

**PERSONS NOT IN THE
LABOUR FORCE**

AUSTRALIA

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C O N T E N T S

	<i>page</i>
Notes	2
Conceptual framework	3
Summary of findings	4

T A B L E S

List of tables	9
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	10
Persons not in the labour force aged 15 years and over	11
Persons not in the labour force, with marginal attachment	12
Persons not in the labour force, discouraged job seekers	19
Persons not in the labour force, without marginal attachment	20
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	23
Persons not in the labour force, last job less than 20 years ago	24
Populations	27

A D D I T I O N A L I N F O R M A T I O N

Explanatory Notes	30
Appendix 1: Populations and data items list	35
Appendix 2: Supplementary surveys	40
Technical note	41
Glossary	44

I N Q U I R I E S

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. The data measure the potential supply of labour not reflected in employment and unemployment statistics, and measure the characteristics of that potential supply.

Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, conducted throughout Australia in September 2009 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Information collected in the survey includes details about whether people not in the labour force wanted to work, reasons why they were not actively looking for work, or were not available for work, and their main activity while not in the labour force.

Many people not in the labour force could be considered to have some attachment to the labour force. For example, they may want a job, but for a variety of reasons are not actively looking for work even though they are available to start a job. There is an expectation that many of these people could move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions changed.

NOTES ABOUT THE ESTIMATES

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample size in September was approximately 9% higher than the sample size in September 2008. This is due to re-instated sample that was cut from the LFS and supplementary surveys from July 2008. Detailed information about the sample reduction/re-instatement is provided in *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Third edition)* (cat. no. 6269.0).

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

From 2009, a new category, 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' has been included in data items relating to reasons not looking for work. This category is not presented in the publication tables, however, is available on request.

In addition, from 2009, 'Full-time or part-time preference' is collected based on the number of hours a respondent prefers to work, rather than a preference to work either full-time or part-time.

As a result of these changes, there has been a break in series. Users should exercise care when comparing estimates from 2009 with data from previous years. For more information, see paragraphs 26, 27 and 28 of the Explanatory Notes.

ROUNDING

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

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

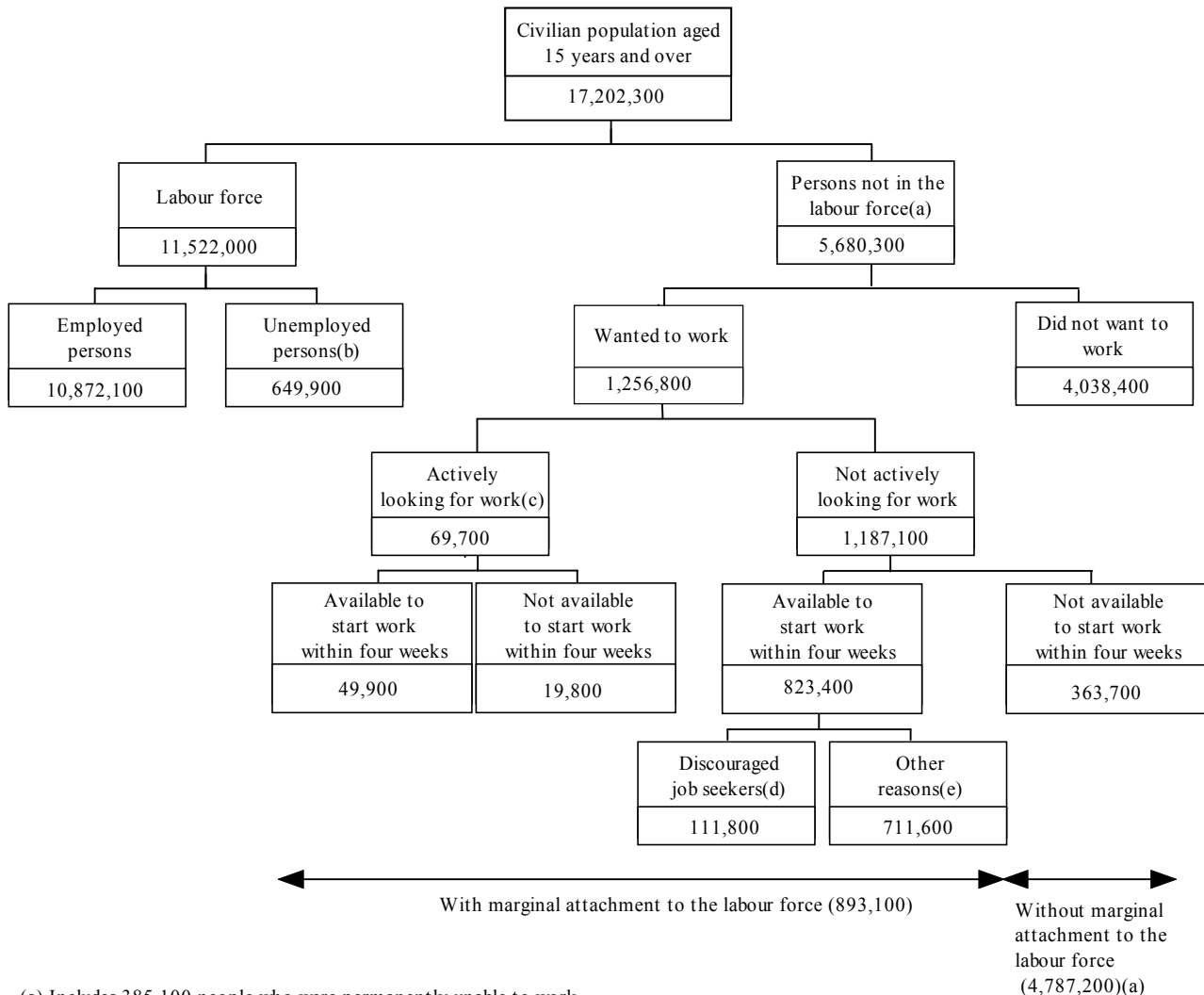
Persons not in the labour force can be divided into those who are marginally attached to the labour force, and those who are not. Persons who are marginally attached to the labour force satisfy some, but not all, of the criteria required to be classified as unemployed.

Persons not in the labour force are considered to be marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- wanted to work and were actively looking for work (but, unlike unemployed people, were not available to start work in the reference week), or
- wanted to work and were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks.

Persons not in the labour force are not marginally attached to the labour force if they:

- did not want to work, or
- wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks.



(a) Includes 385,100 people who were permanently unable to work.

(b) Includes future starters.

(c) Refers to people who were actively looking for work, but were not available to start work in the reference week.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

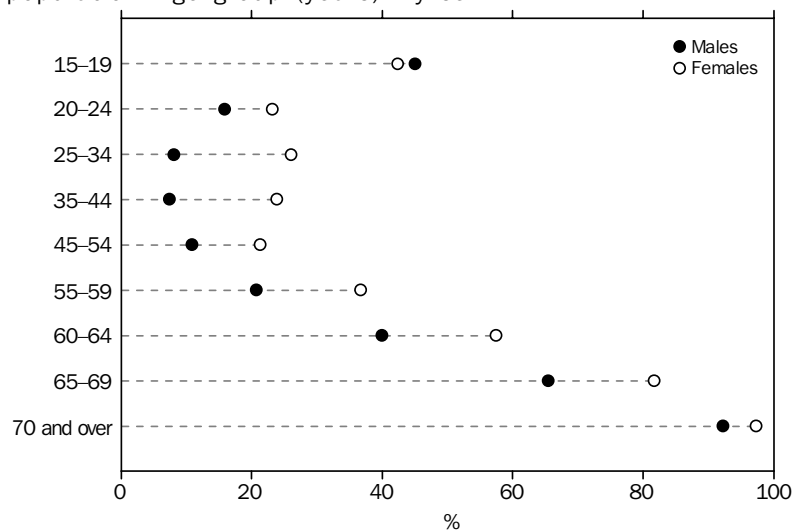
OVERVIEW

In September 2009, there were almost 5.7 million people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force. This represented 33% of the civilian population aged 15 years and over. Since September 2005, people aged 15 years and over who were not in the labour force comprised approximately one-third of the civilian population.

Of those people not in the labour force:

- 60% were women;
- 22% wanted to work (24% of women not in the labour force and 19% of men not in the labour force); and
- 30% were aged 70 years and over and a further 16% were aged 15-24 years.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Proportion of the civilian population—Age group (years)—By sex



The proportion of men and women who were not in the labour force varied according to age. In the 15-19 year age group, where there are high levels of participation in education, 45% of men and 42% of women were not in the labour force. In each of the remaining age groups, there was a higher proportion of women than men not in the labour force. The proportion of men not in the labour force was lowest for those aged 35-44 years (7%) and 25-34 years (8%), and highest for those aged 70 years and over (92%). By comparison, the proportion of women not in the labour force was lowest for those aged 45-54 years (21%) and 20-24 years (23%) and highest for those aged 70 years and over (97%).

WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2009, there were 893,100 people with marginal attachment to the labour force, representing approximately 16% of people not in the labour force. This is an increase from September 2008 where 820,300 people were marginally attached to the labour force, which then represented 15% of people not in the labour force.

Of those with marginal attachment to the labour force in September 2009:

- 565,500 (63%) were women;
- 92% (823,400) were not actively looking for work; and
- 31% (279,000) were aged 15-24 years.

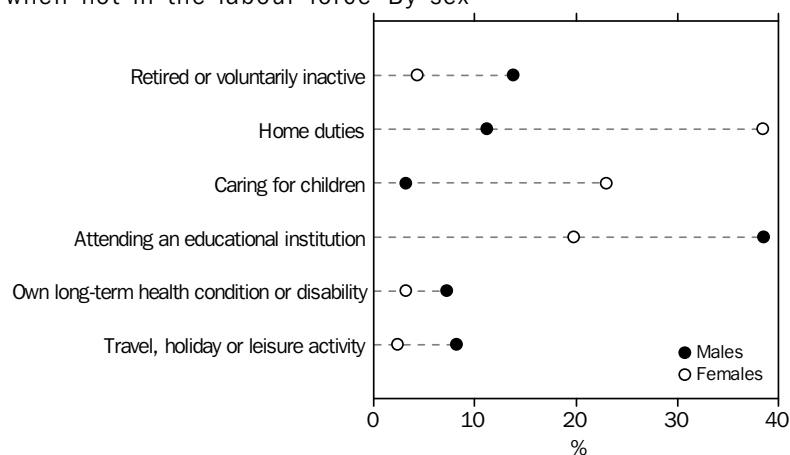
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE *continued*

The largest group of men with marginal attachment to the labour force were aged 15-19 years (28%), followed by men aged 20-24 years (14%) and 25-34 years (12%). By comparison, the largest group of women with marginal attachment to the labour force were aged 35-44 years (23%), followed by women aged 25-34 (22%) and 15-19 years (15%).

Main activity when not in the labour force

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT, Selected main activities when not in the labour force—By sex



For people with marginal attachment to the labour force, reports of main activity when not in the labour force differed between men and women. The most commonly reported main activity for men was 'Attending an educational institution' (39% of men compared to 20% of women), whereas for women it was 'Home duties' (38% of women compared to 11% of men) and 'Caring for children' (23% of women compared to 3% of men).

Time since last job

In September 2009, 79% (708,500) of people with marginal attachment to the labour force had worked before. Of these, one-third (234,300) worked less than 12 months ago and a further 24% reported that their last job was between one and three years ago. Approximately 9% of people (59,900 women and 23,000 men) with marginal attachment to the labour force last worked between 10 years and under 20 years ago and a further 4% (35,800) of people with marginal attachment to the labour force last worked more than 20 years ago.

Approximately 184,600 (21%) of people with marginal attachment to the labour force reported that they had never held a job lasting for two weeks or more, compared to 19% in 2008.

Not actively looking for work - Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months

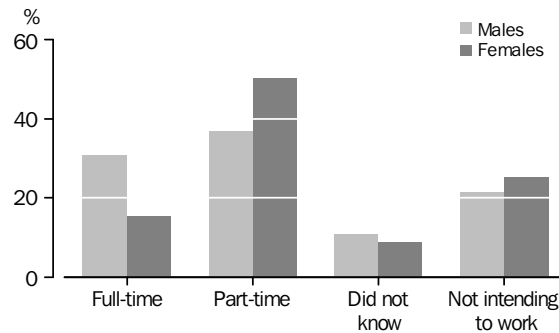
There were 823,400 people who were marginally attached to the labour force and not actively looking for work in September 2009. Approximately 72% of these people indicated that they intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months. Of those who were marginally attached and intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months:

- 372,500 (63%) were women, almost three quarters of whom expressed an interest in working part-time;
- 64,000 (11%) were discouraged job seekers; and
- 374,700 (64%) reported that they would prefer to work part-time.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Not actively looking for work - Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months continued

PERSONS NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, Full-time or part-time preference—By sex



Of women with marginal attachment to the labour force, who were not actively looking for work, 50% (266,800) preferred part-time work while almost 16% (82,600) preferred full-time work. For men, almost 37% (107,800) preferred part-time work and 31% (90,300) preferred full-time work. One quarter (25%) of women and around 21% of men with marginal attachment, not actively looking for work, reported that they were not intending to work.

Main reason for not actively looking for work - Other reasons

There were 711,600 people, other than discouraged job seekers, who wanted to work, but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks. These people account for 80% of people with marginal attachment to the labour force, of whom, 66% (471,000) were women and 34% (240,500) were men.

PERSONS NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK—OTHER REASONS, Selected main other reasons for not actively looking for work—By sex



The most commonly reported main reason for not actively looking for work for these men was 'Attending an educational institution' (38%), followed by 'Own long-term health condition or disability' (16%). By comparison, the most commonly reported main reason for women was 'Caring for children' (30%), followed by 'Attending an educational institution' (19%).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS

In September 2009, there were 111,800 discouraged job seekers aged 15 years and over. This has increased from 73,900 in 2008.

Characteristics of discouraged job seekers aged 15 years and over in September 2009 include:

- 58,200 (52%) were aged 55 years and over;
- 59,500 were women;
- 95,900 had worked before, of whom 16% had worked less than 12 months ago and 26% who had last worked between one and three years ago;
- 15,300 had worked in the previous 12 months (19.3% of men and 8.7% of women);
- 44,400 had looked for work in the previous 12 months (33% of men and 46% of women); and
- 64,000 intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months, of whom 63% preferred to work part-time.

DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS, Selected main reasons for not actively looking for work—By sex



The main reason most commonly reported by discouraged job seekers for not actively looking for work was 'Considered too old by employers' (36%). This was followed by 'No jobs in locality or line of work' (22%) and 'Lacked necessary training, skills or experience' (11%). The largest percentage point difference between men and women who were discouraged job seekers was for 'No jobs in locality or line of work' (13% and 29% respectively).

WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

In September 2009, there were 4.8 million people (1.9 million men and 2.9 million women) aged 15 years and over without marginal attachment to the labour force, of whom:

- 84% reported that they 'Did not want to work', or 'Did not know' if they wanted to work;
- 8% 'Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks'; and
- 8% were 'Permanently unable to work'.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE *continued*

Unlike the age distribution of those with marginal attachment, those without marginal attachment tended to be older. Almost half (47%) were aged 65 years and over (51% of men and 44% of women), and a further 18% were aged 55-64 years old.

Main activity when not in the labour force

Over one-third (35%) of people without marginal attachment reported their main activity when not in the labour force as 'Retired or voluntarily inactive'. The next most common response was 'Home duties' (22%).

The most common response reported by men without marginal attachment was 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (44%) followed by 'Own long-term health condition or disability' and 'Attending an educational institution' (18% and 17% respectively). Women without marginal attachment most commonly reported 'Home duties' (32%) followed by 'Retired or voluntarily inactive' (29%) as their main activity when not in the labour force.

Time since last job

In September 2009, there were 4 million people without marginal attachment to the labour force who had previously had a job. Of these:

- 57% reported that their last job was '10 or more years ago'; and
- 22% reported that their last job was '3 to under 10 years ago'.

There were 801,100 people without marginal attachment who reported that they had never had a job, of whom 61% were women.

LIST OF TABLES

page

CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

- 1** Labour force status and persons not in the labour force summary variable, by sex, September 2006 to September 2009 10

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

- 2** Main activity when not in the labour force, by age group (years), by sex 11

WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

- 3** Wanted to work, not actively looking, but were available and proportion not in the labour force, by state or territory of usual residence, age group (years), relationship in household and country of birth, by sex 12
- 4** Wanted to work, not actively looking, but were available, by time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force, by sex 15
- 5** Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and full-time or part-time preference, by sex and main reason for not actively looking for work 17
- 6** Main reason for not actively looking for work by age group (years) and sex 18

DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS

- 7** Sex, by age group (years), whether looked for work in the last 12 months, intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and time since last job 19

WITHOUT MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE

- 8** Whether wanted to work by state or territory of usual residence, age group (years), relationship in household, country of birth, time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force, by sex 20

BECAUSE THEY WERE CARING FOR CHILDREN

- 9** Whether available for work by age group (years), age of youngest child, relationship in household and country of birth, by sex 23

LAST JOB LESS THAN 20 YEARS AGO

- 10** Status in employment of last job and full-time or part-time status of last job by reason for ceasing last job, occupation of last job, whether looked for work in the last 12 months and time since last job, by sex 24

POPULATIONS

- 11** State or territory of usual residence, by sex 27

CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, Labour force status and persons not in the labour force summary variable—By sex—September 2006 to September 2009

