9                 | 145.9          |
| <i>Total diabetes</i>   | <i>5.0</i>   | <i>136.3</i>   | <i>267.6</i>         | <i>407.9</i>   |
| High blood sugar  | 2.6          | 31.1           | 7.0                  | 40.7           |
| Thyroid disease   | 39.0         | 86.0           | 178.2                | 303.3          |
| Gout  | 39.8         | 104.7          | 155.9                | 300.4          |
| Obesity   | 47.8         | * 0.9          | * 1.7                | 50.4           |
| High cholesterol  | 47.1         | 612.1          | 269.8                | 928.9          |
| Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders        | 415.2        | 40.8           | 40.2                 | 496.2          |
| <i>Total endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders</i> | <i>586.1</i> | <i>969.4</i>   | <i>864.1</i>         | <i>2,208.8</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs</i>                             | <i>67.9</i>  | <i>197.3</i>   | <i>105.1</i>         | <i>370.2</i>   |
| <b>Mental disorders --</b>  |              |                |                      |                |
| Nerves, tension, nervousness  | 257.8        | 58.2           | 79.5                 | 395.5          |
| Depression  | 102.0        | 43.3           | 103.8                | 249.1          |
| Psychoses   | 5.8          | 14.0           | 28.4                 | 48.2           |
| Emotional problems, NEC   | 16.7         | 101.9          | 22.7                 | 141.3          |
| Body image and eating disorders   | 3.3          | 2.7            | * 1.6                | 7.6            |
| Alcohol and drug dependence   | 12.8         | 96.4           | 13.8                 | 123.1          |
| Mental retardation, specific delays in development                                | * 0.4        | 159.1          | 8.7                  | 168.2          |
| Other mental disorders  | 25.2         | 41.6           | 50.3                 | 117.1          |
| <i>Total mental disorders</i>   | <i>398.9</i> | <i>466.8</i>   | <i>295.9</i>         | <i>1,047.6</i> |
| <b>Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs --</b>                         |              |                |                      |                |
| Blindness (complete or partial, NOT corrected by glasses)                         | 3.5          | 178.3          | 6.6                  | 188.4          |
| Hypermetropia / Far-sighted   | **0.1        | 3,746.5        | 7.6                  | 3,754.2        |
| Myopia / Short-sighted  | **0.1        | 3,656.5        | 12.1                 | 3,668.7        |
| Astigmatism   | **0.3        | 745.9          | 3.1                  | 749.3          |
| Presbyopia  | * 1.4        | 1,472.5        | 2.8                  | 1,476.7        |
| Other disorders of refraction and accommodation                                   | * 2.2        | 461.2          | --                   | 463.4          |
| <i>Total disorders of refraction and accommodation</i>                            | <i>4.1</i>   | <i>8,489.5</i> | <i>24.7</i>          | <i>8,510.4</i> |
| Cataracts   | 6.7          | 289.4          | 19.7                 | 315.7          |
| Glaucoma  | 7.2          | 58.1           | 76.1                 | 141.4          |
| Strabismus  | * 2.1        | 104.9          | 2.5                  | 109.4          |
| Visual disturbances   | 13.2         | 33.9           | * 0.8                | 47.9           |
| Other diseases of the eye and adnexa  | 365.7        | 641.9          | 69.7                 | 1,077.3        |
| All other diseases of the eye and adnexa  | 392.6        | 1,091.4        | 165.3                | 1,602.6        |
| <i>Total disorders of the eye and adnexa</i>                                      | <i>399.2</i> | <i>8,792.7</i> | <i>196.4</i>         | <i>8,991.0</i> |
| Otitis media  | 144.7        | 32.5           | 8.5                  | 185.7          |
| Deafness (complete/ partial)  | 6.2          | 1,654.1        | 64.5                 | 1,724.7        |
| Ear pain  | 54.1         | * 2.1          | **0.1                | 56.3           |
| Other diseases of the ear and mastoid process                                     | 60.5         | 372.8          | 24.6                 | 458.0          |
| <i>Total diseases of the ear and mastoid process</i>                              | <i>251.3</i> | <i>1,974.3</i> | <i>97.0</i>          | <i>2,253.4</i> |
| Epilepsy  | 3.6          | 26.4           | 91.2                 | 121.2          |

**TABLE 3. PERSONS REPORTING RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM CONDITION: TYPE OF CONDITION BY WHETHER RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM AUSTRALIA, 1995**  
(*'000*)—continued

| <i>Type of condition</i>  | <i>Recent only</i> | <i>Long-term only</i> | <i>Recent and long-term</i> | <i>Total</i>   |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Migraine  | 117.8              | 110.3                 | 116.6                       | 344.7          |
| Paralysis   | * 0.7              | 23.0                  | 5.9                         | 29.6           |
| Other hereditary and degenerative disorders of the nervous system       | 5.1                | 11.4                  | 26.0                        | 42.5           |
| Other diseases of the nervous system                                    | 28.9               | 57.1                  | 23.0                        | 109.0          |
| <i>Total diseases of the nervous system</i>                             | <i>787.9</i>       | <i>9,096.9</i>        | <i>515.0</i>                | <i>9,539.1</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the circulatory system ---</i>                           |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Hypertension  | 96.5               | 443.2                 | 1,396.1                     | 1,935.8        |
| Heart disease   | 56.9               | 166.8                 | 282.7                       | 506.5          |
| Cerebrovascular disease (excl. stroke)                                  | * 1.1              | 2.6                   | 2.3                         | 6.0            |
| Stroke (including after effects of)                                     | 7.3                | 74.6                  | 28.6                        | 110.5          |
| Atherosclerosis   | 4.6                | 12.0                  | 8.8                         | 25.5           |
| Varicose veins  | 4.2                | 966.1                 | 17.7                        | 988.1          |
| Haemorrhoids  | 14.5               | 441.7                 | 27.9                        | 484.1          |
| Fluid problems, NOS   | 224.3              | 4.1                   | 13.9                        | 242.2          |
| Other diseases of the circulatory system                                | 295.6              | 335.4                 | 74.9                        | 705.8          |
| Ill-defined signs and symptoms of heart conditions                      | 140.3              | 112.2                 | 111.7                       | 364.2          |
| <i>Total diseases of the circulatory system</i>                         | <i>731.4</i>       | <i>2,276.3</i>        | <i>1,797.3</i>              | <i>3,868.6</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the respiratory system ---</i>                           |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Asthma  | 38.8               | 864.9                 | 1,137.6                     | 2,041.4        |
| Bronchitis/ Emphysema   | 43.0               | 590.8                 | 144.0                       | 777.8          |
| Sinusitis   | 59.5               | 1,459.1               | 340.4                       | 1,859.0        |
| Hayfever  | 45.7               | 2,016.6               | 453.2                       | 2,515.4        |
| Influenza   | 570.3              | * 1.3                 | * 1.3                       | 573.0          |
| Common cold   | 1,014.3            | 9.1                   | 5.0                         | 1,028.3        |
| Cough or sore throat  | 510.1              | 25.0                  | 5.7                         | 540.8          |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system                                | 280.9              | 151.1                 | 43.9                        | 475.8          |
| <i>Total diseases of the respiratory system</i>                         | <i>2,268.4</i>     | <i>4,053.3</i>        | <i>1,930.6</i>              | <i>6,748.7</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the digestive system ---</i>                             |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Diarrhoea, enteritis  | 142.9              | 19.0                  | 22.2                        | 184.1          |
| Ulcer   | 27.6               | 283.3                 | 212.4                       | 523.2          |
| Hernia  | 16.1               | 381.4                 | 94.8                        | 492.3          |
| Constipation  | 113.6              | 20.0                  | 19.9                        | 153.5          |
| Dental problems   | 891.3              | 14.0                  | 8.3                         | 913.6          |
| Other diseases of the digestive system                                  | 341.2              | 285.3                 | 170.3                       | 796.9          |
| <i>Total diseases of the digestive system</i>                           | <i>1,478.3</i>     | <i>946.4</i>          | <i>510.6</i>                | <i>2,713.7</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the genito-urinary system ---</i>                        |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Kidney diseases   | 20.3               | 199.9                 | 68.1                        | 288.4          |
| Other diseases of the urinary system                                    | 72.7               | 135.4                 | 40.1                        | 248.2          |
| Disorders of menstruation   | 346.5              | 25.5                  | 27.6                        | 399.6          |
| Other diseases of the genital system                                    | 111.9              | 131.5                 | 54.2                        | 297.6          |
| <i>Total diseases of the genito-urinary system</i>                      | <i>541.8</i>       | <i>473.4</i>          | <i>187.5</i>                | <i>1,153.1</i> |
| <i>Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium</i>        |                    |                       |                             |                |
|   | 16.2               | 25.7                  | * 1.6                       | 43.5           |
| <i>Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue ---</i>                 |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Eczema, dermatitis  | 260.7              | 202.0                 | 181.8                       | 644.5          |
| Psoriasis   | 41.1               | 31.9                  | 57.5                        | 130.6          |
| Acne  | 135.8              | 5.5                   | 12.8                        | 154.2          |
| Skin rash, NOS  | 170.9              | 11.6                  | 15.5                        | 197.9          |
| Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                      | 559.3              | 123.8                 | 55.9                        | 739.1          |
| <i>Total diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue</i>               | <i>1,132.0</i>     | <i>370.8</i>          | <i>321.0</i>                | <i>1,782.9</i> |
| <i>Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue ---</i> |                    |                       |                             |                |
| Sciatica  | 18.1               | 31.9                  | 14.7                        | 64.8           |
| Disorders of the intervertebral disc                                    | 53.5               | 224.3                 | 111.2                       | 389.1          |
| Back problems (unspecified)   | 292.8              | 317.2                 | 173.0                       | 783.1          |

**TABLE 3. PERSONS REPORTING RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM CONDITION: TYPE OF CONDITION BY WHETHER RECENT AND/OR LONG-TERM AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)—continued**

| Type of condition   | Recent only    | Long-term only | Recent and long-term | Total           |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Curvature of the spine  | 9.1            | 39.1           | 12.6                 | 60.8            |
| Rheumatoid arthritis  | * 0.8          | 317.0          | 158.7                | 476.5           |
| Osteoarthritis  | * 1.3          | 735.9          | 424.1                | 1,161.3         |
| Arthritis, NEC  | 45.5           | 793.8          | 255.1                | 1,094.3         |
| <i>Total arthritis</i>  | <i>47.5</i>    | <i>1,813.2</i> | <i>831.7</i>         | <i>2,658.7</i>  |
| Rheumatism  | * 2.2          | 272.4          | 29.7                 | 304.3           |
| Osteoporosis  | 9.7            | 181.7          | 66.1                 | 257.4           |
| Absence of limbs or parts of limbs  | 2.9            | 85.6           | 6.9                  | 95.3            |
| Musculoskeletal deformities   | 20.9           | 99.0           | 19.1                 | 139.0           |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue        | 641.8          | 605.5          | 302.8                | 1,550.1         |
| <i>Total diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue</i> | <i>1,044.5</i> | <i>3,124.9</i> | <i>1,452.1</i>       | <i>4,783.0</i>  |
| <i>Congenital anomalies</i>   | <i>6.7</i>     | <i>46.8</i>    | <i>13.9</i>          | <i>67.4</i>     |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions —                              |                |                |                      |                 |
| Allergy NEC   | 69.6           | 918.8          | 108.5                | 1,096.8         |
| Insomnia  | 254.9          | 8.3            | 11.5                 | 274.7           |
| Pyrexia   | 112.2          | * 1.1          | * 1.7                | 114.9           |
| Localised swelling  | 18.5           | 3.3            | * 1.0                | 22.7            |
| Difficulty breathing  | 30.1           | 9.8            | 4.0                  | 43.8            |
| Chest pain  | 29.1           | 7.8            | * 2.2                | 39.0            |
| Abdominal pain  | 103.6          | 12.9           | 3.0                  | 119.4           |
| Hearburn  | 36.8           | 7.6            | 6.2                  | 50.6            |
| Dizziness   | 32.6           | 11.1           | 6.1                  | 49.7            |
| Hangover  | 95.4           | **0.4          | —                    | 95.8            |
| Headache — due to stress or tension                                       | 52.5           | 5.8            | 2.8                  | 61.1            |
| Headache — due to unspecified or trivial cause                            | 2,278.2        | 22.7           | 44.3                 | 2,345.2         |
| Virus   | 108.6          | * 1.9          | * 2.0                | 112.5           |
| Other symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                          | 431.9          | 104.5          | 37.0                 | 573.3           |
| <i>Total symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions</i>                   | <i>3,375.3</i> | <i>1,097.5</i> | <i>227.7</i>         | <i>4,367.0</i>  |
| Injury and poisoning —  |                |                |                      |                 |
| Fractures   | 70.1           | 8.2            | 20.1                 | 98.4            |
| Dislocations, sprains and strains   | 250.8          | 15.4           | 31.2                 | 297.4           |
| Internal injuries   | 10.4           | —              | —                    | 10.4            |
| Open wounds   | 130.9          | * 1.4          | * 0.6                | 132.8           |
| Bruising and crushing   | 130.6          | * 2.3          | **0.2                | 133.1           |
| Entry of foreign bodies   | 44.0           | * 1.1          | **0.3                | 45.4            |
| Burns and scalds  | 90.6           | 3.0            | 3.6                  | 97.2            |
| Poisoning (other than by food)  | 3.5            | * 1.8          | **0.2                | 5.5             |
| Complications of surgical and medical care, NEC                           | 124.8          | 7.7            | 7.0                  | 139.5           |
| Other injuries  | 260.9          | 4.7            | * 1.5                | 267.1           |
| Injuries, type not stated   | 7.5            | * 1.3          | **0.3                | 9.1             |
| <i>Total injuries</i>   | <i>1,056.4</i> | <i>46.8</i>    | <i>62.6</i>          | <i>1,133.9</i>  |
| Disability, NEC —   |                |                |                      |                 |
| Speech impediment, NEC  | 6.6            | 103.3          | 19.8                 | 129.8           |
| Blackouts, fits or loss of consciousness, NEC                             | 8.8            | 9.5            | * 1.1                | 19.5            |
| Incomplete use of arms or fingers   | **0.4          | 25.4           | 2.4                  | 28.2            |
| Incomplete use of feet or legs  | * 0.6          | 11.9           | * 1.1                | 13.6            |
| Disfigurement, NEC  | —              | 3.7            | **0.1                | 3.8             |
| Missing organs, NEC   | —              | 33.8           | * 1.9                | 35.8            |
| <i>Total disability, NEC</i>  | <i>16.4</i>    | <i>186.3</i>   | <i>26.5</i>          | <i>228.5</i>    |
| <i>Condition or reason not stated</i>                                     | <i>271.8</i>   | <i>—</i>       | <i>—</i>             | <i>271.8</i>    |
| <b>Total(a)</b>   | <b>2,018.1</b> | <b>2,979.9</b> | <b>10,480.6</b>      | <b>15,478.6</b> |

(a) Persons may have reported more than one type of recent or long-term condition and therefore components do not add to the totals shown.

**TABLE 4. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, AUSTRALIA 1995 AND 1989-90**  
Rate per 1,000 population

| Type of condition   | 1995        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             | 1989-90(a) |      |
|---|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|------------|------|
|   | Age (years) |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             | Total      |      |
|   | Under 5     | 5-14  | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75 and over |            |      |
| <b>Infectious and parasitic diseases —</b>                                    |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |      |
| Herpes  | **0.6       | 5.2   | 10.2  | 10.9  | 8.2   | 5.1   | *3.5  | **0.8 | **1.8       | 6.3        | 3.9  |
| Tinea   | *3.7        | 5.8   | 9.2   | 11.7  | 14.2  | 16.6  | 8.5   | 8.0   | *5.0        | 10.1       | 6.8  |
| Other infectious and parasitic diseases                                       | 27.3        | 22.9  | 14.3  | 13.8  | 14.0  | 11.3  | 8.4   | 10.6  | *9.8        | 15.0       | 15.8 |
| <i>Total infectious and parasitic diseases</i>                                | 30.9        | 33.7  | 33.6  | 35.8  | 35.8  | 32.9  | 20.1  | 19.4  | 16.5        | 31.1       | 26.4 |
| <b>Neoplasms —</b>  |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |      |
| Skin cancer   | —           | **0.2 | **0.3 | *0.9  | *2.4  | 4.1   | 6.6   | 16.5  | 17.5        | 3.7        | ..   |
| Other neoplasms   | **0.1       | **0.8 | *1.0  | *1.4  | 3.5   | 6.0   | 12.8  | 16.7  | 24.0        | 5.1        | 10.8 |
| <i>Total neoplasms</i>  | **0.1       | *1.0  | *1.3  | *2.4  | 5.9   | 10.1  | 19.4  | 32.9  | 41.6        | 8.8        | 10.8 |
| <b>Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders —</b> |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |      |
| Thyroid disease   | **0.7       | **0.4 | 3.5   | 5.5   | 12.0  | 17.2  | 24.2  | 35.6  | 42.7        | 12.0       | 8.3  |
| Gout  | —           | —     | **0.2 | *2.3  | 8.2   | 16.9  | 35.2  | 37.0  | 31.9        | 10.8       | 8.5  |
| Obesity   | **0.2       | **0.1 | *1.9  | 5.0   | 4.8   | 3.8   | *3.5  | *2.0  | —           | 2.7        | 2.6  |
| Diabetes Mellitus — Type 1  | —           | **0.9 | 3.0   | 3.1   | 3.2   | 5.3   | 6.4   | 12.0  | 11.3        | 4.1        | 10.0 |
| Diabetes Mellitus — Type 2  | —           | —     | —     | *0.9  | *2.7  | 10.5  | 19.7  | 29.3  | 25.1        | 6.8        | ..   |
| Diabetes unspecified  | **0.2       | —     | **0.2 | **0.2 | *1.3  | 4.4   | 11.3  | 20.0  | 20.4        | 4.2        | ..   |
| <i>Total diabetes</i>   | **0.2       | **0.9 | 3.3   | 4.1   | 7.2   | 20.1  | 37.3  | 61.3  | 56.8        | 15.1       | 10.0 |
| High cholesterol  | **0.1       | —     | **0.2 | *1.0  | 7.1   | 26.4  | 68.0  | 79.0  | 32.2        | 17.5       | 7.1  |
| Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders    | *2.5        | *1.5  | 5.2   | 8.6   | 19.2  | 69.6  | 80.6  | 49.8  | 26.9        | 25.7       | 8.9  |
| <i>Total endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity</i>       | *3.7        | *2.9  | 13.8  | 25.5  | 55.6  | 140.4 | 222.4 | 230.9 | 175.3       | 76.2       | 42.9 |
| <i>Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs</i>                         | **1.6       | *1.0  | 10.6  | 11.7  | 9.4   | 10.5  | 9.1   | 13.3  | 31.5        | 9.6        | 6.7  |
| <b>Mental disorders —</b>   |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |      |
| Nerves, tension, nervousness  | **0.6       | 3.2   | 9.1   | 15.7  | 23.1  | 27.7  | 32.8  | 42.5  | 33.4        | 18.7       | 26.2 |
| Depression  | —           | **0.3 | 6.1   | 12.4  | 17.7  | 16.4  | 23.6  | 15.3  | 14.7        | 11.4       | 5.8  |
| Psychoses   | **0.2       | **0.2 | *1.4  | 3.8   | *2.7  | *1.7  | *1.8  | **0.7 | *4.8        | 1.9        | 1.3  |
| Emotional problems, NEC   | *2.6        | 5.0   | *1.5  | *1.7  | *2.3  | *2.1  | *1.6  | **0.6 | —           | 2.2        | ..   |
| Other mental disorders  | *4.3        | 14.8  | 4.6   | 6.1   | 5.4   | 5.1   | 5.8   | *3.1  | *3.9        | 6.4        | 3.2  |
| <i>Total mental disorders</i>   | 7.4         | 22.4  | 20.8  | 35.4  | 45.4  | 48.4  | 58.1  | 58.1  | 54.1        | 36.9       | 35.2 |
| <b>Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs —</b>                      |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |      |
| Cataracts   | **0.2       | **0.1 | **0.1 | —     | **0.2 | **0.1 | **1.2 | 7.1   | 16.3        | 1.5        | ..   |
| Glaucoma  | —           | —     | **0.1 | —     | **0.6 | 4.2   | 8.4   | 26.6  | 28.8        | 4.6        | ..   |
| Other disorders of refraction and accommodation                               | **1.4       | *2.0  | 3.0   | *2.6  | *2.8  | 4.5   | *3.6  | *3.7  | *7.2        | 3.1        | 11.7 |
| Other diseases of the eye and adnexa  | 17.8        | 8.2   | 23.6  | 29.0  | 21.9  | 24.0  | 26.1  | 39.0  | 48.6        | 24.1       | 14.3 |
| Otitis media  | 36.3        | 14.6  | 5.7   | 5.5   | 4.0   | *2.7  | 5.8   | 7.4   | **2.2       | 8.5        | 8.4  |
| Deafness (complete/ partial)  | **1.3       | *2.1  | **0.4 | *1.3  | *2.7  | 4.3   | 6.6   | 10.4  | 21.9        | 3.9        | 1.0  |
| Ear pain  | 6.3         | 6.2   | *2.1  | *2.5  | 2.9   | *1.2  | *1.9  | *2.7  | **0.4       | 3.0        | 2.6  |
| Other diseases of the ear and mastoid process                                 | *2.1        | *1.9  | *1.8  | 4.2   | 5.2   | 3.8   | *4.4  | 16.7  | 10.9        | 4.7        | 2.6  |
| Epilepsy  | *1.8        | *2.6  | 4.8   | 7.2   | 6.6   | 5.2   | *5.0  | *5.6  | *9.0        | 5.2        | 4.6  |
| Other diseases of the nervous system  | **0.4       | **0.5 | *1.0  | 3.6   | 4.5   | *3.4  | *4.0  | *5.0  | *5.3        | 2.9        | 1.5  |
| Migraine  | —           | 4.5   | 12.8  | 15.7  | 19.5  | 20.5  | 17.2  | 10.3  | *5.3        | 13.0       | 16.4 |
| Other hereditary and degenerative disorders of the nervous system             | **1.2       | **0.4 | **0.2 | **0.7 | *1.5  | **0.8 | *3.6  | 8.5   | 12.0        | 2.1        | 2.3  |
| <i>Total diseases of the nervous system and sense organs</i>                  | 63.8        | 40.4  | 53.5  | 68.7  | 67.4  | 70.9  | 80.0  | 122.6 | 139.0       | 70.2       | 63.0 |

**TABLE 4. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, AUSTRALIA 1995 AND 1989-90**  
Rate per 1,000 population—continued

| Type of condition  | 1995         |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | 1989-90(a)   |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | Age (years)  |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | Total        |              |
|  | Under 5      | 5 - 14       | 15 - 24      | 25 - 34      | 35 - 44      | 45 - 54      | 55 - 64      | 65 - 74      | 75 and over  |              |              |
| <b>Diseases of the circulatory system —</b>                          |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Fluid problems, NOS  | —            | —            | **0.2        | * 2.3        | 3.4          | 12.4         | 25.3         | 52.8         | 104.8        | 13.2         | 14.8         |
| Haemorrhoids   | —            | **0.5        | * 0.9        | 3.0          | * 2.9        | * 2.9        | * 4.3        | * 4.4        | * 4.0        | 2.3          | 1.9          |
| Hypertension   | **0.4        | **0.1        | * 2.5        | 8.7          | 31.0         | 105.6        | 239.3        | 354.8        | 372.7        | 82.6         | 79.0         |
| Heart disease  | **0.5        | **0.2        | **0.6        | * 1.6        | * 2.9        | 11.1         | 44.7         | 86.2         | 144.0        | 18.8         | 20.2         |
| Other cerebrovascular disease (including and after effects of stroke | —            | **0.1        | **0.2        | **0.2        | **0.3        | **0.9        | * 3.2        | 13.9         | 14.4         | 2.2          | 2.5          |
| Ill-defined signs and symptoms of heart conditions                   | * 2.2        | **0.4        | **0.5        | * 1.8        | * 2.1        | 7.7          | 30.4         | 65.3         | 105.1        | 14.0         | 10.8         |
| Other diseases of the circulatory system                             | **0.0        | **0.7        | * 2.1        | 4.1          | 7.7          | 19.5         | 49.4         | 108.7        | 118.8        | 22.2         | 15.6         |
| <i>Total diseases of the circulatory system</i>                      | <i>* 3.1</i> | <i>* 2.0</i> | <i>6.7</i>   | <i>20.7</i>  | <i>47.0</i>  | <i>143.0</i> | <i>327.5</i> | <i>506.6</i> | <i>585.3</i> | <i>120.9</i> | <i>117.9</i> |
| <b>Diseases of the respiratory system —</b>                          |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Bronchitis/ Emphysema  | 8.0          | 5.0          | 4.0          | 6.0          | 6.3          | 8.6          | 17.4         | 28.4         | 43.3         | 10.4         | 11.1         |
| Sinusitis  | * 6.1        | 8.9          | 19.4         | 27.9         | 29.7         | 33.0         | 27.8         | 22.4         | 12.6         | 22.1         | 21.9         |
| Cough or sore throat   | 62.5         | 40.6         | 28.8         | 29.6         | 24.2         | 17.0         | 19.7         | 17.6         | 12.6         | 28.6         | 24.2         |
| Asthma   | 56.0         | 101.0        | 81.1         | 52.8         | 55.1         | 51.8         | 54.7         | 62.0         | 50.7         | 65.1         | 43.0         |
| Common cold  | 138.1        | 77.6         | 63.4         | 55.1         | 46.8         | 37.5         | 30.6         | 22.3         | 29.2         | 56.4         | 95.7         |
| Hayfever   | * 3.4        | 18.2         | 37.4         | 34.4         | 38.4         | 29.8         | 26.9         | 20.6         | 10.6         | 27.6         | 25.8         |
| Influenza  | 26.0         | 29.3         | 37.0         | 36.7         | 40.8         | 30.2         | 28.3         | 18.7         | 13.0         | 31.7         | 30.1         |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system                             | 40.5         | 22.8         | 16.5         | 11.9         | 12.0         | 12.0         | 13.6         | 23.2         | 29.0         | 18.0         | 16.1         |
| <i>Total diseases of the respiratory system</i>                      | <i>278.7</i> | <i>249.2</i> | <i>237.3</i> | <i>208.2</i> | <i>209.1</i> | <i>186.5</i> | <i>180.9</i> | <i>180.0</i> | <i>174.5</i> | <i>215.0</i> | <i>234.0</i> |
| <b>Diseases of the digestive system —</b>                            |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Diarrhoea, enteritis   | 19.4         | 9.5          | 8.2          | 10.6         | 7.0          | 4.7          | 9.5          | 8.0          | 10.4         | 9.1          | 10.3         |
| Ulcer  | —            | —            | * 2.7        | 4.7          | 11.0         | 18.3         | 32.0         | 44.9         | 49.1         | 13.3         | 12.2         |
| Hernia   | **1.0        | **0.0        | * 1.3        | * 1.4        | 3.5          | 7.2          | 15.7         | 25.2         | 23.1         | 6.1          | 7.1          |
| Constipation   | 6.6          | 3.1          | * 2.6        | 4.9          | 4.7          | 6.3          | 10.6         | 19.4         | 33.2         | 7.4          | 21.6         |
| Dental problems  | 86.0         | 53.9         | 45.2         | 41.6         | 42.0         | 54.4         | 48.2         | 49.8         | 39.9         | 49.8         | 53.0         |
| Other diseases of the digestive system                               | 15.0         | 10.3         | 15.6         | 21.8         | 26.1         | 31.8         | 47.4         | 64.2         | 75.5         | 28.3         | 34.1         |
| <i>Total diseases of the digestive system</i>                        | <i>121.9</i> | <i>74.7</i>  | <i>73.5</i>  | <i>82.2</i>  | <i>88.5</i>  | <i>116.4</i> | <i>150.3</i> | <i>190.3</i> | <i>202.0</i> | <i>106.9</i> | <i>129.7</i> |
| <b>Diseases of the genito-urinary system —</b>                       |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Kidney diseases  | **1.3        | * 1.9        | * 2.2        | 3.2          | 4.8          | 5.8          | 10.8         | 11.4         | 11.0         | 4.9          | 3.6          |
| Other diseases of the urinary system                                 | * 4.0        | 3.7          | 3.1          | 3.9          | 4.8          | 6.8          | 7.9          | 15.5         | 21.2         | 6.2          | 4.7          |
| Disorders of menstruation  | —            | 5.4          | 27.1         | 19.8         | 26.8         | 49.5         | 27.2         | * 3.0        | **1.4        | 20.7         | 23.5         |
| Other diseases of the genital system                                 | * 2.8        | * 0.9        | 5.7          | 10.3         | 12.2         | 11.9         | 18.9         | 15.0         | * 8.4        | 9.2          | 7.2          |
| <i>Total diseases of the genito-urinary system</i>                   | <i>7.8</i>   | <i>11.6</i>  | <i>37.0</i>  | <i>36.6</i>  | <i>46.8</i>  | <i>71.4</i>  | <i>62.2</i>  | <i>42.3</i>  | <i>38.6</i>  | <i>39.5</i>  | <i>38.0</i>  |
| <b>Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium</b>     |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|  | **0.4        | —            | * 1.2        | 4.0          | * 1.1        | —            | —            | —            | —            | 1.0          | 2.0          |
| <b>Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue —</b>                |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Skin rash, NOS   | 13.7         | 6.3          | 10.0         | 10.8         | 11.0         | 12.5         | 12.4         | 11.4         | * 3.6        | 10.3         | 19.8         |
| Eczema, dermatitis   | 54.1         | 20.9         | 26.8         | 29.7         | 23.0         | 17.7         | 20.4         | 11.9         | 15.0         | 24.5         | 55.1         |
| Acne   | **0.7        | 9.4          | 32.5         | 7.1          | 4.5          | * 1.2        | **0.1        | **0.1        | —            | 8.2          | 11.3         |
| Psoriasis  | **0.3        | * 2.0        | * 2.8        | 5.8          | 8.0          | 8.0          | 12.0         | 7.1          | **1.7        | 5.5          | ..           |
| Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                   | 19.8         | 18.7         | 38.1         | 30.7         | 32.7         | 37.8         | 41.3         | 48.9         | 60.1         | 34.1         | 43.6         |
| <i>Total diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue</i>            | <i>86.2</i>  | <i>56.3</i>  | <i>104.2</i> | <i>81.7</i>  | <i>76.9</i>  | <i>75.5</i>  | <i>83.0</i>  | <i>77.1</i>  | <i>78.6</i>  | <i>79.9</i>  | <i>126.9</i> |

**TABLE 4. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, AUSTRALIA 1995 AND 1989-90**  
**Rate per 1,000 population—continued**

| Type of condition   | 1995           |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                | 1989-90(a)     |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                | Total          |                |
|   | Under 5        | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over    |                |                |
| <b>Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue —</b> |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Disorders of the intervertebral disc                                  | —              | **0.3          | 4.4            | 7.6            | 14.9           | 19.1           | 18.5           | 9.9            | * 7.0          | 9.1            | 8.7            |
| Back trouble (unspecified)  | **0.2          | * 3.0          | 19.0           | 31.7           | 35.4           | 42.8           | 38.5           | 30.3           | 30.6           | 25.8           | 26.8           |
| Osteoporosis  | —              | —              | —              | **0.2          | **0.4          | 4.5            | 11.1           | 20.4           | 24.8           | 4.2            | ..             |
| Rheumatoid arthritis  | **0.1          | **0.4          | * 1.2          | * 2.5          | 4.6            | 12.9           | 27.1           | 32.3           | 27.2           | 8.8            | ..             |
| Osteoarthritis  | —              | **0.1          | **0.5          | 2.9            | 10.9           | 32.5           | 64.7           | 95.4           | 108.0          | 23.6           | ..             |
| Arthritis, NEC  | **1.0          | **0.5          | * 1.9          | 3.2            | 9.3            | 19.4           | 49.9           | 56.2           | 78.9           | 16.6           | 47.2           |
| Total arthritis   | **1.1          | * 1.0          | 3.5            | 8.5            | 24.9           | 64.2           | 139.3          | 181.8          | 213.0          | 48.5           | 47.2           |
| Musculoskeletal deformities   | **0.6          | * 1.6          | * 1.2          | * 0.9          | * 1.2          | * 2.9          | * 5.2          | 6.0            | * 4.3          | 2.2            | 3.5            |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue    | 6.5            | 18.3           | 46.5           | 57.1           | 68.1           | 75.8           | 83.1           | 91.9           | 105.9          | 57.3           | 57.4           |
| Total diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue    | 8.5            | 23.5           | 71.0           | 97.7           | 132.2          | 178.3          | 256.3          | 300.3          | 325.5          | 130.4          | 131.5          |
| <b>Congenital anomalies</b>   | * 4.2          | * 1.9          | * 1.3          | * 0.9          | **0.1          | **0.6          | **0.4          | **1.2          | **0.7          | 1.1            | —              |
| <b>Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions —</b>                   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Allergy   | 6.4            | 10.9           | 9.6            | 9.6            | 12.7           | 11.4           | 9.4            | 8.4            | * 3.4          | 9.9            | 6.5            |
| Insomnia  | * 4.0          | * 0.9          | 3.9            | 5.4            | 11.2           | 17.7           | 26.4           | 45.4           | 76.8           | 14.7           | 30.4           |
| Pyrexia   | 36.9           | 13.6           | * 2.6          | * 1.5          | * 1.8          | * 3.1          | * 2.4          | * 2.6          | **0.7          | 6.3            | 3.6            |
| Abdominal pain  | 10.3           | 9.6            | 6.3            | 3.5            | 4.0            | 4.2            | * 5.1          | 6.0            | * 6.6          | 5.9            | 8.0            |
| Heartburn   | —              | —              | **0.6          | 2.9            | * 2.9          | 4.3            | * 3.5          | * 5.5          | * 3.8          | 2.4            | 3.3            |
| Dizziness   | —              | **0.4          | **0.5          | * 2.4          | * 1.0          | * 2.1          | * 2.1          | 7.4            | 11.0           | 2.1            | 2.6            |
| Headache  | 8.7            | 64.9           | 165.7          | 195.0          | 206.0          | 157.8          | 100.7          | 65.4           | 42.4           | 131.4          | 154.4          |
| Virus   | 13.0           | 9.4            | 5.1            | 5.1            | 4.7            | 7.4            | * 3.9          | * 3.2          | **1.8          | 6.1            | 10.4           |
| Hangover  | —              | —              | 9.6            | 14.0           | 7.5            | * 3.5          | **0.8          | **0.3          | —              | 5.3            | 15.2           |
| Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions                             | 22.9           | 19.0           | 22.7           | 32.5           | 32.1           | 28.7           | 41.3           | 40.5           | 55.8           | 30.2           | 25.3           |
| Total symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                      | 95.2           | 118.0          | 209.2          | 251.4          | 262.7          | 220.2          | 178.7          | 163.3          | 182.9          | 197.0          | 237.6          |
| <b>Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only) —</b>               |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Complications of surgical and medical care, NEC                       | 10.1           | * 1.1          | * 1.8          | 3.2            | 4.4            | 8.0            | 13.6           | 21.6           | 28.1           | 7.3            | 3.6            |
| Fractures (any location)  | **1.2          | 4.9            | 8.1            | 3.5            | 4.1            | 4.6            | 7.5            | * 3.7          | * 7.7          | 5.0            | ..             |
| Dislocations, sprains and strains                                     | **0.5          | 13.7           | 27.4           | 22.1           | 15.0           | 14.0           | 12.4           | 9.6            | * 6.4          | 15.6           | ..             |
| Open wounds   | 7.8            | 8.8            | 10.1           | 8.8            | 6.0            | 6.6            | * 3.8          | * 2.7          | * 7.2          | 7.3            | ..             |
| Bruising and crushing   | 6.8            | 10.7           | 11.5           | 8.0            | 6.4            | * 3.4          | * 4.4          | * 4.3          | * 3.6          | 7.2            | ..             |
| Foreign bodies  | * 2.2          | * 1.5          | * 1.6          | 4.1            | 3.4            | * 3.3          | **0.7          | **1.5          | **2.0          | 2.4            | ..             |
| Burns and scalds  | * 4.9          | 4.3            | 12.5           | 7.4            | 3.9            | * 3.2          | * 1.8          | **0.7          | **0.5          | 5.2            | ..             |
| Other injuries  | 19.5           | 24.7           | 22.4           | 15.5           | 11.8           | 10.9           | 9.6            | 8.9            | * 7.4          | 15.7           | ..             |
| Total injury and poisoning  | 51.1           | 65.7           | 86.2           | 68.7           | 53.0           | 49.8           | 51.3           | 50.6           | 60.2           | 61.7           | 74.4           |
| Disability, NEC   | 9.7            | 5.3            | * 1.1          | * 1.2          | * 1.0          | **0.8          | **0.7          | * 2.6          | **1.6          | 2.4            | 1.1            |
| Condition or reason not stated  | 11.0           | 8.1            | 11.9           | 14.6           | 11.2           | 19.0           | 15.2           | 26.1           | 39.4           | 15.1           | —              |
| No recent illness reported  | 419.0          | 458.9          | 366.5          | 335.3          | 304.1          | 254.8          | 176.3          | 110.8          | 90.9           | 308.0          | 234.0          |
| <b>Total(b)</b>   | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> |

(a) Due to differences in the way data were collected and classified in the 1995 and 1989-90 surveys, comparisons should be made with care: see paragraph 13 of Explanatory Notes. Age and sex standardised to 1995 Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes. (b) Persons may have reported more than one type of recent condition and therefore components do not add to the totals shown.



