



# FOCUS

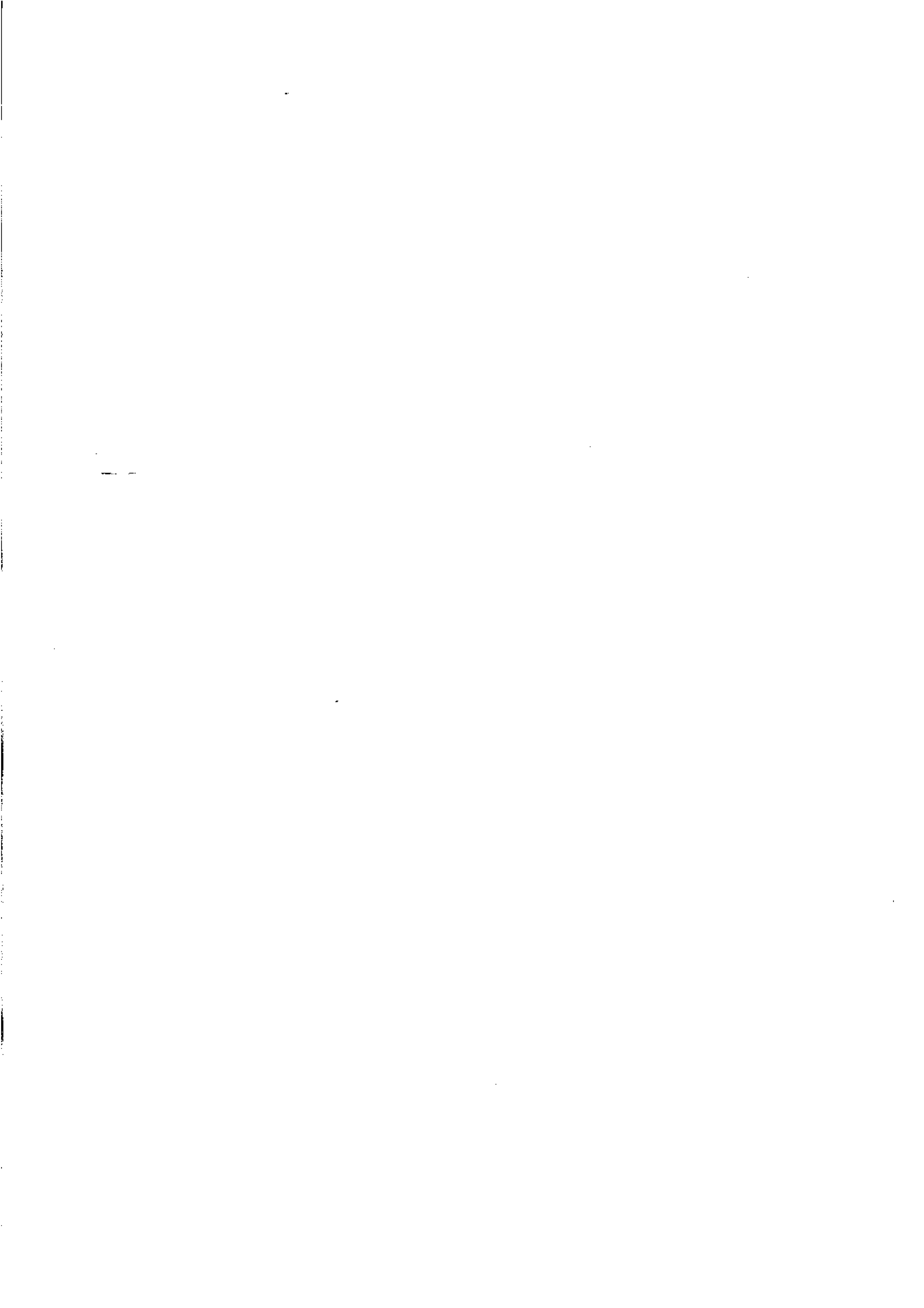
ON FAMILIES

Education and Employment



1994  
INTERNATIONAL YEAR  
OF THE FAMILY

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NEW ISSUE

**FOCUS ON FAMILIES**  
**EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT**

**IAN CASTLES**  
**Australian Statistician**

*Focus on Families: Education and Employment* is one of a series produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as part of the International Year of the Family. The publication was compiled by Denise Barrett and Jenny Dean with the assistance of the Welfare Statistics Unit.

# Focus on Families Education and Employment

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INQUIRIES

- *for further information* contact Denise Barrett on (06) 252 7880 or any ABS State Office.
- *for information about other ABS statistics and services* please refer to the back page of this publication.

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## PREFACE

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family (IYF). In Australia there is a strong commitment that IYF should be a catalyst to greater support and quality of life for all families. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is supporting the goals of IYF by providing data on families to inform discussion on the key priority issues identified by the National Council for IYF.

This report examines education and employment issues, including access and participation. It explores the interaction between these issues and different types of families and family members. In Australia, education and employment opportunities are considered to be fundamental to all individuals and major influences on social and economic well-being. Family structures and support shape each individual's ability to take advantage of such opportunities and in so doing contribute to their own and others' material and social welfare.

The report presents this information in the light of one of the National Council for IYF's key priority issues to:

- ...address the circumstances and needs of families in disadvantaged circumstances, including families with unemployed breadwinners, low income working families, sole parent families, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, families where a member has a disability or chronic illness, families of non-English speaking background, families in rural and remote regions, and families in economically depressed regions.

It is the second in the *Focus on Families* series of publications which provides statistical information on characteristics of families and family members, and factors over the last 10 to 20 years which have influenced the fabric of family life.

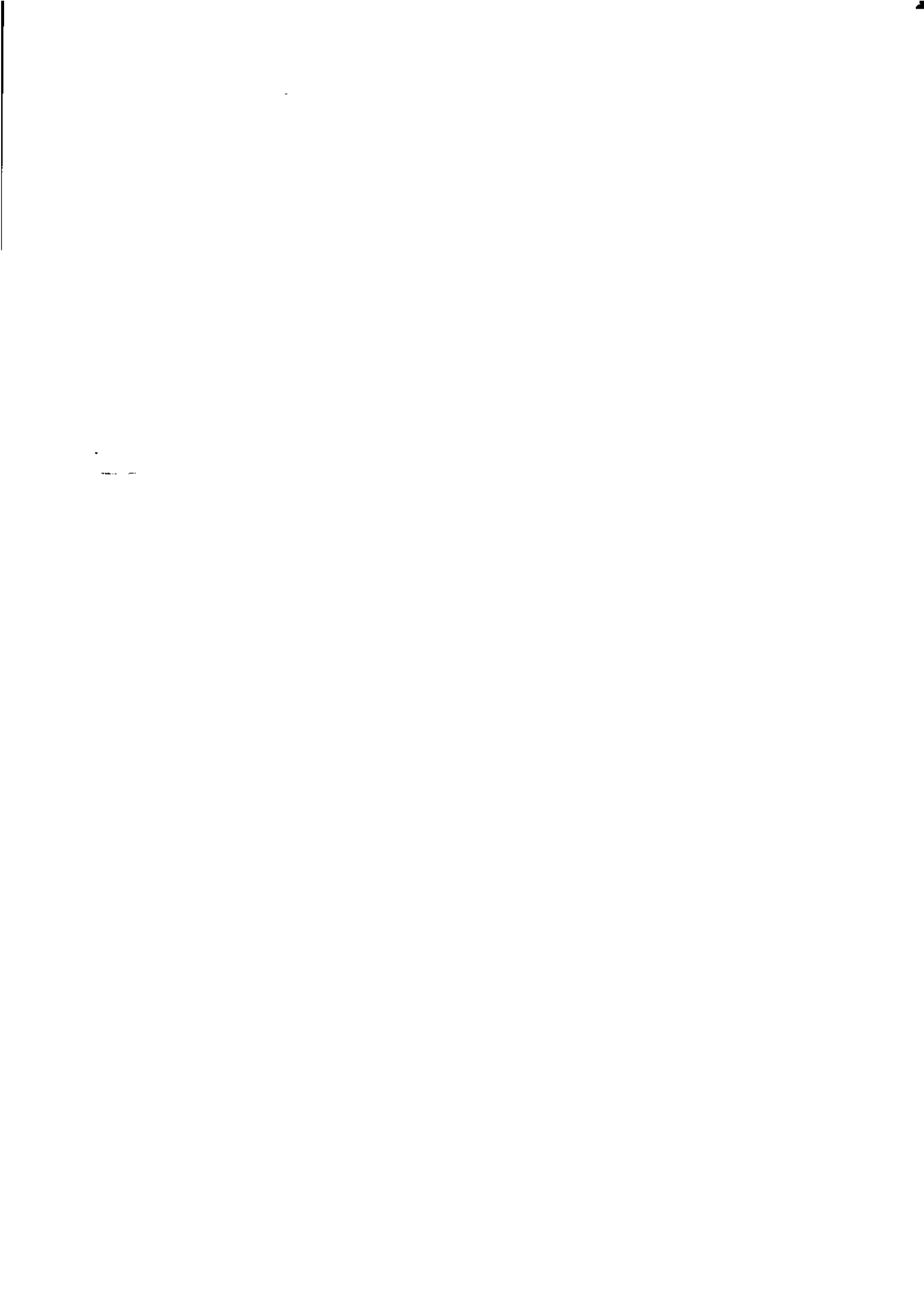
Other publications in the series cover the following topics:

- demographics and family formation;
- work and family responsibilities;
- caring in families (with particular reference to older people and those with disabilities);
- family life;
- income and housing.

Publications in the series draw on data from a number of sources, including the 1992 Survey of Families in Australia (Family Survey), the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, and the 1992 Time Use Survey. In addition to publications, data can be accessed through the special tabulation service, the statistical consultancy service, and data in electronic format. Details of published and unpublished data services are outlined in Appendix A.

**IAN CASTLES**  
Australian Statistician

Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Canberra ACT  
October 1994



# Focus on Families

## Education and Employment

### Main Features

#### Couple and one parent families

- In 1992, 15 per cent of people aged 15 and over in couple families were attending an educational institution and 48 per cent had post-school qualifications (*Tables 1 and 2*).
- Twenty-three per cent of people aged 15 and over in one parent families were attending an educational institution, while 37 per cent had post-school qualifications (*Tables 1 and 2*).
- Almost a quarter (23%) of members of one parent families aged 15 and over were unemployed, compared with 10 per cent of those in couple families (*Table 3*).
- Thirty per cent of those in one parent families facing barriers to education reported caring for children as the reason for the barrier, which was almost double the proportion (16%) in couple families (*Table 5*).
- Of those in one parent families reporting barriers to labour force participation, 37 per cent stated caring for children as the main reason for the barrier, while 23 per cent of people did so in couple families (*Table 6*).

#### Urban and rural families

- In 1992, labour force participation was highest (70%) and the unemployment rate was lowest (9%) for family members living in rural areas, compared with families in capital cities and other urban centres (*Table 3*).

- For family members aged 15 and over in rural areas, access to education facilities, places or courses was the most frequently reported reason for experiencing a barrier to education (27%) (*Table 5*).
- Family members aged 15 and over in rural areas who experienced a barrier to labour force participation, were more likely than those in other locations to give a family-related reason for such a barrier (42%) (*Table 6*).

#### Non-English speaking background families

- In 1992, the same proportion of people aged 15 and over from non-English speaking background families had post-school qualifications as those in all families (47%). Of those who were qualified, people from non-English speaking background families were more likely to have a bachelor or higher degree (26%) than people in all families (20%) (*Table 2*).
- A higher proportion of people from non-English speaking background families were employed as labourers/related workers (18%) or plant/machine operators and drivers (9%) compared with those in all families (14% and 7% respectively) (*Table 4*).

#### Indigenous families

- In 1991, eleven per cent of people aged 15 and over from Indigenous families had obtained post-school qualifications compared with 30 per cent of people in all families (*Table 7*).

- Around half (56%) of people aged 15 and over from Indigenous families were participating in the labour force, compared with 65 per cent of people in all families (*Table 8*).
- The unemployment rate among those aged 15 and over in Indigenous families was over twice that of people in all families (27% compared with 11%) (*Table 8*).
- Of children with handicaps who had schooling limitations, those with profound/severe handicaps were more likely than other children to be attending a special school (17%), to need time off school (11%), or not to be attending school (8%) (*Table 17*).
- In 1992, 17 per cent of children aged 0 to 14 in couple and one parent families had no employed parent, while just under half (49%) of children of these ages lived with two employed parents or an employed lone parent (*Figure 6*).

## Families and disability

- In 1993, almost a quarter (24%) of people aged 15 and over with handicaps who were living in families and were not studying indicated that their condition prevented them from post-school study (*Figure 5*).
- People with disabilities who were living in families had a higher unemployment rate than all people in families (17% compared with 12%) and, if employed, were more likely to be working part-time (30% compared with 25%) (*Table 13*).
- About 1.1 million people with handicaps who were living in families experienced employment limitations, 56 per cent of whom stated they were permanently unable to work (*Table 14*).
- Ten per cent of family members with disabilities who were not in the labour force indicated that they were not looking for work because of their ill health or disability, compared with 3 per cent of all people in families (*Table 15*).
- Almost two-thirds of children aged 0 to 14 in one parent families lived with a parent who was not in the labour force (52%) or who was unemployed (11%). In contrast, 90 per cent of children in couple families had at least one parent who was employed (*Tables 18 and 19*).

## Young people

- In 1992, 63 per cent of young people living with parent(s) were studying, compared with 26 per cent of those who no longer lived with parent(s) (*Table 21*).
- Over half (52%) of young lone fathers were studying, compared with 16 per cent of young lone mothers (*Table 21*).
- Almost three-quarters (73%) of 15 to 24 year-olds were in the labour force, representing about 2 million young people (*Table 22*).
- Young people who were living with both parents were more likely to be participating in the labour force (71%) than those living with one parent (65%) (*Table 22*).
- Less than one third (32%) of young lone mothers were participating in the labour force, compared with 78% of young lone fathers (*Table 22*).

## Children aged 0 to 14

- In 1993, some 166,000 children aged 5 to 14 living in households had handicaps and of these, 82 per cent experienced schooling limitations (*Table 17*).

- Labour force participation was 96 per cent for young male partners and parents in couple families, compared with 68 per cent for their female counterparts (*Table 22*).
- The unemployment rate for 15 to 24 year-olds was 21 per cent (*Table 22*).
- The unemployment rate for students aged 15 to 24 was 22 per cent (*Table 23*).
- Around 22 per cent of young people were both studying and working (*Table 23*).
- Twenty-eight per cent of young school students had jobs in 1992, as did 41 per cent of young full-time tertiary students (*Table 23*).
- The unemployment rate was higher for young people with no employed parent (36%), than for those with at least one employed parent (20%) (*Table 24*).
- The unemployment rate among young people was at its highest level for those living with a lone parent who was not in the labour force (43%) (*Table 24*).
- The unemployment rates for young people living with a lone parent who was unemployed or two parents who were unemployed were 34 per cent and 32 per cent respectively (*Table 24*).
- Of the 1.7 million young people who were not studying full-time, one-third experienced a barrier to education (*Table 25*).
- More than a third (35%) of those aged 15 to 19 who experienced a barrier to education said that this was due to the unavailability of education facilities, places or courses (*Table 26*).
- In 1992, just over half (52%) of people aged 15 to 24 who were attending a tertiary institution paid most of their own education expenses, while 35 per cent had them paid by family members (*Table 27*).
- Of young people living with their parent(s), the proportion of those in one parent families who identified parent(s) as their main provider of help to look for work (22%) was lower than for those in couple families (31%) (*Table 29*).
- Forty per cent of young people who received help to get a new job reported receiving most help from family members (*Table 30*).

