

## **Information Paper**

# **Multi-Purpose Household Survey, Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File**

**Australia**

**2004–05**



**Information Paper**

**Multi-Purpose Household  
Survey, Expanded  
Confidentialised Unit  
Record File**

**Australia**

**2004–05**

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 16 MAY 2006

ABS Catalogue No. 4100.0

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## ABBREVIATIONS .....

<b>ABS</b>	Australian Bureau of Statistics
<b>ADSL</b>	asymmetric digital subscriber line
<b>ANZSIC</b>	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
<b>ASCO</b>	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
<b>ASGC</b>	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
<b>AVCC</b>	Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
<b>CAI</b>	computer assisted interviewing
<b>CURF</b>	Confidentialised Unit Record File
<b>DSL</b>	digital subscriber line
<b>Gbps</b>	gigabits per second
<b>kbps</b>	kilobits per second
<b>LFS</b>	Labour Force Survey
<b>MPHS</b>	Multi-Purpose Household Survey
<b>OMIE</b>	owner manager of incorporated enterprise
<b>PSTN</b>	public switched telephone network
<b>RADL</b>	Remote Access Data Laboratory
<b>RSE</b>	relative standard error
<b>SAS</b>	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
<b>SDSL</b>	symmetric digital subscriber line
<b>SE</b>	standard error
<b>SPSS</b>	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
<b>STATA</b>	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
<b>TAFE</b>	Technical and Further Education

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION .....

### OVERVIEW

This paper provides information on the release of microdata from the 2004–05 Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS). The data are available through an Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) released with the approval of the Australian Statistician. The 2004–05 MPHS CURF is accessible through the ABS Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). This Expanded CURF option provides access to more detailed information than would otherwise be available from a basic CURF product. A basic CURF has not been produced from this survey.

The RADL is an on-line batch database query system, to which users submit programs to interrogate and analyse data, and access the results. Further information about this facility including a RADL User Guide is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (see Services We Provide, CURFs).

The CURF enables purchasers to tabulate, manipulate and analyse data to their own specifications.

### ABOUT THE SURVEY

The 2004–05 MPHS was conducted throughout Australia from August 2004 to June 2005. In future years, the survey will be conducted over the full financial year. The MPHS is designed to provide statistics annually for a small number of labour, social and economic topics. Topics included in the 2004–05 MPHS survey were:

- Household Use of Information Technology
- Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation
- Retirement and Retirement Intentions

The Household Use of Information Technology topic contains information on both household and personal access to, and use of, computers and the Internet both at home and at other locations. Information on the main purposes and frequency of access to the Internet, the technology used to access the Internet and the types and value of goods and services ordered on the Internet were also collected. Estimates from the survey were published in *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2004–05* (cat. no. 8146.0).

The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic has information on persons aged 18 years and over, who were either not employed or who worked very few hours (less than 16 hours per week in all jobs). The survey gathered information on the number and the characteristics of this potential labour force, current and previous job details, reasons for not wanting more hours or work, reasons for not being available to start work or work more hours and reasons for not looking for work or more hours. Estimates from the survey were published in *Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia, August 2004 to June 2005* (cat. no. 6239.0).

## ABOUT THE SURVEY

*continued*

The Retirement and Retirement Intentions topic contains information on persons aged 45 years and over who had previously worked for two weeks or more. Factors which influence decisions to retire, retirement intentions and sources of income at retirement (including payments from superannuation schemes) are covered. Estimates from the survey were published in *Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia, August 2004 to June 2005* (cat. no. 6238.0).

The MPHS also collected other socio-demographic information such as educational qualifications and personal and household income.



## CHAPTER 2

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY .....