**TABLE 5. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995**

| Type of condition  | New South Wales           | Victoria       | Queensland     | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania       | Northern Territory(a) | Australian Capital Territory | Australia       |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | '000                      |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 172.7                     | 139.1          | 119.0          | 47.4            | 46.4              | 15.2           | 6.1                   | 13.8                         | 560.9           |
| Neoplasms  | 57.3                      | 35.7           | 34.5           | 11.2            | 12.9              | 4.3            | * 0.7                 | 2.3                          | 159.0           |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 524.6                     | 290.4          | 244.0          | 130.5           | 128.2             | 33.2           | 6.6                   | 17.0                         | 1,375.7         |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 59.9                      | 49.9           | 22.4           | 13.7            | 17.7              | 4.7            | * 1.1                 | 3.3                          | 172.9           |
| Mental disorders   | 213.5                     | 164.6          | 130.3          | 53.9            | 69.6              | 18.1           | 4.3                   | 11.4                         | 666.1           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 399.6                     | 296.2          | 256.9          | 109.7           | 138.1             | 35.2           | 9.8                   | 20.5                         | 1,268.3         |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 829.0                     | 528.9          | 367.4          | 183.1           | 177.4             | 66.0           | 6.5                   | 23.9                         | 2,183.2         |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 1,250.5                   | 939.4          | 723.2          | 358.7           | 410.2             | 99.5           | 26.1                  | 72.0                         | 3,883.5         |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 659.6                     | 470.6          | 346.4          | 164.1           | 189.1             | 52.1           | 11.6                  | 36.7                         | 1,931.5         |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 214.4                     | 175.8          | 134.9          | 61.7            | 88.8              | 21.7           | 4.5                   | 12.1                         | 713.9           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | **2.6                     | * 4.5          | * 4.1          | * 1.1           | * 4.4             | **0.4          | **0.2                 | * 0.5                        | 17.8            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 452.3                     | 342.8          | 253.6          | 134.1           | 172.6             | 44.3           | 10.2                  | 31.3                         | 1,443.2         |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 792.9                     | 543.5          | 430.5          | 225.8           | 246.0             | 66.5           | 12.5                  | 35.6                         | 2,355.7         |
| Congenital anomalies   | * 6.9                     | * 4.1          | * 5.3          | * 1.7           | * 1.5             | **0.6          | * 0.5                 | —                            | 20.6            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 1,184.3                   | 771.6          | 758.6          | 308.0           | 351.8             | 81.8           | 23.0                  | 72.0                         | 3,557.4         |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 337.0                     | 243.5          | 248.0          | 90.7            | 128.1             | 32.5           | — 12.2                | 22.1                         | 1,115.0         |
| Disability, NEC  | 18.8                      | 6.9            | * 5.9          | 5.8             | * 3.6             | * 0.9          | * 0.4                 | * 0.6                        | 42.9            |
| Condition not stated   | 101.0                     | 62.3           | 49.0           | 18.6            | 28.3              | 5.8            | 2.0                   | 4.0                          | 271.8           |
| No recent illness reported   | 1,947.3                   | 1,503.4        | 937.9          | 405.3           | 470.6             | 142.0          | 57.8                  | 87.5                         | 5,562.4         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>6,120.5</b>            | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,061.1</b> |
|  | Rate per 1,000 population |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 28.2                      | 30.9           | 36.3           | 32.1            | 26.8              | 32.0           | 42.1                  | 45.3                         | 31.1            |
| Neoplasms  | 9.4                       | 7.9            | 10.5           | 7.6             | 7.5               | 9.0            | * 4.8                 | 7.5                          | 8.8             |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 85.7                      | 64.5           | 74.4           | 88.5            | 74.0              | 70.1           | 45.3                  | 55.8                         | 76.2            |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 9.8                       | 11.1           | 6.8            | 9.3             | 10.2              | 10.0           | * 7.6                 | 10.9                         | 9.6             |
| Mental disorders   | 34.9                      | 36.5           | 39.8           | 36.6            | 40.1              | 38.3           | 29.9                  | 37.5                         | 36.9            |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 65.3                      | 65.8           | 78.4           | 74.4            | 79.7              | 74.4           | 67.5                  | 67.4                         | 70.2            |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 135.4                     | 117.4          | 112.1          | 124.2           | 102.4             | 139.3          | 44.7                  | 78.4                         | 120.9           |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 204.3                     | 208.6          | 220.6          | 243.2           | 236.8             | 210.1          | 179.8                 | 236.1                        | 215.0           |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 107.8                     | 104.5          | 105.7          | 111.3           | 109.1             | 110.1          | 79.6                  | 120.5                        | 106.9           |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 35.0                      | 39.0           | 41.2           | 41.9            | 51.2              | 45.8           | 30.9                  | 39.6                         | 39.5            |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | **0.4                     | * 1.0          | * 1.3          | * 0.7           | * 2.5             | **0.9          | **1.1                 | * 1.8                        | 1.0             |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 73.9                      | 76.1           | 77.4           | 90.9            | 99.7              | 93.5           | 70.3                  | 102.6                        | 79.9            |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 129.5                     | 120.7          | 131.3          | 153.1           | 142.0             | 140.4          | 85.8                  | 116.9                        | 130.4           |
| Congenital anomalies   | * 1.1                     | * 0.9          | * 1.6          | * 1.1           | * 0.9             | **1.4          | * 3.2                 | —                            | 1.1             |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 193.5                     | 171.3          | 231.4          | 208.9           | 203.1             | 172.6          | 158.4                 | 236.3                        | 197.0           |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 55.1                      | 54.1           | 75.7           | 61.5            | 74.0              | 68.6           | 84.0                  | 72.4                         | 61.7            |
| Disability, NEC  | 3.1                       | 1.5            | * 1.8          | 3.9             | * 2.1             | * 1.8          | * 3.0                 | * 1.8                        | 2.4             |
| Condition not stated   | 16.5                      | 13.8           | 15.0           | 12.6            | 16.3              | 12.3           | 13.7                  | 13.0                         | 15.1            |
| No recent illness reported   | 318.2                     | 333.8          | 286.1          | 274.8           | 271.7             | 299.8          | 397.6                 | 286.9                        | 308.0           |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>            | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>        | <b>1,000.0</b>               | <b>1,000.0</b>  |

**TABLE 5. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995—continued**

| Type of condition  | New South Wales | Victoria       | Queensland     | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania       | Northern Territory(a) | Australian Capital Territory | Australia       |
|--|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Standardised estimates(c) '000                                       |                 |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 173.8           | 139.3          | 118.7          | 47.9            | 45.9              | 15.3           | 7.3                   | 13.3                         | 563.2           |
| Neoplasms  | 55.8            | 35.1           | 35.9           | 10.5            | 13.6              | 4.2            | * 1.4                 | 3.0                          | 159.5           |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 514.2           | 286.2          | 250.4          | 122.6           | 135.5             | 32.7           | 11.2                  | 20.6                         | 1,374.7         |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 59.4            | 49.1           | 22.5           | 13.3            | 17.8              | 4.7            | * 1.1                 | 3.2                          | 171.5           |
| Mental disorders   | 212.3           | 163.3          | 131.9          | 52.8            | 70.5              | 18.0           | 4.1                   | 11.8                         | 665.0           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 396.4           | 294.5          | 259.3          | 107.3           | 139.8             | 35.0           | 11.3                  | 21.9                         | 1,268.1         |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 805.6           | 517.8          | 381.9          | 167.8           | 192.2             | 64.2           | 12.0                  | 32.3                         | 2,174.9         |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 1,252.4         | 941.2          | 721.4          | 361.7           | 407.7             | 99.6           | 28.0                  | 70.7                         | 3,886.6         |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 654.3           | 468.6          | 349.0          | 161.0           | 192.5             | 51.6           | 13.8                  | 38.5                         | 1,930.5         |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 213.5           | 174.2          | 135.9          | 61.3            | 89.8              | 21.7           | 4.7                   | 12.2                         | 713.2           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | **2.7           | * 4.5          | * 4.1          | * 1.1           | * 4.3             | **0.4          | **0.1                 | * 0.5                        | 17.7            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 452.5           | 342.4          | 253.6          | 134.4           | 172.9             | 44.4           | 9.6                   | 31.2                         | 1,442.8         |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 781.4           | 536.9          | 439.1          | 217.9           | 255.1             | 65.8           | 15.6                  | 40.2                         | 2,354.4         |
| Congenital anomalies   | * 6.9           | * 4.1          | * 5.2          | * 1.7           | * 1.5             | **0.6          | * 0.5                 | —                            | 20.6            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 1,185.0         | 769.7          | 760.2          | 308.2           | 351.7             | 82.7           | 22.7                  | 71.0                         | 3,556.9         |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 337.8           | 243.6          | 247.0          | 91.5            | 127.0             | 32.8           | 11.8                  | 21.8                         | 1,114.3         |
| Disability, NEC  | 18.8            | 6.9            | * 5.8          | 6.0             | * 3.5             | * 0.8          | * 0.4                 | * 0.6                        | 42.9            |
| Condition not stated   | 100.4           | 61.8           | 49.3           | 18.1            | 29.1              | 5.7            | 2.3                   | 4.4                          | 271.6           |
| No recent illness reported   | 1,960.7         | 1,512.3        | 928.5          | 412.3           | 462.4             | 142.4          | 52.8                  | 83.6                         | 5,565.1         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>6,120.5</b>  | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,060.3</b> |
| Standardised rate(c) per 1,000 population                            |                 |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 28.4            | 30.9           | 36.2           | 32.5            | 26.5              | 32.3           | 50.5                  | 43.5                         | 31.2            |
| Neoplasms  | 9.1             | 7.8            | 10.9           | 7.2             | 7.9               | 8.8            | * 9.6                 | 9.8                          | 8.8             |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 84.0            | 63.6           | 76.4           | 83.1            | 78.2              | 69.1           | 77.4                  | 67.7                         | 76.1            |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 9.7             | 10.9           | 6.9            | 9.0             | 10.3              | 10.0           | * 7.9                 | 10.6                         | 9.5             |
| Mental disorders   | 34.7            | 36.3           | 40.2           | 35.8            | 40.7              | 38.0           | 28.0                  | 38.7                         | 36.8            |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 64.8            | 65.4           | 79.1           | 72.7            | 80.7              | 73.8           | 77.9                  | 71.7                         | 70.2            |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 131.6           | 115.0          | 116.5          | 113.8           | 110.9             | 135.5          | 82.3                  | 106.0                        | 120.4           |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 204.6           | 209.0          | 220.1          | 245.3           | 235.3             | 210.4          | 192.3                 | 232.0                        | 215.2           |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 106.9           | 104.1          | 106.5          | 109.2           | 111.1             | 108.9          | 94.7                  | 126.3                        | 106.9           |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 34.9            | 38.7           | 41.5           | 41.6            | 51.8              | 45.9           | 32.2                  | 39.9                         | 39.5            |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | **0.4           | * 1.0          | * 1.2          | * 0.7           | * 2.5             | **0.9          | **0.9                 | * 1.6                        | 1.0             |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 73.9            | 76.0           | 77.4           | 91.1            | 99.8              | 93.8           | 66.2                  | 102.3                        | 79.9            |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 127.7           | 119.2          | 134.0          | 147.7           | 147.2             | 138.9          | 107.5                 | 131.9                        | 130.4           |
| Congenital anomalies   | * 1.1           | * 0.9          | * 1.6          | * 1.1           | * 0.9             | **1.4          | * 3.2                 | —                            | 1.1             |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 193.6           | 170.9          | 231.9          | 209.0           | 203.0             | 174.6          | 156.3                 | 233.0                        | 196.9           |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 55.2            | 54.1           | 75.4           | 62.0            | 73.3              | 69.3           | 81.0                  | 71.6                         | 61.7            |
| Disability, NEC  | 3.1             | 1.5            | * 1.8          | 4.1             | * 2.0             | * 1.7          | * 2.6                 | * 2.0                        | 2.4             |
| Condition not stated   | 16.4            | 13.7           | 15.0           | 12.3            | 16.8              | 12.0           | 15.6                  | 14.4                         | 15.0            |
| No recent illness reported   | 320.3           | 335.8          | 283.3          | 279.6           | 266.9             | 300.6          | 363.0                 | 274.3                        | 308.1           |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>        | <b>1,000.0</b>               | <b>1,000.0</b>  |

(a) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only. (b) Persons may have reported more than one type of recent or long-term condition and therefore components do not add to the totals shown. (c) Age and sex standardised to the Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 6. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A LONG TERM CONDITION BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, 1995 AND 1989-90  
Rate per 1,000 population

| Type of condition  | 1995        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             | 1989-90(a) |       |
|--|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|------------|-------|
|  | Age (years) |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             | Total      |       |
|  | Under 5     | 5-14  | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75 and over |            |       |
| Total infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | * 4.0       | 5.0   | 12.8  | 13.7  | 14.6  | 11.0  | 9.5   | 8.1   | * 5.6       | 10.3       | 7.7   |
| Neoplasms —  |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |       |
| Skin cancer  |             | **0.1 | **0.5 | * 1.7 | 4.9   | 7.6   | 10.6  | 20.6  | 21.2        | 5.4        | ..    |
| Other neoplasms  | **0.3       | * 1.2 | * 2.7 | 5.5   | 9.8   | 15.6  | 26.0  | 45.0  | 48.9        | 12.6       | 16.1  |
| Total neoplasms  | **0.3       | * 1.3 | 3.2   | 7.2   | 14.7  | 22.9  | 36.6  | 63.4  | 69.6        | 17.8       | 16.1  |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders —     |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |       |
| Thyroid disease  | **0.7       | **0.4 | 4.2   | 9.0   | 16.3  | 23.7  | 29.7  | 36.4  | 42.2        | 14.6       | 8.4   |
| Gout   | —           | **0.3 | **0.3 | 4.8   | 12.6  | 24.4  | 40.7  | 46.5  | 40.3        | 14.4       | 11.1  |
| Diabetes Mellitus — Type 1   | —           | **0.9 | 3.0   | 3.3   | 3.2   | 5.3   | 6.9   | 13.2  | 13.6        | 4.4        | 11.4  |
| Diabetes Mellitus — Type 2   | —           | **0.1 | **0.2 | * 1.6 | 4.4   | 16.2  | 28.1  | 41.1  | 37.2        | 10.1       | ..    |
| Diabetes unspecified   | —           | **0.3 | * 1.1 | * 2.4 | 3.8   | 9.7   | 19.3  | 29.4  | 38.6        | 7.9        | ..    |
| Total diabetes   | —           | * 1.3 | 4.4   | 7.4   | 11.3  | 31.2  | 54.3  | 83.7  | 89.4        | 22.4       | 11.4  |
| High blood sugar   | **1.1       | **0.2 | **0.8 | * 2.6 | * 1.9 | * 3.2 | * 2.9 | * 4.7 | * 4.2       | 2.1        | 1.1   |
| High cholesterol   | **1.0       | * 0.9 | 4.7   | 21.5  | 48.5  | 85.1  | 157.6 | 135.3 | 76.2        | 48.8       | 22.5  |
| Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | * 5.2       | * 2.1 | * 2.8 | 6.3   | 6.6   | 5.4   | 7.1   | * 3.4 | **0.3       | 4.6        | 6.5   |
| Total endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity           | 8.0         | 5.2   | 16.5  | 49.0  | 92.5  | 157.8 | 256.6 | 273.5 | 225.7       | 97.0       | 55.7  |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                             | * 3.2       | 3.7   | 16.5  | 20.6  | 20.3  | 19.8  | 17.8  | 17.5  | 43.5        | 16.7       | 8.6   |
| Mental disorders —   |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |       |
| Nerves, tension, nervousness   | **0.2       | **0.8 | * 2.4 | 6.1   | 12.8  | 14.6  | 15.2  | 11.0  | * 7.8       | 7.6        | 9.5   |
| Depression   | —           | **0.7 | 5.2   | 10.4  | 12.6  | 11.6  | 16.7  | 8.8   | * 4.8       | 8.1        | 2.8   |
| Psychoses  | **0.4       | **0.6 | * 1.4 | 3.1   | * 2.6 | * 1.8 | * 3.2 | * 2.1 | 11.0        | 2.3        | 1.5   |
| Emotional problems, NEC  | * 3.6       | 13.6  | 5.3   | 7.4   | 7.6   | 5.8   | * 4.7 | * 3.2 | * 5.7       | 6.9        | ..    |
| Alcohol and drug dependence  | **0.0       | **0.2 | 7.6   | 11.7  | 8.7   | 5.7   | 5.6   | * 3.2 | * 7.8       | 6.1        | ..    |
| Mental retardation, specific delays in development                         | 7.0         | 25.8  | 9.9   | 8.2   | 7.3   | 5.5   | * 2.7 | * 2.7 | **2.5       | 9.3        | 4.2   |
| Other mental disorders   | * 2.7       | 14.4  | 4.7   | * 2.5 | 3.5   | 4.0   | * 4.9 | * 3.6 | * 5.7       | 5.3        | 5.1   |
| Total mental disorders   | 12.7        | 48.8  | 31.7  | 42.2  | 47.7  | 43.8  | 47.5  | 30.2  | 42.6        | 40.0       | 21.8  |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs —                          |             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |            |       |
| Blindness (complete or partial, NOT corrected by glasses)                  | **0.3       | * 1.7 | * 2.6 | 5.2   | 9.7   | 12.0  | 20.2  | 27.5  | 46.6        | 10.2       | 7.4   |
| Strabismus   | * 5.9       | 6.8   | 6.0   | 5.7   | 6.8   | 7.5   | * 4.3 | * 3.9 | * 3.2       | 5.9        | ..    |
| Cataracts  | **0.2       | **0.6 | * 0.9 | * 1.8 | 3.7   | 4.2   | 23.5  | 76.9  | 175.2       | 17.1       | ..    |
| Glaucoma   | —           | —     | **0.2 | **0.6 | * 1.5 | 7.4   | 14.3  | 37.6  | 48.3        | 7.4        | ..    |
| Astigmatism  | * 4.1       | 17.9  | 33.9  | 45.6  | 60.6  | 59.0  | 53.7  | 47.8  | 40.7        | 41.5       | ..    |
| Hypermetropia / Far-sighted  | * 2.5       | 49.7  | 88.2  | 73.8  | 138.4 | 456.1 | 527.6 | 488.9 | 398.9       | 207.9      | ..    |
| Myopia / Short-sighted   | * 1.8       | 45.2  | 164.7 | 207.6 | 222.5 | 327.2 | 341.1 | 321.1 | 280.1       | 203.1      | ..    |
| Presbyopia   | —           | **0.3 | **0.4 | **0.4 | 26.0  | 140.8 | 212.6 | 319.2 | 416.3       | 81.7       | ..    |
| Other disorders of refraction and accommodation                            | * 2.5       | 18.2  | 27.7  | 31.7  | 29.9  | 24.1  | 27.7  | 42.6  | 53.3        | 27.3       | 315.3 |
| Other diseases of the eye and adnexa                                       | * 2.2       | 15.1  | 30.8  | 37.2  | 42.7  | 55.4  | 56.7  | 67.3  | 78.6        | 39.4       | 32.9  |
| Otitis media   | 7.8         | 6.7   | * 1.3 | * 1.4 | **0.7 | **0.5 | **0.9 | **0.7 | **0.8       | 2.3        | 4.1   |
| Deafness (complete/ partial)   | 7.5         | 16.8  | 28.3  | 48.5  | 85.1  | 130.3 | 189.4 | 261.2 | 358.7       | 95.2       | 40.2  |
| Other diseases of the ear and mastoid process                              | 24.0        | 16.9  | 11.1  | 13.3  | 21.4  | 28.5  | 32.0  | 40.2  | 40.0        | 22.1       | 4.4   |
| Epilepsy   | * 2.7       | 5.4   | 6.7   | 9.1   | 7.2   | 5.7   | 5.9   | * 5.4 | * 9.2       | 6.5        | 4.7   |

**TABLE 6. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A LONG TERM CONDITION BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, 1995 AND 1989-90**  
Rate per 1,000 population—continued

| Type of condition   | 1995        |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             | 1989-90(a) |       |
|---|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|------------|-------|
|   | Age (years) |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             | Total      |       |
|   | Under 5     | 5 - 14 | 15 - 24 | 25 - 34 | 35 - 44 | 45 - 54 | 55 - 64 | 65 - 74 | 75 and over |            |       |
| Other diseases of the nervous system                                  | **1.0       | * 1.5  | * 1.8   | 5.5     | 7.3     | 6.1     | 5.8     | * 5.3   | * 5.9       | 4.4        | 2.7   |
| Migraine  | —           | 6.1    | 14.1    | 15.5    | 19.7    | 18.3    | 12.4    | 8.0     | * 5.4       | 12.6       | 34.1  |
| Paralysis   | **1.3       | * 1.4  | **0.8   | * 1.6   | * 1.7   | * 1.3   | * 1.8   | * 3.6   | **2.5       | 1.6        | 1.5   |
| Other hereditary and degenerative disorders of the nervous system     | **0.7       | **0.4  | **0.3   | * 0.9   | * 1.2   | * 1.2   | * 4.3   | 6.6     | 12.9        | 2.1        | 2.1   |
| Total diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                 | 52.0        | 161.3  | 328.3   | 380.3   | 492.0   | 865.1   | 951.4   | 967.9   | 957.0       | 511.9      | 382.4 |
| Diseases of the circulatory system —                                  |             |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |            |       |
| Varicose veins  | **0.4       | **0.2  | 12.5    | 44.7    | 64.1    | 90.1    | 111.9   | 133.8   | 119.2       | 54.5       | 24.5  |
| Haemorrhoids  | **0.4       | * 0.9  | 4.7     | 26.4    | 41.3    | 44.4    | 52.1    | 44.4    | 35.1        | 26.0       | 11.6  |
| Hypertension  | **0.1       | **0.5  | 12.0    | 31.6    | 56.0    | 140.2   | 281.8   | 375.7   | 393.6       | 101.8      | 71.3  |
| Heart disease   | * 3.4       | * 2.4  | * 2.3   | 3.7     | 6.3     | 19.8    | 59.3    | 114.4   | 145.1       | 24.9       | 18.8  |
| Other cerebrovascular disease (including and after effects of stroke) | **0.0       | **0.2  | * 0.9   | * 0.9   | * 0.9   | * 1.8   | 11.6    | 32.5    | 42.9        | 6.0        | 4.3   |
| Ill-defined signs and symptoms of heart conditions                    | * 4.2       | 6.5    | 4.3     | 6.2     | 8.1     | 11.2    | 17.9    | 40.9    | 53.5        | 12.4       | 11.3  |
| Other diseases of the circulatory system                              | **0.1       | * 1.2  | 12.0    | 30.9    | 32.4    | 29.8    | 32.5    | 51.0    | 62.7        | 24.8       | 7.9   |
| Total diseases of the circulatory system                              | 8.3         | 11.6   | 46.3    | 129.8   | 185.9   | 286.8   | 447.6   | 575.6   | 594.3       | 200.2      | 131.2 |
| Diseases of the respiratory system —                                  |             |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |            |       |
| Bronchitis/ Emphysema   | 25.5        | 25.9   | 33.0    | 30.6    | 31.6    | 37.7    | 60.4    | 85.7    | 100.9       | 40.7       | 29.4  |
| Sinusitis   | 9.9         | 47.7   | 89.0    | 120.4   | 138.0   | 131.7   | 124.1   | 110.4   | 89.1        | 99.6       | 32.2  |
| Asthma  | 105.0       | 189.4  | 147.9   | 93.4    | 85.2    | 81.4    | 82.3    | 84.8    | 72.6        | 110.9      | 80.2  |
| Hayfever  | 18.8        | 87.5   | 183.2   | 177.1   | 167.5   | 143.0   | 129.9   | 116.9   | 109.6       | 136.7      | 97.5  |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system                              | 25.6        | 18.1   | 13.1    | 9.1     | 8.5     | 10.7    | 11.2    | 14.9    | 17.2        | 13.2       | 16.3  |
| Total diseases of the respiratory system                              | 154.1       | 275.5  | 327.1   | 304.4   | 305.4   | 293.9   | 297.8   | 304.4   | 290.2       | 290.6      | 219.5 |
| Diseases of the digestive system —                                    |             |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |            |       |
| Diarrhoea, enteritis  | **0.9       | **0.3  | **0.8   | 3.4     | * 2.7   | * 3.4   | * 3.4   | * 3.3   | * 3.6       | 2.3        | 2.0   |
| Ulcer   | **0.3       | —      | 7.0     | 19.3    | 29.1    | 38.9    | 59.7    | 76.1    | 77.3        | 27.4       | 13.6  |
| Hernia  | 10.4        | 4.4    | 3.8     | 11.0    | 22.0    | 32.1    | 55.5    | 84.4    | 99.6        | 26.4       | 15.4  |
| Constipation  | * 2.5       | * 2.8  | * 1.2   | * 1.6   | * 2.8   | * 1.5   | **0.6   | * 3.5   | * 6.1       | 2.2        | 2.6   |
| Other diseases of the digestive system                                | 9.4         | 6.7    | 10.4    | 23.0    | 25.3    | 40.9    | 47.2    | 57.3    | 55.9        | 26.4       | 23.0  |
| Total diseases of the digestive system                                | 23.5        | 13.8   | 22.2    | 55.8    | 76.6    | 106.7   | 153.3   | 199.7   | 212.0       | 77.8       | 52.9  |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system —                               |             |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |            |       |
| Kidney diseases   | * 4.8       | 4.4    | 6.3     | 11.9    | 14.5    | 20.9    | 30.8    | 30.2    | 31.9        | 14.8       | 9.7   |
| Other diseases of the urinary system                                  | **1.1       | 6.5    | * 2.2   | 3.8     | 5.7     | 11.6    | 15.7    | 24.8    | 52.3        | 9.7        | 5.2   |
| Disorders of menstruation   | —           | **0.2  | * 2.5   | 2.8     | 4.6     | 8.6     | * 3.8   | **0.1   | —           | 2.9        | 5.2   |
| Other diseases of the genital system                                  | **0.2       | **0.1  | 6.4     | 10.6    | 13.6    | 13.3    | 17.0    | 23.0    | 17.4        | 10.3       | 7.9   |
| Total diseases of the genito-urinary system                           | * 5.7       | 10.7   | 16.7    | 28.4    | 36.5    | 51.5    | 65.1    | 72.9    | 95.9        | 36.0       | 26.9  |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium             | —           | —      | **0.8   | 4.3     | 4.3     | **0.5   | —       | —       | —           | 1.5        | 0.6   |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue —                        |             |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |            |       |
| Eczema, dermatitis  | 44.9        | 29.5   | 22.3    | 23.6    | 18.0    | 12.4    | 13.6    | 10.5    | 12.8        | 21.2       | 36.9  |
| Psoriasis   | **0.5       | * 2.4  | 3.3     | 4.7     | 7.1     | 7.0     | 8.7     | 7.6     | **2.4       | 5.0        | ..    |
| Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                    | * 5.2       | 7.9    | 19.5    | 14.4    | 11.5    | 12.5    | 11.5    | 12.1    | 13.4        | 12.4       | 20.4  |
| Total diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                    | 49.3        | 38.9   | 44.2    | 42.1    | 35.8    | 31.6    | 33.4    | 30.2    | 27.4        | 38.0       | 56.5  |

**TABLE 6. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A LONG TERM CONDITION BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY AGE, 1995 AND 1989-90**  
**Rate per 1,000 population—continued**

| Type of condition   | 1995           |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                | 1989-90(a)     |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                | Total          |                |
|   | Under 5        | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over    |                |                |
| <b>Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue —</b> |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Sciatica  | —              | —              | **0.6          | * 1.8          | 4.4            | 5.1            | * 5.1          | * 4.1          | * 4.1          | 2.6            | 6.1            |
| Disorders of the intervertebral disc                                  | **0.2          | **0.6          | 6.0            | 17.2           | 30.8           | 40.2           | 35.6           | 23.0           | 12.3           | 18.6           | 26.4           |
| Back trouble (unspecified)  | **0.2          | * 1.6          | 18.8           | 38.1           | 43.4           | 44.8           | 36.5           | 23.3           | 26.4           | 27.1           | 80.8           |
| Curvature of spine  | **0.1          | * 1.5          | 5.9            | 4.3            | * 2.4          | * 2.1          | * 3.1          | **1.7          | **1.6          | 2.9            | ..             |
| Osteoporosis  | —              | —              | **0.1          | * 2.1          | 5.2            | 12.6           | 33.5           | 62.1           | 80.6           | 13.7           | ..             |
| Rheumatoid arthritis  | **0.1          | **0.7          | 4.3            | 10.5           | 23.0           | 39.3           | 68.8           | 80.3           | 86.1           | 26.3           | ..             |
| Osteoarthritis  | —              | **0.9          | 4.3            | 15.2           | 41.0           | 94.0           | 171.0          | 234.3          | 256.7          | 64.2           | ..             |
| Arthritis, NEC  | **0.7          | * 1.2          | 12.4           | 26.7           | 49.6           | 83.0           | 147.2          | 173.7          | 195.6          | 58.1           | 106.1          |
| Total arthritis   | **0.8          | * 2.7          | 20.9           | 52.1           | 112.6          | 213.8          | 377.7          | 476.5          | 523.9          | 145.8          | 106.1          |
| Rheumatism  | —              | **0.6          | * 2.5          | 5.5            | 9.0            | 21.2           | 41.6           | 59.1           | 79.0           | 16.7           | 8.9            |
| Absence of limbs or parts of limbs                                    | **0.7          | * 0.9          | * 1.2          | 4.5            | 5.6            | 6.6            | 8.3            | 12.7           | 16.4           | 5.1            | 2.6            |
| Musculoskeletal deformities   | * 2.0          | 3.2            | 4.0            | 5.3            | 7.1            | 8.4            | 13.1           | 9.2            | 13.3           | 6.5            | 13.3           |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue    | * 4.7          | 13.2           | 53.1           | 60.8           | 58.2           | 63.1           | 63.9           | 60.2           | 91.1           | 50.3           | 57.6           |
| Total diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue    | 8.5            | 23.4           | 99.7           | 162.1          | 226.2          | 330.7          | 477.6          | 559.8          | 610.7          | 228.6          | 258.0          |
| <b>Congenital anomalies</b>   | 6.6            | 5.0            | 3.7            | 5.4            | * 2.0          | * 1.3          | * 2.8          | **0.5          | **0.5          | 3.4            | 0.4            |
| <b>Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions —</b>                   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Allergy   | 36.3           | 62.1           | 65.6           | 63.1           | 58.1           | 59.4           | 56.5           | 44.4           | 32.6           | 56.9           | 21.3           |
| Headache  | **0.3          | * 1.8          | 6.9            | 4.5            | 5.6            | 5.6            | * 3.9          | * 2.4          | * 2.9          | 4.2            | 7.4            |
| Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions                             | 6.3            | 9.6            | 8.7            | 12.3           | 14.2           | 14.6           | 18.7           | 20.3           | 26.0           | 13.3           | 14.9           |
| Total symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                      | 42.5           | 72.9           | 78.4           | 77.7           | 76.0           | 77.0           | 76.7           | 66.0           | 61.5           | 72.6           | 42.4           |
| Total injury and poisoning  | —              | * 2.6          | 10.3           | 6.9            | 5.4            | 6.8            | * 4.9          | * 5.9          | 11.6           | 6.0            | 13.8           |
| <b>Disability, NEC —</b>  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Speech impediment, NEC  | 14.2           | 17.1           | 4.0            | 4.3            | 4.5            | * 3.1          | * 3.3          | 7.4            | * 4.3          | 6.8            | 2.5            |
| Missing organs  | **0.8          | **0.1          | * 1.3          | * 2.6          | * 1.6          | * 3.0          | * 2.0          | * 4.3          | * 4.5          | 2.0            | 2.1            |
| Other disability  | * 2.7          | * 1.0          | * 2.2          | 3.1            | 4.1            | 3.8            | * 2.6          | * 3.1          | * 6.8          | 3.0            | 2.2            |
| Total disability, NEC   | 17.7           | 18.1           | 7.5            | 9.9            | 10.2           | 9.9            | 7.8            | 14.7           | 15.7           | 11.7           | 6.8            |
| No long-term condition reported                                       | 693.1          | 502.3          | 342.4          | 273.4          | 200.1          | 52.3           | 15.9           | 7.0            | * 5.7          | 254.7          | 338.4          |
| <b>Total(b)</b>   | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> |

(a) Due to differences in the way data were collected and classified in the 1995 and 1989-90 surveys, comparisons should be made with care: see paragraph 13 of Explanatory Notes. Age and sex standardised to 1995 Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes. (b) Persons may have reported more than one type of long-term condition and therefore components do not add to the totals shown.