## Partners and parents

- In 1992, the proportion of lone parents aged 15 to 64 who were studying (11%) was greater than for partners and parents aged 15 to 64 in couple families (7%) (*Table 31*).
- Lone parents were less likely to be participating in the labour force (57%) than partners and parents in couple families (76%), and more than twice as likely to be unemployed (20% compared with 8%) (*Table 32*).
- Lone mothers aged 15 to 64 were less likely to be in the labour force (53%) than lone fathers in this age group (82%). Forty-two per cent of lone mothers were employed, compared with 68 per cent of lone fathers (*Table 33*).
- Almost 2 million couple families had both partners employed (48% of all couple families) (*Table 34*).
- One or both partners were employed in 87 per cent of couple families with children (*Table 34*).
- Nine per cent of couple families had one or both partners unemployed (*Table 34*).
- The long-term unemployment rate among lone parents with dependent children (6%) was twice that of other parents with dependent children (3%) (*Figure 10*).

- Couple families with at least one long-term unemployed partner were more likely to have no employed partner (72%) than those with at least one short-term unemployed partner (52%) (*Figure 11*).
- The proportion of unemployed male partners who were long-term unemployed was at its highest level in families where the female partner was also long-term unemployed (82%) (*Table 37*).
- In 1992, 1.8 million partners and parents aged 15 to 64 who were not studying full-time, experienced barriers to education (*Table 38*).
- More than a third (37%) of lone parents with dependent children experienced barriers to education, with almost half of these (48%) reporting caring for children as a barrier (*Table 38*).
- About a third (32%) of all partners and parents aged 15 to 64 who were not in the labour force indicated they had experienced a barrier to labour force participation (*Table 40*).
- Over half (53%) of all partners and parents who had a barrier to labour force participation indicated family reasons for those barriers (*Table 40*).
- Female partners and parents who experienced barriers to labour force participation were six times more likely than their male counterparts to state family reasons for those barriers (*Table 40*).
- A higher proportion of women (17%) than men (7%) stated that family members were their main providers of help to look for work (*Table 41*).
- Twelve per cent of lone parents who received help to get a job reported family members as main providers of help, half the proportion for all partners and parents (24%) (*Table 42*).
- About 201,000 families had children aged 15 to 24 who were studying at tertiary level. In over two-thirds (69%) of these families, parent(s) paid most of the education expenses for at least one child (*Table 43*).
- There were 196,000 families with children aged 15 to 24 living outside the household who were in full-time tertiary or secondary studies. Thirty per cent of parents in these families paid most of the education and accommodation expenses for at least one such child. In a further 19 per cent of families, parents paid the education costs but not accommodation (*Table 44*).

## Focus on Families: Education and Employment

This publication looks at the education and employment experiences of families and family members. It centres on the types of families and individuals needing, receiving and providing education and employment support, in relation to family well-being and family roles.

The family is a source of informal education, and the base from which members participate in formal education. It is also an institution through which income is generated, shared and transferred from one member to another, and from one generation to another (Graycar and Jamrozik, 1993). The ability of individual members to participate in education and employment is to some extent dependent on the characteristics of the family unit. Different influences from education and employment circumstances can begin early in children's lives, dependent as they are on the experiences of their parent or parents. These differences may be accentuated as children make the transition to adulthood and form families of their own.

Educational achievement and employment experiences are clearly related. In recent years, changes to the labour market have seen a rise in the educational qualifications of the labour force. As such, educational qualifications have become an important element in a person's preparation for entry into the labour force and their ability to

maintain a desired pattern of employment. Education is also a source of personal satisfaction and self-esteem. The Commonwealth Government's White Paper on Employment and Growth (1994) has recognised the link between education and employment in its strategy aimed at enhancing employment opportunities among young people and those who have been unemployed or out of the labour force for substantial periods of time.

The National Council for the International Year of the Family has placed much emphasis on the link between family well-being and paid employment (1994). Paid work not only provides income to the family unit, but for many people, and their families, it is the means of '...having an identity in society, and participating in certain social activities' (Graycar and Jamrozik, 1993).

This report explores the extent to which different family types and family members provide support to enable participation in education and employment. In particular, it focuses on those families and individuals who may be most 'at risk' of reduced opportunities in education and employment. These include one parent families, families living in rural areas, Indigenous families, and families with parent(s) born in a non-English speaking country. The report also considers how family structure and support relate to the experiences of people with disabilities, an issue

**Table 1. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: selected family types by attendance at educational institutions and type of institution, 1992**

Family type	Attendance and type of institution				Total attending	Education participation rate	Total
	School	Technical college/TAFE	University/ other tertiary institution	Other educational institution			
Couple	35.2	28.0	28.9	7.9	1,508.0	14.8	10,190.8
One parent	39.8	25.1	28.0	7.2	262.1	23.2	1,131.3
Capital city	34.1	25.9	31.7	8.3	1,252.1	17.1	7,316.6
Rest of state - urban	36.8	33.1	22.3	7.8	394.3	13.5	2,925.0
Rest of state - rural	46.3	28.3	21.6	13.8	137.5	11.4	1,201.7
Non-English speaking background(a)	38.7	26.3	27.8	7.2	512.8	19.3	2,658.8
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1,783.9</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>11,443.2</b>

(a) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country.

Source: Family Survey

that will be examined more fully in other publications in the *Focus on Families* series. The publication then focuses on particular family members — children aged 14 and under, young people, partners and parents — to examine how the family context affects, and is affected by, their education and employment experiences.

In the following analysis, people who are not studying but want to do so, or are studying part-time but want to do so full-time, are together referred to as experiencing *barriers to education*. People who would like a job, but are not looking for work, or are looking for work, but are not available to start within a week, are referred to as experiencing *barriers to labour force participation*.

## Couple and one parent families

In 1992, over four-fifths of all families were couple families. Because couple families make up the large majority of all families, their characteristics appear to be those of 'the average family', simply because they are the most frequent family type. Couple families contained 10.2 million (89% of) people aged 15 years and over. While there is considerable variation within this family type, the support that spouses are able to provide each other and the potential for two partners or parents to enter into paid work may have a positive effect on the education and employment experiences of couples and children in these families. In 1992, almost half (48%) of people aged 15 and over in

couple families had post-school qualifications and 15 per cent of family members in this age group attended an educational institution (*Tables 1 and 2*).

In 1992, there were 1.1 million people aged 15 and over in one parent families. The sex profile of people in this family type differs considerably from that of people in couple families. One parent families have a higher ratio of females to males because the majority (84%) are headed by women. The capacity for lone parents to participate in the labour force and in education may be limited by the absence of a partner who is providing support with child care and other responsibilities. In 1992, a little over one-third (37%) of people aged 15 and over in one parent families had post-school qualifications, lower than for people in couple families. Almost one-quarter (23%) of people in this age group in one parent families were attending an educational institution, considerably more than in couple families (15%). The higher proportion of education attendance in one parent families is consistent with the lower proportion of post-school qualifications for those in one parent families. Almost 40 per cent of members of one parent families attending an educational institution were school students, compared with 35 per cent of people in couple families (*Tables 1 and 2*).

Labour force participation rates among people in one parent families were lower than for people in couple families, while unemployment rates were

**Table 2. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families and who had left school: selected family types by level of post-school qualification, 1992**

Family type	Qualification obtained				Total	Proportion qualified	Total
	Bachelor/ higher degree	Trade qualification/ apprenticeship	Certificate/ diploma	Other post-school qualification			
Couple	19.9	32.5	45.6	2.1	4,638.4	48.2	9,621.4
One parent	18.4	21.6	57.9	*2.1	381.4	37.5	1,016.8
Capital city	23.6	29.0	45.8	1.7	3,391.3	49.5	6,849.7
Rest of state - urban	12.0	38.6	46.5	2.9	1,209.3	43.6	2,773.1
Rest of state - rural	11.9	35.5	50.2	2.3	488.4	43.0	1,134.9
Non-English speaking background(a)	25.6	27.7	45.5	1.3	1,146.2	47.3	2,423.4
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>5,069.0</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>10,757.7</b>

(a) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country.

Source: Family Survey



**Table 3. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: selected family types by labour force status, 1992**

Family type	In the labour force			Unemployment rate	Total	Labour force participation	
	Full-time	Part-time	Total			rate	Total
	- % -		- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -
Couple	74.4	25.6	6,253.0	9.9	6,939.5	68.1	10,190.8
One parent	66.1	33.9	504.0	23.4	658.0	58.2	1,131.3
Capital city	74.5	25.5	4,398.0	11.3	4,959.6	67.8	7,316.6
Rest of state - urban	72.5	27.5	1,660.0	11.5	1,875.2	64.1	2,925.0
Rest of state - rural	73.5	26.5	771.0	8.9	846.5	70.4	1,201.7
Non-English speaking background(b)	76.5	23.5	1,456.7	15.1	1,716.1	64.5	2,658.8
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>6,828</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>7,681.3</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>11,443.2</b>

(a) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country.

Source: Family Survey

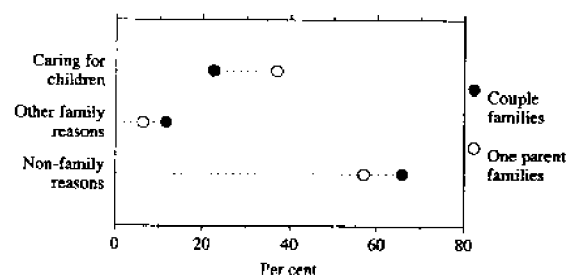
higher. In 1992, 58 per cent of people aged 15 and over in one parent families were participating in the labour force, compared with 68 per cent of members of couple families. Of those in the labour force, 23 per cent of members of one parent families were unemployed compared with 10 per cent of members of couple families. If working, those in one parent families were more likely to be working part-time (34%) than employed people in couple families (26%) (Table 3).

*Members of one parent families were almost twice as likely to indicate that caring for children was a barrier to education as members of couple families.*

People aged 15 and over in one parent families are more likely to face barriers to both education and labour force participation than people in couple families, and to identify family reasons for such barriers. In 1992, 28 per cent of people in one parent families indicated they faced barriers to education, compared with 21 per cent in couple families. Of people facing barriers to education, 30 per cent of those in one parent families reported caring for children as the reason for the barrier, which was almost double the proportion in couple families (16%). People in one parent families were also more likely to state barriers to labour force

participation (36%) than people in couple families (24%). Of those in one parent families reporting barriers, 37 per cent stated caring for children as the main reason for the barrier, while 23 per cent of people did so in couple families (Tables 5 and 6).

**Figure 1. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in couple and one parent families and experienced barriers to labour force participation: main reason for barrier, 1992**



Source: Family Survey

## Urban and rural families

A number of locational factors affect the education and employment experiences of family members. In cities and larger urban centres, there may be greater choice of educational institutions available to those who want to study, and a more concentrated and varied labour market for those in the labour force. In rural areas and in smaller urban centres, seasonal work can mean a shifting

**Table 4. Employed persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: main occupation by selected family types, 1992**

Main occupation	Family type						Total
	Couple	One parent	Capital city	Rest of state		Non-English speaking background(a)	
				Urban	Rural		
				- % -			
Managers/administrators	12.4	6.0	9.6	9.7	29.9	9.9	11.9
Professionals	13.5	13.6	16.0	9.6	7.9	13.1	13.5
Para-professionals	6.3	4.7	6.3	6.5	4.8	5.1	6.1
Tradespersons	14.6	13.0	14.2	16.2	13.0	15.6	14.5
Clerks	15.9	19.4	18.0	13.8	10.7	14.1	16.2
Sales/personal service workers	15.5	20.7	16.1	18.1	9.5	15.7	15.9
Plant/machine operators and drivers	7.5	5.9	6.5	9.4	8.0	8.9	7.4
Labourers/related workers	14.1	16.7	13.2	16.5	16.2	17.6	14.4
<b>All employed persons aged 15 and over in families(b)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>6,253.3</b>	<b>504.0</b>	<b>4,397.9</b>	<b>1,659.7</b>	<b>770.8</b>	<b>1,456.7</b>	<b>6,828.4</b>

(a) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country. (b) Includes inadequately described.

Source: Family Survey

and volatile labour market. Larger centres may benefit from more efficient and comprehensive public transport networks and other community facilities such as child care.

In 1992, 17 per cent of family members aged 15 and over who were living in capital cities were attending an educational institution, compared with 13 per cent of family members living in other urban centres and 11 per cent of those in rural communities. The proportion of those participating in post-school study was at higher levels in capital cities (66%) and other urban areas (63%), than in rural areas (54%). The concentration of tertiary institutions in more densely populated areas may account for the higher proportions of people attending tertiary institutions in larger centres (Table 1).

Family members aged 15 and over in capital cities were more likely to have obtained post-school qualifications (50%) than those from other urban centres (44%) and rural areas (43%). The type of qualifications held by people living in capital city families were also quite different from those in other areas. Almost a quarter (24%) of qualified family members in capital cities had a bachelor or higher degree, compared with 12 per cent of family members both in other urban and rural areas. Higher proportions of qualified family members living in these latter areas had obtained trade qualifications and apprenticeships, or

certificates and diplomas than their capital city counterparts (Table 2).

*Family members in rural areas most frequently reported access to education facilities, courses or places as the reason for experiencing a barrier to education.*

Similar proportions of people aged 15 and over in families in capital cities, other urban centres and rural areas experienced barriers to education (21% – 22%). The reasons for these barriers varied among family members in different locations. For those in both capital cities and other urban areas, the most frequently-stated reason for barriers to education was business or work hours (23% and 25% respectively). For family members in rural areas, access to education facilities, courses or places was most frequently-stated (27%), compared with 18 per cent for family members in other urban areas and 12 per cent for family members in capital cities (Table 5).

Comparing families in all three locations, labour force participation was highest and the unemployment rate was lowest among family members living in rural areas (70% and 9%

## Young people

*Two-thirds of young people were living with one or both parents.*

**Table 20. Persons aged 15 to 24 years: sex and living arrangements by age, 1992**

Sex and living arrangements	15-19	20-24	Total
- % -			
<i>Males</i>			
In couple family-			
Parent/partner(a)	*1.1	21.9	11.9
Child	74.1	41.6	57.2
In one parent family-			
Parent(a)	*0.1	*0.8	*0.5
Child	15.3	9.3	12.2
In other family household(b)	2.9	6.3	4.7
In group household	4.4	14.4	9.6
Living alone	2.1	5.6	3.9
<b>Total males</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>673.0</b>	<b>730.7</b>	<b>1,403.6</b>
<i>Females</i>			
In couple family-			
Parent/partner(a)	5.4	35.4	21.1
Child	68.5	31.2	49.0
In one parent family-			
Parent(a)	*1.4	6.6	4.1
Child	15.1	6.9	10.8
In other family household(b)	2.4	3.6	3.0
In group household	5.0	11.6	8.4
Living alone	2.2	4.7	3.5
<b>Total females</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>640.3</b>	<b>704.2</b>	<b>1,344.5</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24 ('000)</b>	<b>1,313.3</b>	<b>1,434.9</b>	<b>2,748.1</b>

(a) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (b) Comprises unrelated individuals living in family households, and other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families.

Source: Family Survey

The education and employment experiences of young people vary as they make the transition from adolescence to adulthood, from full-time education to the labour force and, in some cases, to parenthood. Access to education and employment, as well as the kinds of support

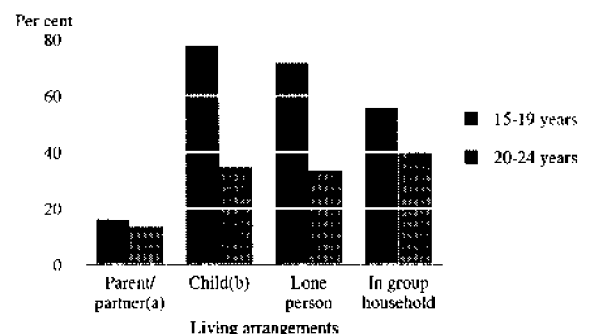
available from others, differ according to the living arrangements of young people. Some are living with two parents, some are living with one parent, while others have partners, are supporting children of their own or have moved into non-family environments. The transition to independence for young people is not always a straightforward or continuous one. It can be influenced by the employment and education experiences of parents (and other family members), and the level of support that parents are able to give their children.