### SCOPE AND COVERAGE

The MPHS is linked to the ABS Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

The LFS is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) and a list of sample non-private dwellings (hospitals, hotels etc.). The survey is conducted in both rural and urban areas of all states and territories of Australia. The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

In addition, the 2004–05 MPHS excluded the following:

- people under the age of 18 years;
- people in private dwellings living in very remote parts of Australia;
- people living in non-private dwellings such as hotels, university residences, students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes such as retirement homes and homes for people with disabilities, and inmates of prisons;
- visitors to private dwellings.

The 2004–05 MPHS was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in very remote parts of Australia. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where persons living in very remote areas account for approximately 23% of the total number of persons in the population aged 18 years and over.

In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. The chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the one survey is considered to be negligible.

For more information about the LFS see *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

### DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

One third of the dwellings in the outgoing rotation group for the LFS (one-eighth of the sample is rotated out each month) are selected for the MPHS. In these dwellings (any) one of the responsible adults living in the dwelling is randomly selected and asked the additional MPHS questions in a personal interview, after the LFS has been fully completed.

DATA COLLECTION  
METHODOLOGY  
*continued*

Data is collected using Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire in a notebook during a telephone interview. Face-to-face CAI interviews are conducted in a small number of households, where that is the normal method of collection for the LFS.

The initial sample for the 2004–05 MPHS consisted of 18,148 private dwelling households. Of these households, 2,624 were excluded from the MPHS sample because of sample loss (for example, households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction). Of the remaining 15,524 private dwelling households, approximately 86% were fully responding to the MPHS. This meant there were 13,337 completed interviews for the Household Use of Information Technology topic, which was asked of all respondents.

The other topics on the survey were asked of subgroups of the population. The Retirement and Retirement Intentions topic sought information from persons aged 45 years and over who had previously worked for two weeks or more. A total of 6,913 persons completed interviews for this topic. The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic collected information on people who were either not employed or who worked less than 16 hours a week in all their jobs. There were 5,880 people who met these criteria who provided responses.

WEIGHTING, ESTIMATION  
AND BENCHMARKING

As the survey was conducted on a sample of households in Australia, it is important to consider the method of sample selection when deriving estimates from the CURF. This is particularly important as a person's chance of selection in the survey varies depending on the state or territory in which they live.

Weighting is the process of adjusting results from the sample survey to infer results for the total in-scope population. To do this, a weight is allocated to each sample unit i.e. each person or household. The weight effectively indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit.

The first step in calculating weights for each sample unit is to assign an initial weight which is equal to the inverse of the probability of being selected in the survey. For example, if the probability of a person being selected in the survey was one in 600, then the selected person would have an initial weight of 600 (that is, they represent 600 persons in the population). The initial weights are then calibrated to align with independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights are calibrated against population benchmarks to ensure that the survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population, rather than to the distribution within the sample itself.

Replicate weights have been included on the CURF which can be used to calculate sampling error. For more information, refer to the 'Standard Errors' section in Chapter 3.

The survey was benchmarked to the estimated civilian population aged 18 years and over living in private dwellings in each state and territory in non-sparsely settled areas. The process of weighting ensures that the survey estimates conform to person benchmarks by state, part of state, age and sex and to household benchmarks by

WEIGHTING, ESTIMATION  
AND BENCHMARKING  
*continued*

state, part of state and household composition. These benchmarks are produced from estimates of the resident population derived independently of the survey.

RELIABILITY OF  
ESTIMATES

Estimates derived from the CURF are subject to both sampling and non-sampling errors.

*Sampling error*

Sampling error arises because the estimates are based on a sample of units and so will differ from estimates that would have been produced if all units in the population had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that the sample estimates will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all persons had been surveyed and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs. Instructions on how to calculate SEs can be found in Chapter 3.

Another measure of the sampling error is the relative standard error (RSE) which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate. Generally, only estimates (numbers, percentages, means and medians) with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. The formula for calculating the RSE of an estimate ( $y$ ) is:

$$RSE(y) = SE(y)/y * 100\%$$

*Non sampling error*

Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or a sample of the population. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient processing procedures.