**TABLE 7. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A LONG TERM CONDITION BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995**

| Type of condition  | New South Wales           | Victoria       | Queensland     | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania       | Northern Territory(a) | Australian Capital Territory | Australia       |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | '000                      |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 49.0                      | 37.1           | 50.7           | 21.4            | 15.5              | 5.9            | 2.3                   | 4.4                          | 186.3           |
| Neoplasms  | 108.4                     | 72.7           | 68.6           | 25.7            | 30.4              | 10.0           | * 1.4                 | 3.9                          | 321.1           |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 646.5                     | 391.0          | 300.8          | 161.8           | 169.5             | 45.2           | 9.6                   | 25.2                         | 1,751.3         |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 99.4                      | 75.0           | 53.6           | 26.4            | 33.7              | 7.0            | * 1.4                 | 5.6                          | 302.4           |
| Mental disorders   | 220.5                     | 168.4          | 163.8          | 62.0            | 71.9              | 18.9           | 3.6                   | 13.9                         | 723.3           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 3,135.8                   | 2,254.2        | 1,694.8        | 775.3           | 897.9             | 253.0          | 59.3                  | 162.3                        | 9,244.8         |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 1,260.6                   | 894.6          | 632.6          | 304.3           | 342.1             | 106.8          | 15.7                  | 54.8                         | 3,615.0         |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 1,670.7                   | 1,265.8        | 1,007.2        | 470.5           | 554.6             | 134.6          | 38.2                  | 102.4                        | 5,248.4         |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 484.0                     | 332.2          | 282.2          | 110.3           | 129.2             | 42.0           | 6.0                   | 18.2                         | 1,404.3         |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 223.8                     | 149.3          | 120.1          | 53.4            | 72.5              | 16.5           | 3.4                   | 10.2                         | 649.6           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | * 5.3                     | 10.0           | * 5.1          | 3.3             | * 2.8             | —              | * 0.2                 | * 0.5                        | 27.3            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 187.0                     | 182.6          | 115.9          | 76.4            | 82.5              | 21.0           | 3.7                   | 15.6                         | 685.4           |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 1,397.1                   | 959.2          | 764.8          | 380.4           | 414.8             | 118.9          | 22.7                  | 65.5                         | 4,127.9         |
| Congenital anomalies   | 25.0                      | 11.3           | 9.1            | 5.2             | 6.8               | * 1.7          | * 0.6                 | 1.0                          | 60.7            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 435.7                     | 308.6          | 225.3          | 105.4           | 153.5             | 41.6           | 10.0                  | 30.4                         | 1,310.6         |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 34.7                      | 22.6           | 20.5           | 10.0            | 14.2              | 2.9            | * 1.4                 | 2.5                          | 108.8           |
| Disability, NEC  | 71.7                      | 39.4           | 52.1           | 18.2            | 20.5              | 5.8            | * 1.4                 | 3.0                          | 212.1           |
| No long-term condition reported                                      | 1,629.2                   | 1,209.1        | 794.2          | 337.8           | 399.5             | 108.7          | 45.5                  | 64.3                         | 4,600.6         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>6,120.5</b>            | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,061.1</b> |
|  | Rate per 1,000 population |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 8.0                       | 8.2            | 15.5           | 14.5            | 8.9               | 12.5           | 16.1                  | 14.4                         | 10.3            |
| Neoplasms  | 17.7                      | 16.1           | 20.9           | 17.5            | 17.6              | 21.1           | * 9.6                 | 12.8                         | 17.8            |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 105.6                     | 86.8           | 91.8           | 109.7           | 97.9              | 95.4           | 66.4                  | 82.6                         | 97.0            |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 16.2                      | 16.6           | 16.4           | 17.9            | 19.4              | 14.8           | * 9.8                 | 18.5                         | 16.7            |
| Mental disorders   | 36.0                      | 37.4           | 50.0           | 42.0            | 41.5              | 39.8           | 24.7                  | 45.5                         | 40.0            |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 512.3                     | 500.6          | 517.1          | 525.7           | 518.3             | 534.3          | 407.9                 | 532.5                        | 511.9           |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 206.0                     | 198.7          | 193.0          | 206.3           | 197.5             | 225.5          | 107.8                 | 179.6                        | 200.2           |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 273.0                     | 281.1          | 307.3          | 319.0           | 320.1             | 284.2          | 262.8                 | 336.0                        | 290.6           |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 79.1                      | 73.8           | 86.1           | 74.8            | 74.6              | 88.7           | 41.1                  | 59.6                         | 77.8            |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 36.6                      | 33.2           | 36.6           | 36.2            | 41.8              | 34.8           | 23.7                  | 33.5                         | 36.0            |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | * 0.9                     | 2.2            | * 1.6          | 2.3             | * 1.6             | —              | * 1.7                 | * 1.6                        | 1.5             |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 30.6                      | 40.6           | 35.4           | 51.8            | 47.6              | 44.3           | 25.7                  | 51.2                         | 38.0            |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 228.3                     | 213.0          | 233.3          | 258.0           | 239.4             | 251.1          | 156.3                 | 214.7                        | 228.6           |
| Congenital anomalies   | 4.1                       | 2.5            | 2.8            | 3.5             | 3.9               | * 3.5          | * 4.3                 | 3.2                          | 3.4             |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 71.2                      | 68.5           | 68.7           | 71.5            | 88.6              | 87.9           | 68.6                  | 99.7                         | 72.6            |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 5.7                       | 5.0            | 6.3            | 6.8             | 8.2               | 6.1            | * 9.4                 | 8.1                          | 6.0             |
| Disability, NEC  | 11.7                      | 8.7            | 15.9           | 12.4            | 11.8              | 12.3           | * 9.4                 | 9.7                          | 11.7            |
| Condition not stated   | —                         | —              | —              | —               | —                 | —              | —                     | —                            | —               |
| No long-term condition reported                                      | 266.2                     | 268.5          | 242.3          | 229.0           | 230.6             | 229.5          | 312.8                 | 211.0                        | 254.7           |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>            | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>        | <b>1,000.0</b>               | <b>1,000.0</b>  |

TABLE 7. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A LONG TERM CONDITION BY TYPE OF CONDITION BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995 *continued*

| Type of condition  | New South Wales | Victoria       | Queensland     | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania       | Northern Territory(a) | Australian Capital Territory | Australia       |
|--|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Standardised estimates(c) '000                                       |                 |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 49.2            | 37.0           | 50.6           | 21.5            | 15.4              | 6.1            | 2.1                   | 4.3                          | 186.1           |
| Neoplasms  | 106.3           | 71.5           | 70.8           | 24.1            | 32.2              | 9.8            | 2.4                   | 5.0                          | 322.2           |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 635.1           | 386.0          | 308.5          | 153.4           | 177.6             | 44.7           | 13.7                  | 30.0                         | 1,750.5         |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 99.1            | 74.1           | 54.5           | 25.9            | 34.4              | 7.1            | * 1.5                 | 5.4                          | 302.1           |
| Mental disorders   | 221.2           | 168.0          | 163.8          | 61.6            | 72.0              | 18.8           | 3.3                   | 14.2                         | 723.3           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 3,106.2         | 2,235.5        | 1,718.6        | 750.5           | 919.6             | 251.9          | 72.2                  | 172.7                        | 9,238.7         |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 1,237.7         | 881.0          | 649.8          | 287.7           | 358.0             | 105.4          | 21.7                  | 64.2                         | 3,608.9         |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 1,670.3         | 1,265.5        | 1,007.9        | 469.3           | 554.9             | 134.8          | 39.9                  | 101.5                        | 5,247.8         |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 476.8           | 328.4          | 287.9          | 105.4           | 134.9             | 41.3           | 7.5                   | 20.8                         | 1,403.4         |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 221.2           | 147.4          | 122.5          | 51.4            | 75.1              | 16.2           | 3.9                   | 11.7                         | 649.9           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | * 5.3           | 9.9            | * 5.2          | 3.5             | * 2.7             | —              | **0.2                 | * 0.5                        | 27.2            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 187.4           | 183.1          | 115.9          | 77.1            | 82.0              | 21.1           | 3.5                   | 15.2                         | 685.8           |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 1,375.5         | 947.1          | 781.0          | 364.7           | 431.3             | 117.8          | 30.4                  | 73.0                         | 4,124.7         |
| Congenital anomalies   | 25.2            | 11.4           | 9.0            | 5.2             | 6.7               | * 1.7          | * 0.6                 | 0.9                          | 60.7            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 435.9           | 308.4          | 225.6          | 105.7           | 153.2             | 41.5           | 10.1                  | 30.5                         | 1,311.0         |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 34.8            | 22.4           | 20.6           | 10.1            | 14.3              | 2.9            | * 1.3                 | 2.3                          | 108.7           |
| Disability, NEC  | 71.6            | 39.5           | 51.8           | 18.3            | 20.5              | 5.9            | 1.7                   | 3.2                          | 212.4           |
| No long-term condition reported                                      | 1,645.6         | 1,221.6        | 780.3          | 351.7           | 388.2             | 108.8          | 38.0                  | 60.1                         | 4,607.0         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>6,120.5</b>  | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,060.3</b> |
| Standardised rate(c) per 1,000 population                            |                 |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases                                    | 8.0             | 8.2            | 15.4           | 14.6            | 8.9               | 12.8           | 14.4                  | 14.1                         | 10.3            |
| Neoplasms  | 17.4            | 15.9           | 21.6           | 16.4            | 18.6              | 20.8           | 16.5                  | 16.5                         | 17.8            |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders | 103.8           | 85.7           | 94.1           | 104.0           | 102.5             | 94.3           | 93.9                  | 98.5                         | 96.9            |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                       | 16.2            | 16.4           | 16.6           | 17.6            | 19.9              | 14.9           | * 10.3                | 17.6                         | 16.7            |
| Mental disorders   | 36.1            | 37.3           | 50.0           | 41.8            | 41.6              | 39.8           | 22.7                  | 46.7                         | 40.1            |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                      | 507.5           | 496.4          | 524.3          | 508.9           | 530.8             | 531.9          | 496.9                 | 566.4                        | 511.5           |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                   | 202.2           | 195.6          | 198.2          | 195.1           | 206.6             | 222.6          | 149.3                 | 210.5                        | 199.8           |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                   | 272.9           | 281.0          | 307.5          | 318.2           | 320.3             | 284.7          | 274.4                 | 332.8                        | 290.6           |
| Diseases of the digestive system                                     | 77.9            | 72.9           | 87.8           | 71.5            | 77.9              | 87.1           | 51.4                  | 68.3                         | 77.7            |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                | 36.1            | 32.7           | 37.4           | 34.9            | 43.4              | 34.1           | 26.9                  | 38.4                         | 36.0            |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium            | * 0.9           | 2.2            | * 1.6          | 2.3             | * 1.6             | —              | **1.3                 | * 1.5                        | 1.5             |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                         | 30.6            | 40.7           | 35.4           | 52.3            | 47.3              | 44.5           | 24.1                  | 49.8                         | 38.0            |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue         | 224.7           | 210.3          | 238.3          | 247.3           | 249.0             | 248.7          | 209.4                 | 239.6                        | 228.4           |
| Congenital anomalies   | 4.1             | 2.5            | 2.7            | 3.5             | 3.8               | * 3.6          | * 4.1                 | 3.1                          | 3.4             |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                           | 71.2            | 68.5           | 68.8           | 71.6            | 88.4              | 87.6           | 69.4                  | 100.0                        | 72.6            |
| Injury and poisoning (Current conditions only)                       | 5.7             | 5.0            | 6.3            | 6.9             | 8.3               | 6.2            | * 9.0                 | 7.4                          | 6.0             |
| Disability, NEC  | 11.7            | 8.8            | 15.8           | 12.4            | 11.8              | 12.4           | 11.9                  | 10.6                         | 11.8            |
| Condition not stated   | —               | —              | —              | —               | —                 | —              | —                     | —                            | —               |
| No long-term condition reported                                      | 268.9           | 271.3          | 238.1          | 238.5           | 224.1             | 229.7          | 261.3                 | 197.2                        | 255.1           |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>        | <b>1,000.0</b>               | <b>1,000.0</b>  |

(a) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only. (b) Persons may have reported more than one type of recent or long-term condition and therefore components do not add to the totals shown. (c) Age and sex standardised to the Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 8. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED ANY CONDITIONS AS A RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT(a) BY MOST COMMONLY REPORTED TYPES OF CONDITION BY AGE AND SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

|  | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|  | Under 15       | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| No conditions reported(b)  | 1,331.9        | 522.3          | 432.5          | 317.7          | 88.3           | 19.3           | 5.9            | 3.6          | 1,553.2        | 1,168.4        | 2,721.5         |
| Reported a condition result of an accident                         | 291.8          | 409.4          | 494.4          | 525.4          | 436.4          | 309.8          | 238.8          | 127.2        | 1,732.5        | 1,100.7        | 2,833.2         |
| No conditions result from an accident                              | 2,249.1        | 1,778.5        | 1,914.8        | 1,898.7        | 1,707.6        | 1,178.3        | 1,103.3        | 676.2        | 5,708.2        | 6,798.1        | 12,506.3        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>3,872.7</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |
| Deafness (complete/ partial)                                       | **0.1          | 8.8            | 21.6           | 55.6           | 63.1           | 51.8           | 53.3           | 19.9         | 253.1          | 21.3           | 274.4           |
| Total diseases of the ear and mastoid process                      | *0.7           | 12.3           | 30.7           | 63.9           | 71.2           | 63.9           | 59.5           | 20.4         | 295.0          | 27.5           | 322.5           |
| Total diseases of the respiratory system                           | 5.0            | 11.2           | 17.0           | 19.7           | 13.7           | 14.5           | 14.2           | 3.6          | 60.0           | 38.9           | 98.9            |
| Total diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                 | 12.7           | 16.4           | 13.8           | 12.8           | 8.6            | 7.7            | 6.9            | 2.3          | 45.5           | 35.7           | 81.2            |
| Disorders of the intervertebral disc                               | *0.5           | 8.2            | 32.6           | 46.7           | 51.2           | 21.3           | 14.6           | 6.5          | 125.0          | 56.6           | 181.6           |
| Back problems (unspecified)  | *1.0           | 20.8           | 59.0           | 67.2           | 56.5           | 31.1           | 14.4           | 8.5          | 154.5          | 104.1          | 258.5           |
| Osteoarthritis   | **0.4          | *1.0           | 10.0           | 19.4           | 23.7           | 20.9           | 28.0           | 10.1         | 59.7           | 53.7           | 113.4           |
| Arthritis, NEC   | *0.6           | 6.5            | 13.3           | 27.6           | 21.0           | 19.1           | 11.3           | 5.1          | 62.2           | 42.2           | 104.4           |
| Total arthritis  | *1.4           | 9.6            | 29.4           | 50.3           | 50.1           | 49.2           | 43.0           | 17.7         | 138.7          | 112.0          | 250.7           |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | 13.9           | 80.5           | 109.5          | 113.9          | 75.2           | 49.2           | 30.8           | 27.2         | 296.1          | 204.2          | 500.2           |
| Total diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue | 19.6           | 119.5          | 224.8          | 272.5          | 229.6          | 152.3          | 107.0          | 64.8         | 724.8          | 465.2          | 1,190.0         |
| Total symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                   | 13.6           | 14.4           | 16.4           | 17.9           | 11.4           | 7.8            | 3.4            | *1.6         | 45.2           | 41.3           | 86.5            |
| Injury and poisoning --  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Fractures  | 15.6           | 22.5           | 11.8           | 12.6           | 12.5           | 10.7           | 6.7            | 7.7          | 55.7           | 44.3           | 100.0           |
| Dislocations, sprains and strains                                  | 41.4           | 78.7           | 69.5           | 41.3           | 30.0           | 16.6           | 13.6           | 5.0          | 179.1          | 117.0          | 296.1           |
| Open wounds  | 33.1           | 26.5           | 23.7           | 15.2           | 13.8           | 4.4            | 2.6            | 5.6          | 76.7           | 48.1           | 124.8           |
| Bruising and crushing  | 37.2           | 31.3           | 20.3           | 16.6           | 7.5            | 6.6            | 4.5            | 2.7          | 71.5           | 55.2           | 126.7           |
| Burns and scalds   | 18.0           | 29.3           | 19.4           | 7.4            | 5.2            | 2.8            | *1.9           | **0.4        | 40.9           | 43.4           | 84.3            |
| Other injuries   | 84.1           | 50.5           | 33.5           | 28.4           | 22.5           | 13.2           | 9.0            | 4.7          | 116.6          | 129.2          | 245.9           |
| Total injuries   | 230.7          | 233.6          | 181.8          | 125.9          | 94.8           | 54.8           | 40.9           | 26.9         | 550.6          | 438.8          | 989.4           |
| <b>Total(c)(d)</b>   | <b>291.8</b>   | <b>409.4</b>   | <b>494.4</b>   | <b>525.4</b>   | <b>436.4</b>   | <b>309.8</b>   | <b>238.8</b>   | <b>127.2</b> | <b>1,732.5</b> | <b>1,100.7</b> | <b>2,833.2</b>  |

(a) Includes accidents, exposures to harmful factors and other incidents. (b) Includes persons who reported no conditions, or reported cold or flu only. (c) Only the more commonly reported injuries or illness conditions are listed; therefore components do not add to the totals shown. (d) Persons may have reported more than one illness or injury due to an accident and/or working condition; therefore components do not add to the totals shown.



**TABLE 9. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE: WHETHER REPORTED ANY CONDITIONS WHICH WERE WORK RELATED(a) BY MOST COMMONLY REPORTED TYPES OF CONDITION BY AGE AND SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

|   | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|   | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| No conditions reported (b)  | 2,300.8        | 2,347.3        | 2,216.4        | 1,795.8        | 1,197.6        | 1,109.2        | 679.8        | 7,421.3        | 8,098.3        | 15,519.6        |
| Condition work related  | 73.7           | 182.9          | 232.4          | 235.7          | 177.3          | 118.0          | 41.2         | 833.3          | 227.9          | 1,061.2         |
| Conditions result from accident not work related                          | 257.1          | 247.8          | 247.4          | 167.0          | 113.0          | 107.6          | 76.6         | 602.8          | 613.6          | 1,216.4         |
| Not stated whether work related   | 78.7           | 63.7           | 45.6           | 33.7           | 19.5           | 13.2           | 9.4          | 136.5          | 127.4          | 263.9           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |
| <i>Total disorders of the eye and adnexa</i>                              | * 1.8          | 3.3            | 6.7            | 6.1            | 5.3            | 2.3            | * 2.2        | 25.5           | 2.4            | 27.9            |
| Deafness (complete/ partial)  | 2.8            | 17.5           | 46.1           | 57.8           | 45.0           | 49.3           | 13.8         | 221.4          | 10.8           | 232.2           |
| Other diseases of the ear and mastoid process                             | * 1.0          | 2.9            | 6.8            | 5.8            | 11.1           | 4.9            | * 0.5        | 30.0           | 3.1            | 33.1            |
| <i>Total diseases of the ear and mastoid process</i>                      | 3.8            | 21.7           | 52.4           | 63.1           | 55.1           | 53.6           | 14.2         | 250.6          | 13.4           | 264.0           |
| <i>Total diseases of the respiratory system</i>                           | 3.5            | 6.6            | 9.1            | 6.5            | 8.0            | 9.8            | 3.2          | 39.4           | 7.2            | 46.7            |
| <i>Total diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue</i>                 | 5.6            | 4.7            | 5.2            | 3.2            | 3.2            | * 2.2          | —            | 17.4           | 6.7            | 24.1            |
| Disorders of the intervertebral disc                                      | 2.7            | 17.5           | 29.3           | 39.1           | 15.9           | 7.9            | 3.7          | 93.4           | 22.6           | 116.1           |
| Back problems (unspecified)   | * 1.7          | 25.7           | 38.2           | 35.9           | 19.3           | 7.5            | 3.3          | 99.1           | 32.5           | 131.6           |
| Osteoarthritis  | —              | 3.0            | 6.1            | 8.5            | 11.1           | 12.4           | 3.3          | 31.5           | 12.9           | 44.4            |
| Arthritis, NEC  | * 0.8          | 3.6            | 7.8            | 9.6            | 12.9           | 4.8            | * 1.4        | 29.6           | 11.4           | 41.0            |
| <i>Total arthritis</i>  | * 0.8          | 9.4            | 15.7           | 20.1           | 29.9           | 18.7           | 5.6          | 70.8           | 29.3           | 100.1           |
| Absence of limbs or parts or limbs  | * 2.3          | 7.0            | 5.6            | 5.9            | 6.0            | 4.4            | 3.9          | 33.4           | * 1.7          | 35.1            |
| Other diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue        | 10.6           | 33.5           | 39.4           | 32.2           | 24.8           | 10.0           | 3.9          | 109.8          | 44.7           | 154.5           |
| <i>Total diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue</i> | 17.9           | 89.7           | 124.3          | 126.4          | 94.7           | 45.6           | 19.0         | 388.6          | 129.0          | 517.6           |
| <i>Total symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions</i>                   | 3.9            | 5.9            | 7.3            | 5.6            | * 2.2          | * 1.4          | **0.2        | 16.2           | 10.3           | 26.5            |
| Injury and poisoning —  |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Dislocations, sprains and strains   | 8.2            | 13.5           | 12.5           | 9.0            | 3.8            | * 1.5          | —            | 36.2           | 12.3           | 48.5            |
| Open wounds   | 7.4            | 9.3            | 3.6            | 4.4            | * 0.7          | —              | **0.2        | 16.4           | 9.2            | 25.6            |
| Other injuries  | 9.3            | 10.0           | 3.6            | 3.4            | * 1.7          | —              | —            | 21.6           | 6.4            | 28.0            |
| <i>Total injuries</i>   | 36.6           | 48.6           | 30.2           | 23.8           | 8.5            | 2.8            | **0.3        | 112.0          | 38.9           | 150.9           |
| <b>Total(c)(d)</b>  | <b>73.7</b>    | <b>182.9</b>   | <b>232.4</b>   | <b>235.7</b>   | <b>177.3</b>   | <b>118.0</b>   | <b>41.2</b>  | <b>833.3</b>   | <b>227.9</b>   | <b>1,061.2</b>  |

(a) Includes conditions resulting from an accident, exposure, or incident which the respondent considered to be work related. (b) Includes persons who reported no conditions and no conditions as a result of an accident or incident. (c) Only the more commonly reported injuries or illness conditions are listed; therefore components do not add to the totals shown. (d) Persons may have reported more than one illness or injury due to an accident and/or working condition; therefore components do not add to the totals shown.

**TABLE 10. PERSONS: WHETHER TOOK HEALTH RELATED ACTION DURING THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF ACTION BY AGE AND SEX, AUSTRALIA 1995 AND 1989-90**

| Type of action                         | 1995           |                |                |                |                |                |              | 1989-90(a)     |                |                 |                 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |                 |
|  | Under 5        | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 44        | 45 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |                 |
|  | '000           |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |                 |
| Hospitalisation                        | 10.4           | 9.3            | 12.5           | 40.4           | 26.9           | 20.4           | 18.6         | 63.5           | 75.0           | 138.5           | 156.5           |
| Casualty /emergency /outpatients visit | 35.7           | 48.1           | 75.6           | 147.4          | 96.5           | 56.3           | 37.3         | 254.3          | 242.7          | 497.0           | 424.8           |
| Day clinic visit                       | 8.3            | 10.1           | 34.6           | 75.9           | 72.1           | 28.8           | 14.9         | 105.4          | 139.3          | 244.7           | ..              |
| Doctor consultation                    | 375.7          | 355.0          | 507.4          | 1,191.9        | 947.6          | 489.2          | 339.8        | 1,836.2        | 2,370.4        | 4,206.6         | 3,400.6         |
| Dental consultation(b)                 | 15.1           | 236.7          | 138.7          | 263.8          | 235.1          | 77.6           | 39.1         | 473.7          | 532.4          | 1,006.1         | 874.0           |
| Consultation with OHP                  | 162.9          | 154.7          | 252.5          | 606.9          | 368.4          | 142.9          | 104.3        | 751.0          | 1,041.6        | 1,792.6         | 1,608.6         |
| Medication use(c)                      | 696.6          | 1,259.8        | 1,686.1        | 3,860.1        | 2,961.0        | 1,214.4        | 739.5        | 5,706.1        | 6,711.5        | 12,417.6        | 11,952.1        |
| Days off work/school                   | 31.8           | 407.9          | 290.9          | 430.9          | 191.2          | * 5.2          | **1.0        | 684.8          | 674.0          | 1,358.8         | 1,170.0         |
| Days of reduced activity               | 37.4           | 108.4          | 127.9          | 290.6          | 239.8          | 135.7          | 92.6         | 431.0          | 601.5          | 1,032.5         | 1,644.2         |
| Other health related contact           | 69.4           | 93.9           | 187.8          | 282.1          | 154.0          | 38.5           | 28.1         | 377.5          | 476.4          | 853.9           | ..              |
| Total persons taking action(d)         | 830.2          | 1,538.3        | 1,907.8        | 4,217.4        | 3,104.9        | 1,244.4        | 754.8        | 6,328.6        | 7,269.2        | 13,597.8        | 12,826.9        |
| Total persons who took no action       | 465.1          | 1,039.1        | 802.5          | 1,366.1        | 634.7          | 103.6          | 52.1         | 2,665.2        | 1,798.0        | 4,463.3         | 4,166.7         |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>1,295.3</b> | <b>2,577.4</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>5,583.5</b> | <b>3,739.6</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> | <b>16,993.7</b> |
|  | Per cent       |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |                 |
| Hospitalisation                        | 0.8            | 0.4            | 0.5            | 0.7            | 0.7            | 1.5            | 2.3          | 0.7            | 0.8            | 0.8             | 0.9             |
| Casualty /emergency /outpatients visit | 2.8            | 1.9            | 2.8            | 2.6            | 2.6            | 4.2            | 4.6          | 2.8            | 2.7            | 2.8             | 2.5             |
| Day clinic visit                       | 0.6            | 0.4            | 1.3            | 1.4            | 1.9            | 2.1            | 1.8          | 1.2            | 1.5            | 1.4             | ..              |
| Doctor consultation                    | 29.0           | 13.8           | 18.7           | 21.3           | 25.3           | 36.3           | 42.1         | 20.4           | 26.1           | 23.3            | 20.0            |
| Dental consultation(b)                 | 1.2            | 9.2            | 5.1            | 4.7            | 6.3            | 5.8            | 4.8          | 5.3            | 5.9            | 5.6             | 5.1             |
| Consultation with OHP                  | 12.6           | 6.0            | 9.3            | 10.9           | 9.8            | 10.6           | 12.9         | 8.3            | 11.5           | 9.9             | 9.5             |
| Medication use(c)                      | 53.8           | 48.9           | 62.2           | 69.1           | 79.2           | 90.1           | 91.6         | 63.4           | 74.0           | 68.8            | 70.3            |
| Days off work/school                   | 2.5            | 15.8           | 10.7           | 7.7            | 5.1            | * 0.4          | **0.1        | 7.6            | 7.4            | 7.5             | 6.9             |
| Days of reduced activity               | 2.9            | 4.2            | 4.7            | 5.2            | 6.4            | 10.1           | 11.5         | 4.8            | 6.6            | 5.7             | 9.7             |
| Other health related contact           | 5.4            | 3.6            | 6.9            | 5.1            | 4.1            | 2.9            | 3.5          | 4.2            | 5.3            | 4.7             | ..              |
| Total persons taking action(d)         | 64.1           | 59.7           | 70.4           | 75.5           | 83.0           | 92.3           | 93.5         | 70.4           | 80.2           | 75.3            | 75.5            |
| Total persons who took no action       | 35.9           | 40.3           | 29.6           | 24.5           | 17.0           | 7.7            | 6.5          | 29.6           | 19.8           | 24.7            | 24.5            |
| <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>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>    | <b>100.0</b>    |

(a) Due to differences in the way data were collected and classified in the 1995 and 1989-90 surveys, comparisons should be made with care: see paragraph 13 of Explanatory Notes. Age and sex standardised to 1995 Australian population. (b) Only persons aged 2 years and over. (c) Includes vitamins, minerals and natural and herbal medicines. (d) Persons may have reported more than one type of action, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 11. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED TAKING A HEALTH RELATED ACTION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW, TYPE(S) OF ACTION TAKEN BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995**

| Type of action                         | New South Wales               | Victoria       | Queensland     | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania       | Northern Territory(a) | Australian Capital Territory | Total           |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | '000                          |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Hospitalisation                        | 40.8                          | 31.5           | 28.2           | 13.1            | 14.9              | 5.0            | 2.5                   | 2.4                          | 138.5           |
| Casualty /emergency /outpatients visit | 142.1                         | 111.0          | 103.8          | 59.5            | 55.7              | 9.9            | 6.8                   | 7.0                          | 497.0           |
| Day clinic visit                       | 74.1                          | 63.0           | 50.3           | 18.4            | 26.0              | 5.3            | 2.7                   | 4.1                          | 244.7           |
| Doctor consultation                    | 1,527.1                       | 1,042.2        | 722.5          | 350.9           | 368.2             | 105.5          | 23.2                  | 64.5                         | 4,206.6         |
| Dental consultation                    | 333.3                         | 248.4          | 169.1          | 91.5            | 107.9             | 24.0           | 8.2                   | 22.5                         | 1,006.1         |
| Consultation with OHP                  | 569.5                         | 448.4          | 316.3          | 158.5           | 205.7             | 45.0           | 13.3                  | 33.4                         | 1,792.6         |
| Medication use(b)                      | 4,179.3                       | 2,961.3        | 2,352.8        | 1,033.6         | 1,242.0           | 328.3          | 86.9                  | 217.9                        | 12,417.6        |
| Days off work/school                   | 442.4                         | 325.8          | 245.2          | 122.4           | 145.0             | 33.9           | 14.2                  | 28.2                         | 1,358.8         |
| Days of reduced activity               | 330.3                         | 245.3          | 183.1          | 99.5            | 113.3             | 31.9           | 8.1                   | 20.4                         | 1,032.5         |
| Other health related contact           | 208.7                         | 165.0          | 210.8          | 64.4            | 146.3             | 18.0           | 15.5                  | 19.9                         | 853.9           |
| Total persons taking action(c)         | 4,584.3                       | 3,257.6        | 2,556.3        | 1,131.1         | 1,357.2           | 356.0          | 99.3                  | 235.5                        | 13,597.8        |
| Total persons who took no action       | 1,536.2                       | 1,245.5        | 721.5          | 343.7           | 375.2             | 117.6          | 46.1                  | 69.4                         | 4,463.3         |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>6,120.5</b>                | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,061.1</b> |
|  | Rate per 1,000 population     |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Hospitalisation                        | 6.7                           | 7.0            | 8.6            | 8.9             | 8.6               | 10.6           | 17.2                  | 7.9                          | 7.7             |
| Casualty /emergency /outpatients visit | 23.2                          | 24.7           | 31.7           | 40.4            | 32.1              | 20.9           | 46.7                  | 22.9                         | 27.5            |
| Day clinic visit                       | 12.1                          | 14.0           | 15.3           | 12.5            | 15.0              | 11.3           | 18.8                  | 13.4                         | 13.5            |
| Doctor consultation                    | 249.5                         | 231.4          | 220.4          | 237.9           | 212.5             | 222.7          | 159.4                 | 211.5                        | 232.9           |
| Dental consultation                    | 54.5                          | 55.2           | 51.6           | 62.0            | 62.3              | 50.6           | 56.8                  | 73.9                         | 55.7            |
| Consultation with OHP                  | 93.0                          | 99.6           | 96.5           | 107.5           | 118.7             | 95.1           | 91.7                  | 109.7                        | 99.3            |
| Medication use(b)                      | 682.8                         | 657.6          | 717.8          | 700.9           | 716.9             | 693.2          | 598.0                 | 714.7                        | 687.5           |
| Days off work/school                   | 72.3                          | 72.4           | 74.8           | 83.0            | 83.7              | 71.6           | 97.9                  | 92.5                         | 75.2            |
| Days of reduced activity               | 54.0                          | 54.5           | 55.9           | 67.5            | 65.4              | 67.3           | 56.0                  | 66.8                         | 57.2            |
| Other health related contact           | 34.1                          | 36.6           | 64.3           | 43.7            | 84.5              | 38.1           | 106.9                 | 65.3                         | 47.3            |
| Total persons taking action(c)         | 749.0                         | 723.4          | 779.9          | 766.9           | 783.4             | 751.8          | 683.1                 | 772.4                        | 752.9           |
| Total persons who took no action       | 251.0                         | 276.6          | 220.1          | 233.1           | 216.6             | 248.2          | 316.9                 | 227.6                        | 247.1           |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>1,000.0</b>                | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>  | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>        | <b>1,000.0</b>               | <b>1,000.0</b>  |
|  | Standardised estimates(d)'000 |                |                |                 |                   |                |                       |                              |                 |
| Hospitalisation                        | 40.4                          | 31.0           | 28.5           | 12.7            | 15.4              | 5.1            | 2.7                   | 2.5                          | 138.3           |
| Casualty /emergency /outpatients visit | 141.6                         | 110.2          | 104.1          | 59.3            | 56.1              | 9.9            | 6.5                   | 7.2                          | 496.0           |
| Day clinic visit                       | 73.5                          | 62.5           | 50.9           | 18.0            | 26.3              | 5.3            | 3.3                   | 4.1                          | 244.4           |
| Doctor consultation                    | 1,518.7                       | 1,036.3        | 728.5          | 346.3           | 374.0             | 104.7          | 27.8                  | 67.0                         | 4,206.3         |
| Dental consultation                    | 333.3                         | 248.8          | 168.5          | 91.8            | 107.0             | 23.6           | 9.8                   | 22.7                         | 1,006.5         |
| Consultation with OHP                  | 568.1                         | 446.9          | 317.2          | 157.8           | 207.0             | 45.2           | 14.7                  | 33.8                         | 1,794.1         |
| Medication use(b)                      | 4,165.0                       | 2,951.1        | 2,363.6        | 1,024.7         | 1,251.8           | 328.3          | 93.8                  | 222.3                        | 12,415.5        |
| Days off work/school                   | 447.1                         | 328.8          | 241.6          | 125.9           | 141.7             | 33.9           | 12.4                  | 26.3                         | 1,359.0         |
| Days of reduced activity               | 327.5                         | 243.9          | 185.0          | 98.2            | 115.6             | 31.5           | 8.3                   | 21.1                         | 1,031.6         |
| Other health related contact           | 209.5                         | 164.7          | 209.8          | 65.3            | 145.9             | 18.3           | 16.6                  | 19.7                         | 855.3           |
| Total persons taking action(c)         | 4,573.0                       | 3,248.7        | 2,564.5        | 1,124.5         | 1,364.4           | 356.0          | 104.6                 | 238.7                        | 13,595.0        |
| Total persons who took no action       | 1,547.6                       | 1,254.4        | 713.3          | 350.2           | 367.9             | 117.6          | 40.8                  | 66.2                         | 4,465.4         |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>6,120.5</b>                | <b>4,503.1</b> | <b>3,277.8</b> | <b>1,474.8</b>  | <b>1,732.4</b>    | <b>473.6</b>   | <b>145.3</b>          | <b>304.9</b>                 | <b>18,060.3</b> |