	2006	2007	2008	2009
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 005.2	8 148.8	8 298.7	8 523.8
Persons in the labour force	5 913.8	6 007.7	6 137.5	6 275.3
Employed	5 630.2	5 777.8	5 886.0	5 915.5
Unemployed	283.7	229.8	251.5	359.8
Persons not in the labour force(a)	2 091.3	2 141.1	2 161.2	2 248.5
With marginal attachment to the labour force	250.5	290.6	304.1	327.6
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	25.5	26.6	33.2	34.8
Were available to start work within four weeks	15.4	18.3	23.1	24.4
Were not available to start work within four weeks	10.1	8.3	10.1	10.4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	225.0	264.0	270.9	292.8
Discouraged jobseekers(b)	20.4	28.0	34.7	52.3
Other(c)	204.6	235.9	236.3	240.5
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(d)	1 840.8	1 850.5	1 857.1	1 920.9
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	105.4	118.7	119.3	107.3
Did not want to work(e)	1 571.2	1 569.0	1 575.7	1 604.4
FEMALES				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 216.8	8 334.3	8 435.2	8 678.5
Persons in the labour force	4 895.0	4 983.5	5 088.0	5 246.7
Employed	4 659.8	4 752.2	4 856.5	4 956.6
Unemployed	235.2	231.3	231.5	290.1
Persons not in the labour force(a)	3 321.8	3 350.8	3 347.2	3 431.7
With marginal attachment to the labour force	501.1	554.8	516.1	565.5
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	34.7	40.4	37.0	34.9
Were available to start work within four weeks	21.9	27.0	24.5	25.5
Were not available to start work within four weeks	12.8	13.4	12.5	9.4
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	466.4	514.4	479.1	530.6
Discouraged jobseekers(b)	35.8	48.6	39.3	59.5
Other(c)	430.7	465.8	439.9	471.1
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(d)	2 820.7	2 796.0	2 831.0	2 866.3
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	214.8	224.5	240.7	256.4
Did not want to work(e)	2 497.4	2 438.1	2 451.9	2 434.0
PERSONS				
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	16 222.0	16 483.1	16 733.9	17 202.3
Persons in the labour force	10 808.9	10 991.2	11 225.5	11 522.0
Employed	10 290.0	10 530.0	10 742.5	10 872.1
Unemployed	518.9	461.1	483.0	649.9
Persons not in the labour force(a)	5 413.1	5 492.0	5 508.4	5 680.3
With marginal attachment to the labour force	751.6	845.4	820.3	893.1
Wanted to work and were actively looking for work	60.2	67.1	70.2	69.7
Were available to start work within four weeks	37.3	45.4	47.6	49.9
Were not available to start work within four weeks	22.9	21.7	22.6	19.8
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	691.4	778.4	750.0	823.4
Discouraged jobseekers(b)	56.1	76.6	73.9	111.8
Other(c)	635.3	701.7	676.1	711.6
Without marginal attachment to the labour force(d)	4 661.5	4 646.5	4 688.1	4 787.2
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	320.2	343.3	360.0	363.7
Did not want to work(e)	4 068.7	4 007.0	4 027.6	4 038.4

- (a) From September 2007, there was a change in the treatment of persons aged 65 years and over who specified they were 'Permanently not intending to work' in the Labour Force Survey. See paragraph 21 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.
- (b) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes.
- (c) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes.
- (d) Includes people who were 'Permanently unable to work'.
- (e) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, Main activity when not in the labour force—By age group (years)—By sex

Main activity when not in the labour force	AGE GROUP (YEARS)								Total
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70 and over	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*5.8	*2.7	*5.3	15.6	39.0	105.9	175.3	541.3	890.8
Home duties	*5.8	16.9	16.3	22.2	15.2	16.0	19.3	53.1	164.8
Caring for children	**0.8	*6.8	9.3	*3.2	**0.5	*2.6	**1.0	**2.2	26.4
Attending an educational institution	394.8	42.0	13.7	*5.2	**0.8	**0.9	**0.2	—	457.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	14.6	26.8	41.4	83.3	45.8	61.4	33.3	59.9	366.5
Own short-term illness or injury	*8.5	*5.5	*3.6	*3.0	*4.6	*3.1	**0.5	*3.4	32.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.8	*3.8	*8.1	14.6	10.3	9.1	10.5	13.9	72.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	9.8	*6.9	*5.7	*5.9	9.3	18.0	22.6	51.0	129.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	—	**1.9	*2.8	**1.9	**1.2	14.3	10.4	22.7	55.2
Other	10.7	10.7	*7.9	*5.7	*7.0	*3.0	*2.3	*6.5	53.8
Total	452.5	123.9	114.0	160.5	133.6	234.2	275.6	754.1	2 248.5
FEMALES									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*3.1	**1.5	**2.2	17.3	38.0	103.9	167.6	510.5	844.1
Home duties	34.3	143.0	177.5	165.3	110.3	133.5	121.8	257.5	1 143.3
Caring for children	49.0	173.7	117.3	19.9	*5.6	*4.4	*5.6	*5.2	380.7
Attending an educational institution	359.9	44.3	19.8	10.8	*3.4	**0.3	**1.3	**0.3	440.2
Own long-term health condition or disability	9.4	11.7	32.4	56.0	35.8	43.4	19.1	62.2	270.0
Own short-term illness or injury	*6.1	*5.3	*6.1	*6.0	*5.8	**1.2	**1.6	*4.5	36.6
Looking after ill or disabled person	*4.3	*3.0	10.3	28.8	22.5	17.2	9.7	27.5	123.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*3.5	*3.7	**1.2	*5.7	10.4	16.4	19.9	40.0	100.8
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.7	**2.2	**1.8	*5.4	*5.0	13.6	9.4	21.2	60.3
Other	*5.5	*4.6	*4.4	*4.0	*2.8	*6.3	**1.3	*3.6	32.5
Total	476.8	393.0	373.1	319.3	239.6	340.0	357.3	932.7	3 431.7
PERSONS									
Retired or voluntarily inactive	8.9	*4.2	*7.5	32.9	77.0	209.8	342.9	1 051.8	1 734.9
Home duties	40.1	159.9	193.8	187.4	125.5	149.5	141.1	310.7	1 308.1
Caring for children	49.8	180.5	126.6	23.1	*6.0	*6.9	*6.6	*7.5	407.0
Attending an educational institution	754.7	86.3	33.5	16.0	*4.2	**1.2	**1.6	**0.3	897.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	24.0	38.5	73.8	139.3	81.6	104.8	52.4	122.1	636.5
Own short-term illness or injury	14.6	10.8	9.7	9.0	10.4	*4.2	**2.1	*7.8	68.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	*6.1	*6.8	18.3	43.4	32.8	26.3	20.2	41.4	195.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	13.3	10.6	*6.9	11.6	19.8	34.4	42.5	91.0	230.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.7	*4.1	*4.6	*7.4	*6.1	27.8	19.8	43.9	115.5
Other	16.2	15.2	12.3	9.7	9.8	9.3	*3.6	10.2	86.3
Total	929.3	516.9	487.1	479.9	373.2	574.3	632.8	1 686.8	5 680.3

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

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected characteristics—By sex

WANTED TO WORK, NOT
ACTIVELY LOOKING,
BUT WERE AVAILABLE

	Discouraged job seekers(b)			Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force(a)
	Other(c)	Total				%
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%

MALES

State or territory of usual residence	Discouraged job seekers(b)	Other(c)	Total	Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force(a)
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
New South Wales	22.4	78.0	100.4	111.1	772.6	28.1
Victoria	15.3	64.0	79.3	89.2	571.9	26.9
Queensland	8.3	44.0	52.2	55.5	414.7	24.3
South Australia	*2.0	18.3	20.3	24.5	179.7	28.2
Western Australia	*2.3	22.3	24.6	29.8	201.8	22.6
Tasmania	*1.3	8.1	9.4	10.2	63.7	32.4
Northern Territory	*0.6	1.9	2.6	2.7	12.3	15.8
Australian Capital Territory	**0.2	3.8	3.9	4.6	31.8	23.3
Age group (years)						
15–19	*5.3	81.3	86.6	93.2	331.4	45.1
20–24	*3.8	33.8	37.6	45.6	121.2	15.8
25–34	*6.0	24.8	30.8	40.6	123.9	8.1
35–44	**1.9	28.3	30.3	34.0	114.0	7.4
45–54	*4.1	17.9	22.1	26.4	160.5	10.9
55–59	*3.0	16.0	19.0	20.5	133.6	20.7
60–64	*5.4	17.3	22.7	23.5	234.2	39.9
65–69	10.7	9.4	20.1	20.1	275.6	65.4
70 and over	12.1	11.6	23.7	23.7	754.1	92.2
Relationship in household						
Family member	41.3	191.8	233.1	259.6	1 731.5	24.9
Husband, wife or partner	29.1	71.0	100.1	113.5	1 157.7	22.7
Lone parent	**0.6	*8.6	9.2	9.4	53.0	31.6
Dependent student	*4.6	76.9	81.5	86.2	319.6	54.8
Non-dependent child	*6.4	25.4	31.8	36.9	130.9	15.1
Other related individual	**0.6	9.9	10.5	13.5	70.3	32.3
Non-family member	9.7	41.3	51.0	58.0	457.5	31.9
Relationship not determined	**1.3	*7.4	*8.7	10.1	59.5	40.8
Country of birth(d)						
Born in Australia	28.1	173.1	201.2	220.3	1 461.0	24.5
Born overseas	24.2	66.9	91.2	106.8	787.1	30.7
Born in main English-speaking countries	9.3	21.7	31.0	33.4	260.5	27.1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	14.9	45.2	60.2	73.5	526.6	32.9
Total	52.3	240.5	292.8	327.6	2 248.5	26.4