## CHAPTER 3

## USING THE CURF DATA .....

### ABOUT THE MICRODATA

The 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF enables users to manipulate the data, produce tabulations and undertake statistical analysis to individual specifications.

This 2004–05 MPHS microdata is released under the Census and Statistics Act 1905 which has provision for the release of data in the form of unit records where the information is not likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation. Accordingly, there are no names or addresses of survey respondents on the CURF, and other steps have been taken to protect the confidentiality of respondents. These include removing or reducing the level of detail shown for some items and changing some characteristics such as state or area for some records. Data from the 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF will therefore not exactly match published data.

Steps to confidentialise the datasets made available on the CURF are taken in such a way as to ensure the integrity of the dataset and optimise its content, while maintaining the confidentiality of respondents. Intending users should ensure that the data they require, at the level of detail they require, are available on the CURF. Data obtained in the survey but not contained on the CURF may be available in tabulated form on request. A full list of all the data items on the CURF is provided in the Appendix.

### FILE STRUCTURE

The 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF contains three data files (SAS, SPSS and Stata), each containing 13,337 confidentialised records. Each record holds both the person and household level data of a respondent to the survey. Using the person and household weights, also provided on each record, the data can be used to estimate characteristics for the Australian population.

### GEOGRAPHY

To enable analysis at a regional level, each record contains a state/territory identifier (STATEUR) and a substate identifier (AREAUR). The AREAUR data item has two output categories - Capital city and Balance of state/territory. Only the statistical divisions for the six state capital cities defined in the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification* (cat. no. 1216.0) are classified as capital cities. All other regions in Australia, including Canberra and Darwin are classified to the Balance of state/territory category.

### SPECIAL CODES

For income data items, certain values are reserved as special codes and must not be added as if they were quantitative values. The value of the codes are as follows:

9999999998 = Not applicable

9999999999 = Not stated

## MULTIPLE RESPONSE FIELDS

A number of the questions asked during the MPHS allowed respondents to give multiple responses. On the CURF, each response category for such questions is treated as a separate data item. Each of these data items will have either one of two responses. A number greater than '0', indicating a positive response to that category, or a '0' indicating that no response was provided and that the data item is not applicable. An example of this is the 'All factors influencing decisions about when to retire from the labour force' question which had ten response categories. From these categories ten separate data items have been produced - RETFCTACA to RETFCTACJ. Each data item has either a 'Yes' or 'Not applicable' response.

## WEIGHTS AND ESTIMATION

Care needs to be taken to ensure the appropriate weight is selected when estimating for the Australian population. The person weight must be used when estimating the number of people in Australia with a particular characteristic. When estimating the number of households in Australia with certain characteristics, the household weight must be used. If weights were to be ignored, no account would be taken of a person's or household's chance of selection in the survey or of different response rates across population groups, with the result that counts produced could be biased.

The application of weights ensures that person estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age, sex, state/territory and section of state. Similarly, household estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of households by certain household characteristics (e.g. by number of adults and children), rather than to the distributions within the sample itself.

## STANDARD ERRORS

Standard errors for each estimate produced from this CURF can be calculated using the replicate weights provided on the file.

Each record on the CURF contains 30 sets of replicate weights. Using these weights, it is possible to calculate standard errors for estimates produced from this file, using what is known as the 30 group jackknife standard error estimator.

To obtain the standard error of a weighted estimate  $y$ , calculate the same estimate using each of the 30 replicate weights. The variability between these replicate estimates (denoting  $y_{(g)}$  for group number  $g$ ) is used to measure the standard error of the original weighted estimate  $y$ , using the formula:

$$SE(y) = \sqrt{(29/30) \sum_g (y_{(g)} - y)^2}$$

where

$g$  = the replicate groups no.