(a) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only. (b) Includes vitamins, minerals and natural and herbal medicines. (c) Persons may have reported more than one type of action, therefore components do not add to totals. (d) Age and sex standardised to the Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 12. PERSONS WHO REPORTED TAKING AN ACTION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW: SELECTED ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY AGE AUSTRALIA, 1995**  
'000 and per cent

| Types of actions  | Age (years)  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Total           |              |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
|   | Under 5      | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  | '000            | Per cent     |
| Day clinic visit only   | **0.2        | **0.2          | * 1.5          | 2.5            | * 1.7          | * 1.8          | * 1.1          | * 0.7          | —            | 9.6             | 0.1          |
| Doctor consultation—  |              |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Only  | 56.9         | 37.8           | 67.4           | 103.2          | 71.8           | 41.4           | 22.2           | 19.9           | 17.1         | 437.8           | 3.0          |
| And dental consultation   | —            | 3.8            | 2.8            | 7.6            | 2.4            | * 1.9          | * 0.8          | * 1.6          | * 0.9        | 21.9            | 0.2          |
| And consultation with OHP   | 11.4         | 3.0            | 6.9            | 9.9            | 4.7            | 2.8            | * 2.0          | * 1.2          | * 0.8        | 42.7            | 0.3          |
| And used medications  | 187.0        | 79.4           | 135.9          | 200.5          | 190.1          | 216.3          | 223.6          | 276.0          | 181.3        | 1,690.3         | 11.5         |
| And had days off work/school  | * 0.9        | 12.3           | 12.1           | 11.1           | 6.3            | * 1.7          | * 2.0          | —              | —            | 46.3            | 0.3          |
| And had other days of reduced activity  | * 1.2        | 5.2            | 5.1            | 4.6            | 2.4            | 3.2            | 2.9            | * 0.5          | * 0.4        | 25.5            | 0.2          |
| Dental consultation only  | 6.5          | 110.0          | 54.2           | 32.0           | 31.5           | 33.4           | 16.8           | 7.1            | 3.3          | 294.7           | 2.3          |
| Consultation with OHP only  | 39.8         | 29.7           | 43.2           | 44.7           | 43.4           | 32.0           | 13.0           | 8.2            | 2.5          | 256.5           | 2.0          |
| Used medication—  |              |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Only  | 222.2        | 425.2          | 688.6          | 766.3          | 833.5          | 745.9          | 528.8          | 505.3          | 285.2        | 5,000.9         | 36.5         |
| And day clinic visit  | * 0.9        | —              | * 2.1          | 3.0            | 2.7            | 3.0            | 6.7            | 4.5            | * 1.7        | 24.6            | 0.2          |
| And dental consultation   | 3.1          | 49.8           | 27.9           | 30.5           | 49.1           | 54.4           | 32.3           | 35.6           | 11.3         | 294.1           | 2.3          |
| And consultation with OHP   | 4.1          | 4.9            | 3.2            | * 1.6          | 3.9            | * 0.8          | **0.2          | **0.2          | —            | 18.8            | 0.2          |
| And days off work/school  | * 1.4        | 2.4            | 7.0            | 2.6            | * 2.0          | 3.6            | **0.2          | —              | —            | 19.2            | 0.1          |
| And days of other reduced activity  | 6.6          | 16.3           | 24.0           | 37.1           | 49.8           | 38.9           | 30.6           | 30.6           | 19.6         | 253.6           | 2.0          |
| And doctor and dental consultation  | * 0.6        | 6.0            | 7.7            | 12.5           | 9.8            | 18.5           | 9.3            | 14.6           | 10.6         | 89.7            | 0.6          |
| And doctor and OHP consultation   | 31.0         | 11.0           | 19.0           | 30.8           | 33.8           | 20.6           | 19.7           | 31.1           | 33.8         | 230.7           | 1.7          |
| And doctor consultation and days off work/school                                    | 6.8          | 73.2           | 49.9           | 36.4           | 25.9           | 25.5           | 15.4           | * 1.6          | **0.2        | 234.8           | 1.7          |
| And doctor consultation and other days of reduced activity                          | 13.4         | 11.8           | 22.7           | 33.0           | 37.2           | 33.8           | 38.0           | 46.2           | 24.2         | 260.3           | 1.9          |
| And doctor consultation and days off work/school and other days of reduced activity | * 1.9        | 28.5           | 27.2           | 23.4           | 20.8           | 13.1           | 7.2            | **0.0          | —            | 122.1           | 1.1          |
| Had days off work/school only   | 3.6          | 65.4           | 19.9           | 14.2           | 13.0           | 5.4            | * 1.0          | —              | —            | 122.5           | 0.9          |
| Had other days of reduced activity only   | * 2.1        | 3.6            | 4.7            | 5.6            | 8.5            | 6.5            | 4.3            | 3.5            | * 1.6        | 40.2            | 0.3          |
| <b>Total(a)</b>   | <b>830.2</b> | <b>1,538.3</b> | <b>1,907.8</b> | <b>2,119.1</b> | <b>2,098.3</b> | <b>1,797.1</b> | <b>1,307.9</b> | <b>1,244.4</b> | <b>754.8</b> | <b>13,597.8</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) Only selected actions and combinations of actions are listed; therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 13. PERSONS WHO REPORTED TAKING AN ACTION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW : REASONS FOR ACTION BY TYPE OF ACTION TAKEN AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

| <i>Reasons for action</i>  | <i>Casualty/emergency/outpatient visit</i> |                         |                         | <i>Doctor consultation</i> | <i>Dental consultation</i> | <i>Consultation with OHP</i> | <i>Medication use(a)</i> | <i>Days off work/school</i> | <i>Days of reduced activity</i> | <i>Total(b)</i> |
|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | <i>Hospitalisation</i>                     | <i>Day clinic visit</i> | <i>Day clinic visit</i> |                            |                            |                              |                          |                             |                                 |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases  | * 0.5                                      | 10.3                    | 5.9                     | 114.7                      | —                          | 40.4                         | 446.1                    | 61.6                        | 39.6                            | 544.1           |
| Neoplasms  | 5.3  | 19.8                    | 19.0                    | 74.6                       | —                          | 9.4                          | 65.7                     | 6.9                         | 13.5                            | 148.0           |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders     | * 1.1                                      | 15.8                    | 5.6                     | 128.2                      | —                          | 58.2                         | 1,299.9                  | 4.9                         | 15.9                            | 1,368.2         |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                           | * 0.8                                      | 3.3                     | 2.5                     | 16.5                       | —                          | 7.6                          | 154.5                    | **0.4                       | * 1.7                           | 166.6           |
| Mental disorders   | 5.5  | 13.9                    | * 1.8                   | 118.7                      | —                          | 120.0                        | 529.7                    | 36.2                        | 31.9                            | 650.0           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                          | 5.5  | 24.5                    | 11.9                    | 280.7                      | —                          | 96.0                         | 1,045.7                  | 78.4                        | 50.9                            | 1,207.1         |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                       | 14.7                                       | 21.0                    | 9.7                     | 283.7                      | —                          | 29.5                         | 2,103.8                  | 13.4                        | 55.5                            | 2,167.8         |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                       | 14.5                                       | 41.0                    | 3.9                     | 846.2                      | —                          | 187.2                        | 3,261.3                  | 571.9                       | 294.1                           | 3,599.3         |
| Diseases of the digestive system   | 19.1                                       | 36.3                    | 21.7                    | 195.7                      | 669.9                      | 51.3                         | 1,110.7                  | 127.4                       | 71.2                            | 1,876.8         |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                    | 10.6                                       | 19.8                    | 22.1                    | 143.1                      | —                          | 26.7                         | 575.5                    | 35.5                        | 24.4                            | 679.3           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium                | 4.7  | 3.7                     | * 1.0                   | 3.9                        | —                          | * 1.3                        | 10.8                     | * 1.7                       | 4.5                             | 17.8            |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                             | 2.9  | 17.4                    | 16.1                    | 255.3                      | —                          | 94.9                         | 1,237.4                  | 24.8                        | 19.1                            | 1,413.3         |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue             | 16.3                                       | 56.4                    | 14.8                    | 375.3                      | —                          | 493.0                        | 1,581.7                  | 116.8                       | 263.2                           | 2,117.3         |
| Congenital anomalies   | * 1.7                                      | * 1.6                   | * 0.5                   | 4.3                        | —                          | 5.9                          | 6.5                      | * 0.7                       | * 0.5                           | 16.4            |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                               | 9.9  | 37.4                    | 15.6                    | 281.2                      | —                          | 73.3                         | 3,242.5                  | 181.1                       | 86.0                            | 3,505.0         |
| Injuries and poisoning   | 13.9                                       | 105.9                   | 13.7                    | 239.4                      | —                          | 135.0                        | 617.7                    | 126.2                       | 115.2                           | 900.8           |
| Disability, NEC  | * 0.9                                      | 2.9                     | **0.3                   | 5.5                        | —                          | 25.0                         | 6.2                      | * 2.1                       | 2.5                             | 36.8            |
| Other factors influencing health status or contact with health services— |  |                         |                         |                            |                            |                              |                          |                             |                                 |                 |
| Check-up/examination   | * 1.6                                      | 52.1                    | 24.4                    | 826.4                      | 233.0                      | 260.9                        | 12.7                     | 13.5                        | 5.1                             | 1,354.3         |
| Contraceptive management   | * 1.0                                      | * 1.1                   | * 1.5                   | 24.7                       | —                          | 2.4                          | 183.2                    | * 2.3                       | * 2.3                           | 202.8           |
| Counselling  | —  | **0.3                   | —                       | 17.8                       | —                          | 23.9                         | * 1.0                    | —                           | —                               | 42.2            |
| Immunisation   | —  | 3.4                     | * 0.9                   | 116.5                      | —                          | 8.7                          | 22.0                     | —                           | * 0.5                           | 138.1           |
| Pregnancy supervision/childbirth   | 11.8                                       | 17.0                    | 5.6                     | 73.4                       | —                          | 9.3                          | 54.3                     | 6.8                         | 9.5                             | 123.7           |
| Test (including x-rays)  | 4.3  | 26.6                    | 62.1                    | 229.2                      | —                          | 62.2                         | * 2.0                    | 8.5                         | * 1.9                           | 365.5           |
| Other reasons  | **0.1                                      | 3.0                     | * 1.9                   | 15.5                       | —                          | 87.3                         | 4,442.8                  | 3.2                         | 5.4                             | 4,505.4         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>  | <b>138.5</b>                               | <b>497.0</b>            | <b>244.7</b>            | <b>4,206.6</b>             | <b>1,006.1</b>             | <b>1,792.6</b>               | <b>12,417.6</b>          | <b>1,358.8</b>              | <b>1,032.5</b>                  | <b>13,597.8</b> |

(a) Includes vitamins, minerals and natural and herbal medicines. (b) Persons may have reported more than one condition and/or more than one type of action, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 14. PERSONS: WHETHER REPORTED A DOCTOR CONSULTATION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY REASONS FOR MOST RECENT CONSULTATION, NUMBER OF DOCTOR CONSULTATIONS IN LAST TWO WEEKS, TYPE OF DOCTOR CONSULTED BY AGE AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

|  | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|  | 0-14           | 15-24          | 25-34          | 35-44          | 45-54          | 55-64          | 65-74          | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| Consultations in last two weeks  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| <b>Number of consultations—</b>  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| One  | 580.5          | 393.1          | 490.8          | 414.6          | 386.3          | 331.7          | 369.3          | 265.5        | 1,423.0        | 1,808.8        | 3,231.8         |
| Two  | 116.4          | 88.5           | 104.6          | 100.8          | 89.9           | 79.4           | 97.0           | 56.1         | 309.8          | 423.0          | 732.7           |
| Three  | 20.8           | 18.1           | 27.5           | 21.1           | 19.3           | 15.7           | 13.6           | 7.9          | 60.3           | 83.7           | 144.0           |
| Four or more   | 13.0           | 7.7            | 17.1           | 15.3           | 13.6           | 11.8           | 9.2            | 10.3         | 43.1           | 54.9           | 98.0            |
| <i>Total</i>   | <i>730.7</i>   | <i>507.4</i>   | <i>640.0</i>   | <i>551.8</i>   | <i>509.0</i>   | <i>438.6</i>   | <i>489.2</i>   | <i>339.8</i> | <i>1,836.2</i> | <i>2,370.4</i> | <i>4,206.6</i>  |
| <b>Type of Doctor—</b>   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| General practitioner   | 674.8          | 464.8          | 561.1          | 489.4          | 453.2          | 383.3          | 450.8          | 315.5        | 1,662.8        | 2,130.0        | 3,792.8         |
| Specialist   | 86.7           | 73.1           | 128.4          | 105.8          | 99.3           | 98.0           | 88.3           | 59.5         | 310.5          | 428.7          | 739.2           |
| Most recent consultation in last two weeks                               |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| <b>Reason for most recent consultation—</b>                              |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Infectious and parasitic diseases  | 40.6           | 19.9           | 16.5           | 10.7           | 11.8           | 2.8            | 6.5            | 5.8          | 52.3           | 62.4           | 114.7           |
| Neoplasms  | * 1.8          | * 2.0          | 3.7            | 9.0            | 8.3            | 13.3           | 17.8           | 18.8         | 34.7           | 39.9           | 74.6            |
| Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders     | * 1.9          | 5.9            | 9.8            | 9.2            | 28.2           | 30.3           | 25.7           | 17.2         | 57.9           | 70.2           | 128.2           |
| Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs                           | **0.3          | 2.6            | * 1.3          | * 1.1          | * 1.2          | 2.6            | * 2.1          | 5.4          | 3.3            | 13.2           | 16.5            |
| Mental disorders   | 9.9            | 13.1           | 24.7           | 26.0           | 22.7           | 12.7           | 7.1            | 2.6          | 55.9           | 62.8           | 118.7           |
| Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs                          | 98.9           | 23.6           | 32.0           | 34.7           | 20.8           | 21.5           | 27.9           | 47.1         | 123.7          | 152.8          | 276.5           |
| Diseases of the circulatory system                                       | 4.1            | 7.1            | 16.7           | 15.8           | 46.9           | 59.4           | 74.5           | 59.1         | 131.1          | 152.6          | 283.7           |
| Diseases of the respiratory system                                       | 280.6          | 123.6          | 121.5          | 111.3          | 74.5           | 51.1           | 52.3           | 31.3         | 383.3          | 462.9          | 846.2           |
| Diseases of the digestive system   | 37.9           | 25.9           | 27.7           | 21.0           | 25.5           | 22.4           | 21.0           | 14.2         | 98.5           | 97.3           | 195.7           |
| Diseases of the genito-urinary system                                    | 12.4           | 23.5           | 28.3           | 20.6           | 24.3           | 14.4           | 14.7           | 4.8          | 29.6           | 113.5          | 143.1           |
| Complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium                | —              | **0.4          | 2.7            | * 0.8          | —              | —              | —              | —            | —              | 3.9            | 3.9             |
| Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue                             | 56.9           | 50.4           | 28.3           | 31.1           | 29.3           | 25.6           | 19.7           | 13.9         | 116.2          | 139.1          | 255.3           |
| Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue             | 17.6           | 33.3           | 48.1           | 61.8           | 65.6           | 62.6           | 49.8           | 35.8         | 183.3          | 191.4          | 374.7           |
| Congenital anomalies   | 2.4            | —              | * 1.4          | —              | —              | —              | **0.1          | **0.3        | * 2.2          | * 2.0          | 4.3             |
| Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions                               | 58.1           | 35.2           | 44.1           | 46.9           | 39.2           | 27.9           | 19.8           | 10.1         | 110.8          | 170.5          | 281.2           |
| Injuries and poisoning   | 46.9           | 43.7           | 46.2           | 38.1           | 25.3           | 16.0           | 14.2           | 9.0          | 143.9          | 95.5           | 239.4           |
| Disability, NEC  | * 1.7          | * 0.6          | * 0.7          | * 1.0          | * 1.0          | —              | **0.3          | **0.2        | 3.2            | * 2.3          | 5.5             |
| Other factors influencing health status or contact with health services— |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Check-up/examination   | 68.9           | 69.0           | 121.1          | 92.4           | 101.1          | 103.1          | 150.1          | 120.5        | 364.4          | 462.0          | 826.4           |
| Test (including x-rays)  | 5.6            | 28.0           | 47.4           | 40.8           | 36.3           | 29.4           | 29.2           | 12.5         | 73.0           | 156.2          | 229.2           |
| Other reasons  | 55.6           | 37.5           | 66.7           | 22.7           | 12.1           | 15.6           | 24.3           | 12.4         | 69.5           | 177.4          | 246.9           |
| <i>Total(a)</i>  | <i>730.7</i>   | <i>507.4</i>   | <i>640.0</i>   | <i>551.8</i>   | <i>509.0</i>   | <i>438.6</i>   | <i>489.2</i>   | <i>339.8</i> | <i>1,836.2</i> | <i>2,370.4</i> | <i>4,206.6</i>  |
| No consultations in last two weeks                                       |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| <b>Period since last consultation —</b>                                  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| More than 2 weeks to less than 3 months                                  | 1,133.5        | 819.4          | 819.8          | 792.3          | 708.3          | 562.3          | 552.7          | 329.3        | 2,649.6        | 3,068.1        | 5,717.7         |
| 3 months to less than 6 months ago                                       | 731.6          | 473.9          | 461.4          | 470.6          | 355.9          | 215.7          | 133.5          | 71.2         | 1,456.2        | 1,457.7        | 2,913.9         |
| 6 months to less than 12 months ago                                      | 644.0          | 425.0          | 416.5          | 408.6          | 284.0          | 123.6          | 84.3           | 31.2         | 1,309.8        | 1,107.6        | 2,417.3         |
| 12 months ago or more  | 586.5          | 460.1          | 493.3          | 506.8          | 366.6          | 163.1          | 86.8           | 34.1         | 1,675.2        | 1,021.9        | 2,697.2         |
| Never / Don't know   | 46.5           | 24.5           | 10.6           | 11.6           | 8.4            | 4.0            | * 1.5          | * 1.3        | 66.9           | 41.5           | 108.4           |
| <i>Total</i>   | <i>3,142.0</i> | <i>2,202.9</i> | <i>2,201.7</i> | <i>2,190.0</i> | <i>1,723.2</i> | <i>1,068.8</i> | <i>858.8</i>   | <i>467.2</i> | <i>7,157.7</i> | <i>6,696.8</i> | <i>13,854.5</i> |
| <b>Total persons</b>   | <b>3,872.7</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |

(a) Persons may have reported more than one reason for consultation, therefore components will not add to the totals.

**TABLE 15. PERSONS AGED 2 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER VISITED DENTAL PROFESSIONAL IN TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW, TYPE OF TREATMENT RECEIVED AND PERIOD SINCE LAST CONSULTED BY AGE AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

|  | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Total           |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
|  | 2-14           | 15-24          | 25-34          | 35-44          | 45-54          | 55-64          | 65-74          | 75 and over  |                 |
| <b>Visited dentist in last 2 weeks</b>       |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| <b>Reason for most recent visit—</b>         |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| Teeth extracted                              | 11.9           | 7.8            | 14.3           | 9.8            | 13.5           | 7.2            | 4.6            | 5.3          | 74.4            |
| X-ray  | 9.4            | 8.5            | 6.2            | 10.1           | 6.2            | 4.0            | * 2.0          | * 0.5        | 47.0            |
| Teeth/dentures cleaned or polished           | 16.7           | 18.5           | 24.7           | 25.2           | 19.3           | 15.8           | 12.1           | 3.9          | 136.3           |
| Fluoride treatment or coating                | 13.7           | 3.3            | 4.3            | * 2.0          | * 1.1          | —              | * 0.8          | —            | 25.1            |
| Teeth filled                                 | 41.9           | 28.3           | 45.4           | 58.6           | 65.1           | 35.7           | 23.0           | 8.0          | 306.0           |
| Dentures prepared/fitted                     | —              | * 1.2          | 2.3            | * 1.9          | 8.6            | 11.0           | 13.8           | 8.1          | 46.9            |
| Dentures maintenance/repair                  | * 0.5          | **0.0          | —              | 2.8            | 3.1            | 5.1            | 9.5            | 7.6          | 28.6            |
| Braces/bands — fitting, maintenance          | 49.1           | 37.1           | 2.6            | * 1.0          | * 0.5          | * 0.7          | * 0.9          | —            | 91.9            |
| Check-up                                     | 133.6          | 45.4           | 35.8           | 34.9           | 30.3           | 16.9           | 17.2           | 6.4          | 320.4           |
| Other treatment                              | 15.5           | 15.6           | 26.2           | 22.7           | 29.8           | 9.0            | 9.9            | 4.0          | 132.7           |
| No treatment                                 | * 1.0          | **0.3          | * 1.2          | * 0.5          | * 0.9          | * 1.3          | **0.2          | * 0.5        | 6.0             |
| <b>Total(a)</b>                              | <b>251.8</b>   | <b>138.7</b>   | <b>126.9</b>   | <b>136.9</b>   | <b>149.1</b>   | <b>85.9</b>    | <b>77.6</b>    | <b>39.1</b>  | <b>1,006.1</b>  |
| <b>Did not visit dentist in last 2 weeks</b> |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| <b>Period since last consultation—</b>       |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| More than 2 weeks to less than 3 months      | 499.5          | 303.8          | 279.8          | 316.4          | 249.1          | 175.3          | 126.8          | 51.0         | 2,001.7         |
| 3 months to less than 6 months ago           | 596.6          | 303.8          | 316.5          | 301.8          | 253.0          | 162.8          | 122.1          | 59.5         | 2,116.1         |
| 6 months to less than 12 months ago          | 757.5          | 490.6          | 504.7          | 524.7          | 381.7          | 205.8          | 154.2          | 72.5         | 3,091.5         |
| 12 months to less than 2 years ago           | 341.7          | 518.8          | 544.7          | 517.5          | 399.9          | 205.9          | 162.1          | 70.5         | 2,761.1         |
| 2 years ago or more                          | 162.7          | 913.8          | 1,036.8        | 920.4          | 779.6          | 657.4          | 687.4          | 497.5        | 5,655.6         |
| Never  | 733.4          | 29.0           | 21.9           | 14.4           | 12.0           | 8.5            | 9.8            | 7.2          | 836.1           |
| Not stated                                   | 10.6           | 11.8           | 10.3           | 9.7            | 7.9            | 5.7            | 8.1            | 9.8          | 73.9            |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>3,102.0</b> | <b>2,571.5</b> | <b>2,714.8</b> | <b>2,604.9</b> | <b>2,083.1</b> | <b>1,421.4</b> | <b>1,270.4</b> | <b>767.9</b> | <b>16,536.1</b> |

(a) Persons may have received more than one type of treatment therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 16. PERSONS: WHETHER CONSULTED AN OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONAL IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CONSULTED BY AGE AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

| Type of OHP                       | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                   | 0 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| <b>Consulted an OHP</b>           |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Acupuncturist                     | * 0.5          | 7.0            | 9.5            | 11.1           | 10.7           | 4.7            | 5.9            | 4.7          | 15.2           | 39.0           | 54.2            |
| Audiologist/Audiometrist          | 6.1            | * 0.5          | **0.3          | * 1.4          | * 2.0          | * 0.9          | 4.4            | 3.7          | 13.1           | 6.3            | 19.4            |
| Chiropractor                      | 17.9           | 31.2           | 58.7           | 66.0           | 53.3           | 33.3           | 17.1           | 8.9          | 126.5          | 159.9          | 286.3           |
| Chemist                           | 98.8           | 84.4           | 88.3           | 65.9           | 42.3           | 24.4           | 14.9           | 5.5          | 159.0          | 265.5          | 424.5           |
| Chiropodist/Podiatrist            | 4.4            | 5.4            | 8.5            | 5.8            | 11.5           | 15.2           | 27.5           | 32.9         | 34.0           | 77.1           | 111.1           |
| Dietician/Nutritionist            | 5.4            | 8.2            | 11.0           | 10.7           | 5.5            | 8.3            | 4.4            | * 1.3        | 15.2           | 39.5           | 54.7            |
| Herbalist                         | 4.8            | 6.6            | 10.3           | 8.9            | 5.7            | 3.1            | * 1.7          | **0.3        | 12.5           | 28.9           | 41.3            |
| Hypnotherapist                    | —              | * 1.3          | * 1.5          | * 0.9          | * 0.5          | —              | * 0.7          | —            | * 1.4          | 3.4            | 4.8             |
| Naturopath                        | 13.4           | 17.3           | 25.5           | 24.0           | 15.4           | 8.3            | 8.0            | * 1.0        | 32.7           | 80.2           | 112.9           |
| Nurse                             | 92.8           | 26.1           | 30.5           | 17.7           | 10.6           | 9.8            | 17.6           | 27.9         | 100.2          | 132.9          | 233.1           |
| Optician/Optomtrist               | 19.5           | 16.9           | 19.4           | 20.7           | 22.6           | 16.2           | 23.9           | 13.5         | 71.4           | 81.4           | 152.8           |
| Osteopath                         | * 0.9          | 3.1            | 8.0            | 12.0           | 3.9            | 2.3            | * 1.4          | * 0.5        | 11.6           | 20.5           | 32.1            |
| Occupational therapist            | 6.4            | * 1.5          | 3.0            | * 2.1          | 3.0            | * 1.8          | 2.8            | * 0.8        | 13.0           | 8.5            | 21.4            |
| Physiotherapist/Hydrotherapist    | 20.4           | 42.2           | 55.7           | 45.2           | 42.2           | 33.1           | 25.3           | 12.4         | 136.8          | 139.8          | 276.6           |
| Psychologist                      | 9.8            | 9.0            | 13.9           | 15.4           | 10.2           | * 1.8          | * 0.8          | —            | 25.4           | 35.5           | 60.9            |
| Social worker/ Welfare officer    | 14.8           | 15.8           | 13.1           | 12.9           | 5.2            | 3.3            | 4.1            | 2.7          | 27.5           | 44.3           | 71.8            |
| Speech therapist/ Pathologist     | 34.8           | * 0.7          | **0.2          | * 0.7          | * 1.7          | **0.4          | * 0.6          | **0.3        | 29.3           | 10.1           | 39.4            |
| Don't know                        | * 1.2          | * 1.9          | * 0.8          | 4.3            | 3.0            | * 1.4          | **0.2          | * 0.5        | 5.2            | 8.1            | 13.3            |
| <b>Total who consulted OHP(a)</b> | <b>317.6</b>   | <b>252.5</b>   | <b>314.6</b>   | <b>292.3</b>   | <b>216.4</b>   | <b>151.9</b>   | <b>142.9</b>   | <b>104.3</b> | <b>751.0</b>   | <b>1,041.6</b> | <b>1,792.6</b>  |
| <b>Did not consulted an OHP</b>   | <b>3,555.1</b> | <b>2,457.7</b> | <b>2,527.1</b> | <b>2,449.5</b> | <b>2,015.8</b> | <b>1,355.4</b> | <b>1,205.0</b> | <b>702.7</b> | <b>8,242.9</b> | <b>8,025.5</b> | <b>16,268.5</b> |
| <b>Total persons</b>              | <b>3,872.7</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |

(a) Persons may have consulted with more than one type of health professional, therefore components do not add to totals.



**TABLE 17. PERSONS: WHETHER CONTACTED ANYONE ELSE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION, ADVICE OR TREATMENT(a) IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW, WHO CONTACTED BY AGE AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

| Contact                              | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                      | 0 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| Contacted anyone else                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Health and community centres         | 10.0           | * 1.0          | 2.4            | * 1.2          | * 0.7          | **0.3          | **0.2          | —            | 6.8            | 8.9            | 15.8            |
| Clinics                              | * 0.8          | * 1.2          | * 0.6          | 3.7            | —              | * 0.6          | **0.1          | * 0.5        | 2.8            | 4.8            | 7.6             |
| Ambulance                            | **0.3          | * 0.6          | * 1.8          | * 2.0          | * 0.4          | * 0.7          | —              | —            | 4.1            | * 1.7          | 5.7             |
| Practitioners NEC                    | 3.4            | 4.8            | 10.8           | 9.9            | 4.1            | 4.6            | * 1.0          | —            | 16.0           | 22.5           | 38.6            |
| Condition-related associations       | **0.3          | **0.3          | * 1.0          | * 1.0          | * 1.6          | * 1.0          | * 1.5          | * 0.5        | 3.1            | 4.1            | 7.2             |
| Counselling and information services | 4.0            | 3.7            | 4.2            | 3.5            | * 0.5          | * 0.6          | * 0.7          | —            | 6.7            | 10.5           | 17.2            |
| Welfare/domicillary care             | * 1.4          | —              | **0.1          | * 0.6          | —              | * 0.7          | —              | **0.2        | * 0.9          | * 2.0          | 2.9             |
| Health Authorities NEC               | 6.0            | * 2.1          | * 1.6          | * 2.2          | * 1.5          | * 0.5          | * 1.2          | * 1.4        | 6.5            | 9.9            | 16.5            |
| Health and fitness centres           | * 0.9          | 10.2           | 7.4            | 4.0            | * 2.2          | * 1.8          | * 1.0          | —            | 13.2           | 14.4           | 27.5            |
| Self-help groups                     | —              | * 0.8          | 2.4            | 2.8            | * 1.0          | * 0.7          | * 0.5          | —            | 4.4            | 3.9            | 8.2             |
| Family/friends                       | 124.4          | 142.7          | 120.7          | 74.6           | 73.7           | 40.0           | 29.6           | 25.4         | 274.3          | 356.7          | 631.0           |
| Other                                | 16.1           | 23.8           | 17.8           | 15.4           | 14.2           | 5.3            | 2.9            | * 0.9        | 47.5           | 48.7           | 96.3            |
| <b>Total(b)</b>                      | <b>163.4</b>   | <b>187.8</b>   | <b>164.4</b>   | <b>117.8</b>   | <b>98.5</b>    | <b>55.5</b>    | <b>38.5</b>    | <b>28.1</b>  | <b>377.5</b>   | <b>476.4</b>   | <b>853.9</b>    |
| <i>Did not contact anyone else</i>   | <i>3,709.3</i> | <i>2,522.5</i> | <i>2,677.3</i> | <i>2,624.0</i> | <i>2,133.8</i> | <i>1,451.9</i> | <i>1,309.5</i> | <i>778.8</i> | <i>8,616.4</i> | <i>8,590.8</i> | <i>17,207.2</i> |
| <b>Total persons</b>                 | <b>3,872.7</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |

(a) Other than doctor, dentist or other health professional as defined for this survey (b) Persons may have contacted more than one other health professional or agency therefore, components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 18. PERSONS :WHETHER USED ANY TYPE OF MEDICATION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF MEDICATION BY AGE AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995**  
Rate per 1,000 population

| Type of medication(a)                                | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                | Males          | Females        | Persons        |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | Under 5        | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over    |                |                |                |
| Used vitamin or minerals                             | 129.5          | 178.8          | 248.6          | 284.5          | 296.7          | 322.7          | 299.9          | 263.8          | 257.3          | 212.6          | 303.1          | 258.0          |
| Used herbal or natural medications                   | 38.4           | 40.7           | 67.6           | 89.8           | 123.2          | 136.1          | 136.4          | 126.5          | 112.7          | 68.7           | 119.5          | 94.2           |
| Used other medications---                            |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Medication for diabetes                              | —              | 1.5            | 3.5            | 3.2            | 7.1            | 19.0           | 34.9           | 59.8           | 55.3           | 15.1           | 13.9           | 14.5           |
| Asthma medications                                   | 54.8           | 96.0           | 80.7           | 54.4           | 55.5           | 53.7           | 61.4           | 69.5           | 58.7           | 63.8           | 68.7           | 66.3           |
| Medications for arthritis                            | —              | 1.1            | 2.2            | 7.3            | 15.9           | 43.5           | 94.1           | 142.3          | 145.9          | 27.3           | 41.4           | 34.4           |
| Medication for cough/ colds                          | 166.9          | 87.0           | 77.6           | 71.4           | 62.7           | 50.6           | 49.3           | 32.7           | 33.0           | 69.6           | 72.6           | 71.1           |
| Skin ointments/ creams                               | 89.8           | 74.4           | 120.3          | 115.9          | 106.5          | 96.9           | 89.5           | 76.4           | 64.2           | 90.2           | 104.8          | 97.5           |
| Stomach medications                                  | 10.9           | 5.0            | 15.5           | 26.1           | 33.9           | 48.8           | 84.9           | 118.3          | 121.4          | 40.7           | 40.2           | 40.4           |
| Laxatives  | 3.9            | 3.4            | 1.1            | 3.4            | 3.4            | 5.3            | 7.3            | 14.5           | 25.2           | 3.4            | 7.5            | 5.5            |
| Medications for allergies                            | 10.5           | 21.8           | 34.0           | 36.9           | 42.5           | 40.2           | 32.5           | 28.4           | 13.9           | 26.1           | 37.2           | 31.6           |
| Fluid tablets/ diuretics                             | —              | *0.8           | *0.4           | 2.0            | 4.2            | 17.1           | 44.3           | 97.0           | 172.1          | 13.6           | 30.1           | 21.9           |
| Medications for heart problems/ blood pressure       | *0.6           | *0.5           | 2.0            | 9.3            | 34.8           | 121.6          | 298.0          | 469.2          | 530.6          | 99.1           | 112.4          | 105.8          |
| Medications to lower cholesterol/ triglycerides      | **0.2          | —              | —              | 0.9            | 6.8            | 23.4           | 65.0           | 80.6           | 34.3           | 17.9           | 16.2           | 17.0           |
| Pain relievers                                       | 162.5          | 127.2          | 250.7          | 290.9          | 313.2          | 267.4          | 229.4          | 195.4          | 192.6          | 200.9          | 271.1          | 236.2          |
| Sleeping medications                                 | 3.7            | *0.5           | 3.0            | 5.9            | 12.8           | 18.2           | 25.9           | 43.4           | 76.4           | 11.1           | 18.3           | 14.7           |
| Medications for anxiety/ nervous tension/ depression | —              | 0.9            | 8.2            | 17.2           | 27.5           | 33.1           | 47.0           | 48.0           | 46.5           | 17.3           | 26.5           | 21.9           |
| Tranquillisers or sedatives not included above       | 2.3            | 1.6            | 2.1            | 2.3            | 3.8            | 5.6            | 7.0            | 12.2           | 12.3           | 4.1            | 4.7            | 4.4            |
| Other medications                                    | 120.3          | 80.7           | 130.8          | 146.0          | 145.5          | 225.3          | 280.4          | 340.9          | 377.4          | 137.1          | 219.3          | 178.4          |
| Total who used other medications(b)                  | 467.4          | 389.8          | 517.7          | 555.8          | 592.3          | 655.5          | 756.4          | 850.9          | 872.9          | 541.9          | 639.5          | 590.9          |
| Total persons who used medications(b)                | 537.8          | 488.8          | 622.1          | 672.8          | 710.6          | 762.4          | 835.3          | 900.9          | 916.4          | 634.4          | 740.2          | 687.5          |
| Total who did not use medications                    | 462.2          | 511.2          | 377.9          | 327.2          | 289.4          | 237.6          | 164.7          | 99.1           | 83.6           | 365.6          | 259.8          | 312.5          |
| <b>Total persons</b>                                 | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> |

