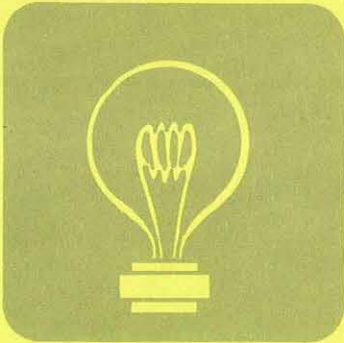
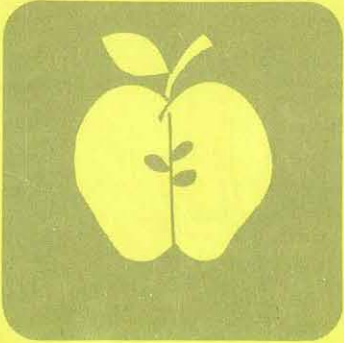
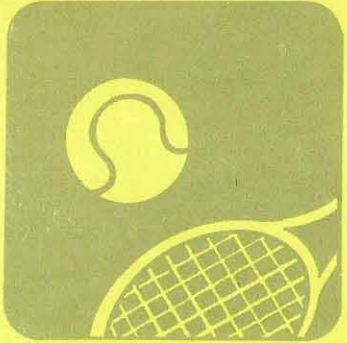
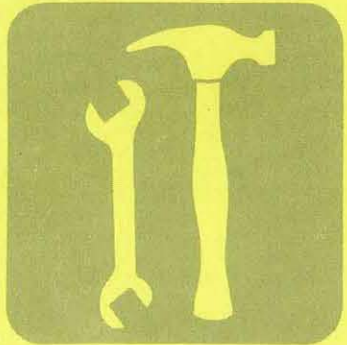
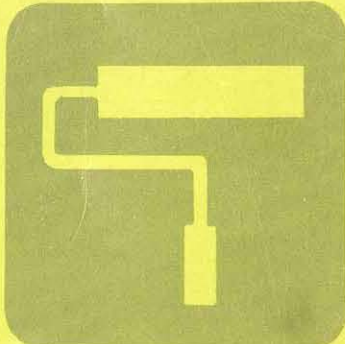
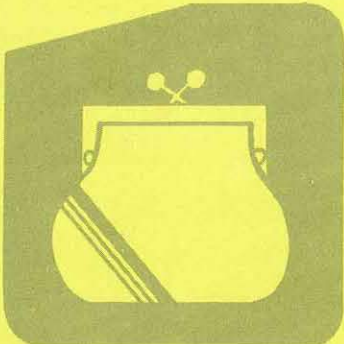
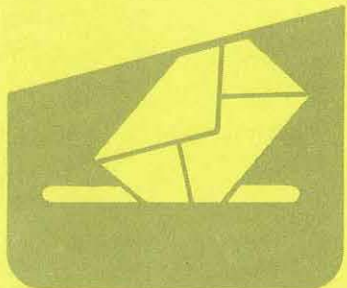


 **1984**
 Australian Bureau of Statistics

Household Expenditure Survey, Australia

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

ABS Catalogue No. 6530.0



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1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, AUSTRALIA

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A. R. BAGNALL

Acting Australian Statistician

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PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics*—contact Mr David Bennison on Canberra (062) 52 7373 or any of our State offices.

other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

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PREFACE

This publication presents final results from the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey (HES). Preliminary results were published in the three publications (6528.0, 6529.0 and 6534.0) issued last year. It is the first in a series of publications (see Appendix 1 for content and timing of the later publications) which will present final estimates from the survey.

The 1984 Household Expenditure Survey is the third in a series of such surveys. The previous two were conducted in 1974-75 and 1975-76. The 1984 survey is similar in content to those previously conducted and covers the whole of Australia (except remote and sparsely settled areas).

Special thanks are extended to all those households in the sample whose co-operation and high degree of response was vital to the success of the survey.

**Australian Bureau of Statistics
Canberra A.C.T. 2600
February 1986**

**A. R. BAGNALL
Acting Australian Statistician**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents final results from the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey (HES). (Appendix I lists already issued and proposed publications.)

2. The statistics presented in this publication are intended to present a broad overview of data items collected during the 1984 HES. Emphasis has been given to highlighting the differing household expenditure patterns and levels revealed when average weekly household expenditure is cross-classified by various household characteristics (e.g. income levels and sources, geographic location, family composition of the household) and selected household head characteristics.

3. The 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0), released on 7 June 1984, was partly aimed to assist users in evaluating and interpreting results arising from this survey. In addition to the Information Paper, a detailed concepts, methodology and procedures publication is expected to be issued shortly, to coincide with the release of the unit record tape.

4. *Public use unit record tapes* will be made available to interested users subject to unit record data being 'confidentialised' thereby ensuring that no possibility exists for identifying individual households. The contents of the tape will be consistent with the output data items contained in Appendices 2.0 and 3.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0).

Scope and coverage

Geographical areas

5. The survey covers both rural and urban areas (except remote and sparsely settled areas) in all States and Territories.

Dwellings

6. Only private dwellings and caravan sites were included in this survey. Private dwellings are houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and any other structures used as private places of residence at the time of the survey. Hotels, boarding houses, hospitals, etc. were regarded as 'special dwellings' outside the scope of the survey.

Households

7. Information was collected on a household basis (see paragraph 26 for definition of a household) rather than for selected individuals in the population, because many items of expenditure such as food, accommodation and household goods and appliances relate to the household as a unit.

8. The following households and individuals were excluded from the survey:

- (a) foreign diplomatic households and foreign diplomatic staff households;
- (b) foreign defence force staff households;

- (c) visitors staying with a household for less than six weeks after the initial interview;
- (d) households with one or more usual members, who were spenders, who could not be interviewed within 14 days after the initial approach; and
- (e) households with one or more usual members, present at the initial interview, who expected to be absent at the end of diary-keeping.

Objectives and uses

9. The principal aim of the survey was to measure levels and patterns of expenditure on goods and services by private households in Australia and to identify factors which influence these levels and patterns.

10. Statistics on household expenditure are needed because:

- households are important economic and social units; and
- private expenditure by households is a major indicator of their well-being.

11. Data collected in the 1984 HES will allow the following analyses:

- examination of the distribution of household expenditure and income;
- examination of the effect of changes in the structure of pensions, benefits and taxes on the patterns of household expenditure and the distribution of household income;
- development of government policy and planning in respect of specific components of expenditure (e.g. housing, health, transport);
- analysis of the expenditure of particular groups (e.g. pensioners, self-employed, wage and salary earners, one-parent families, unemployed, migrants and young families) compared with the general population;
- analysis of household expenditure by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) target group of households to enable the reweighting of the CPI;
- analysis of expenditure and income patterns of low income households. This will be particularly valuable for constructing equivalence scales for use in the analysis of poverty and equity of Government pensions and benefits;
- analysis of changes in expenditure and income patterns since the 1975-76 HES;
- comparison of expenditure patterns in rural and urban households and across State and Territory boundaries;
- comparison of expenditure patterns in Australia with other countries (e.g. used in setting of allowances for Australian personnel stationed overseas);

- planning of private enterprise marketing development to more appropriately meet the needs of consumers;
- improvement of estimates of private final consumption expenditure used in the National Accounts; and
- updating expenditure data used in economic models such as IMPACT.

Survey design

12. It was decided that a sample of 7,500 fully responding households would be sufficient, distributed across Australia, to achieve the objectives of the survey. However, due to a favourable response, the sample finally achieved was 9,571 fully responding households.

13. The process of identifying separate households was to select private dwellings (and caravans) and then to determine which households lived within each of these dwellings. The following table shows the distribution of the sample of households across States and Territories.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY: ACTUAL NUMBER OF FULLY RESPONDING HOUSEHOLDS

<i>State or Territory</i>	<i>Metro-politan</i>	<i>Other urban</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Total</i>
New South Wales	1,142	718	180	2,040
Victoria	1,325	471	151	1,947
Queensland	929	447	128	1,504
South Australia	863	108	78	1,049
Western Australia	892	140	52	1,084
Tasmania	546	123	49	718
Northern Territory	565	20	2	587
Australian Capital Territory	634	—	8	642
Australia	6,896	2,027	648	9,571

14. The method of sample selection differed for private dwellings and caravans. For private dwellings the sample was selected in three stages. Firstly, a sample of 1981 Population Census Collector's Districts (CDs) was selected, then, within the selected CDs, blocks of roughly equal size were sampled; and, finally, a sample of dwellings was selected from a list of all private dwellings within each selected block.

15. A two-stage selection process was employed in the caravan strata. Firstly, a number of caravan parks were selected and, secondly, a sample of sites was chosen from each selected caravan park.

16. A complex estimation procedure was then applied to enable the survey data to be expanded to obtain estimates for the defined population. The procedure was to apply an expansion factor ('weight') to each responding household. This included an adjustment to account for non-responding households from whom some or all information could not be obtained.

Data collection method

17. Trained interviewers were used to conduct personal interviews to collect information on expenditure items which occur infrequently (e.g. purchase of vehicles and

property, and the payment of household bills such as electricity and gas) and to collect details of income from all household members aged 15 years or over. In addition, household members aged 15 years or over were asked to record all payments made during a specified period in a diary provided to each of them. The diary-keeping period was two weeks for the majority of households (households in rural areas were asked to record payments made during a four-week period). Consequently, each household was involved in the survey for either two or four weeks, although the sample of households was spread evenly over the twelve-month survey period, from January to December 1984.

18. To assist in the investigation of whether to include home mortgage interest as part of the CPI, a procedure was adopted which included a process of obtaining information on interest payments directly from the lending institution. In order to accomplish this, permission was first sought from the responsible householder before contact was made with the lending institution.

Definitions

Expenditure

19. The 1984 HES was based on an acquisitions approach. This means that the expenditure related to goods and services acquired during the reference period, whether or not those goods were paid for or consumed; e.g. goods purchased by Bankcard were counted as expenditure at the time they were acquired rather than at the time the Bankcard bill was paid. *Expenditure* is net of refunds or expected refunds (e.g. payments for doctors visits are net of any refunds received or expected from Medicare). Information about most types of expenditure was obtained from the diary, although some infrequently reported items of expenditure were collected on a 'recall' or last payment basis. The length of the recall period ranged from two years for house purchases to three months for health expenses.

20. For a comprehensive list of items of expenditure collected in the 1984 HES, and the composition of a particular broad expenditure group, reference should be made to Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper.

21. The classification of expenditure in the survey—the Household Expenditure Survey Commodity Code List (HESCCL)—has two major divisions, i.e. expenditure on 'commodities and services' (the first 13 broad expenditure groups) and on what is termed 'other selected payments'. Other selected payments are composed mostly of capital items such as capital housing costs, superannuation and life insurance, but also includes income tax. This division differentiates between consumption type items, which were the major focus of the survey, and those which were not necessarily 'consumed' by the household (e.g. life insurance payments can be thought of as savings rather than spending).

Income

22. *Income* is defined as gross weekly income from all sources (before deductions for income tax, superannuation, etc.) at the time of the interview. Details of income were collected from all household members. The main components of income are:

- (a) current usual wages and salaries;
- (b) income derived from self-employment;
- (c) government direct benefits (including benefits received from an overseas government but excluding educational grants, see (e) below);
- (d) income from investments (including interest, dividends, royalties and rent); and
- (e) other regular income (including educational grants and private and government scholarships received in 'cash', superannuation, Workers' Compensation, alimony or maintenance, and any other allowances regularly received).

23. Although most information about income was obtained on a current basis, some was obtained in respect of the previous financial year.

24. In general, income is regarded as all receipts which are received regularly and are of a recurring nature. Certain receipts were not considered to conform to this criterion and were therefore treated as being outside the scope of the survey. Such receipts included the following:

- (a) maturity payments on insurance policies, superannuation, etc. as these lump-sum receipts were regarded as maturity of an investment rather than income;
- (b) lump-sum compensation for injury, and legal damages received;
- (c) windfall gains such as gambling and lottery winnings;
- (d) lump-sum inheritances and other lump-sum receipts;
- (e) withdrawals from savings;
- (f) loans and credit obtained;
- (g) profit from buying and selling of stocks, shares and other capital goods, unless as a business (even if these profits are taxable);
- (h) value of home-produced goods where the economic activity of the household was not associated with the production of these goods;
- (i) monetary gifts if not regularly received, and the value of non-monetary gifts from another household;
- (j) loans being repaid to a member of the household by a third party;
- (k) receipts from sale of household effects, e.g. furniture, television sets, refrigerators;
- (l) income derived from the 'cash economy' and not reported; and
- (m) employer contributions to superannuation funds and/or life assurance policies.

25. The income data collected in the survey are only those types included in the definitions. The survey does not collect all funds available for expenditure. The survey therefore does not purport to be an income-expenditure balance sheet. The collection of income data in the survey is primarily undertaken to allow households to be classified into groups for expenditure analysis. *It is not expected that income and expenditure will balance either for an individual household or even when averaged over a group of households. The difference between expenditure and income is therefore not necessarily a measure of savings or dis-savings.*

Household

26. A *household* is defined as a group of people who live together (in a single dwelling) as a single unit in the sense that they have common housekeeping arrangements; that is, they have some common provision for food and other essentials of living. Persons living in the same dwelling but having separate catering arrangements constitute separate households.

Other definitions

27. The *head of a household* is taken to be that person nominated by the member(s) of the household as the 'head'. Because of this, care should be taken in interpreting Table 8 of this publication.

28. *Age* was classified according to the person's age at last birthday.

29. *Employment status.* All persons aged 15 years or over were classified according to whether they were *employed* (either full-time or part-time), *unemployed* or *not in the labour force*.

30. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years or over, who in their main job:

- (i) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (ii) worked for fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (iii) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks prior to the placement date; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks prior to the placement date; on strike or locked out; on Workers' Compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

31. *Full-time workers* are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more. *Part-time workers* are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week.

32. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years or over who were not employed, and

- (i) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks prior to the placement date, and;
 - were available for work, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks prior to the placement date); or
 - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the placement date and would have started if the job had been available then; or
- (ii) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks prior to the placement date for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

33. *Persons not in the labour force* are those who, during the survey period, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed'.

34. *Self-employed* are those persons whose main source of 'earned' income is derived from their own business or partnership.

35. *Occupation* was coded for all persons aged 15 years or over who were classed as employed persons (using a classification based on the Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCLO) used during the 1981 Census of Population and Housing).

36. The *principal source of income* for each household (or household head) is derived using a classification of two levels. The first level of the classification differentiates between *total Government pensions and 'cash' benefits* and *total regular income from other sources* (mostly private income). At the next level, income is classified according to 21 individual sources of income and from this the principal source of income for each household (or household head) was derived. Children's income, earned or unearned, was allocated to the nominated household head's income.

37. The *nature of housing occupancy* is determined according to whether the selected dwelling is owned outright, in the process of being bought, being rented privately or through the Government (either furnished or unfurnished), or is occupied rent free.

38. *Family composition of the household* classification is divided into three broad groupings (single families, multiple families and households with only unrelated persons present, including single person households). Additional categories are formed according to the number of dependent (i.e. all persons aged less than 15 years and those aged 15-20 who are full-time students) and non-dependent offspring, the presence of non-family individuals, the number of unrelated persons and the identification of single parent families within the household.

39. *Capital cities* (metropolitan areas) are defined as the six State capital city Statistical Divisions, the Darwin Statistical Division and the Canberra Statistical Division as delimited for purposes of the 1981 Census of Population and Housing.

40. *Other urban areas* are defined as all towns and urban centres with a population of 500 persons or more (excluding the capital cities) as delimited for purposes of the 1981 Census of Population and Housing.

41. *Rural areas* are defined as all localities with a population less than 500 persons. Remote areas with less than 0.06 dwellings per square kilometre were excluded from the survey.

42. *Per capita* estimates of average weekly expenditure or income are derived by dividing the weekly expenditure and income, of all household members, by the number of household members, irrespective of age.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error.

Sampling error

43. This is the difference which would be expected between the estimate and the corresponding figure that would have been obtained from a collection based on the whole population, using the same questionnaires and procedures. A measure of the sampling error for a given estimate is provided by the *standard error* expressed as a percentage of the estimate (relative standard error). In this publication, estimates with a relative standard error between 30 and 50 per cent are preceded by an *. Estimates with a relative standard error greater than 50 per cent are suppressed and replaced by an *. Appendix 2 contains a discussion of sampling error as well as giving details for calculating the percentage standard error for selected estimates in this publication.

Non-sampling error

44. These errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or from a complete enumeration, and are usually referred to as non-sampling errors. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:

- (a) inability to obtain comprehensive data from all households included in the sample. These errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics and patterns of expenditure and income between responding and non-responding households;
- (b) errors in reporting on the part of both respondents and interviewers. These reporting errors may arise through inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of what data are required, inability or unwillingness to provide accurate information and mistakes in answers to questions; and
- (c) errors arising during processing of the survey data. These processing errors may arise through mistakes in coding and data recording as well

as errors arising from incorrect classifications of individual payments to some of the more detailed expenditure categories.

45. Non-sampling errors are difficult to measure in any collection, however, every effort was made to minimise these errors. In particular, the effect of the reporting and processing errors described above were minimised by careful questionnaire design, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, asking respondents to refer to records whenever possible and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

46. The error due to incomplete response was minimised by call-backs to initially non-responding households in order to explain the importance of their co-operation to the project, and by adjustment to the 'weights' (the factors used to expand the sample data to obtain population estimates). The weights were allocated to the responding households in order to allow for households with similar characteristics from whom comprehensive data was not obtained.

