



LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Wendy Prowd on Canberra 02 6252 7508.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about the labour force experience of the civilian population aged 15–69 years during the year ending February 2001. It presents information about time spent in labour force activities, including episodes of working or looking for work, and time spent out of the labour force.

For this publication, labour force activity over a 12-month period was determined from a more limited set of questions than is used in the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). For this reason, the terms *worked* and *looked for work* are used, rather than the more precisely defined terms *employed* and *unemployed*, as used in the LFS.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Labour Force Experience Survey conducted throughout Australia in February 2001 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly LFS.

Labour force experience relates to a person's labour force activities over a 12-month period. Labour force activity consists of either working or looking for work.

The survey measured the number of weeks persons were engaged in these labour force activities during the year, the number of spells of looking for work during the year and the main activity of persons when not in the labour force.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSCQ	ABS Classification of Qualifications
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (second edition)
LFS	Labour Force Survey
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
RSE	Relative standard error
SE	Standard error

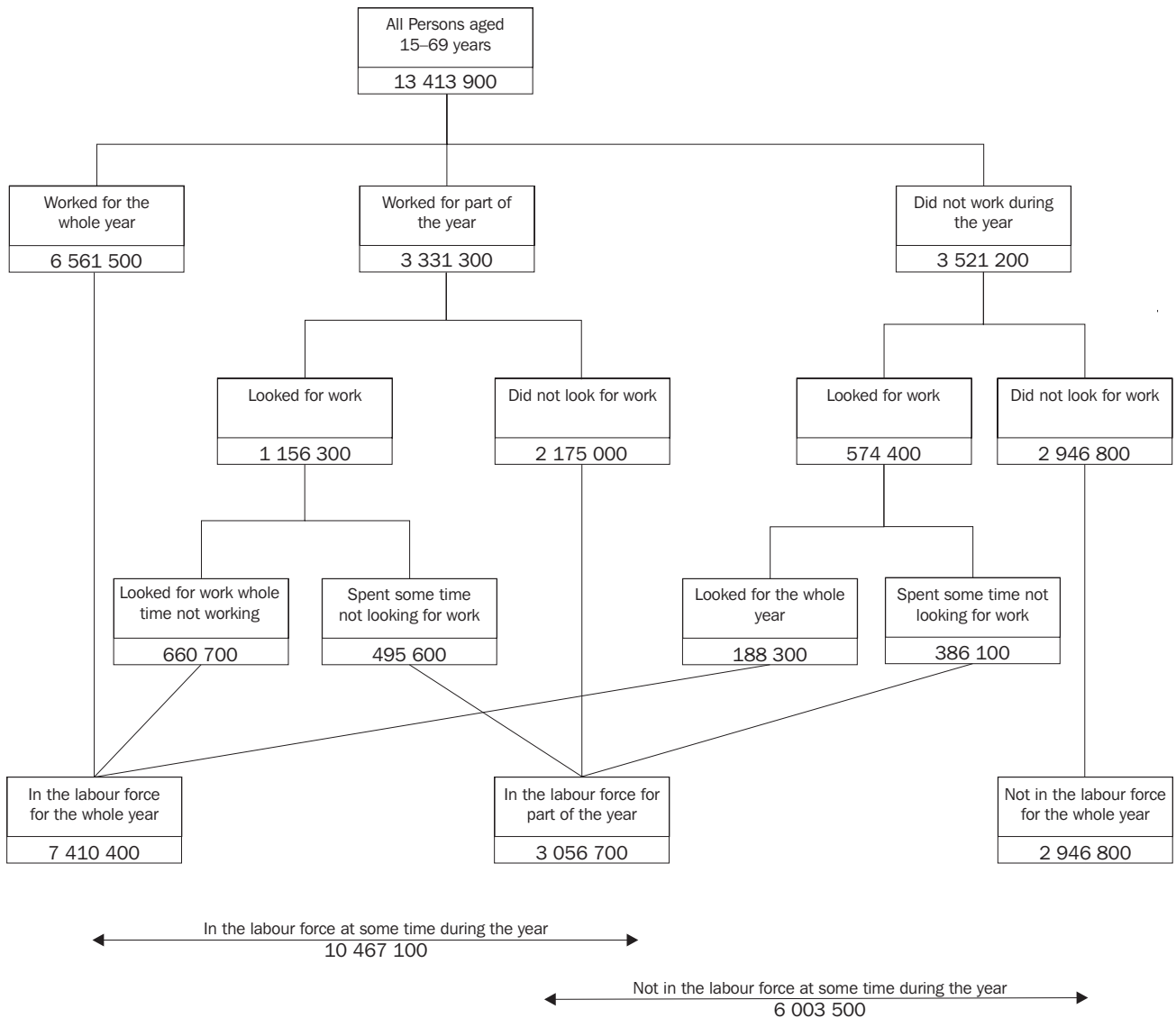
R.W. Edwards
Acting Australian Statistician

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The following diagram illustrates the conceptual framework for the Labour Force Experience Survey. Persons aged 15–69 years were classified according to their labour force activity over a 12-month period, that is, whether working or looking for work.

The framework firstly differentiates between persons who worked the whole year, part of the year or did not work during the year. Persons who worked part of the year or did not work during the year were asked whether they looked for work during the year. Persons who looked for work were also asked about the time they spent looking for work.



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In this publication the terms *worked* and *looked for work* have been used to describe labour force activity throughout the year. Note that these terms are not the same as the more precisely defined terms *employed* and *unemployed*, which are used in the monthly Labour Force Survey to describe current labour force status.

ALL PERSONS AGED 15 TO 69 YEARS

There were 13,413,900 civilian Australians aged 15 to 69 years in February 2001.

During the year ending February 2001:

- 9,892,700 persons worked at some time during the year, of whom 6,561,500 spent the whole year working;
- 1,730,600 persons looked for work at some time during the year, of whom 188,300 spent the whole year looking for work; and
- 6,003,500 persons were not in the labour force at some time during the year, of whom 2,946,800 spent no time in the labour force.

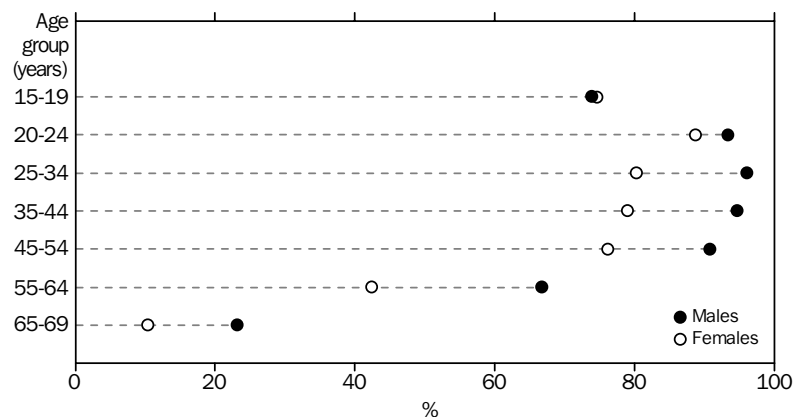
Participation in the labour force

10,467,100 persons aged 15 to 69 years were in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001. That is, 78% of Australians aged 15 to 69 years either worked or looked for work at some time during the year.

Some 85% of males aged 15 to 69 years participated in the labour force at some time in the 12 months to February 2001. This figure has remained relatively steady since 1991. For females, the proportion participating over the same period has steadily increased from 67% in 1991 to 71% in 2001.

By age group, the highest participation in the labour force in the year ending February 2001 was for persons aged 20 to 24 years (91%). Labour force participation fell to 44% for persons aged 55 to 69 years. Males participated at higher rates than females in all age groups except for persons aged 15 to 19 years in which females participated at a slightly higher rate (75%) than males (74%).

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION IN YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 2001



The majority of people participating in the labour force spent all or most of the year in the labour force. Of the persons who were in the labour force at some time during the year, 71% spent the whole year in the labour force and 15% spent 39 to 51 weeks in the labour force.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR

There were 9,892,700 persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001. Of these, 5,446,700 (55%) were male and 4,446,000 (45%) were female. Some 70% of these males worked for the entire 52 weeks, compared to 62% of females.

The proportion of males who worked at some time during the year (81%) has remained relatively stable since 1991. The proportion of females who worked at some time has steadily risen throughout that period from 63% in 1991 to 66% in 2001.

Of those persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001:

- 79% of males and 49% of females worked full-time only;
- 12% of males and 40% of females worked part-time only; and
- 9% of males and 11% of females worked a combination of full-time and part-time, a slight increase from 1999 (8% and 10% respectively).

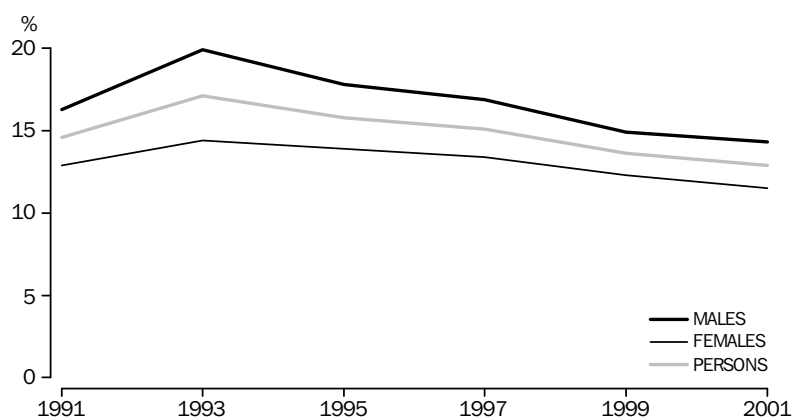
For the 12 months ending February 2001, 53% of persons who worked at some time during the year had post-school qualifications, while 45% were without post-school qualifications.

PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR

During the year ending February 2001, 963,100 males and 767,600 females spent some time looking for work. The majority of persons looking for work were aged 15 to 34 years (60% for males and 62% for females).

The proportion of males who looked for work at some time during the year has steadily decreased, from 20% in 1993 to 14% in February 2001. Similarly, the proportion of females has decreased from 14% in 1993 to 11% for the 12 months ending February 2001.

PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR



Of the 1,730,600 persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 2001:

- 53% looked for work for between 1 and 12 weeks;
- 28% looked for work for between 13 and 38 weeks;
- 8% looked for work for between 39 and 51 weeks; and
- 11% looked for work for the whole year, down from 15% in 1999.

Two-thirds (67%) of persons looking for work during the year had also worked during the year, up from 63% in 1999.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

PERSONS WHO WERE NOT
IN THE LABOUR FORCE AT
SOME TIME DURING THE
YEAR

6,003,500 persons were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001. Of these, 2,364,900 were male and 3,638,600 were female. Almost half (49%) of the people in this group spent no time in the labour force during the year.

The main activities while not in the labour force most commonly reported by males were 'holiday, travel, or leisure activities' (26%), 'attended an educational institution' (26%), and 'retired or voluntarily inactive' (20%). For females, the most commonly reported main activities were 'home duties, or childcare' (50%) and 'attended an educational institution' (17%).

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ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 1991 TO
FEBRUARY 2001

	MARCH		FEBRUARY			
	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	827.1	901.4	868.3	939.8	971.5	1 013.6
In the labour force during the whole year	4 211.8	4 314.2	4 234.2	4 318.5	4 345.4	4 357.7
Worked whole year	3 590.4	3 463.8	3 516.7	3 616.2	3 748.0	3 799.4
Worked part of the year(a)	479.6	601.3	533.4	533.4	436.9	441.6
Worked none of the year	141.8	249.1	184.1	168.9	160.4	116.6
In the labour force part of the year only	991.2	978.5	1 122.0	1 121.7	1 211.4	1 351.3
Worked part of the year	872.8	805.0	961.8	964.5	1 057.4	1 205.6
Looked for work at some time	240.2	206.1	227.4	215.8	222.4	259.1
Did not look for work	632.5	598.9	734.5	748.7	835.0	946.5
Worked none of the year	118.5	173.5	160.1	157.2	154.0	145.7
Total	6 030.2	6 194.2	6 224.5	6 380.1	6 528.3	6 722.6
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	1 818.4	1 879.8	1 990.3	2 061.6	2 182.9	2 364.9
In the labour force at some time during the year	5 203.0	5 292.7	5 356.2	5 440.2	5 556.7	5 709.0
Worked at some time during the year	4 942.8	4 870.2	5 011.9	5 114.1	5 242.3	5 446.7
Looked for work at some time during the year	982.0	1 229.9	1 105.0	1 075.3	973.8	963.1
FEMALES						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	1 948.6	2 024.8	1 935.5	1 933.4	1 999.9	1 933.2
In the labour force during the whole year	2 514.4	2 665.9	2 657.4	2 851.8	2 881.6	3 052.8
Worked whole year	2 212.6	2 259.3	2 295.3	2 465.9	2 533.1	2 762.1
Worked part of the year(a)	210.9	269.2	250.7	277.9	243.0	219.1
Worked none of the year	90.9	137.4	111.4	107.9	105.5	71.6
In the labour force part of the year only	1 497.8	1 436.4	1 627.0	1 574.1	1 639.5	1 705.3
Worked part of the year	1 306.8	1 175.3	1 365.3	1 328.6	1 401.7	1 464.9
Looked for work at some time	272.4	212.4	239.0	219.9	217.3	236.5
Did not look for work	1 034.4	962.9	1 126.3	1 108.8	1 184.4	1 228.5
Worked none of the year	191.0	261.1	262.3	245.5	237.9	240.4
Total	5 960.7	6 127.1	6 219.9	6 359.3	6 521.0	6 691.3
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	3 446.4	3 461.2	3 563.0	3 507.5	3 639.4	3 638.6
In the labour force at some time during the year	4 012.2	4 102.3	4 284.9	4 425.9	4 521.1	4 758.1
Worked at some time during the year	3 730.3	3 703.8	3 911.2	4 072.5	4 177.7	4 446.0
Looked for work at some time during the year	766.7	880.1	863.4	851.2	803.7	767.6
PERSONS						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	2 775.7	2 926.2	2 803.8	2 873.2	2 971.4	2 946.8
In the labour force during the whole year	6 726.2	6 980.2	6 891.6	7 170.3	7 227.0	7 410.4
Worked whole year	5 803.0	5 723.2	5 812.0	6 082.1	6 281.0	6 561.5
Worked part of the year(a)	690.5	870.5	784.1	811.3	679.9	660.7
Worked none of the year	232.7	386.5	295.5	276.9	266.0	188.3
In the labour force part of the year only	2 489.1	2 414.8	2 749.5	2 695.8	2 850.9	3 056.7
Worked part of the year	2 179.6	1 980.3	2 327.1	2 293.1	2 459.1	2 670.6
Looked for work at some time	512.7	418.5	466.3	435.7	439.7	495.6
Did not look for work	1 666.9	1 561.8	1 860.7	1 857.5	2 019.4	2 175.0
Worked none of the year	309.5	434.6	422.5	402.7	391.9	386.1
Total	11 990.9	12 321.2	12 444.9	12 739.3	13 049.3	13 413.9
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	5 264.7	5 341.0	5 553.3	5 569.0	5 822.3	6 003.5
In the labour force at some time during the year	9 215.2	9 395.0	9 641.1	9 866.1	10 077.9	10 467.1
Worked at some time during the year	8 673.1	8 574.0	8 923.1	9 186.6	9 420.0	9 892.7
Looked for work at some time during the year	1 748.7	2 110.1	1 968.4	1 926.5	1 777.5	1 730.6

(a) Worked for part of the year, looked for work the rest of the year.

ALL PERSONS: LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 1991 TO
FEBRUARY 2001

	MARCH . . .		FEBRUARY			
	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%
MALES						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	13.7	14.6	14.0	14.7	14.9	15.1
In the labour force during the whole year	69.8	69.7	68.0	67.7	66.6	64.8
Worked whole year	59.5	55.9	56.5	56.7	57.4	56.5
Worked part of the year(a)	8.0	9.7	8.6	8.4	6.7	6.6
Worked none of the year	2.4	4.0	3.0	2.6	2.5	1.7
In the labour force part of the year only	16.4	15.8	18.0	17.6	18.6	20.1
Worked part of the year	14.5	13.0	15.5	15.1	16.2	17.9
Looked for work at some time	4.0	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.9
Did not look for work	10.5	9.7	11.8	11.7	12.8	14.1
Worked none of the year	2.0	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.2
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	30.2	30.3	32.0	32.3	33.4	35.2
In the labour force at some time during the year	86.3	85.4	86.0	85.3	85.1	84.9
Worked at some time during the year	82.0	78.6	80.5	80.2	80.3	81.0
Looked for work at some time during the year	16.3	19.9	17.8	16.9	14.9	14.3
FEMALES						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	32.7	33.0	31.1	30.4	30.7	28.9
In the labour force during the whole year	42.2	43.5	42.7	44.8	44.2	45.6
Worked whole year	37.1	36.9	36.9	38.8	38.8	41.3
Worked part of the year(a)	3.5	4.4	4.0	4.4	3.7	3.3
Worked none of the year	1.5	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.1
In the labour force part of the year only	25.1	23.4	26.2	24.8	25.1	25.5
Worked part of the year	21.9	19.2	21.9	20.9	21.5	21.9
Looked for work at some time	4.6	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.5
Did not look for work	17.4	15.7	18.1	17.4	18.2	18.4
Worked none of the year	3.2	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.6
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	57.8	56.5	57.3	55.2	55.8	54.4
In the labour force at some time during the year	67.3	67.0	68.9	69.6	69.3	71.1
Worked at some time during the year	62.6	60.4	62.9	64.0	64.1	66.4
Looked for work at some time during the year	12.9	14.4	13.9	13.4	12.3	11.5
PERSONS						
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	23.1	23.7	22.5	22.6	22.8	22.0
In the labour force during the whole year	56.1	56.7	55.4	56.3	55.4	55.2
Worked whole year	48.4	46.5	46.7	47.7	48.1	48.9
Worked part of the year(a)	5.8	7.1	6.3	6.4	5.2	4.9
Worked none of the year	1.9	3.1	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.4
In the labour force part of the year only	20.8	19.6	22.1	21.2	21.8	22.8
Worked part of the year	18.2	16.1	18.7	18.0	18.8	19.9
Looked for work at some time	4.3	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.7
Did not look for work	13.9	12.7	15.0	14.6	15.5	16.2
Worked none of the year	2.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	43.9	43.3	44.6	43.7	44.6	44.8
In the labour force at some time during the year	76.9	76.3	77.5	77.4	77.2	78.0
Worked at some time during the year	72.3	69.6	71.7	72.1	72.2	73.7
Looked for work at some time during the year	14.6	17.1	15.8	15.1	13.6	12.9

(a) Worked for part of the year, looked for work the rest of the year.