In 1992, almost two-thirds of people aged 15 to 24 were living with at least one parent, a further 19 per cent had entered into parenthood or partnerships of their own, and 8 per cent were living alone or in group households. Age influences the living arrangements of young people. Eighty-six per cent of 15 to 19 year-olds lived with at least one parent compared with less than half (45%) of 20 to 24 year-olds. Young women in both age groups were more likely to have entered into marriage or parenthood than young men.

## Full-time and part-time study

*Half (52%) of young lone fathers were studying, compared with 16 per cent of young lone mothers.*

**Figure 7. Persons aged 15 to 24 years: proportion studying by age by living arrangements, 1992**



(a) Comprises partners and parents in couple and one parent families. (b) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own.

Source: Family Survey

**Table 21. Persons aged 15 to 24 years: sex and living arrangements by student status, 1992**

Sex and living arrangements	Studying		Total studying - '000 -	Education participation rate - % -	Total - '000 -
	Full-time	Part-time			
<i>Males</i>					
In couple family-					
Parent/partner(a)	*26.9	73.1	24.8	14.8	167.0
Child	78.0	22.0	492.1	61.3	802.9
In one parent family-					
Parent(a)	*49.0	*51.0	3.5	52.0	6.8
Child	83.2	16.8	90.5	52.8	171.5
In other family household(b)	42.8	57.2	16.6	25.4	65.3
In group household	74.9	25.1	51.2	38.0	134.9
Living alone	77.6	*22.4	24.0	43.5	55.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>702.7</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>1,403.6</b>
<i>Females</i>					
In couple family-					
Parent/partner(a)	35.0	65.0	33.6	11.8	284.1
Child	85.9	14.1	429.0	65.1	658.5
In one parent family-					
Parent(a)	51.7	48.3	8.7	15.7	55.3
Child	90.8	9.2	94.3	65.0	145.1
In other family household(b)	55.1	44.9	10.0	24.5	40.6
In group household	75.4	24.6	57.6	50.7	113.5
Living alone	74.8	*25.2	21.0	44.2	47.4
<b>Total females</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>654.1</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>1,344.5</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>1,356.8</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>2,748.1</b>

a) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (b) Comprises unrelated individuals living in family households, and other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families.

Source: Family Survey

In 1992, almost 1.4 million young people were in full-time or part-time study. The proportion of 15 to 19 year-olds who were studying was considerably higher than that of 20 to 24 year-olds, reflecting a higher school attendance in the younger age group.

Over 80 per cent of young people who were studying were living with at least one parent. For these 15 to 24 year-olds, a higher proportion in couple families were studying (63%) than in one parent families (58%). Approximately two-thirds (65%) of young women living with either one or two parents were studying, which was higher than for young men in the same family type (61% in couple families and 53% in one parent families).

In general, young people living with their parent(s) were more likely to be studying than those in other living arrangements. Around 62 per cent of young people living with parent(s) were studying,

compared with 26 per cent of those who no longer lived with parent(s). However, for those living away from parent(s), education participation varied by living arrangements and sex.

Young male partners and parents were the only group more likely to study than their female counterparts. This was the case for both one parent and couple families, but was more noticeable among young lone fathers, of whom 52 per cent were studying, compared with 16 per cent of young lone mothers. The lowest participation rates for both males and females were for those who were partners and parents in couple families.

Full-time study was most common among young people living with their parent(s) (83% of those studying). In contrast, nearly two-thirds of young partners or parents in couple families who were studying, were studying part-time (65%),

respectively). Employed people in rural families were more likely to be managers and administrators (30%) than their urban counterparts (10% in both capital cities and other urban areas). These factors are consistent with people in rural areas working on family-owned farms or in small businesses (Tables 3 and 4).

People in rural families are more likely to have family-related barriers to labour force participation than those in urban locations. Around one-quarter of family members in all three locations experienced barriers to labour force participation. However, of people who faced barriers, those in rural areas were more likely to give family-related reasons for such barriers (42%) than those in capital cities (33%) or other urban centres (39%) (Table 6).

### Non-English speaking background families

A non-English speaking background family is one where either member of a couple or a lone parent

is born in a non-English speaking country. In 1992, there were around one million of these families, containing 2.7 million people aged 15 and over. Families with such backgrounds may face language barriers and difficulties in establishing formal and informal support networks, depending on the length of time they have spent in Australia and other settlement experiences (McClelland, 1994). Recent research, however, suggests that the educational achievements of second generation migrants compare favourably with those of other Australians (Birrell and Khoo, 1994).

*If qualified, people from non-English speaking background families were more likely to hold a bachelor degree or higher than all people in families.*

In 1992, 19 per cent of people aged 15 and over from non-English speaking background families were attending an educational institution

**Table 5. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families and who were not studying full-time: whether experienced a barrier to education(a) and reasons(b) for barrier by selected family types, 1992**

Whether experienced barrier and reasons	Family type						Total
	Couple	One parent	Capital city	Rest of state		Non-English speaking background(c)	
				Urban	Rural		
- % -							
Experienced barrier due to:							
<i>Family reasons</i>							
Caring for children	15.8	30.0	16.9	17.8	18.8	16.7	17.3
Caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative	1.3	*2.0	1.2	1.9	*1.1	*1.4	1.4
Other domestic/family responsibilities	12.1	7.3	11.4	10.8	13.3	10.8	11.4
<i>Other reasons</i>							
Too old	1.3	*1.3	1.1	1.6	*1.5	*1.7	1.3
Cannot afford to stop working	21.2	15.2	23.2	15.7	16.4	22.6	20.5
Cannot afford education costs	18.1	22.7	18.4	20.8	14.6	17.0	18.6
Own ill health/disability	2.4	3.7	2.3	2.8	*2.9	3.0	2.5
Business/work hours	24.7	13.7	23.4	24.8	19.7	22.5	23.4
Education facilities/courses/places not available	15.4	16.0	12.3	18.4	27.3	13.2	15.5
No particular reason	8.1	6.9	7.6	8.6	8.2	6.0	7.9
Other reason	12.2	13.3	12.5	10.9	15.3	11.4	12.4
<b>Total who experienced barrier(d)</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>Number ('000)</b>	<b>1,976.9</b>	<b>262.4</b>	<b>1,426.8</b>	<b>596.6</b>	<b>238.2</b>	<b>492.3</b>	<b>2,261.6</b>
<b>Did not experience barrier ('000)</b>	<b>7,364.6</b>	<b>680.7</b>	<b>5,139.9</b>	<b>2,115.8</b>	<b>884.1</b>	<b>1,830.0</b>	<b>8,140.0</b>
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families not studying full-time ('000)</b>	<b>9,341.5</b>	<b>943.1</b>	<b>6,566.7</b>	<b>2,712.4</b>	<b>1,122.3</b>	<b>2,322.2</b>	<b>10,401.4</b>

(a) Comprises those persons not studying who wanted to study and persons studying part-time who wanted to study full-time. (b) Persons could report multiple reasons for not studying and therefore components do not add to totals. (c) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country. (d) Includes persons who had completed studies in the last 6 months.

Source: Family Survey

**Table 6. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families and who were not in the labour force: whether experienced a barrier to labour force participation(a) and main reason for barrier by selected family types, 1992**

Whether experienced barrier and main reason	Family type						Total
	Couple	One parent	Capital city	Rest of state		Non-English speaking background(b)	
				Urban	Rural		
- % -							
Experienced barrier due to-							
<i>Family reasons</i>							
Caring for children	22.5	36.9	23.9	26.6	27.4	18.5	25.0
Caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative	1.8	*1.2	1.9	*1.2	*1.9	*1.5	1.7
Looking after spouse/home	2.6	**	1.6	*2.7	*3.8	*2.4	2.1
Other domestic/family responsibilities	5.4	*4.0	4.4	5.5	*9.3	3.6	5.2
Pregnancy	1.8	*1.0	*1.3	*3.1	**	*1.2	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>35.7</b>
<i>Other reasons</i>							
	65.9	57.0	67.0	60.9	57.6	72.7	64.4
<b>Total who experienced barrier</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>Number ('000)</b>	<b>775.8</b>	<b>170.2</b>	<b>592.4</b>	<b>269.7</b>	<b>89.9</b>	<b>260.1</b>	<b>952.0</b>
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families not in the labour force ('000)</b>	<b>3,251.3</b>	<b>473.3</b>	<b>2,357.0</b>	<b>1,049.8</b>	<b>355.2</b>	<b>942.7</b>	<b>3,761.9</b>

(a) Comprises those persons who would like a job but were not looking for work or who were looking for work but were unavailable to start work within a week. (b) Families where either member of a couple or lone parent was from a non-English speaking country.

Source: Family Survey

compared with about 16 per cent of all people living in families. The same proportion of members from non-English speaking background families had obtained post-school qualifications as those in all families (47%) and if qualified, people from non-English speaking background families were more likely than people in all families to have a bachelor or higher degree (26% compared with 20%) (Tables 1 and 2).

While people from non-English speaking background families had similar patterns of post-school attendance as those in all families, these do not always appear to translate into similar employment opportunities. A higher than average proportion of employed people from non-English speaking background families were labourers/related workers (18%) and plant/machine operators and drivers (9%) compared with those in all families (14% and 7% respectively). People from non-English speaking background families were also more likely to be unemployed (15%) than family members generally (11%) (Tables 3 and 4).

A slightly higher proportion of people from non-English speaking background families

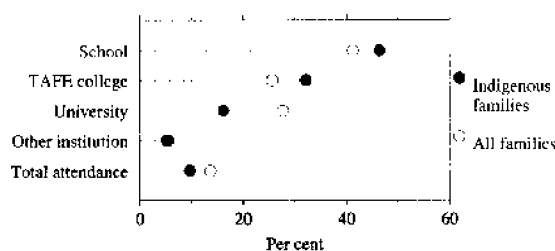
experienced barriers to labour force participation (28%) than those in all families (25%), while the proportion who experienced barriers to education (21%) was similar to all people living in families (22%). Those from non-English speaking background families were slightly less likely than those in all families to state family reasons for such barriers (Tables 5 and 6).

## Indigenous families

*Eleven per cent of people in Indigenous families held qualifications compared with 30 per cent of people in all families.*

An Indigenous family is one where the family reference person or their spouse indicate that they are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. Indigenous people are acknowledged to be among the most marginalised in Australian society (Cass, 1988). Education and employment are two aspects which characterise this relative disadvantage.

**Figure 2. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families and attending educational institutions: whether living in an Indigenous family by type of institution, 1991**



Source: Census of Population and Housing

The 1991 Census counted 148,000 people aged 15 and over who were living in Indigenous families. Less than 10 per cent of people from these families were attending an educational institution compared with 14 per cent of people in all families. Particularly noticeable was the lower proportion of university attendance among those in Indigenous families, compared with that in all families (16% and 28% respectively).

**Table 7. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: level of post-school qualification(a) by whether living in an Indigenous family(b), 1991**

Qualification obtained	In Indigenous families		In all families	
	-		-	
Bachelor/higher degree	10.6	27.5		
Diploma(c)	16.6	19.6		
Vocational qualification(d)	72.8	52.9		
<b>Total with qualifications</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>2,716.9</b>		
Proportion qualified	11.0	30.1		
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families ('000)</b>	<b>130.9</b>	<b>9,014.8</b>		

(a) Excludes persons whose highest level of attainment was not stated or was inadequately described - 17,478 for persons in Indigenous families and 1,036,700 for persons in all families. (b) Families where reference person or spouse indicated they were an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person. (c) Comprises undergraduate and associate diplomas. (d) Comprises skilled and basic vocational qualifications.

Source: Census of Population and Housing

Eleven per cent of people from Indigenous families had obtained post-school qualifications, compared with 30 per cent of people in all families. Of people in Indigenous families with post-school qualifications, the majority had vocational qualifications (73%). Again, there was a noticeable difference in the proportion of people from Indigenous families who had university qualifications (11%) when compared with people in all families (28%).

**Table 8. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: labour force status(a) by whether living in an Indigenous family(b), 1991**

Labour force status	In Indigenous families		In all families	
	-		-	
Employed-				
Full-time	60.4	68.0		
Part-time	32.0	26.7		
<b>Total employed(c)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>5,793.5</b>		
Unemployment rate	27.1	10.7		
<b>Total in the labour force ('000)</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>6,488.8</b>		
Labour force participation rate	56.2	65.4		
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families ('000)</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>9,928.5</b>		

(a) Excludes persons whose labour force status was not stated - 5,548 for persons in Indigenous families and 122,977 for persons in all families. (b) Families where reference person or spouse indicated they were an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person. (c) Includes employed persons whose hours worked were not stated.

Source: Census of Population and Housing

While almost 65 per cent of all people aged 15 and over living in families were participating in the labour force, the participation rate among those in Indigenous families was 56 per cent. The unemployment rate for people in Indigenous families was over twice that of all people in families (27% compared with 11%).

If employed, people in Indigenous families were more likely to be working part-time (68%) than all people living in families (60%). Employed people in Indigenous families were proportionately more likely to be employed as labourers/related workers (26%) compared with all employed people in families (13%). They were

proportionately less likely than all people in families to be employed as managers or administrators (5% compared with 13%) or professionals (7% compared with 13%).

**Table 9. Employed persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: occupation(a) by whether living in an Indigenous family(b), 1991**

Occupation	In Indigenous families	In all families
	- % -	
Managers/administrators	5.4	13.3
Professionals	7.1	12.6
Para-professionals	7.7	6.8
Tradespersons	14.7	14.3
Clerks	14.0	16.3
Sales/personal service workers	11.0	14.8
Plant/machine operators and drivers	10.5	7.5
Labourers/related workers	26.1	13.2
Inadequately described	3.5	1.2
<b>All employed persons aged 15 and over in families</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>5,477.4</b>

(a) Excludes persons whose occupation was not stated - 4,978 for persons in Indigenous families and 316,125 for persons in all families. (b) Families where reference person or spouse indicated they were an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

Source: Census of Population and Housing

## Families and disability

The presence of disability can be a barrier to the economic, educational, career and recreational choices of people with disabilities, which may, in turn, impact on other family members. Families are affected by the availability of education and employment opportunities not only for those members with disabilities, but also for those who are the carers of older family members or those with disabilities. While later publications in the *Focus on Families* series will look at the effect of the care-giving role on carers' access to education and employment opportunities, this publication will focus on those family members who themselves have disabilities or handicaps.

The 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers estimated that 20 per cent of people in households aged 15 and over had disabilities. Of these 2.8 million people, 78 per cent had handicaps.

**Table 10. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in households: living arrangements by whether has a disability, 1993**

Living arrangements	Persons with a handicap	Persons with a disability	All persons
			- % -
<i>In families</i>			
Couple family-			
No children	36.4	36.1	24.4
With children	28.2	30.2	49.7
One parent	8.9	8.5	8.7
Other family(a)	1.3	1.2	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.7</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>83.8</b>
<i>Not in families</i>			
Lone person	21.9	20.5	10.2
Unrelated individual(b)	3.4	3.5	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>16.2</b>
<b>Total with family status</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>2,130.8</b>	<b>2,746.7</b>	<b>13,582.2</b>
No family status ('000)	*4.5	*6.0	31.3
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in households ('000)</b>	<b>2,135.3</b>	<b>2,752.6</b>	<b>13,613.4</b>

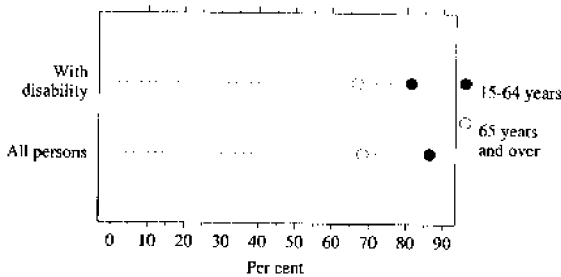
(a) Comprises other related individuals living together.  
(b) Comprises members of group households and unrelated individuals living with families.

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

Similar proportions of people in households aged 15 and over with disabilities and handicaps were living in families (76% and 75% respectively) but both groups were less likely to be living in families than the total population in that age group (84%). Higher proportions of people with disabilities or handicaps lived alone (21% and 22% respectively) than the total population (10%). Age was the main factor influencing living arrangements, although the presence of a disability also had some effect.