47. Because of the extended collection period of the survey, changes in money values and changes in the relative prices of goods and services during the period have some implications for the interpretation of the results. The reference periods of data items differed, first, because households were approached at different dates over the duration of the survey and, second, because data items were obtained in respect of varying reference periods (e.g. medical expenses in respect of the previous 3 months, purchase of motor vehicles in the previous 12 months). These factors should be borne in mind in interpreting the results.

Limitations of the survey

48. The 1984 Household Expenditure Survey was designed to fulfil a number of specific objectives (see paragraphs 9-11) and as a consequence the data has limitations when being used:

- as a measure of savings or dis-savings. (Interested users are referred to the publication *Expenditure by Principal Source of Income of Households, Preliminary* (6534.0) which highlighted the problems of using the data for such purposes);
- as a proxy measure for the National Accounts concept of private final consumption expenditure (e.g. the survey does not include expenditure on goods and services by non-profit organisations; expenditure of a capital nature by unincorporated enterprises and non-profit organisations; imputed rent or imputed interest on life and superannuation funds; and gross payments for health expenses);
- as a projected measure of the Australian population. The Australian population consists of private and special dwellings. Only households in private dwellings (and caravans) were required to participate in the survey, and, therefore, the data presented in this publication reflects the expenditure patterns and levels of those households;
- as a per capita measure of expenditure. The survey was designed to reflect average weekly household expenditure patterns and levels; and
- to service users' needs for detailed regional data. The level of geographical area at which the 1984 HES data can be published, is limited by the level of the sample error.

49. Comparison with the results from the previous household expenditure surveys (1974-75 and 1975-76) has limitations in that changes (e.g. methodological and conceptual) have taken place since then. Some of the major changes are as follows:

- whereas the previous surveys adopted a mixture of 'payments' and 'acquisitions' approaches, the 1984 survey was designed around the 'acquisitions' approach. The 'acquisitions' approach is equivalent to the cost of goods and services *acquired* during the period (ranging from two weeks to two years);
- major changes in categorisation within the HES Commodity Code List (HESCCCL) between 1975-76 and 1984 versions consist of separately identifying current housing costs for the selected dwelling (item code 01); allocating the principal component of mortgage payments to form part of 'other capital housing costs' (item code 16); and collapsing and splitting previously established broad expenditure group items;
- the methodology for assembling the data has changed for some items (e.g. expenditure data for infrequently purchased items, such as household furniture, stoves, refrigerators and washing machines, were collected using a three-month recall period in the 1984 HES, whilst in the 1975-76 HES these items of expenditure were reported in the two-week or four-week diaries);
- the different treatment and incidence of non-monetary income;
- the different sample size (in the 1975-76 HES there were 5,869 fully responding households compared with a corresponding sample size of 9,571 households in the 1984 HES); and
- that estimates of the change in expenditure between 1975-76 and 1984 are subject to the sampling and non-sampling errors referred to in the section, 'Reliability of the estimates' (see paragraphs 43-47). Since the standard error on the difference between the two survey estimates will be greater than the standard error on the estimates for either survey, particular care has to be taken in interpreting such differences.

Related publications

50. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

Household Expenditure Survey, 1974-75, Bulletins 1-8 (6507.0-6514.0)

Household Expenditure Survey, 1975-76, Bulletins 1-4 (6516.0-6519.0)

Social Indicators No. 4, 1984 (4101.0) (\$21.50, \$25.50 incl. postage)

Australian Families, 1982 (4408.0) (\$1.50, \$2.20 incl. postage)

Consumer Price Index (6401.0)

Income and Housing Survey, 1981-82 (6523.0)

51. The dissemination program for the 1984 HES is given in Appendix I, which lists the content and timing for each publication, details of the public use unit record tape and the procedures to follow if user-specific tabulations are required.

52. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- .. not applicable
- nil or rounded to zero
- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See paragraph 43 above.

53. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may exist between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

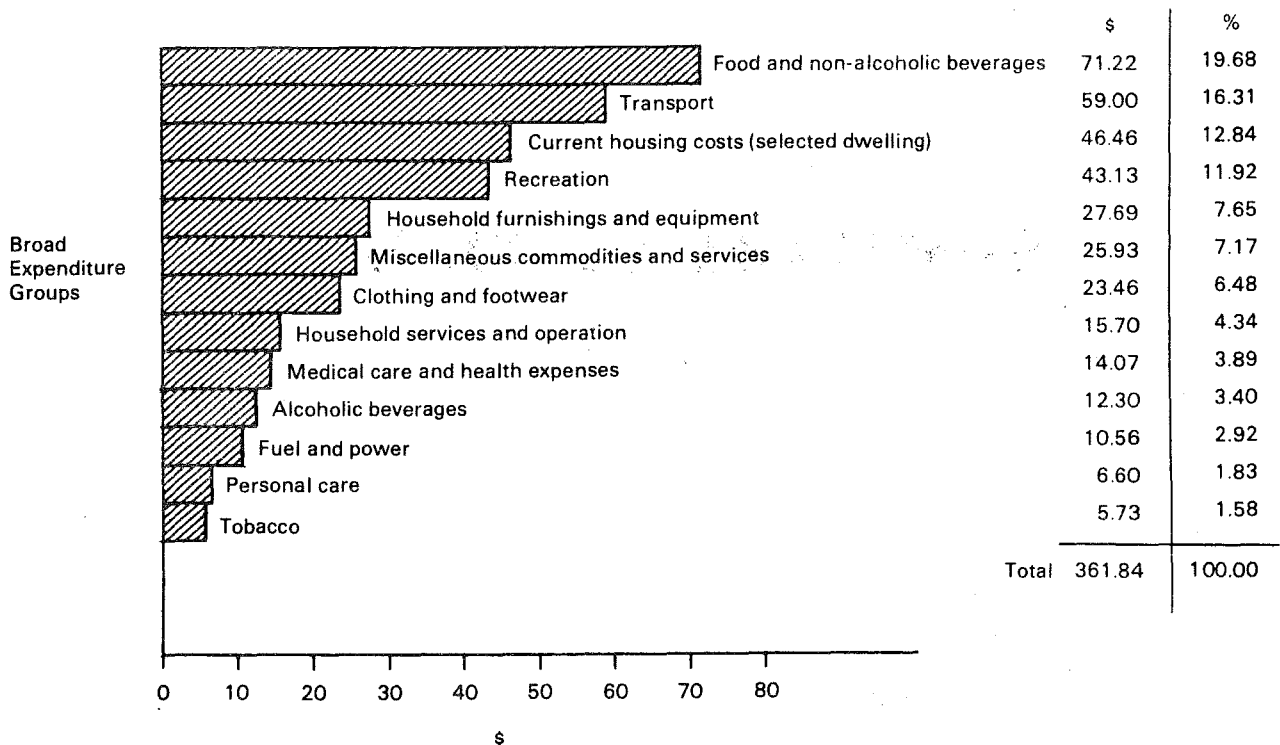
In this publication reference is made to some of the more readily observed relationships shown by the survey results, and to some of the factors which should be taken into account when interpreting the estimates.

Levels and Patterns of Expenditure

At the Australia level, average weekly household

expenditure (see Figure 1 below) on *food and non-alcoholic beverages* (\$71.22 or 19.7% of total expenditure on commodities and services), on *transport* (\$59.00 or 16.3%) and on *current housing costs (for selected dwelling)* (\$46.46 or 12.8%) accounts for 48.8% of total expenditure. Much less significant is the expenditure on *personal care* (\$6.60 or 1.8%) and on *tobacco* (\$5.73 or 1.6%).

FIGURE 1. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON COMMODITIES AND SERVICES, AUSTRALIA, 1984



Comparison with the Results from Previous Expenditure Surveys

A comparison of the 1984 and the 1975-76 HES results is not provided in this summary publication. Any comparison of the statistics from the two surveys has to take account of a number of conceptual and methodological differences (see paragraph 49). However, a later publication in the series will provide comparative data.

Tables

The following 8 tables have been chosen to present a broad overview of data from the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey. They present data on the relationships between average weekly household expenditure and some of the major household characteristics.

Adjacent to each table is an explanatory section which highlights some of the main features of the table both graphically and in written comment. However, the reader will be able to extract much more information from the table itself. The explanatory comments are only included as a guide to the interpretation of the data.

Each table features two separate but interconnected sections depicting:

- average weekly household expenditure; and
- household characteristics (e.g. average weekly household income, the number and age of the household members, the family composition of the household and the populations of persons and households) which help to explain the patterns of expenditure apparent in the first section.

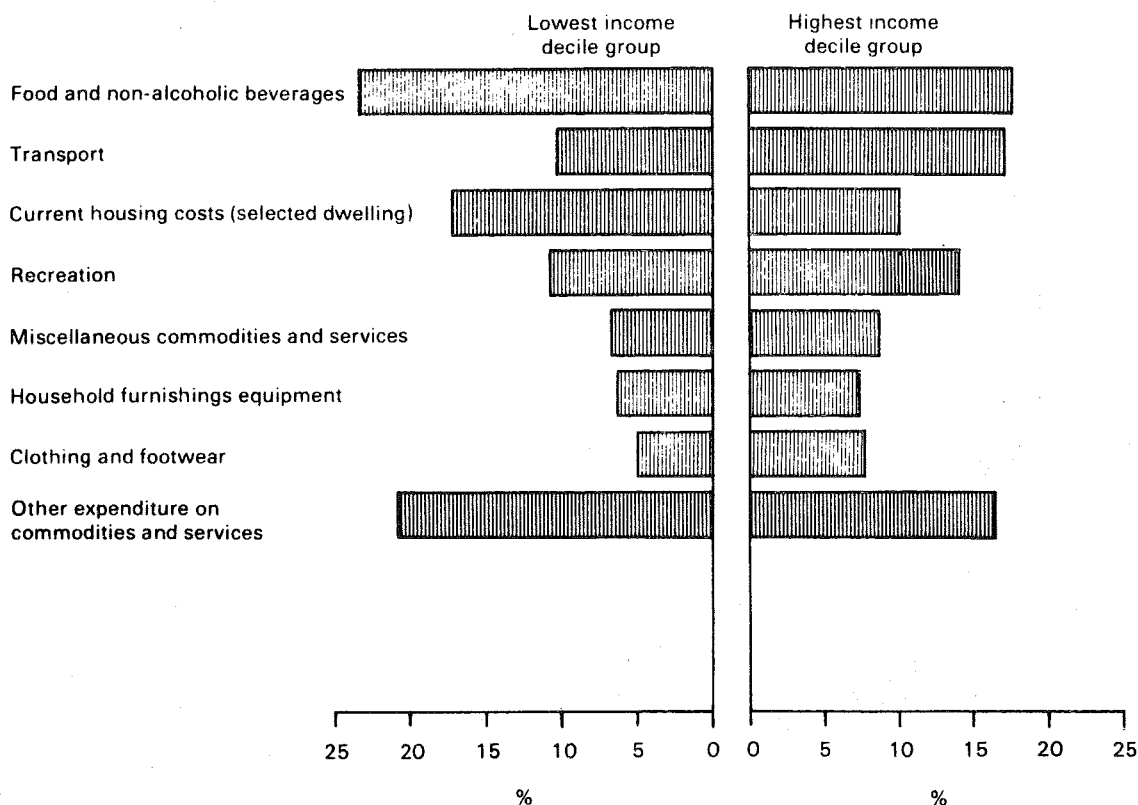
Clearly many of the household characteristics are interrelated and their influence on household expenditure operates both directly and/or through their close relationship with one another.

Level of Household Income

The main determinant of most household spending is obviously the level of household income. Table 1 shows how average weekly expenditure levels and patterns vary with variations in the level of household income. The higher proportion of spending on the 'essentials' of living

such as housing costs, fuel, power and food by the lower income groups is in contrast to the lower proportions shown at the higher end of the income scale. This feature is graphically illustrated in Figure 2 below. In higher earning households, expenditure on transport, recreation and miscellaneous commodities and services show a proportionate increase.

FIGURE 2. COMPARISON OF THE PROPORTION SPENT ON SELECTED BROAD EXPENDITURE GROUPS BY THE LOWEST AND THE HIGHEST INCOME DECILE GROUPS, AUSTRALIA, 1984



Household income levels alone cannot explain the changing patterns of expenditure evident in Table 1. Other important explanatory variables (shown in the second part of Table 1) need to be referenced.

For example, average weekly expenditure on food shows almost a four-fold increase (\$32.94 to \$122.79) from the lowest to the highest income group. This increase cannot be solely attributed to a higher disposable income however, since, as the second part of Table 1 shows, the average number of persons per household is 1.3 for the lowest income group and 3.8 for the highest.

Similarly, Table 1 shows that current housing costs are \$24.19 per week, on average, for the lowest income group and \$70.14 per week, on average, for the highest.

Again, this does not simply reflect variation in household income but is explained, at least in part, by relationships given in the second part of Table 1. The lowest income group are older (average age of household head is 62.4 years), mostly pensioners (85.9% of total household income is derived from Government pensions and benefits) and, as would be expected for this profile, contain the highest proportion of outright home owners. It would therefore be expected that current housing costs would be lower for home owners and for those in subsidised housing.

One feature that emerges from Table 1 is that average weekly household expenditure, as measured in HES, exceeds the measured household income for households in the lower income groups. It is a feature that shows up quite distinctly in the following graph.

This should not be taken to be an indication of savings or dis-savings (refer to the 1984 HES publication, *Expenditure by Principal Sources of Income of Households, Preliminary* (6534.0)). Factors that influence the income/expenditure relationship include:

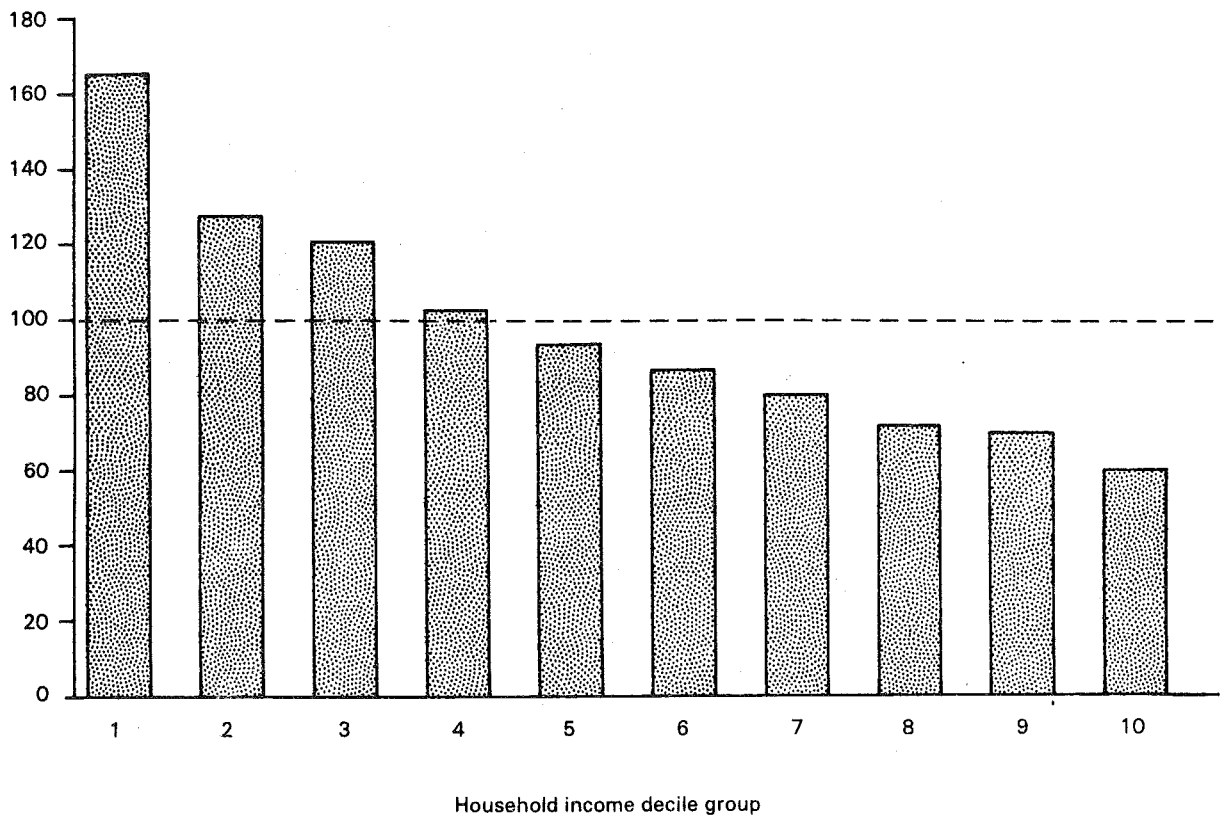
- the extent of consumer credit availability;
- the under-measurement of income (particularly where the principal source of household income was derived from own business);
- that expenditure was based on an acquisitions

approach, i.e. expenditure was recorded even though the payment may not have been made (see paragraph 19 of the Explanatory notes);

- that the relatively small residual derived by taking the difference between two large variables, each containing sampling and non-sampling errors, is itself subject to errors which may be much larger than the residual; and
- the unknown characteristics of the non-responding households.