(a) Type of medication as reported by respondents. (b) Persons may have reported using more than one type of medication, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 19. PERSONS : WHETHER TOOK ANY TYPE OF MEDICATION IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF MEDICATION BY AGE, AUSTRALIA, 1995 AND 1989-90 ('000)**

| Type of medication(a)                                | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Total           |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
|  | Under 5        | 5 - 14         | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                 |
| 1995   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| Used vitamins or minerals                            | 167.8          | 460.9          | 673.8          | 808.5          | 813.5          | 720.4          | 452.1          | 355.6          | 207.7        | 4,660.3         |
| Used herbal or natural medications                   | 49.7           | 104.8          | 183.2          | 255.3          | 337.9          | 303.8          | 205.6          | 170.5          | 90.9         | 1,701.7         |
| Used other medications—                              |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| Medication for diabetes                              | —              | 3.9            | 9.4            | 9.2            | 19.3           | 42.4           | 52.6           | 80.6           | 44.6         | 262.2           |
| Asthma medications                                   | 71.0           | 247.5          | 218.8          | 154.6          | 152.2          | 119.8          | 92.5           | 93.7           | 47.3         | 1,197.5         |
| Medications for arthritis                            | —              | 2.8            | 5.9            | 20.6           | 43.5           | 97.1           | 141.9          | 191.8          | 117.8        | 621.4           |
| Medication for cough/ colds                          | 216.3          | 224.3          | 210.4          | 202.9          | 171.9          | 113.0          | 74.4           | 44.1           | 26.6         | 1,283.8         |
| Skin ointments/ creams                               | 116.3          | 191.8          | 326.1          | 329.4          | 292.1          | 216.3          | 134.8          | 103.0          | 51.8         | 1,761.6         |
| Stomach medications/laxatives                        | 18.7           | 21.4           | 43.7           | 83.4           | 101.8          | 118.6          | 136.1          | 175.2          | 114.7        | 813.6           |
| Medications for allergies                            | 13.6           | 56.3           | 92.3           | 104.8          | 116.5          | 89.8           | 48.9           | 38.2           | 11.2         | 571.5           |
| Fluid tablets/ diuretics                             | —              | * 2.0          | * 1.1          | 5.8            | 11.4           | 38.3           | 66.7           | 130.7          | 138.9        | 394.8           |
| Medications for heart problems/ blood pressure       | * 0.8          | 3.1            | 6.5            | 31.3           | 104.3          | 287.6          | 468.2          | 656.7          | 459.3        | 2,017.8         |
| Medications to lower cholesterol/ triglycerides      | **0.3          | —              | —              | 2.4            | 18.6           | 52.1           | 98.0           | 108.6          | 27.7         | 307.8           |
| Pain relievers                                       | 210.5          | 328.0          | 679.6          | 826.8          | 858.8          | 596.9          | 345.7          | 263.5          | 155.5        | 4,265.2         |
| Sleeping medications                                 | 4.8            | * 1.3          | 8.1            | 16.8           | 35.0           | 40.5           | 39.1           | 58.5           | 61.6         | 265.6           |
| Medications for anxiety/ nervous tension/ depression | —              | 2.4            | 22.2           | 48.9           | 75.5           | 73.9           | 70.9           | 64.7           | 37.5         | 395.9           |
| Tranquillisers or sedatives not included above       | 2.9            | 4.2            | 5.8            | 6.6            | 10.4           | 12.5           | 10.5           | 16.4           | 9.9          | 79.3            |
| Other  | 155.9          | 208.0          | 354.5          | 414.9          | 398.8          | 502.9          | 422.7          | 459.5          | 304.6        | 3,221.8         |
| Total persons who used other medications             | 605.5          | 1,004.8        | 1,403.2        | 1,579.4        | 1,624.1        | 1,463.3        | 1,140.2        | 1,147.0        | 704.4        | 10,671.7        |
| Total persons who used medications(b)                | 696.6          | 1,259.8        | 1,686.1        | 1,911.8        | 1,948.3        | 1,701.9        | 1,259.1        | 1,214.4        | 739.5        | 12,417.6        |
| Did not use medications                              | 598.8          | 1,317.5        | 1,024.2        | 929.9          | 793.5          | 530.3          | 248.3          | 133.6          | 67.4         | 5,643.5         |
| <b>Total persons 1995</b>                            | <b>1,295.3</b> | <b>2,577.4</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |
| 1989-90  |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |
| Used vitamins or minerals                            | 183.3          | 448.4          | 616.6          | 733.1          | 670.6          | 472.7          | 375.4          | 303.4          | 156.5        | 3,960.0         |
| Used other medications                               | 757.6          | 1,182.9        | 1,590.6        | 1,710.4        | 1,638.2        | 1,241.6        | 1,133.0        | 1,031.8        | 613.6        | 10,899.8        |
| Did not use medications                              | 427.5          | 1,120.6        | 977.9          | 859.4          | 740.0          | 444.7          | 261.5          | 144.4          | 60.4         | 5,036.1         |
| <b>Total persons 1989-90</b>                         | <b>1,243.1</b> | <b>2,480.8</b> | <b>2,758.1</b> | <b>2,799.9</b> | <b>2,561.2</b> | <b>1,794.4</b> | <b>1,454.4</b> | <b>1,209.0</b> | <b>688.1</b> | <b>16,988.8</b> |

(a) Medication as reported by respondent. (b) Persons may have reported using more than one type of medication, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 20. PERSONS WHO USED MEDICATIONS(a) IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW: SELECTED GENERIC TYPE OF MEDICATION BY FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF REGULAR USE AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

| Type of medication(b)                                     | Frequency of regular use |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     | Duration of regular use             |                     |                               |                                |                  |         | Total (c) |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------|
|   | Not regularly used       | Every day and/or night | Most days and/or nights | 1-3 days and/or nights per week | Less than once a week | Varies/ as required | Use varies or less than once a week | Less than one month | 1 month to less than 3 months | 3 months to less than 6 months | 6 months or more |         |           |
| <b>Arthritis drugs—</b>                                   |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Anti inflammatory & anti-rheumatic products, non-steroids | 190.8                    | 427.6                  | 24.1                    | 40.8                            | 16.5                  | 96.7                | 303.4                               | 76.2                | 39.4                          | 25.6                           | 351.4            | 787.4   |           |
| Specific anti-rheumatic agents                            | * 2.1                    | 50.3                   | 5.2                     | 17.7                            | * 1.6                 | * 1.6               | 5.4                                 | 3.2                 | 4.0                           | 3.7                            | 55.2             | 68.5    |           |
| <b>Allergy medications—</b>                               |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Nasal decongestants for topical use                       | 59.9                     | 27.1                   | 5.4                     | 5.5                             | * 1.1                 | 14.2                | 75.2                                | 8.7                 | 4.3                           | * 1.2                          | 23.8             | 112.1   |           |
| Antihistamines for systemic use                           | 140.9                    | 103.0                  | 12.3                    | 17.9                            | 5.7                   | 42.6                | 188.8                               | 37.4                | 17.0                          | 6.0                            | 73.3             | 317.9   |           |
| <b>Asthma medications—</b>                                |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Adrenergics, inhalants                                    | 282.7                    | 520.8                  | 65.6                    | 89.3                            | 20.7                  | 176.8               | 478.3                               | 42.5                | 23.9                          | 16.0                           | 594.7            | 1,139.9 |           |
| Other anti-asthmatics, inhalants                          | 106.5                    | 584.1                  | 32.6                    | 29.9                            | 5.2                   | 68.7                | 179.4                               | 57.3                | 42.6                          | 33.9                           | 517.2            | 806.4   |           |
| Other anti-asthmatics for systemic use                    | 52.8                     | 95.2                   | 2.6                     | 2.8                             | * 2.0                 | 9.8                 | 64.0                                | 19.2                | 3.8                           | 3.1                            | 76.0             | 162.0   |           |
| <b>Diabetes medications—</b>                              |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Insulins  | —                        | 73.4                   | —                       | * 0.7                           | —                     | —                   | —                                   | * 1.6               | * 1.2                         | 2.7                            | 70.4             | 74.1    |           |
| Oral blood glucose lowering drugs                         | * 1.3                    | 190.6                  | **0.0                   | —                               | * 0.6                 | **0.4               | * 2.2                               | 5.6                 | 4.4                           | 8.4                            | 176.3            | 192.6   |           |
| <b>Heart and blood pressure drugs—</b>                    |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Cardiac glycosides  | * 0.9                    | 156.6                  | * 1.6                   | **0.3                           | —                     | * 0.5               | * 1.4                               | 2.5                 | 3.4                           | 4.0                            | 148.5            | 159.8   |           |
| Anti-arrhythmics  | 3.0                      | 29.7                   | —                       | * 1.4                           | —                     | —                   | 3.0                                 | * 0.4               | * 0.9                         | * 1.6                          | 28.2             | 34.1    |           |
| Vasodilators used in cardiac disease                      | 17.8                     | 138.4                  | * 1.6                   | 2.4                             | * 2.3                 | 15.2                | 35.0                                | 7.2                 | 8.1                           | 6.8                            | 120.5            | 166.1   |           |
| Anti-adrenergic agents, centrally acting                  | * 0.6                    | 61.3                   | —                       | * 1.0                           | —                     | —                   | * 0.6                               | 2.3                 | * 1.0                         | * 1.6                          | 57.3             | 62.8    |           |
| Anti-adrenergic agents, peripherally acting               | **0.0                    | 93.7                   | * 0.4                   | —                               | * 0.8                 | —                   | * 0.8                               | **0.3               | * 2.1                         | * 0.7                          | 91.0             | 94.9    |           |
| Arteriolar smooth muscle, agents acting on                | —                        | 8.3                    | —                       | —                               | —                     | —                   | —                                   | —                   | —                             | —                              | 8.3              | 8.3     |           |
| Renin-angiotensin system, agents acting on                | 2.3                      | 665.3                  | * 1.0                   | **0.2                           | —                     | * 0.6               | 2.9                                 | 20.2                | 23.2                          | 24.8                           | 598.3            | 669.4   |           |
| B-blocking agents, plain                                  | 2.6                      | 575.5                  | 3.5                     | 3.6                             | —                     | * 0.5               | 3.1                                 | 9.6                 | 11.5                          | 15.3                           | 546.4            | 585.7   |           |
| Calcium channel blockers                                  | 4.0                      | 740.6                  | * 1.8                   | 3.8                             | * 0.9                 | * 1.9               | 6.8                                 | 20.3                | 31.2                          | 29.5                           | 669.1            | 752.2   |           |
| <b>Fluid/diuretic medications—</b>                        |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Low-ceiling diuretics, thiazides                          | **0.2                    | 87.7                   | 3.0                     | * 2.0                           | **0.1                 | * 1.1               | * 1.5                               | * 2.0               | * 1.9                         | 3.7                            | 85.0             | 94.1    |           |
| Low ceiling diuretics, excluding thiazides                | * 0.8                    | 140.7                  | * 2.2                   | * 0.7                           | —                     | —                   | * 0.8                               | 5.6                 | 5.5                           | 2.5                            | 130.1            | 144.4   |           |
| High-ceiling diuretics                                    | 4.9                      | 206.9                  | 6.3                     | 6.4                             | —                     | * 1.8               | 6.7                                 | 8.1                 | 2.5                           | 9.2                            | 200.8            | 226.4   |           |
| Potassium-sparing agents                                  | —                        | 48.1                   | —                       | **0.2                           | **0.3                 | * 0.8               | * 1.1                               | * 0.6               | **0.2                         | * 2.0                          | 45.5             | 49.4    |           |
| Diuretics and potassium sparing agents in combination     | 4.5                      | 149.1                  | 4.7                     | 6.8                             | **0.3                 | 2.4                 | 7.2                                 | 2.5                 | 2.6                           | 6.6                            | 148.9            | 167.7   |           |
| Serum lipid reducing agents                               |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Cholesterol and triglyceride reducers                     | * 0.5                    | 314.8                  | * 2.1                   | * 1.0                           | —                     | * 0.9               | * 1.3                               | 12.9                | 20.9                          | 21.8                           | 263.3            | 318.4   |           |
| <b>Analgesic medications—</b>                             |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Opioids   | 32.0                     | 24.6                   | * 0.8                   | * 0.8                           | * 1.9                 | 5.0                 | 38.1                                | 4.6                 | 5.0                           | * 1.1                          | 16.1             | 62.6    |           |
| Other analgesics and anti-pyretics                        | 3,237.6                  | 793.7                  | 85.9                    | 237.3                           | 100.0                 | 381.3               | 3,691.1                             | 108.5               | 61.1                          | 50.6                           | 890.6            | 4,699.1 |           |
| <b>Psycholeptic medications—</b>                          |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                     |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                  |         |           |
| Anti-psychotics   | 3.1                      | 77.8                   | * 0.7                   | 2.5                             | 4.8                   | * 1.9               | 9.9                                 | * 1.7               | 3.0                           | 3.3                            | 73.4             | 89.8    |           |
| Anxiolytics   | 40.8                     | 126.0                  | 5.2                     | 10.3                            | * 0.5                 | 15.1                | 56.3                                | 7.8                 | 6.3                           | 6.3                            | 121.4            | 197.4   |           |
| Hypnotics and sedatives                                   | 43.6                     | 85.6                   | 6.9                     | 12.9                            | **0.0                 | 13.3                | 56.9                                | 6.5                 | 4.9                           | 5.4                            | 88.6             | 161.9   |           |

**TABLE 20. PERSONS WHO USED MEDICATIONS(a) IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW: SELECTED GENERIC TYPE OF MEDICATION BY FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF REGULAR USE AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)—continued**

| Type of medication(b)                                    | Frequency of regular use |                        |                         |                                 |                       | Duration of regular use |                                     |                     |                               |                                | Total (c)      |                  |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
|  | Not regularly used       | Every day and/or night | Most days and/or nights | 1-3 days and/or nights per week | Less than once a week | Varies/ as required     | Use varies or less than once a week | Less than one month | 1 month to less than 3 months | 3 months to less than 6 months |                | 6 months or more |
| Medications for anxiety/ depression/ nervous conditions— |                          |                        |                         |                                 |                       |                         |                                     |                     |                               |                                |                |                  |
| Anti-depressants   | 13.8                     | 298.2                  | 6.3                     | 5.2                             | *1.0                  | 5.0                     | 19.8                                | 25.6                | 33.0                          | 25.6                           | 230.1          | 329.1            |
| Other medications (d)                                    | 2,594.3                  | 3,157.4                | 218.4                   | 374.7                           | 110.8                 | 491.9                   | 3,090.8                             | 876.6               | 324.2                         | 244.4                          | 2,403.6        | 6,031.5          |
| <b>Total persons who used medication(s)(e)</b>           | <b>10,466.0</b>          | <b>5,569.8</b>         | <b>461.1</b>            | <b>802.7</b>                    | <b>272.9</b>          | <b>1,201.0</b>          | <b>10,518.6</b>                     | <b>1,219.0</b>      | <b>621.7</b>                  | <b>495.6</b>                   | <b>4,849.2</b> | <b>10,671.7</b>  |
| <b>Total persons</b>                                     | <b>17,855.4</b>          | <b>5,569.8</b>         | <b>461.1</b>            | <b>802.7</b>                    | <b>272.9</b>          | <b>1,201.0</b>          | <b>17,908.0</b>                     | <b>1,219.0</b>      | <b>621.7</b>                  | <b>495.6</b>                   | <b>4,849.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b>  |

(a) Excludes vitamins and minerals, natural and herbal medicines. (b) Type of medication as reported by respondent. (c) Persons may have used more than one medication from the same category, therefore components do not add to totals. (d) Includes cough/cold medications, skin ointments and creams, stomach medications, laxatives and other medications not elsewhere classified. (e) Persons may have used more than one medication, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 21. PERSONS WHO USED MEDICATIONS(a) IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW: TYPE OF MEDICATION BY WHETHER USED ON MEDICAL ADVICE AND WHETHER NEEDED PRESCRIPTION TO OBTAIN MEDICATION AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

| Type of medication(b)                                | Whether use advised by health professional |                | Whether medication prescribed |                |             | Provided by a doctor or hospital | Total(c)        |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | Yes  | No             | Yes                           | No             | Don't know  |                                  |                 |
| Medication for diabetes                              | 260.9                                      | * 1.3          | 259.1                         | 2.7            | **0.4       | * 0.5                            | 262.2           |
| Asthma medications                                   | 1,160.6                                    | 42.9           | 1,011.8                       | 280.4          | 6.0         | 5.0                              | 1,197.5         |
| Medications for arthritis                            | 597.2                                      | 31.1           | 564.0                         | 66.1           | * 0.6       | 7.5                              | 621.4           |
| Medication for cough/ colds                          | 632.3                                      | 714.0          | 390.4                         | 964.4          | 4.1         | 8.8                              | 1,283.8         |
| Skin ointments/ creams                               | 1,036.4                                    | 782.0          | 742.7                         | 1,068.1        | 6.1         | 14.5                             | 1,761.6         |
| Stomach medications/Laxatives                        | 683.7                                      | 139.8          | 572.9                         | 253.2          | 3.2         | 13.2                             | 813.6           |
| Medications for allergies                            | 447.4                                      | 142.9          | 267.6                         | 333.5          | * 1.5       | 10.3                             | 571.5           |
| Fluid tablets/ diuretics                             | 393.8                                      | * 1.1          | 388.9                         | 6.4            | * 1.3       | **0.2                            | 394.8           |
| Medications for fluid, heart, blood pressure         | 2,012.1                                    | 8.6            | 1,934.0                       | 236.3          | * 1.8       | 7.0                              | 2,017.8         |
| Medications to lower cholesterol/ triglycerides      | 305.5                                      | * 2.3          | 300.6                         | 5.8            | * 0.9       | * 1.2                            | 307.8           |
| Pain relievers                                       | 1,377.1                                    | 3,018.5        | 751.9                         | 3,610.3        | 9.1         | 48.6                             | 4,265.2         |
| Sleeping medications                                 | 247.8                                      | 18.2           | 239.7                         | 22.5           | **0.2       | 3.6                              | 265.6           |
| Medications for anxiety/ nervous tension/ depression | 386.6                                      | 9.7            | 379.9                         | 11.9           | **0.2       | 5.1                              | 395.9           |
| Tranquillisers or sedatives not included above       | 76.8                                       | 2.5            | 72.3                          | 4.4            | * 0.4       | * 2.2                            | 79.3            |
| None of the above                                    | 2,881.9                                    | 399.8          | 2,558.7                       | 731.6          | 11.4        | 77.2                             | 3,221.8         |
| <b>Total persons who used medication(s)(d)</b>       | <b>7,620.5</b>                             | <b>4,599.7</b> | <b>6,535.7</b>                | <b>6,254.6</b> | <b>44.9</b> | <b>178.9</b>                     | <b>10,671.7</b> |

(a) Excludes vitamins and minerals, natural and herbal medicines. (b) Type of medication as reported by respondent. (c) Persons may have used more than one medication from the same category, therefore components do not add to totals. (d) Persons may have used more than one medication, therefore components do not add to totals.

**TABLE 22. EMPLOYED PERSONS: WHETHER HAD DAYS AWAY FROM WORK DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY IN THE TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW, REASONS AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS AWAY FROM WORK BY MAIN OCCUPATION(a) AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995**

|   | Managers<br>and<br>admini-<br>stra-<br>tors | Professio-<br>nals | Para-<br>profession-<br>als | Tradespe-<br>rsons | Clerks         | Salespe-<br>rsons and<br>personal<br>service<br>workers | Plant and<br>machine<br>operators<br>and drivers | Labourers<br>and related<br>workers | Total(b)       |
|---|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|   | '000  |                    |                             |                    |                |   |  |                                     |                |
| Influenza                               | 14.4  | 19.7               | 8.5                         | 22.1               | 29.4           | 25.9  | 8.9  | 20.5                                | 149.4          |
| Common cold                             | 4.6   | 7.8                | 3.4                         | 7.7                | 10.1           | 7.6   | * 2.2  | 6.1                                 | 49.5           |
| Diarrhoea, enteritis                    | 3.5   | 4.3                | * 1.9                       | 4.0                | 9.6            | 6.1   | * 2.1  | 3.8                                 | 35.4           |
| Back problems(unspecified)              | 4.4   | * 2.1              | * 1.9                       | 6.5                | 3.7            | 5.2   | 2.8  | 6.7                                 | 33.4           |
| Dislocations, sprains and strains       | * 1.4                                       | * 1.1              | * 2.1                       | 9.1                | 5.3            | 3.0   | 3.9  | 7.4                                 | 33.3           |
| Virus                                   | 4.7   | 2.6                | * 1.4                       | 3.4                | 5.4            | 6.2   | * 1.9  | * 1.4                               | 26.9           |
| Cough/sore throat                       | * 1.9                                       | 3.4                | * 1.7                       | 2.7                | 9.4            | 3.9   | **0.3  | 3.6                                 | 26.8           |
| Headache                                | * 1.9                                       | * 1.4              | * 1.3                       | 4.7                | 4.9            | 5.1   | * 2.0  | 3.8                                 | 25.2           |
| Migraine                                | * 0.5                                       | 4.0                | 3.4                         | * 2.2              | 6.2            | 2.7   | * 0.9  | * 2.0                               | 21.9           |
| Fractures                               | * 0.8                                       | **0.2              | * 1.5                       | 3.5                | * 1.5          | 2.7   | * 2.2  | 2.8                                 | 15.4           |
| Nerves, tension, nervousness            | * 1.1                                       | 2.7                | 2.3                         | * 0.8              | * 2.2          | 3.3   | * 0.5  | * 1.8                               | 14.9           |
| Dental problems                         | * 1.1                                       | * 0.9              | * 0.8                       | * 1.9              | 4.0            | * 1.8   | * 0.7  | 3.5                                 | 14.7           |
| Males                                   | 49.1  | 38.5               | 21.4                        | 107.4              | 33.1           | 34.8  | 50.9   | 67.9                                | 403.1          |
| Females                                 | 18.7  | 53.0               | 31.4                        | 15.5               | 114.2          | 80.8  | 6.2  | 52.1                                | 371.9          |
| <b>Total employed persons</b>           | <b>923.1</b>                                | <b>1,200.2</b>     | <b>503.1</b>                | <b>1,265.9</b>     | <b>1,353.6</b> | <b>1,289.4</b>  | <b>576.6</b>                                     | <b>1,147.9</b>                      | <b>8,263.3</b> |
|   | Per cent                                    |                    |                             |                    |                |   |  |                                     |                |
| Males                                   | 7.1   | 5.8                | 8.2                         | 9.4                | 11.7           | 7.6   | 10.3   | 9.9                                 | 4.5            |
| Females                                 | 7.9   | 9.9                | 12.8                        | 12.0               | 10.7           | 9.7   | 7.7  | 11.2                                | 4.2            |
| <i>Total persons having day(s) away</i> | <i>7.3</i>                                  | <i>7.7</i>         | <i>10.5</i>                 | <i>9.7</i>         | <i>10.9</i>    | <i>9.0</i>  | <i>9.9</i>                                       | <i>10.4</i>                         | <i>4.4</i>     |
|   | Average number of days away from work       |                    |                             |                    |                |   |  |                                     |                |
| Males                                   | 3.0   | 2.8                | 2.8                         | 3.2                | 2.7            | 2.4   | 3.4  | 3.5                                 | 3.1            |
| Females                                 | 2.8   | 2.3                | 3.3                         | 2.2                | 2.3            | 2.7   | 4.0  | 3.5                                 | 2.7            |

(a) Occupation of main job reported at time of the survey. (b) Includes persons who did not state an occupation. (c) Only the most commonly reported reasons are shown, therefore components will not add to totals.

TABLE 23. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER : RISK FACTOR BEHAVIOURS BY AGE AND SEX  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
(\*000)

|   | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Smoker status(a)</b>                   |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Smoker                                    | 577.2          | 886.3          | 699.7          | 774.8          | 180.2          | 62.3         | 1,797.7        | 1,382.9        | 3,180.6         |
| Ex-smoker                                 | 224.0          | 639.6          | 771.4          | 1,203.6        | 541.5          | 283.8        | 2,132.8        | 1,531.1        | 3,663.9         |
| Never smoked                              | 1,110.5        | 1,315.9        | 1,270.7        | 1,761.2        | 626.2          | 460.9        | 2,660.2        | 3,885.2        | 6,545.4         |
| <b>Total(b)</b>                           | <b>1,911.8</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>3,739.6</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>6,590.7</b> | <b>6,799.2</b> | <b>13,389.9</b> |
| <b>Alcohol risk levels(a)</b>             |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Did not consume alcohol                   | 869.5          | 1,166.4        | 1,108.6        | 1,644.6        | 685.0          | 490.1        | 2,254.4        | 3,709.8        | 5,964.1         |
| Low                                       | 864.0          | 1,414.9        | 1,406.7        | 1,770.7        | 565.6          | 290.1        | 3,639.3        | 2,672.7        | 6,312.0         |
| Medium                                    | 100.9          | 145.2          | 144.7          | 214.2          | 72.9           | 15.6         | 364.0          | 329.5          | 693.5           |
| High                                      | 77.3           | 114.8          | 82.2           | 110.3          | 24.6           | 11.1         | 333.0          | 87.2           | 420.3           |
| <i>Total persons who consumed alcohol</i> | <i>1,042.2</i> | <i>1,674.9</i> | <i>1,633.6</i> | <i>2,095.2</i> | <i>663.0</i>   | <i>316.7</i> | <i>4,336.4</i> | <i>3,089.4</i> | <i>7,425.7</i>  |
| <b>Total(b)</b>                           | <b>1,911.8</b> | <b>2,841.3</b> | <b>2,742.2</b> | <b>3,739.8</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>806.8</b> | <b>6,590.7</b> | <b>6,799.2</b> | <b>13,389.9</b> |
| Did no exercise                           | 615.0          | 840.7          | 935.2          | 1,354.1        | 532.9          | 404.0        | 2,276.3        | 2,405.7        | 4,682.0         |
| Low exercise level                        | 907.1          | 1,016.7        | 994.3          | 1,267.7        | 405.7          | 229.4        | 2,074.3        | 2,746.5        | 4,820.8         |
| Medium exercise level                     | 539.3          | 515.7          | 456.8          | 634.3          | 227.4          | 94.0         | 1,256.6        | 1,210.9        | 2,467.5         |
| High exercise level                       | 648.8          | 468.6          | 355.6          | 483.5          | 181.9          | 79.6         | 1,400.2        | 817.8          | 2,218.0         |
| <i>Total persons who exercised</i>        | <i>2,095.2</i> | <i>2,001.0</i> | <i>1,806.6</i> | <i>2,385.5</i> | <i>815.0</i>   | <i>403.0</i> | <i>4,731.1</i> | <i>4,775.2</i> | <i>9,506.4</i>  |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>3,739.6</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>7,007.4</b> | <b>7,181.0</b> | <b>14,188.4</b> |
| <b>Quetelet body mass index</b>           |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Underweight                               | 564.6          | 306.0          | 198.3          | 165.4          | 81.5           | 93.9         | 387.1          | 1,022.6        | 1,409.7         |
| Acceptable weight                         | 1,385.2        | 1,477.1        | 1,441.0        | 1,696.7        | 673.1          | 392.9        | 3,555.2        | 3,510.9        | 7,066.1         |
| Overweight                                | 298.7          | 586.7          | 677.5          | 1,144.3        | 359.0          | 154.5        | 2,017.0        | 1,203.7        | 3,220.7         |
| Obese                                     | 78.0           | 213.2          | 226.8          | 439.6          | 117.9          | 36.9         | 534.1          | 578.2          | 1,112.4         |
| Not stated/ not known                     | 383.7          | 258.7          | 198.2          | 293.6          | 116.5          | 128.8        | 513.9          | 865.6          | 1,379.5         |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>3,739.6</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>7,007.4</b> | <b>7,181.0</b> | <b>14,188.4</b> |

(a) Persons aged 18 years or more. (b) Estimates may differ between persons for smoker status and alcohol risk levels due to differences in sample structure.



TABLE 24. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER : RISK FACTOR BEHAVIOURS BY AGE, AUSTRALIA 1995 AND 1989-90(a)  
Rate per 1000 population

|   | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over    | Total<br>1995  | Total<br>1989-90 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Smoker status(b)</b>                   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                  |
| Smoker                                    | 301.9          | 311.9          | 255.2          | 207.2          | 133.7          | 77.2           | 237.5          | 283.9            |
| Ex-smoker                                 | 117.2          | 225.1          | 281.3          | 321.8          | 401.7          | 351.7          | 273.6          | 232.1            |
| Never smoked                              | 580.9          | 463.1          | 463.5          | 471.0          | 464.6          | 571.1          | 488.8          | 483.9            |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>   |
| <b>Alcohol risk levels(b)</b>             |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                  |
| Did not consume alcohol                   | 454.8          | 410.5          | 404.3          | 439.8          | 508.1          | 607.4          | 445.4          | 374.8            |
| Low                                       | 452.0          | 498.0          | 513.0          | 473.5          | 419.5          | 359.6          | 471.4          | 513.8            |
| Medium                                    | 52.8           | 51.1           | 52.8           | 57.3           | 54.1           | 19.3           | 51.8           | 68.4             |
| High                                      | 40.4           | 40.4           | 30.0           | 29.5           | 18.2           | 13.7           | 31.4           | 43.0             |
| <i>Total persons who consumed alcohol</i> | <i>545.2</i>   | <i>589.5</i>   | <i>595.7</i>   | <i>560.2</i>   | <i>491.9</i>   | <i>392.6</i>   | <i>554.6</i>   | <i>625.3</i>     |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>   |
| Did no exercise                           | 226.9          | 295.8          | 341.1          | 362.1          | 395.4          | 500.6          | 330.0          | 346.6            |
| Low exercise level                        | 334.7          | 357.8          | 362.6          | 339.0          | 301.0          | 284.2          | 339.8          | 319.2            |
| Medium exercise level                     | 199.0          | 181.5          | 166.6          | 169.6          | 168.7          | 116.5          | 173.9          | 169.4            |
| High exercise level                       | 239.4          | 164.9          | 129.7          | 129.3          | 135.0          | 98.7           | 156.3          | 164.8            |
| <i>Total persons who exercised</i>        | <i>773.1</i>   | <i>704.2</i>   | <i>658.9</i>   | <i>637.9</i>   | <i>604.6</i>   | <i>499.4</i>   | <i>670.0</i>   | <i>653.4</i>     |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>   |
| <b>Quetelet body mass index</b>           |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                  |
| Underweight                               | 208.3          | 107.7          | 72.3           | 44.2           | 60.5           | 116.4          | 99.4           | 134.2            |
| Acceptable weight                         | 511.1          | 519.8          | 525.6          | 453.7          | 499.4          | 486.8          | 498.0          | 479.6            |
| Overweight                                | 110.2          | 206.5          | 247.1          | 306.0          | 266.3          | 191.5          | 227.0          | 265.4            |
| Obese                                     | 28.8           | 75.0           | 82.7           | 117.5          | 87.4           | 45.7           | 78.4           | 82.2             |
| Not stated/ not known                     | 141.6          | 91.0           | 72.3           | 78.5           | 86.4           | 159.6          | 97.2           | 38.5             |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b>   |

(a) Age and sex standardised to 1995 Australian population: see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes. (b) Persons aged 18 years or more.

**TABLE 25. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER: RISK FACTOR BEHAVIOURS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995**  
Standardised percentage(a)

|   | <i>New South<br/>Wales</i> | <i>Victoria</i> | <i>Queensland</i> | <i>South<br/>Australia</i> | <i>Western<br/>Australia</i> | <i>Tasmania</i> | <i>Northern<br/>Territory(b)</i> | <i>Australian<br/>Capital<br/>Territory</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Smoker status(c)</b>                       |                            |                 |                   |                            |                              |                 |                                  |   |              |
| Smoker  | 23.5                       | 23.3            | 25.3              | 23.2                       | 22.6                         | 25.8            | 28.1                             | 21.4  | 23.7         |
| Ex-smoker                                     | 25.8                       | 26.9            | 28.2              | 28.6                       | 30.6                         | 31.5            | 27.9                             | 29.3  | 27.4         |
| Never smoked                                  | 50.8                       | 49.9            | 46.5              | 48.2                       | 46.7                         | 42.7            | 44.0                             | 49.3  | 48.9         |
| <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>100.0</b> |
| <b>Alcohol risk levels(c)</b>                 |                            |                 |                   |                            |                              |                 |                                  |   |              |
| Did not consume alcohol                       | 46.9                       | 46.5            | 42.4              | 41.2                       | 39.7                         | 43.6            | 41.1                             | 35.9  | 44.6         |
| Low   | 44.5                       | 46.4            | 48.6              | 50.5                       | 51.4                         | 49.3            | 43.9                             | 54.4  | 47.1         |
| Medium  | 5.5                        | 4.1             | 5.5               | 5.2                        | 5.9                          | 4.2             | 8.7                              | 5.4   | 5.2          |
| High  | 3.1                        | 2.9             | 3.5               | 3.1                        | 3.1                          | 2.8             | 6.5                              | 4.2   | 3.1          |
| <i>Total persons who<br/>consumed alcohol</i> | <i>53.1</i>                | <i>53.5</i>     | <i>57.5</i>       | <i>58.8</i>                | <i>60.3</i>                  | <i>56.4</i>     | <i>57.0</i>                      | <i>64.1</i>                                 | <i>55.4</i>  |
| <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>100.0</b> |
| Did no exercise                               | 34.6                       | 32.5            | 33.0              | 33.6                       | 28.6                         | 34.1            | 37.3                             | 24.9  | 33.0         |
| Low exercise level                            | 32.3                       | 35.0            | 33.2              | 34.9                       | 38.1                         | 34.3            | 27.7                             | 36.0  | 34.0         |
| Medium exercise level                         | 17.1                       | 17.7            | 17.6              | 16.8                       | 17.8                         | 15.4            | 17.7                             | 20.5  | 17.4         |
| High exercise level                           | 16.0                       | 14.8            | 16.2              | 14.7                       | 15.4                         | 16.3            | 17.3                             | 18.6  | 15.6         |
| <i>Total persons who<br/>exercised</i>        | <i>65.4</i>                | <i>67.5</i>     | <i>67.0</i>       | <i>66.4</i>                | <i>71.4</i>                  | <i>65.9</i>     | <i>62.7</i>                      | <i>75.1</i>                                 | <i>67.0</i>  |
| <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>100.0</b> |
| <b>Quetelet body mass index</b>               |                            |                 |                   |                            |                              |                 |                                  |   |              |
| Underweight                                   | 10.2                       | 9.2             | 11.1              | 8.3                        | 10.5                         | 8.5             | 9.2                              | 9.6   | 9.9          |
| Acceptable weight                             | 49.8                       | 49.8            | 50.5              | 46.7                       | 51.0                         | 49.3            | 47.3                             | 54.7  | 49.8         |
| Overweight                                    | 22.8                       | 22.9            | 22.5              | 22.6                       | 21.9                         | 24.4            | 25.5                             | 22.9  | 22.7         |
| Obese   | 7.7                        | 7.4             | 8.7               | 8.4                        | 7.2                          | 8.1             | 8.3                              | 7.2   | 7.8          |
| Not stated/ not known                         | 9.4                        | 10.7            | 7.2               | 14.0                       | 9.3                          | 9.6             | 9.7                              | 5.7   | 9.7          |
| <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>100.0</b>                     | <b>100.0</b>                                | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) Age and sex standardised to the Australian population; see paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes. (b) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only. (c) Persons aged 18 years or more.