$y_{(g)}$  = weighted estimate, having applied the weights for replicate group

$y$  = weighted estimate from the full sample

## STANDARD ERRORS

*continued*

The 30 group jackknife method can be applied not just to estimates of population total, but also where the estimate  $y$  is a function of estimates of population total, such as a proportion, difference or ratio. For more information on the 30 group jackknife method of SE estimation, see *Research Paper: Weighting and Standard Error Estimation for ABS Household Surveys (Methodology Advisory Committee), July 1999* (cat.no. 1352.0.55.029), which is on the ABS website.

Use of the 30 group jackknife method for complex estimates, such as regression parameters from a statistical model, is not straightforward and may not be appropriate. The method as described does not apply to investigations where survey weights are not used, such as in unweighted statistical modelling.

The following tables have been provided to enable CURF users to check some of the relative standard errors they have produced.

TABLE 1: USE OF COMPUTERS BY PERSONS, RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

	Persons	Relative Standard Error
	'000	%
Age group (years)		
18–24	1 470.8	1.8
25–34	2 013.7	1.5
35–44	2 132.5	1.2
45–54	1 843.8	1.7
55–64	1 090.9	2.5
65 or over	502.5	3.8
Sex		
Male	4 538.7	1.1
Female	4 515.4	1.0
Personal Income		
Less than \$40,000	4 911.4	1.4
\$40,000 – \$79,999	2 178.5	2.4
\$80,000 – \$119,999	418.8	5.7
\$120,000 or over	250.8	8.8
Could not be determined	1 294.5	3.4
Labour force status		
Employed	7 009.9	1.1
Not employed	2 044.2	2.3
State or territory		
New South Wales	2 965.2	1.5
Victoria	2 275.3	1.7
Queensland	1 760.0	1.5
South Australia	689.9	1.9
Western Australia	924.5	1.8
Tasmania	199.1	3.6
Northern Territory	62.9	9.5
Australian Capital Territory	177.2	2.4
Area		
Capital city	5 812.6	0.9
Balance of state/territory	3 241.4	1.3
Total	9 054.0	1.0

## STANDARD ERRORS

*continued*

TABLE 2: BARRIERS AND INCENTIVES TO LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

	Persons	Relative Standard Error
		%
	'000	
Persons in the labour force	10 183.6	0.7
Employed	9 718.6	0.7
Persons who usually work 16 hours or more per week	8 766.8	0.7
Persons who usually work 0–15 hours per week	951.7	4.5
Preferred to work more hours	321.7	7.3
Did not prefer to work more hours(a)	630.1	5.5
Unemployed	465.0	5.1
Persons not in the labour force	4 895.9	1.4
Would like a paid job(b)	977.3	3.4
Would not like a paid job(a)	3 918.6	1.6
Total	15 079.5	0.0

(a) Includes did not know.

(b) Includes maybe/it depends.

TABLE 3: RETIREMENT AND RETIREMENT INTENTIONS RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

	Persons	Relative Standard Error
		%
	'000	
Employed	3 631.7	1.2
Full-time worker(a)	2 574.9	1.5
Intends to work part-time, but not retire from the labour force(b)	84.1	14.0
Intends to retire from the labour force	2 298.9	1.7
Never intends to retire	191.9	11.0
Part-time worker(a)(c)	1 056.8	3.7
Intends to retire	956.9	3.8
Never intends to retire	99.9	9.8
Unemployed	113.2	13.4
Not in the labour force	3 620.1	1.1
Retired from the labour force	3 000.1	1.4
Not retired from the labour force	302.1	6.0
Intends to look for, or take up, part-time work in the future	120.7	11.3
Intends to look for, or take up, full-time work in the future	181.4	8.7
Never worked for two weeks or more	290.1	6.3
Total	7 365.0	0.0

(a) Based on hours usually worked per week (in all jobs).

(b) Also referred to as intends to partially retire.

(c) Includes persons who usually work zero hours, but worked during the reference week.