FIGURE 3. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE AS A PERCENTAGE OF AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME, AUSTRALIA, 1984

Household expenditure as
a % of household income



1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 1: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME DECILE GROUP, AUSTRALIA (a)

Commodity or service	Average Weekly Household Gross Income Distribution (\$)										All household holds
	0-113	114-171	172-235	236-314	315-387	388-472	473-564	565-675	676-860	861+	
Broad Expenditure Group (b)	Lowest 10%	Second decile group	Third decile group	Fourth decile group	Fifth decile group	Sixth decile group	Seventh decile group	Eighth decile group	Ninth decile group	Highest 10%	
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (c)											
Commodity or service	24.19	27.64	29.40	41.00	48.10	52.41	54.31	55.94	61.56	70.14	46.46
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	6.42	8.07	9.37	10.95	10.45	10.90	11.55	11.50	12.62	15.50	10.56
Fuel and power	32.94	44.06	54.95	60.45	65.21	73.19	80.08	83.37	95.15	122.79	71.22
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	3.43	4.33	6.75	9.48	10.00	13.04	14.35	16.60	18.72	26.31	12.30
Alcoholic beverages	2.58	3.67	5.00	6.01	5.80	6.63	6.58	6.51	7.12	7.38	5.73
Tobacco	7.03	10.59	14.20	16.65	18.74	21.04	24.15	27.11	41.58	53.54	23.46
Clothing and footwear	8.73	14.22	18.10	20.67	22.45	29.74	34.46	33.79	43.75	51.01	27.69
Household furnishings and equipment	8.59	10.49	12.87	13.32	14.43	15.27	16.45	17.84	20.81	26.90	15.70
Household services and operation	5.82	6.47	8.59	12.26	13.88	14.95	15.33	17.82	21.29	24.36	14.07
Medical care and health expenses	14.23	25.67	37.91	45.43	53.38	58.63	67.64	76.69	92.58	117.92	59.00
Transport	15.10	18.39	26.11	28.36	34.38	45.14	48.15	54.94	63.97	96.79	43.13
Recreation	2.58	3.78	4.26	5.29	5.52	6.44	6.99	8.53	9.86	12.80	6.60
Personal care	9.16	10.31	12.05	16.80	24.02	21.75	32.74	32.97	38.11	61.52	25.93
Miscellaneous commodities and services	140.79	187.70	239.54	284.92	326.35	369.12	412.78	443.61	527.12	686.96	361.84
Total commodity or service expenditure											
Selected other payments	6.00	6.56	13.73	38.07	56.22	76.22	97.58	112.65	145.10	249.05	80.07
Income tax	2.01	1.52	2.19	4.44	6.44	7.02	8.43	9.17	10.76	12.90	6.49
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	13.29	1.27	7.75	7.53	15.83	17.48	18.40	24.36	27.18	47.15	18.01
Other capital housing costs	1.01	0.85	1.96	4.96	9.13	11.59	15.52	17.27	22.47	30.40	11.51
Superannuation and life insurance	Proportion of total expenditure on commodities and services(%)										
Commodity or service	17.18	14.73	12.27	14.39	14.74	14.20	13.16	12.61	11.68	10.21	12.84
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	4.56	4.30	3.91	3.23	3.20	2.95	2.80	2.59	2.39	2.26	2.92
Fuel and power	23.40	23.48	22.94	21.22	19.98	19.83	19.40	18.79	18.05	17.87	19.68
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	2.44	2.31	2.82	3.33	3.06	3.53	3.48	3.74	3.55	3.83	3.40
Alcoholic beverages	1.83	1.95	2.09	2.11	1.78	1.80	1.59	1.47	1.35	1.07	1.58
Tobacco	4.99	5.64	5.93	5.85	5.74	5.70	5.85	6.11	7.89	7.79	6.48
Clothing and footwear	6.20	7.58	7.56	7.25	6.88	8.06	8.35	7.62	8.30	7.43	7.65
Household furnishings and equipment	6.10	5.59	5.37	4.67	4.42	4.14	3.99	4.02	3.95	3.92	4.34
Household services and operation	4.13	3.45	3.59	4.30	4.25	4.05	3.71	4.02	4.04	3.55	3.89
Medical care and health expenses	10.11	13.68	15.83	15.95	16.36	15.88	16.39	17.29	17.56	17.17	16.31
Transport	10.73	9.80	10.90	9.95	10.53	12.23	11.67	12.38	12.14	14.09	11.92
Recreation	1.83	2.02	1.78	1.86	1.69	1.74	1.69	1.92	1.87	1.86	1.83
Personal care	6.50	5.49	5.03	5.90	7.36	5.89	7.93	7.43	7.23	8.96	7.17
Miscellaneous commodities and services	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total commodity or service expenditure											

(a) The decile groups in this table are 10% groupings of the estimated population when households are ranked in ascending order according to each household's total gross weekly income. (b) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (c) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey in the relevant decile group.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 1: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME DECILE GROUP, AUSTRALIA (a)—continued

Household Characteristics	Average Weekly Household Gross Income Distribution (\$)										All household holds
	0-113	114-171	172-235	236-314	315-387	388-472	473-564	565-675	676-860	861+	
<i>Average weekly household income (\$)</i> (b)	85.16	147.03	198.80	278.15	349.73	427.99	517.70	619.01	757.19	1156.80	453.60
<i>Average weekly per capita income (\$)</i> (c)	79.98	84.19	93.31	139.54	158.30	180.61	202.16	237.61	268.87	353.46	179.76
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$)</i> (c)	111.03	101.14	106.95	132.80	136.16	147.62	155.02	162.77	180.65	200.47	143.44
Proportion of total income being:											
Wages and salaries	%	1.86	12.92	57.00	72.85	76.44	82.64	83.53	84.68	77.04	71.62
Own business	%	2.85	4.94	9.50	9.91	7.56	6.44	6.02	6.19	12.68	8.46
Government pensions and benefits	%	85.92	79.53	59.27	19.90	9.75	4.86	3.61	2.43	1.56	11.29
Other	%	9.37	11.84	18.30	13.20	9.83	6.07	6.84	6.70	8.71	8.63
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average age of household head (years)</i>		62.40	57.08	53.71	45.39	42.33	40.62	41.25	41.97	44.01	47.05
Average number of persons per household:											
Under 18 years	No.	0.16	0.44	0.76	0.90	1.12	1.09	1.04	0.97	1.02	0.86
18 to 64 years	No.	0.58	0.88	1.23	1.61	1.75	2.00	2.08	2.28	2.72	1.70
65 years and over	No.	0.56	0.72	0.61	0.23	0.15	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.27
Total	No.	1.30	2.04	2.61	2.74	3.02	3.18	3.21	3.33	3.82	2.84
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:											
Owned outright	%	58.90	55.08	54.58	38.23	30.79	27.63	31.25	32.32	35.02	39.42
Being bought	%	7.48	10.96	15.02	26.59	36.56	44.47	44.79	48.86	46.76	32.08
Renting—government	%	9.83	11.36	8.46	5.94	7.01	2.91	3.33	2.67	0.90	5.71
Renting—private	%	16.61	19.12	17.56	25.28	22.76	21.92	18.99	14.00	15.72	19.49
Occupied rent free	%	7.18	3.47	4.38	3.97	2.88	3.07	1.65	2.15	1.60	3.31
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average number of employed persons in household (number)</i> (d)		0.20	0.20	0.43	0.91	1.11	1.56	1.77	2.04	2.47	1.20
Proportion of households with family composition of the household being:											
Married couple:											
— only	%	5.46	45.95	39.78	25.10	17.85	17.72	21.92	25.00	16.43	23.91
— with dependent children only	%	6.64	8.05	22.98	31.65	43.49	43.06	43.06	31.51	29.75	29.68
— other	%	0.84	1.76	4.53	8.40	7.98	14.44	19.24	28.41	38.00	13.54
Single parent one family household only	%	1.68	17.11	10.79	4.66	4.32	2.41	1.90	2.16	1.07	4.99
Single person household	%	84.48	23.29	11.45	22.37	18.43	7.71	6.24	2.51	1.61	19.08
Other (e)	%	0.91	3.84	10.47	7.81	7.92	10.47	11.75	10.41	13.15	8.80
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Estimated number of households being in (f):											
Metropolitan areas	(000)	306.0	304.5	287.5	292.0	318.7	324.3	360.0	357.8	382.5	3,279.9
Other urban areas	(000)	145.6	149.3	162.9	148.7	134.2	148.4	117.7	118.5	96.0	1,340.1
Rural areas	(000)	48.9	51.1	56.2	65.9	47.4	34.3	27.2	26.6	24.3	419.2
<i>Number of households in sample</i>		886	886	890	921	953	980	1,021	1,010	1,028	9,571
Estimated total number in population:											
Households	(000)	500.5	505.0	506.6	506.5	500.2	501.7	506.0	502.9	502.8	5,039.2
Persons	(000)	651.7	1,031.6	1,321.8	1,388.6	1,511.3	1,570.0	1,597.7	1,672.9	1,920.3	14,290.9

(a) The decile groups in this table are 10% groupings of the estimated population when households are ranked in ascending order according to each household's total gross weekly income. (b) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (c) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (d) See paragraph 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (e) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households. (f) See paragraphs 39-41 of the Explanatory notes.

Principal Source of Household Income

Table 2 reveals the close relationship which exists between the level of household expenditure and the principal sources of household income. Households where the principal household income source was wages and salaries have the highest level of average weekly household expenditure on commodities and services (\$440.73). This is in contrast to age/invalid/wives pensioner households where the expenditure, on average, is approximately a third of the wage and salary earner households (\$150.64). This feature is one which might be expected, especially when the other characteristics of the households comprising these groups are examined. The age/invalid/wives pensioner households have fewer

members (1.6 vs 3.2); and lower average weekly household income (\$139.41 vs \$585.00) than the wage and salary earner households. They also have lower current housing costs because of a higher percentage of home ownership (74.4% vs 26.7%), a higher percentage in subsidised Government housing and are older, on average, indicating lower average mortgage payments for those still buying their home.

Figure 4 below shows the proportion of households in each of the principal source of household income categories. This highlights the importance of the 'wages and salaries' group in Table 2. Approximately 6 out of every 10 households fall in the first column.

FIGURE 4. ALL INCOME RECIPIENTS : PER CENT OF HOUSEHOLDS BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME, AUSTRALIA, 1984

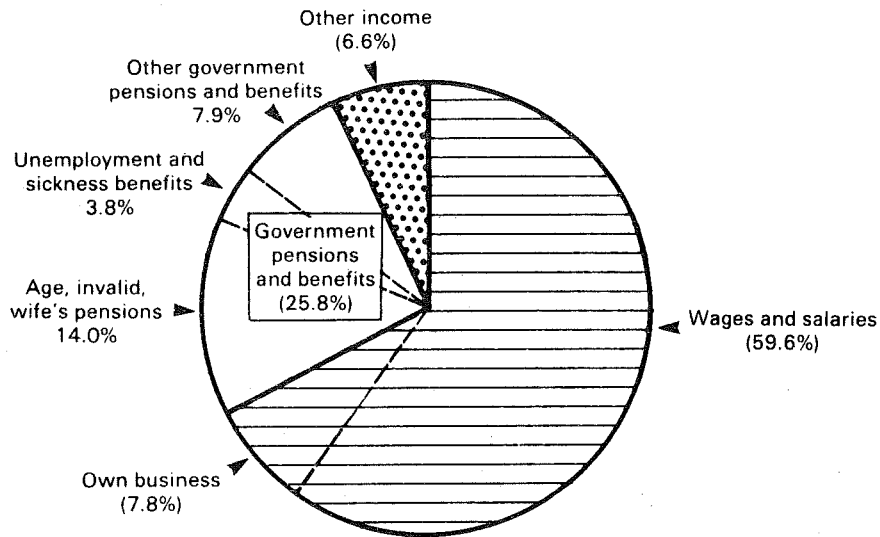
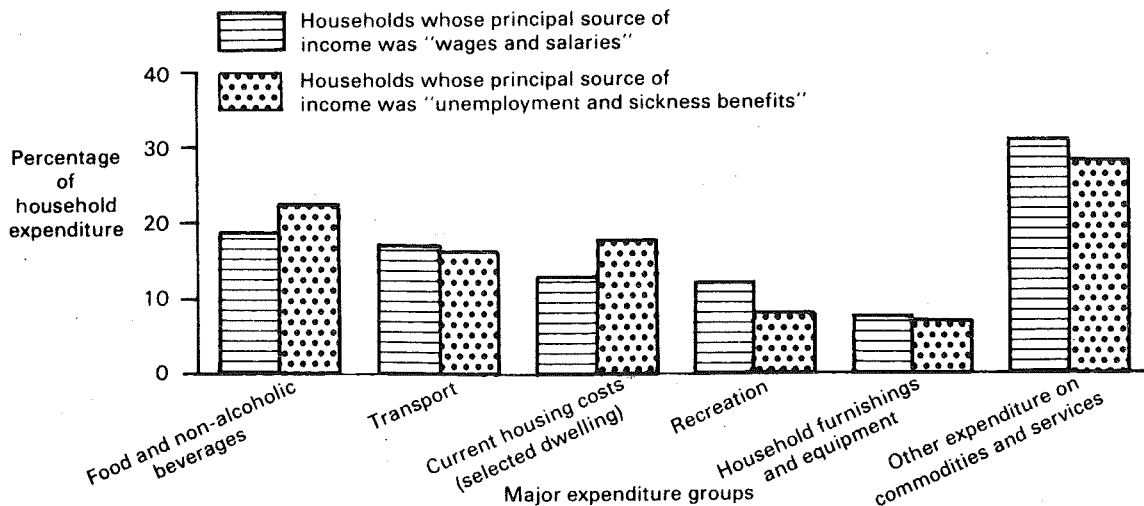


Figure 5 gives a further example of how Table 2 can be used. It shows how total household expenditure is allocated between the broad expenditure categories by those households whose principal source of income was *wages and salaries*, and compares this with

households whose principal source of income was *unemployment and sickness benefits*.

As would be expected, those on unemployment or sickness benefits spent proportionally more on food and housing, and less in other areas.

FIGURE 5. PROPORTION OF AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE : MAJOR EXPENDITURE GROUP BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME, AUSTRALIA, 1984



1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 2: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME, AUSTRALIA

	Principal Source of Household Income									
	Earned income			Government pensions and benefits						
	Wages and salaries	Own business	Total	Age/invalid/wives pensions	Unemployment and sickness benefits	Other government pensions and benefits	Total	Other regular income (a)	Total all sources (b)	
<i>Broad Expenditure Group (d)</i>	Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (c)									
Commodity or service										
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	56.64	46.08	55.41	19.89	44.42	29.23	26.39	33.96	46.46	
Fuel and power	11.48	12.94	11.65	7.18	9.00	8.33	7.80	10.19	10.56	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	82.95	82.56	82.90	38.57	56.03	48.09	44.08	58.53	71.22	
Alcoholic beverages	15.86	13.28	15.56	3.32	6.56	5.82	4.56	9.37	12.30	
Tobacco	6.82	5.17	6.63	2.77	7.55	4.56	4.02	3.13	5.73	
Clothing and footwear	29.16	25.76	28.77	9.66	11.34	13.14	10.98	18.21	23.46	
Household furnishings and equipment	34.06	25.12	33.02	9.75	17.42	21.48	14.49	24.86	27.69	
Household services and operation	17.54	17.32	17.52	10.07	11.05	11.37	10.61	16.90	15.70	
Medical care and health expenses	16.86	18.79	17.09	5.82	4.89	4.21	5.19	17.96	14.07	
Transport	75.09	60.19	73.36	18.84	40.82	29.19	25.27	44.48	59.00	
Recreation	53.80	39.60	52.15	15.54	19.97	24.63	18.99	45.03	43.13	
Personal care	7.99	6.64	7.83	3.16	3.65	4.08	3.52	6.19	6.60	
Miscellaneous commodities and services	32.48	32.24	32.45	6.08	17.34	12.72	9.79	22.33	25.93	
Total commodity or service expenditure	440.73	385.69	434.34	150.64	250.05	216.86	185.69	311.14	361.84	
Selected other payments										
Income tax	111.08	95.08	109.22	2.64	12.79	6.26	5.25	75.99	80.07	
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	8.87	8.13	8.79	0.52	3.33	2.03	1.40	2.99	6.49	
Other capital housing costs	21.47	15.67	20.80	7.04	*2.28	10.40	7.37	*31.54	18.01	
Superannuation and life insurance	17.29	11.02	16.56	0.28	1.34	0.86	0.61	2.55	11.51	
				Household characteristics						
<i>Average weekly household income (\$) (e)</i>	585.00	532.88	578.95	139.41	176.56	168.18	153.74	356.73	453.60	
<i>Average weekly per capita income (\$) (f)</i>	218.60	193.18	215.65	91.46	62.10	86.27	85.53	186.52	179.76	
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$) (f)</i>	161.52	135.09	158.45	97.54	91.97	106.25	99.39	161.86	143.44	
<i>Average age of household head (years)</i>	40.23	44.66	40.75	70.54	38.25	51.82	60.02	60.88	47.05	
Average number of persons per household:										
Under 18 years	No. 1.04	1.19	1.06	0.06	1.39	0.84	0.50	0.30	0.86	
18 to 64 years	No. 2.09	2.03	2.08	0.43	1.89	1.10	0.85	1.11	1.70	
65 years and over	No. 0.05	0.10	0.06	1.11	0.01	0.41	0.73	0.68	0.27	
Total	No. 3.18	3.32	3.20	1.60	3.29	2.34	2.08	2.10	2.84	
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:										
Owned outright	% 26.68	47.47	29.09	74.44	22.21	42.80	57.00	75.58	39.42	
Being bought	% 43.47	35.04	42.49	4.65	15.95	16.61	10.00	12.61	32.08	
Renting—government	% 4.13	1.19	3.79	8.11	17.63	16.19	12.00	0.94	5.71	
Renting—private	% 22.72	13.11	21.60	8.82	40.90	19.30	16.78	8.57	19.49	
Occupied rent free	% 3.00	3.19	3.02	3.98	*3.31	5.09	4.22	2.31	3.31	
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	
<i>Average number of employed persons in household (number) (g)</i>	1.69	1.73	1.69	0.06	0.19	0.19	0.12	0.39	1.20	
Proportion of households with family composition of the household being:										
Married couple:										
— only	% 19.20	19.59	19.24	38.87	13.12	28.50	31.88	39.99	23.91	
— with dependent children only	% 38.43	45.37	39.23	1.38	46.47	6.62	9.65	11.07	29.68	
— other	% 17.74	18.57	17.84	2.88	10.82	2.77	4.02	6.74	13.54	
Single parent one family household only	% 3.18	1.32	2.97	0.44	1.89	34.20	11.03	2.22	4.99	
Single person household	% 11.03	10.84	11.01	49.28	20.76	23.02	36.99	30.91	19.08	
Other (h)	% 10.42	4.31	9.71	7.15	6.93	4.91	6.43	9.07	8.80	
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	
Estimated number of households being in (i):										
Metropolitan areas	('000) 2,075.3	208.1	2,283.4	429.1	116.6	235.7	781.4	212.4	3,279.9	
Other urban areas	('000) 738.7	96.3	835.0	226.4	56.9	133.2	416.5	86.8	1,340.1	
Rural areas	('000) 190.9	90.5	281.4	51.7	18.3	30.1	100.1	31.7	419.2	
<i>Number of households in sample</i>	5,971	694	6,665	1,225	338	734	2,297	591	9,571	
Estimated total number in population:										
Households	('000) 3,004.9	394.9	3,399.8	707.2	191.8	399.0	1,298.0	330.6	5,039.2	
Persons	('000) 9,569.3	1,311.4	10,880.7	1,133.4	630.4	935.2	2,699.1	693.0	14,290.9	

(a) Includes households where the principal source of household income was in the form of superannuation or annuity; interest on financial institution accounts, investments or property rent; scholarship, study allowance or TEAS, Workers' Compensation, accident compensation, maintenance or alimony; or regular income, not elsewhere classified. (b) Includes households who reported no income. (c) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (d) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (e) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (f) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (g) See paragraphs 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (h) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households. (i) See paragraphs 39-41 of the Explanatory notes.