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

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

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(c) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(d) Excludes 'inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected characteristics—By sex *continued*

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force(a)
	Discouraged job seekers(b)	Other(c)	Total			
	'000	'000	'000			
FEMALES						
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	26.1	165.6	191.7	200.0	1 186.9	41.7
Victoria	16.6	112.5	129.1	141.3	872.3	40.2
Queensland	9.6	84.9	94.5	100.7	631.5	36.5
South Australia	**1.1	34.5	35.5	38.4	258.7	39.8
Western Australia	*3.9	47.9	51.9	55.8	334.6	38.6
Tasmania	*1.5	14.2	15.7	16.4	83.6	41.6
Northern Territory	**0.2	4.9	5.1	5.3	19.7	27.0
Australian Capital Territory	**0.4	6.7	7.1	7.5	44.6	31.3
Age group (years)						
15–19	*3.8	76.0	79.9	85.0	302.6	42.4
20–24	**1.3	47.3	48.6	55.2	174.2	23.1
25–34	9.5	105.6	115.1	123.9	393.0	26.1
35–44	*5.7	113.7	119.4	128.8	373.1	23.8
45–54	12.1	61.5	73.5	76.9	319.3	21.3
55–59	*7.6	22.4	30.0	31.2	239.6	36.7
60–64	*7.2	23.0	30.2	30.6	340.0	57.4
65–69	*5.6	14.1	19.8	19.8	357.3	81.7
70 and over	*6.6	*7.6	14.2	14.2	932.7	97.3
Relationship in household						
Family member	47.5	420.9	468.4	499.0	2 653.6	37.3
Husband, wife or partner	34.8	253.9	288.7	304.9	1 868.0	37.2
Lone parent	*7.0	80.3	87.3	95.7	321.1	43.0
Dependent student	*2.4	60.8	63.2	66.0	259.0	44.4
Non-dependent child	**1.8	16.0	17.8	19.7	82.3	15.7
Other related individual	**1.6	9.8	11.4	12.7	123.2	50.9
Non-family member	11.5	44.3	55.7	59.9	707.4	49.2
Relationship not determined	**0.5	*6.0	*6.5	*6.6	70.7	54.6
Country of birth(d)						
Born in Australia	32.5	336.8	369.3	390.9	2 247.5	36.7
Born overseas	27.0	133.3	160.3	173.5	1 182.0	46.3
Born in main English-speaking countries	*8.7	46.7	55.4	59.8	348.9	39.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	18.4	86.5	104.9	113.7	833.1	49.9
Total	59.5	471.1	530.6	565.5	3 431.7	39.5

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

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

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(c) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(d) Excludes 'inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Selected characteristics—By sex *continued*

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force	Proportion not in the labour force(a)
	Discouraged job seekers(b)	Other(c)	Total			
	'000	'000	'000			
PERSONS						
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	48.6	243.6	292.2	311.1	1 959.5	35.0
Victoria	31.9	176.5	208.4	230.5	1 444.2	33.6
Queensland	17.9	128.8	146.7	156.2	1 046.2	30.4
South Australia	*3.0	52.8	55.8	62.9	438.4	34.0
Western Australia	6.2	70.3	76.5	85.7	536.4	30.5
Tasmania	2.8	22.3	25.1	26.5	147.3	37.1
Northern Territory	*0.8	6.8	7.7	8.1	31.9	21.2
Australian Capital Territory	**0.5	10.5	11.0	12.1	76.4	27.4
Age group (years)						
15–19	9.1	157.4	166.5	178.2	634.0	43.8
20–24	*5.1	81.0	86.2	100.9	295.4	19.4
25–34	15.6	130.3	145.9	164.5	516.9	17.0
35–44	*7.7	142.0	149.7	162.7	487.1	15.6
45–54	16.2	79.4	95.6	103.3	479.9	16.1
55–59	10.6	38.4	49.1	51.7	373.2	28.7
60–64	12.6	40.2	52.9	54.2	574.3	48.7
65–69	16.3	23.6	39.8	39.8	632.8	73.7
70 and over	18.7	19.2	37.9	37.9	1 686.8	94.9
Relationship in household						
Family member	88.8	612.7	701.5	758.5	4 385.1	31.2
Husband, wife or partner	63.9	324.9	388.8	418.4	3 025.7	29.9
Lone parent	*7.5	88.9	96.4	105.1	374.1	40.9
Dependent student	*7.0	137.8	144.8	152.3	578.6	49.6
Non-dependent child	*8.2	41.4	49.6	56.6	213.2	15.4
Other related individual	**2.2	19.7	21.9	26.1	193.5	42.1
Non-family member	21.2	85.5	106.7	117.9	1 164.9	40.6
Relationship not determined	**1.8	13.4	15.2	16.7	130.2	47.3
Country of birth(d)						
Born in Australia	60.6	509.9	570.5	611.2	3 708.5	30.7
Born overseas	51.3	200.2	251.5	280.4	1 969.1	38.5
Born in main English-speaking countries	18.0	68.5	86.4	93.2	609.4	33.0
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	33.3	131.7	165.0	187.2	1 359.7	41.6
Total	111.8	711.6	823.4	893.1	5 680.3	33.0

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

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

(a) Proportion of people not in the labour force in each corresponding civilian population group.

(b) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(c) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(d) Excludes 'inadequately described'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force—By sex

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			Total with marginal attachment to the labour force	Total persons not in the labour force
	Discouraged job seekers(a)		Total		
	(a)	(b)			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	46.1	162.6	208.7	237.3	1 844.6
Under 12 months	10.1	67.9	78.0	99.5	244.1
1 year and under 3 years	12.7	40.9	53.6	57.3	237.5
3 years and under 5 years	*4.0	18.1	22.0	24.1	152.0
5 years and under 10 years	*7.5	16.9	24.4	24.7	298.0
10 years and under 20 years	*8.5	14.1	22.6	23.0	505.8
20 years or more	*3.4	*4.7	*8.0	*8.6	407.2
Never had a job	*6.3	77.9	84.1	90.3	403.9
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	18.0	26.0	44.0	45.3	890.8
Home duties	9.1	21.7	30.8	36.8	164.8
Caring for children	**1.3	*7.9	9.2	10.6	26.4
Attending an educational institution	*8.2	107.4	115.6	126.1	457.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	*2.5	19.6	22.1	23.7	366.5
Own short-term illness or injury	**0.6	10.0	10.6	12.0	32.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	—	*8.3	*8.3	9.9	72.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.5	20.4	26.0	27.0	129.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*2.9	*4.0	*6.9	*7.8	55.2
Other	*4.1	15.1	19.2	28.4	53.8
Total	52.3	240.5	292.8	327.6	2 248.5
FEMALES					
Time since last job					
Had a job	49.8	389.8	439.6	471.2	2 850.0
Under 12 months	*5.2	113.6	118.8	134.7	381.9
1 year and under 3 years	11.9	88.5	100.4	110.1	360.2
3 years and under 5 years	*5.6	57.8	63.4	66.4	231.6
5 years and under 10 years	8.9	63.0	71.9	72.9	402.5
10 years and under 20 years	10.5	47.8	58.4	59.9	529.9
20 years or more	*7.6	19.1	26.7	27.1	943.9
Never had a job	9.7	81.3	91.0	94.3	581.8
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*7.4	16.8	24.3	24.3	844.1
Home duties	31.6	174.9	206.5	216.9	1 143.3
Caring for children	*6.9	117.7	124.6	130.1	380.7
Attending an educational institution	*4.5	97.6	102.0	111.8	440.2
Own long-term health condition or disability	**0.4	17.0	17.4	17.9	270.0
Own short-term illness or injury	—	*8.3	*8.3	10.8	36.6
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.8	11.0	12.8	15.8	123.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	**0.8	11.6	12.4	13.5	100.8
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*4.8	*8.7	13.5	14.1	60.3
Other	**1.2	*7.5	*8.7	10.3	32.5
Total	59.5	471.1	530.6	565.5	3 431.7

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

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(b) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOUR FORCE, Time since last job and main activity when not in the labour force—By sex *continued*