**TABLE 26. PERSONS 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO CONSUMED ALCOHOL IN THE WEEK PRIOR TO INTERVIEW: AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION BY TYPE OF ALCOHOLIC DRINK BY AGE BY SEX**  
**AUSTRALIA, 1995**  
**Millilitres(a)**

| Type of alcoholic drink    | 18 - 24     | 25 - 34     | 35 - 44     | 45 - 64     | 65 - 74     | 75 and over | Total       |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Males                      |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Beer — extra/special light | 24.7        | 34.6        | 24.1        | 19.0        | 15.0        | 9.5         | 22.6        |
| Beer — low alcohol         | 68.9        | 49.4        | 41.0        | 35.4        | 25.6        | 19.8        | 40.5        |
| Beer — full strength       | 104.2       | 86.3        | 71.7        | 68.4        | 49.2        | 45.0        | 79.3        |
| Wine                       | 68.3        | 61.0        | 44.6        | 40.7        | 33.5        | 24.4        | 45.8        |
| Spirits                    | 110.9       | 83.7        | 59.4        | 44.4        | 37.5        | 28.0        | 71.1        |
| Fortified wine             | 88.7        | 78.8        | 49.6        | 40.6        | 39.6        | 30.7        | 50.5        |
| Other                      | 92.1        | 74.3        | 36.8        | 37.2        | 28.5        | 15.7        | 65.3        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>92.3</b> | <b>71.9</b> | <b>52.8</b> | <b>45.8</b> | <b>32.4</b> | <b>26.5</b> | <b>57.6</b> |
| Females                    |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Beer — extra/special light | 19.6        | 22.2        | 20.9        | 9.9         | 9.1         | 3.0         | 15.5        |
| Beer — low alcohol         | 40.3        | 27.2        | 28.3        | 22.1        | 16.4        | 8.8         | 24.6        |
| Beer — full strength       | 71.1        | 53.0        | 50.3        | 42.7        | 32.1        | 18.6        | 54.0        |
| Wine                       | 48.9        | 37.6        | 30.5        | 28.4        | 23.9        | 18.2        | 32.3        |
| Spirits                    | 64.4        | 44.3        | 31.8        | 23.5        | 17.3        | 17.5        | 38.4        |
| Fortified wine             | 72.5        | 42.9        | 30.6        | 20.5        | 20.5        | 14.5        | 25.8        |
| Other                      | 71.3        | 43.7        | 35.4        | 24.4        | 27.6        | 14.4        | 51.6        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>53.6</b> | <b>37.9</b> | <b>31.0</b> | <b>25.8</b> | <b>19.7</b> | <b>15.8</b> | <b>32.8</b> |
| Persons                    |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Beer — extra/special light | 23.0        | 31.5        | 23.7        | 17.4        | 13.7        | 8.3         | 21.2        |
| Beer — low alcohol         | 62.9        | 44.9        | 38.7        | 33.1        | 23.2        | 17.1        | 37.4        |
| Beer — full strength       | 95.6        | 80.0        | 68.7        | 65.3        | 45.9        | 38.6        | 74.7        |
| Wine                       | 54.6        | 46.4        | 36.1        | 34.0        | 28.6        | 20.6        | 37.9        |
| Spirits                    | 87.5        | 63.8        | 44.0        | 33.5        | 26.1        | 23.7        | 54.1        |
| Fortified wine             | 82.3        | 64.1        | 42.4        | 30.5        | 27.4        | 22.1        | 38.4        |
| Other                      | 75.9        | 55.2        | 35.8        | 29.5        | 28.1        | 15.0        | 55.8        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>75.3</b> | <b>57.9</b> | <b>43.7</b> | <b>37.8</b> | <b>27.2</b> | <b>21.6</b> | <b>47.3</b> |

(a) Average amount of millilitres of alcohol contained in drinks consumed for each day up to three occasions in last week.

**TABLE 27. PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER EXERCISED IN TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF EXERCISE, AVERAGE NUMBER OF OCCASIONS AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF SESSIONS AUSTRALIA, 1995 ('000)**

|                               | Age (years)    |                |                |                |              |              | Males          | Females        | Persons        |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 64        | 65 - 74      | 75 and over  |                |                |                |
| <b>Walking</b>                |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| Did walk for exercise         | 1,307.0        | 1,425.9        | 1,305.7        | 1,914.3        | 689.9        | 336.2        | 3,143.3        | 3,835.7        | 6,979.0        |
| Did not walk for exercise     | 1,403.3        | 1,415.8        | 1,436.1        | 1,825.3        | 658.1        | 470.8        | 3,864.1        | 3,345.3        | 7,209.3        |
| Number of times walked—       |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| One or two                    | 302.5          | 362.7          | 368.2          | 376.5          | 79.8         | 38.9         | 711.6          | 817.0          | 1,528.6        |
| Three to six                  | 456.4          | 537.9          | 483.0          | 645.8          | 202.0        | 92.4         | 1,040.9        | 1,376.6        | 2,417.6        |
| Seven to fourteen             | 490.9          | 481.0          | 412.1          | 822.6          | 379.8        | 192.4        | 1,260.8        | 1,518.0        | 2,778.8        |
| More than fourteen            | 57.1           | 44.4           | 42.4           | 69.4           | 28.3         | 12.4         | 129.9          | 124.1          | 254.0          |
| <i>Total</i>                  | <i>1,307.0</i> | <i>1,425.9</i> | <i>1,305.7</i> | <i>1,914.3</i> | <i>689.9</i> | <i>336.2</i> | <i>3,143.3</i> | <i>3,835.7</i> | <i>6,979.0</i> |
| Average duration of walking—  |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| Less than 15 mins             | 5.0            | 8.4            | 5.0            | 7.2            | * 0.7        | * 0.6        | 11.6           | 15.3           | 27.0           |
| 15 to less than 30 mins       | 29.4           | 20.7           | 15.8           | 16.5           | 5.3          | * 2.2        | 41.2           | 48.6           | 89.7           |
| 30 to less than 60 mins       | 83.8           | 90.7           | 77.3           | 80.5           | 24.4         | 10.6         | 159.8          | 207.4          | 367.2          |
| 1 hour or more                | 1,188.8        | 1,306.1        | 1,207.7        | 1,810.1        | 659.5        | 322.9        | 2,930.7        | 3,564.4        | 6,495.1        |
| <i>Total</i>                  | <i>1,307.0</i> | <i>1,425.9</i> | <i>1,305.7</i> | <i>1,914.3</i> | <i>689.9</i> | <i>336.2</i> | <i>3,143.3</i> | <i>3,835.7</i> | <i>6,979.0</i> |
| <b>Moderate exercise</b>      |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| Did moderate exercise         | 1,388.2        | 1,130.3        | 966.1          | 1,075.1        | 337.7        | 159.3        | 2,768.8        | 2,287.9        | 5,056.7        |
| No moderate exercise          | 1,322.1        | 1,711.4        | 1,775.7        | 2,664.6        | 1,010.2      | 647.7        | 4,238.6        | 4,893.0        | 9,131.6        |
| Number of times moderate—     |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| One or two                    | 472.4          | 401.7          | 365.5          | 368.5          | 96.5         | 42.3         | 890.8          | 856.1          | 1,746.9        |
| Three to six                  | 557.7          | 466.5          | 370.0          | 393.6          | 108.3        | 43.9         | 1,058.0        | 882.0          | 1,940.0        |
| Seven to fourteen             | 329.0          | 244.4          | 208.0          | 288.7          | 121.2        | 70.9         | 744.8          | 517.4          | 1,262.2        |
| More than fourteen            | 29.2           | 17.1           | 22.2           | 24.3           | 11.7         | * 2.2        | 74.3           | 32.4           | 106.7          |
| <i>Total</i>                  | <i>1,388.2</i> | <i>1,130.3</i> | <i>966.1</i>   | <i>1,075.1</i> | <i>337.7</i> | <i>159.3</i> | <i>2,768.8</i> | <i>2,287.9</i> | <i>5,056.7</i> |
| Average duration of moderate— |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| Less than 15 mins             | 67.5           | 60.5           | 71.8           | 125.0          | 53.6         | 27.1         | 198.4          | 207.1          | 405.6          |
| 15 to less than 30 mins       | 127.3          | 110.1          | 116.0          | 129.7          | 36.0         | 26.8         | 287.3          | 258.8          | 546.0          |
| 30 to less than 60 mins       | 360.6          | 315.8          | 259.5          | 241.3          | 54.1         | 24.6         | 630.7          | 625.3          | 1,255.9        |
| 1 hour or more                | 832.7          | 643.8          | 518.8          | 578.3          | 194.0        | 80.8         | 1,651.7        | 1,196.8        | 2,848.5        |
| <i>Total</i>                  | <i>1,388.2</i> | <i>1,130.3</i> | <i>966.1</i>   | <i>1,075.1</i> | <i>337.7</i> | <i>159.3</i> | <i>2,768.8</i> | <i>2,287.9</i> | <i>5,056.7</i> |
| <b>Vigorous exercise</b>      |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| Did vigorous exercise         | 848.4          | 582.2          | 410.6          | 299.1          | 47.2         | 14.9         | 1,365.6        | 836.7          | 2,202.3        |
| No vigorous exercise          | 1,861.9        | 2,259.6        | 2,331.2        | 3,440.5        | 1,300.8      | 792.1        | 5,641.8        | 6,344.3        | 11,986.1       |
| Number of times vigorous—     |                |                |                |                |              |              |                |                |                |
| One or two                    | 340.3          | 235.2          | 167.4          | 126.2          | 21.4         | 6.0          | 524.8          | 371.8          | 896.6          |
| Three to six                  | 338.0          | 230.6          | 161.9          | 112.7          | 12.5         | 4.5          | 546.9          | 313.3          | 860.2          |
| Seven to fourteen             | 163.2          | 108.3          | 74.3           | 55.3           | 12.9         | 4.4          | 275.0          | 143.4          | 418.4          |
| More than fourteen            | 6.8            | 7.5            | 7.0            | 4.9            | **0.3        | —            | 18.4           | 8.1            | 26.5           |
| Not stated                    | —              | * 0.5          | —              | —              | —            | —            | * 0.5          | —              | * 0.5          |
| <i>Total</i>                  | <i>848.4</i>   | <i>582.2</i>   | <i>410.6</i>   | <i>299.1</i>   | <i>47.2</i>  | <i>14.9</i>  | <i>1,365.6</i> | <i>836.7</i>   | <i>2,202.3</i> |

TABLE 27. PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OVER: WHETHER EXERCISED IN TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF EXERCISE, AVERAGE NUMBER OF OCCASIONS AND AVERAGE LENGTH OF SESSIONS  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
(<sup>'000</sup>)—continued

|                               | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                | 75 and<br>over | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                               | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 64        | 65 - 74        |                |                |                |                 |
| Average duration of vigorous— |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                 |
| Less than 15 mins             | 31.1           | 18.7           | 22.4           | 21.4           | 8.7            | * 1.0          | 56.2           | 47.1           | 103.3           |
| 15 to less than 30 mins       | 54.6           | 39.6           | 34.1           | 30.2           | 3.7            | * 2.2          | 98.3           | 66.1           | 164.4           |
| 30 to less than 60 mins       | 223.9          | 169.3          | 132.5          | 74.2           | 8.2            | 3.8            | 362.1          | 249.7          | 611.8           |
| 1 hour or more                | 538.8          | 354.5          | 221.6          | 173.3          | 26.7           | 7.9            | 849.0          | 473.8          | 1,322.8         |
| <i>Total</i>                  | 848.4          | 582.2          | 410.6          | 299.1          | 47.2           | 14.9           | 1,365.6        | 836.7          | 2,202.3         |
|                               | No exercise    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                 |
| <i>Total</i>                  | 615.0          | 840.7          | 935.2          | 1,354.1        | 532.9          | 404.0          | 2,276.3        | 2,405.7        | 4,682.0         |
| <b>Total persons</b>          | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>3,739.6</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b>   | <b>7,007.4</b> | <b>7,181.0</b> | <b>14,188.4</b> |

TABLE 28. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE: HEIGHT(a) BY AGE BY SEX  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
'000 and per cent

| Height (cms)     | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |              | Total           |              |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                  | 15-24          | 25-34          | 35-44          | 45-54          | 55-64          | 65-74          | 75 and over  | '000            | Per cent     |
| <b>Males</b>     |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 150 cm | * 0.9          | * 1.7          | * 1.1          | —              | **0.3          | **0.2          | **0.2        | 4.5             | 0.1          |
| 150 — 159 cm     | 18.4           | 7.0            | 10.6           | 14.1           | 16.0           | 13.3           | 8.1          | 87.4            | 1.2          |
| 160 — 169 cm     | 154.6          | 148.8          | 183.2          | 168.4          | 132.9          | 134.7          | 66.1         | 988.7           | 13.9         |
| 170 — 179 cm     | 501.9          | 592.2          | 631.4          | 552.7          | 374.1          | 317.5          | 170.2        | 3,139.9         | 44.4         |
| 180 — 189 cm     | 556.7          | 547.8          | 478.6          | 364.7          | 212.4          | 135.3          | 60.1         | 2,355.7         | 33.9         |
| 190 cm or more   | 82.8           | 76.2           | 46.0           | 22.9           | 11.5           | 7.7            | 3.6          | 250.5           | 3.7          |
| Not known        | 70.7           | 48.4           | 17.4           | 12.8           | 11.4           | 12.1           | 7.7          | 180.6           | 2.9          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1,386.1</b> | <b>1,422.1</b> | <b>1,368.3</b> | <b>1,135.6</b> | <b>758.5</b>   | <b>620.8</b>   | <b>315.9</b> | <b>7,007.4</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| Mean (cm)        | 178.1          | 178.1          | 176.8          | 176.0          | 175.0          | 173.9          | 173.4        | 176.6           |              |
| Median (cm)      | 180.0          | 178.0          | 178.0          | 178.0          | 175.0          | 174.0          | 173.0        | 178.0           |              |
| <b>Females</b>   |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 150 cm | 11.6           | 13.8           | 15.6           | 12.6           | 9.0            | 16.1           | 21.1         | 99.7            | 1.3          |
| 150 — 159 cm     | 255.7          | 345.4          | 402.0          | 326.7          | 232.3          | 260.2          | 170.7        | 1,993.1         | 27.3         |
| 160 — 169 cm     | 599.9          | 675.5          | 676.2          | 547.9          | 366.6          | 333.6          | 192.3        | 3,392.0         | 47.3         |
| 170 — 179 cm     | 332.4          | 298.7          | 237.8          | 171.2          | 106.3          | 82.4           | 43.9         | 1,272.7         | 17.9         |
| 180 — 189 cm     | 35.5           | 20.0           | 14.3           | 5.5            | 4.3            | 3.0            | * 0.7        | 83.2            | 1.3          |
| 190 cm or more   | * 1.2          | **0.3          | * 0.8          | **0.3          | * 0.4          | —              | —            | 3.0             | 0.1          |
| Not known        | 87.9           | 65.9           | 26.8           | 32.5           | 29.9           | 31.7           | 62.4         | 337.2           | 4.9          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1,324.1</b> | <b>1,419.6</b> | <b>1,373.5</b> | <b>1,096.7</b> | <b>748.9</b>   | <b>727.1</b>   | <b>491.1</b> | <b>7,181.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| Mean (cm)        | 164.9          | 163.7          | 162.6          | 162.2          | 162.1          | 160.8          | 159.7        | 162.8           |              |
| Median (cm)      | 165.0          | 163.0          | 163.0          | 163.0          | 163.0          | 160.0          | 160.0        | 163.0           |              |
| <b>Persons</b>   |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 150 cm | 12.5           | 15.5           | 16.7           | 12.6           | 9.3            | 16.3           | 21.3         | 104.3           | 0.7          |
| 150 — 159 cm     | 274.1          | 352.4          | 412.6          | 340.8          | 248.3          | 273.5          | 178.8        | 2,080.5         | 14.6         |
| 160 — 169 cm     | 754.6          | 824.2          | 859.4          | 716.3          | 499.6          | 468.3          | 258.5        | 4,380.8         | 31.0         |
| 170 — 179 cm     | 834.3          | 890.9          | 869.2          | 723.9          | 480.3          | 400.0          | 214.1        | 4,412.6         | 30.8         |
| 180 — 189 cm     | 592.2          | 567.9          | 492.9          | 370.2          | 216.7          | 138.4          | 60.8         | 2,438.9         | 17.1         |
| 190 cm or more   | 84.0           | 76.5           | 46.8           | 23.2           | 11.9           | 7.7            | 3.6          | 253.6           | 1.8          |
| Not known        | 158.7          | 114.4          | 44.2           | 45.3           | 41.3           | 43.8           | 70.1         | 517.8           | 3.9          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>14,188.4</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) As reported by respondent.

TABLE 29. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE: WEIGHT(a) BY AGE BY SEX  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
'000 and per cent

| Weight (kgs)    | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |              | Total           |              |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                 | 15-24          | 25-34          | 35-44          | 45-54          | 55-64          | 65-74          | 75 and over  | '000            | Per cent     |
| <b>Males</b>    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 50 kg | 20.5           | 2.5            | * 2.3          | * 1.8          | 2.6            | 2.6            | 3.8          | 36.1            | 0.5          |
| 50 — 59 kg      | 115.4          | 37.7           | 38.3           | 20.6           | 14.2           | 21.5           | 30.8         | 278.5           | 3.9          |
| 60 — 69 kg      | 345.8          | 205.8          | 174.0          | 131.1          | 95.1           | 101.5          | 70.7         | 1,124.1         | 15.7         |
| 70 — 79 kg      | 401.7          | 424.5          | 430.2          | 327.5          | 237.3          | 230.6          | 105.6        | 2,157.4         | 30.7         |
| 80 — 89 kg      | 224.9          | 354.6          | 357.6          | 308.3          | 203.2          | 155.2          | 60.8         | 1,664.7         | 24.1         |
| 90 — 99 kg      | 91.6           | 191.3          | 184.2          | 181.9          | 112.1          | 57.1           | 17.9         | 836.0           | 12.1         |
| 100 — 109 kg    | 25.8           | 80.1           | 81.9           | 76.5           | 37.3           | 18.5           | 2.9          | 323.1           | 4.5          |
| 110 kg or more  | 22.3           | 47.6           | 35.4           | 35.0           | 22.3           | 6.1            | * 1.5        | 170.2           | 2.5          |
| Not known       | 138.2          | 77.9           | 64.3           | 52.9           | 34.4           | 27.7           | 21.9         | 417.3           | 6.1          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1,386.1</b> | <b>1,422.1</b> | <b>1,368.3</b> | <b>1,135.6</b> | <b>758.5</b>   | <b>620.8</b>   | <b>315.9</b> | <b>7,007.4</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| Mean (kg)       | 73.4           | 80.6           | 80.9           | 82.3           | 81.2           | 77.6           | 73.1         | 79.1            |              |
| Median (kg)     | 72.0           | 79.0           | 80.0           | 81.0           | 80.0           | 76.0           | 73.0         | 78.0            |              |
| <b>Females</b>  |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 50 kg | 156.4          | 97.5           | 88.6           | 47.4           | 26.4           | 44.3           | 50.6         | 511.2           | 6.9          |
| 50 — 59 kg      | 487.3          | 454.8          | 399.0          | 247.7          | 142.2          | 188.6          | 146.6        | 2,066.3         | 28.5         |
| 60 — 69 kg      | 328.8          | 417.1          | 402.5          | 317.8          | 223.3          | 200.3          | 133.3        | 2,023.1         | 28.2         |
| 70 — 79 kg      | 124.0          | 186.9          | 219.0          | 230.0          | 175.6          | 149.1          | 66.5         | 1,151.1         | 16.3         |
| 80 — 89 kg      | 52.8           | 87.2           | 79.0           | 99.8           | 75.3           | 57.9           | 21.4         | 473.3           | 6.7          |
| 90 — 99 kg      | 17.9           | 36.8           | 39.8           | 40.2           | 26.1           | 18.2           | 7.5          | 186.6           | 2.7          |
| 100 — 109 kg    | 4.6            | 13.9           | 13.3           | 14.1           | 12.1           | 6.3            | * 2.0        | 66.3            | 1.0          |
| 110 kg or more  | * 1.9          | 13.6           | 17.3           | 9.4            | 3.7            | 2.8            | —            | 48.6            | 0.6          |
| Not known       | 150.3          | 111.9          | 115.2          | 90.2           | 64.2           | 59.6           | 63.1         | 654.4           | 9.1          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1,324.1</b> | <b>1,419.6</b> | <b>1,373.5</b> | <b>1,096.7</b> | <b>748.9</b>   | <b>727.1</b>   | <b>491.1</b> | <b>7,181.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |
| Mean (kg)       | 59.8           | 63.6           | 64.6           | 67.2           | 68.0           | 65.2           | 61.3         | 64.1            |              |
| Median (kg)     | 58.0           | 60.0           | 62.0           | 65.0           | 67.0           | 64.0           | 60.0         | 62.0            |              |
| <b>Persons</b>  |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                 |              |
| Less than 50 kg | 176.9          | 100.0          | 90.9           | 49.2           | 29.1           | 46.8           | 54.4         | 547.4           | 3.8          |
| 50 — 59 kg      | 602.7          | 492.5          | 437.3          | 268.3          | 156.4          | 210.1          | 177.4        | 2,344.8         | 16.5         |
| 60 — 69 kg      | 674.6          | 622.9          | 576.5          | 449.0          | 318.4          | 301.9          | 204.0        | 3,147.2         | 22.1         |
| 70 — 79 kg      | 525.7          | 611.4          | 649.1          | 557.5          | 412.9          | 379.7          | 172.1        | 3,308.5         | 23.3         |
| 80 — 89 kg      | 277.7          | 441.8          | 436.6          | 408.1          | 278.5          | 213.1          | 82.2         | 2,138.0         | 15.1         |
| 90 — 99 kg      | 109.5          | 228.1          | 224.0          | 222.1          | 138.2          | 75.3           | 25.4         | 1,022.6         | 7.3          |
| 100 — 109 kg    | 30.4           | 94.0           | 95.2           | 90.6           | 49.4           | 24.8           | 5.0          | 389.4           | 2.7          |
| 110 kg or more  | 24.2           | 61.2           | 52.7           | 44.4           | 26.0           | 8.8            | * 1.5        | 218.9           | 1.5          |
| Not known       | 288.6          | 189.8          | 179.5          | 143.1          | 98.6           | 87.3           | 85.0         | 1,071.7         | 7.6          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>14,188.4</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) As reported by respondent.

**TABLE 30. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER: SELF ASSESSED BODY MASS BY DERIVED BODY MASS INDEX BY AGE AND SEX AUSTRALIA, 1995**  
Per cent

| Derived body mass(a)                    | Males        |              |              |              |              |              |              | Females      |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | Age (years)  |              |              |              |              |              |              | Age (years)  |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|   | 15 - 24      | 25 - 34      | 35 - 44      | 45 - 54      | 55 - 64      | 65 and over  | Total        | 15 - 24      | 25 - 34      | 35 - 44      | 45 - 54      | 55 - 64      | 65 and over  | Total        |
| Considered themselves acceptable weight |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Underweight                             | 10.6         | 2.3          | 1.5          | 0.9          | 0.8          | 3.0          | 3.4          | 27.2         | 16.3         | 10.1         | 6.5          | 5.6          | 8.9          | 13.1         |
| Acceptable weight                       | 55.6         | 47.2         | 44.1         | 36.6         | 39.1         | 46.7         | 45.4         | 41.8         | 42.7         | 42.2         | 37.7         | 33.7         | 40.4         | 40.3         |
| Overweight                              | 9.1          | 15.3         | 14.3         | 15.3         | 16.6         | 13.4         | 13.8         | 2.0          | 2.6          | 2.1          | 4.6          | 6.5          | 7.0          | 3.9          |
| Obese                                   | 0.5          | 1.2          | 1.1          | 1.6          | 1.8          | 1.5          | 1.2          | 0.3          | 0.4          | 0.5          | 0.7          | 1.2          | 1.4          | 0.7          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>75.8</b>  | <b>65.9</b>  | <b>61.0</b>  | <b>54.4</b>  | <b>58.3</b>  | <b>64.6</b>  | <b>63.9</b>  | <b>71.3</b>  | <b>62.0</b>  | <b>54.9</b>  | <b>49.4</b>  | <b>46.9</b>  | <b>57.7</b>  | <b>58.0</b>  |
| Considered themselves overweight        |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Underweight                             | 0.4          | **0.0        | *0.1         | *0.1         | *0.1         | *0.1         | 0.1          | 0.8          | 0.4          | *0.1         | *0.2         | *0.2         | *0.2         | 0.3          |
| Acceptable weight                       | 3.3          | 5.3          | 7.1          | 6.8          | 6.5          | 6.4          | 5.8          | 12.0         | 14.7         | 16.5         | 16.0         | 15.5         | 12.2         | 14.5         |
| Overweight                              | 6.8          | 14.9         | 20.2         | 24.2         | 22.5         | 17.1         | 17.1         | 7.4          | 12.3         | 16.2         | 20.5         | 21.7         | 16.6         | 15.2         |
| Obese                                   | 2.7          | 7.2          | 7.2          | 10.9         | 9.7          | 5.0          | 7.0          | 3.1          | 7.6          | 9.1          | 12.1         | 13.2         | 8.0          | 8.5          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>13.2</b>  | <b>27.5</b>  | <b>34.6</b>  | <b>42.0</b>  | <b>38.8</b>  | <b>28.6</b>  | <b>30.0</b>  | <b>23.4</b>  | <b>35.0</b>  | <b>41.8</b>  | <b>48.7</b>  | <b>50.6</b>  | <b>37.1</b>  | <b>38.4</b>  |
| Considered themselves underweight       |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Underweight                             | 5.5          | 2.7          | 1.3          | 1.1          | 1.2          | 2.2          | 2.4          | 4.6          | 2.4          | 2.6          | 1.2          | 1.7          | 3.3          | 2.7          |
| Acceptable weight                       | 5.4          | 3.8          | 3.0          | 2.3          | 1.6          | 4.4          | 3.5          | 0.7          | 0.6          | 0.6          | 0.6          | 0.6          | 1.8          | 0.8          |
| Overweight                              | *0.1         | **0.0        | *0.1         | *0.2         | *0.1         | *0.1         | 0.1          | —            | —            | —            | *0.1         | **0.0        | *0.1         | *0.0         |
| Obese                                   | **0.0        | *0.1         | **0.0        | —            | **0.0        | *0.0         | —            | *0.1         | —            | **0.0        | **0.0        | *0.1         | —            | *0.0         |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>11.0</b>  | <b>6.6</b>   | <b>4.4</b>   | <b>3.6</b>   | <b>2.9</b>   | <b>6.8</b>   | <b>6.1</b>   | <b>5.3</b>   | <b>3.0</b>   | <b>3.2</b>   | <b>1.9</b>   | <b>2.4</b>   | <b>5.2</b>   | <b>3.6</b>   |
| <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>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) Derived quetelet body mass, from height and weight as reported by respondent.



**TABLE 31. PERSONS : WHETHER USED SUN PROTECTION MEASURES IN MONTH PRIOR TO INTERVIEW, TYPE(S) OF SUN PROTECTION MEASURES USED, USUAL FREQUENCY OF USE OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND WHETHER SKIN REGULARLY CHECKED BY AGE AND SEX  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
(<sup>'000</sup>)**

|   | Age (years)    |                |                |                |                |                |                |              | Males          | Females        | Persons         |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|   | Less than 15   | 15 - 24        | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over  |                |                |                 |
| <b>Type of sun protection measures used in last month—(a)</b> |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Sunscreen   | 2,603.7        | 1,248.4        | 1,298.3        | 1,212.1        | 822.8          | 475.5          | 417.5          | 173.7        | 3,497.3        | 4,609.0        | 8,106.4         |
| Umbrella  | 176.5          | 55.9           | 118.4          | 139.4          | 101.4          | 77.2           | 104.8          | 65.8         | 223.0          | 612.8          | 835.8           |
| Hat   | 3,226.9        | 1,287.7        | 1,441.0        | 1,487.2        | 1,225.5        | 859.2          | 809.2          | 458.6        | 5,967.9        | 4,677.8        | 10,645.7        |
| Clothing  | 2,025.3        | 1,141.1        | 1,132.6        | 931.3          | 656.8          | 361.6          | 298.9          | 137.4        | 3,438.0        | 3,130.1        | 6,568.1         |
| Sunglasses  | 854.3          | 1,512.0        | 1,896.3        | 1,831.9        | 1,308.2        | 734.4          | 529.3          | 239.6        | 3,990.1        | 4,828.0        | 8,818.1         |
| Avoided sun   | 1,008.5        | 567.0          | 752.8          | 738.2          | 487.9          | 292.6          | 265.7          | 150.2        | 1,659.4        | 2,552.8        | 4,212.2         |
| Other   | 33.6           | 10.7           | 13.9           | 17.5           | 12.2           | 4.7            | 8.0            | 3.9          | 50.3           | 52.7           | 103.0           |
| <b>Total who used sun protection</b>                          | <b>3,585.9</b> | <b>2,232.9</b> | <b>2,378.6</b> | <b>2,299.1</b> | <b>1,805.8</b> | <b>1,184.0</b> | <b>1,041.7</b> | <b>588.6</b> | <b>7,376.2</b> | <b>7,524.0</b> | <b>14,900.2</b> |
| <b>Did not use sun protection in last month</b>               | <b>551.8</b>   | <b>477.3</b>   | <b>463.1</b>   | <b>442.7</b>   | <b>426.5</b>   | <b>323.4</b>   | <b>306.3</b>   | <b>218.4</b> | <b>1,617.7</b> | <b>1,543.2</b> | <b>3,160.8</b>  |
| <b>How often sun protection measures deliberately used—</b>   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Always  | 2,275.7        | 1,037.2        | 1,237.2        | 1,285.5        | 1,009.6        | 700.6          | 658.7          | 377.0        | 4,093.8        | 4,395.3        | 8,489.2         |
| Usually   | 1,179.3        | 789.8          | 825.4          | 777.0          | 598.1          | 355.3          | 275.1          | 158.8        | 2,446.3        | 2,424.0        | 4,870.3         |
| Sometimes   | 407.4          | 472.5          | 388.8          | 340.4          | 288.6          | 204.7          | 158.9          | 76.4         | 1,188.0        | 1,097.3        | 2,285.3         |
| Seldom  | 88.2           | 212.6          | 188.4          | 130.5          | 131.2          | 91.2           | 75.2           | 37.8         | 532.6          | 405.5          | 938.0           |
| Never   | 88.0           | 165.9          | 159.5          | 155.8          | 139.1          | 98.3           | 102.8          | 61.5         | 555.6          | 401.5          | 957.1           |
| Don't go out in the sun                                       | 99.1           | 32.2           | 42.3           | 52.5           | 65.5           | 57.3           | 77.3           | 95.5         | 177.5          | 343.6          | 521.1           |
| <b>Whether skin is checked regularly by self or doctor—</b>   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |              |                |                |                 |
| Yes   | 2,649.9        | 1,375.3        | 1,639.0        | 1,675.5        | 1,413.4        | 971.2          | 861.6          | 446.9        | 5,071.6        | 5,816.2        | 10,887.9        |
| No  | 1,487.8        | 1,335.0        | 1,202.7        | 1,066.3        | 818.9          | 536.1          | 486.3          | 360.1        | 3,922.2        | 3,251.0        | 7,173.2         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>4,137.7</b> | <b>2,710.3</b> | <b>2,841.7</b> | <b>2,741.8</b> | <b>2,232.3</b> | <b>1,507.4</b> | <b>1,348.0</b> | <b>807.0</b> | <b>8,993.9</b> | <b>9,067.2</b> | <b>18,061.1</b> |

(a) Persons may have reported using more than one type of protective method, therefore components do not add to total.