Geographical Area

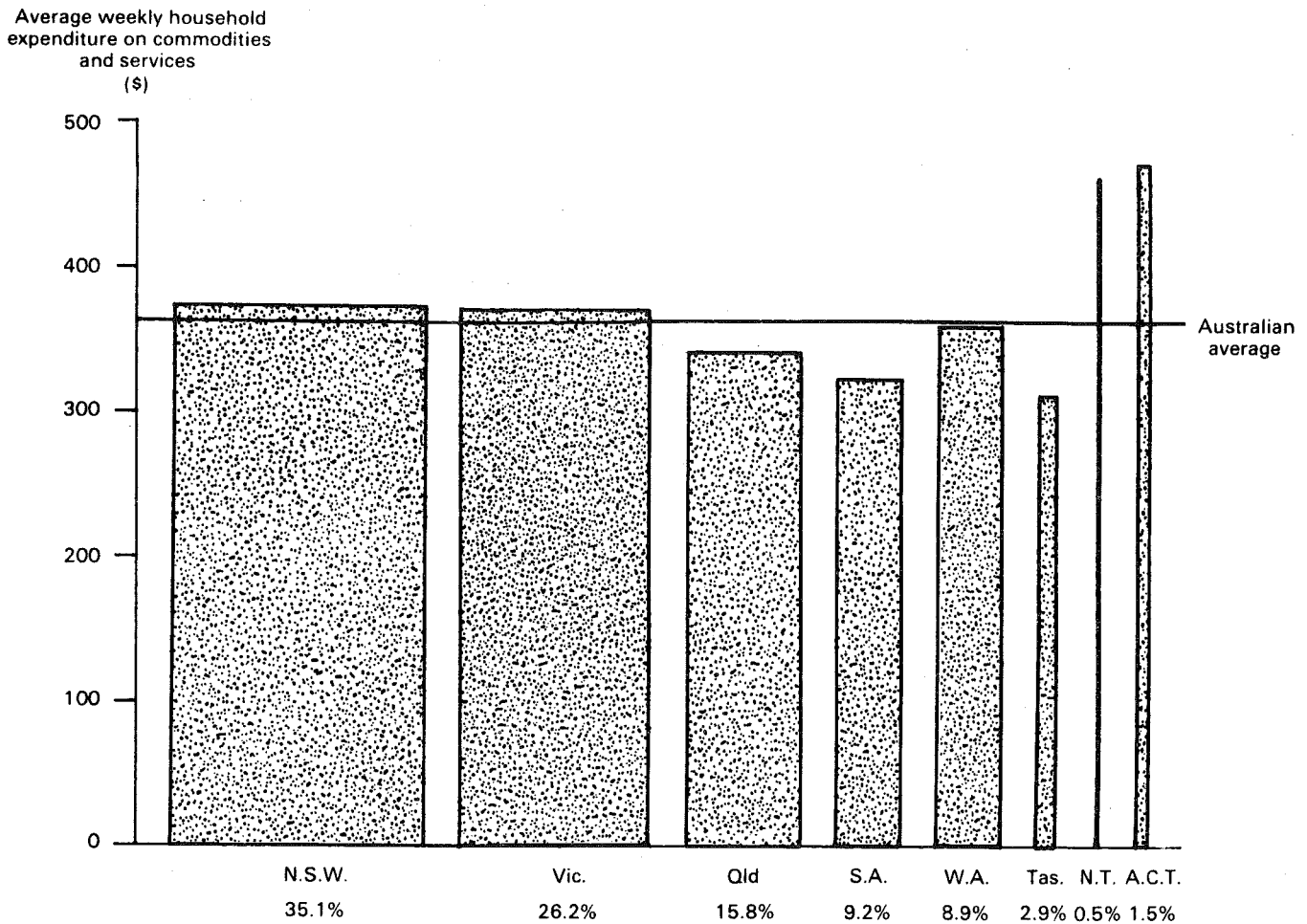
— States and Territories

Average weekly household expenditure on commodities and services in the two Territories was appreciably higher (\$463.46 for Northern Territory and \$472.38 for the Australian Capital Territory) than for

the six States. Tasmania had the lowest average (\$311.90) which fell significantly below the Australian average of \$361.84.

Figure 6 presents this comparison graphically with the relative size (number of households) of each State and Territory represented by the width of the column.

FIGURE 6. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON COMMODITIES AND SERVICES BY STATE OR TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA, 1984



These differences can be attributed, in part, to the respective income levels, the number of persons working, the proportion of households who own their home outright, the proportion of households with earned income (the sum of wages and salaries and own business incomes) and the number of persons per household.

— Capital Cities

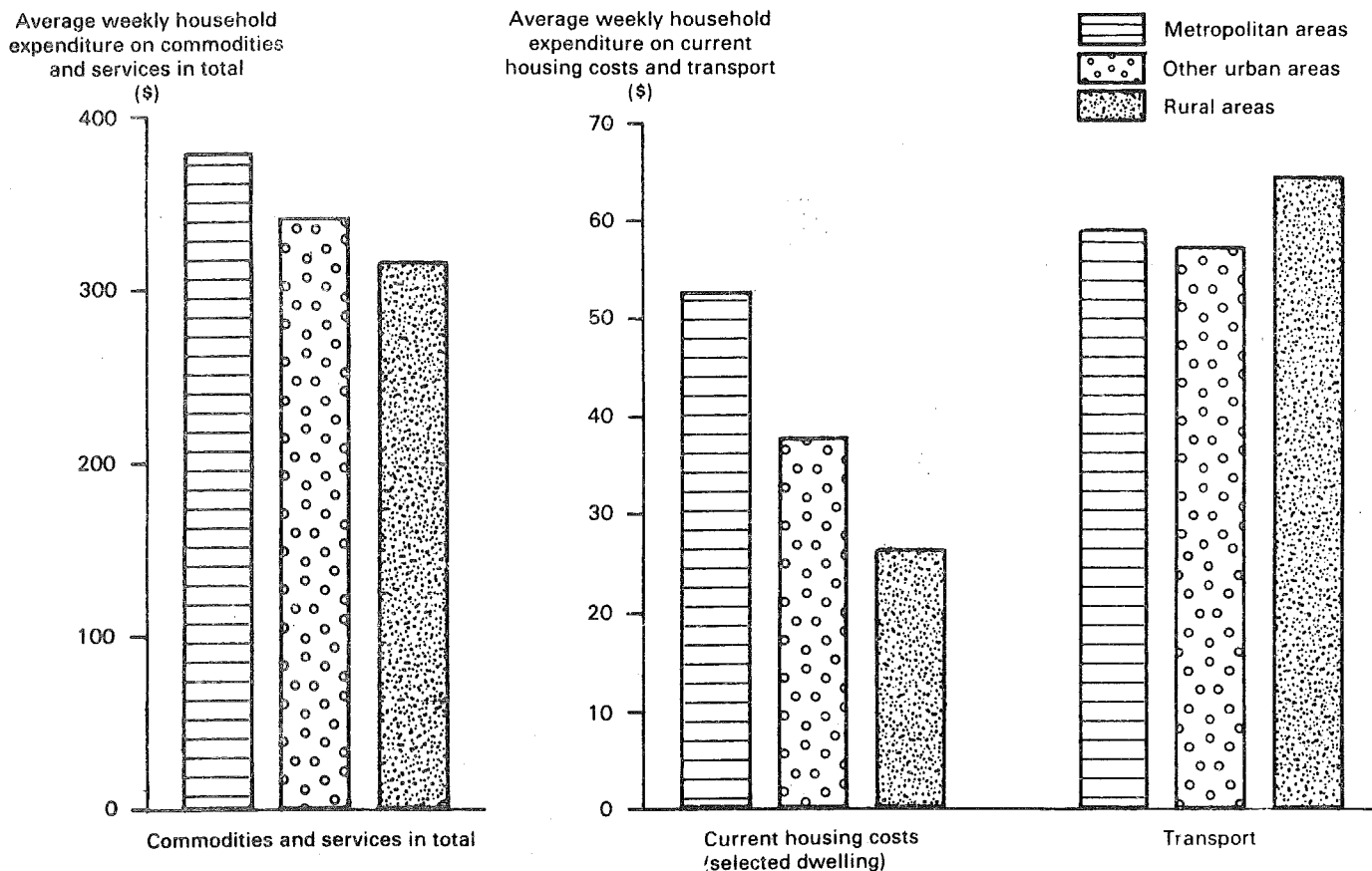
The capital city comparisons are similar to comparisons at the State and Territory level except that the average weekly household expenditure and income levels are marginally higher.

— Metropolitan/Other Urban/Rural

For all households in the metropolitan areas of the six States and two Territories the average weekly household expenditure (\$378.38) exceeds that of households from other urban (\$336.10) and rural (\$314.69) areas. Explanations for this can be obtained from the respective household characteristics. For example, average weekly household income is also highest in the capital cities (\$481.65) and lowest in the rural areas (\$369.47).

Figure 7 shows the different expenditure behaviour for total expenditure on commodities and services, current housing costs and transport.

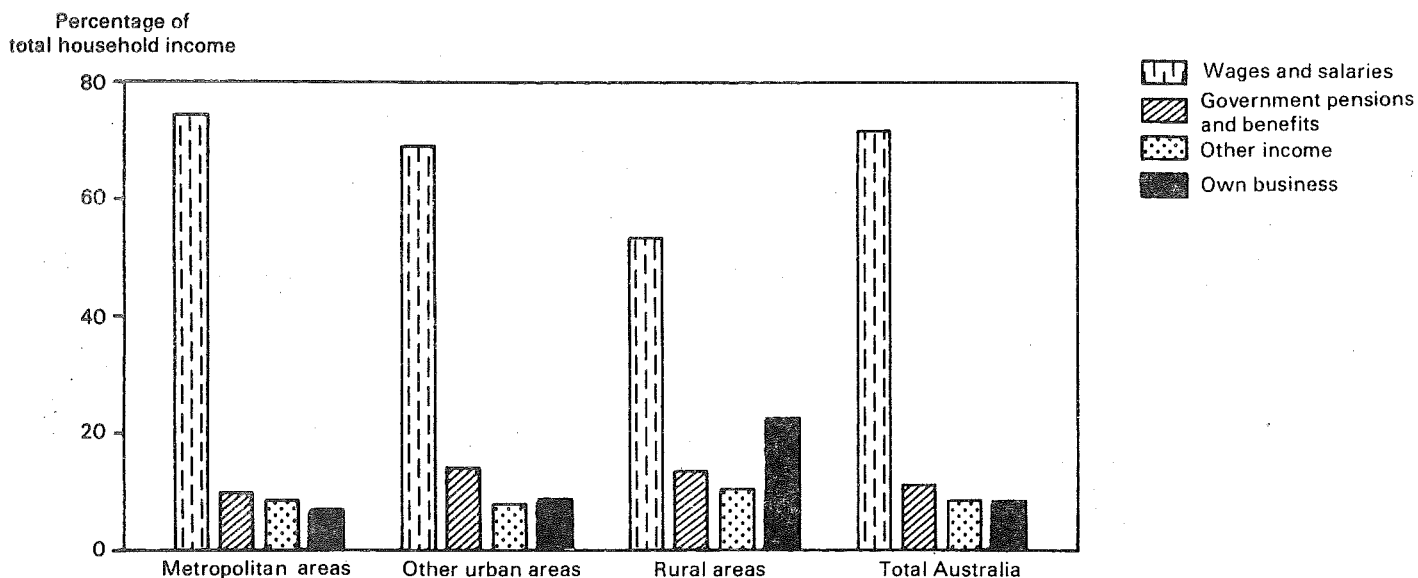
FIGURE 7. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE : BROAD EXPENDITURE CATEGORY BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, AUSTRALIA, 1984



Because of the lower average household expenditures in rural areas, the reversal evident in transport costs is even more pronounced if expressed as a percentage of total household expenditure rather than in dollar terms (20.5% in rural areas and 15.6% in metropolitan areas).

Although wages and salaries are the predominant source of income in all three areas, Figure 8 shows how the proportion of total income from this source falls while that from 'own business' rises from metropolitan to other urban and then rural areas.

FIGURE 8. PROPORTION OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME FROM SELECTED INCOME SOURCES BY BROAD GEOGRAPHICAL AREA, AUSTRALIA, 1984



1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 3: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY STATES AND TERRITORIES