	WANTED TO WORK, NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING, BUT WERE AVAILABLE			<i>Total with marginal attachment to the labour force</i>	<i>Total persons not in the labour force</i>
	<i>Discouraged job seekers(a)</i>	<i>Other(b)</i>	<i>Total</i>		
	'000	'000	'000		
PERSONS					
Time since last job					
Had a job	95.9	552.4	648.3	708.5	4 694.6
Under 12 months	15.3	181.5	196.8	234.3	626.0
1 year and under 3 years	24.6	129.4	154.0	167.4	597.6
3 years and under 5 years	9.6	75.9	85.4	90.5	383.7
5 years and under 10 years	16.5	79.9	96.4	97.6	700.6
10 years and under 20 years	19.0	62.0	81.0	83.0	1 035.7
20 years or more	11.0	23.8	34.7	35.8	1 351.1
Never had a job	15.9	159.2	175.1	184.6	985.7
Main activity when not in the labour force					
Retired or voluntarily inactive	25.5	42.9	68.3	69.6	1 734.9
Home duties	40.7	196.7	237.3	253.8	1 308.1
Caring for children	*8.2	125.5	133.7	140.7	407.0
Attending an educational institution	12.7	204.9	217.6	237.9	897.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	*2.9	36.6	39.5	41.6	636.5
Own short-term illness or injury	**0.6	18.4	19.0	22.8	68.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	**1.8	19.4	21.1	25.7	195.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*6.4	32.0	38.4	40.5	230.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*7.7	12.7	20.5	21.8	115.5
Other	*5.4	22.5	27.9	38.7	86.3
Total	111.8	711.6	823.4	893.1	5 680.3

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

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

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(b) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

5

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK(a), Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months and full-time or part-time preference

	INTENTION TO ENTER THE LABOUR FORCE IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS			FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME PREFERENCE(b)(c)			Total(d)
	Intended to enter	Might enter	Did not intend to enter	Full-time	Part-time	Did not know	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
Sex							
Males	166.7	49.9	67.1	90.3	107.8	32.0	292.8
Females	270.5	102.0	140.9	82.6	266.8	47.1	530.6
Main reason for not actively looking for work							
Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	437.3	151.9	208.0	172.9	374.7	79.1	823.4
Discouraged jobseekers(e) (f)	47.9	16.1	44.7	22.2	40.2	*4.7	111.8
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	8.9	*2.9	**0.3	*4.6	*6.6	**1.2	12.6
Difficulties because of language or ethnic background	*5.1	**1.5	**0.6	*3.6	*3.0	—	*7.3
No jobs in locality or line of work	15.6	*4.2	*4.2	*5.5	13.8	**0.5	24.0
No jobs at all	*5.7	**0.6	*2.9	*3.5	*2.9	—	9.3
Considered too old by employers	*3.4	*4.5	32.0	*3.2	*4.7	**0.9	40.7
No jobs in suitable hours	*6.6	**2.1	**1.8	**0.7	*8.1	—	10.5
Other reasons(g)	389.3	135.8	163.3	150.7	334.5	74.4	711.6
Personal reasons(h)	192.5	70.0	72.8	74.7	166.3	40.2	348.3
Own short-term illness or injury	18.6	*4.3	*2.6	11.8	10.5	**0.6	25.5
Own long-term health condition or disability	23.9	17.7	28.7	11.2	24.6	10.0	74.4
Attending an educational institution	127.4	32.1	16.9	40.8	104.5	24.2	182.0
Other personal reasons	20.8	16.0	24.6	10.9	24.9	*4.8	64.0
Family reasons	101.1	53.2	69.7	27.4	116.9	21.7	231.7
Ill health of other than self	*7.8	*5.4	*7.4	*3.8	8.9	*2.5	22.4
Caring for children	68.2	32.1	47.3	16.6	76.7	13.1	150.8
Other family considerations	25.1	15.6	15.0	*7.0	31.4	*6.0	58.5
Other reasons	38.7	10.0	15.2	19.4	23.6	*6.6	64.8
Had a job to go to	47.0	**2.2	*2.3	24.0	23.3	*4.0	52.5
Did not know	9.9	**0.4	*3.2	*5.2	*4.5	**1.9	14.2
Total	437.3	151.9	208.0	172.9	374.7	79.1	823.4

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

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) From September 2009, this table is restricted to those who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks.

(b) Data relate to people who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(c) From September 2009, 'Full-time or part-time preference' is collected as single hours. See paragraph 28 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(d) Includes people who 'Did not know' whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next 12 months.

(e) From September 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No job in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(f) Includes 'Considered too young by employers' and 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers'.

(g) From September 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(h) Includes 'Pregnancy'.

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK, Main reason for not actively looking for work—By age group (years) and sex

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						SEX		
	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–69	70 and over	Males	Females	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Discouraged job seekers(a) (b)	14.2	15.6	*7.7	16.2	39.5	18.7	52.3	59.5	111.8
Considered too old by employers	—	—	**0.6	*2.8	22.8	14.5	20.9	19.8	40.7
Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience	*5.2	**2.0	**1.6	**1.7	**2.1	—	*5.6	*7.0	12.6
No jobs in locality or line of work/No jobs at all	*5.8	*5.3	*3.6	*7.1	10.4	**1.0	12.5	20.8	33.3
No jobs in suitable hours	**1.2	*3.7	**1.5	**0.7	*2.4	**1.0	*4.1	*6.4	10.5
Other reasons(c)	238.4	130.3	142.0	79.4	102.2	19.2	240.5	471.1	711.6
Personal reasons(d)	175.5	34.9	28.4	34.0	63.5	12.1	163.3	185.0	348.3
Own short-term illness or injury	*5.0	*5.5	*3.9	*4.3	*4.8	**2.0	12.5	13.0	25.5
Own long-term health condition or disability	*5.1	*7.3	11.7	12.8	32.6	*4.9	39.3	35.1	74.4
Attending an educational institution	158.0	12.8	*6.7	*4.0	**0.6	—	91.6	90.5	182.0
Other personal reasons	*7.2	*7.0	*6.0	12.9	25.6	*5.3	19.9	44.1	64.0
Family reasons	30.6	72.4	87.4	27.0	12.1	*2.4	19.2	212.5	231.7
Ill health of other than self	**1.4	*2.3	*5.0	*6.3	*6.0	**1.5	*4.3	18.1	22.4
Caring for children	22.0	55.1	65.5	*8.2	**0.2	—	*7.9	142.9	150.8
Other family considerations	*7.3	15.0	16.9	12.5	*5.9	**0.9	*7.0	51.5	58.5
Other reasons	18.0	*6.9	10.1	12.8	14.4	*2.7	30.1	34.7	64.8
Had a job to go to	10.7	13.9	14.0	*4.7	*8.0	**1.4	22.1	30.4	52.5
Did not know	*3.7	*2.3	**2.2	**1.1	*4.3	**0.6	*5.7	*8.4	14.2
Total	252.6	145.9	149.7	95.6	141.8	37.9	292.8	530.6	823.4

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

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(b) Includes 'Considered too young by employers', 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'Difficulties because of language or ethnic background'.

(c) From 2009, excludes 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraph 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(d) Includes 'Pregnancy'.

7

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO WERE DISCOURAGED JOB SEEKERS(a), Selected characteristics—By sex

	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000
.....			
Age group (years)			
15–24	9.1	*5.1	14.2
25–34	*6.0	9.5	15.6
35–44	**1.9	*5.7	*7.7
45–54	*4.1	12.1	16.2
55–59	*3.0	*7.6	10.6
60–64	*5.4	*7.2	12.6
65–69	10.7	*5.6	16.3
70 and over	12.1	*6.6	18.7
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months			
Had looked for work	17.1	27.3	44.4
Less than 13 weeks ago	11.1	20.2	31.4
13 weeks to 52 weeks ago	*6.0	*7.1	13.0
Had not looked for work	35.3	32.2	67.4
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months(b)			
Intended to enter	18.9	29.1	47.9
Might enter	*6.6	9.5	16.1
Did not intend to enter	24.5	20.2	44.7
Time since last job			
Had a job	46.1	49.8	95.9
Under 12 months	10.1	*5.2	15.3
1 year and under 3 years	12.7	11.9	24.6
3 years and under 5 years	*4.0	*5.6	9.6
5 years and under 10 years	*7.5	8.9	16.5
10 years and under 20 years	*8.5	10.5	19.0
20 years or more	*3.4	*7.6	11.0
Never had a job	*6.3	9.7	15.9
Total	52.3	59.5	111.8

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

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

(a) From September 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

(b) Excludes people who 'Did not know' whether they intended to enter the labour force in the next twelve months.