## CHAPTER 4

## FILE CONTENT .....

### FILE CONTENT

The 2004–05 MPHS CURF contains the files listed below which are available through the RADL.

#### *Expanded CURF files*

MPHS04E.SD2 - the MPHS file in SAS for Windows format.

Formats.SC2 - the format file which provides labels for associated codes in the SAS version of the MPHS CURF.

MPHS04E.SAV - the MPHS file in SPSS format.

MPHS04E.DTA - the MPHS file in Stata format.

DATA\_ITEM\_LISTING\_MPHS04E.TXT - the documentation files which includes lengths and data item labels. The file is in plain text format.

FREQUENCIES\_MPHS04EPSN.TXT - data item code values and category labels are provided with weighted person frequencies of each code value. The file is in plain text format.

FREQUENCIES\_MPHS04EHH.TXT - data item code values and category labels are provided with weighted household frequencies of each code value. The file is in plain text format.

#### *Expanded CURF test files*

The test files mirror the actual data files but contain random data. The test files can be used to troubleshoot SAS, SPSS or Stata code or to solve any syntax problems prior to submitting RADL jobs. The test files can also test code without the restrictions imposed by RADL. Data from the test files will not match data from the actual MPHS CURF files.

MPHS04E.SD2 - the MPHS test file in SAS for Windows format.

Formats.SC2 - the format test file which provides labels for associated codes in the SAS version of the MPHS CURF.

MPHS04E.SAV - the MPHS test file in SPSS format.

MPHS04E.DTA - the MPHS test file in Stata format.



## RELEASE OF CURF

The 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF is released in accordance with a Ministerial Determination (Clause 7, Statutory Rules 1983, No.19) in pursuance of section 13 of the Census and Statistics Act 1905. As required by the Determination, the CURF has been designed so that the information on the file is not likely to enable the identification of the particular person to which the data relates.

The Australian Statistician's approval is required for each release of the CURF. In addition, all organisations, and individuals within organisations, who request access to the CURF will, prior to being granted access to the CURF, be required to sign an Undertaking to abide by the legislative restrictions on use. Organisations and individuals who seek access to the 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF are required to give an undertaking which includes, among other conditions, that in using the data they will:

- use the information only for the statistical purposes specified in the Schedule to the Undertaking.
- not attempt to identify particular persons or organisations.
- not disclose, either directly or indirectly, the information to any other person or organisation other than members of their organisation who have been approved by the ABS to have individual access to the information.
- not attempt to match, with or without using identifiers, the information with any other list of persons or organisations.
- comply with any other direction or requirement specified in the ABS Responsible Access to ABS CURFs Training Manual.
- not attempt to access the information after the term of their authorisation expires, or after their authorisation is rescinded by the organisation which provided it, or after they cease to be a member of that organisation.

Use of the data for statistical purposes means use of the information contained in the CURF to produce information of a statistical nature, i.e. the arrangement and classification of numerical facts or data, including statistical analyses or statistical aggregates. Examples of statistical purposes are:

- manipulation of the data to produce means, correlations or other descriptive or summary measures.
- estimation of population characteristics.
- use of data as input to mathematical models or for other types of analysis (e.g. factor analysis).
- providing graphical or pictorial representations of the characteristics of the population or subsets of the population.

All CURF users are required to read and abide by the "Responsible Access to ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) Training Manual" available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (see Services We Provide, CURFs). Use of the data for unauthorised purposes may render the purchaser liable to severe penalties. Advice on