	State or Territory								Australia	
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.		
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (a)										
<i>Broad Expenditure Group (b)</i>										
Commodity or service										
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	52.05	45.70	43.17	36.63	41.50	39.04	67.42	60.78	46.46	
Fuel and power	9.76	12.19	9.27	10.72	10.37	10.91	10.71	13.57	10.56	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	73.14	73.18	69.32	62.79	69.18	62.80	88.24	86.06	71.22	
Alcoholic beverages	13.13	11.11	12.21	11.49	13.24	9.45	25.04	15.05	12.30	
Tobacco	5.65	6.41	4.63	5.50	6.27	5.56	9.60	4.42	5.73	
Clothing and footwear	26.26	24.21	18.80	20.66	20.72	23.18	17.85	29.54	23.46	
Household furnishings and equipment	28.85	27.67	23.04	29.84	28.54	23.93	37.26	35.62	27.69	
Household services and operation	16.20	15.86	14.92	14.30	15.74	13.16	22.89	20.07	15.70	
Medical care and health expenses	14.07	15.40	13.17	13.64	12.72	11.40	15.33	15.92	14.07	
Transport	57.22	61.92	58.24	54.89	62.47	47.59	68.47	80.93	59.00	
Recreation	42.34	45.89	40.48	36.47	46.50	41.01	60.83	59.78	43.13	
Personal care	6.74	6.89	6.01	6.72	6.24	5.70	7.01	7.87	6.60	
Miscellaneous commodities and services	27.91	23.89	27.33	20.52	26.52	18.17	32.82	42.76	25.93	
Total commodity or service expenditure	373.31	370.31	340.58	324.18	360.01	311.90	463.46	472.38	361.84	
Selected other payments										
Income tax	82.35	85.35	69.32	67.63	81.82	66.06	106.55	131.49	80.07	
Mortgage payments - principal (selected dwelling)	6.81	6.43	6.43	5.26	7.09	4.82	5.06	7.95	6.49	
Other capital housing costs	24.15	16.70	10.75	9.36	21.44	6.78	* 25.82	* 24.84	18.01	
Superannuation and life insurance	10.93	12.07	11.14	10.75	11.47	10.53	19.77	23.25	11.51	
Household characteristics										
<i>Average weekly household income (\$) (c)</i>	<i>458.43</i>	<i>472.22</i>	<i>424.07</i>	<i>417.13</i>	<i>452.87</i>	<i>392.47</i>	<i>583.96</i>	<i>627.97</i>	<i>453.60</i>	
<i>Average weekly per capita income (\$) (d)</i>	<i>182.31</i>	<i>185.38</i>	<i>165.52</i>	<i>171.38</i>	<i>182.20</i>	<i>156.87</i>	<i>228.86</i>	<i>236.10</i>	<i>179.76</i>	
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$) (d)</i>	<i>149.67</i>	<i>146.43</i>	<i>130.94</i>	<i>131.89</i>	<i>143.21</i>	<i>123.19</i>	<i>175.89</i>	<i>176.90</i>	<i>143.44</i>	
Proportion of total income being:										
Wages and salaries	%	71.61	72.79	69.27	70.00	71.67	65.04	85.14	83.21	71.62
Own business	%	8.80	7.44	9.93	8.23	8.94	9.66	4.43	4.42	8.46
Government pensions and benefits	%	11.63	10.08	12.18	13.47	10.96	15.40	4.49	4.61	11.29
Other	%	7.96	9.70	8.62	8.29	8.42	9.90	5.94	7.76	8.63
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average age of household head (years)</i>	<i>47.34</i>	<i>47.64</i>	<i>46.95</i>	<i>47.52</i>	<i>45.33</i>	<i>46.79</i>	<i>37.44</i>	<i>41.83</i>	<i>47.05</i>	
Average number of persons per household:										
Under 18 years	No.	0.86	0.83	0.95	0.78	0.87	0.93	1.12	1.00	0.86
18 to 64 years	No.	1.69	1.73	1.69	1.66	1.71	1.60	1.88	1.91	1.70
65 years and over	No.	0.28	0.27	0.29	0.29	0.24	0.27	0.04	0.12	0.27
Total	No.	2.82	2.83	2.93	2.73	2.82	2.80	3.03	3.03	2.84
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:										
Owned outright	%	40.24	41.46	42.66	37.42	33.02	36.35	10.42	16.32	39.42
Being bought	%	30.10	33.92	28.66	32.58	35.32	35.54	33.70	52.96	32.08
Renting government	%	6.04	3.12	3.94	10.51	6.88	8.32	28.99	12.67	5.71
Renting private	%	19.77	19.17	21.23	16.96	20.07	16.71	23.93	15.80	19.49
Occupied rent free	%	3.85	2.33	3.51	2.53	4.70	3.09	2.95	2.25	3.31
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average number of employed persons in household (number) (e)</i>	<i>1.18</i>	<i>1.24</i>	<i>1.18</i>	<i>1.16</i>	<i>1.23</i>	<i>1.03</i>	<i>1.50</i>	<i>1.50</i>	<i>1.20</i>	
Proportion of households with family composition of the household being:										
Married couple:										
only	%	23.83	23.20	24.19	24.48	26.04	25.88	15.83	17.80	23.91
with dependent children only	%	27.97	30.78	31.84	27.48	28.85	32.19	40.55	37.96	29.68
other	%	14.19	13.51	12.86	13.77	13.59	10.10	9.08	12.45	13.54
Single parent one family household only	%	5.86	4.07	3.89	5.98	4.25	6.53	8.14	6.67	4.99
Single person household	%	19.65	19.25	17.96	19.82	18.76	18.88	13.55	14.29	19.08
Other (f)	%	8.51	9.19	9.26	8.47	8.50	6.42	12.85	10.84	8.80
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Estimated number of households being in (g):										
Metropolitan areas	('000)	1,121.8	945.3	376.3	342.5	341.1	59.4	20.2	73.4	3,279.9
Other urban areas	('000)	516.8	283.2	323.2	68.8	82.0	61.1	5.1	..	1,340.1
Rural areas	('000)	128.3	92.1	95.1	50.4	27.8	24.0	*	0.9	419.2
<i>Number of households in sample</i>	<i>2,040</i>	<i>1,947</i>	<i>1,504</i>	<i>1,049</i>	<i>1,084</i>	<i>718</i>	<i>587</i>	<i>642</i>	<i>9,571</i>	
Estimated total number in population:										
Households	('000)	1,766.9	1,320.6	794.5	461.6	450.9	144.5	26.0	74.3	5,039.2
Persons	('000)	4,983.9	3,737.1	2,329.8	1,261.7	1,269.7	404.7	78.8	225.2	14,290.9

(a) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (b) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (c) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (d) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (e) See paragraphs 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (f) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households. (g) See paragraphs 39-41 of the Explanatory notes.

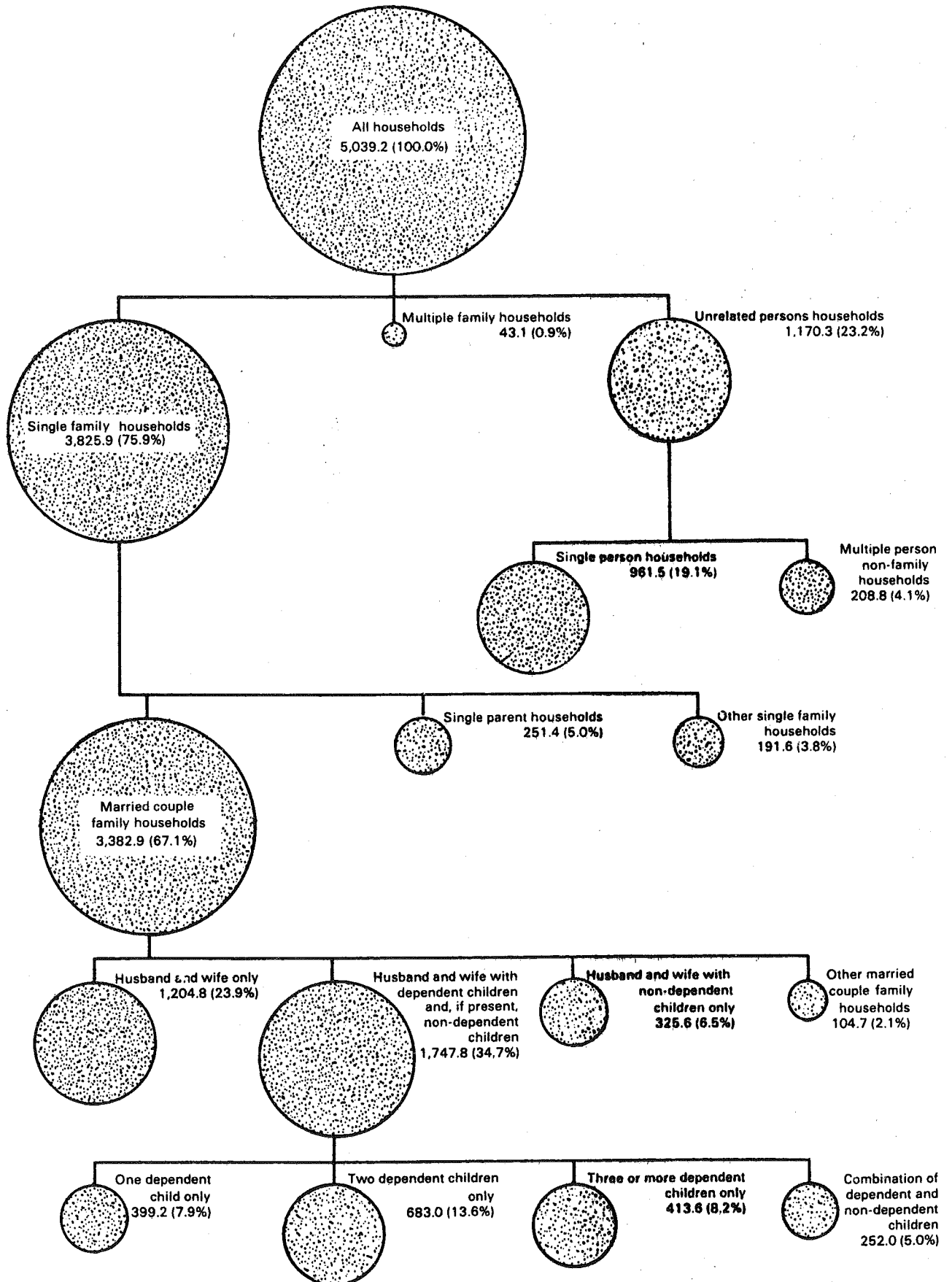
1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 4: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY CAPITAL CITIES

	Capital City								All capital city households
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (a)									
Broad Expenditure Group (b)									
Commodity or service									
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	60.79	50.46	48.86	40.33	47.03	43.13	71.02	61.37	52.63
Fuel and power	9.62	12.47	9.10	10.37	10.61	11.58	10.19	13.60	10.69
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	76.85	75.71	68.45	64.55	69.07	66.31	90.76	86.42	73.57
Alcoholic beverages	13.90	11.36	11.72	12.06	12.51	11.90	25.36	15.06	12.64
Tobacco	5.93	6.72	4.72	5.82	5.78	6.13	9.36	4.42	5.98
Clothing and footwear	28.89	25.65	18.83	21.67	21.67	25.00	17.28	29.80	25.18
Household furnishings and equipment	28.33	27.52	23.79	30.86	28.46	24.62	33.70	36.01	27.99
Household services and operation	16.73	16.25	15.06	14.36	15.88	14.37	23.22	20.18	16.14
Medical care and health expenses	14.52	15.89	12.28	13.13	12.76	12.94	16.23	15.95	14.34
Transport	57.01	60.38	59.93	53.10	62.28	55.34	72.61	80.97	59.06
Recreation	45.90	48.25	41.17	37.68	45.79	49.91	58.67	60.15	45.64
Personal care	7.29	7.32	6.74	7.11	6.61	6.44	6.94	7.92	7.14
Miscellaneous commodities and services	30.61	25.24	28.35	20.96	25.25	21.79	33.00	43.00	27.37
Total commodity or service expenditure	396.37	383.23	349.01	332.01	363.70	349.46	468.33	474.85	378.38
Selected other payments									
Income tax	92.81	91.09	77.48	72.99	83.17	75.72	111.57	132.19	88.17
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	7.94	6.77	6.83	6.03	8.20	6.57	5.14	8.04	7.26
Other capital housing costs	28.78	20.54	5.49	13.70	24.67	*14.93	*32.44	*24.83	21.41
Superannuation and life insurance	11.71	12.04	12.54	11.03	12.07	14.08	21.28	23.44	12.23
Household characteristics									
<i>Average weekly household income (\$) (c)</i>	499.23	492.49	448.41	427.94	452.08	443.34	597.28	631.09	481.65
<i>Average weekly per capita income (\$) (d)</i>	200.92	194.25	176.13	174.83	181.12	178.43	228.90	237.48	191.95
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$) (d)</i>	161.40	151.46	135.14	135.46	145.05	141.34	171.91	177.94	151.19
Proportion of total income being:									
Wages and salaries	% 74.09	74.71	74.18	72.17	73.39	71.48	86.14	83.15	74.35
Own business	% 8.09	6.34	6.98	5.74	6.82	7.08	4.30	4.45	6.96
Government pensions and benefits	% 9.70	9.13	10.79	13.76	10.99	13.01	4.90	4.61	10.02
Other	% 8.12	9.82	8.04	8.33	8.80	8.43	4.66	7.79	8.67
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average age of household head (years)</i>	47.29	47.43	46.34	47.10	45.31	46.62	38.10	41.81	46.81
Average number of persons per household:									
Under 18 years	No. 0.80	0.82	0.92	0.77	0.85	0.74	1.17	1.00	0.83
18 to 64 years	No. 1.72	1.75	1.69	1.66	1.71	1.71	1.90	1.91	1.72
65 years and over	No. 0.27	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.24	0.26	0.05	0.12	0.26
Total	No. 2.78	2.83	2.89	2.72	2.79	2.70	3.11	3.03	2.81
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:									
Owned outright	% 37.42	39.23	38.84	35.12	31.73	32.61	9.51	16.38	36.54
Being bought	% 31.84	35.73	33.90	35.86	41.82	40.12	33.34	53.59	35.30
Renting—government	% 5.34	2.64	4.60	10.51	5.11	8.39	33.64	12.68	5.39
Renting—private	% 22.33	20.70	20.84	17.35	17.95	16.86	21.09	15.59	20.46
Occupied rent free	% 3.07	1.71	1.81	1.16	3.39	2.03	2.43	1.76	2.31
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average number of employed persons in household (number) (e)</i>	1.24	1.25	1.21	1.12	1.21	1.12	1.48	1.51	1.23
Proportion of households with family composition of the household being:									
Married couple:									
— only	% 22.42	21.48	21.40	23.43	25.28	24.17	14.88	17.86	22.32
— with dependent children only	% 26.17	30.79	32.22	27.94	28.73	28.54	43.24	37.51	29.05
— other	% 15.09	13.66	11.40	13.01	13.18	12.55	9.16	12.59	13.70
Single parent one family household only	% 5.49	4.28	4.88	6.28	4.57	5.03	6.57	6.75	5.09
Single person household	% 20.98	19.85	18.94	19.49	19.06	19.17	13.74	14.32	19.84
Other (f)	% 9.85	9.93	11.15	9.85	9.18	10.54	12.41	10.97	10.01
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Number of households in sample</i>	1,142	1,325	929	863	892	546	565	634	6,896
Estimated total number in population:									
Households	('000) 1,121.8	945.3	376.3	342.5	341.1	59.4	20.2	73.4	3,279.9
Persons	('000) 3,122.8	2,673.9	1,087.8	932.2	952.8	160.6	62.7	222.6	9,215.4

(a) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (b) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (c) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (d) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (e) See paragraphs 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (f) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households.

Family Composition of Households

FIGURE 9. ESTIMATED NUMBER (' 000) OF HOUSEHOLDS : FAMILY COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS, AUSTRALIA, 1984

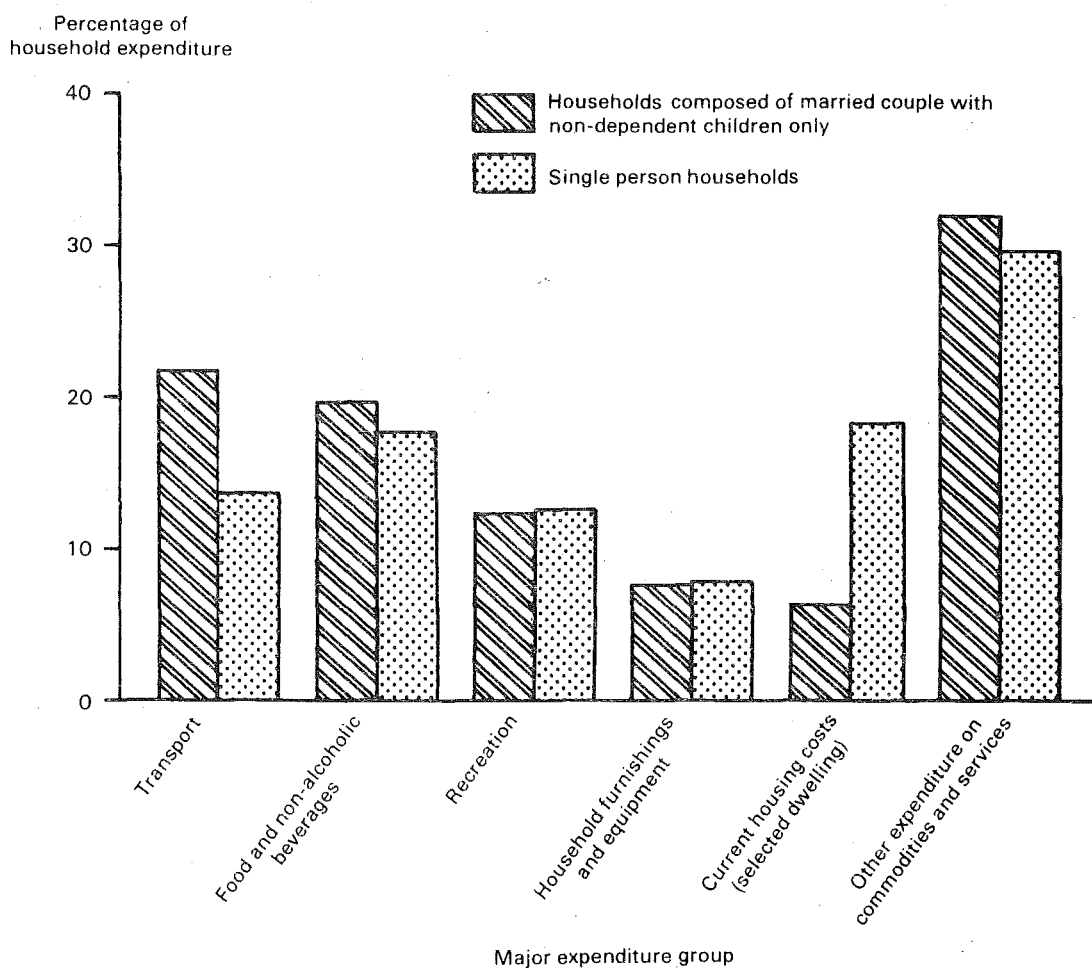


The 1984 HES Family Composition classification, represented in an aggregated form in the following tables, is an important household variable which is related to both the level and the pattern of average weekly household expenditure. As would be expected, the *single person household*, on average, spends the least (\$178.92 per week) on commodities and services. Just as predictably, *multiple family households* spend the most (\$586.84), but not much more than *married couple family households* which have both dependent and non-dependent offspring present (\$572.13). This can be largely attributed to the average number of persons in

the household (multiple family household had an average of 5.6 persons per household) and to the total household income (single person households received an average of \$224.32 per week; multiple family households—\$687.55; and married couple family households with both dependent and non-dependent offspring—\$750.47).

The variation in expenditure on some items is quite marked between the different family types. An example of this is given in Figure 10 which compares the expenditure pattern of households composed of a married couple with non-dependent children only, with that of single person households.