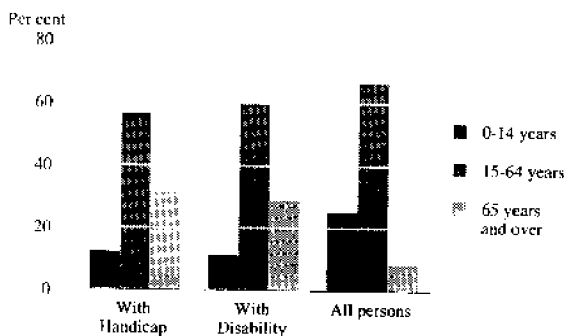
**Figure 3. All persons aged 15 years and over who were living in households: whether living in a family by whether has disability by selected age groups, 1993**



Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

The most common family situation for people with disabilities was in a couple family with no children present (36%). The same proportion of people with handicaps lived in this family type. Among all people in families, 24 per cent lived in couple families without children, and the most common family type was a couple family with children (50%). The higher proportion of people with disabilities and handicaps living in couple families without children is consistent with the older age structure of these two groups. Similar proportions of people with disabilities, people with handicaps and all people in families lived in one parent families (all 9%).

**Figure 4. All persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: disability status by proportion in selected age groups, 1993**



Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

As people grow older, they are more likely to have a disability or handicap. Among all people in families, 9 per cent were aged 65 and over. For those with disabilities or handicaps, the proportion in this age group was considerably higher (29% and 31% respectively).

While 11 per cent of people with disabilities and 12 per cent of people with handicaps were aged 14 and under, among all people in families, 25 per cent were in this age group.

The differing age structures of those with disabilities and handicaps in families, compared with all people in families, influence the education and employment participation levels of people in these groups. For some people with disabilities and handicaps, the reason for not participating is related more to age than the presence of a disability, as they have retired from the labour force or have already completed tertiary studies. For younger people however, the presence of a disability or handicap may reduce the opportunity to participate in education or employment, at a stage in their lives when their contemporaries are more likely to be doing so.

*A quarter of family members with handicaps who were not studying indicated that their condition prevented them from doing so.*

**Table 11. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families: student status by whether has a disability, 1993**

Student status	Persons with a disability	All persons
	- % -	
Studying -		
Full-time	28.9	38.4
Part-time	59.7	51.2
Correspondence	11.4	10.3
<b>Total studying</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>1,138.5</b>
Education participation rate	5.2	10.0
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families ('000)</b>	<b>2,086.8</b>	<b>11,382.2</b>

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

In 1993, family members with disabilities were less likely to be studying (5%) than all people in families (10%). If studying, those with disabilities were more likely to be studying part-time than all people in families (60% compared with 51%).

**Table 12. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families(a): level of post-school qualification by whether has a disability, 1993**

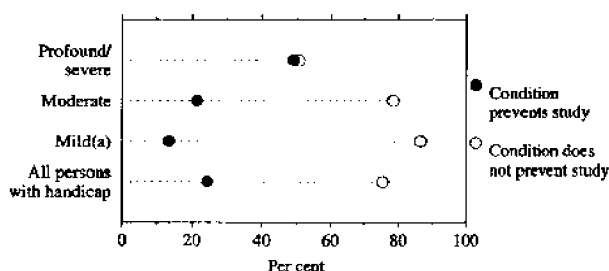
Level of qualification	Persons with a disability	All persons
	- % -	
Bachelor degree or higher	13.5	22.0
Certificate or diploma	85.3	77.1
Other qualification	1.1	0.8
<b>Total with qualifications</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>860.7</b>	<b>4,958.4</b>
Proportion qualified	42.0	45.9
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families ('000)</b>	<b>2,047.8</b>	<b>10,805.9</b>

(a) Excludes school students.

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

While 42 per cent of family members aged 15 and over with disabilities who had left school had obtained a qualification, among all people in families this proportion was 46 per cent. If qualified, those with disabilities were more likely to have obtained a certificate or diploma (85%) and less likely to have obtained a bachelor degree or higher (14%), than all people in families (77% and 22% respectively).

**Figure 5. Persons aged 15 years and over with handicaps who were living in families and were not studying: severity of handicap by whether condition prevents post-school study, 1993**



(a) Includes not determined.

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

People with profound or severe handicaps are less likely to be participating in education because of their condition, than those with moderate or mild handicaps. In 1993, almost a quarter (24%) of family members aged 15 and over who had

handicaps and were not studying indicated that their condition prevented them from post-school study. The likelihood of such a condition preventing post-school study increased with severity of handicap, from 13 per cent of people with mild handicaps to almost half (49%) of people with profound/severe handicaps.

**Table 13. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families(a): labour force status by whether has a disability, 1993**

Labour force status	Persons with a disability	All persons
	- % -	
Employed-		
Full-time	70.4	74.9
Part-time	29.6	25.1
<b>Total employed</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>672.4</b>	<b>6,528.8</b>
Unemployment rate	16.5	12.1
<b>Total in labour force ('000)</b>	<b>805.7</b>	<b>7,429.3</b>
Labour force participation rate	39.3	68.8
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families ('000)</b>	<b>2,047.8</b>	<b>10,805.9</b>

(a) Excludes school students.

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

*1.1 million people with handicaps who were living in families had employment limitations.*

For people with disabilities, employment may provide opportunities for social and economic independence. In 1993, the labour force participation rate for people with disabilities in families was 39 per cent compared with a participation rate of 69 per cent for all people in families. This reflects the high proportion of persons of retirement age with disabilities. Of those in the labour force, the employment experiences of family members with disabilities and all people in families were more closely aligned. However, those with disabilities had a higher unemployment rate than the total population (17% compared with 12%) and, if employed, were more likely to be working part-time (30% compared with 25%).

In 1993, 1.1 million people with handicaps who were living in families experienced employment

## Children aged 0 to 14

In 1992, there were 3.8 million children aged 14 and under, representing a quarter of all family members. Eighty-six per cent of these children were living in couple families, and the remainder were living in one parent families.

Until at least the age of 15, children's lives are largely directed by the education they receive: formally through the education system, and informally within their family and the wider community. At an early age their attitudes and future choices are influenced by the employment experiences of their parents and other family members. Children with disabilities or handicaps, and their families, may face extra concerns and barriers in their efforts to take advantage of opportunities which may be more readily accessible to others.

Three such aspects will be examined in this section: school attendance, schooling of children with handicaps, and patterns of parental employment. These serve as an introduction to further aspects relating to young people. Other issues about children will be explored more fully in other publications in the *Focus on Families* series.

## School education

Attendance at school is mandatory for children between the ages of 6 and 14 years, with some States and Territories having mandatory attendance for 5 year-olds. The 1991 Census counted just over 2.1 million children aged 5 to 14 who were attending primary or secondary schools. In addition to this, a number of children aged between 3 and 5 were attending pre-school on a non-mandatory basis. In 1993, 235,000 children of these ages attended pre-school, accounting for 31 per cent of all 3 to 5 year-olds (see *Child Care, Australia, 4402.0*).

Family situation has a large bearing on the type of school which children attend. Almost three-quarters (74%) of children aged 5 to 14 who went to school were attending government institutions. The proportion of children attending government schools was higher than average among Indigenous families (89%), one parent families (81%) and families living outside metropolitan areas (80%). Attendance at non-government schools was at its highest level among children of families headed by partner(s) born in non-English speaking countries (36%).

**Table 16. Children aged 5 to 14 years(a) who were living in families: whether attending school and type of school, 1991**

Family type	Attending school				Total	Not attending primary/secondary school(b)	Total
	Infant/Primary		Secondary				
	Government	Non-government	Government	Non-government			
		- % -			- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -
Couple	55.0	19.2	17.3	8.5	1,819.8	4.3	1,900.9
One parent	59.5	12.8	21.3	6.4	311.0	3.8	323.4
Capital city	52.7	20.4	16.9	10.0	1,289.4	4.0	1,342.5
Rest of state	60.2	15.1	19.4	5.3	841.3	4.6	881.8
Non-English speaking background(c)	46.3	24.2	17.8	11.8	454.3	4.1	473.6
Indigenous(d)	70.4	9.0	18.5	2.1	46.4	6.7	49.7
<b>All children aged 5-14 in families</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>2,130.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>2,224.3</b>

(a) Excludes not stated - see *School attendance* in glossary. (b) Comprises those in pre-school or other institutions, and those who were not attending school. (c) Families where reference person or spouse were born in a non-English speaking country. (d) Families where reference person or spouse stated they were an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

Source: *Census of Population and Housing*

**Table 14. Persons aged 15 years and over with a handicap who had an employment limitation and were living in families(a): type of employment limitation by severity of handicap, 1993**

Type of employment limitation	Severity of handicap			All persons with a handicap
	Profound/severe	Moderate	Mild(b)	
	- % -			
<i>Employment limitations</i>				
Permanently unable to work	72.3	59.1	43.1	55.7
Could work if special training or equipment provided	*1.6	**0.6	*1.2	1.2
Restricted in type of job	11.6	18.6	25.1	19.4
Often needs time off work	6.8	6.2	9.4	8.0
Restricted in number of hours	8.4	11.2	14.2	11.8
Difficulty obtaining/changing job	13.5	20.5	27.0	21.3
Employer provides special equipment/arrangements	4.1	5.7	5.4	5.0
<b>All persons aged 15 and over who had employment limitations in families(c)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>369.5</b>	<b>199.8</b>	<b>541.9</b>	<b>1,111.3</b>

(a) Excludes school students. (b) Includes not determined. (c) Persons may have more than one employment limitation and therefore components do not add to total.

Source: *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers*

limitations. Of these, over half (56%) stated they were permanently unable to work. Twenty-one per cent indicated that they had difficulty in obtaining or changing jobs and 19 per cent were restricted in the type of job they could do.

The likelihood of being permanently unable to work increased with severity of handicap. While less than half (43%) of people aged 15 and over with mild handicaps who had an employment limitation indicated that they were permanently unable to work, this increased to almost three-quarters (72%) of people with profound/severe handicaps.

The presence of a disability, as well as stage of life, are likely to influence whether or not a person is looking for work. Over half (58%) of family members with disabilities who were not in the labour force indicated that they were not looking for work because they had retired, while 10 per cent indicated that they were not looking for work because of ill health or a disability. For all people in families, 38 per cent were not looking for work because they had retired, while 3 per cent indicated that their ill health or disability prevented them from seeking employment.

**Table 15. Persons aged 15 years and over who were living in families and were not in the labour force: reason not looking for work by whether has a disability, 1993**

Reasons	Persons with	
	a	All persons
	- % -	
Retired	58.0	38.4
Ill health, disability	10.2	3.0
Studying	2.7	7.4
Does not need/want to work	7.5	13.4
Child care considerations(a)	7.1	20.2
Disability of other than self	3.1	3.3
Other family considerations	3.0	3.8
Too old	5.2	4.1
Other(b)	3.4	6.3
<b>Total reasons</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>609.7</b>	<b>2,698.4</b>
Permanently unable to work ('000)(c)	632.4	678.2
<b>All persons aged 15 and over in families and not in labour force ('000)</b>	<b>1,242.2</b>	<b>3,376.6</b>

(a) Comprises child care availability and children too young/prefers to look after children. (b) Comprises pregnancy, welfare payments/pension may be affected, lacks necessary schooling, training, skills or experience, other reasons and, don't know. (c) Includes persons who could work if training, equipment or arrangements were made available.

Source: *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers*

**Table 17. Children aged 5 to 14 years with a handicap who were living in households: type of schooling limitation by severity of handicap, 1993**

Type of schooling limitation	Severity of handicap			All persons with a handicap
	Profound/severe	Moderate	Mild(a)	
	- % -			
<i>Schooling limitations</i>				
Not attending school due to condition	*7.5	**	**1.1	*3.5
Attending special school	16.9	**2.4	**0.5	7.2
Attending special classes	31.6	62.7	38.0	38.0
Often needs time off school	*10.7	**	*4.8	6.6
Has some difficulties at school	71.7	84.2	85.3	79.8
<b>Total with schooling limitations(b)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>136.0</b>
<b>No schooling limitations ('000)</b>	<b>*7.2</b>	<b>*6.7</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>29.6</b>
<b>All children aged 5-14 with a handicap ('000)</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>165.6</b>

(a) Includes not determined. (b) Persons may have more than one schooling limitation and therefore components do not add to totals.

Source: Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers

## Schooling of children with handicaps

The caring role of families includes providing informal education to children and supporting their formal education. The demands placed on families who have children with handicaps may be wide-ranging and constant. Some 166,000 children aged 5 to 14 living in households had profound, severe, moderate or mild handicaps. Of these children, 82 per cent experienced schooling limitations. The most frequently-reported limitation related to difficulties experienced at school (80%), which included fitting in socially or at sports, and hearing and sight problems. Over a third (38%) of children with schooling limitations attended special classes.

The severity of handicap affected whether schooling limitations were experienced. Eighty-eight per cent of those with profound/severe handicaps had schooling limitations, compared with 67 per cent of those with moderate handicaps and 81 per cent of those with mild handicaps. Of children with schooling limitations, those with profound/severe handicaps were more likely than other children to be attending a special school (17%), to need time off school (11%), or not to be attending school (8%).

## Children and parents' employment

*Almost two-thirds of children aged 0 to 14 in one parent families lived with a parent who was not in the labour force or unemployed.*

The employment circumstances of parents have an effect on the economic and social well-being of their children. Not only does paid work increase the amount of discretionary income available to families, but also the capacity of children to participate in employment in future years (McClelland, 1993). Parents, on the other hand, must balance competing demands in achieving the desired combination of family care and employment.

In 1992, 660,000 children aged 0 to 14 in couple and one parent families (17%) had no employed parent. Just under half (49%) of children of these ages lived with two employed parents or an employed lone parent.

**Figure 6. Children aged 0 to 14 years: proportion with parent(s) employed by family type, 1992**



(a) Comprises children in couple families with both parents employed and children in one parent families with lone parent employed.

Source: Family Survey

Children in one parent families were less likely to have an employed parent than children in couple families. Almost two-thirds of children aged 0 to 14 in one parent families lived with a parent who was not in the labour force (52%) or who was unemployed (11%). In contrast, 90 per cent of children in couple families had at least one parent who was employed, while 13 per cent had one or both parents unemployed.

**Table 18. Children aged 0 to 14 years who were living in couple families: labour force status of parents by age of child, 1992**

Labour force status of parents	Age			Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	
	-%-			
Both employed	38.7	53.0	60.1	50.4
One employed, one unemployed	5.4	6.2	5.5	5.7
One employed, one not in labour force	44.5	31.8	25.2	34.0
One unemployed, one not in labour force	7.7	5.1	4.7	5.8
Both unemployed	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.3
Both not in labour force	2.5	2.5	3.1	2.7
<b>All children aged 0-14 in couple families</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>1,110.2</b>	<b>1,101.1</b>	<b>1,051.3</b>	<b>3,262.5</b>

Source: Family Survey

Younger children were less likely than older children to live with employed parents. About 39 per cent of children aged 0 to 4 in couple families had both parents employed, compared with 53 per cent of 5 to 9 year-olds in these families and 60 per cent of 10 to 14 year-olds. Consistent with parents' re-entry into the labour force as children reach school age, younger children were more likely than older children to have parent(s) who were not in the labour force. Fifty-five per cent of children aged 0 to 4 had at least one parent who was not in the labour force, compared with 39 per cent of 5 to 9 year-olds and 33 per cent of 10 to 14 year-olds.

**Table 19. Children aged 0 to 14 years who were living in one parent families: labour force status of parent by age of child, 1992**

Labour force status of parent	Age			Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	
	-%-			
Employed	24.5	37.5	46.8	37.1
Unemployed	9.9	10.4	12.5	11.0
Not in labour force	65.6	52.1	40.8	51.8
<b>All children aged 0-14 in one parent families</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>158.6</b>	<b>181.4</b>	<b>201.9</b>	<b>542.0</b>

Source: Family Survey

The proportion of children with an employed lone parent also increased with a child's age, although still less than half of 10 to 14 year-old children in one parent families had an employed parent (47% compared with 38% of 5 to 9 year-olds and 25% of 0 to 4 year-olds). Two-thirds of children aged 0 to 4 in one parent families had a parent who was not in the labour force.