	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000
Time in the labour force during the year			
In the labour force during the year	5 709.0	4 758.1	10 467.1
1 to under 4 weeks	69.2	124.3	193.5
4 to under 13 weeks	173.2	244.9	418.1
13 to under 26 weeks	132.4	212.4	344.8
26 to under 39 weeks	198.8	289.6	488.4
39 to under 52 weeks	777.7	834.2	1 611.9
52 weeks	4 357.7	3 052.8	7 410.4
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	1 013.6	1 933.2	2 946.8
Time worked during the year			
Worked at some time during the year	5 446.7	4 446.0	9 892.7
1 to under 4 weeks	68.1	79.0	147.0
4 to under 13 weeks	170.7	200.5	371.2
13 to under 26 weeks	190.3	220.5	410.8
26 to under 39 weeks	293.6	316.9	610.5
39 to under 52 weeks	924.6	867.1	1 791.8
52 weeks	3 799.4	2 762.1	6 561.5
Did not work during the year	1 275.9	2 245.3	3 521.2
Full-time or part-time status of weeks worked			
Worked at some time	5 446.7	4 446.0	9 892.7
All full-time	4 290.9	2 177.1	6 467.9
More full-time than part-time	337.8	238.4	576.2
Full-time was same as part-time	26.1	37.8	63.9
More part-time than full-time	118.0	214.4	332.4
All part-time	674.0	1 778.3	2 452.3
Did not work at any time	1 275.9	2 245.3	3 521.2
Number of employers/businesses during the year			
None	1 275.9	2 245.3	3 521.2
One	4 574.0	3 771.9	8 345.9
Two	645.9	503.4	1 149.3
Three	144.5	126.0	270.5
Four or more	82.3	44.8	127.1
Time spent looking for work during the year			
Looked for work during the year	963.1	767.6	1 730.6
1 to under 4 weeks	145.2	173.4	318.6
4 to under 13 weeks	341.1	261.9	603.0
13 to under 26 weeks	154.3	113.2	267.5
26 to under 39 weeks	126.8	85.4	212.2
39 to under 52 weeks	78.7	62.1	140.8
52 weeks	116.9	71.6	188.5
Did not look for work during the year	5 759.5	5 923.8	11 683.3
Number of spells of looking for work during the year			
None	5 759.5	5 923.8	11 683.3
One	686.8	563.0	1 249.8
Two	114.5	79.9	194.4
Three	61.0	41.8	102.8
Four or more	100.8	82.8	183.6
Total	6 722.6	6 691.3	13 413.9

LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 2001, Personal Characteristics

	<i>In the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Worked at some time</i>	<i>Looked for work at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at any time</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	497.3	422.3	183.1	482.6	175.8	673.0
20-24	637.0	598.9	156.6	244.1	44.6	681.7
25-34	1 359.0	1 311.0	237.6	348.5	55.4	1 414.3
35-44	1 367.5	1 327.6	180.4	289.8	76.1	1 443.5
45-54	1 180.7	1 148.2	134.0	299.9	119.4	1 300.1
55-64	593.1	567.9	65.1	422.8	294.8	887.8
65-69	74.5	70.9	6.3	277.1	247.6	322.1
Marital status						
Married	3 458.1	3 378.3	387.7	1 122.8	547.0	4 005.1
Not married	2 250.9	2 068.4	575.4	1 242.1	466.5	2 717.4
Relationship in household						
Family member	4 620.3	4 416.5	732.5	1 854.0	806.5	5 426.8
Husband or wife	3 387.3	3 309.6	380.2	1 093.0	529.8	3 917.1
With dependants	1 968.2	1 919.9	229.0	389.6	101.0	2 069.2
Without dependants	1 419.1	1 389.7	151.1	703.3	428.8	1 847.9
Lone parent	96.5	87.9	21.9	44.7	23.9	120.5
With dependants	65.1	58.1	16.9	26.7	11.2	76.3
Without dependants	31.4	29.8	5.0	18.0	12.7	44.1
Dependent student	302.6	252.7	93.9	399.8	167.5	470.2
Non-dependent child	724.3	666.7	207.2	261.0	58.8	783.1
Other family person	109.5	99.7	29.3	55.6	26.4	136.0
Non-family member	927.1	879.5	197.5	419.1	170.4	1 097.5
Lone person	495.6	466.0	95.2	248.3	127.3	622.9
Not living alone	431.5	413.5	102.3	170.8	43.0	474.5
Not determined	161.6	150.8	33.1	91.7	36.7	198.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>5 709.0</i>	<i>5 446.7</i>	<i>963.1</i>	<i>2 364.9</i>	<i>1 013.6</i>	<i>6 722.6</i>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Components do not add to the total as it is possible for persons to be in one or more labour force categories over the year.

LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 2001, Personal
Characteristics *continued*

	<i>In the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Worked at some time</i>	<i>Looked for work at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at any time</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES						
Age group (years)						
15-19	485.3	403.2	174.9	490.6	164.1	649.4
20-24	587.2	541.7	139.7	291.6	74.7	661.9
25-34	1 143.8	1 081.2	164.9	681.6	280.5	1 424.3
35-44	1 154.6	1 088.0	159.3	687.9	306.2	1 460.8
45-54	984.8	942.5	103.8	559.0	307.7	1 292.5
55-64	367.6	354.7	24.9	614.0	500.2	867.8
65-69	34.7	34.7	—	313.9	299.9	334.6
Marital status						
Married	2 741.1	2 637.8	273.1	2 154.9	1 274.6	4 015.8
Not married	2 017.0	1 808.3	494.5	1 483.6	658.6	2 675.6
Relationship in household						
Family member	3 937.1	3 675.5	614.6	3 109.3	1 659.3	5 596.4
Husband or wife	2 658.3	2 560.7	260.6	2 082.3	1 233.6	3 891.9
With dependants	1 443.2	1 371.6	149.7	1 070.2	526.3	1 969.5
Without dependants	1 215.1	1 189.0	110.9	1 012.1	707.3	1 922.4
Lone parent	415.7	346.7	126.4	376.9	196.7	612.4
With dependants	343.8	284.1	110.9	310.2	145.9	489.7
Without dependants	71.9	62.6	15.5	66.6	50.8	122.7
Dependent student	340.4	284.0	104.4	395.7	140.1	480.6
Non-dependent child	432.6	401.6	102.3	174.5	43.3	475.9
Other family person	89.9	82.5	20.9	79.9	45.7	135.6
Non-family member	668.1	630.1	120.9	406.5	215.8	883.9
Lone person	366.1	343.4	57.2	284.2	188.0	554.1
Not living alone	301.9	286.7	63.8	122.3	27.8	329.7
Not determined	152.9	140.4	32.1	122.7	58.1	211.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>4 758.1</i>	<i>4 446.0</i>	<i>767.6</i>	<i>3 638.6</i>	<i>1 933.2</i>	<i>6 691.3</i>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Components do not add to the total as it is possible for persons to be in one or more labour force categories over the year.

LABOUR FORCE EXPERIENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 2001, Personal
Characteristics *continued*

	<i>In the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Worked at some time</i>	<i>Looked for work at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at some time</i>	<i>Not in the labour force at any time</i>	<i>Total(a)</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS						
Age group (years)						
15-19	982.6	825.5	358.0	973.3	339.8	1 322.5
20-24	1 224.2	1 140.6	296.3	535.6	119.3	1 343.6
25-34	2 502.8	2 392.2	402.5	1 030.1	335.9	2 838.7
35-44	2 522.1	2 415.6	339.8	977.7	382.3	2 904.3
45-54	2 165.6	2 090.6	237.8	859.0	427.1	2 592.7
55-64	960.7	922.6	90.0	1 036.8	794.9	1 755.6
65-69	109.2	105.6	6.3	591.1	547.4	656.6
Marital status						
Married	6 199.2	6 016.1	660.8	3 277.7	1 821.7	8 020.9
Not married	4 267.9	3 876.6	1 069.8	2 725.7	1 125.1	5 393.0
Relationship in household						
Family member	8 557.4	8 092.0	1 347.1	4 963.4	2 465.8	11 023.2
Husband or wife	6 045.7	5 870.2	640.8	3 175.3	1 763.4	7 809.0
With dependants	3 411.4	3 291.5	378.8	1 459.8	627.3	4 038.7
Without dependants	2 634.2	2 578.7	262.0	1 715.5	1 136.0	3 770.3
Lone parent	512.2	434.6	148.3	421.5	220.6	732.9
With dependants	409.0	342.2	127.8	337.0	157.1	566.1
Without dependants	103.3	92.4	20.5	84.6	63.5	166.8
Dependent student	643.1	536.7	198.3	795.5	307.7	950.7
Non-dependent child	1 156.9	1 068.2	309.5	435.5	102.0	1 258.9
Other family person	199.5	182.2	50.2	135.5	72.1	271.6
Non-family member	1 595.2	1 509.6	318.4	825.6	386.2	1 981.4
Lone person	861.8	809.4	152.3	532.5	315.3	1 177.1
Not living alone	733.4	700.2	166.1	293.1	70.8	804.3
Not determined	314.5	291.1	65.1	214.5	94.8	409.4
Total	10 467.1	9 892.7	1 730.6	6 003.5	2 946.8	13 413.9

(a) Components do not add to the total as it is possible for persons to be in one or more labour force categories over the year.