FIGURE 10. PROPORTION OF AVERAGE WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE : MAJOR EXPENDITURE GROUP BY FAMILY COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AUSTRALIA, 1984



For food, recreation and household furnishings, the proportion of total expenditure allocated by the two household types presented is similar. However, households composed of a married couple with non-dependent children only, spent an average of 6.4% of their total expenditure on current housing costs. This is only one third of that allocated by single person households (18.5%) and only half the national average (12.8%). This disparity is much less pronounced in dollar terms, since total expenditure on commodities and services for households composed of a married couple

with non-dependent children only, is about half as high again as the Australian average while that for single person households is less than half the average. The opposite applies to transport costs. Figure 10 shows that in percentage terms, households composed of a married couple with non-dependent children only, outlayed over 1.5 times as much on transport costs as single person households (21.8% vs 13.5%). In dollar terms however, they spent almost five times as much on transport compared to single person households (\$118.38 vs \$24.09).

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 6: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY FAMILY COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AUSTRALIA
—MARRIED COUPLE FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

	Married Couple Family Households								
	Without Non-family Individuals Present								
	Husband and wife only	Husband and wife with dependent children			Husband and wife non-dependent children (a)	Other married couple family households (b)	All married couple family households		
		One dependent child only	Two dependent children only	Three or more dependent children only					
<i>Broad Expenditure Group (e)</i>		Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (d)							
Commodity or service									
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	40.71	59.99	57.08	56.94	45.16	34.73	51.69	48.37	
Fuel and power	9.60	11.70	12.68	14.25	15.35	13.47	14.42	11.99	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	61.41	71.02	85.04	98.56	121.39	106.65	116.39	82.38	
Alcoholic beverages	11.77	11.39	10.10	10.43	19.31	24.06	18.17	13.17	
Tobacco	4.66	6.63	5.60	5.34	8.90	9.35	10.98	6.13	
Clothing and footwear	19.53	21.87	24.69	31.01	46.99	40.48	42.45	27.02	
Household furnishings and equipment	31.24	30.49	30.82	27.63	33.23	41.91	36.32	31.96	
Household services and operation	15.11	19.13	19.05	19.67	21.46	18.71	21.58	17.96	
Medical care and health expenses	13.79	15.78	16.62	18.07	22.07	23.16	22.75	16.92	
Transport	53.67	61.25	56.20	63.86	116.27	118.38	85.61	68.20	
Recreation	40.74	40.33	45.32	48.20	66.77	67.72	80.23	48.29	
Personal care	5.85	7.00	6.59	6.91	12.07	10.98	9.58	7.34	
Miscellaneous commodities and services	23.41	27.20	27.93	39.39	43.13	33.36	36.25	29.55	
Total commodity or service expenditure	331.49	383.80	397.73	440.27	572.13	542.96	546.41	409.27	
Selected other payments									
Income tax	74.09	98.14	97.22	100.29	128.35	125.29	105.48	94.74	
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	6.12	11.12	10.00	10.30	9.06	4.49	8.12	8.13	
Other capital housing costs	18.15	24.45	17.54	35.55	*15.99	*19.45	*32.13	21.30	
Superannuation and life insurance	9.89	14.74	16.60	17.10	19.03	17.13	15.33	14.24	
Household characteristics									
Average weekly household income (\$) (f)	416.40	481.63	513.83	537.73	750.47	712.36	668.65	519.78	
Average weekly per capita income (\$) (g)	208.41	160.52	128.57	101.68	154.05	212.39	154.30	168.25	
Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$) (g)	165.74	127.93	99.43	83.01	117.15	162.58	125.75	132.62	
Proportion of total income being:									
Wages and salaries	%	65.69	82.23	80.11	72.53	77.78	74.37	73.28	73.99
Own business	%	7.38	8.68	9.99	12.98	10.82	9.15	7.47	9.36
Government pensions and benefits	%	13.89	4.37	4.52	8.43	5.87	7.97	14.00	8.65
Other	%	13.04	4.72	5.38	6.06	5.54	8.50	*5.25	8.00
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average age of household head (years)									
Average number of persons per household:		53.67	36.28	36.45	37.37	46.98	56.01	45.28	45.61
Under 18 years	No.	*	0.96	1.97	3.34	1.90	0.16	1.28	1.12
18 to 64 years	No.	1.43	2.03	2.02	2.03	3.04	2.96	2.67	2.00
65 years and over	No.	0.57	0.01	*	*	0.01	0.23	0.62	0.25
Total	No.	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.37	4.96	3.35	4.57	3.36
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:									
Owned outright	%	54.62	20.68	23.83	24.12	45.25	60.35	38.28	40.02
Being bought	%	26.54	51.96	54.42	49.79	41.71	29.92	41.01	39.92
Renting—government	%	3.19	4.51	5.11	9.23	6.00	3.02	*2.65	4.65
Renting—private	%	13.11	19.12	14.16	13.13	5.50	4.85	16.98	12.79
Occupied rent free	%	2.54	3.73	2.48	3.73	1.54	1.86	*1.08	2.63
Total	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Average number of employed persons in household (number) (h)									
		0.93	1.37	1.46	1.42	2.61	2.19	1.91	1.43
Estimated number of households being in (i):									
Metropolitan areas	('000)	732.0	263.8	446.9	242.0	160.0	218.0	71.4	2,134.1
Other urban areas	('000)	366.0	96.9	169.4	116.4	59.3	78.2	26.2	912.3
Rural areas	('000)	106.8	38.5	66.7	55.2	32.7	29.4	7.1	336.5
Number of households in sample		2,196	828	1,389	801	472	587	196	6,469
Estimated total number in population:									
Households	('000)	1,204.8	399.2	683.0	413.6	252.0	325.6	104.7	3,382.9
Persons	('000)	2,409.6	1,197.6	2,732.0	2,221.7	1,248.8	1,091.5	478.1	11,379.3

For footnotes see end of table.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY

TABLE 6: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY FAMILY COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AUSTRALIA—continued
—OTHER THAN MARRIED COUPLE FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS; AND ALL HOUSEHOLDS

	Single parent households	Other single family households (c)	Multiple family households	Single person households	Multiple person non-family households	All households
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (d)						
<i>Broad Expenditure Group (e)</i>						
Commodity or service						
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	47.82	42.57	51.87	33.05	78.17	46.46
Fuel and power	9.94	10.09	13.77	5.89	9.34	10.56
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	58.92	69.18	129.46	31.97	75.75	71.22
Alcoholic beverages	6.06	14.53	16.86	6.68	28.68	12.30
Tobacco	6.13	6.72	13.21	2.89	9.39	5.73
Clothing and footwear	20.84	23.22	66.83	8.16	30.52	23.46
Household furnishings and equipment	23.04	24.36	40.63	13.90	28.00	27.69
Household services and operation	13.59	13.57	20.04	8.88	14.05	15.70
Medical care and health expenses	6.97	13.07	17.37	6.52	11.60	14.07
Transport	40.25	60.74	86.49	24.09	85.98	59.00
Recreation	27.42	44.99	59.70	22.45	68.50	43.13
Personal care	6.40	7.37	9.06	3.50	8.06	6.60
Miscellaneous commodities and services	24.81	21.57	61.56	10.94	34.30	25.93
Total commodity or service expenditure	292.18	351.98	586.84	178.92	482.33	361.84
Selected other payments						
Income tax	24.55	66.03	111.63	38.91	105.06	80.07
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	3.84	2.87	8.44	2.51	4.26	6.49
Other capital housing costs	*6.96	*7.73	*	9.78	*9.99	18.01
Superannuation and life insurance	3.51	7.32	11.28	4.65	12.29	11.51
Household characteristics						
<i>Average weekly household income (\$) (f)</i>	285.08	452.20	687.55	224.32	593.30	453.60
<i>Average weekly per capita income (\$) (g)</i>	93.77	190.91	131.29	224.32	264.35	179.76
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (\$) (g)</i>	96.90	148.55	110.96	178.92	213.44	143.44
Proportion of total income being:						
Wages and salaries	% 51.17	63.27	67.01	56.74	82.60	71.62
Own business	% 2.80	5.00	5.25	7.34	4.16	8.46
Government pensions and benefits	% 36.76	19.74	21.76	22.13	6.70	11.29
Other	% 9.27	11.99	*5.98	13.79	6.54	8.63
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average age of household head (years)</i>						
	35.36	57.21	49.16	56.07	33.01	47.05
Average number of persons per household:						
Under 18 years	No. 1.81	0.13	1.94	*	0.03	0.86
18 to 64 years	No. 1.29	1.74	3.16	0.58	2.14	1.70
65 years and over	No. 0.02	0.50	*0.45	0.42	0.10	0.27
Total	No. 3.12	2.36	5.55	1.00	2.27	2.84
Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:						
Owned outright	% 16.06	51.11	44.44	46.96	11.37	39.42
Being bought	% 19.56	15.80	32.28	13.88	18.87	32.08
Renting—government	% 23.33	7.00	*5.73	5.51	1.44	5.71
Renting—private	% 33.92	20.80	17.56	28.63	67.68	19.49
Occupied rent free	% 7.13	*5.28	*	5.02	*0.64	3.31
Total	% 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Average number of employed persons in household (number) (h)</i>						
	0.65	1.21	1.75	0.42	1.67	1.20
Estimated number of households being in (i):						
Metropolitan areas	('000) 166.8	134.2	30.8	650.7	163.2	3,279.9
Other urban areas	('000) 73.1	43.3	*9.7	261.4	40.3	1,340.1
Rural areas	('000) 11.5	14.1	2.6	49.4	5.2	419.2
<i>Number of households in sample</i>	494	359	86	1,733	430	9,571
Estimated total number in population:						
Households	('000) 251.4	191.6	43.1	961.5	208.8	5,039.2
Persons	('000) 784.6	453.1	238.9	961.5	473.4	14,290.9

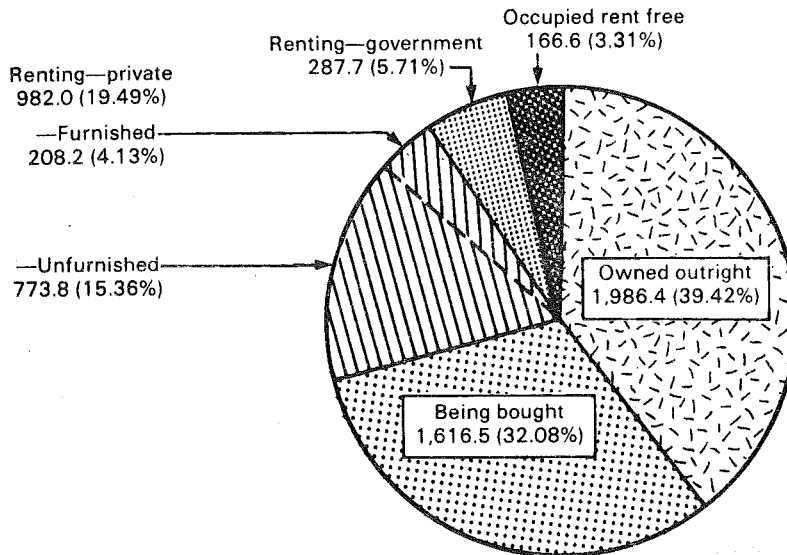
(a) Includes married couple family households where a combination of dependent and non-dependent children are present. (b) Includes married couple family households where non-family individuals are present. (c) Includes households where the relationship between head of the household and the rest of the family is one of other than as parent to offspring. (d) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey. (e) Details of the component items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (f) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (g) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (h) See paragraphs 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (i) See paragraphs 39-41 of the Explanatory notes.

Nature of Housing Occupancy

Figure 11 shows how households were distributed

according to six categories of housing occupancy. Home owners and home buyers were the largest groups.

FIGURE 11. NUMBER (' 000) AND PROPORTION (%) OF HOUSEHOLDS BY NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY, AUSTRALIA, 1984



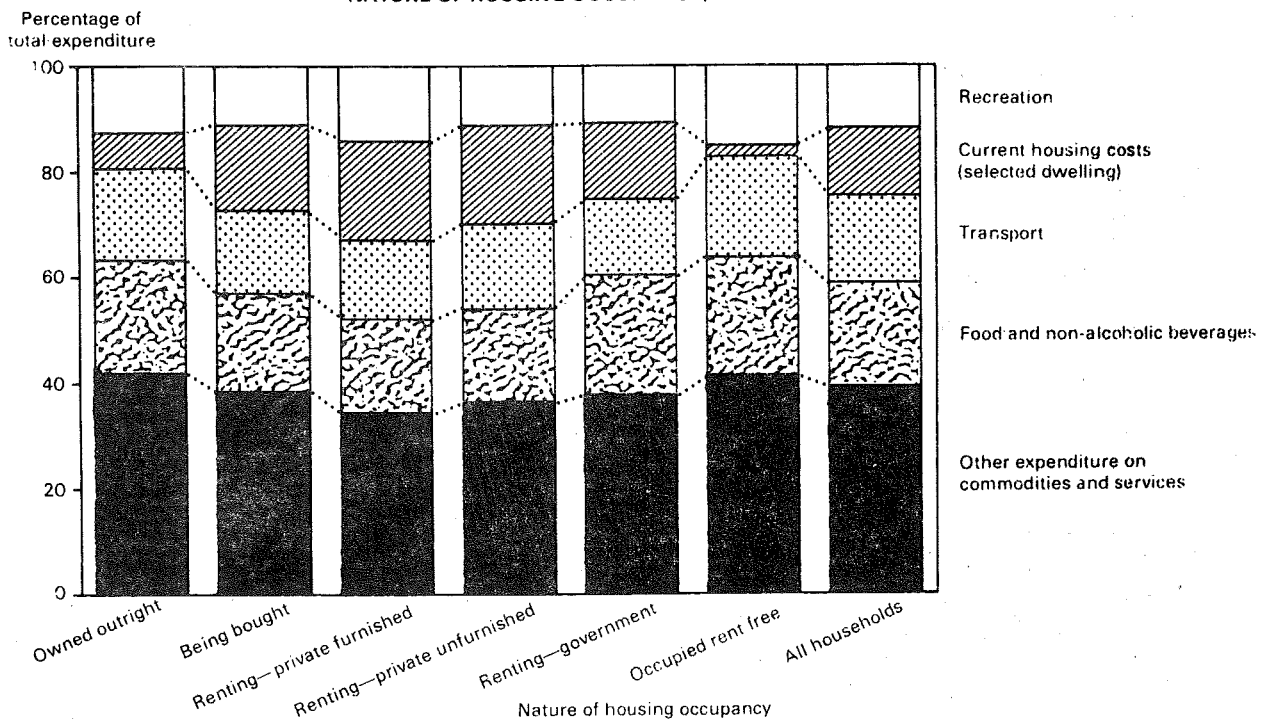
The average weekly household expenditure for households which were in the process of buying their dwelling was \$438.38. This estimate was the highest by any of the groups included in the table. The lowest averages were recorded by households renting Government dwellings (\$266.04) and those that occupy their dwelling rent free (\$277.92).

The main household characteristics correlated with these expenditure levels are total household income (\$573.96 for households in the process of buying their dwelling; \$295.31 for households renting Government dwellings; and \$338.64 for households occupying their

dwellings rent free) and the proportion of total household income according to selected income sources (e.g. for households renting Government dwellings, 32.3% of the total household income was derived from Government pensions and benefits, whilst for households in the process of buying their dwelling the corresponding figure is 5.0%).

As could be expected, average weekly expenditure on current housing costs is lower than the Australian average for households that either own their dwelling or are occupying assisted housing (Government rented dwellings or dwellings occupied rent free) (see Figure 12 below).

FIGURE 12. PROPORTION OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON COMMODITIES AND SERVICES: MAJOR EXPENDITURE GROUP BY NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY, AUSTRALIA, 1984



Characteristics of Head of the Household

Six principal household head characteristics are presented in the following table, i.e. the household head's:

- age;
- principal source of income;
- occupation;
- employment status;
- country of birth; and
- birthplace by period of residence.

- average weekly household income (\$607.74 for the 45 to 54 years grouping and \$229.48 for the 65 years and over grouping); and
- average number of persons per household (3.3 and 1.7 respectively).