RELEASE OF CURF <i>continued</i>	the propriety of any particular intended use of the data is available from the CURF Management Unit of the ABS, telephone (02) 6252 5853.
CONDITIONS OF SALE	All ABS products and services are provided under conditions of sale. Any queries relating to these Conditions of Sale should be referred to <intermediary.management@abs.gov.au>.
PRICE	The Recommended Retail Price (RRP) of the 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF, as at May 2006 is \$8,000 including GST.
HOW TO ORDER	All clients wishing to access the 2004–05 MPHS Expanded CURF should refer to the ABS website, < <a href="http://www.abs.gov.au">http://www.abs.gov.au</a> > (see Access to ABS CURFs) and read the Responsible Access to ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) Training Manual, and other relevant information, before downloading the Application and Undertaking to apply for access.
<i>Australian universities</i>	University clients should refer to the ABS website < <a href="http://www.abs.gov.au">http://www.abs.gov.au</a> > (see Services We Provide, Services for Universities). The 2004-05 MPHS Expanded CURF can be accessed by universities participating in the ABS/AVCC CURF agreement for research and teaching purposes.
<i>Other clients</i>	Other prospective clients should contact the CURF Management Unit of the ABS on (02)6252 5853.

APPENDIX

**DATA ITEM LIST** .....

*For data items and structure see the Excel spreadsheet titled  
'41000\_DATA\_ITEM\_LISTING\_MPHS04E' associated with this information  
paper.*

## GLOSSARY .....

<b>Actively looking for work</b>	Persons who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ registering with a Job Network employment agency</li> <li>■ contacting an employment agency</li> <li>■ contacting prospective employers</li> <li>■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job</li> <li>■ checking Centrelink touchscreens</li> <li>■ checking factory notice boards</li> <li>■ advertising or tendering for work</li> </ul>
<b>Age</b>	This is the reported age of a person on their last birthday.
<b>Analog/Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)</b>	A telecommunications network operated by a carrier to provide services to the public.
<b>Annuities</b>	A series or stream of payments made at regular intervals, usually purchased with a lump sum from a life insurance company, typically to provide retirement income.
<b>Available to start work</b>	For persons not in the labour force, those who were available to start work in the reference week or within four weeks.
<b>Available to start work with more hours</b>	Employed persons who usually worked 0 to 15 hours per week in all jobs and were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks.
<b>Balance of state/territory</b>	This area comprises the region outside of the six state capital Statistical Divisions. The area includes the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory (except those in sparsely settled areas).
<b>Broadband</b>	Defined by the ABS as an 'always on' Internet connection with an access speed equal to or greater than 256 kilobits per second (kbps).
<b>Cable</b>	Describes those technologies including coaxial cable, fibre optic cable and hybrid fibre coaxial cable which are capable of transmitting data at speeds of up to 2 Gigabits per second (Gbps).
<b>Capital city</b>	This area comprises the Statistical Divisions of the six state capital cities which are defined in the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)</i> (cat. no. 1216.0).
<b>Child</b>	A person of any age who is a natural, adopted, step or foster son or daughter of a couple or lone parent, usually resident in the same household, and who does not have a child or partner of his/her own usually resident in the household.
<b>Computer Use</b>	This refers to use of a computer in the 12 months prior to interview.
<b>Current job</b>	The job in which a person currently works.
<b>Dial-up connections</b>	Connection to the Internet via modem and dial-up software utilising the public switched telecommunication network (PSTN).
<b>Did not prefer to work more hours</b>	People who said 'no' or 'don't know' when asked 'would you prefer to work more hours than you usually work?'.
<b>Digital Subscriber Line</b>	More properly referred to as ADSL as this covers several digital technologies (e.g. asymmetric DSL or ADSL and Symmetric DSL or SDSL) for fast two-way data connections over the PSTN.