	<i>Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	37.1	536.9	661.5	772.6
Victoria	31.6	408.7	482.7	571.9
Queensland	13.4	307.7	359.2	414.7
South Australia	9.0	135.4	155.2	179.7
Western Australia	9.5	145.4	172.0	201.8
Tasmania	3.7	40.6	53.6	63.7
Northern Territory	*0.8	6.7	9.5	12.3
Australian Capital Territory	2.2	22.9	27.2	31.8
Age group (years)				
15–19	29.0	207.1	238.2	331.4
20–24	13.4	54.5	75.5	121.2
25–34	17.2	53.2	83.3	123.9
35–44	*8.1	50.4	80.1	114.0
45–54	17.4	72.4	134.1	160.5
55–59	*5.9	80.1	113.2	133.6
60–64	*7.5	152.7	210.7	234.2
65–69	*3.8	235.2	255.5	275.6
70 and over	*4.8	698.8	730.4	754.1
Relationship in household				
Family member	82.5	1 250.6	1 472.0	1 731.5
Husband, wife or partner	34.0	916.5	1 044.2	1 157.7
Lone parent	*3.8	30.1	43.6	53.0
Dependent student	28.1	204.3	233.3	319.6
Non-dependent child	10.3	55.5	94.0	130.9
Other related individual	*6.2	44.2	56.9	70.3
Non-family member	21.6	312.6	399.5	457.5
Relationship not determined	*3.3	41.2	49.5	59.5
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	71.2	1 017.4	1 240.7	1 461.0
Born overseas	36.1	587.0	680.3	787.1
Born in main English-speaking countries	*8.3	200.7	227.1	260.5
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	27.8	386.4	453.1	526.6
Time since last job				
Had a job	75.9	1 356.0	1 607.4	1 844.6
Under 12 months	27.4	107.8	144.6	244.1
1 year and under 3 years	18.0	147.8	180.1	237.5
3 years and under 5 years	*8.2	105.9	128.0	152.0
5 years and under 10 years	*6.5	238.4	273.3	298.0
10 years and under 20 years	11.8	416.8	482.8	505.8
20 years or more	*3.9	339.3	398.6	407.2
Never had a job	31.4	248.4	313.6	403.9
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*8.8	792.9	845.5	890.8
Home duties	*8.5	107.8	128.0	164.8
Caring for children	*2.5	11.7	15.8	26.4
Attending an educational institution	46.2	284.4	331.5	457.6
Own long-term health condition or disability	21.6	187.2	342.8	366.5
Own short-term illness or injury	*8.4	*8.7	20.1	32.1
Looking after ill or disabled person	*3.9	55.4	62.1	72.0
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	**1.4	97.7	102.3	129.3
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.5	40.7	47.4	55.2
Other	*4.4	17.7	25.5	53.8
Total	107.3	1 604.4	1 920.9	2 248.5

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

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 385,100 people (209,300 men and 175,800 women)

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

who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

	<i>Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	78.8	829.5	986.8	1 186.9
Victoria	73.3	620.9	730.9	872.3
Queensland	55.8	446.9	530.7	631.5
South Australia	13.6	195.7	220.3	258.7
Western Australia	23.8	242.9	278.8	334.6
Tasmania	5.3	55.8	67.2	83.6
Northern Territory	2.0	11.5	14.3	19.7
Australian Capital Territory	3.8	30.9	37.1	44.6
Age group (years)				
15–19	28.5	186.3	217.6	302.6
20–24	18.6	97.5	119.0	174.2
25–34	76.8	182.9	269.1	393.0
35–44	57.5	174.8	244.3	373.1
45–54	31.2	184.1	242.4	319.3
55–59	17.5	158.7	208.4	239.6
60–64	12.3	254.4	309.4	340.0
65–69	*8.5	317.3	337.5	357.3
70 and over	*5.5	878.0	918.5	932.7
Relationship in household				
Family member				
Husband, wife or partner	222.3	1 813.6	2 154.6	2 653.6
Lone parent	153.4	1 341.3	1 563.1	1 868.0
Dependent student	30.8	173.7	225.4	321.1
Non-dependent child	23.9	169.1	193.0	259.0
Other related individual	9.5	37.3	62.6	82.3
Other related individual	*4.9	92.1	110.5	123.2
Non-family member				
Relationship not determined	27.1	566.2	647.5	707.4
Relationship not determined	*7.0	54.3	64.1	70.7
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	169.9	1 568.2	1 856.6	2 247.5
Born overseas	86.0	865.1	1 008.4	1 182.0
Born in main English-speaking countries	16.7	260.4	289.1	348.9
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	69.3	604.6	719.4	833.1
Time since last job				
Had a job				
Under 12 months	219.0	2 020.6	2 378.8	2 850.0
1 year and under 3 years	89.9	152.8	247.1	381.9
3 years and under 5 years	44.4	198.3	250.1	360.2
5 years and under 10 years	24.9	133.7	165.2	231.6
10 years and under 20 years	28.3	278.6	329.6	402.5
20 years or more	21.2	410.5	470.0	529.9
20 years or more	10.3	846.8	916.7	943.9
Never had a job	37.4	413.3	487.5	581.8
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	*8.8	776.8	819.8	844.1
Home duties	56.9	830.4	926.3	1 143.3
Caring for children	84.6	163.2	250.6	380.7
Attending an educational institution	51.3	275.8	328.4	440.2
Own long-term health condition or disability	20.9	148.3	252.1	270.0
Own short-term illness or injury	12.0	10.9	25.8	36.6
Looking after ill or disabled person	12.7	88.1	107.5	123.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*5.2	80.7	87.3	100.8
Working in unpaid voluntary job	**1.6	43.3	46.2	60.3
Other	*2.5	16.3	22.1	32.5
<i>Total</i>	256.4	2 434.0	2 866.3	3 431.7

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

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes 385,100 people (209,300 men and 175,800 women)

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

who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

	<i>Wanted to work but not actively looking and not available</i>	<i>Did not want to work(a)</i>	<i>Total without marginal attachment(b)</i>	<i>Total not in the labour force</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS				
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	116.0	1 366.3	1 648.3	1 959.5
Victoria	104.9	1 029.6	1 213.6	1 444.2
Queensland	69.2	754.5	890.0	1 046.2
South Australia	22.5	331.1	375.5	438.4
Western Australia	33.2	388.4	450.7	536.4
Tasmania	9.0	96.4	120.8	147.3
Northern Territory	2.8	18.2	23.9	31.9
Australian Capital Territory	6.0	53.8	64.3	76.4
Age group (years)				
15–19	57.6	393.4	455.8	634.0
20–24	32.0	151.9	194.5	295.4
25–34	94.1	236.1	352.4	516.9
35–44	65.5	225.2	324.4	487.1
45–54	48.6	256.5	376.6	479.9
55–59	23.5	238.8	321.5	373.2
60–64	19.8	407.1	520.1	574.3
65–69	12.3	552.5	593.0	632.8
70 and over	10.3	1 576.7	1 648.9	1 686.8
Relationship in household				
Family member	304.8	3 064.2	3 626.6	4 385.1
Husband, wife or partner	187.4	2 257.7	2 607.3	3 025.7
Lone parent	34.6	203.8	269.0	374.1
Dependent student	52.0	373.4	426.3	578.6
Non-dependent child	19.8	92.9	156.6	213.2
Other related individual	11.1	136.3	167.4	193.5
Non-family member	48.7	878.8	1 047.0	1 164.9
Relationship not determined	10.2	95.4	113.6	130.2
Country of birth(c)				
Born in Australia	241.1	2 585.6	3 097.2	3 708.5
Born overseas	122.1	1 452.1	1 688.7	1 969.1
Born in main English-speaking countries	24.9	461.1	516.2	609.4
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	97.1	991.0	1 172.5	1 359.7
Time since last job				
Had a job	294.9	3 376.6	3 986.1	4 694.6
Under 12 months	117.4	260.6	391.7	626.0
1 year and under 3 years	62.4	346.0	430.3	597.6
3 years and under 5 years	33.1	239.6	293.2	383.7
5 years and under 10 years	34.9	517.0	602.9	700.6
10 years and under 20 years	33.0	827.4	952.8	1 035.7
20 years or more	14.1	1 186.1	1 315.3	1 351.1
Never had a job	68.8	661.7	801.1	985.7
Main activity when not in the labour force				
Retired or voluntarily inactive	17.6	1 569.7	1 665.3	1 734.9
Home duties	65.5	938.2	1 054.3	1 308.1
Caring for children	87.1	175.0	266.3	407.0
Attending an educational institution	97.5	560.3	660.0	897.8
Own long-term health condition or disability	42.5	335.5	594.9	636.5
Own short-term illness or injury	20.4	19.7	45.9	68.7
Looking after ill or disabled person	16.6	143.6	169.6	195.3
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	*6.6	178.4	189.6	230.1
Working in unpaid voluntary job	*3.0	84.1	93.7	115.5
Other	*6.9	34.0	47.6	86.3
Total	363.7	4 038.4	4 787.2	5 680.3

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

(b) Includes 385,100 people (209,300 men and 175,800 women) who were 'Permanently unable to work'.

(a) Includes people who 'Did not know'.