TIME IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 2001

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-69	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
MALES								
Time in the labour force during the year								
In the labour force during the year	497.3	637.0	1 359.0	1 367.5	1 180.7	593.1	74.5	5 709.0
1 to under 4 weeks	34.2	11.9	9.0	*2.6	*3.6	6.4	*1.5	69.2
4 to under 13 weeks	88.5	26.9	17.2	12.7	11.5	11.6	4.8	173.2
13 to under 26 weeks	51.7	17.8	19.1	13.4	12.4	13.2	4.8	132.4
26 to under 39 weeks	47.2	27.8	39.1	29.2	25.4	23.2	6.8	198.8
39 to under 52 weeks	85.2	114.9	208.8	155.8	127.7	73.6	11.7	777.7
52 weeks	190.4	437.6	1 065.8	1 153.8	1 000.2	465.0	44.9	4 357.7
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	175.8	44.6	55.4	76.1	119.4	294.8	247.6	1 013.6
Total	673.0	681.7	1 414.3	1 443.5	1 300.1	887.8	322.1	6 722.6
FEMALES								
Time in the labour force during the year								
In the labour force during the year	485.3	587.2	1 143.8	1 154.6	984.8	367.6	34.7	4 758.1
1 to under 4 weeks	36.6	11.8	28.0	26.2	11.6	8.6	*1.5	124.3
4 to under 13 weeks	82.1	31.6	43.2	42.7	28.1	15.2	*2.0	244.9
13 to under 26 weeks	51.0	28.1	52.4	42.9	22.9	12.3	*2.9	212.4
26 to under 39 weeks	47.9	33.7	88.4	58.9	41.8	15.9	*3.0	289.6
39 to under 52 weeks	108.9	111.7	189.0	211.0	147.0	61.9	4.7	834.2
52 weeks	158.8	370.3	742.8	772.9	733.5	253.7	20.7	3 052.8
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	164.1	74.7	280.5	306.2	307.7	500.2	299.9	1 933.2
Total	649.4	661.9	1 424.3	1 460.8	1 292.5	867.8	334.6	6 691.3
PERSONS								
Time in the labour force during the year								
In the labour force during the year	982.6	1 224.2	2 502.8	2 522.1	2 165.6	960.7	109.2	10 467.1
1 to under 4 weeks	70.8	23.8	37.0	28.8	15.2	15.0	*2.9	193.5
4 to under 13 weeks	170.6	58.5	60.4	55.4	39.6	26.8	6.8	418.1
13 to under 26 weeks	102.8	45.9	71.5	56.2	35.2	25.5	7.7	344.8
26 to under 39 weeks	95.1	61.6	127.4	88.2	67.1	39.1	9.8	488.4
39 to under 52 weeks	194.1	226.6	397.8	366.8	274.8	135.6	16.4	1 611.9
52 weeks	349.2	807.9	1 808.6	1 926.7	1 733.7	718.7	65.6	7 410.4
Not in the labour force at any time during the year	339.8	119.3	335.9	382.3	427.1	794.9	547.4	2 946.8
Total	1 322.5	1 343.6	2 838.7	2 904.3	2 592.7	1 755.6	656.6	13 413.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

	MARCH		FEBRUARY			
	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
.....						
Sex						
Males	5 203.0	5 292.7	5 356.2	5 440.2	5 556.7	5 709.0
Females	4 012.2	4 102.3	4 284.9	4 425.9	4 521.1	4 758.1
Age group (years)						
15-19	964.8	871.1	921.8	897.5	930.7	982.6
20-24	1 238.5	1 285.4	1 287.6	1 223.1	1 195.4	1 224.2
25-34	2 423.6	2 405.9	2 425.7	2 474.1	2 464.7	2 502.8
35-44	2 279.1	2 327.1	2 342.4	2 412.9	2 474.6	2 522.1
45-54	1 502.1	1 690.3	1 803.0	1 955.0	2 063.0	2 165.6
55-64	717.0	734.4	764.4	799.4	845.5	960.7
65-69	90.2	81.0	96.2	104.2	104.1	109.2
State or Territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	3 054.5	3 078.8	3 211.0	3 282.5	3 342.5	3 456.0
Victoria	2 385.8	2 414.0	2 414.1	2 483.1	2 537.5	2 668.3
Queensland	1 579.4	1 674.6	1 765.5	1 818.6	1 879.1	1 953.9
South Australia	781.9	781.0	779.3	782.0	778.9	784.4
Western Australia	913.1	943.0	951.4	994.3	1 026.2	1 085.5
Tasmania	241.4	233.4	242.9	241.6	238.4	239.7
Northern Territory(a)	87.1	88.6	95.9	81.9	95.6	87.5
Australian Capital Territory	171.9	181.5	181.0	182.3	179.9	191.9
Educational attainment						
With post-school qualifications(b)	na	na	4 517.3	5 066.3	5 300.6	5 353.9
Higher degree	na	na	170.2	182.0	220.7	239.4
Post-graduate diploma	na	na	212.6	207.0	203.9	235.5
Bachelor degree	na	na	932.5	1 152.8	1 305.9	1 428.1
Undergraduate diploma	na	na	312.5	181.6	191.8	316.7
Associate diploma	na	na	642.1	704.1	684.5	627.7
Skilled vocational qualification	na	na	1 851.9	1 882.2	1 946.9	1 966.7
Basic vocational qualification	na	na	389.4	721.5	694.0	454.1
Without post-school qualifications	na	na	4 809.3	4 491.9	4 433.5	4 752.6
Completed highest level of						
secondary school	na	na	1 676.5	1 613.7	1 675.2	1 863.0
Did not complete highest level of						
secondary school	na	na	3 125.9	2 878.2	2 749.1	2 882.0
Never attended school	na	na	6.8	7.6	9.2	7.6
Still at school	na	na	317.6	300.2	343.8	360.6
Total	9 215.2	9 395.0	9 641.1	9 866.1	10 077.9	10 467.1

na not available

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only.

(b) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c.

PERSONS WHO WORKED AT SOME TIME DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 1991 TO
FEBRUARY 2001

	MARCH		FEBRUARY			
	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
.....						
Sex						
Males	4 942.8	4 870.2	5 011.9	5 114.1	5 242.3	5 446.7
Females	3 730.3	3 703.8	3 911.2	4 072.5	4 177.7	4 446.0
Age group (years)						
15-19	801.2	678.5	752.6	729.3	771.2	825.5
20-24	1 152.3	1 145.6	1 180.2	1 116.8	1 098.3	1 140.6
25-34	2 308.0	2 232.1	2 276.2	2 338.3	2 334.8	2 392.2
35-44	2 192.9	2 177.7	2 208.8	2 285.5	2 348.8	2 415.6
45-54	1 453.7	1 590.7	1 711.1	1 867.6	1 964.6	2 090.6
55-64	677.5	670.9	702.2	747.2	800.0	922.6
65-69	87.5	78.5	92.0	101.9	102.3	105.6
State or Territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	2 880.7	2 792.4	2 953.7	3 049.3	3 125.5	3 276.4
Victoria	2 248.4	2 173.2	2 215.1	2 297.7	2 364.6	2 526.8
Queensland	1 480.6	1 555.4	1 657.2	1 702.1	1 760.7	1 834.0
South Australia	732.0	711.7	718.3	723.0	724.1	736.9
Western Australia	859.5	880.1	897.3	944.2	968.3	1 031.6
Tasmania	224.6	210.4	220.1	222.0	215.9	220.7
Northern Territory(a)	83.4	83.0	90.7	77.5	92.2	83.5
Australian Capital Territory	163.8	167.8	170.6	170.6	168.7	182.7
Educational attainment						
With post-school qualifications(b)	na	na	4 315.6	4 852.5	5 082.6	5 201.8
Higher degree	na	na	164.6	177.7	215.8	234.7
Post-graduate diploma	na	na	206.6	204.4	200.1	232.6
Bachelor degree	na	na	895.6	1 113.8	1 267.8	1 402.9
Undergraduate diploma	na	na	302.9	175.3	185.1	309.6
Associate diploma	na	na	606.7	675.1	657.9	604.5
Skilled vocational qualification	na	na	1 774.1	1 806.9	1 869.1	1 908.6
Basic vocational qualification	na	na	362.2	666.2	634.9	425.2
Without post-school qualifications	na	na	4 366.4	4 101.1	4 074.8	4 407.7
Completed highest level of secondary school	na	na	1 543.3	1 487.4	1 561.3	1 752.0
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	na	na	2 816.3	2 613.7	2 505.8	2 648.8
Never attended school	na	na	6.8	6.8	7.7	6.9
Still at school	na	na	241.1	226.2	262.7	283.3
Total	8 673.1	8 574.0	8 923.1	9 186.6	9 420.0	9 892.7

na not available

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only.

(b) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c.

FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS OF WEEKS WORKED

	All full-time	More full-time than part-time	Full-time was same as part-time	More part-time than full-time	All part-time	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Time worked during the year						
1 to under 4 weeks	25.4	**0.1	*0.8	—	41.8	68.1
4 to under 13 weeks	66.5	8.2	*1.7	*3.8	90.5	170.7
13 to under 26 weeks	83.1	20.0	*0.8	8.0	78.3	190.3
26 to under 39 weeks	152.1	34.3	*2.4	17.8	86.9	293.6
39 to under 52 weeks	562.3	148.9	*2.7	45.5	165.2	924.6
52 weeks	3 401.4	126.2	17.8	42.8	211.3	3 799.4
Number of employers/businesses during the year						
One	3 736.6	203.8	16.7	68.7	548.3	4 574.0
Two	445.2	76.5	6.1	32.3	85.7	645.9
Three	76.0	34.4	*1.6	10.5	22.0	144.5
Four or more	33.1	23.0	*1.6	6.5	18.0	82.3
Total	4 290.9	337.8	26.1	118.0	674.0	5 446.7
FEMALES						
Time worked during the year						
1 to under 4 weeks	19.8	—	—	**0.6	58.5	79.0
4 to under 13 weeks	48.6	5.2	*3.1	*3.8	139.8	200.5
13 to under 26 weeks	54.0	9.5	*1.4	12.6	143.0	220.5
26 to under 39 weeks	86.6	25.8	*4.0	26.2	174.3	316.9
39 to under 52 weeks	254.2	81.6	*2.9	72.7	455.7	867.1
52 weeks	1 713.8	116.3	26.4	98.5	807.0	2 762.1
Number of employers/businesses during the year						
One	1 920.4	136.1	24.5	134.4	1 556.4	3 771.9
Two	208.6	65.8	9.9	55.0	164.2	503.4
Three	38.0	26.8	*2.1	14.5	44.6	126.0
Four or more	10.0	9.7	*1.4	10.5	13.1	44.8
Total	2 177.1	238.4	37.8	214.4	1 778.3	4 446.0
PERSONS						
Time worked during the year						
1 to under 4 weeks	45.2	**0.1	*0.8	**0.6	100.3	147.0
4 to under 13 weeks	115.1	13.4	4.7	7.6	230.3	371.2
13 to under 26 weeks	137.1	29.5	*2.2	20.6	221.3	410.8
26 to under 39 weeks	238.7	60.2	6.4	44.0	261.2	610.5
39 to under 52 weeks	816.5	230.5	5.6	118.3	620.9	1 791.8
52 weeks	5 115.2	242.5	44.2	141.2	1 018.3	6 561.5
Number of employers/businesses during the year						
One	5 657.0	339.9	41.2	203.1	2 104.7	8 345.9
Two	653.8	142.3	16.0	87.3	250.0	1 149.3
Three	114.0	61.2	*3.7	24.9	66.6	270.5
Four or more	43.2	32.7	*3.0	17.0	31.1	127.1
Total	6 467.9	576.2	63.9	332.4	2 452.3	9 892.7

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

PERSONS WHO LOOKED FOR WORK AT SOME TIME DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 1991 TO
FEBRUARY 2001

	MARCH		FEBRUARY			
	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
.....						
Sex						
Males	982.0	1 229.9	1 105.0	1 075.3	973.8	963.1
Females	766.7	880.1	863.4	851.2	803.7	767.6
Age group (years)						
15-19	400.9	396.9	378.2	360.8	348.7	358.0
20-24	348.3	421.0	400.2	369.1	333.5	296.3
25-34	453.0	531.2	468.8	480.7	425.0	402.5
35-44	300.6	400.0	365.6	360.8	329.9	339.8
45-54	160.6	244.1	231.2	248.6	240.1	237.8
55-64	80.2	112.4	118.8	101.7	97.1	90.0
65-69	5.1	4.5	5.7	4.8	3.3	6.3
State or Territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	532.8	686.3	633.1	606.1	557.4	502.6
Victoria	438.5	552.6	501.3	497.4	435.2	427.8
Queensland	342.2	395.0	374.1	380.2	357.0	391.5
South Australia	146.9	165.7	168.4	156.7	149.0	130.9
Western Australia	196.4	205.7	183.3	190.3	185.3	189.4
Tasmania	48.0	50.8	56.3	49.7	52.2	46.9
Northern Territory(a)	17.8	20.6	20.4	14.6	13.8	14.6
Australian Capital Territory	26.1	33.4	31.6	31.5	27.5	26.9
Educational attainment						
With post-school qualifications(b)	na	na	719.8	798.1	731.8	671.3
Higher degree	na	na	18.2	13.7	19.4	21.3
Post-graduate diploma	na	na	23.2	20.5	17.0	18.2
Bachelor degree	na	na	129.3	142.6	144.9	144.4
Undergraduate diploma	na	na	32.1	24.1	21.7	31.8
Associate diploma	na	na	105.0	105.7	84.0	81.5
Skilled vocational qualification	na	na	319.7	304.6	275.0	276.3
Basic vocational qualification	na	na	92.2	181.4	165.2	83.7
Without post-school qualifications	na	na	1 126.2	1 010.0	914.5	928.0
Completed highest level of secondary school	na	na	380.0	345.1	339.6	337.6
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	na	na	745.9	664.9	573.4	589.2
Never attended school	na	na	**0.3	*2.3	*1.6	*1.3
Still at school	na	na	122.4	116.1	131.2	131.3
Total	1 748.7	2 110.1	1 968.4	1 926.5	1 777.5	1 730.6

na not available

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only.

(b) Includes nursing level unknown and post-school qualifications n.e.c.

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-69 Total

MALES

Number of spells of looking for work								
One	'000	142.0	117.9	163.9	127.0	83.1	52.9	686.8
Two	'000	17.7	21.0	36.3	15.1	20.2	*4.2	114.5
Three	'000	11.3	9.5	13.3	14.1	8.8	*3.9	61.0
Four or more	'000	12.1	8.2	24.1	24.2	21.9	10.4	100.8
Time worked during the year								
Worked at some time during the year	'000	108.1	118.4	189.7	140.6	101.4	42.6	700.8
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	14.1	*3.5	*2.6	*3.0	*2.7	*3.4	29.2
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	24.9	12.6	15.2	10.7	8.9	6.0	78.3
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	16.3	20.0	25.3	20.1	15.3	7.9	104.8
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	22.3	28.3	45.3	36.9	21.8	10.5	165.1
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	30.6	54.0	101.3	69.9	52.6	14.9	323.3
Did not work during the year	'000	75.0	38.2	47.9	39.9	32.6	28.8	262.3
Time spent looking for work during the year								
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	33.1	28.0	42.4	18.7	17.7	5.4	145.2
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	73.7	56.7	82.9	67.0	42.7	18.1	341.1
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	28.1	24.1	35.8	29.9	24.4	11.9	154.3
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	20.6	18.5	29.2	26.5	18.8	13.2	126.8
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	14.0	11.5	19.1	13.6	12.4	8.1	78.7
52 weeks	'000	13.5	17.7	28.2	24.7	18.0	14.7	116.9
Total	'000	183.1	156.6	237.6	180.4	134.0	71.4	963.1
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	16.0	18.7	19.5	20.7	20.9	26.3	19.7
Median duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	9	12	12	13	14	26	12

FEMALES

Number of spells of looking for work								
One	'000	134.9	100.5	116.7	119.5	75.5	15.9	563.0
Two	'000	16.7	18.6	17.4	13.8	11.0	*2.5	79.9
Three	'000	8.4	9.5	8.4	8.4	5.3	*1.9	41.8
Four or more	'000	14.9	11.2	22.4	17.6	12.1	4.6	82.8
Time worked during the year								
Worked at some time during the year	'000	92.7	94.3	102.3	92.7	61.5	12.0	455.5
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	6.8	5.7	*3.1	5.4	*2.9	*1.4	25.2
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	21.6	9.5	12.6	15.5	8.4	*1.5	69.1
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	16.2	13.7	16.0	12.9	9.3	*2.0	70.2
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	22.7	18.5	31.8	24.2	13.8	*2.5	113.5
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	25.4	46.8	38.8	34.7	27.1	*4.5	177.5
Did not work during the year	'000	82.2	45.5	62.6	66.6	42.3	12.9	312.1
Time spent looking for work during the year								
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	48.0	32.6	35.6	35.8	17.1	*4.3	173.4
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	62.2	49.0	56.3	51.7	34.8	7.8	261.9
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	29.5	18.6	26.9	21.7	14.5	*2.0	113.2
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	18.0	14.6	18.0	17.3	13.0	*4.3	85.4
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	8.6	13.1	12.5	15.6	10.3	*2.1	62.1
52 weeks	'000	8.6	11.8	15.5	17.2	14.1	*4.4	71.6
Total	'000	174.9	139.7	164.9	159.3	103.8	24.9	767.6
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	13.5	16.7	16.8	18.4	20.0	21.5	16.9
Median duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	8	9	10	10	12	13	10

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

AGE GROUP (YEARS)

15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-69 Total

PERSONS

Number of spells of looking for work								
One	'000	276.9	218.3	280.6	246.5	158.6	68.8	1 249.8
Two	'000	34.4	39.6	53.7	28.9	31.2	6.6	194.4
Three	'000	19.7	19.0	21.7	22.5	14.1	5.8	102.8
Four or more	'000	27.0	19.4	46.5	41.8	33.9	15.0	183.6
Time worked during the year								
Worked at some time during the year	'000	200.8	212.6	292.0	233.3	162.9	54.6	1 156.3
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	20.9	9.2	5.7	8.3	5.6	4.8	54.4
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	46.5	22.1	27.8	26.3	17.3	7.5	147.4
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	32.5	33.7	41.2	33.0	24.7	9.9	175.0
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	45.0	46.9	77.1	61.0	35.6	13.0	278.6
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	56.0	100.8	140.1	104.7	79.8	19.4	500.8
Did not work during the year	'000	157.1	83.6	110.5	106.5	74.9	41.7	574.4
Time spent looking for work during the year								
1 to under 4 weeks	'000	81.1	60.6	77.9	54.5	34.8	9.7	318.6
4 to under 13 weeks	'000	135.9	105.7	139.2	118.7	77.5	26.0	603.0
13 to under 26 weeks	'000	57.6	42.7	62.7	51.6	38.9	13.9	267.5
26 to under 39 weeks	'000	38.7	33.1	47.3	43.8	31.8	17.5	212.2
39 to under 52 weeks	'000	22.6	24.6	31.6	29.2	22.7	10.1	140.8
52 weeks	'000	22.1	29.5	43.8	41.9	32.1	19.1	188.5
Total	'000	358.0	296.3	402.5	339.8	237.8	96.3	1 730.6
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	14.7	17.7	18.3	19.6	20.6	25.1	18.4
Median duration of time spent looking for work	weeks	8	10	12	12	13	22	12