Unemployment among parents in couple families decreased with the age of their children. Fourteen per cent of 0 to 4 year-olds had at least one unemployed parent compared with 12 per cent of 10 to 14 year-olds. In one parent families, on the other hand, unemployment among parents increased with the age of their children. Ten per cent of 0 to 4 year-olds had an unemployed lone parent compared with 13 per cent of 10 to 14 year-olds.

**Table 22. Persons aged 15 to 24 years: sex and living arrangements by labour force status, 1992**

Sex and living arrangements	In the labour force			Unemployment rate -% -	Total - '000 -	Labour force participation rate -% -	Total - '000 -
	Full-time -% -	Employed Part-time	Total - '000 -				
<i>Males</i>							
In couple family- Parent/partner(a)	95.3	*4.7	138.7	13.7	160.7	96.2	167.0
Child	65.2	34.8	457.5	20.7	577.3	71.9	802.9
In one parent family- Parent(a)	*82.8	**17.2	*4.6	**12.2	*5.3	*78.0	*6.8
Child	60.1	39.9	74.6	35.1	115.0	67.0	171.5
In other family household(b)	86.8	*13.2	41.0	31.3	59.7	91.4	65.3
In group household	79.9	20.1	84.7	26.8	115.7	85.8	134.9
Living alone	83.9	*16.1	31.0	25.5	41.6	75.4	55.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>832.2</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>1,075.2</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>1,403.6</b>
<i>Females</i>							
In couple family- Parent/partner(a)	71.8	28.2	165.4	14.0	192.2	67.7	284.1
Child	49.1	50.9	368.9	19.2	456.5	69.3	658.5
In one parent family- Parent(a)	*53.1	*46.9	10.7	38.7	17.5	31.6	55.3
Child	47.2	52.8	62.9	29.6	89.4	61.6	145.1
In other family household(b)	78.8	*21.2	25.2	28.3	35.1	86.4	40.6
In group household	63.8	36.2	69.2	26.7	94.4	83.1	113.5
Living alone	69.7	30.3	32.9	*8.3	35.8	75.6	47.4
<b>Total females</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>735.2</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>920.9</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>1,344.5</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>1,567.4</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>1,996.1</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>2,748.1</b>

a) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (b) Comprises unrelated individuals living in family households, and other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families.

Source: Family Survey

suggesting that they were combining education with family and work responsibilities. Young male partners or parents in couple families were also more likely to study part-time than their female counterparts.

## Labour force participation

*A third of young lone mothers were in the labour force, compared with three-quarters of young lone fathers.*

Almost three-quarters (73%) of 15 to 24 year-olds were in the labour force in 1992, representing about 2 million young people. The majority of young labour force participants were employed (79%).

In general, young people who had left the parental home had a higher labour force participation rate (78%) than those who were still living at home (70%). The exception was for young lone mothers of whom less than one-third (32%) were participating in the labour force. The highest participation rate was for young male partners and parents in couple families (96%), which contrasted with 68 per cent for young women in such families. For both men and women, young lone parents were less likely to be in the labour force than young partners or parents in couple families.

For people aged 15 to 24 living in the parental home, those in couple families were more likely to be participating in the labour force (71%) than those living in one parent families (65%). This difference was evident for both men and women living with their parent(s).

**Table 23. Persons aged 15 to 24 years: attendance at educational institutions, type of institution and student status by labour force status, 1992**

Attendance, type of institution and student status	Employed		Total	Labour force participation rate	Not in the labour force	Total	Unemployment rate
	Full-time	Part-time					
School	0.1	27.5	27.6	39.3	60.7	645.2	29.9
<i>Technical college/TAFE</i>							
Full-time	9.8	28.2	38.0	59.2	40.8	82.6	35.8
Part-time	73.8	10.1	83.9	95.9	4.1	195.7	12.5
Total	54.8	15.5	70.3	84.9	15.0	278.3	17.3
<i>University/other tertiary institution</i>							
Full-time	1.5	41.0	42.5	53.8	46.2	323.9	21.0
Part-time	53.7	26.1	79.7	93.5	6.5	60.6	14.7
Total	9.7	38.7	48.3	60.0	40.0	384.4	19.4
<i>Other educational institution</i>							
Full-time	16.8	27.0	43.7	59.6	40.4	14.7	26.7
Part-time	68.1	10.1	78.3	91.7	8.3	33.7	14.7
Total	52.6	15.3	67.8	82.0	18.0	48.3	17.3
<b>Total attending</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>1,356.8</b>	<b>22.1</b>
<b>Not attending</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>1,391.4</b>	<b>21.1</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>2,748.2</b>	<b>21.5</b>

Source: Family Survey

Two-thirds of employed young people were working on a full-time basis. Higher proportions of young people living with their parent(s) were employed part-time than those who were living away from parents, reflecting the tendency for young people living at home to be in full-time education with part-time jobs.

Young men were more likely to be working full-time (73%) than young women (57%). Relatively high proportions of employed young male partners and parents were working full-time in both couple and one parent families (95% and 83% respectively). Proportions of female partners and parents who were working full-time were lower, particularly in one parent families (53%).

## Unemployment

*The unemployment rate among young people was 21 per cent.*

In 1992, the unemployment rate for 15 to 24 year-olds was 21 per cent. The highest unemployment rates were experienced by those

living with one parent (33%) and young women who were lone parents themselves (39%).

With the exception of lone parents, young men had higher unemployment rates than young women (23 per cent compared with 20 per cent). The greatest disparity in unemployment rates occurred between young men and women who lived alone. The unemployment rate for men in this group was 26 per cent, while for women the rate was 8 per cent, despite similar levels of labour force participation.

## Combining study and work

*Twenty-eight per cent of school students, and 41 per cent of full-time tertiary students had jobs.*

Combining study with work is relatively common among 15 to 24 year-olds. Almost 600,000 young people (22%) were both studying and working. One-third of full-time students in this age group were working. About 28 per cent of school students had jobs as did 41 per cent of full-time tertiary students.



**Table 24. Children aged 15 to 24 years who lived with their parent(s)(a): family type and labour force status of parent(s) by labour force status, 1992**

Family type and labour force status of parent(s)	In the labour force		Total	Labour force participation rate	Total
	Employed	Unemployment rate			
	- % -		- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -
<i>In couple family</i>					
Both employed	82.3	17.7	619.1	71.7	863.9
One employed, one unemployed	79.7	20.3	51.5	70.8	72.7
One employed, one not in the labour force	79.8	20.2	256.9	71.3	360.4
One unemployed, one not in the labour force	58.8	41.2	26.8	53.0	50.5
Both unemployed	*67.6	*32.4	11.9	56.5	21.1
Both not in the labour force	69.4	30.6	67.6	72.9	92.7
<i>Total</i>	79.9	20.1	1,033.8	70.7	1,461.4
<i>In one parent family</i>					
Employed	71.8	28.2	128.9	69.0	186.7
Unemployed	66.5	33.5	20.5	55.7	36.8
Not in the labour force	57.1	42.9	55.0	59.0	93.1
<i>Total -</i>	67.3	32.7	204.3	64.5	316.6
<b>All children aged 15-24 living with parent(s)</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>1,238.1</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>1,778.1</b>

(a) Excludes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own.

Source: Family Survey

The majority of those in part-time study were also employed. Around 84 per cent of part-time TAFE students were employed (87% of these full-time), as well as 80 per cent of part-time university students and 78 per cent of part-time students at other institutions.

## Study and unemployment

In 1992, the unemployment rate for all students aged 15 to 24 was 22 per cent. Unemployment rates were higher for full-time students than for part-time students. Of full-time students, unemployment rates were highest for those at TAFE (36%) and those at school (30%). The rates for part-time students were considerably lower, ranging from 13 per cent for TAFE students to 15 per cent for university students.

## Employment and unemployment in families

The employment experiences of parents have an effect on those of their children. In 1992, 82 per cent of young people who were in the labour force and living with two employed parents were employed themselves. In couple families with one employed parent, 79 per cent of children were

employed, while relatively high proportions of children with an employed lone parent were also employed (72%). Labour force participation rates were also high for children in these groups.

*Unemployment rates were higher among young people with no employed parent, than for those with at least one employed parent.*

**Figure 8. Children aged 15 to 24 years who lived with their parent(s)(a): unemployment rates by labour force status of parent(s), 1992**



(a) Excludes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (b) Includes lone parent.

Source: Family Survey

**Table 25. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who were not studying full-time: proportion who experienced a barrier to education(a) by selected characteristics by age, 1992**

	15-19		20-24		Total	
	% with barrier	Total in category - '000 -	% with barrier	Total in category - '000 -	% with barrier	Total in category - '000 -
<b>Sex</b>						
Males	26.4	251.8	30.5	620.3	29.3	872.2
Females	42.1	211.0	37.1	598.6	38.4	809.6
<b>Location</b>						
Capital city	32.5	269.4	34.6	765.3	34.1	1,034.8
Rest of state - urban	35.1	152.0	32.5	345.8	33.3	497.8
Rest of state - rural	34.6	41.4	31.0	107.8	32.0	149.2
<b>Living arrangements</b>						
<b>In couple family-</b>						
Parent/partner(b)	50.8	39.0	35.5	393.6	36.9	432.7
Child	29.6	275.9	28.9	433.5	29.2	709.3
<b>In one parent family-</b>						
Parent(b)	48.5	9.2	34.1	46.6	36.5	55.8
Child	31.0	68.8	34.6	86.8	33.0	155.6
<b>In other family household(c)</b>	34.5	27.4	35.2	66.0	35.0	93.4
<b>In group household</b>	45.2	10.3	38.8	57.9	39.7	68.3
<b>Living alone</b>	43.7	32.2	40.2	134.5	40.9	166.7
<b>All persons aged 15-24 not studying full-time ('000) (d)</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>462.8</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>1,218.9</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>1,681.7</b>

(a) Comprises those persons not studying who wanted to study and persons studying part-time who wanted to study full-time. (b) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (c) Comprises unrelated individuals living in family households, and other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families. (d) Includes persons who had completed studies in the last 6 months.

Source: Family Survey

Unemployment is more common among children who have parents who are not employed. The unemployment rate for all young people living with their parents was 22 per cent. The rate was higher for those young people with at least one parent who was unemployed (29%) and higher again for young people with no employed parent in the household (36%). Unemployment was at its highest levels for those young people living in couple families where one parent was not in the labour force, and the other was unemployed (41%) and those who were living with a lone parent who was not in the labour force (43%). Unemployment may be more prevalent among young people whose parent(s) are unemployed or not in the labour force because parents who are not working are less able to offer the support of recent labour market experience to their children who are looking for work (Junankar and Kapuscinski, 1991).

## Barriers to education

*One-third of young people who were not studying full-time, faced a barrier to education.*

People who are not studying but want to do so, or are studying part-time but want to do so full-time, are referred to as experiencing barriers to education. Of the 1.7 million young people who were not studying full-time, one-third had a barrier to education. This proportion was the same for both 15 to 19 year-olds and 20 to 24 year-olds (34%), and showed little variation among those living in capital cities (34%), other urban centres (33%) and rural areas (32%). Young women were more likely to report a barrier than young men (38% and 29% respectively).

**Table 26. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who experienced a barrier to education(a): reasons for barrier(b) by age, 1992**

Reasons	15-19	20-24	Total
	- % -		
<i>Family reasons</i>			
Caring for children	4.3	7.7	6.7
Other domestic/family responsibilities(c)	2.0	4.8	4.0
<i>Other reasons</i>			
Cannot afford to stop working	12.6	22.1	19.5
Cannot afford education costs	24.1	21.3	22.1
Own ill health/disability	1.5	1.6	1.6
Business/work hours	10.1	20.7	17.9
Education facilities/courses/ places not available	34.6	17.3	22.1
No particular reason	4.5	5.9	5.5
Other reason	22.3	18.1	19.3
<b>All persons aged 15-24 who experienced barrier(d)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>155.4</b>	<b>410.8</b>	<b>566.2</b>

(a) Comprises those persons not studying who wanted to study and persons studying part-time who wanted to study full time. (b) Persons could report multiple reasons for not studying and therefore components do not add to totals. (c) Includes caring for sick, disabled or elderly relatives. (d) Includes persons who had completed studies in the last 6 months.

Source: Family Survey

While the proportions experiencing barriers among 15 to 19 year-olds and 20 to 24 year-olds were the same, these varied by family situation. Of 15 to 19 year-olds who were partners or parents, greater proportions faced barriers in both couple and one parent families (51% and 49% respectively) than 20 to 24 year-olds (36% and 34% respectively). Those aged 15 to 19 were more likely to state that their barrier was due to the unavailability of education facilities and places (35%) than 20 to 24 year-olds (17%).

Other frequently-reported reasons for barriers to education that young people gave were that they could not afford the education costs (22%), they could not afford to stop working (20%) and business or work hours (18%). Family-related reasons were infrequently stated as barriers to education by young people. Around 7 per cent of young people stated that caring for children was a barrier while 4 per cent indicated family or domestic responsibilities.

## Payment of education costs

The cost of education can influence young people's participation in education (see Table 26). The extent to which families and others can assist people who are studying has become increasingly important in enabling them to obtain qualifications, and ultimately, employment (Graycar and Jamrozik, 1993). Such support is not limited to payment of the direct expenses of education, but also includes non-financial forms of support, such as accommodation. The latter issue is examined in some detail in *Focus on Families: Income and Housing (4424.0)*. This section examines whether young people have paid their own education expenses, including fees, texts and other study materials, and if not, which person or organisation provided them with most help in paying these expenses.

**Table 27. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who were attending tertiary institutions: whether paid most of education expenses by main provider of expenses by age, 1992**

Whether paid expenses and main provider	15-19	20-24	Total
	- % -		
<i>Paid most of own expenses</i>	39.7	62.0	51.8
<i>Did not pay most of own expenses</i>			
<i>expenses paid by</i>			
Spouse/self and spouse	10.4	10.5	10.5
Mother	7.1	3.0	4.9
Father	7.8	5.0	6.3
Parents	31.7	15.4	22.9
<i>Total family(a)</i>	47.2	24.2	34.7
Austudy	2.2	1.5	1.8
Employer	6.4	6.2	6.3
Other person/organisation(b)	3.6	3.9	3.7
<i>Total non-family</i>	12.1	11.6	11.8
<b>Total who did not pay most of own expenses</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>46.5</b>
Not stated	1.0	2.3	1.7
<b>All persons aged 15-24 attending tertiary institutions</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>324.9</b>	<b>386.7</b>	<b>711.6</b>

(a) Includes expenses paid by other family members. (b) Includes government or private scholarships.

Source: Family Survey

In 1992, just over half (52%) of people aged 15 to 24 who were attending a tertiary institution paid most of their own education expenses. Those who

had not paid most of their expenses were more likely to have them paid by family members (35%) than non-family sources (12%). A majority of family support for both 15 to 19 year-olds and 20 to 24 year-olds came from one or both parents (98% of all family providers).

A move towards independence can be seen by comparing payment of education expenses and receipt of family support across the two age groups. The proportion of 15 to 19 year-olds who were paying most of their own expenses was 40 per cent, compared with 62 per cent among 20 to 24 year-olds. Conversely, the proportion of young people reporting family members as main providers of expenses was 47 per cent among 15 to 19 year-olds compared with 24 per cent among 20 to 24 year-olds.

## Barriers to labour force participation

People who would like a job, but are not looking for work, or are looking for work, but are not available to start within a week, are referred to as

**Table 28. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who experienced a barrier to labour force participation(a): main reason for barrier, 1992**

Main reason	- % -
<i>Experienced barrier due to-</i>	
<i>Family reasons</i>	
Caring for children	11.7
Other domestic/family responsibilities(b)	1.7
Pregnancy	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>15.9</i>
<i>Other reasons</i>	
Own ill health/disability	4.8
Studying	66.3
No suitable employment	4.6
Other reason	8.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>84.1</i>
<b>All persons aged 15-24 who experienced barrier</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>351.1</b>

(a) Comprises those persons who would like a job but were not looking for work or who were looking for work but were unavailable to start work within a week. (b) Includes looking after spouse/home.