(c) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE BECAUSE THEY WERE CARING FOR CHILDREN,
Selected personal characteristics—By sex

	NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING BUT AVAILABLE FOR WORK		NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING AND NOT AVAILABLE FOR WORK (a)		Total
	<i>All reasons not actively looking for work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not actively looking for work was 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>All reasons not available to start work included 'Caring for children'</i>	<i>Main reason not available to start work was 'Caring for children'</i>	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES					
Age group (years)					
15–24	24.8	21.4	*7.7	*6.0	32.4
25–34	61.2	52.7	42.7	39.4	103.9
35–44	67.3	61.3	24.0	22.7	91.2
45 and over	9.7	*7.6	**2.2	**2.2	11.9
Age of youngest child (b)					
0–2 years	102.0	90.5	59.3	54.5	161.3
3–4 years	31.2	27.8	*6.6	*6.2	37.8
5 years	*5.4	*4.8	*2.9	**1.9	*8.3
6–12 years	22.2	18.3	*4.3	*4.3	26.5
Relationship in household (c)					
Family member (d)	162.4	142.7	74.4	68.2	236.8
Husband, wife or partner	113.8	100.5	66.6	61.2	180.5
Lone parent	47.9	41.5	*7.6	*6.9	55.5
Country of birth (e)					
Born in Australia	116.9	99.6	52.1	48.1	169.0
Born overseas	45.5	42.7	23.9	22.2	69.4
Born in main English-speaking countries	13.1	12.4	*6.0	*6.0	19.1
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	32.4	30.3	17.9	16.2	50.3
Total (f)	163.0	142.9	76.5	70.3	239.5
PERSONS (g)					
Age group (years)					
15–24	25.3	22.0	*7.7	*6.0	33.0
25–34	63.6	55.1	43.4	40.0	107.0
35–44	71.5	65.5	24.6	23.3	96.0
45 and over	10.5	*8.3	*3.3	*3.3	13.8
Age of youngest child (b)					
0–2 years	104.9	93.4	59.9	55.1	164.8
3–4 years	34.3	31.0	*6.6	*6.2	41.0
5 years	*6.6	*6.0	*2.9	**1.9	9.6
6–12 years	22.8	18.8	*6.0	*6.0	28.8
Relationship in household (c)					
Family member (d)	170.3	150.6	76.7	70.5	247.1
Husband, wife or partner	118.8	105.4	68.2	62.8	187.0
Lone parent	50.8	44.4	*8.4	*7.6	59.2
Country of birth (e)					
Born in Australia	122.4	105.1	54.0	49.9	176.3
Born overseas	48.0	45.1	24.3	22.7	72.3
Born in main English-speaking countries	14.0	13.3	*6.0	*6.0	19.9
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	34.0	31.9	18.4	16.7	52.3
Total (f)	170.9	150.8	78.8	72.6	249.7
* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution					
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use					
(a) People who were not actively looking and not available for work were not asked the reasons why they were not actively looking for work. They were only asked the reasons why they were not available.					
(b) Excludes people whose youngest child was aged 13 years or over, and 'Not applicable'.					
(c) Excludes 'Non-family member' and 'Relationship not determined'.					
(d) Includes 'Non-dependent child'.					
(e) Excludes 'Inadequately described'.					
(f) Includes 'Non-family member' and 'Relationship not determined'.					
(g) Includes 'Males'.					

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME STATUS OF LAST JOB		Total(a)(b) '000
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	
MALES					
Reasons for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	305.8	25.9	230.3	92.2	332.1
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	199.1	*3.8	161.6	38.6	202.9
Job was temporary or seasonal	64.8	*4.5	24.4	41.4	69.8
Own business closed down for economic reasons	*4.3	12.7	13.1	*2.3	17.0
Own short-term illness or injury	37.6	*4.9	31.2	9.9	42.4
Left a job	924.4	178.3	905.7	186.6	1 105.3
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	38.0	—	21.7	14.2	38.0
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	11.8	14.9	25.8	**1.0	26.8
Retired, did not want to work any longer	439.7	97.9	479.3	56.2	538.3
Own long-term health condition or disability	269.3	47.4	260.7	52.2	316.7
To look after family, house or someone else	45.5	*5.0	40.6	*8.5	50.5
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	20.1	*4.7	15.8	*8.5	24.8
Returned to studies	59.5	**1.7	27.3	35.4	63.3
Other(c)	40.4	*6.6	34.6	10.7	47.0
Occupation of last job					
Managers	125.9	62.4	177.9	10.1	189.5
Professionals	173.7	23.7	154.2	40.2	197.3
Technicians and trades workers	260.3	62.7	284.0	35.3	323.8
Community and personal service workers	64.3	*2.9	44.5	21.4	67.2
Clerical and administrative workers	96.6	*5.1	82.2	19.3	101.6
Sales workers	71.0	*8.1	46.5	33.0	79.5
Machinery operators and drivers	182.6	21.8	174.4	28.7	205.1
Labourers	255.8	17.6	172.4	90.8	273.4
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	109.5	10.3	66.8	48.9	120.4
Less than 13 weeks ago	82.8	10.0	51.6	38.2	93.4
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	9.4	**0.2	*5.1	*4.5	9.6
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	17.3	**0.1	10.1	*6.2	17.4
Had not looked for work	1 120.7	194.0	1 069.2	229.9	1 317.1
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	218.4	24.4	138.6	99.7	244.1
1 year and under 3 years	205.8	31.0	167.9	66.8	237.5
3 years and under 5 years	131.4	20.7	109.4	36.9	152.0
5 years and under 10 years	242.2	55.9	253.6	40.9	298.0
10 years and under 20 years	432.6	72.3	466.5	34.6	505.8
Total	1 230.3	204.2	1 136.0	278.8	1 437.5

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

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

(c) Includes 'Pregnancy or to have children' and 'To get married'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME STATUS OF LAST JOB		Total (a) (b) '000
	Employee '000	Own account worker/Employer '000	Full-time '000	Part-time '000	
	FEMALES				
Reasons for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	328.4	20.6	159.7	184.2	350.6
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	188.7	*5.0	100.1	90.6	194.6
Job was temporary or seasonal	78.7	*3.7	22.0	58.4	82.9
Own business closed down for economic reasons	*5.0	9.8	11.3	*3.5	14.7
Own short-term illness or injury	56.1	**2.1	26.3	31.7	58.3
Left a job	1 432.8	120.3	908.6	622.1	1 555.5
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	77.4	**1.6	28.2	48.8	79.1
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	13.4	15.0	17.7	10.7	28.4
Retired, did not want to work any longer	379.7	47.9	264.3	156.7	428.1
Pregnancy or to have children	409.1	13.3	273.0	146.6	423.1
Own long-term health condition or disability	191.4	17.1	120.4	85.3	209.4
To get married	10.6	**1.0	9.5	*2.1	11.6
To look after family, house or someone else	127.5	12.0	81.2	55.3	139.5
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	104.1	*4.1	61.5	45.0	108.2
Returned to studies	65.5	*3.6	20.3	47.4	69.1
Other	54.1	*4.7	32.6	24.2	59.0
Occupation of last job					
Managers	87.5	49.3	118.6	16.0	136.8
Professionals	260.4	13.6	168.7	101.3	274.0
Technicians and trades workers	101.2	20.2	76.8	42.6	122.0
Community and personal service workers	259.9	10.4	123.3	143.9	272.2
Clerical and administrative workers	431.4	21.1	281.5	167.9	453.3
Sales workers	255.6	10.9	103.8	159.6	266.9
Machinery operators and drivers	56.7	**0.6	39.7	15.5	57.3
Labourers	308.5	14.7	155.9	159.5	323.6
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	175.4	*6.8	88.2	92.5	183.0
Less than 13 weeks ago	130.9	*4.1	64.9	69.3	135.5
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	18.3	**1.2	11.0	*8.7	19.8
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	26.2	**1.5	12.4	14.6	27.7
Had not looked for work	1 585.8	134.1	980.1	713.7	1 723.1
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	365.8	16.0	150.0	225.1	381.9
1 year and under 3 years	340.3	19.7	179.1	176.1	360.2
3 years and under 5 years	205.4	25.8	138.9	90.3	231.6
5 years and under 10 years	366.2	33.8	263.5	132.4	402.5
10 years and under 20 years	483.4	45.6	336.8	182.2	529.9
Total	1 761.2	140.9	1 068.3	806.2	1 906.1