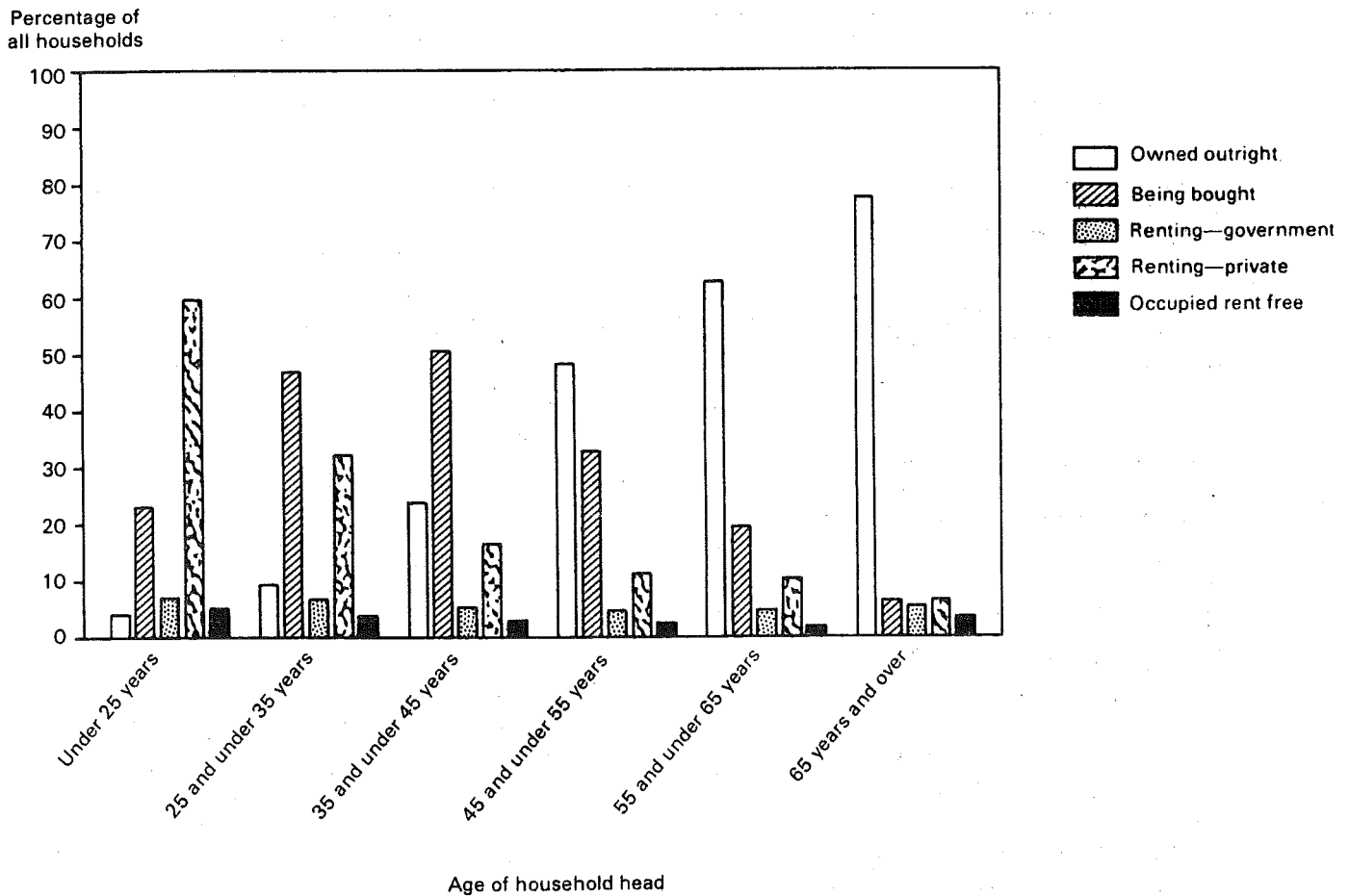
— Age of Household Head

From Table 8 it can be seen that the average weekly household expenditure on commodities and services was the highest (\$455.14) for households where the age of household head was between 45 and 55 years, whilst the lowest (\$196.23) was in households where the head of the household was 65 years or over. Factors that are closely linked with this variation are:

Current housing costs (for selected dwelling) are inversely related to the age of the household head. As the age of the household head increases the expenditure on current housing costs decreases (i.e. current housing costs, on average, peak at \$66.95 for the 25-34 year age group and fall to \$21.85 for the grouping where the household head's age is 65 years or over). This can, for the most part, be explained by referring to the degree of home ownership that is evident within each *age of household head* grouping.

Figure 13 below presents the relationship between the nature of housing occupancy and the age of the household head.

FIGURE 13. PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS: NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY BY AGE OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD, AUSTRALIA, 1984



Home ownership increases through all age ranges to a maximum of 77.5% for the oldest group. Private

renting, on the other hand, falls through all age ranges to a minimum of 6.7% for the oldest group.

— Principal Source of Income of Head of the Household

The expenditure patterns and levels of households according to the principal source of income of the head behave in a similar manner as do households according to the principal source of household income (see page 14).

— Occupation Group of Head of the Household

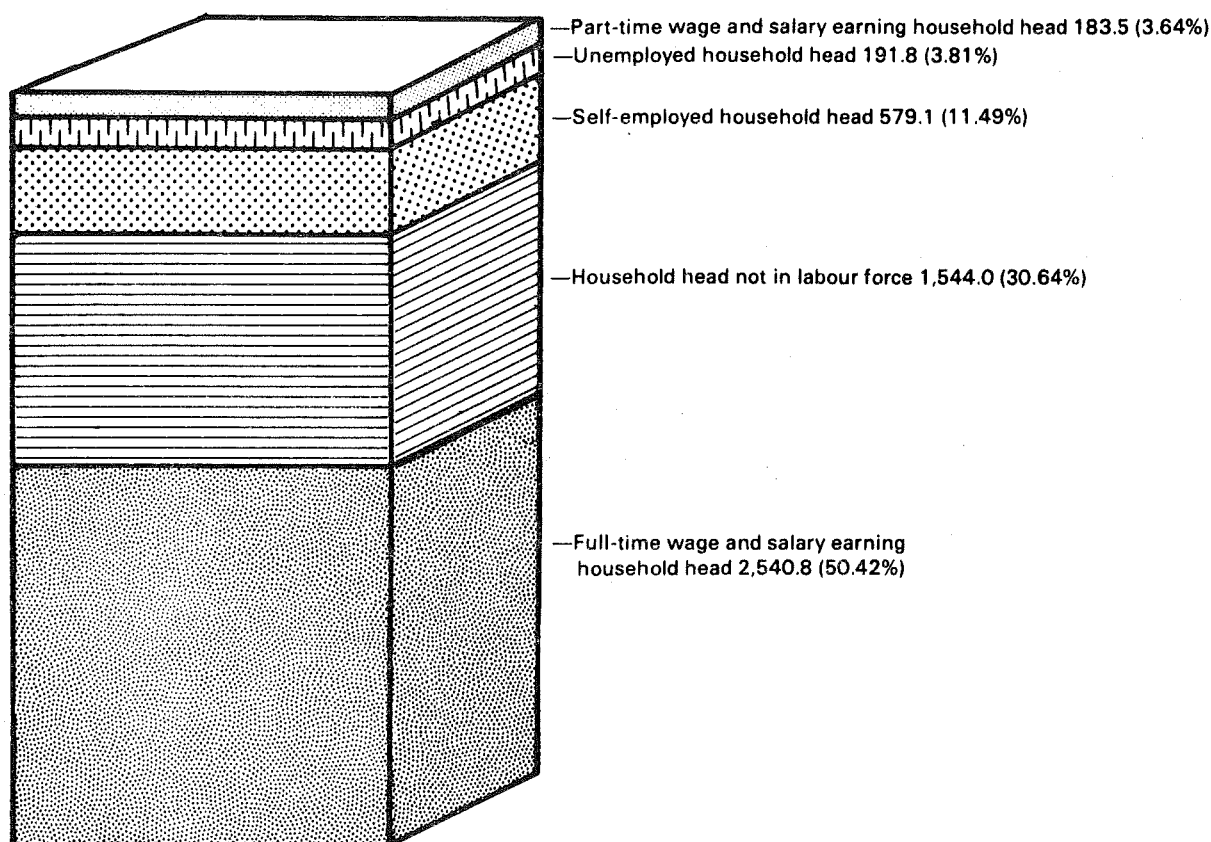
For households where the household head was employed, the highest average weekly household

— Employment Status of Head of the Household

expenditure on commodities and services was derived from households where the head's occupation was in the *administrative, executive and managerial workers* group (\$505.91). The lowest was in the *farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.* grouping (\$338.54)

Other household characteristics contribute to this variation. For example, average weekly household income of the first group is amongst the highest (\$728.50) and is lowest of all (\$403.44) for the second group.

FIGURE 14. NUMBER (' 000) AND PROPORTION (%) OF HOUSEHOLDS: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE HOUSEHOLD HEAD, AUSTRALIA, 1984



The largest group, those where the household head worked as a full-time wage and salary earner, had the highest average weekly expenditure on commodities and services (\$441.91). The second largest group, those where the head was not in the labour force, had the lowest average (\$231.97). As would be expected, the first group

also had a much higher average weekly household income (\$602.41) than the second group (\$233.72).

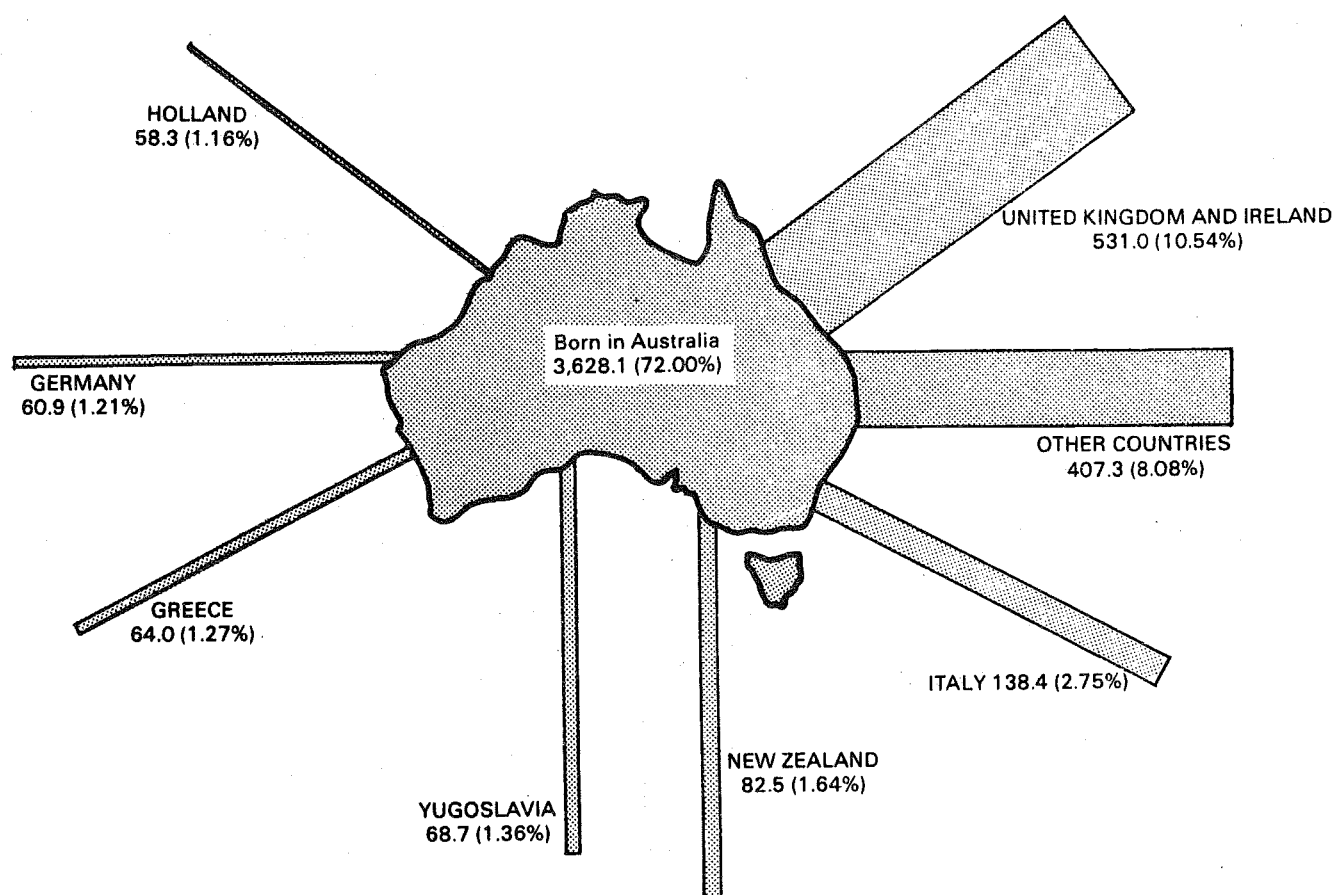
The first group was also much less likely than the second to own their own home (23.3% vs 64.7%) and contained more people on average (3.2 vs 2.1).

— Country of Birth of Household Head

Household income for households with the head of the household born overseas ranged from \$389.97 (from Yugoslavia) to \$533.70 (from New Zealand) (compared with an Australian born head of the household average of \$447.93). Average weekly household expenditure did not vary as widely with

Yugoslavian born head households reporting the lowest average total expenditure on commodities and services (\$347.72) while households with a Greek born head of the household had the highest (\$418.16). The average for households with an Australian born head of the household was \$355.08.

FIGURE 15. NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (' 000) BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AUSTRALIA, 1984



— Birthplace and Period of Residence in Australia of Head of the Household

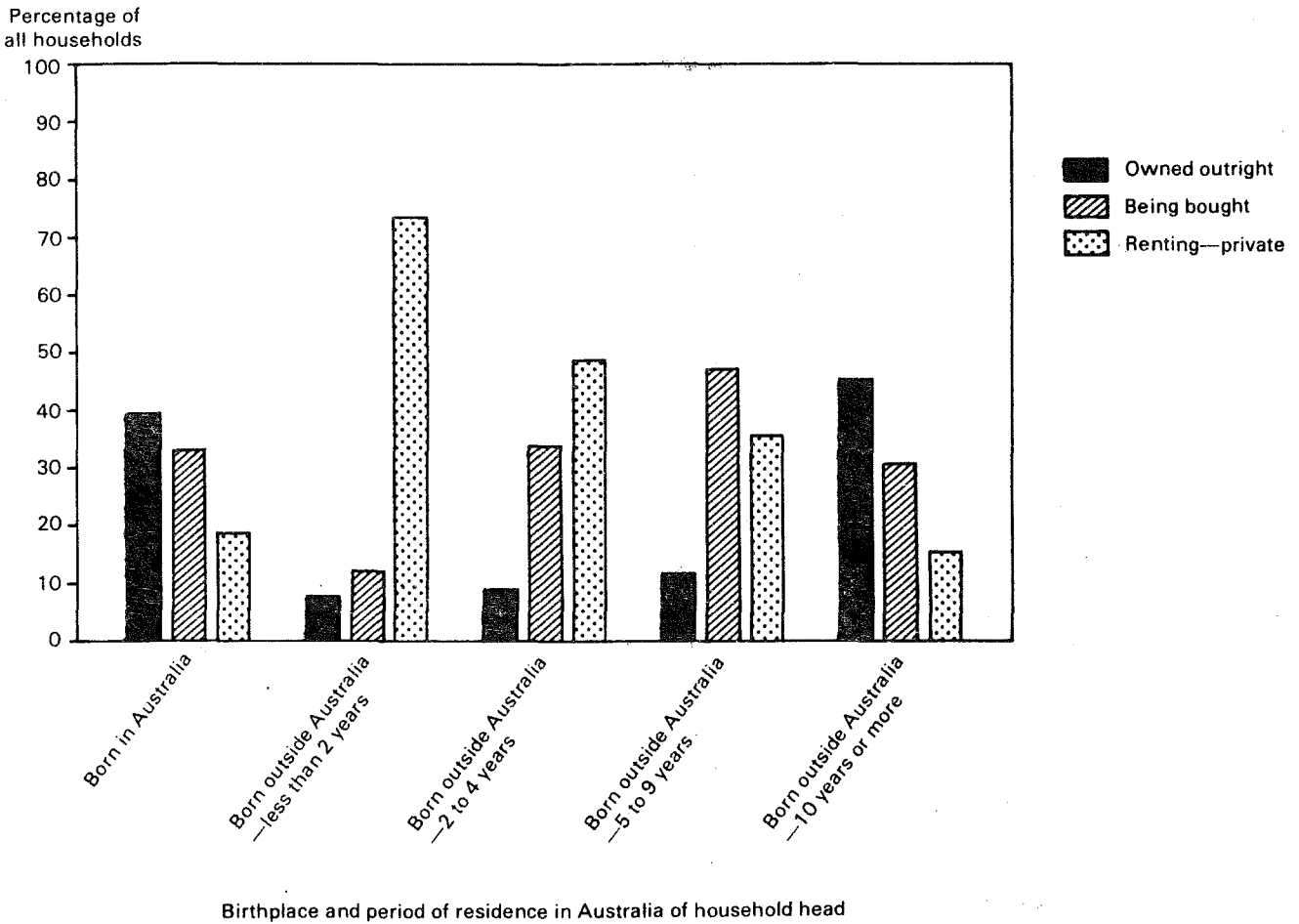
Average weekly household expenditure was lowest for households where the head was born in Australia (\$355.08) but not much smaller than in households where the head was born outside Australia but had been in Australia for at least 10 years (\$370.38). The highest average expenditure was recorded by households where the head had been in Australia for less than 2 years

(\$471.81).

Table 8 shows that differences in expenditure patterns do exist between households who have spent varying periods of time in Australia.

The nature of housing occupancy for those households where the head was born outside Australia but had lived here for 10 years or more approximates that for households where the head was Australian born (see Figure 16).