Source: Family Survey

having barriers to labour force participation. Almost half (47%) of young people who were not in the labour force stated they experienced such barriers. Most people (66%) indicated that the reason was because they were studying. A further 12 per cent stated that caring for children was a barrier to labour force participation.

## Help to look for work

*Young people living with both parents were more likely to receive help to look for work from their parents than those living with one parent.*

People wanting a job may receive help to look for work from a variety of sources. In 1992, there were 780,000 young people who were unemployed, or were not looking for work but wanted a full-time or part-time job. About 350,000 of these young people (45%) indicated that they had received some help to look for work. Most frequently this help was provided by non-family sources (72%), of which the main source was the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES - 53%).

Overall, 28 per cent of young people who received help to look for work reported that family members were their main providers of help. As with those who were helped with payment of education expenses, family support to look for work was more likely to come from parent(s) (75% of family providers), although this varied substantially according to the family type of those receiving help. Children were more likely to state that parent(s) were their main providers of help (29%) than those living away from their parents (9%) and those who were parents or partners themselves (1%). However, of the young people living with their parent(s), the proportion of those in one parent families who identified parent(s) as their main provider of help (22%) was lower than for couple families (31%). This may be because lone parents are more frequently out of the labour force or unemployed than those in couple families, and do not have as many recent contacts or employment experiences to assist their children to look for work (see Table 24). Non-custodial parents may also be less likely to help these children to look for work.

**Table 29. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who wanted a job(a): whether received help to look for work by main provider of help by living arrangements, 1992**

Whether received help and main provider	Living arrangements					Total
	In couple family		In one parent family		Other living arrangements(c)	
	Parent/ partner(b)	Child	Parent(b)	Child		
- % -						
Received help from-						
Parent(s)	**1.0	31.4	**3.3	21.5	*8.5	20.7
Other relatives	*14.4	5.1	*19.6	*6.1	*6.9	6.9
<i>Total family</i>	*15.4	36.5	*22.9	27.6	15.4	27.7
Commonwealth Employment Service	68.3	44.6	68.1	55.0	61.2	53.1
Other(d)	*16.3	18.9	**9.1	17.4	23.4	19.2
<i>Total non family</i>	84.6	63.5	77.1	72.4	84.6	72.3
<b>Total who received help</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>Number ('000)</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>170.9</b>	<b>*8.2</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>83.6</b>	<b>349.7</b>
<b>Did not receive help ('000)</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>232.4</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>429.6</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24 who wanted a job ('000)(e)</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>403.3</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>135.3</b>	<b>779.3</b>

(a) Comprises persons who were unemployed and persons who were not in the labour force but indicated that they would like a job. (b) Includes a small number of people who lived with parent(s) and had a partner or child of their own. (c) Comprises unrelated individuals living in family households, other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families, persons in group households and persons living alone. (d) Comprises employers, private employment agencies, other government/voluntary service, friends, neighbours or other persons. (e) Includes persons who did not state whether they received help to look for work.

Source: Family Survey

## Help to get a job

In 1992, there were 600,000 employed young people who had started a new job, business or apprenticeship in the 12 month period to 1992. Almost half (49%) of these said they had received help to get that job. This proportion was greater among 15 to 19 year-olds (53%) than among 20 to 24 year-olds (44%).

Forty per cent of young people who received help to get a new job reported receiving most help from family members. In all, those aged 15 to 19 were twice as likely to have received help from family sources to get a job (53%) as 20 to 24 year-olds (26%). Of all young people who received help to get a job, 15 to 19 year-olds most frequently identified a parent or parents as the main provider of help (38%), while 20 to 24 year-olds most frequently identified friends, neighbours or other people (43%).

**Table 30. Persons aged 15 to 24 years who started a new job(a) in the last 12 months: whether received help to get that job by main provider of help by age, 1992**

Whether received help and main provider	Age		
	15-19	20-24	Total
- % -			
Received help from-			
Spouse	**0.5	*2.0	*1.2
Parent(s)	38.1	14.3	26.6
Other relatives	14.3	10.1	12.3
<i>Total family</i>	52.9	26.4	40.1
Commonwealth Employment Service	10.3	9.6	9.9
Employer/private employment agency	7.6	14.0	10.7
Other government/voluntary service	*4.4	7.3	5.8
Friend/neighbour/other person	24.8	42.8	33.5
<i>Total non family</i>	47.1	73.6	59.9
<b>Total who received help</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>147.2</b>	<b>137.7</b>	<b>284.9</b>
<b>Did not receive help ('000)</b>	<b>128.6</b>	<b>173.8</b>	<b>302.3</b>
<b>All persons aged 15-24 who started a new job ('000)</b>	<b>275.8</b>	<b>311.5</b>	<b>587.2</b>

(a) Includes persons who started a business or apprenticeship.

Source: Family Survey

## Partners and parents

Support offered by governments and employers is important in enabling people to gain access to education and employment opportunities.

Likewise, an individual's sex and family position, and the support they receive from and provide to other family members, influence participation in study and work. The following section examines the education and employment experiences of people — mainly between the ages of 15 and 64 — who were partners or parents in couple and one parent families. Where relevant, their experiences are compared with those of young people.

### Full-time and part-time study

In 1992, about 600,000 partners and parents aged 15 to 64 were studying, 8 per cent of all partners and parents in this age group. This rate was much lower than for young people (49%). The majority of partners and parents who studied were part-time students (83%), compared with 21 per cent for young people, which may relate partly to the greater family responsibilities of older partners and parents.

The proportion of lone parents who were studying was greater than that of partners and parents in couple families (11% compared with 7%). Of lone parents who were studying, 35 per cent were doing so full-time compared with 16 per cent of partners or parents in couple families. Among

parents with dependent children, lone parents were more than twice as likely to be studying full-time as those in couple families.

### Labour force participation

*Lone parents were less likely to be in the labour force and more than twice as likely to be unemployed as partners and parents in couple families.*

While the proportion of lone parents participating in education was higher than for partners and parents in couple families, their labour force participation was much lower. In 1992, lone parents were more likely to be out of the labour force (43%) than partners and parents in couple families (24%). The proportion of all lone parents who were employed was 46 per cent and of these, 65 per cent were employed full-time. In comparison, 70 per cent of all partners and parents in couple families were employed, and 77 per cent of these were full-time. Of those in the labour force, lone parents were more than twice as likely to be unemployed (20%) as partners and parents in couple families (8%).

Parents with dependent children were generally more likely to work part-time than those without dependent children. In total, two-thirds (67%) of

**Table 31. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent: family type by student status, 1992**

Family type	Studying		Total - '000 -	Education participation rate - % -	Total - '000 -
	Full-time - % -	Part-time			
<i>In couple family</i>					
No children	17.8	82.2	182.7	7.9	2,317.1
With dependent children(a)	14.7	85.3	337.1	7.9	4,245.5
Total(b)	15.5	84.5	540.1	7.4	7,313.7
<i>In one parent family</i>					
With dependent children(a)	36.6	63.4	56.8	12.6	450.9
Total(b)	34.6	65.4	61.2	10.9	560.9
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>601.3</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7,874.5</b>

(a) Comprises persons in families with dependent children only, and in families with dependent and non-dependent children. (b) Includes persons in families with non-dependent children only.

Source: Family Survey

**Table 32. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent: family type by labour force status, 1992**

Family type	In the labour force			Unemployment rate	Total	Labour force participation rate	Total
	Full-time	Employed Part-time	Total				
	- % -		- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -
<i>In couple family</i>							
No children	82.0	18.0	1,575.8	6.3	1,682.1	72.6	2,317.1
With dependent children(a)	74.4	25.6	3,078.1	8.6	3,366.8	79.3	4,245.5
Total(b)	76.8	23.2	5,141.4	7.8	5,574.9	76.2	7,313.7
<i>In one parent family</i>							
With dependent children(a)	62.5	37.5	198.8	22.2	255.4	56.6	450.9
Total(b)	64.6	35.4	757.0	20.1	321.7	57.4	560.9
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>5,398.4</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>5,896.6</b>	<b>74.9</b>	<b>7,874.5</b>

(a) Comprises persons in families with dependent children only, and in families with dependent and non-dependent children. (b) Includes persons in families with non-dependent children only.

Source: Family Survey

those working part-time were parents with dependent children. Levels of full-time and part-time employment differed by family type. Thirty-eight per cent of employed lone parents with dependent children were working part-time, compared with 26 per cent of employed parents with dependent children in couple families. In addition, parents and partners in families with dependent children had higher unemployment rates than those in families with no dependent children (22% in one parent families and 9% in couple families).

Lone fathers were more likely to be employed than lone mothers. In 1992, lone fathers had a labour force participation rate of 82 per cent, while the participation rate among lone mothers was 53 per cent. Two-thirds of lone fathers were employed and 88 per cent of these worked full-time. In contrast, less than half (42%) of lone mothers were employed, and 58 per cent of these worked full-time. Unemployment rates for lone fathers and lone mothers also differed (17% and 21% respectively).

**Table 33. Lone parents aged 15 to 64: labour force status by sex, 1992**

Labour force status	Males	Females	Persons
	-%		
Employed			
Full-time	87.6	57.6	64.6
Part-time	*12.4	42.4	35.4
Total employed	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number ('000)	59.5	197.5	257.0
Unemployment rate	16.5	21.1	20.1
Total in the labour force ('000)	71.3	250.4	321.7
Labour force participation rate	81.9	52.8	57.4
All lone parents aged 15-64 ('000)	87.0	473.8	560.9

Source: Family Survey

## Couples and employment

*In half of couple families, both partners were employed.*

There were almost 2 million couple families in 1992 in which both partners were employed, representing 48 per cent of all couple families. Couple families without children were less likely to contain two employed partners (41%) than those with children (52%). This is consistent with a high proportion of couple families without children having at least one partner aged 65 and over.

One or both partners were employed in 87 per cent of couple families with children, and in 60 per cent of those without children. Where only one partner was employed, they were more commonly male than female.

**Table 34. Couple families: labour force status of partners by whether living with children, 1992**

Labour force status of partners	With children	Without children	Total
Both employed	52.0	40.9	47.5
<i>One employed, one not in labour force</i>			
Male partner employed	27.8	13.6	22.1
Female partner employed	2.1	2.8	2.4
<i>Total</i>	29.9	16.4	24.5
<i>One employed, one unemployed</i>			
Male partner employed	3.8	1.7	3.0
Female partner employed	1.6	1.0	1.4
<i>Total</i>	5.4	2.7	4.4
Both unemployed	1.3	0.9	1.2
<i>One unemployed, one not in labour force</i>			
Male partner unemployed	4.5	1.8	3.4
Female partner unemployed	*0.2	*0.3	0.3
<i>Total</i>	4.7	2.1	3.7
Both not in labour force	6.7	37.0	18.9
<b>All couple families</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>2,443.6</b>	<b>1,654.1</b>	<b>4,097.7</b>

Source: Family Survey

Nine per cent of couple families had one or both partners unemployed. In 37 per cent of these families, the male partner was unemployed and the female partner was not in the labour force.

Close to a quarter (24%) of all couple families had neither partner employed. The majority of such families had both partners who were not in the labour force.

## Combining work and study

In 1992, 8 per cent of employed partners and parents aged 15 to 64 were both working and studying. Of those combining work and study, 92 per cent studied part-time. Part-time study was more common than full-time study for those in both full-time and part-time employment (96% and 80% respectively).

About 6 per cent of partners and parents who were not in the labour force engaged in study, while the proportion of those who were unemployed and studying was slightly higher (10%). The pattern of full-time study was also different, with 24 per cent of unemployed partners and parents and 47 per cent of those not in the labour force studying full-time.

## Long-term unemployment

People are defined as long-term unemployed if they have been unemployed for 52 weeks or longer. An increasing number of Australians are experiencing long-term unemployment or are members of families where one or more people are in this situation. In 1993, about half of all long-term unemployed people were partners or parents and almost two-thirds of these had

**Table 35. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent: labour force status by student status, 1992**

Labour force status	Studying		Total	Education participation rate	Total
	Full-time	Part-time			
	- % -		- '000 -	- % -	- '000 -
Employed-					
Full-time	4.4	95.6	323.4	7.9	4,116.3
Part-time	20.3	79.7	107.9	8.4	1,282.1
<i>Total employed</i>	8.3	91.7	431.3	8.0	5,398.4
Unemployed	23.8	76.2	50.0	10.0	498.2
<b>Total in the labour force</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>481.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>5,896.6</b>
<b>Not in the labour force</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>119.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>1,977.9</b>
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>601.3</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7,874.5</b>

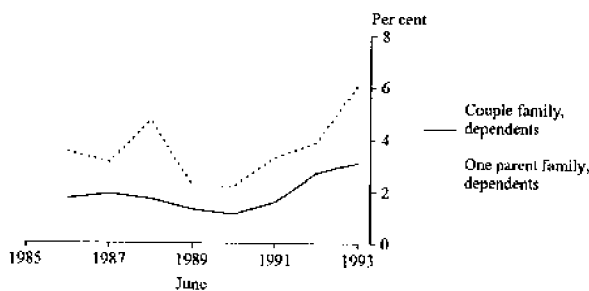
Source: Family Survey



dependent children living with them. About 96,000 of the long-term unemployed were parents with dependents in couple families, and 14,000 were lone parents with dependents (see *Labour Force Survey, unpublished data*).

The long-term unemployment rate is the proportion of people in the labour force who are long-term unemployed. Long-term unemployment rates among parents with dependent children in both couple and one parent families increased between 1986 and 1993. Rates were consistently higher for lone parents than for parents with partners. Rates for both of these were at their highest levels in 1993 (6% and 3% respectively).

**Figure 9. Parents with dependent children: long-term unemployment rates by family type, 1986 to 1993**



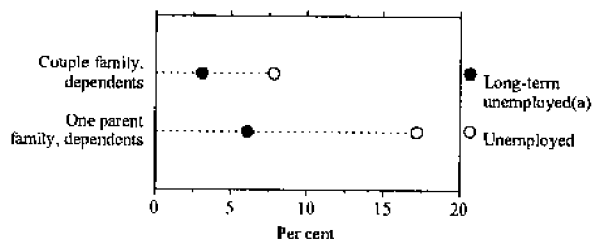
Source: Labour Force Survey

*In 1993, the long-term unemployment rate among lone parents with dependent children was twice that of partnered parents with dependent children.*

In 1993, unemployment and long-term unemployment rates were twice as high for lone parents with dependent children (17% and 6% respectively) as for parents in couple families with dependent children (8% and 3% respectively). The greater difference between unemployment and long-term unemployment rates among lone parents with dependent children may be related to the greater propensity for lone mothers (accounting for the majority of lone parents with dependent children) to leave and re-enter the labour force. Barriers to employment, such as the cost of child care, may contribute to frequent,

shorter spells of unemployment among lone parents (see *Australia's long-term unemployed, 6255.0*).

**Figure 10. Parents with dependent children: unemployment and long-term unemployment rates by family type, June 1993**



(a) Persons who have been unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

Source: Labour Force Survey

### Couples and long-term unemployment

*Almost three-quarters of couple families with at least one long-term unemployed partner, had no partner in employment.*

In 1993, there were 117,500 couple families with one long-term unemployed partner and a further 17,500 families with two long-term unemployed partners. These represent 3 per cent of all couple families.