<b>Duration of current main job/last job</b>	Length of time worked in current main job/last job.
<b>Educational attainment</b>	The highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is defined as the highest educational attainment a person has achieved, and is not a measurement of relative importance of different fields of study.
<b>Employed</b>	Persons who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or</li> <li>■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or</li> <li>■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or</li> <li>■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or</li> <li>■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or</li> <li>■ on strike or locked out; or</li> <li>■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</li> </ul>
<b>Employees (excluding OMIEs) with paid leave entitlements</b>	Employees excluding Owner Managers of Incorporated Enterprises (OMIEs), who were entitled to either paid sick leave or paid holiday leave (or both).
<b>Employees (excluding OMIEs) without paid leave entitlements</b>	Employees excluding OMIEs, who were not entitled to, or did not know whether they were entitled to, paid sick and paid holiday leave.
<b>Employment types</b>	Classification of employed persons according to the following employment type categories on the basis of their main job (that is, the job in which they usually work the most hours): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Employee (excluding owner-manager of incorporated enterprise) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ with paid leave entitlements</li> <li>■ without paid leave entitlements</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Owner manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ owner managers of incorporated enterprises</li> <li>■ owner managers of unincorporated enterprises</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Contributing family worker</li> </ul>
<b>Equivalised Gross Household Income</b>	Gross household income adjusted using an equivalence scale. For a lone person household it is equal to gross household income. For a household comprising more than one person, it is an indicator of the gross household income that would need to be received by a lone person household to enjoy the same level of economic well-being as the household in question.
<b>Family</b>	Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
<b>Full-time educational attendance</b>	Persons aged 15-19 who, during the reference week were enrolled full-time at secondary or high schools, and those aged 15-24 who, during the reference week, were enrolled full-time at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution.
<b>Full-time workers (usual)</b>	Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs).

<b>Future starters</b>	Persons who were not employed during the reference week, were waiting to start a job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.
<b>Government pension/allowance</b>	Income support payments from government to persons under social security and related government programs. Included are pensions and allowances received by aged, disabled, unemployed and sick persons, families and children, veterans and their survivors, and study allowances for students. Payments made by overseas governments as well as the Australian Government are included.
<b>Gross income</b>	Regular and recurring cash receipts including monies received from wages and salaries, government pensions and allowances, and other regular receipts such as superannuation, workers' compensation, child support, scholarships, profit or loss from own unincorporated business or partnership, and property income. Gross income is the sum of current income from all these sources before income tax or the Medicare levy have been deducted.
<b>Group Jack-knife method</b>	This method of calculating standard errors starts by dividing the survey sample into a number of approximately equal-sized groups (replicate groups). Replicate estimates of the population total are then calculated from the sample by excluding each replicate group in turn. The Jack-knife variance is derived from the variation of the respective replicate estimates around the estimate based on the whole sample.
<b>Has ever worked for two weeks or more</b>	Persons who are not in the labour force or are unemployed and have previously worked for two weeks or more.
<b>Household</b>	A household consists of a person living alone, or two or more related or unrelated persons who live and eat together in private residential accommodation.
<b>Incorporated enterprise</b>	An enterprise which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners. Also known as a limited liability company.
<b>Industry</b>	All occurrences of industry refer to Division, as classified by the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993</i> (cat. no. 1292.0).
<b>Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)</b>	A digital access technique for both voice and data. Digital alternative to an analog public switched telephone service and carries data or voltages consisting of discrete steps or levels, as opposed to continuously variable analog data. ISDN enables digital transmission over the PSTN.
<b>Intends to partially retire</b>	Full-time workers who indicated that they intend to give up full-time work and work part-time but never retire from the work force.
<b>Intends to retire from full-time work</b>	Employed persons who indicated that they intend to give up working full-time and partially retire and/or retire from the labour force.
<b>Intends to retire from the labour force</b>	Those persons who indicated that they intend to give up all labour force activity, that is, working or looking for work.
<b>Internet</b>	A world-wide public computer network. Organisations and individuals can connect their computers to this network and exchange information across a country and/or across the world. The Internet provides access to a number of communication services including the World Wide Web and carries email, news, entertainment and data files.
<b>Internet access</b>	Availability of lines, points, ports, and modem to subscribers to access the Internet.
<b>Internet use</b>	This refers to the use of the Internet in the 12 months prior to the interview. It includes access via mobile phones, set-top boxes connected to either an analogue or digital television, and games machines.
<b>Labour Force</b>	The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed persons) and persons not in the labour force.
<b>Last job</b>	Refers to last job less than 20 years ago.