TIME NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE DURING
THE YEAR

	1 to under 4 weeks	4 to under 13 weeks	13 to under 26 weeks	26 to under 39 weeks	39 to under 52 weeks	52 weeks	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES							
Main activity when not in the labour force							
Retired or voluntarily inactive	9.7	22.7	17.7	20.4	20.1	392.9	483.5
Home duties or childcare	14.9	23.9	14.1	12.4	15.0	56.9	137.1
Attended an educational institution	13.8	58.0	55.9	73.6	176.7	227.9	605.8
Own illness or injury	30.4	41.6	23.3	21.2	18.2	128.5	263.2
Own disability or handicap	—	*1.9	*2.0	*4.5	7.1	119.1	134.5
Looking after ill or disabled person	*1.4	*1.6	*1.3	*1.5	*2.1	21.0	29.0
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	263.1	226.2	43.5	24.6	19.5	45.4	622.4
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*1.6	4.8	*2.5	*2.3	*2.6	14.8	28.7
Other	16.3	20.6	6.2	6.8	*3.9	7.1	60.8
Total	351.1	401.2	166.5	167.4	265.1	1 013.6	2 364.9
FEMALES							
Main activity when not in the labour force							
Retired or voluntarily inactive	4.7	15.1	7.0	10.1	9.6	314.6	361.1
Home duties or childcare	35.5	159.9	124.3	129.3	193.9	1 176.0	1 819.1
Attended an educational institution	17.0	63.8	52.9	85.3	170.0	213.2	602.4
Own illness or injury	26.2	28.9	11.8	9.7	10.8	58.5	145.9
Own disability or handicap	—	*0.7	*1.4	**0.4	*0.7	46.8	50.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.4	*4.3	4.9	5.6	*3.5	59.8	81.5
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	206.6	201.6	28.4	12.4	12.8	29.4	491.2
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*1.7	*3.1	*2.9	*3.0	5.8	29.7	46.2
Other	7.5	14.4	5.5	5.2	*3.3	5.3	41.2
Total	302.8	492.0	239.0	261.1	410.4	1 933.2	3 638.6
PERSONS							
Main activity when not in the labour force							
Retired or voluntarily inactive	14.4	37.7	24.7	30.5	29.6	707.5	844.5
Home duties or childcare	50.4	183.9	138.4	141.7	208.9	1 232.9	1 956.2
Attended an educational institution	30.8	121.8	108.8	158.9	346.7	441.1	1 208.2
Own illness or injury	56.6	70.5	35.1	30.9	29.0	187.0	409.0
Own disability or handicap	—	*2.6	*3.3	4.9	7.9	165.9	184.6
Looking after ill or disabled person	4.8	5.9	6.2	7.1	5.6	80.8	110.4
Holiday or travel or leisure activities	469.7	427.9	71.9	37.0	32.3	74.8	1 113.6
Worked in an unpaid voluntary job	*3.3	7.9	5.4	5.4	8.4	44.5	74.9
Other	23.8	35.0	11.7	12.1	7.2	12.4	102.0
Total	653.9	893.2	405.6	428.5	675.5	2 946.8	6 003.5

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

	WORKED FOR WHOLE YEAR		WORKED FOR PART OF YEAR		TOTAL		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Industry at February 2001							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	184.9	92.9	59.3	34.7	244.2	127.6	371.8
Mining	53.3	6.7	9.8	*1.3	63.1	7.9	71.0
Manufacturing	691.4	228.7	142.0	73.2	833.4	301.9	1 135.3
Electricity, gas and water supply	48.5	7.2	*2.8	*2.5	51.3	9.7	61.0
Construction	350.0	58.7	220.0	23.2	570.0	81.9	651.9
Wholesale trade	249.7	95.3	45.9	28.9	295.6	124.3	419.9
Retail trade	444.0	407.6	197.7	278.9	641.7	686.5	1 328.2
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	134.6	126.9	78.3	116.1	212.9	243.0	455.9
Transport and storage	243.8	78.5	74.8	24.0	318.7	102.6	421.2
Communication services	111.6	44.3	20.8	12.1	132.4	56.4	188.8
Finance and insurance	121.5	163.5	24.0	35.0	145.5	198.4	343.9
Property and business services	443.2	321.7	168.9	162.1	612.1	483.8	1 096.0
Government administration and defence	171.7	139.3	20.4	35.1	192.1	174.4	366.5
Education	165.2	299.4	29.9	95.7	195.1	395.1	590.2
Health and community services	159.8	500.6	37.6	180.6	197.4	681.2	878.7
Cultural and recreational services	78.9	63.4	35.8	44.7	114.7	108.2	222.9
Personal and other services	136.0	110.7	28.4	56.0	164.4	166.7	331.1
Occupation at February 2001							
Managers and administrators	412.2	147.7	44.9	17.2	457.1	164.9	622.1
Professionals	666.7	616.8	161.1	198.3	827.7	815.1	1 642.8
Associate professionals	538.1	313.9	90.9	77.0	629.0	390.9	1 019.9
Tradespersons and related workers	775.8	72.0	268.2	33.9	1 044.1	105.9	1 149.9
Advanced clerical and service workers	39.1	273.5	8.8	79.6	47.9	353.1	401.0
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	355.2	764.3	110.8	357.4	466.0	1 121.7	1 587.6
Intermediate production and transport workers	492.9	57.1	177.2	36.4	670.1	93.5	763.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	189.0	316.4	124.7	281.2	313.7	597.6	911.2
Labourers and related workers	319.1	183.7	210.0	123.3	529.1	307.0	836.1
Time worked with current employer/business							
Under 1 year	336.9	253.6	642.7	631.4	979.6	885.0	1 864.6
1 to under 2 years	478.3	417.1	122.4	146.5	600.7	563.6	1 164.3
2 to under 3 years	402.1	316.3	90.1	94.4	492.2	410.8	903.0
3 to under 5 years	570.3	467.9	96.8	119.8	667.1	587.7	1 254.7
5 to under 10 years	734.2	557.5	103.7	110.2	837.9	667.6	1 505.5
10 years and over	1 266.3	732.9	140.8	102.0	1 407.1	834.9	2 242.0
Total	3 788.2	2 745.4	1 196.4	1 204.2	4 984.6	3 949.6	8 934.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Population 1:									
All persons aged 15–69 years	2 281.9	1 694.1	1 230.7	518.3	671.9	160.3	54.7	110.7	6 722.6
Population 2:									
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	1 896.5	1 465.0	1 047.9	430.8	590.9	131.1	47.8	99.0	5 709.0
Population 3:									
Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001	1 811.6	1 406.9	998.0	405.7	564.7	120.1	45.5	94.1	5 446.7
Population 4:									
Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 2001	276.5	233.9	211.1	80.0	110.4	27.6	9.0	14.7	963.1
Population 5:									
Persons who were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	824.1	567.9	436.4	195.2	230.1	55.4	17.1	38.7	2 364.9
Population 6:									
Persons who were working at February 2001	1 670.0	1 297.1	895.0	369.4	515.3	110.2	41.3	86.4	4 984.6
FEMALES									
Population 1:									
All persons aged 15–69 years	2 256.6	1 700.2	1 230.8	518.2	658.7	163.0	50.4	113.4	6 691.3
Population 2:									
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	1 559.4	1 203.2	906.0	353.6	494.6	108.6	39.7	92.9	4 758.1
Population 3:									
Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001	1 464.8	1 119.8	836.0	331.2	466.9	100.7	38.0	88.6	4 446.0
Population 4:									
Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 2001	226.1	193.9	180.4	50.9	79.0	19.3	5.6	12.3	767.6
Population 5:									
Persons who were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	1 222.9	921.6	672.1	298.9	352.0	92.6	22.9	55.5	3 638.6
Population 6:									
Persons who were working at February 2001	1 311.9	999.4	731.1	296.1	409.3	89.6	33.3	78.9	3 949.6
PERSONS									
Population 1:									
All persons aged 15–69 years	4 538.5	3 394.4	2 461.5	1 036.5	1 330.6	323.2	105.1	224.1	13 413.9
Population 2:									
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	3 456.0	2 668.3	1 953.9	784.4	1 085.5	239.7	87.5	191.9	10 467.1
Population 3:									
Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001	3 276.4	2 526.8	1 834.0	736.9	1 031.6	220.7	83.5	182.7	9 892.7
Population 4:									
Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 2001	502.6	427.8	391.5	130.9	189.4	46.9	14.6	26.9	1 730.6
Population 5:									
Persons who were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001	2 047.0	1 489.5	1 108.6	494.1	582.0	148.0	40.1	94.2	6 003.5
Population 6:									
Persons who were working at February 2001	2 981.9	2 296.5	1 626.1	665.5	924.5	199.7	74.6	165.3	8 934.2

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Labour Force Experience Survey conducted throughout Australia in February 2001 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (Cat. no. 6102.0) which is also available on the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au> (Statistics-Statistical Concepts Library).

SCOPE

4 The scope of the LFS was restricted to persons aged 15 years and over and excluded the following persons:

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

5 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with handicaps), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

6 The survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all States and Territories, but excluded approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual States and Territories, except the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

7 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, persons aged 70 years and over and visitors to private dwellings are excluded from this survey.