In couple families, the unemployment experiences of one partner may have an impact on the labour force experiences of the other partner. The impact may be stronger when unemployment has been experienced over the long term, rather than the short term. Couple families with a partner who has been unemployed for a year or longer are more likely to have no employed partner (either unemployed or not in the labour force), than those families where unemployment has been short term. In 1993, over eighty per cent of couple families with a male partner experiencing long term unemployment had no employed partner, compared with 73 per cent of those with a short-term unemployed male partner. If the female partner was long-term unemployed, the

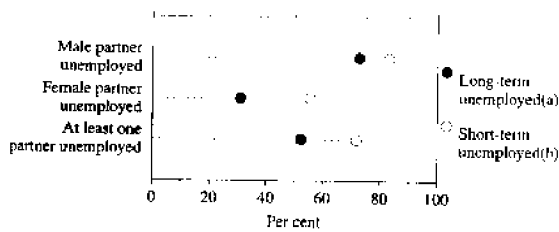
**Table 36. Couple families: labour force status of partners, June 1993**

Labour force status of male partner	Labour force status of female partner				Total
	Employed	Short-term unemployed(a)	Long-term unemployed(b)	Not in the labour force	
	- % -				
Employed	92.6	69.1	44.7	48.3	2,782.4
Short-term unemployed(a)	1.8	15.1	8.5	4.1	126.7
Long-term unemployed(b)	0.9	8.2	39.2	3.5	107.8
Not in the labour force	4.7	7.5	7.6	44.1	911.9
<b>All couple families</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>1,957.0</b>	<b>90.7</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>1,836.5</b>	<b>3,928.8</b>

(a) Persons who have been unemployed for less than 52 weeks. (b) Persons who have been unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

Source: *Australia's Long-term Unemployed* (6255.0), based on data from the Labour Force Survey

**Figure 11. Couple families with at least one unemployed partner: proportion with neither partner employed by sex of partners and length of unemployment, June 1993**



(a) Persons who have been unemployed for less than 52 weeks.  
(b) Persons who have unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

Source: *Australia's Long-term Unemployed* (6255.0), based on data from the Labour Force Survey

proportion of families with no employed partner was 55 per cent, compared with 31 per cent of those with a short-term unemployed partner. Overall, couple families with at least one long-term unemployed partner were more likely to have no employed partner (72%) than those with at least one short-term unemployed partner (52%).

Of couple families with an employed male partner, the female partner was also employed in 65 per cent of cases, with a further 32 per cent of female partners who were not in the labour force. Of couple families with an employed female partner, the male partner was also employed in 93 per cent of families.

**Table 37. Couple families: labour force status of partner by long-term unemployment rate(a) and long-term unemployment incidence(b) by sex, June 1993**

Labour force status of partner	Male partners		Female partners	
	Long-term unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment incidence	Long-term unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment incidence
	- % -			
Employed	1.0	34.4	1.1	24.2
Short-term unemployed(c)	8.9	35.2	7.3	21.7
Long-term unemployed(d)	42.3	82.1	40.5	70.1
Not in the labour force	6.3	46.5	3.3	33.2
<b>All couple families</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>33.0</b>

(a) The proportion of persons in the labour force who are long-term unemployed. (b) The proportion of unemployed persons who are long term unemployed. (c) Persons who have been unemployed for less than 52 weeks. (d) Persons who have been unemployed for 52 weeks or more.

Source: *Australia's Long-term Unemployed* (6255.0), based on data from the Labour Force Survey

## Barriers to education

Long-term unemployment rates were highest for both male and female partners where their partner was also long-term unemployed (42% and 41% respectively). The proportion of all unemployed people who were long-term unemployed was also highest under these circumstances (82% for male partners and 70% for female partners). This phenomenon has been described as the 'cycle of disadvantage' (Junankar and Kapuscinski, 1991). It is based on the idea that these couple families tend to be more isolated from the labour force and therefore have fewer informal contacts to call on for assistance in their search for employment.

People who are not studying but want to do so, or are studying part-time but want to do so full-time, are referred to as experiencing barriers to education. Twenty-four per cent of partners and parents aged 15 to 64 who were not studying full-time in 1992 — 1.8 million people — reported that they experienced a barrier to education.

The proportions of male and female partners and parents experiencing barriers were similar (22% and 25% respectively). However, of those experiencing barriers, the reasons which women and men gave for such barriers differed markedly.

**Table 38. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent and who were not studying full-time: whether experienced a barrier to education(a) and reasons for barrier(b) by family type and sex, 1992**

Whether experienced barrier and reasons	Sex		Family type						
	Males	Females	In couple family			In one parent family			
			No children	With dependent children(c)	Total(d)	With dependent children(c)	Total(d)	Total	
- % -									
Experienced barrier due to-									
<i>Family reasons</i>									
Caring for children	5.6	33.7	*0.5	28.3	18.8		47.9	43.9	21.2
Caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative	*0.8	1.9	*1.3	1.2	1.3		*2.1	*2.3	1.4
Other domestic/family responsibilities	11.7	14.2	8.6	15.8	13.7		7.7	7.7	13.1
<i>Other reasons</i>									
Too old	1.1	0.9	1.8	*0.5	1.0		**0.9	**0.9	1.0
Cannot afford to stop working	24.5	19.3	28.9	19.7	22.2		15.8	16.3	21.6
Cannot afford education costs	17.6	20.1	20.0	17.8	18.5		23.9	23.2	19.0
Own ill health/disability	1.7	2.5	2.1	1.8	2.0		*3.6	*3.3	2.1
Business/work hours	35.8	15.4	27.4	24.7	25.9		9.1	10.6	24.5
Education facilities/courses/places not available	14.5	12.4	16.1	12.3	13.4		11.3	12.6	13.3
No particular reason	8.5	8.7	8.2	9.0	8.7		6.8	7.2	8.6
Other reason	10.9	10.9	13.8	9.5	11.0		10.7	10.5	10.9
<b>Total who experienced barrier(e)</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>Number ('000)</b>	<b>816.8</b>	<b>1,024.1</b>	<b>495.7</b>	<b>1,097.8</b>	<b>1,665.1</b>		<b>159.8</b>	<b>175.9</b>	<b>1,840.9</b>
<b>Did not experience barrier ('000)</b>	<b>2,864.9</b>	<b>3,064.0</b>	<b>1,846.8</b>	<b>3,098.0</b>	<b>5,565.1</b>		<b>270.2</b>	<b>363.8</b>	<b>5,928.9</b>
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64 not studying full-time ('000)</b>	<b>3,681.7</b>	<b>4,088.1</b>	<b>2,342.5</b>	<b>4,195.8</b>	<b>7,230.2</b>		<b>430.0</b>	<b>539.7</b>	<b>7,769.8</b>

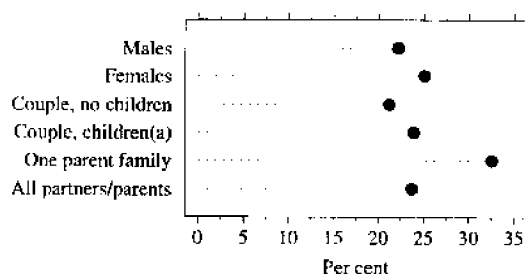
(a) Comprises those persons not studying who wanted to study and persons studying part-time who wanted to study full-time. (b) Persons could report multiple reasons for not studying and therefore components do not add to totals. (c) Comprises persons in families with dependent children only, and in families with dependent and non-dependent children. (d) Includes persons in families with non-dependent children only. (e) Includes persons who had completed studies in the last 6 months.

Source: Family Survey

*More than a third of lone parents with dependent children experienced barriers to education.*

The most common barriers to education among male partners and parents were work hours (36%) and the cost of giving up work (25%). A smaller proportion listed caring for children (6%) and other domestic or family responsibilities (12%) as barriers. On the other hand, female partners and parents reported caring for children most frequently as a barrier to education (34%), followed by the cost of education (20%).

**Figure 12. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent: proportion who experienced a barrier to education by selected characteristics, 1992**



(a) Includes couple families with non-dependent children only.

Source: Family Survey

A third of lone parents experienced barriers to education compared with less than a quarter (23%) of partners in couple families. Of lone parents with dependent children and who experienced a barrier to education, almost half (48%) indicated that caring for children was a barrier to education. Caring for children was also the most frequently reported barrier to education for parents with dependent children in couple families (28%) followed by business/work hours (25%).

### Payment of education costs

Almost 600,000 partners and parents aged 15 to 64 were studying at tertiary level in 1992, and two-thirds (69%) of these paid most of their own

education expenses. Among those who did not pay most of their expenses, relatively few were receiving support from spouses or parents.

**Table 39. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent and who were attending tertiary institutions: whether paid most of education expenses and main provider of expenses, 1992**

Whether paid expenses and main provider	%
Paid most of own expenses	68.6
Did not pay most of own expenses, expenses paid by:	
Spouse/self and spouse	3.9
Parent(s)	1.5
Total family	5.3
Austudy	1.5
Employer	8.9
Other person/organisation(a)	8.9
Total non-family	19.3
Total who did not pay most of own expenses	24.6
Not stated	6.8
All partners/parents aged 15-64 who were attending tertiary institutions	100.0
Number ('000)	598.9

(a) Includes government/private scholarships.

Source: Family Survey

### Barriers to labour force participation

*Women were six times more likely to give family reasons as barriers to labour force participation than men.*

People who would like a job, but are not looking for work, or are looking for work, but are not available to start within a week, are together referred to as experiencing barriers to labour force participation. About a third (32%) of all partners and parents aged 15 to 64 who were not in the labour force, or 630,000 people, indicated they had experienced such a barrier.

**Table 40. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent and who were not in the labour force: whether experienced a barrier to labour force participation(a) and main reason for barrier by sex and family type, 1992**

Whether experienced barrier and main reason	Sex		Family type					Total
			In couple families		In one parent families			
	Males	Females	No children	With dependent children(b)	Total(c)	With dependent children(b)	Total(c)	
- % -								
Experienced barrier due to-								
<i>Family reasons</i>								
Caring for children	*5.5	45.6	**1.1	49.7	33.6	59.9	56.7	37.7
Caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative	*2.0	2.1	*3.1	*1.6	2.3	**0.6	**1.0	2.1
Other domestic responsibilities(d)	*3.7	11.8	12.4	9.8	11.2	*5.9	*5.6	10.2
Pregnancy	..	3.1	*4.3	*2.4	2.7	*1.6	*1.5	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>62.6</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>63.6</i>	<i>49.9</i>	<i>68.0</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>52.5</i>
<i>Other reasons</i>								
	<i>88.8</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>79.2</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>50.1</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>35.2</i>	<i>47.5</i>
<b>Total who experienced barrier</b>	<b>108.0</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>Number ('000)</b>	<b>123.7</b>	<b>505.5</b>	<b>136.9</b>	<b>346.5</b>	<b>518.9</b>	<b>104.4</b>	<b>110.3</b>	<b>629.2</b>
<b>Did not experience barrier ('000)</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>1,118.6</b>	<b>512.1</b>	<b>532.2</b>	<b>1,219.9</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>128.9</b>	<b>1,348.8</b>
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64 not in the labour force ('000)</b>	<b>353.9</b>	<b>1,624.1</b>	<b>649.0</b>	<b>878.7</b>	<b>1,738.8</b>	<b>195.5</b>	<b>239.2</b>	<b>1,977.9</b>

(a) Comprises those persons who would like a job but were not looking for work or who were looking for work but were unavailable to start work within a week. (b) Comprises persons in families with dependent children only, and in families with dependent and non-dependent children. (c) Includes persons in families with non-dependent children only. (d) Includes looking after spouse/home.

Source: Family Survey

## Help to look for work

While similar proportions of female and male partners experienced barriers to labour force participation (31% and 35% respectively), women were almost six times as likely as men to state family reasons as responsible for that barrier (63% compared with 11%). The majority of men stated other reasons, such as that they were studying or could not find suitable employment, as barriers to labour force participation.

Lone parents with dependent children were the most likely of all family types to experience a barrier to labour force participation (53%) and to state family reasons for that barrier (68%). Partners without children were the least likely of all family types to report barriers to labour force participation (21%) and these were also the least likely to report family reasons for the barrier.

In 1992, there were 1.1 million partners and parents aged 15 to 64 who were unemployed, or were not looking for work but wanted a job. Twenty-nine per cent of these reported they had received assistance in looking for work, compared with 45 per cent of young people who said they had received help (see Table 29).

Among partners and parents, men were more likely than women to state they had received help to look for work (51% compared with 18%). A majority of people nominated non-family sources as their main providers if they had received help to look for work (89%), with the CES being the most frequently-reported source (68%). A higher proportion of women than men stated that family members were their main providers of help (17% compared with 7%), and among family providers, spouses were more than twice as frequently stated as main providers by women (8%) than by men (3%).

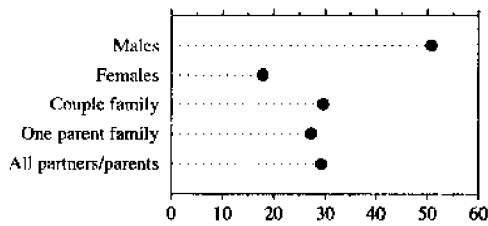
**Table 41. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent and who wanted a job(a): whether received help to look for work in last 12 months and main provider of help by sex and family type, 1992**

Whether received help and main provider	Sex		Family type		Total
	Males	Females	Couple	One parent	
- % -					
Received help from-					
Spouse	*2.9	8.2	5.9	..	5.1
Other relatives	*3.6	8.5	4.5	*11.9	5.6
<i>Total family</i>	6.5	16.7	10.4	*11.9	10.6
Commonwealth Employment Service	75.9	56.7	69.0	63.5	68.2
Other organisation(b)	10.4	14.3	11.7	*13.2	12.0
Friend/ neighbour/ other person	7.2	12.3	8.9	*11.4	9.2
<i>Total non-family</i>	93.5	83.3	89.6	88.1	89.4
<b>Total who received help</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>198.0</b>	<b>131.9</b>	<b>282.1</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>329.9</b>
<b>Did not receive help ('000)</b>	<b>191.9</b>	<b>605.6</b>	<b>670.3</b>	<b>127.2</b>	<b>797.5</b>
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64 who wanted a job ('000)(c)</b>	<b>389.3</b>	<b>737.5</b>	<b>952.4</b>	<b>175.0</b>	<b>1,127.4</b>

(a) Comprises persons who were unemployed and persons who were not in the labour force but indicated that they would like a job. (b) Comprises employers, private employment agencies and other government/voluntary services. (c) Includes persons who did not state whether they received help to look for work.

Source: Family Survey

**Figure 13. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent and who wanted a job(a): whether received help to look for work in last 12 months by selected characteristics, 1992**



(a) Comprises partners/parents who were unemployed and partners/parents who were not in the labour force but wanted a job.

Source: Family Survey

There was relatively little difference in the proportions of partners and parents in couple and one parent families who received help (30% and 27% respectively), and in the proportions receiving help from family and non-family sources.

## Help to get a job

There were 926,000 employed partners and parents who had started a new job, business or apprenticeship in the 12 month period to 1992. Almost a third (30%) of these had received some help to get that job, with people most frequently identifying a friend, neighbour or other person (29%), or other organisation (24%) as the main provider of help. A total of 76 per cent of partners and parents nominated non-family sources as main providers of help.

Help to get a job, like help to look for work, was more likely to have been received by young people (49%) than partners and parents (30%). In addition, young people more frequently reported family members as their main sources of assistance than did partners and parents (40% compared with 24% — see Table 30).

Whether help was received to get a job, and the sources of help received by partners and parents varied by both sex and family type. A higher proportion of female partners reported they had received help to look for work (33%) than male

**Table 42. Persons aged 15 to 64 years who were a partner or a parent, and who started a new job(a) in the last 12 months: whether received help to get that job and main provider of help by sex and family type, 1992**

Whether received help and main provider	Sex		Family type		Total
	Males	Females	Couple	One parent	
- % -					
Received help from-					
Spouse	7.5	13.7	12.0	**	10.9
Other relatives	15.9	10.7	13.2	*11.8	13.1
<i>Total family</i>	23.4	24.4	25.3	*11.8	24.0
Commonwealth Employment Service	11.8	8.8	9.6	*15.4	10.2
Employer	13.8	12.2	13.5	*7.9	12.9
Other organisations(b)	25.6	22.3	23.2	29.6	23.8
Friend/neighbour/other person	25.3	32.3	28.5	35.3	29.1
<i>Total non-family</i>	76.6	75.6	74.7	88.2	76.0
<b>Total who received help</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>126.0</b>	<b>152.7</b>	<b>252.1</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>278.8</b>
<b>Did not receive help ('000)</b>	<b>337.9</b>	<b>309.3</b>	<b>610.5</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>647.3</b>
<b>All partners/parents aged 15-64 who started a new job ('000)</b>	<b>463.9</b>	<b>462.1</b>	<b>862.6</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>926.0</b>

(a) Includes persons who started a business or apprenticeship. (b) Comprises private employment agencies and other government/voluntary services.