TABLE 32. CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 3 YEARS : WHETHER EVER BREASTFED AND DURATION OF BREASTFEEDING BY AGE  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
(\*000)

|   | Child age            |                            |                                  |                                     |                                      | Total          |              |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
|   | Less than six months | Six to less than 12 months | One year but less than two years | Two years but less than three years | Three years but less than four years | '000           | Per cent     |
| <b>Children who have been breastfed...</b>    |                      |                            |                                  |                                     |                                      |                |              |
| <b>Whether currently being breastfed</b>      |                      |                            |                                  |                                     |                                      |                |              |
| Currently breastfed                           | 72.7                 | 41.2                       | 24.6                             | 5.1                                 | * 1.8                                | 145.4          | 14.0         |
| Not being currently breastfed                 | 36.8                 | 75.4                       | 206.0                            | 228.3                               | 204.2                                | 750.7          | 72.2         |
| <b>Total reported time of being breastfed</b> |                      |                            |                                  |                                     |                                      |                |              |
| Less than 1 week                              | 3.1                  | 3.1                        | 5.2                              | 6.4                                 | 4.9                                  | 22.7           | 2.2          |
| 1 — 2 weeks                                   | 7.1                  | 4.5                        | 15.8                             | 12.0                                | 10.8                                 | 50.2           | 4.8          |
| 3 — 4 weeks                                   | 8.4                  | 9.7                        | 16.5                             | 13.6                                | 12.6                                 | 60.8           | 5.8          |
| 5 — 6 weeks                                   | 33.0                 | 4.8                        | 6.7                              | 10.8                                | 6.9                                  | 62.2           | 6.0          |
| 7 — 8 weeks                                   | 2.9                  | 2.8                        | 4.7                              | 4.2                                 | 3.5                                  | 18.0           | 1.7          |
| 9 — 12 weeks                                  | 16.4                 | 8.9                        | 10.1                             | 16.3                                | 10.5                                 | 62.1           | 6.0          |
| 13 — 16 weeks                                 | 11.5                 | 9.3                        | 19.2                             | 17.5                                | 24.1                                 | 81.7           | 7.9          |
| 17 — 20 weeks                                 | 14.3                 | 6.6                        | 13.1                             | 15.8                                | 12.4                                 | 62.2           | 6.0          |
| 21 — 24 weeks                                 | 8.9                  | 4.3                        | 13.4                             | 8.6                                 | 6.8                                  | 42.0           | 4.0          |
| 25 — 28 weeks                                 | —                    | 17.2                       | 23.1                             | 19.9                                | 19.7                                 | 79.9           | 7.7          |
| 29 — 32 weeks                                 | —                    | 14.6                       | 8.6                              | 9.7                                 | 5.7                                  | 38.5           | 3.7          |
| 33 — 36 weeks                                 | —                    | 11.1                       | 7.1                              | 5.9                                 | 9.5                                  | 33.6           | 3.2          |
| 37 — 40 weeks                                 | —                    | 6.8                        | 8.2                              | 15.6                                | 8.0                                  | 38.6           | 3.7          |
| 41 — 44 weeks                                 | —                    | 4.7                        | 10.8                             | 10.8                                | 10.5                                 | 36.8           | 3.5          |
| 45 — 48 weeks                                 | —                    | 8.2                        | 7.6                              | 5.2                                 | 8.5                                  | 29.6           | 2.8          |
| 49 — 52 weeks                                 | —                    | —                          | 18.9                             | 17.3                                | 15.0                                 | 51.3           | 4.9          |
| More than 53 weeks                            | —                    | —                          | 40.0                             | 40.7                                | 33.9                                 | 114.6          | 11.0         |
| Child is less than one month old              | 3.9                  | —                          | —                                | —                                   | —                                    | 3.9            | 0.4          |
| Don't know                                    | —                    | —                          | * 1.8                            | 3.0                                 | 2.7                                  | 7.5            | 0.7          |
| <b>Total time exclusively breastfed</b>       |                      |                            |                                  |                                     |                                      |                |              |
| Less than 1 week                              | 3.6                  | 5.4                        | 12.6                             | 7.9                                 | 7.3                                  | 36.9           | 3.5          |
| 1 — 2 weeks                                   | 10.4                 | 6.2                        | 15.6                             | 16.5                                | 12.4                                 | 61.1           | 5.9          |
| 3 — 4 weeks                                   | 12.6                 | 10.8                       | 17.4                             | 15.5                                | 15.8                                 | 72.2           | 6.9          |
| 5 — 6 weeks                                   | 31.2                 | 6.2                        | 8.3                              | 14.0                                | 7.3                                  | 67.1           | 6.5          |
| 7 — 8 weeks                                   | 2.7                  | 4.1                        | 4.3                              | 4.7                                 | 4.8                                  | 20.5           | 2.0          |
| 9 — 12 weeks                                  | 14.7                 | 10.2                       | 16.0                             | 21.8                                | 14.3                                 | 77.0           | 7.4          |
| 13 — 16 weeks                                 | 11.3                 | 14.8                       | 30.0                             | 25.6                                | 38.3                                 | 120.1          | 11.5         |
| 17 — 20 weeks                                 | 11.6                 | 26.9                       | 49.6                             | 51.5                                | 41.8                                 | 181.3          | 17.4         |
| 21 — 24 weeks                                 | 7.5                  | 13.0                       | 24.3                             | 21.6                                | 17.5                                 | 83.9           | 8.1          |
| 25 — 28 weeks                                 | —                    | 14.9                       | 28.1                             | 30.8                                | 28.4                                 | 102.2          | 9.8          |
| 29 — 32 weeks                                 | —                    | * 1.6                      | 3.8                              | 6.1                                 | 4.7                                  | 16.3           | 1.6          |
| 33 — 36 weeks                                 | —                    | * 1.8                      | 4.3                              | 5.2                                 | 5.2                                  | 16.6           | 1.6          |
| 37 — 40 weeks                                 | —                    | * 0.5                      | 2.4                              | 2.6                                 | 2.5                                  | 8.1            | 0.8          |
| 41 — 44 weeks                                 | —                    | —                          | * 1.3                            | 4.1                                 | * 2.0                                | 7.3            | 0.7          |
| 45 — 48 weeks                                 | —                    | **0.1                      | **0.3                            | —                                   | **0.2                                | * 0.6          | * 0.1        |
| 49 — 52 weeks                                 | —                    | —                          | **0.3                            | 2.7                                 | * 2.1                                | 5.1            | 0.5          |
| More than 53 weeks                            | —                    | —                          | 12.0                             | * 1.4                               | * 0.8                                | 14.1           | 1.4          |
| Child is less than one month old              | 3.9                  | —                          | —                                | —                                   | —                                    | 3.9            | 0.4          |
| Don't know                                    | —                    | —                          | —                                | * 1.1                               | * 0.7                                | * 1.8          | * 0.2        |
| <i>Total children who have been breastfed</i> | <i>109.5</i>         | <i>116.6</i>               | <i>230.6</i>                     | <i>233.4</i>                        | <i>205.9</i>                         | <i>896.1</i>   | <i>86.2</i>  |
| Children who have not been breastfed          | 15.1                 | 13.7                       | 33.2                             | 35.7                                | 46.3                                 | 144.0          | 13.8         |
| <b>Total children</b>                         | <b>124.7</b>         | <b>130.3</b>               | <b>263.9</b>                     | <b>269.1</b>                        | <b>252.2</b>                         | <b>1,040.2</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

TABLE 33. WOMEN AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: SCREENING TESTS AND RELATED ISSUES BY AGE, AUSTRALIA 1995  
Rate per 1,000 women

|   | Age group (years) |         |         |         |         |         |             | Total |
|---|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|-------|
|   | 18 - 24           | 25 - 34 | 35 - 44 | 45 - 54 | 55 - 64 | 65 - 74 | 75 and over |       |
| <b>Time since last pap test—</b>  |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Has not had a pap test  | 376.6             | 84.1    | 54.1    | 58.6    | 106.5   | 243.4   | 508.2       | 160.1 |
| Less than one year ago  | 372.5             | 474.7   | 449.2   | 394.8   | 275.2   | 161.8   | 40.5        | 361.8 |
| 1 year to less than 2 years ago   | 152.5             | 276.5   | 257.0   | 233.3   | 203.8   | 145.6   | 56.3        | 213.0 |
| 2 years to less than 3 years ago  | 49.8              | 91.6    | 98.9    | 87.8    | 86.7    | 80.9    | 69.1        | 83.5  |
| 3 years to less than 4 years ago  | 7.0               | 13.4    | 36.2    | 38.9    | 44.8    | 51.3    | 35.1        | 30.0  |
| 4 years to less than 5 years ago  | 3.0               | 13.2    | 15.4    | 25.4    | 24.2    | 24.1    | 7.1         | 16.1  |
| 5 or more years ago   | 3.7               | 16.8    | 57.2    | 138.5   | 225.5   | 275.5   | 262.4       | 107.1 |
| Time not stated   | 34.8              | 29.8    | 31.9    | 22.7    | 33.2    | 17.4    | 21.2        | 28.3  |
| <b>Age at hysterectomy—</b>   |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Has not had hysterectomy  | 993.7             | 984.6   | 888.0   | 750.9   | 690.5   | 691.4   | 660.7       | 846.2 |
| Less than 30  | 2.9               | 6.5     | 12.6    | 19.9    | 10.5    | 17.0    | 10.2        | 11.2  |
| 31 — 34   | —                 | 2.1     | 22.6    | 34.2    | 13.8    | 14.8    | 21.5        | 15.1  |
| 35 — 44   | —                 | —       | 52.3    | 111.3   | 116.7   | 98.8    | 90.1        | 57.2  |
| 45 — 54   | —                 | —       | —       | 64.6    | 117.0   | 104.5   | 108.3       | 40.5  |
| 55 — 64   | —                 | —       | —       | —       | 24.4    | 29.7    | 32.6        | 7.6   |
| 65 and over   | 3.4               | 6.9     | 24.5    | 19.1    | 27.1    | 43.7    | 76.7        | 22.2  |
| <b>Age when diagnosed with breast cancer—</b>                           |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Not diagnosed with breast cancer  | 998.2             | 990.8   | 976.7   | 952.1   | 955.1   | 945.0   | 937.8       | 970.8 |
| Less than 40  | * 0.5             | 2.5     | 8.9     | 11.4    | * 0.8   | * 3.3   | **0.7       | 4.8   |
| 40 — 44   | —                 | —       | * 1.7   | 5.5     | * 3.0   | —       | 6.8         | 2.0   |
| 45 — 49   | —                 | —       | —       | 9.1     | 5.4     | * 3.2   | —           | 2.4   |
| 50 — 54   | —                 | —       | —       | * 1.5   | 5.1     | 7.3     | **0.9       | 1.6   |
| 55 — 59   | —                 | —       | —       | —       | 7.7     | 4.5     | —           | 1.3   |
| 60 and over   | * 1.3             | 6.7     | 13.1    | 20.9    | 23.7    | 36.8    | 53.8        | 17.4  |
| <b>Whether has regular breast exams by doctor or medical assistant—</b> |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Has not had breast examination by a doctor or medical assistant         | 626.4             | 298.0   | 188.0   | 135.7   | 151.6   | 224.6   | 433.3       | 280.6 |
| Has regular breast examination  | 156.4             | 359.7   | 452.9   | 580.7   | 549.1   | 422.0   | 211.5       | 403.9 |
| Does not have regular breast examinations                               | 207.5             | 316.8   | 317.8   | 236.1   | 254.4   | 312.6   | 334.6       | 282.1 |
| Not stated  | 9.7               | 25.5    | 41.3    | 47.5    | 44.9    | 40.9    | 20.6        | 33.5  |
| <b>Whether regularly examines own breasts—</b>                          |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Does not regularly examine own breasts                                  | 474.3             | 353.0   | 279.5   | 238.1   | 260.9   | 351.5   | 450.3       | 332.2 |
| Regularly examines own breasts  | 521.1             | 636.7   | 712.2   | 740.5   | 718.6   | 626.5   | 514.4       | 653.1 |
| Not stated  | 4.6               | 10.3    | 8.3     | 21.5    | 20.6    | 22.0    | 35.3        | 14.7  |
| <b>Time since last mammogram—</b>                                       |                   |         |         |         |         |         |             |       |
| Has not had a mammogram   | 924.2             | 858.9   | 642.7   | 308.7   | 275.1   | 411.3   | 681.8       | 613.9 |
| Less than one year ago  | 9.3               | 28.5    | 116.6   | 318.8   | 354.2   | 239.9   | 121.3       | 153.9 |
| 1 year to less than 2 years ago   | 12.5              | 24.8    | 87.2    | 185.2   | 218.5   | 178.7   | 60.8        | 101.0 |
| 2 years to less than 3 years ago  | 6.5               | 17.6    | 45.7    | 68.3    | 60.1    | 63.4    | 25.1        | 39.9  |
| 3 years to less than 4 years ago  | 3.8               | 10.2    | 20.7    | 24.9    | 24.0    | 22.5    | 15.1        | 16.9  |
| 4 years to less than 5 years ago  | * 1.1             | 7.4     | 12.1    | 18.7    | * 3.4   | 10.2    | 9.1         | 9.3   |
| 5 or more years ago   | 3.1               | 23.3    | 37.0    | 32.3    | 34.4    | 43.1    | 60.5        | 30.2  |
| Time not stated   | 39.3              | 29.2    | 37.9    | 43.1    | 30.3    | 30.9    | 26.3        | 34.9  |

TABLE 33. WOMEN AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER: SCREENING TESTS AND RELATED ISSUES BY AGE,  
AUSTRALIA 1995  
Rate per 1,000 women—continued

|  | Age group (years) |                |                |                |                |                |                | Total          |
|--|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | 18 - 24           | 25 - 34        | 35 - 44        | 45 - 54        | 55 - 64        | 65 - 74        | 75 and over    |                |
| <b>Reason(s) for last mammogram—</b>               |                   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Has not had a mammogram                            | 923.8             | 858.7          | 642.7          | 308.7          | 275.1          | 411.3          | 680.7          | 613.8          |
| Symptoms present                                   | 22.1              | 68.3           | 144.5          | 154.4          | 94.6           | 58.5           | 55.7           | 92.6           |
| Had breast cancer in the past                      | —                 | * 0.8          | 3.3            | 14.8           | 10.0           | 24.6           | 15.8           | 7.9            |
| Family history of breast cancer                    | * 0.7             | 10.0           | 42.0           | 52.8           | 69.7           | 39.1           | 18.5           | 32.2           |
| Other medical reasons                              | * 0.7             | * 0.9          | 4.4            | 12.9           | 10.8           | 5.6            | —              | 5.0            |
| General check-up                                   | 11.4              | 24.9           | 117.5          | 385.5          | 455.8          | 382.8          | 171.3          | 193.2          |
| Availability of screening program (general advice) | **0.1             | 2.7            | 5.1            | 14.2           | 37.7           | 25.9           | 11.3           | 11.4           |
| All other reasons                                  | **0.1             | * 1.0          | * 1.3          | 3.1            | 7.4            | 6.8            | 9.7            | 3.1            |
| Reasons not stated                                 | 41.1              | 32.5           | 39.3           | 53.7           | 38.9           | 45.3           | 37.0           | 40.9           |
| <b>Age started hormone replacement therapy—</b>    |                   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| Does not use hormone replacement therapy           | 994.6             | 986.2          | 950.2          | 752.3          | 697.0          | 873.0          | 963.2          | 897.5          |
| Less than 25                                       | 5.4               | 2.2            | * 1.0          | —              | * 1.0          | —              | —              | 1.5            |
| 25 - 29  | —                 | 6.3            | 1.9            | **0.3          | * 2.0          | * 0.7          | —              | 2.1            |
| 30 - 34  | —                 | * 1.5          | 3.7            | 5.7            | —              | **0.5          | —              | 2.1            |
| 35 - 39  | —                 | —              | 18.9           | 6.7            | * 3.2          | —              | —              | 5.3            |
| 40 - 44  | —                 | —              | 21.0           | 35.1           | 20.4           | * 2.8          | —              | 12.6           |
| 45 - 49  | —                 | —              | —              | 132.3          | 41.2           | 10.7           | —              | 27.4           |
| 50 - 54  | —                 | —              | —              | 60.9           | 132.5          | 4.8            | * 1.6          | 24.8           |
| 55 - 64  | —                 | —              | —              | —              | 96.8           | 41.0           | **0.8          | 14.6           |
| 65 - 74  | —                 | —              | —              | —              | —              | 54.5           | 13.7           | 6.4            |
| 75 and over  | —                 | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | 17.3           | 1.1            |
| Age not stated                                     | —                 | 3.9            | 3.3            | 6.6            | 6.0            | 11.9           | * 3.4          | 4.7            |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>1,000.0</b>    | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> | <b>1,000.0</b> |

TABLE 34. WOMEN AGED 18 TO 49 YEARS: CONTRACEPTIVE USE:(a) BY CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD USED BY AGE  
AUSTRALIA, 1995  
Per cent

| Use contraceptive method   | Age (years)   |               |               |               | Total        |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
|  | 18 - 24 years | 25 - 34 years | 35 - 44 years | 45 - 49 years |              |
| <b>Use contraceptive method</b>                                    |               |               |               |               |              |
| Type of contraceptive used—  |               |               |               |               |              |
| Oral contraceptive pill  | 43.2          | 33.0          | 17.4          | 6.8           | 26.7         |
| IUD  | 1.1           | 1.4           | 3.3           | 1.9           | 2.0          |
| Condom   | 14.6          | 15.6          | 8.8           | 4.9           | 11.7         |
| Diaphragm  | **0.0         | 0.5           | 0.4           | 0.4           | 0.3          |
| Natural method (includes rhythm/ Billings, etc)                    | 0.8           | 2.5           | 2.5           | 1.6           | 2.0          |
| Withdrawal   | 0.3           | 1.2           | 1.3           | 0.6           | 1.0          |
| Contraceptive injection (depoprovera)                              | 0.9           | 0.3           | * 0.2         | —             | 0.4          |
| Other  | * 0.1         | * 0.1         | 0.2           | **0.0         | 0.1          |
| <i>Total who use contraceptives</i>                                | <i>61.1</i>   | <i>54.6</i>   | <i>34.1</i>   | <i>16.4</i>   | <i>44.2</i>  |
| <b>Do not use contraceptive methods</b>                            |               |               |               |               |              |
| Reason contraceptive not used—                                     |               |               |               |               |              |
| Hysterectomy or tubal ligation<br>(includes tubes tied cauterised) | 0.4           | 4.7           | 20.5          | 33.6          | 12.8         |
| Partner sterilised (includes vasectomy)                            | * 0.1         | 5.6           | 17.1          | 17.4          | 9.7          |
| Menopause  | * 0.1         | **0.0         | 0.4           | 4.0           | 0.7          |
| Infertile (self or partner)  | 0.9           | 1.4           | 1.7           | 1.2           | 1.4          |
| Recent pregnancy / breastfeeding                                   | 0.7           | 1.2           | 0.7           | * 0.2         | 0.8          |
| Other medical reason (eg limiting likelihood of<br>pregnancy)      | * 0.1         | 0.3           | 0.4           | * 0.4         | 0.3          |
| Currently pregnant / trying to get pregnant                        | 4.1           | 11.2          | 4.1           | 0.6           | 5.9          |
| Don't need to — other reason or reason<br>unspecified              | —             | 0.2           | 0.5           | 0.6           | 0.3          |
| Not sexually active / no partner                                   | 22.3          | 9.4           | 8.6           | 10.8          | 12.2         |
| Don't like to use/ not good for health/ religious<br>reasons       | 0.4           | * 0.1         | 0.3           | * 0.3         | 0.3          |
| All other reasons  | 0.6           | 1.7           | 1.1           | 0.6           | 1.1          |
| Not stated   | 9.1           | 9.6           | 10.6          | 14.0          | 10.4         |
| <i>Total who do not use contraceptives</i>                         | <i>38.9</i>   | <i>45.4</i>   | <i>65.9</i>   | <i>83.6</i>   | <i>55.8</i>  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> |

(a) By self or partner.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

**1** The 1995 National Health Survey (NHS) is the second in a series of regular five-yearly population surveys designed to obtain national benchmark information on a range of health-related issues and to enable the monitoring of trends in health over time. Surveys in this series comprise a core data set which is repeated in successive surveys and a supplementary data set which can be varied from survey to survey to address key health issues of the day. The aims of the 1995 survey were to obtain information about the health status of Australians, their use of health services and facilities and about health-related aspects of their lifestyle such as smoking, alcohol consumption and exercise. The survey was conducted throughout the 12 month period February 1995 to January 1996.

## SCOPE

**2** The estimates contained in this publication are based on information obtained from residents of a sample of 23,800 private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, boarding houses, caravan parks, etc.).

**3** Households were selected at random using a stratified multi-stage area sample which ensured that persons within each State and Territory had a known and, in the main, equal chance of selection in the survey.

**4** At the request of the health authorities in Victoria, South Australia, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, the survey sample in those areas was increased to enhance the reliability of estimates.

**5** Certain groups of persons such as non-Australian diplomatic personnel, persons from overseas holidaying in Australia, members of non-Australian defence forces and their dependents stationed in Australia, students at boarding schools, and institutionalised persons (including inpatients of hospitals, nursing homes, etc.) were excluded from the survey.

## METHODOLOGY

**6** Trained ABS interviewers conducted personal interviews with residents of selected dwellings. Each person aged 18 years or more was interviewed personally, with the exception of persons too old or sick. Persons aged 15–17 years were interviewed with the consent of a parent or guardian; otherwise, a parent or guardian was interviewed on their behalf. For persons aged less than 15 years, information was obtained from a person responsible for the child (usually the mother).

**7** In order to maximise the capacity of the survey, some sections were administered to half of the sample only. The General Health and Well-Being form (SF-36) was administered to adults in one-half of the sample, while questions on post-school educational qualifications, private health insurance, alcohol consumption and supplementary women's health issues were administered (appropriate to sex and age) to respondents in the other half of the sample. Other sections of the survey were administered across the full sample. For output, weighted estimates for all items, regardless of the particular sample in which they were included, relate to the total population of appropriate age and/or sex. Details of the estimation procedures are contained in the Technical Note.

## METHODOLOGY *continued*

- 8** Topics covered in the survey were:
- recent illness;
  - long-term conditions;
  - self-assessed health status;
  - general health and wellbeing;
  - inpatient episodes in hospital;
  - visits to casualty/emergency units at hospitals;
  - visits to outpatients units at hospitals;
  - visits to day clinics;
  - doctor consultations;
  - dental consultations;
  - consultations with other health professionals;
  - other persons/organisations consulted;
  - use of natural/herbal medications;
  - use of vitamins/minerals;
  - use of other medications;
  - days away from work/school due to illness;
  - other days of reduced activity due to illness;
  - smoking;
  - alcohol consumption;
  - exercise;
  - height and weight;
  - sun protection;
  - breastfeeding;
  - supplementary women's health issues; and
  - injury/accidents.

**9** An extensive range of demographic and socioeconomic information was also obtained.

**10** The approaches used to collect this information varied as appropriate to the topic, and where possible, were similar to those used in previous surveys in order to minimise loss of comparability. The design of the survey enables linkages to be established between medical conditions, actions taken as a consequence of those conditions and lifestyle behaviours. For example, information about recent illness was obtained by asking whether a range of health-related actions had been taken in the two weeks prior to interview and by recording the various reasons for those actions, including the specific illness or injury involved, and other reasons such as preventive health measures. This 'actions-based' approach is similar to that used in the 1983 Australian Health Survey and the 1989-90 NHS.

**11** Definitions for some of those items covered in this publication are provided in the Glossary. Comprehensive details of all the concepts, methodologies and procedures used in this survey are provided in *National Health Survey: Users' Guide, 1995* (Cat. no. 4363.0).

CLASSIFICATION OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS

**12** All medical conditions (and other reasons for taking health-related actions) reported were classified to a list of selected conditions, symptoms, treatments, etc. developed for this survey. This classification is based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 9th Revision<sup>1</sup> but was modified to take account of the type and quality of information likely to be reported in the survey. In general, broad classification groups have been used. Special codes were created for some non-illness reasons for action (e.g. check-up, preventive measures) and for some frequently reported conditions which could not be reliably coded to ICD categories because insufficient detail was provided at interview (e.g. back problems, virus, infection).

**13** While the classification of conditions and the methodologies used for identifying conditions were generally similar to those used in the 1989-90 NHS, they are not identical. Changes introduced for the 1995 survey included the re-ordering of questions on illness within the questionnaire, additional actions used to prompt respondents for recent illness, expansion of the classification categories (which may have affected the counts of illness conditions) and inclusion of new questions on specific conditions.

**14** As a result of classification changes, 1989-90 estimates for some conditions in tables 4 and 6 are shown as '. .' This indicates that these conditions were not separately identified in the 1989-90 survey, but were included in other groups as follows:

Comparison of conditions

| 1989-90   | 1995   |
|---|--|
| Neoplasms                                       | Skin cancer, breast cancer, neoplasms NEC  |
| Diabetes mellitus                               | Diabetes mellitus type 1, diabetes mellitus type 2, diabetes unspecified   |
| Other mental disorders                          | Body image and eating disorders, alcohol and drug dependence, emotional problems NEC other mental disorders  |
| Other disorders of refraction and accommodation | Astigmatism, far sighted, short sighted, presbyopia, cataracts, glaucoma, strabismus   |
| Other diseases of skin and subcutaneous tissue  | Psoriasis, other diseases of the skin  |
| Arthritis                                       | Osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, arthritis NEC  |
| Injuries  | Fractures, dislocations, sprains, internal injuries, open wounds, bruising and crushing, foreign bodies, burns and scalds, poisoning, other injuries, undefined injuries |

<sup>1</sup> *International Classification of Diseases, Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death, Vol. 2*, World Health Organisation, Geneva, 1978.



**CLASSIFICATION OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS** *continued*

**15** As a result of classification and methodological changes, data for diabetes, eyesight, ear and hearing problems, back problems and arthritis, rheumatism and gout in particular, are considered not directly comparable between surveys. Other factors which may have contributed to increased reporting of some illnesses in the 1995 survey include increased preventative and testing measures and a higher public awareness of particular conditions (e.g. high cholesterol, hypertension and allergic conditions). For all these reasons, care should be taken in interpreting differences between the two surveys in the prevalence of conditions. Details of changes made between surveys, and a discussion of their implications for comparability, are contained in *National Health Survey: Users' Guide, 1995* (Cat. no. 4363.0).

**ESTIMATION PROCEDURES**

**16** Estimates from the survey are derived using a procedure which combines response information collected in the course of the survey with independently available information concerning the underlying populations. As a result, survey estimates conform to the published population estimates at age-sex-area level. The survey was conducted over a 12 month period and estimates were made to conform to the population distribution for each quarter of the year.

**17** The estimation procedure developed for the 1995 survey uses information on the patterns of response to counter known biases in target variables resulting from partial response. This information, in the form of models, was used to adjust data for differential response by class, and also to specify weighting classes for applying benchmarks. Full details of the estimation procedures used are contained in *National Health Survey: Users' Guide, 1995* (Cat. no. 4363.0).

**RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES**

**18** Since the estimates are based on a sample they are subject to sampling variability (see Technical Note for further details). In this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with relative standard errors 25% to 50% have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*4.3) to indicate they are subject to a high standard error and should be used with caution. Estimates with a relative standard error over 50% are also included and are preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. \*\*0.1). Such estimates are considered too unreliable for general use.

**19** In addition to sampling errors, the estimates are subject to non-sampling errors. These may be caused by errors in reporting (e.g. because some answers were based on memory, or because of misunderstanding or unwillingness of respondents to reveal all details) or errors arising during processing (e.g. coding, data recording). Such errors may occur in any statistical collection whether it is a full census count or a sample survey. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors in the survey to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, by intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and by efficient operating procedures.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

**20** 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. This factor should be considered in interpreting the estimates in this publication. In particular:

- reported information on medical conditions was not medically verified, and was not necessarily based on diagnosis by a medical practitioner. Conditions which have a considerable effect on people (or which people have had for a longer time) are likely to be better reported than those which have little effect. Some people may be unaware of minor conditions, and occasionally may have serious conditions which have not been diagnosed. There may also be some instances of under-reporting as a consequence of respondents being unwilling to talk about a particular condition at an interview; and
- results of previous surveys of alcohol and tobacco consumption suggest a tendency for respondents to under-report actual consumption levels.

**21** The exclusion from the survey of people currently in hospitals, nursing homes and other institutions will have affected the results.

**22** In terms of the methodologies used, data from this survey are broadly comparable with data from the 1989-90 NHS, and from previous ABS national health and related surveys as shown below:

- Recent illness — 1983 Australian Health Survey;
- Long-term conditions — 1977-78 Australian Health Survey;
- Health-related actions — 1983 Australian Health Survey; and
- Alcohol consumption/Smoking — 1977 Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption Patterns Survey.

**23** A number of surveys relating to topics covered in both this survey and the 1989-90 NHS and using similar methodologies have been conducted by the ABS in individual States and Territories. However, in all cases, comparisons should be made with care since minor changes to the approaches used, together with changes in community awareness and attitudes to health issues, may have influenced the responses provided; see also paragraphs 13-15.

**24** For purposes of enabling comparisons between States and Territories and between 1995 and 1989-90 data, some tables include standardised estimates or rates. Estimates were adjusted to show levels that could be expected to have occurred in the population of interest, if those populations had the same age-sex characteristics as the Australian population in 1995. See table T2 (Technical Note) for relative standard errors for standardised State and Territory estimates.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**25** The *1995 National Health Survey Data Reference Package* containing the NHS questionnaires, data item listings, lists of standard unpublished table sets, comparison of 1995 and 1989-90 condition codes, 1995 condition codes list and sample counts is available. Information about all the publications and other products planned for release from the 1995 NHS is contained in the brochure *National Health Survey: Guide to Products and Services* which is available free of charge from any office of the ABS.

Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

*Australian Health Survey, 1983* (Cat. no. 4311.0)

*Health Insurance Survey, Australia, June 1992* (Cat. no. 4335.0)

*National Health Survey: Health Related Actions, 1989-90* (Cat. no. 4375.0)

*National Health Survey: Health Risk Factors, 1989-90* (Cat. no. 4380.0)

*National Health Survey: Health Status Indicators, 1989-90* (Cat. no. 4370.0)

*National Health Survey: Summary of Results, 1989-90* (Cat. no. 4364.0)

*National Health Survey: First Results, 1995* (Cat. no. 4392.0)

**26** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications and products to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

### UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

**27** Tables similar to those contained in this publication, but compiled for each State and Territory are available. Other relevant unpublished data may also be available. Inquiries should be made to the contact shown at the front of this publication.

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| ABS    | Australian Bureau of Statistics              |
| BMI    | body mass index                              |
| ICD    | International Classification of Diseases     |
| NEC    | not elsewhere classified                     |
| NH&MRC | National Health and Medical Research Council |
| NHS    | National Health Survey                       |
| NOS    | not otherwise specified                      |
| OHP    | Other Health Professionals                   |
| *      | relative standard error of 25% to 50%        |
| **     | relative standard error over 50%             |
| —      | null or rounded to zero                      |
| ..     | not applicable                               |

# APPENDIX

## POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR USE IN CALCULATION OF RATES ESTIMATED POPULATION(a): AGE BY SEX, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995 (\*000)

| Sex                          | Under 5 | 5 - 14  | 15 - 24 | 25 - 34 | 35 - 44 | 45 - 54 | 55 - 64 | 65 - 74 | 75 and over | Total    |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|----------|
| New South Wales              |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 225.7   | 439.3   | 459.2   | 479.4   | 460.5   | 385.1   | 262.8   | 221.8   | 107.5       | 3,041.4  |
| Females                      | 214.9   | 420.6   | 438.8   | 477.6   | 459.8   | 371.5   | 261.2   | 259.7   | 174.9       | 3,079.1  |
| Persons                      | 440.6   | 859.9   | 898.1   | 957.1   | 920.3   | 756.6   | 524.0   | 481.6   | 282.4       | 6,120.5  |
| Victoria                     |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 164.1   | 319.5   | 343.7   | 354.9   | 337.9   | 278.8   | 192.0   | 153.3   | 84.8        | 2,229.1  |
| Females                      | 155.3   | 303.3   | 330.4   | 359.7   | 343.2   | 274.5   | 191.7   | 188.3   | 127.4       | 2,274.0  |
| Persons                      | 319.5   | 622.9   | 674.2   | 714.6   | 681.1   | 553.3   | 383.8   | 341.6   | 212.2       | 4,503.1  |
| Queensland                   |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 122.8   | 248.2   | 263.0   | 256.6   | 246.1   | 207.7   | 134.2   | 110.1   | 54.5        | 1,643.0  |
| Females                      | 116.0   | 233.4   | 250.2   | 255.6   | 246.6   | 198.6   | 129.6   | 122.1   | 82.6        | 1,634.8  |
| Persons                      | 238.8   | 481.6   | 513.2   | 512.2   | 492.7   | 406.3   | 263.8   | 232.2   | 137.1       | 3,277.8  |
| South Australia              |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 50.5    | 104.2   | 106.3   | 115.4   | 112.3   | 92.4    | 63.6    | 57.2    | 30.4        | 732.2    |
| Females                      | 48.0    | 98.4    | 101.0   | 112.1   | 112.5   | 91.1    | 64.5    | 68.5    | 46.4        | 742.5    |
| Persons                      | 98.5    | 202.6   | 207.3   | 227.5   | 224.8   | 183.5   | 128.1   | 125.7   | 76.8        | 1,474.6  |
| Western Australia            |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 64.7    | 134.5   | 135.6   | 137.4   | 137.3   | 111.3   | 70.0    | 51.7    | 27.5        | 870.0    |
| Females                      | 61.5    | 126.6   | 129.6   | 136.0   | 136.7   | 103.9   | 67.8    | 61.3    | 39.0        | 862.4    |
| Persons                      | 126.2   | 261.1   | 265.2   | 273.4   | 274.0   | 215.2   | 137.8   | 113.0   | 66.5        | 1,732.4  |
| Tasmania                     |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 17.3    | 36.9    | 35.0    | 34.4    | 35.8    | 29.4    | 20.2    | 17.4    | 8.5         | 234.9    |
| Females                      | 16.6    | 35.4    | 33.1    | 34.9    | 36.1    | 28.6    | 20.4    | 18.8    | 14.8        | 238.7    |
| Persons                      | 33.9    | 72.2    | 68.2    | 69.3    | 71.9    | 58.0    | 40.6    | 36.2    | 23.3        | 473.6    |
| Northern Territory(b)        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 5.8     | 13.5    | 11.6    | 13.7    | 13.7    | 8.5     | 5.0     | 1.9     | 0.5         | 74.2     |
| Females                      | 6.5     | 13.5    | 11.6    | 14.8    | 12.5    | 7.4     | 3.0     | 1.4     | 0.4         | 71.1     |
| Persons                      | 12.3    | 27.1    | 23.2    | 28.5    | 26.2    | 15.9    | 8.0     | 3.3     | 0.9         | 145.3    |
| Australian Capital Territory |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 11.6    | 22.6    | 29.0    | 26.5    | 24.2    | 20.1    | 10.3    | 7.0     | 2.3         | 153.7    |
| Females                      | 11.0    | 21.4    | 27.5    | 25.5    | 24.5    | 19.4    | 9.7     | 6.8     | 5.4         | 151.2    |
| Persons                      | 22.6    | 44.0    | 56.5    | 52.0    | 48.8    | 39.5    | 19.9    | 13.8    | 7.7         | 304.9    |
| Australia                    |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |             |          |
| Males                        | 665.1   | 1,321.4 | 1,386.1 | 1,422.1 | 1,368.3 | 1,135.6 | 758.5   | 620.8   | 315.9       | 8,993.9  |
| Females                      | 630.2   | 1,256.0 | 1,324.1 | 1,419.6 | 1,373.5 | 1,096.7 | 748.9   | 727.1   | 491.1       | 9,067.2  |
| Persons                      | 1,295.3 | 2,577.4 | 2,710.3 | 2,841.7 | 2,741.8 | 2,232.3 | 1,507.4 | 1,348.0 | 807.0       | 18,061.1 |

(a) These estimates correspond to the population benchmarks for the National Health Survey, 1995 and were derived from an average of the four mid-quarterly population estimates for the period, adjusted for the scope of the survey. (b) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only.