FIGURE 16. PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS: NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY BY BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA OF THE HOUSEHOLD HEAD, AUSTRALIA, 1984



As the period of residence within Australia increases so does the proportion of dwellings owned outright and in the process of being purchased. This

balances the private renting proportion which decreases with increasing period of residence.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
TABLE 8: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY VARIOUS HOUSEHOLD HEAD CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA

Selected Household Head Characteristics	Commodity or Service Broad Expenditure Group (a)										Total commodity or service expenditure			
	Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	Fuel and power	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages	Clothing and footwear	Household furnishings and equipment	Household services and operation expenses	Medical care and health expenses	Recreation	Personal care services		Miscellaneous commodities and services		
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (b)														
Age of head of the household:														
Under 25 years	63.51	8.14	58.28	15.29	6.64	22.97	32.01	11.54	8.66	64.59	40.45	5.79	24.23	362.11
25 and under 35 years	66.95	10.42	70.17	12.85	6.06	22.77	32.34	16.52	12.80	60.99	43.35	6.38	26.35	387.94
35 and under 45 years	57.46	12.54	88.22	13.47	6.91	28.97	29.82	18.84	16.62	64.75	52.92	7.62	32.19	430.33
45 and under 55 years	42.79	12.93	92.72	16.75	7.33	32.58	32.59	17.86	18.75	79.28	54.95	9.01	37.59	455.14
55 and under 65 years	28.72	10.13	67.70	12.87	5.50	21.99	28.03	14.60	14.98	64.07	43.89	6.43	25.72	344.62
65 years and over	21.85	7.89	44.38	5.29	2.63	12.39	14.12	11.98	10.27	27.98	23.06	4.29	10.09	196.23
Principal source of income of the household head:														
Earned income:														
Wages and salaries	58.38	11.36	81.74	15.45	6.66	28.87	34.47	17.69	16.62	72.50	53.08	7.87	32.93	437.63
Own business	47.66	13.31	86.74	13.78	5.58	27.18	25.90	17.94	19.81	63.86	42.76	7.22	33.09	404.82
Total earned income	56.82	11.65	82.47	15.20	6.51	28.62	33.22	17.72	17.09	71.24	51.58	7.78	32.96	432.86
Government pensions and benefits:														
Age/invalid/wives pensions	20.13	7.63	42.89	4.49	3.35	12.16	12.03	10.33	6.66	24.52	18.72	3.61	8.61	175.14
Unemployment and sickness benefits	46.44	9.37	57.97	8.59	7.99	13.29	18.87	11.34	5.47	46.57	23.08	3.71	18.67	271.36
Other Government pensions and benefits	29.86	8.45	51.21	7.10	4.71	14.27	20.99	11.65	4.64	36.95	28.20	4.57	13.93	236.52
Total Government pensions and benefits	27.21	8.15	47.80	5.93	4.49	12.99	15.86	10.90	5.85	31.78	22.32	3.92	11.81	209.02
Other regular income	35.10	10.41	64.98	12.30	3.85	20.63	26.21	16.76	19.29	56.60	50.29	6.96	21.72	345.11
Occupation group of the head of the household:														
Professional, technical and related workers	68.67	12.38	85.15	14.02	4.05	34.39	39.30	21.04	18.47	76.08	66.58	8.48	40.09	488.71
Administrative, executive and managerial workers	62.36	14.66	101.19	18.66	6.27	40.20	38.21	21.00	21.62	65.36	61.52	10.12	44.76	505.91
Clerical workers	61.45	9.75	69.96	15.26	5.18	24.75	34.68	15.60	15.54	68.92	44.98	8.37	29.46	403.90
Sales workers	65.44	11.54	79.44	13.78	6.64	31.76	28.47	19.06	17.28	67.44	52.55	7.44	35.65	436.48
Farmers, fishermen, hunters, timber getters and related workers	24.70	11.04	75.76	11.85	4.94	19.67	23.87	14.85	17.57	65.72	35.97	5.64	26.95	338.54
Miners, quarrymen, etc.	48.98	10.73	88.29	22.11	8.31	36.21	30.45	18.39	14.77	77.33	61.87	6.87	38.50	462.80
Transport and communication workers	51.40	11.53	86.93	16.55	8.89	24.98	30.46	16.81	16.67	68.69	44.98	7.37	33.74	419.02
Tradesmen, production—process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	52.94	11.31	81.25	14.91	7.62	25.09	30.89	16.23	15.48	71.19	47.43	6.86	28.00	409.20
Other	48.79	10.22	70.87	14.41	6.87	24.17	31.75	15.89	14.23	70.49	45.21	7.62	24.57	385.09

(a) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (b) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey.

1984 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY
 TABLE 8: HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE BY VARIOUS HOUSEHOLD HEAD CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA—continued

Selected Household Head Characteristics	Commodity or Service Broad Expenditure Group (a)										Total commodity or service expenditure			
	Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	Fuel and power	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages	Tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Household furnishings and equipment	Household services and operation expenses	Medical care and health expenses	Transportation		Personal care services	Miscellaneous commodities and services	
Average weekly household expenditure (\$) (b)														
Employment status of the head of the household:														
Wage and salary earner:														
Full-time	59.11	11.47	82.29	15.75	6.78	28.98	34.85	17.73	16.76	73.28	53.63	7.82	33.46	441.91
Part-time	44.78	9.51	62.71	9.42	4.26	23.03	23.49	15.90	11.20	49.50	41.46	6.95	28.07	330.28
Self-employed	43.34	12.91	86.93	13.63	5.36	26.71	26.76	17.48	19.34	63.91	43.15	7.23	30.21	396.96
Unemployed	50.68	9.38	55.49	8.66	7.85	15.02	19.94	12.19	5.83	45.63	22.65	3.96	13.42	270.70
Not in the labour force	26.51	8.45	50.07	6.92	4.04	14.24	17.71	12.09	9.05	36.44	28.58	4.65	13.22	231.97
Country of birth of the head of the household:														
Australia	45.64	10.34	68.68	12.58	5.45	22.58	26.60	15.45	14.24	58.98	42.42	6.52	25.62	355.08
United Kingdom and Ireland	49.30	10.22	69.02	12.59	5.95	20.78	33.43	15.74	12.57	60.41	47.33	6.38	24.11	367.82
Italy	34.93	14.00	89.99	9.74	6.13	36.77	27.40	16.75	17.74	66.46	34.57	8.05	24.91	387.45
Greece	50.13	12.06	99.16	10.27	9.09	36.37	27.20	17.36	16.13	68.51	44.03	6.93	20.93	418.16
Yugoslavia	40.97	11.23	82.66	13.29	8.20	29.20	28.28	14.18	11.21	51.54	37.74	4.95	14.28	347.72
Holland	41.06	11.50	78.18	10.55	7.84	27.07	34.28	15.70	18.02	60.52	50.24	6.88	26.60	388.44
Germany	50.67	11.26	74.55	12.75	7.18	24.66	25.15	15.46	13.42	68.35	50.09	7.63	30.96	392.10
New Zealand	61.76	12.04	77.65	17.93	5.26	21.24	28.04	16.45	9.15	49.78	46.70	9.03	34.62	389.65
Other	51.44	10.89	81.22	9.53	6.42	26.96	29.33	17.37	14.04	54.83	44.85	6.71	31.51	385.10
Birth place and period of residence in Australia of the head of the household:														
Head born in Australia	45.64	10.34	68.68	12.58	5.45	22.58	26.60	15.45	14.24	58.98	42.42	6.52	25.62	355.08
Head born outside Australia:														
Period of residence:														
—Under 2 years	72.73	11.81	79.42	14.14	5.35	25.54	57.52	17.22	9.25	77.88	70.57	6.31	24.07	471.81
—2 to 4 years	73.09	9.13	73.78	12.11	6.65	27.80	27.62	18.84	10.34	61.80	40.96	7.03	35.68	404.85
—5 to 9 years	73.96	11.15	85.44	11.73	6.31	22.24	35.29	19.59	12.51	61.36	42.16	6.98	29.36	418.08
—10 years or over	43.27	11.28	77.36	11.45	6.48	25.84	29.45	15.78	14.20	57.99	44.74	6.81	25.74	370.38
Total	48.58	11.12	77.75	11.59	6.45	25.70	30.48	16.33	13.66	59.06	44.95	6.82	26.71	379.21

(a) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper. (b) The average obtained when the total estimated expenditure for a particular broad expenditure group is divided by the estimated number of households within the scope of the survey.

APPENDIX 1

PUBLICATION AND DATA DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

To fulfil users' requirements from the survey, a dissemination program consisting of three major components has been planned.

1. A number of ABS publications (some already issued) have been designed to meet the needs of the major proportion of users. The majority of these publications will show survey results within the confines of some overall theme, whilst two of them will concentrate on explaining the concepts and methods associated with the survey.

2. A *public use unit record tape* is planned for release early in 1986, once the unit record data has been 'confidentialised' (i.e. all possibility of identifying individual households has been eliminated). The contents of the tape will be consistent with the output data items contained in Appendices 2.0 and 3.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0).

3. Additional special-purpose tabulations may be produced subject to the formal request not being filled within components 1 and 2 of the overall 1984 HES dissemination program.

Details of all publications, including a summary of their content are given below. They may be purchased through the mail or over the counter from offices of the Australian Bureau of Statistics in each capital city.

6527.0 *Information Paper* — released June 1984

Contains a brief overview of the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey to inform users of the nature of the survey and to provide a guide to the factors taken into account in its development. It also contains output data items (developed in close consultation with users) which will be and have been used in presenting preliminary and final estimates arising from the survey.

6528.0 *Preliminary (January to June 1984)* — released February 1985

Preliminary results of the survey, based on the first six months data collected, summarising household expenditure by income and for each State and Territory.

6529.0 *Preliminary* — released June 1985

Preliminary results of the survey, based on the full twelve months data collected, summarising household expenditure by income and for each State and Territory.

6530.0 *Summary of Results* — released February 1986

Contains summary tables covering major aspects of the data collected. Areas covered include detailed expenditure patterns by type of commodity or service, by household size and composition, by sources of income and by other socio-economic characteristics of the household.

6531.0 *Household Characteristics* — expected release May 1986 (\$1.80, including postage \$2.60)

Presents data on household expenditure by selected household characteristics including size, composition, employment status, housing tenure and source of income.

6532.0 *Specific Commodities* — expected release June 1986 (\$1.90, including postage \$2.80)

Contains details of expenditure in major areas of household spending. Expenditure areas covered include housing, food, transport and recreation.

6533.0 *States and Territories* — expected release March 1986 (\$1.80, including postage \$2.60)

Results of the survey are presented for each State and Territory. Separate data for expenditure in each capital city are also published.

6534.0 *Expenditure by Principal Sources of Income of Households, Preliminary* — released July 1985

Contains preliminary results of the survey focusing on expenditure patterns, income distributions and household characteristics according to the principal source of income of the household.

6535.0 *Fine Level Expenditure* — expected release March 1986

Contains expenditure data at the finest level of detail, cross-classified by income and geographic area.

6536.0 *Socio-Economic Groups* — expected release September 1986 (\$1.90, including postage \$2.80)

Presents data on household expenditure for specified population groups including pensioner, migrant, low-income and one-parent families.

6540.0 *Concepts and Methods* — expected release March 1986 (\$3.80, including postage \$5.30)

Contains a detailed description of the concepts, methodology and procedures used in the 1984 Household Expenditure Survey. Included are notes on the survey background, objective, design, collection and processing methodology, response, estimation procedure, sampling reliability and factors influencing the interpretation of results.

6544.0 *Sample File on Magnetic Tape* — expected release March 1986

This information paper provides technical and other details of the sample file, conditions of use and how to order it.

APPENDIX 2

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS (%) FOR ITEM ESTIMATES

As described in paragraphs 43-47 the survey is subject to both sampling and non-sampling errors. This appendix enables an estimate of the size of the sampling error to be determined (i.e. an estimate of the possible differences that may have occurred if the collection was based on all households using the same questionnaires and procedures).

Data is provided which enables relative standard errors to be calculated for each estimate shown in this publication. While it would have been possible to produce and publish standard errors for all estimates presented, this has not been done for the following reasons:

- Presentation difficulties would have been encountered because of the large number of estimates involved.
- Computer production of all standard errors would have been very costly.

- The standard errors themselves are subject to sampling errors, and 'smoothing' or averaging them in the appropriate fashion improves their accuracy.

Tables in this publication are, for the most part, in a standard form: each column in the table corresponds to a category (e.g. *NSW, single person household*) and each row corresponds to an item (e.g. *average weekly household expenditure on current housing costs (selected dwelling), average age of household head*). The entries in the table are estimates of the value of the items for each category. The relative standard errors of estimates at the Australia level are presented in Table 9. The relative standard errors of estimates at lower levels can be obtained from the Australian figure and the factor line of the graph indicated in Table 9.

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TABLE 9: RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS (%) OF ESTIMATES AT THE AUSTRALIAN LEVEL AND FACTOR LINES NEEDED TO DERIVE ESTIMATES AT THE LOWER LEVEL

	Relative Standard Error (%) for Australia	Factor Line		Relative Standard Error (%) for Australia	Factor Line
Broad Expenditure Group (a)					
Commodity or service					
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	1.3	E	Proportion of total income being:		
Fuel and power	1.0	E	Wages and salaries	0.8	F
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.9	D	Own business	3.3	D
Alcoholic beverages	1.9	E	Government pensions and benefits	2.1	D
Tobacco	2.0	E	Other	5.2	E
Clothing and footwear	2.0	E	<i>Average age of household head</i>	0.5	E
Household furnishings and equipment	2.5	E	Average number of persons per household:		
Household services and operation	1.4	D	Under 18 years	1.8	E
Medical care and health expenses	1.7	D	18 to 64 years	0.8	D
Transport	1.7	E	65 years and over	2.8	F
Recreation	1.7	E	Proportion of households with nature of housing occupancy being:		
Personal care	1.8	E	Owned outright	1.5	F
Miscellaneous commodities and services	2.8	D	Being bought	1.7	F
Total commodity or service expenditure	0.8	D	Renting—government	6.5	D
			Renting—private	2.5	F
			Occupied rent free	7.4	E
			<i>Average number of employed persons in household (d)</i>	1.1	D
			Proportion of households with family composition of household being:		
Selected other payments			Married couple:		
Income tax	1.5	D	—only	2.2	F
Mortgage payments—principal (selected dwelling)	3.4	E	—with dependent children only	2.1	E
Other capital housing costs	12.0	C	—other	3.2	F
Superannuation and life insurance	2.0	E	Single parent one family household only	3.8	F
			Single person household	2.7	F
			Other (e)	5.5	E
Household Characteristics			Estimated number of households being in (f):		
<i>Average weekly household income (h):</i>			Metropolitan areas	1.5	E
—not categorised by income decile group	0.9	E	Other urban areas	5.1	E
—categorised by first or last decile group	0.4	E	Rural areas	3.2	E
—categorised by some other decile group	0.1	E	Estimated total number in population:		
<i>Average weekly per capita income (c)</i>	0.9	D	Households	1.4	E
<i>Average weekly per capita expenditure (c)</i>	0.9	E	Persons	1.5	E

(a) Details of the component expenditure items which comprise broad expenditure groups are given in Appendix 2.0 of the 1984 HES Information Paper (6527.0). (b) Household income is the sum of the gross weekly income of all household members. (c) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory notes. (d) See paragraphs 29-31 of the Explanatory notes. (e) Includes married couple and single parent families living in multiple family households. (f) See paragraphs 39-41 of the Explanatory notes.

To calculate the relative standard error of the estimate of item I for category C, use the formula

$$RSE = F \times R \%$$

R is the relative standard error of the estimate of item I for Australia and is given in Table 9.

F is a factor based on the number of sampled households in category C. It is obtained from the graph using the line specified for that item in Table 9.

The procedure for calculating relative standard errors is outlined below.

- (i) In the table containing the estimate look up the number of sample households in the category.
- (ii) Using Table 9, look up the Australian relative standard error R for that item, and beside it the letter of the factor line corresponding to that item.
- (iii) Read the factor F from the graph using the factor line from step (ii) and the number of sampled households from step (i).
- (iv) The relative standard error is $F \times R \%$.

An example of the calculation of a relative standard error is given below.

Table 1 shows that the estimate of *average age of household head* for the fourth decile group is 45.39. The relative standard error is as follows:

- (i) From Table 1 we see that the number of sampled households is 921.
- (ii) From Table 9 we find that the Australian relative standard error R is 0.5% and the factor line required is E.
- (iii) Looking up line E on the graph with number of sampled households (921) gives the factor F - 2.9.

- (iv) The relative standard error is thus $2.9 \times 0.5\% = 1.45\%$.

An example of the use of relative standard errors is as follows. The estimate of *average age of household head* for the fourth decile group is 45.39 with a relative standard error of 1.45% (see above). The standard error of this estimate is therefore $45.39 \times 0.0145 = 0.66$. Thus, there are about 2 chances in 3 (or approximately with 67% confidence) that the true figure lies in the range 44.73 to 46.05 and about 19 chances in 20 (or approximately with 95% confidence) that the figure is in the range 44.07 to 46.71.

Only income within a fixed range falls into an income decile group; hence the item *average weekly household income* is much less variable when categorised by income decile group than otherwise. Because of this, three rows of Table 9 have been provided to calculate relative standard errors for estimates of *average weekly household income*. The relative standard error is $R \times F \%$, here F is obtained using factor line F of the graph and R is from the column headed 'Relative Standard Error (%) for Australia'. The figure R from the row 'not categorised by income decile group' (under the heading '**Household Characteristics**' in Table 9) is the relative standard error for Australia; the Rs from the next two rows are simply the appropriate figures for the calculation of relative standards errors for estimates categorised by income decile group.

Table 10 is categorised by income decile group. In this table the boundaries between the groups are formed by estimates of deciles. These decile estimates are given in Table 10 along with their relative standard errors. For example, the estimate of the third income decile is \$235.0 and its relative standard error is 1.7%.

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TABLE 10: ESTIMATES OF INCOME DECILES AND THEIR RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR (%)

	Decile of Average Weekly Household Income (\$)								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Decile estimate	113	171	235	314	387	472	564	675	860
Relative standard error (%)	1.5	1.1	1.7	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.1

FACTOR F TO USE IN RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR (%) CALCULATIONS