COVERAGE

8 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in February 2001. 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 in the survey (see *Labour Force, Australia* Cat. no. 6203.0).

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

9 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For further information on sampling error, refer to the Technical notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES *continued*

- 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. 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.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

10 The educational attainment data in this survey has been classified according to *ABS Classification of Qualifications* (ABSCQ). For more detailed information see *ABSCQ ABS Classification of Qualifications* (Cat. no. 1262.0).

11 Occupation data are classified according to the second edition of the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations* (ASCO). For more detailed information see *ASCO Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition* (Cat. no. 1220.0).

12 Industry data are classified according to the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification* (ANZSIC), a more detailed description of which appears in *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification* (ANZSIC), 1993 (Cat. no. 1292.0).

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

13 Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 1999 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.

14 Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. Therefore the reduction in sample size means that the standard errors for this survey differ from those applicable to previous surveys.

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

15 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

16 Results of similar surveys, conducted in February 1969, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, annually from February 1979 to February 1989, annually from March 1990 to March 1994, and in February 1995, 1997 and 1999 have been given in previous issues of the publication *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6206.0) and the Standard Data Service *Labour Force Experience on Hardcopy, Australia* (Cat. no. 6209.0.40.001).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

17 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

NEXT SURVEY

18 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in February 2003.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

- 19** Other publications which may be of interest include:
- *Career Experience, Australia* (Cat. no. 6254.0)
 - *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (Cat. no. 6222.0)
 - *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

continued

- *Labour Mobility, Australia* (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2001* (Cat. no. 6102.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia*
(Cat. no. 6245.0)

20 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office or from the ABS Information Service on the World Wide Web, <URL:<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEM LIST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Labour force Experience Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Birthplace (2)).

For more information about ABS data available on request contact Wendy Prowd on Canberra 02 6252 7508, or by facsimile on 02 6252 7784.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Population 1 | All persons aged 15 to 69 years. |
| Population 2 | Persons in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001. |
| Population 3 | Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2001. |
| Population 4 | Persons who looked for work at some time during the year ending February 2001. |
| Population 5 | Persons who were not in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 2001. |
| Population 6 | Persons who were working at February 2001. |

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEM LIST *continued*

Data Items	Populations	Data Items	Populations
1 State or Territory of usual residence	All	7B Birthplace (1)	All
New South Wales		Born in Australia	
Victoria		Born outside Australia	
Queensland		Born in main English-speaking countries	
South Australia		Born in other countries	
Western Australia			
Tasmania		7C Birthplace (2)	All
Northern Territory		Born in Australia	
Australian Capital Territory		Born outside Australia	
2 Area of usual residence	All	The Middle East and North Africa	
State Capital City		Africa (excluding North Africa)	
Balance of State/Territory		Northern America	
3 Region of usual residence	All	South America, Central America and the Caribbean	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		North-east Asia	
4 Sex	All	South-east Asia	
Male		Southern Asia	
Female		Europe and the Former USSR	
5 Marital status	All	Oceania and Antarctica	
Married		8 Age group (years)	All
Not married		15–19	
6A Relationship in household (1)	All	20–24	
Family member		25–34	
Husband or wife		35–44	
With dependants		45–54	
Without dependants		55–64	
Lone parent		65–69	
With dependants		9 Labour force status at February 2001	All
Without dependants		In the labour force	
Dependent student		Working	
Non-dependent child		Looking for work	
Other family person		Not in the labour force	
Non family member		10 Status in employment at February 2001	
Lone person		Working	
Not living alone		Employer	
Not determined		Own account worker	
6B Relationship in household (2)	All	Employee	
Family member		Contributing family worker	
Husband or wife		Not working	
With children under 15		11 Full-time or part-time status at February 2001	6
Without children under 15		Full-time	
Lone parent		Part-time	
With children under 15		Not determined	
With dependent student(s) but without children under 15		12 Industry at February 2001	6
Without dependants		Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
Dependent student		Mining	
Non dependent child		Manufacturing	
Other family person		Electricity, gas and water supply	
Non family member		Construction	
Lone person		Wholesale trade	
Not living alone		Retail trade	
Not determined		Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	
7A Birthplace and period of arrival	All	Transport and storage	
Born in Australia		Communication services	
Born outside Australia		Finance and insurance	
Arrived before 1971		Property and business services	
Arrived 1971–1980		Government administration and defence	
Arrived 1981–1990		Education	
Arrived 1991 to survey date		Health and community services	
		Cultural and recreational services	
		Personal and other services	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEM LIST *continued*

Data Items	Populations	Data Items	Populations
<p>13 Occupation at February 2001</p> <p>Managers and administrators Professionals Associated professionals Tradespersons and related workers Advanced clerical and service workers Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers Intermediate production and transport workers Elementary clerical, sales and service workers Labourers and related workers</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>20 Number of spells of looking for work during the year</p> <p>Looked for work at some time One Two Three Four or more</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>14 Time in the labour force during the year</p> <p>In the labour force during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks Not in the labour force at any time during the year</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>21 Main activity when not in the labour force</p> <p>Not in the labour force at some time Retired or voluntarily inactive Home duties or childcare Attended an educational institution Own illness or injury Own disability or handicap Looking after ill or disabled person Holiday or travel or leisure activity Worked in an unpaid voluntary job Other In the labour force for whole year</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>15 Time worked during the year</p> <p>Worked at some time during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks Did not work during the year</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>22 Whether ceased a job during the year</p> <p>Worked at some time Ceased a job Did not cease a job Did not work at any time</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>16 Time not in the labour force during the year</p> <p>Not in the labour force during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks In the labour force for whole year</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>23 Whether in the labour force at some time during the year</p> <p>In the labour force at some time For whole year For part of year Not in the labour force at any time</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>17 Number of employers/businesses during the year</p> <p>None One Two Three Four or more</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>24 Whether looked for work at some time during the year</p> <p>Looked for work at some time For whole of year For part of year Did not look for work at any time</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>18 Full-time or part-time status of weeks worked</p> <p>Worked at some time All Full-time More full-time than part-time Full-time same as part-time More part-time than full-time All part-time Did not work at any time</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>25 Whether worked at some time during the year</p> <p>Worked at some time For whole of year For part of year Did not work at any time</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>19 Time spent looking for work during the year</p> <p>Looked for work during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks Did not look for work during the year</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>26 Time worked part-time during the year</p> <p>Did not work part-time during the year Worked part-time during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks</p>	<p>All</p>
		<p>27 Time worked full-time during the year</p> <p>Did not work full-time during the year Worked full-time during the year 1 to under 4 weeks 4 to under 13 weeks 13 to under 26 weeks 26 to under 39 weeks 39 to under 52 weeks 52 weeks</p>	<p>All</p>

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEM LIST *continued*

Data Items Populations

- 28 Whether had an unpaid absence from work during the year** **All**
 Working at February 2001
 With current employer for one year or more
 Had an unpaid absence from work
 Did not have an unpaid absence from work
 With current employer for less than one year
 Not working at February 2001
- 29 Time worked with current employer/business** **All**
 Working at February 2001
 Under 1 year
 1 to under 4 weeks
 4 to under 13 weeks
 13 to under 26 weeks
 26 to under 39 weeks
 39 to under 52 weeks
 1 to under 2 years
 2 to under 3 years
 3 to under 5 years
 5 to under 10 years
 10 years and over
 10 to under 20 years
 20 years and over
 Not working at February 2001
- 30 Educational attainment** **All**
 With post-school qualifications
 Higher degree
 Postgraduate diploma
 Bachelor degree
 Undergraduate diploma
 Associate diploma
 Skilled vocational qualification
 Basic vocational qualification
 Other
 Level unknown (nursing)
 Without post-school qualifications
 Completed highest level of secondary school
 Did not complete highest level of secondary school
 Left aged under 14 years
 Left aged 14 years
 Left aged 15 years
 Left aged 16 years
 Left aged 17 years
 Left aged 18 years
 Left aged 19 years
 Left aged 20 years
 Left aged 21 years or more
 Never attended school
 Still at school
- 31 State or Territory of usual residence 12 months ago** **All**
 New South Wales
 Victoria
 Queensland
 South Australia
 Western Australia
 Tasmania
 Northern Territory
 Australian Capital Territory
 Overseas

APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program collects data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary surveys to the monthly labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. Additional data from these surveys is available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

- *Career Experience*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1998 (Cat. no. 6254.0)
- *Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications*. Final issue 1993 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6243.0)
- *Child Care*. Irregular. Latest issue June 1999 (Cat. no. 4402.0)
- *Education and Training Experience*. Irregular. Latest issue 1997 (Cat. no. 6278.0)
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership*. Annual. Latest issue August 2000 (Cat. no. 6310.0)
- *Employment Benefits*. Final issue August 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6334.0.40.001)
- *Forms of Employment*. Irregular. Latest issue August 1998 (Cat. no. 6359.0)
- *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons*. Annual. Latest issue July 2000 (Cat. no. 6222.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment*. Final issue February 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6235.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families*. Annual. Latest issue June 2000 (Cat. no. 6224.0)
- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1999 (Cat. no. 6250.0)
- *Labour Mobility*. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 2000 (Cat. no. 6209.0)
- *Locations of Work*. Irregular. Latest issue June 2000 (Cat. no. 6275.0)
- *Multiple Jobholding*. Irregular. Latest issue August 1997 (Cat. no. 6216.0)
- *Participation in Education*. Final issue September 1999 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6272.0)
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force*. Annual. Latest issue September 2000 (Cat. no. 6220.0)
- *Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force*. Final issue July 1995 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6264.0.40.001)
- *Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force*. Final issue September 1994 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6267.0.40.001)
- *Retirement and Retirement Intentions*. Irregular. Latest issue November 1997 (Cat. no. 6238.0)
- *Retrenchment and Redundancy*. Irregular. Latest issue July 1997 (Cat. no. 6266.0)
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience*. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 2000 (Cat. no. 6245.0)
- *Superannuation*. Irregular. Final issue November 1995 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6319.0)
- *Trade Union Members*. Two-yearly. August 1996 (Discontinued) (Cat. no. 6325.0)
- *Transition from Education to Work*. Annual. Latest issue May 2000 (Cat. no. 6227.0)
- *Underemployed Workers*. Annual. Latest issue September 2000 (Cat. no. 6265.0)
- *Working Arrangements*. Irregular. Latest issue August 2000 (Cat. no. 6342.0)