**APPENDIX** *continued*

**POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR USE IN CALCULATION OF RATES**  
**ESTIMATED POPULATION(a): AGE BY SEX, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1995**  
 ('000)—*continued*

| Sex                          | 18 and over | 15 and over | 2 and over | 0-3     | 4-6   | 1-6     | 15-64    | 18-64    | 18-50   | Total    |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---------|-------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| New South Wales              |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 2,243.8     | 2,376.4     | 2,949.9    | 179.3   | 131.8 | 267.3   | 2,047.1  | 1,914.5  | 1,514.7 | 3,041.4  |
| Females                      | 2,316.1     | 2,443.7     | 2,988.8    | 179.9   | 124.1 | 253.5   | 2,009.0  | 1,881.4  | 1,489.8 | 3,079.1  |
| Persons                      | 4,559.9     | 4,820.0     | 5,938.8    | 359.2   | 255.9 | 520.8   | 4,056.1  | 3,795.9  | 3,004.5 | 6,120.5  |
| Victoria                     |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 1,644.5     | 1,745.5     | 2,161.4    | 129.8   | 101.1 | 201.7   | 1,507.4  | 1,406.5  | 1,121.3 | 2,229.1  |
| Females                      | 1,720.2     | 1,815.3     | 2,213.6    | 125.7   | 91.4  | 188.2   | 1,499.6  | 1,404.5  | 1,119.4 | 2,274.0  |
| Persons                      | 3,364.7     | 3,560.8     | 4,375.0    | 255.5   | 192.6 | 389.9   | 3,007.0  | 2,810.9  | 2,240.7 | 4,503.1  |
| Queensland                   |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 1,185.7     | 1,272.0     | 1,596.6    | 94.0    | 76.4  | 148.5   | 1,107.5  | 1,021.1  | 818.9   | 1,643.0  |
| Females                      | 1,211.6     | 1,285.4     | 1,587.9    | 93.1    | 70.1  | 140.3   | 1,080.6  | 1,006.9  | 806.5   | 1,634.8  |
| Persons                      | 2,397.3     | 2,557.4     | 3,184.5    | 187.0   | 146.5 | 288.8   | 2,188.1  | 2,028.0  | 1,625.4 | 3,277.8  |
| South Australia              |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 544.1       | 577.6       | 714.3      | 39.5    | 32.6  | 61.7    | 490.0    | 456.5    | 361.4   | 732.2    |
| Females                      | 567.3       | 596.2       | 725.3      | 38.9    | 27.9  | 58.7    | 481.2    | 452.4    | 357.2   | 742.5    |
| Persons                      | 1,111.4     | 1,173.7     | 1,439.6    | 78.3    | 60.5  | 120.3   | 971.2    | 908.9    | 718.6   | 1,474.8  |
| Western Australia            |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 630.6       | 670.8       | 840.2      | 53.8    | 39.4  | 78.8    | 591.6    | 551.4    | 445.7   | 870.0    |
| Females                      | 640.6       | 674.3       | 838.9      | 48.9    | 40.2  | 78.1    | 574.0    | 540.3    | 435.1   | 862.4    |
| Persons                      | 1,271.2     | 1,345.1     | 1,679.2    | 102.7   | 79.7  | 156.9   | 1,165.6  | 1,091.7  | 880.8   | 1,732.4  |
| Tasmania                     |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 169.5       | 180.7       | 229.0      | 13.3    | 11.4  | 21.2    | 154.8    | 143.5    | 112.1   | 234.9    |
| Females                      | 175.4       | 186.7       | 232.6      | 13.5    | 9.7   | 20.7    | 153.1    | 141.8    | 111.9   | 238.7    |
| Persons                      | 344.9       | 367.5       | 461.6      | 26.8    | 21.0  | 41.9    | 307.9    | 285.4    | 224.0   | 473.6    |
| Northern Territory(b)        |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 50.8        | 54.9        | 71.6       | 4.5     | 4.2   | 7.8     | 52.5     | 48.4     | 40.6    | 74.2     |
| Females                      | 47.1        | 51.1        | 68.3       | 5.7     | 3.3   | 7.1     | 49.3     | 45.3     | 39.7    | 71.1     |
| Persons                      | 97.9        | 106.0       | 139.9      | 10.2    | 7.5   | 14.9    | 101.8    | 93.7     | 80.3    | 145.3    |
| Australian Capital Territory |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 112.3       | 119.5       | 149.2      | 9.5     | 6.7   | 13.6    | 110.2    | 103.0    | 86.4    | 153.7    |
| Females                      | 111.6       | 118.8       | 147.0      | 8.8     | 6.9   | 14.0    | 106.5    | 99.4     | 83.5    | 151.2    |
| Persons                      | 223.9       | 238.2       | 296.1      | 18.3    | 13.6  | 27.6    | 216.7    | 202.3    | 169.9   | 304.9    |
| Australia                    |             |             |            |         |       |         |          |          |         |          |
| Males                        | 6,590.7     | 7,007.4     | 8,726.5    | 525.8   | 404.6 | 802.7   | 6,070.6  | 5,653.9  | 4,508.8 | 8,993.9  |
| Females                      | 6,799.2     | 7,181.0     | 8,815.8    | 514.4   | 375.1 | 762.1   | 5,962.8  | 5,581.0  | 4,450.1 | 9,067.2  |
| Persons                      | 13,389.9    | 14,188.4    | 17,542.2   | 1,040.2 | 779.6 | 1,564.8 | 12,033.4 | 11,234.9 | 8,958.9 | 18,061.1 |

(a) These estimates correspond to the population benchmarks for the National Health Survey, 1995 and were derived from an average of the four mid-quarterly population estimates for the period, adjusted for the scope of the survey. (b) Estimates relate to predominately urban areas only.

# TECHNICAL NOTE SAMPLING VARIABILITY

## ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

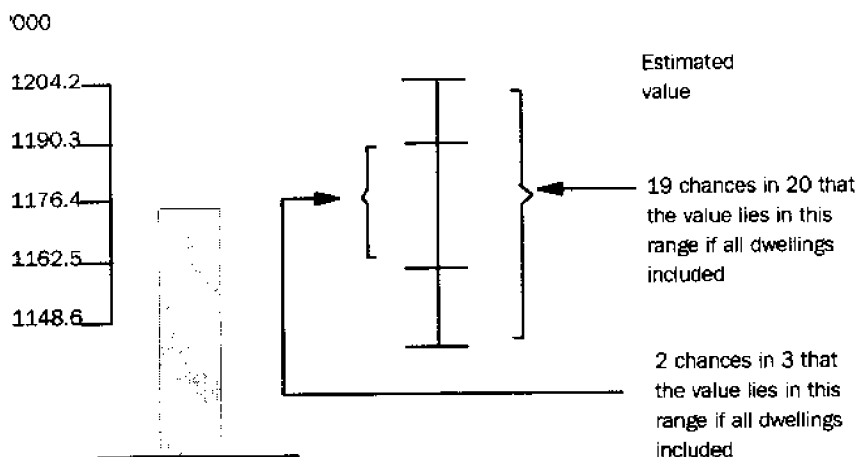
Estimates from the survey are derived using a procedure which combines information collected in the course of the survey (in responses to the survey, and concerning propensity of selected sample units to respond), with independently available information concerning the underlying populations. As a result, survey estimates of population conform to the published population estimates at age-sex-area level (when averaged over the period of the survey); also survey estimates of households conform to benchmarks for households by household size (numbers of adults and numbers of children).

## RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 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.

Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors and relative standard errors for estimates of numbers of persons is given in table T1. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error for a particular estimate but will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors follows.

Table 3 shows that the estimated number of persons who reported experiencing asthma as a recent illness was 1,176,400. Since this estimate is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 the standard error for Australia will be between 13,070 and 17,720 (taken from the Australia column of table T1 on page 72) and can be approximated by 13,900 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range of 1,162,500 to 1,190,300 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 1,148,600 to 1,204,200. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES *continued*

As can be seen from the standard error table, the smaller the estimate the higher the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the standard error table have not been published. Although figures for these small components can, in some cases, be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

STANDARD ERRORS OF RATES AND PERCENTAGES

The standard error of an estimated percentage or rate computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the relative standard error of the estimated percentage or rate will generally be lower than the relative standard error of the estimate of the numerator.

Approximate standard errors of rates or percentages may be derived by first obtaining the relative standard error of the number of persons corresponding to the numerator of this rate or percentage and then applying this figure to the estimated rate or percentage. An example of this calculation follows.

The rate of asthma as a long-term condition is 110.9 per 1,000 persons (see table 6) and the numerator of this rate is 2,002,500 which has a relative standard error of 0.9% (0.009). The standard error of this rate of 110.9 can then be approximated by:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Rate} \times \text{Relative standard error} \\ &= 110.9 \times 0.009 \\ &= 1.0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore there are two chances in three that the rate that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey is in the range 109.9 to 111.9 per 1,000 persons and about 19 chances in 20 that it is in the range 108.9 to 112.9 per 1,000 persons.

Published figures may also be used to estimate the difference between survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such a figure is itself an estimate and is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

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

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or sub-populations it is likely to be of interest in this publication. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing of data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be in a full count or only a sample.

# TECHNICAL NOTE SAMPLING VARIABILITY *continued*

## T1 Standard errors and relative standard errors(a)

| Size of estimate | STATES AND TERRITORIES..... |          |          |        |          |        |        |        | AUST..... |        |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|
|                  | NSW                         | Vic.     | Qld      | SA     | WA       | Tas.   | NT     | ACT    | SE        | RSE(b) |
| 150              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | —      | —      | —         | —      |
| 200              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (c)100 | —      | —         | —      |
| 250              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (d)120 | (c)130 | —         | —      |
| 300              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (d)130 | (d)140 | —         | —      |
| 400              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (d)160 | (d)160 | (c)200    | 50.2   |
| 500              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (d)190 | (d)170 | (d)230    | 46.1   |
| 600              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | —      | (d)210 | (d)180 | (d)260    | 43.0   |
| 700              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | (c)380 | (d)230 | (d)190 | (d)280    | 40.5   |
| 800              | —                           | —        | —        | —      | —        | (d)400 | (d)250 | (d)200 | (d)310    | 38.4   |
| 900              | —                           | —        | —        | (c)460 | —        | (d)410 | (d)270 | 210    | (d)330    | 36.7   |
| 1 000            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)470 | —        | (d)420 | (d)290 | 220    | (d)350    | 35.1   |
| 1 100            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)490 | —        | (d)440 | (d)310 | 230    | (d)370    | 33.8   |
| 1 200            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)500 | —        | (d)450 | (d)320 | 240    | (d)390    | 32.7   |
| 1 300            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)520 | —        | (d)460 | (d)340 | 240    | (d)410    | 31.6   |
| 1 400            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)530 | (c)730   | (d)470 | (d)350 | 250    | (d)430    | 30.7   |
| 1 500            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)540 | (d)750   | (d)480 | 370    | 260    | (d)450    | 29.8   |
| 1 600            | —                           | —        | —        | (d)550 | (d)760   | (d)490 | 380    | 260    | (d)460    | 29.1   |
| 1 700            | —                           | (c)880   | —        | (d)560 | (d)780   | (d)500 | 400    | 270    | (d)480    | 28.3   |
| 1 800            | —                           | (d)890   | —        | (d)570 | (d)800   | (d)510 | 410    | 270    | (d)500    | 27.7   |
| 1 900            | —                           | (d)910   | —        | (d)580 | (d)810   | (d)510 | 420    | 280    | (d)510    | 27.1   |
| 2 000            | —                           | (d)930   | —        | (d)590 | (d)830   | (d)520 | 440    | 280    | (d)530    | 26.5   |
| 2 100            | —                           | (d)950   | —        | (d)600 | (d)840   | (d)530 | 450    | 290    | (d)550    | 26.0   |
| 2 200            | —                           | (d)960   | —        | (d)610 | (d)850   | 540    | 460    | 290    | (d)560    | 25.5   |
| 2 300            | —                           | (d)980   | —        | (d)620 | (d)870   | 550    | 470    | 300    | (d)570    | 25.0   |
| 2 400            | —                           | (d)990   | (c)1 230 | (d)630 | (d)880   | 550    | 490    | 300    | 590       | 24.6   |
| 2 500            | —                           | (d)1 010 | (d)1 250 | (d)640 | (d)890   | 560    | 500    | 310    | 600       | 24.1   |
| 3 000            | —                           | (d)1 080 | (d)1 320 | 680    | (d)950   | 590    | 550    | 330    | 670       | 22.3   |
| 3 500            | (c)1 790                    | (d)1 140 | (d)1 400 | 720    | (d)1 010 | 630    | 610    | 350    | 730       | 20.9   |
| 4 000            | (d)1 860                    | (d)1 200 | (d)1 460 | 750    | (d)1 060 | 650    | 650    | 370    | 790       | 19.8   |
| 4 500            | (d)1 960                    | (d)1 250 | (d)1 520 | 780    | 1 100    | 680    | 700    | 380    | 850       | 18.8   |
| 5 000            | (d)2 040                    | (d)1 300 | (d)1 570 | 810    | 1 140    | 700    | 740    | 400    | 900       | 17.9   |
| 6 000            | (d)2 190                    | 1 390    | (d)1 680 | 870    | 1 220    | 750    | 820    | 430    | 990       | 16.6   |
| 8 000            | (d)2 440                    | 1 540    | 1 850    | 960    | 1 360    | 830    | 960    | 470    | 1 170     | 14.6   |
| 10 000           | (d)2 650                    | 1 670    | 2 000    | 1 040  | 1 480    | 900    | 1 090  | 510    | 1 320     | 13.2   |
| 20 000           | 3 440                       | 2 160    | 2 560    | 1 350  | 1 920    | 1 170  | 1 570  | 660    | 1 920     | 9.6    |
| 30 000           | 4 010                       | 2 520    | 2 970    | 1 580  | 2 240    | 1 370  | 1 930  | 770    | 2 380     | 7.9    |
| 40 000           | 4 480                       | 2 800    | 3 300    | 1 770  | 2 510    | 1 530  | 2 220  | 860    | 2 770     | 6.9    |
| 50 000           | 4 880                       | 3 050    | 3 580    | 1 940  | 2 740    | 1 680  | 2 480  | 930    | 3 100     | 6.2    |
| 100 000          | 6 350                       | 3 960    | 4 650    | 2 580  | 3 620    | 2 260  | 3 460  | 1 210  | 4 400     | 4.4    |
| 200 000          | 8 290                       | 5 150    | 6 080    | 3 460  | 4 810    | 3 080  | 4 740  | 1 570  | 6 190     | 3.1    |
| 300 000          | 9 700                       | 6 020    | 7 130    | 4 120  | 5 700    | 3 720  | 5 660  | 1 820  | 7 510     | 2.5    |
| 400 000          | 10 840                      | 6 720    | 8 000    | 4 680  | 6 440    | 4 270  | 6 400  | 2 030  | 8 600     | 2.1    |
| 500 000          | 11 820                      | 7 320    | 8 750    | 5 170  | 7 080    | 4 750  | 7 020  | 2 210  | 9 540     | 1.9    |
| 1 000 000        | 15 480                      | 9 570    | 11 600   | 7 100  | 9 570    | 6 720  | 9 290  | 2 860  | 13 070    | 1.3    |
| 2 000 000        | 20 310                      | 12 530   | 15 490   | 9 850  | 13 020   | 9 640  | 12 110 | 3 710  | 17 720    | 0.9    |
| 5 000 000        | 29 140                      | 17 950   | 22 940   | 15 420 | 19 780   | 15 920 | 16 790 | 5 250  | 26 070    | 0.5    |
| 10 000 000       | 38 350                      | 23 620   | 31 090   | 21 890 | 27 360   | 23 670 | 21 110 | 6 820  | 34 480    | 0.3    |
| 20 000 000       | 50 540                      | 31 130   | 42 420   | 31 400 | 38 110   | 35 750 | 26 150 | 8 870  | 45 130    | 0.2    |

(a) The standard errors and relative standard errors shown relate to person estimates for those items collected for the full survey sample. Approximate standard errors for those items which were collected for a sub-sample only (see Explanatory Notes, paragraph 7) can be obtained by multiplying the standard errors shown by  $\sqrt{2}$ .

(b) Shows the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

(c) This standard error represents an RSE of around 50% of the estimate: smaller estimates are considered too unreliable for most purposes.

(d) This standard error represents an RSE of 25% to 50% of the estimate.



**STANDARD ERRORS OF STANDARDISED ESTIMATES**

Because many health characteristics are strongly related to sex and age, the sex and age profiles of population groups should be considered in making comparisons of health characteristics of those groups. To assist in making these comparisons, in some tables in this publication estimates for States and Territories, and estimates from the 1989-90 NHS have been age and sex standardised to the Australian population in 1995 — i.e. they show estimates which would be expected, other factors unchanged, if the age and sex characteristics of all States and Territories and characteristics of the 1989-90 and 1995 populations had been the same.

Relative standard errors can also be calculated for the standardised estimates. The table below shows the relative standard error factors for States and Territories. These should be used when interpreting data shown as standardised estimates in this publication.

**T2 Standard error factors for standardised estimates**

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| New South Wales              | 1.00023 |
| Victoria                     | 1.00022 |
| Queensland                   | 1.00051 |
| South Australia              | 1.00193 |
| Western Australia            | 1.00175 |
| Tasmania                     | 1.00128 |
| Northern Territory           | 1.23931 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 1.02532 |

To find the standard error of a standardised estimate, the standard error on the estimate is calculated in the same way as the first example in these Technical Notes and then multiplied by the appropriate factor from the table above. For example, table 5 shows that the standardised estimate of persons in the Australian Capital Territory experiencing a circulatory condition as a recent illness was 32,300. As this lies between 30,000 and 40,000 the standard error will be between 770 and 860, and can be approximated at 790. This is then multiplied by the Australian Capital Territory factor from the table above ( $790 \times 1.02532$ ) to produce a standard error of 810 on the standardised estimate.

**STANDARD ERRORS OF ILLNESS AND ACTION ESTIMATES**

Similar calculations of standard error can be made for estimates of the number of illness conditions experienced for Australia, and for estimates of number of actions taken which are available from this survey. Table T3 provides standard errors on number of illnesses, and can be used in the same way that table T1 is used for estimated number of persons. Table T4 contains factors to be applied to estimates of numbers of actions as appropriate, in the same way the factors shown in table T2 are used for standardised estimates of persons.

**T3** Standard errors for conditions experienced

| Size of estimate | RECENT ILLNESS..... |                             |                | LONG-TERM CONDITIONS..... |                             |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                  | Standard error      | Relative standard error (%) | Standard error | Standard error            | Relative standard error (%) |
| 1 000            | 500                 | 50.4                        | 520            | 52.4                      |                             |
| 1 100            | 540                 | 49.0                        | 560            | 51.0                      |                             |
| 1 200            | 570                 | 47.8                        | 600            | 49.7                      |                             |
| 1 300            | 610                 | 46.6                        | 630            | 48.6                      |                             |
| 1 400            | 640                 | 45.6                        | 670            | 47.5                      |                             |
| 1 500            | 670                 | 44.7                        | 700            | 46.6                      |                             |
| 1 600            | 700                 | 43.8                        | 730            | 45.7                      |                             |
| 1 700            | 730                 | 43.0                        | 760            | 44.9                      |                             |
| 1 800            | 760                 | 42.2                        | 790            | 44.1                      |                             |
| 1 900            | 790                 | 41.5                        | 830            | 43.4                      |                             |
| 2 000            | 820                 | 40.9                        | 860            | 42.8                      |                             |
| 2 100            | 840                 | 40.2                        | 880            | 42.1                      |                             |
| 2 200            | 870                 | 39.6                        | 910            | 41.5                      |                             |
| 2 300            | 900                 | 39.1                        | 940            | 41.0                      |                             |
| 2 400            | 930                 | 38.6                        | 970            | 40.5                      |                             |
| 2 500            | 950                 | 38.1                        | 1 000          | 39.9                      |                             |
| 3 000            | 1 080               | 35.9                        | 1 130          | 37.7                      |                             |
| 4 000            | 1 310               | 32.7                        | 1 360          | 34.5                      |                             |
| 5 000            | 1 510               | 30.3                        | 1 600          | 32.1                      |                             |
| 6 000            | 1 710               | 28.5                        | 1 810          | 30.2                      |                             |
| 8 000            | 2 060               | 26.2                        | 2 190          | 27.4                      |                             |
| 10 000           | 2 380               | 23.8                        | 2 540          | 25.4                      |                             |
| 20 000           | 3 690               | 18.4                        | 3 970          | 19.8                      |                             |
| 30 000           | 4 730               | 15.8                        | 5 120          | 17.1                      |                             |
| 40 000           | 5 640               | 14.1                        | 6 120          | 15.3                      |                             |
| 50 000           | 6 440               | 12.9                        | 7 020          | 14.0                      |                             |
| 100 000          | 9 670               | 9.7                         | 10 640         | 10.6                      |                             |
| 200 000          | 14 330              | 7.2                         | 15 920         | 8.0                       |                             |
| 300 000          | 17 930              | 6.0                         | 20 020         | 6.7                       |                             |
| 400 000          | 20 950              | 5.2                         | 23 500         | 5.9                       |                             |
| 500 000          | 23 610              | 4.7                         | 26 570         | 5.3                       |                             |
| 1 000 000        | 33 900              | 3.4                         | 38 570         | 3.9                       |                             |
| 2 000 000        | 48 020              | 2.4                         | 55 240         | 2.8                       |                             |
| 5 000 000        | 74 530              | 1.5                         | 87 060         | 1.7                       |                             |
| 10 000 000       | 102 330             | 1.0                         | 120 960        | 1.2                       |                             |

**T4** Standard error factors for estimates of actions taken

| Type of estimate  | Factor |
|---|--------|
| Number of doctor consultations                          | 1.61   |
| Number of dental consultations                          | 1.57   |
| Number of casualty/outpatients/day clinic visits        | 1.69   |
| Days away from work/school                              | 2.55   |
| Number of consultations with other health professionals | 2.04   |
| Number of medications taken                             | 1.90   |

## GLOSSARY

**Accidents** Refers to events identified by respondents which resulted in injury or other recent or long-term medical condition reported in the survey. The term accident is used in this publication to refer to events (accidents, exposures to harmful factors and other incidents) with or without intent, which resulted in injury or illness. This topic does not provide data indicating the number of accidents (either injury or otherwise) occurring over a period.

**Actions taken** As used in this publication this item refers to specific actions persons had taken in relation to their health, and refers to actions taken in the two weeks prior to interview. Actions covered in the survey were:

- inpatient episodes in hospital;
- visits to casualty/emergency units at hospitals;
- visits to outpatients units;
- visits to day clinics;
- doctor consultations;
- dental consultations;
- consultations with other health professionals;
- other persons/organisations consulted;
- use of natural/herbal medications;
- use of vitamins/minerals;
- use of other medications;
- days away from work/school; and/or
- other days of reduced activity.

**Alcohol risk level** Derived from the average daily consumption of alcohol during the week prior to interview and grouped into relative risk levels as defined by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) as follows:

| Relative risk | CONSUMPTION PER DAY ..... |                 |
|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|               | Males                     | Females         |
|               | mls                       | mls             |
| Low           | Less than 50              | Less than 25    |
| Moderate      | 50-75                     | 25-50           |
| High          | Greater than 75           | Greater than 50 |

It should be noted that risk level as defined by the NH&MRC is based on regular consumption levels of alcohol, whereas indicators derived in the NHS do not take into account whether consumption was more, less, or the same as usual.

**Body mass** Based on height and weight as reported by the respondent. Persons were categorised into four groups according to their body mass, derived using the formula weight (kg) divided by the square of height (m<sup>2</sup>). The groups used are consistent with recommendations of the NH&MRC.

*Body mass index*

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Underweight       | Less than 20       |
| Acceptable weight | 20-25              |
| Overweight        | Greater than 25-30 |
| Obese             | Greater than 30    |

**Exercise level** This item relates to exercise undertaken for sport, recreation or fitness only, and hence does not reflect the level of total physical activity. Exercise level was derived from information about the number of times exercise was undertaken in the two weeks prior to interview, the average length of each session and the intensity (i.e. vigorous, moderate or walking). The item is intended as a guide to the relative exercise levels of persons, and should not be interpreted as necessarily indicative of level of fitness.

**Long-term conditions** Medical conditions (illness, injury or disability) which have lasted at least six months, or which the respondent expects to last for six months or more including:

- long-term conditions from which the respondent experienced infrequent or spasmodic attacks e.g. asthma;
- long-term conditions which may be under control through use of medications or other treatment e.g. diabetes, epilepsy;
- conditions which, although present, may not be generally considered illness because they are not necessarily debilitating e.g. reduced eyesight; and/or
- long-term and permanent impairments or disabilities.

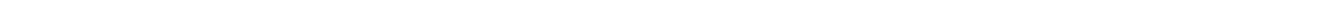
**Other health professionals** Includes acupuncturists, audiologists/audiometrists, chiropractors, chemists, chiropodists/podiatrists, dieticians/nutritionists, herbalists, hypnotherapists, naturopaths, nurses, opticians/optometrists, osteopaths, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, social workers/welfare officers, speech therapists/pathologists.

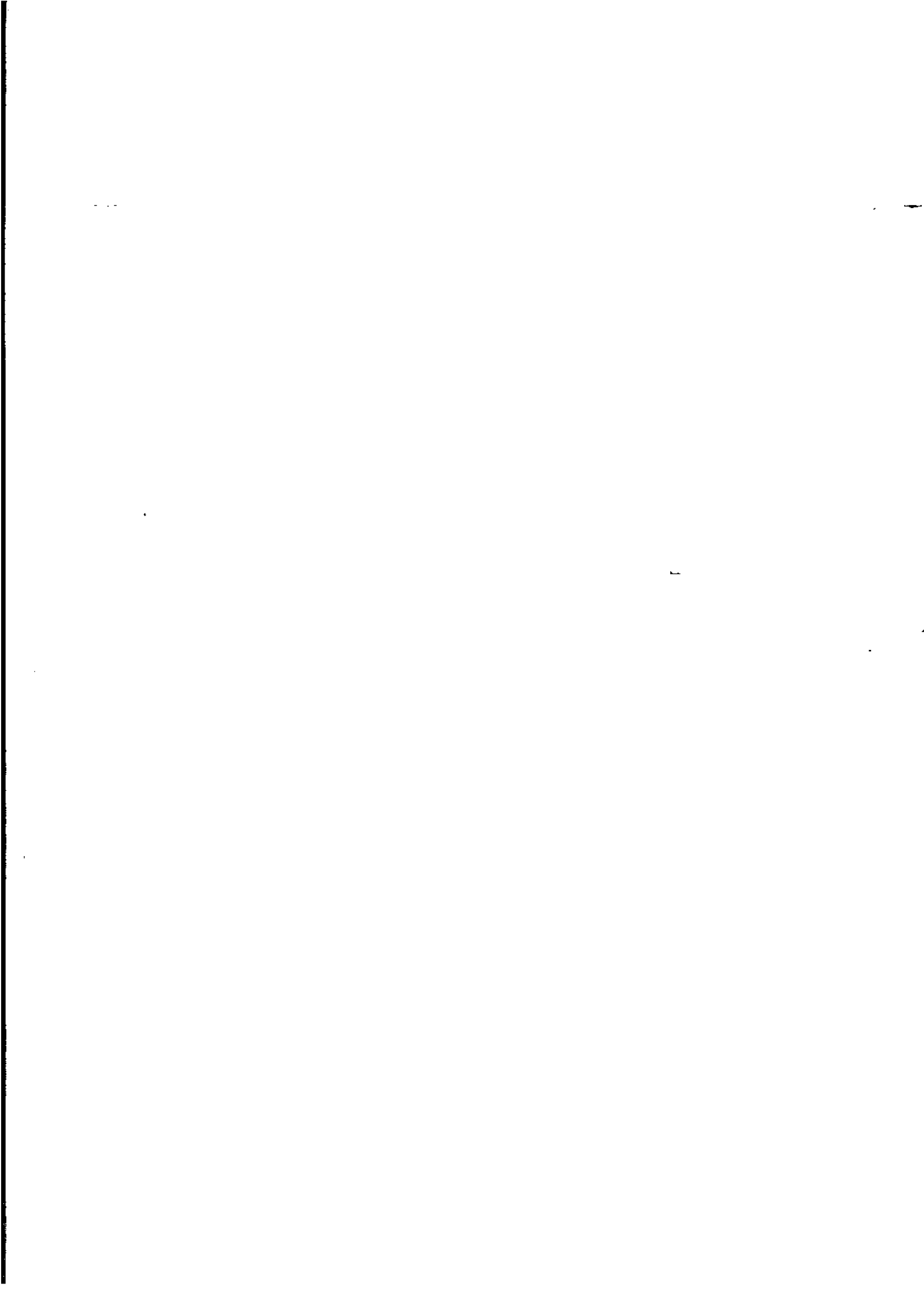
**Recent conditions** Medical conditions (illness, injury or disability) experienced in the two weeks prior to interview. May include long-term conditions experienced in the period.

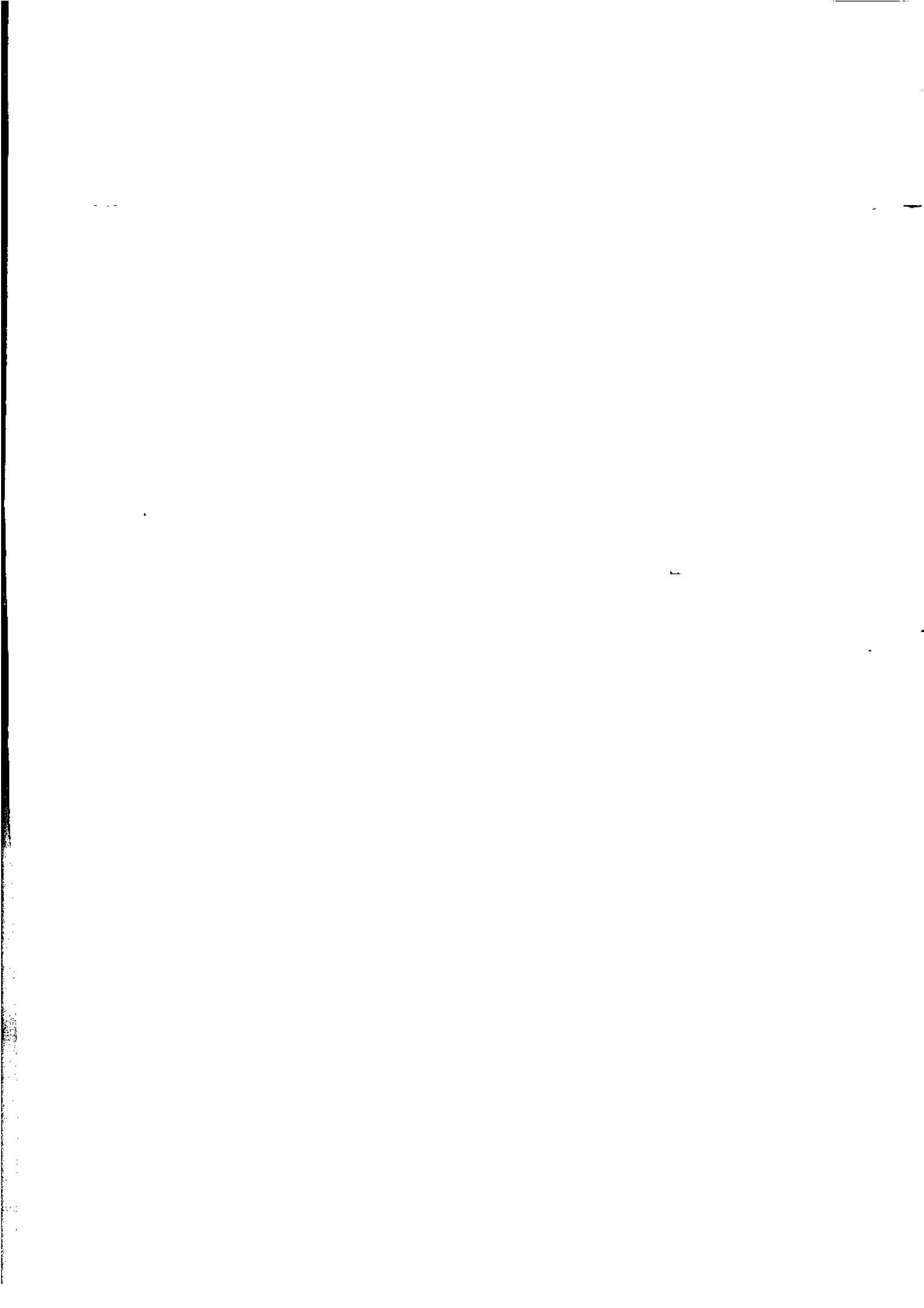
**Self-assessed health status** Refers to respondent's perception of their general health status.



|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Smoker status</b>           | The topic describes smoking status (current smokers, ex-smokers and never smoked) at time of interview.   |
| <b>Smoking</b>                 | Refers to the regular smoking of tobacco, including manufactured (packet) cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes, cigars and pipes, but excludes chewing tobacco and smoking of non-tobacco products. The topic focused on 'regular smoking', where regular was defined as one or more cigarettes (or pipes or cigars) per day on average as reported by the respondent.  |
| <b>Sun protection</b>          | Refers to measures taken for protection from the sun, focussing on measures taken in the month prior to interview. Measures covered include sunscreen, umbrella, hat, clothing and sunglasses.  |
| <b>Type of conditions</b>      | All reported recent and long-term medical conditions and other reasons for health-related actions were coded to a list of 134 selected conditions/reasons for action developed by the ABS. This classification was based on the Ninth Revision (1975) of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD9), but was modified to take account of the fact that information obtained is 'as reported' by respondents. Special codes were created for some non-illness reasons for action (e.g. check-up, preventive measure) and for some frequently reported conditions which could not be readily coded to ICD categories because insufficient detail was provided (e.g. back problems, virus, infection).  |
| <b>Type of medication</b>      | Two classifications of type of medication are shown in this publication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Reported type of medication, which refers to type of medication as categorised by the respondent, and tends to reflect the reason(s) for using the medication, rather than the type of ingredients or actions of the medication.</li> <li>■ Generic type of medication, based on the World Health Organisation's Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) Classification, and adapted for use in the survey. This classification, although based on the ATC, covered selected types of medication only. A copy of this classification is included in the <i>National Health Survey: Users' Guide, 1995</i> (Cat. no. 4363.0).</li> </ul> |
| <b>Work-related conditions</b> | Medical conditions reported in the survey as due to an accident, incident or exposure, and which the respondent identified as work related; including accident at work.   |







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