<b>Looking for work with more hours</b>	Refers to persons who indicated that they had done something in the last four weeks to obtain more hours of work.
<b>Main English-speaking countries</b>	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
<b>Main job</b>	The job in which most hours were usually worked.
<b>Non-dial up connections</b>	Refers to permanent and 'always' on connections to the Internet via a variety of technologies including Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), Digital Subscriber Lines (DSL), Cable, Wireless, Satellite, dedicated data service, frame relay, etc.
<b>Non-school qualification</b>	Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Post Graduate Degree Level, Master Degree Level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level, Bachelor Degree Level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.
<b>Not employed</b>	Persons who are either unemployed or not in the labour force.
<b>Not retired from the labour force</b>	People aged 45 years and over who have, at some time, worked for two weeks or more and were not retired from the labour force. That is, either employed or intending to look for, or take up, work in the future.
<b>Occupation</b>	All occurrences of occupation in this publication refer to Major Group as defined by ASCO - <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition</i> (cat. no. 1220.0).
<b>Owner managers</b>	Persons who work in their own business, with or without employees, whether or not the business is of limited liability.
<b>Owner managers of incorporated enterprises</b>	Persons who work in their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company).
<b>Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises</b>	Persons who operate their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession.
<b>Part-time workers (usual)</b>	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs).
<b>Permanently not intending to work</b>	Persons who said that they were permanently not intending to work.
<b>Persons in the labour force</b>	Persons who were classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.
<b>Persons not in the labour force</b>	Persons who were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined.
<b>Preferred to work more hours</b>	Employed persons who usually work 0 to 15 hours each week and would prefer to work more hours than they usually work.
<b>Previous job</b>	The last job of 2 weeks or more for persons who are not in the labour force or are unemployed, who worked for 2 weeks or more within the last 20 years.
<b>Reference week</b>	The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.
<b>Relationship in household</b>	The relationship of persons who live in the same household.
<b>Retired from the labour force</b>	Persons who had previously worked for two weeks or more and had retired from work or looking for work, and did not intend to look for, or take up, work in the future.
<b>Retirement scheme</b>	Includes superannuation schemes, life assurance policies or similar schemes that provide financial benefit when a person leaves work.

<b>Satellite</b>	A satellite stationed in geosynchronous orbit that acts as a microwave relay station, receiving signals sent from a ground based station, amplifying them, and re-transmitting them on a different frequency to another ground-based station. Satellites can be used for high-speed transmission of computer data.
<b>Status in employment</b>	Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, or contributing family workers.
<b>Superannuation scheme</b>	Any fund, association or organisation set up for the purpose of providing financial cover for members when they retire from work. For this survey, information about superannuation scheme membership was collected if the respondent indicated that contributions had been made to a scheme. Contributions could either have been made by the respondent, the respondent's partner or the respondent's employer.
<b>Time since last job</b>	The elapsed time since ceasing last job.
<b>Took inactive steps</b>	People who did not take active steps to look for work (see actively looking for work). Includes only looked in newspapers.
<b>Unemployed</b>	Persons who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or</li> <li>■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.</li> </ul>
<b>Unincorporated enterprise</b>	A business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred.
<b>Unpaid activities</b>	Includes caring for own children or other people's children including grandchildren. Also includes caring for the elderly or someone with a long-term illness or disability.
<b>Usual number of hours</b>	The number of hours usually worked in a week in all jobs.
<b>Would like a paid job</b>	Persons who are not in the labour force and would like a paid job of any kind. Includes people who said 'depends'.
<b>Would like more hours</b>	See 'Preferred to work more hours'.
<b>Would not like a paid job</b>	Persons who were not classified as employed or unemployed who answered 'no' or don't know when asked if they would like a paid job.









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RRP \$11.00