Source: Family Survey

partners (27%). Lone parents were also more likely to report they had received help (42%) than partners and parents in couple families (29%). Further, twelve per cent of lone parents who received help reported family members as main providers of help to get their job, half the proportion of all partners and parents (24%). A higher proportion of lone parents reported receiving help from the CES (15%), compared with all partners and parents (10%).

## Payment of children's education expenses

*In over two-thirds of families with children in tertiary studies, parent(s) paid most of the education expenses for at least one child.*

The resources available to families may have an impact on the kinds of support that can be offered to family members, whether living at home or elsewhere. In particular, families with older children who are dependent in terms of their education and employment requirements may have a higher call on financial resources than other

**Table 43. Families with children aged 15 to 24 years in tertiary education and living in the household: annual family income by whether parent(s) paid most of education expenses(a), 1992**

Family income	Parent(s) paid expenses	
	- % -	- '000 -
\$0-20,000	*49.9	15.2
\$20,001-40,000	62.9	36.2
\$40,001-60,000	68.2	45.3
\$60,001-80,000	80.0	34.2
\$80,001 and over	71.6	54.0
Not stated/don't know	74.7	15.6
<b>All families with children aged 15-24 in tertiary education(b)</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>201.0</b>

(a) For at least one child who did not pay most of their own education expenses. (b) Includes negative incomes.

Source: Family Survey

families. The rapid increase in education retention rates over the last two decades has been a factor in the prolonged dependency of young people on their families. It is recognised that, in most families, the burden falls on one or both parents in

paying education-related expenses. About 201,000 families had children aged 15 to 24 who were living with one or two parents and studying at tertiary level. In over two-thirds (69%) of these families, parent(s) paid most of the education expenses for at least one child.

Generally, parental payment of expenses for children living at home was more likely in families with higher incomes. Three-quarters of those with an annual family income of \$60,000 or more provided education expenses for children, compared with half (50%) of families with annual incomes of \$20,000 or less.

There were 195,900 families with children aged 15 to 24 living outside the household who were in full-time tertiary or secondary studies. Thirty per cent of parents in these families paid most of the education and accommodation expenses for at least one child living outside the household. In a further 19 per cent of families, parents paid for education costs but not for accommodation. As for families with students at home, when students lived away from home, there was a greater likelihood of parents paying expenses where the annual family income was in the higher ranges.

**Table 44. Families with children aged 15 to 24 years in full-time education and living outside the household: annual family income by whether parent(s) paid most of education expenses(a), 1992**

Family income	Parents paid expenses			Total paid either	Total
	Education and accommodation	Education only	%		
\$0-20,000	21.6	*11.3		32.9	31.2
\$20,001-40,000	19.5	*17.6		37.1	49.2
\$40,001-60,000	29.8	21.4		51.2	55.1
\$60,001-80,000	41.5	*27.0		68.5	24.2
\$80,001 and over	42.1	*25.2		67.3	26.0
Not stated/ don't know	*42.2	**10.3		52.5	7.5
<b>Total(b)</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>19.4</b>		<b>49.3</b>	<b>195.9</b>

(a) For at least one child. (b) Includes negative incomes.

Source: Family Survey



## GLOSSARY

### FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE

*In this section, the term 'family' refers only to the household family.*

A *child* is a family member living with at least one parent (natural or step) in the same household and who does not have a child (natural or step) or spouse of their own usually resident in the household.

A *couple* is two usual residents, both aged 15 years and over, who are either registered married to each other or living in a de facto relationship with each other. Prior to 1994, the ABS did not classify a homosexual couple as a couple in its collections. All surveys in this publication were collected prior to 1994. Homosexual couples appear as 'unrelated individuals' in a family or group household.

A *dependent child* is a usually resident child aged under 15 years, or aged 15 to 24 years and studying full-time.

A *family* is two or more persons living in the same household who are related to each other by blood, marriage, de facto partnering, fostering or adoption.

A *family household* is a household that contains a family, regardless of whether other persons reside in the household.

A *group household* is a household containing two or more unrelated individuals, and no related individuals.

A *household* is a lone person or a group of people who usually reside together. Communal institutions (e.g. boarding schools, mental institutions) are excluded. A household may consist of:

- one person;
- one family;
- one family and unrelated individuals;
- related families with or without unrelated individual(s);
- unrelated families with or without unrelated individual(s);
- unrelated individuals.

An *Indigenous family* is one where the family reference person or their spouse on the census form indicated they were an Aboriginal or a Torres Strait Islander person.

A *lone parent* is a usual resident aged 15 years and over who does not have a usually resident spouse (marriage or de facto) but has at least one usually resident child (natural, step or otherwise related) who does not have a usually resident spouse (marriage or de facto) of their own.

A *lone person household* is a household containing one person only.

A *non-dependent child* is a usually resident child aged 25 years and over, or aged 15 to 24 years and not studying full-time.

A *non-English speaking background family* is one where either member of a couple, or lone parent, is born in a non-English speaking country.

A *one parent family* comprises a lone parent and that parent's child(ren) plus all other persons in the household related to them, provided those persons do not have a spouse or child of their own.

*Other family household* comprises other related individuals living in family households, and other related individuals living together or with couple and one parent families.

*Other related individual* is a related individual who is not the spouse, child, parent or ancestor of any usual resident e.g. aunts, uncles.

*Otherwise related dependent child* is a usually resident dependent child who is not the natural or step child of any lone parent/either member of couple in the household.

A *parent* is a usual resident aged 15 years and over who has at least one usually resident child (natural, step or otherwise related) and that child does not have a spouse or child of their own.

A *partner* is a spouse in a de facto relationship or registered marriage between people of the opposite sex usually resident in the same household. Prior to 1994, the ABS did not classify homosexuals as partners in its collections. All surveys in this publication were collected prior to 1994. Homosexual partners appear as 'unrelated individuals' in a family or group household.

*Related families [and unrelated individual(s)]* exist where a household contains at least two families of whom at least two are related.

A *related individual* is a usual resident who is related to at least one other usual resident by blood, marriage (including de facto), adoption or fostering. He/she must not have a spouse usually resident in the household. He/she must not have a child usually resident in the household who does not have a usually resident spouse or child.

*Spouse* is a non-sex-specific term referring to a registered married or de facto partner.

A *usual resident* of a private dwelling is a person who lives in that particular dwelling and regards it as their only or main home.

*Young people* are those aged 15 to 24.

## EDUCATION

An *educational institution* is any institution whose primary role is education. Included are schools, higher education establishments, colleges of technical and further education (TAFE) and public and private colleges.

A *full-time student* is a student classified by an educational institution as being full-time.

*Participation rate* is, for any group, the number of people who are studying expressed as a percentage of all persons in that group.

A *part-time student* is a student classified by an educational institution as being part-time.

*Post-school qualifications* are the highest completed qualification attained at any time since leaving school. The classifications of post-school qualification differ between the 1992 Family Survey, the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers and the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. The comparability between these data sources is outlined below:

Family Survey	Census	Disability, Ageing and Carers
Bachelor or higher degree	Bachelor degree, higher degree, post graduate diploma,	Bachelor degree, higher degree, graduate diploma
Trade qualification/apprenticeship	Skilled vocational, basic vocational	---
Certificate or diploma	Undergraduate diploma, associate diploma	Higher school certificate, trade certificate/apprenticeship, other certificate, associate diploma, undergraduate diploma
Other post-school qualification	---	Other qualification

A *school* refers to any recognised primary, secondary school or secondary college. These include formal classes, correspondence classes, and home tuition. The definition does not include school subjects taken at tertiary institutions.

*School attendance* refers to full-time attendance at school. In data taken from the 1991 Census of Population and Housing on school attendance, the numbers of persons who did not state whether they were attending an educational institution are as follows:

Family type	
Couple family	130,294
One parent family	30,809
Capital city	100,237
Rest of State	60,878
Non-English speaking background	53,199
Indigenous	10,350
All children aged 5-14 in families	161,115

These persons have excluded from tables on school attendance in this publication.

*Student status* is whether a person undertakes study full-time or part-time.

*Tertiary education* refers to study undertaken at an institution other than school, for the purpose of obtaining a post-school qualification.

## BARRIERS TO EDUCATION

*Barriers to education* refers to persons not currently studying but, at some time over the last six months, who have wanted to study full-time or part-time, as well as persons currently studying part-time but, at some time over the last six months, who have wanted to study full-time. Reasons include:

- too old;
- cannot afford to stop working;
- cannot afford the education costs;
- caring for children;
- caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative;
- other domestic or family responsibilities;
- own ill health/disability;
- business/work hours;
- education facilities/courses/places not available;
- no particular reason;
- other reason.

## PAYMENT OF EDUCATION EXPENSES

*Education expenses* include administration fees, Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS), tuition fees, text books, stationery and other related equipment items. They exclude associated living expenses.

*Government/private scholarship* includes money for education and living expenses covered by an educational institution, a government organisation, or other organisation.

*Most* (in this support area) refers to the greatest monetary contribution from a single source.

## EMPLOYMENT

*Employed persons* are those aged 15 years and over that currently work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and self-employed persons); or work without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers).

*Full-time employees* are defined as those employed persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week in all jobs.

*Labour force* comprises, for any group, persons aged 15 years and over who are employed or unemployed.

*Labour force participation rate* is, for any group, the number of persons who are employed or unemployed, expressed as a percentage of all persons in that group.

*Labour force status* classifies persons aged 15 years and over as employed, unemployed or not in the labour force. For the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, this classification excludes school students.

*Long-term unemployed* describes an individual who has been unemployed for a period of 52 weeks or more.

*Long-term unemployment incidence* is, for any group, the number of long-term unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of unemployed persons in the same group. This term is used by the OECD in *Employment Outlook*.

*Long-term unemployment rate* is, for any group, the number of long-term unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

*Not in the labour force* describes those individuals who are not employed in any job, business or farm, and have not looked for work during the last four weeks, and those permanently unable to work.

*Occupation* is coded according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO)* from the respondent's description of the kind of work they perform.

*Part-time employees* are defined as those employed persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week in all jobs.

*Participation rate* is, for any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

*Short-term unemployed* describes an individual who has been unemployed for a period of less than 52 weeks.

*Unemployed* describes an individual who is not currently employed in any job, business or farm, who has looked for work during the last four weeks, and who would be available to start work within the next week.

*Unemployment rate* is, for any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

*Work* refers only to paid employment.

## EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

*Private employment agency* refers to any non-government business which specialises in finding people suitable employment.

*To get a job* is to engage in activities which result in a job, position, apprenticeship or business being found.

*To look for work* is to engage in search for work which has not necessarily result in work being found.

## **BARRIERS TO LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION**

*Barriers to labour force participation* occur for those persons identified as not in the labour force and who would like a full-time or part-time job but have not looked for work during the last four weeks. It also includes those people who are looking for work, but if offered a job, could not start within the next week. Specific barriers include:

- retired/too old;
- own ill health/disability;
- studying;
- pregnancy;
- caring for children;
- caring for sick/disabled/elderly relative;
- looking after spouse/home;
- other domestic/family responsibilities;
- no suitable employment;
- other reason.

## **GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION**

A *Capital city* refers to a capital city statistical division.

A *Main English speaking country* (other than Australia) is a country from which Australia receives significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These are Canada, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, United States of America and South Africa.

A *non-English speaking country* is one other than a Main English speaking country.

*Rest of state - urban* refers to towns or bounded areas of 500 or more people, outside a capital city statistical division.

*Rest of state - rural* refers to areas of less than 500 people.

## **DISABILITY**

The *International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps* definition for disability is as follows:

In the context of health experience, a disability is any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.

For the purposes of the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers:

*Disability* is defined as the presence of one or more of a selected group of limitations, restrictions or impairments which had lasted, or were likely to last, for a period of 6 months or more.

A person with a *disability without a handicap* has one of the broad limitations, restrictions or impairments as given for disability, but is not restricted in any of the specific tasks given to identify persons with a handicap.

An *employment limitation* relates to a person with a handicap who has any of the following limitations because of their condition:

- is permanently unable to work;
- is restricted in the type of work they can/could do;
- often needs time off work;
- is restricted in the number of hours they can/could work;
- would require an employer to make special arrangements; or,
- is limited in prospects of obtaining/keeping/changing jobs.

This information was collected for persons in households aged 15 years and over not attending school. Retired persons were excluded.

A *handicap* is identified as a limitation to perform certain tasks associated with daily living. The limitation must be due to a disability and in relation to one or more of the following areas: self-care; mobility; verbal communication, schooling and employment. For more information, refer to *Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide* (4431.0).

A *schooling limitation* relates to a person with a handicap who:

- is unable to attend school;
- attended a special school;
- attended special classes in an ordinary school;
- needed time off from school; or,
- had difficulty at school because of a disabling condition.

This information was collected for persons in households aged 5 to 14 years and those aged 15 years and over still attending school.

*Severity of handicap:* Four levels of severity (profound, severe, moderate and mild) are determined for each of the three areas of handicap: self-care, mobility and verbal communication. These levels are based on the person's ability to perform tasks relevant to these three areas and on the amount and type of help required. For each area of handicap, the levels of severity are as follows:

- profound handicap - personal help or supervision always required;
- severe handicap - personal help or supervision sometimes required;
- moderate handicap - no personal help or supervision required, but the person has difficulty in performing one or more of the tasks;
- mild handicap - no personal help or supervision required and no difficulty in performing any of the tasks, but the person uses an aid, or has a mild mobility handicap or cannot easily pick up an object from the floor.

The highest level of severity in any one of the areas of self-care, mobility and verbal communication determines the severity of total handicap.

# APPENDIX A

## References

### ABS publications

Australia's long-term unemployed (6255.0)

Child care, Australia (4402.0)

Labour force status and other characteristics of families, Australia (6224.0)

The labour force, Australia (6203.0)

### Other publications

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Graycar, Adam and Jamrozik, Adam, How Australians live, Macmillan Education, South Melbourne (2nd edition), 1993

Junankar, P.N. and Kapuscinski, C.A., 'The incidence of long-term unemployment in Australia', Australian National University Centre for Economic Policy Research, Canberra, Discussion paper no. 249, 1991

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McClelland, A., 'Long-term unemployment: Costs and responses', The Australian Economic Review, Melbourne, Second quarter, 1993

McClelland, A., 'Families and financial disadvantage', Family matters, No. 37, April 1994, pp. 29-33

National Council for the International Year of the Family, The heart of the matter: Families at the centre of public policy, AGPS, Canberra, 1994

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD Employment Outlook, various issues

## Related Publications

Australian Social Trends (4102.0)

Australia's families: Selected findings from the Survey of Families in Australia, 1992 (4418.0)

Disability, Ageing and Carers: User guide, Australia (4431.0)

Disability, Ageing and Carers: Data reference package (4432.0)

Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of findings, Australia, 1993 (4430.0)

Families in Australia: A guide to content and procedures (4415.0)

Families in Australia: Data reference package (4419.0)

Families in Australia: Unit record file on magnetic tape (4417.0)

Focus on Families: A statistical series:

- Demographics and family formation (4420.0)
- Work and family responsibilities (4422.0) (forthcoming)
- Caring in families: Support for persons who are older or have disabilities (4423.0) (forthcoming)
- Income and housing (4424.0) (forthcoming)
- Family life (4425.0) (forthcoming)

Information Paper: Families in Australia, Unit Record File on Magnetic Tape (4416.0)

Schools, Australia (4221.0)

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## Symbols used

\* relative standard error greater than 25 and up to 50 per cent

\*\* relative standard error over 50 per cent. Figures should be used with caution. If appears in place of an estimate, the estimate is zero.

.. not applicable

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