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

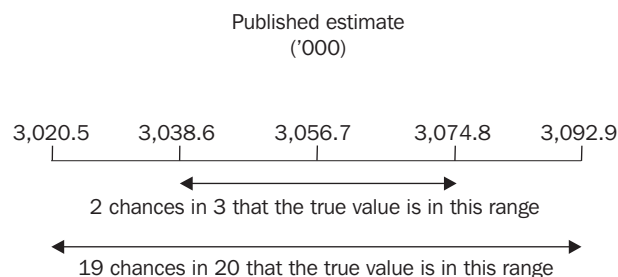
2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 1 shows that the estimated number of persons in the labour force for part of the year was 3,056,700. Since this estimate is between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 15,250 and 23,400 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 SE \text{ of estimate} &= \\
 & \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \\
 &= 15,250 + \left(\left(\frac{3,056,700 - 2,000,000}{5,000,000 - 2,000,000} \right) \right) \times (23,400 - 15,250) \\
 &= 18,100 (\text{rounded to the nearest } 100)
 \end{aligned}$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 3,038,600 to 3,074,800 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 3,020,500 to 3,092,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



5 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs so that their value for most practical

**CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR** *continued*

purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of 25% or less.

MEANS AND MEDIANS

6 The RSEs of estimates of mean duration of time spent looking for work and median duration of time spent looking for work are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see Table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors:

- mean duration of unemployment: 1.48 and
- median duration of unemployment: 1.73

7 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 10 shows that the estimated number of males looking for work was 963,100 with a median duration of time spent looking for work of 12 weeks. The SE of 963,100 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 11,300. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or $11,300/963,100 = 1.2\%$.

8 The RSE of the estimate of median duration of time spent looking for work for males is calculated by multiplying this number (1.2%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 1.73): $1.2 \times 1.73 = 2.1\%$. The approximate SE of this estimate of median duration of time spent looking for work for males is therefore 2.1% of 12, i.e. about 0.3 weeks. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of time spent looking for work for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 12.7 weeks to 13.3 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 12.4 weeks to 13.6 weeks.

**PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES**

9 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

10 Considering the example from the previous page, of the 3,056,700 persons in the labour force for part of the year only, 495,600, or 16.2%, looked for work at some time in the year. The SE of 495,600 may be calculated by interpolation as 8,800. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, so the RSE is $8,800/495,600 = 1.8\%$. The SE for 3,056,700 was calculated previously as 18,100, which converted to a RSE is $18,100/3,056,700 = 0.6\%$. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(1.8)^2 - (0.6)^2} = 1.7\%$$

11 Therefore the SE for the proportion (16.2%) is 0.3 percentage points ($= (16.2/100) \times 1.7$). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of persons in the labour force for part of the year only who looked for work at some time is between 15.9% and 16.5% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 15.6% to 16.8%.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

DIFFERENCES

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

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

13 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	AUST. . . .									
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	SE	RSE
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	90	100	180	160	160	110	110	130	80	80.0
200	160	170	260	220	220	140	140	160	140	70.0
300	220	230	310	260	260	170	170	180	190	63.3
500	330	320	390	320	340	210	210	220	270	54.0
700	420	400	460	370	390	240	240	240	350	50.0
1,000	530	500	540	420	460	280	270	270	440	44.0
1,500	690	630	650	500	550	330	320	310	580	38.7
2,000	820	750	740	570	620	370	360	350	700	35.0
2,500	950	850	800	600	700	400	400	400	800	32.0
3,000	1 050	950	900	650	750	450	400	400	900	30.0
3,500	1 150	1 000	950	700	800	450	450	450	1 000	28.6
4,000	1 250	1 100	1 000	750	850	500	450	450	1 050	26.3
5,000	1 400	1 200	1 100	850	900	550	500	500	1 200	24.0
7,000	1 650	1 400	1 300	950	1 050	600	600	550	1 450	20.7
10,000	1 950	1 700	1 500	1 100	1 200	700	650	650	1 750	17.5
15,000	2 350	2 000	1 800	1 300	1 450	800	800	750	2 150	14.3
20,000	2 700	2 250	2 050	1 450	1 600	900	850	850	2 450	12.3
30,000	3 150	2 650	2 450	1 700	1 850	1 050	1 000	1 000	2 950	9.8
40,000	3 500	2 900	2 750	1 900	2 100	1 200	1 100	1 100	3 350	8.4
50,000	3 800	3 150	3 000	2 100	2 250	1 300	1 200	1 250	3 700	7.4
100,000	4 750	4 000	4 000	2 750	2 900	1 700	1 550	1 650	4 850	4.9
150,000	5 350	4 600	4 750	3 250	3 350	1 950	1 750	2 000	5 600	3.7
200,000	5 900	5 150	5 300	3 650	3 750	2 150	1 950	2 300	6 250	3.1
300,000	6 900	6 100	6 250	4 300	4 300	2 500	..	2 750	7 250	2.4
500,000	8 550	7 700	7 650	5 250	5 050	3 050	..	..	8 800	1.8
1,000,000	11 950	10 800	10 050	6 850	6 350	..	..	..	11 550	1.2
2,000,000	17 600	15 650	13 100	9 000	7 800	..	..	..	15 250	0.8
5,000,000	31 550	26 900	18 450	..	..	..	..	..	23 400	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40 950	0.4

.. not applicable

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
25% RSE									
Mean duration of time spent									
looking for work during the year	3 946	3 110	2 893	1 514	2 253	661	893	649	2 654
Median duration of time spent									
looking for work during the year	17 063	12 864	10 939	6 073	7 277	2 880	2 860	2 601	14 506
All other estimates	6 245	4 689	4 100	2 469	2 937	1 206	1 178	1 145	4 574
50% RSE									
Mean duration of time spent									
looking for work during the year	605	585	812	460	650	201	279	233	300
Median duration of time spent									
looking for work during the year	4 411	3 429	3 169	1 867	2 206	899	914	892	3 164
All other estimates	1 182	996	1 160	754	857	371	370	404	682

(a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

GLOSSARY

Family	Two or more related persons (comprises relationships by blood, marriage or adoption) usually resident in the same household at the time of the survey. A family comprises a married couple or a family head as defined, together with any persons having any of the following relationships to them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ sons or daughters of any age, if not married and with no children of their own present; or ■ other relatives if not accompanied by a spouse, sons or daughters, or parents of their own; or ■ any children under 15 years of age who do not have a parent present. <p>Further details on the determination of family relationships are given in <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0)</p>
Full-time status of weeks worked during the year	Any weeks of the year that a person perceived that they had worked full-time.
Industry	Classified according to the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 1993</i> (Cat. no. 1292.0). In this publication, industry relates to the main job and is shown at the ANZSIC Division level.
In the labour force at some time during the year	Persons who had worked or looked for work for one week or more during the year.
In the labour force during the whole year	Persons who had worked or looked for work every week during the year.
In the labour force for part of the year only	Persons who had either worked or looked for work for some weeks during the year, but had some weeks when neither activity was undertaken.
Looked for work at some time during the year	Persons who looked for work for one week or more during the year.
Main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Mean duration of time spent looking for work	Obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been looking for work by the number of persons in that group.
Median duration of time spent looking for work	The duration which divides persons who looked for work into two equal groups, one comprising persons whose time spent looking for work during the year is above the median, and the other, persons whose time spent looking is below it.
Not in the labour force at some time during the year	Persons who had neither worked nor looked for work for one week or more during the year.
Number of employers/businesses during the year	The number of employers/businesses a person worked for during the year.
Number of spells of looking for work during the year	The number of different periods, including the current period, during which a person was not working but looking for a job.
Occupation	Classified according to the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupation, Second Edition, 1997</i> (Cat. no. 1220.0). In this publication, occupation relates to main job and is shown at the Major Group level.
Part-time status of weeks worked during the year	Any weeks of the year that a person perceived they had worked part-time.
Time in the labour force during the year	The total number of weeks a person reported as having either worked or looked for work.
Time not in the labour force during the year	The total number of weeks a person reported as having neither worked nor looked for work.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Time spent looking for work during the year	The total number of weeks a person reported looking for a job.
Time worked during the year	The total number of weeks a person reported as having either worked or been on paid leave. Periods of one week or more on strike or time off without pay are not classified as time worked.
Worked at some time during the year	Persons who reported having worked and/or been on paid leave for one week or more during the year.
Worked part of the year	Persons who reported having worked and/or been on paid leave for part of the year.
Working at February 2001	Persons who were working (or on paid leave) at February 2001.

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