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

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

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

continued

	STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT IN LAST JOB		PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME STATUS OF LAST JOB		Total(a)(b) '000
	Employee	Own account worker/Employer	Full-time	Part-time	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	
PERSONS					
Reasons for ceasing last job					
Lost a job	634.3	46.5	390.0	276.4	682.7
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available	387.8	*8.8	261.7	129.2	397.6
Job was temporary or seasonal	143.5	*8.2	46.5	99.8	152.7
Own business closed down for economic reasons	9.3	22.5	24.4	*5.8	31.8
Own short-term illness or injury	93.7	*7.0	57.5	41.7	100.7
Left a job	2 357.2	298.6	1 814.3	808.6	2 660.8
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	115.4	**1.6	49.8	63.0	117.1
Own business closed down for other than economic reasons	25.2	30.0	43.5	11.7	55.2
Retired, did not want to work any longer	819.4	145.9	743.6	212.9	966.4
Pregnancy or to have children	411.1	14.1	273.9	148.5	425.9
Own long-term health condition or disability	460.8	64.4	381.1	137.4	526.1
To get married	12.3	**1.0	11.3	**2.1	13.4
To look after family, house or someone else	173.0	16.9	121.7	63.8	190.0
To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred	124.2	*8.8	77.2	53.5	133.0
Returned to studies	125.0	*5.4	47.6	82.8	132.4
Other	90.7	10.5	64.5	32.9	101.5
Occupation of last job					
Managers	213.4	111.7	296.5	26.2	326.3
Professionals	434.1	37.2	322.9	141.5	471.4
Technicians and trades workers	361.5	83.0	360.8	77.8	445.7
Community and personal service workers	324.2	13.4	167.9	165.3	339.4
Clerical and administrative workers	528.0	26.2	363.7	187.2	554.9
Sales workers	326.6	19.0	150.2	192.6	346.4
Machinery operators and drivers	239.3	22.4	214.1	44.2	262.4
Labourers	564.3	32.3	328.3	250.3	597.1
Whether looked for work in the last 12 months					
Had looked for work	284.9	17.1	155.1	141.5	303.4
Less than 13 weeks ago	213.6	14.1	116.4	107.5	228.9
13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago	27.7	**1.4	16.1	13.1	29.4
26 weeks to 52 weeks ago	43.5	**1.6	22.5	20.8	45.1
Had not looked for work	2 706.5	328.1	2 049.3	943.6	3 040.2
Time since last job					
Under 12 months	584.2	40.4	288.6	324.8	626.0
1 year and under 3 years	546.0	50.7	347.1	242.9	597.6
3 years and under 5 years	336.8	46.5	248.2	127.2	383.7
5 years and under 10 years	608.4	89.7	517.2	173.3	700.6
10 years and under 20 years	916.0	117.9	803.3	216.8	1 035.7
Total	2 991.4	345.2	2 204.3	1 085.1	3 343.6

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

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

(a) Includes people whose full-time or part-time status in their last job was 'Varied' or they 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who were 'Contributing family workers' and 'Unpaid voluntary workers'.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	772.6	571.9	414.7	179.7	201.8	63.7	12.3	31.8	2 248.5
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	148.2	120.7	68.9	33.5	39.3	13.9	3.5	6.8	434.9
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	111.1	89.2	55.5	24.5	29.8	10.2	2.7	4.6	327.6
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	100.4	79.3	52.2	20.3	24.6	9.4	2.6	3.9	292.8
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers(a)	22.4	15.3	8.3	*2.0	*2.3	*1.3	*0.6	**0.2	52.3
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	37.1	31.6	13.4	9.0	9.5	3.7	*0.8	2.2	107.3
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	**1.4	*3.1	*3.4	**1.2	**0.4	**0.4	**0.3	**0.3	10.3
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	633.8	454.5	351.0	152.0	165.8	53.9	8.9	24.7	1 844.6
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	661.5	482.7	359.2	155.2	172.0	53.6	9.5	27.2	1 920.9
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	486.7	351.8	282.2	120.0	126.1	41.2	8.2	21.1	1 437.5

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

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

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
FEMALES									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	1 186.9	872.3	631.5	258.7	334.6	83.6	19.7	44.6	3 431.7
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	278.9	214.6	156.6	51.9	79.6	21.7	7.4	11.2	821.9
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	200.0	141.3	100.7	38.4	55.8	16.4	5.3	7.5	565.5
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	191.7	129.1	94.5	35.5	51.9	15.7	5.1	7.1	530.6
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers(a)	26.1	16.6	9.6	**1.1	*3.9	*1.5	**0.2	**0.4	59.5
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	78.8	73.3	55.8	13.6	23.8	5.3	2.0	3.8	256.4
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	75.7	61.2	52.2	11.9	26.4	6.1	2.9	3.1	239.5
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	943.3	724.2	549.7	217.1	288.3	72.2	16.1	39.0	2 850.0
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	986.8	730.9	530.7	220.3	278.8	67.2	14.3	37.1	2 866.3
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	592.2	488.7	390.3	138.9	207.0	45.4	13.8	29.8	1 906.1

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

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

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS									
Population 1									
Persons not in the labour force	1 959.5	1 444.2	1 046.2	438.4	536.4	147.3	31.9	76.4	5 680.3
Population 2									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work	427.1	335.4	225.4	85.4	118.9	35.6	10.9	18.1	1 256.8
Population 3									
Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force	311.1	230.5	156.2	62.9	85.7	26.5	8.1	12.1	893.1
Population 4									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks	292.2	208.4	146.7	55.8	76.5	25.1	7.7	11.0	823.4
Population 5									
Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers(a)	48.6	31.9	17.9	*3.0	6.2	2.8	*0.8	**0.5	111.8
Population 6									
Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks	116.0	104.9	69.2	22.5	33.2	9.0	2.8	6.0	363.7
Population 7									
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	77.1	64.2	55.6	13.1	26.8	6.4	3.2	3.4	249.7
Population 8									
Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job	1 577.1	1 178.7	900.7	369.0	454.2	126.1	25.1	63.7	4 694.6
Population 9									
Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force	1 648.3	1 213.6	890.0	375.5	450.7	120.8	23.9	64.3	4 787.2
Population 10									
Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago	1 079.0	840.5	672.5	258.9	333.0	86.6	22.0	51.0	3 343.6

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

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

(a) From 2009, includes 'Believes ill health or disability discourages employers' and 'No jobs in suitable hours'. See paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Explanatory Notes for more information.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in September 2009 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) 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 relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS 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. 6102.0.55.001).

SCOPE

4 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the Census and estimated populations;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- 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 people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

6 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in Indigenous communities in very remote parts of Australia.

COVERAGE

7 The estimates in this publication relate to people covered by the survey in September 2009. 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. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

8 Supplementary surveys are not 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.

9 The LFS sample size in September 2009 was approximately 9% higher than the sample size in September 2008. This is due to re-instated sample that was reduced from Labour Force Survey (LFS) and supplementary surveys from July 2008. Detailed information about the sample reduction is provided in *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Third edition)* (cat. no. 6269.0).

10 The re-instated sample will still be representative, with selections made across all parts of Australia.

11 The initial sample for the September 2009 LFS consisted of 29,283 private dwelling households and special dwelling units. Of the 23,512 private dwelling households and special dwelling units that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 22,362 or 95.1% were fully responding to the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. The number of completed

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SAMPLE SIZE *continued*

interviews obtained from these private dwelling households and special dwelling units (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 12,537.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

- 12** 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 more information, see the Technical Note.
 - 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.

SEASONAL FACTORS

- 13** The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month, and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

- 14** Occupation data are classified according to the ANZSCO—*Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006* (cat. no. 1220.0).
- 15** Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition* (cat. no. 1269.0).

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

- 16** 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 2009 to take account of the results of the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 2009 are therefore based on these 2006 population benchmarks.
- 17** Persons Not in the Labour Force Surveys conducted up to and including September 1987 included all people aged 15 years and over. From September 1988 to September 2004, the survey excluded all people aged 70 years and over.
- 18** The scope of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was expanded in September 2005 to include all people aged 15 years and over. This change resulted in about 1.6 million extra people coming within the scope of this survey. Users need to exercise caution when comparing the estimates prior to 2005 with subsequent years. Direct comparisons should only be made where the populations are the same.
- 19** From September 2006, estimates of the number of people not in the labour force because they were caring for children, include people whose youngest child was aged 12 years and under. Previously questions relating to the care of children were only asked of people with children aged 11 years and under. This change was made to ensure consistency with other ABS surveys. Users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 9 of this publication with publications prior to September 2006.
- 20** Following a review of the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey, a number of changes were implemented in the 2007 cycle. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous years data. The changes are documented below.
- 21** Between September 2001 and September 2006, people who reported in the LFS that they were 'permanently not intending to work' were not asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. As such, these people were classified as 'Did not want to work'. It is likely, however, that if they had been asked these questions, then some of these people may have been classified differently and may have been included in one of the 'wanted to work' categories. From September 2007, people who specified that they were 'permanently not intending to work' were asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work. As

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

a result of this change, there has been a break in time series. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 and 2008 with previous years data.

22 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'All reasons for not actively looking for work', 'Main reason for not actively looking for work' and 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks' included the category 'own ill health, physical disability or pregnancy'. From September 2007, this category has been split into three separate categories; 'own short-term illness or injury', 'own long-term health condition or disability' and 'pregnancy'.

23 Prior to September 2007, the data items, 'Reason for ceasing last job' and 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the categories 'own ill-health or injury' and 'own disability or handicap'. From September 2007, these categories were renamed to ensure they were consistent with those in other data items and have been collected as 'own short-term illness or injury' and 'own long-term health condition or disability' respectively. While the way interviewers were instructed to code the responses to the relevant categories did not conceptually change, the renaming has caused a break in time series. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous years data.

24 From September 2007, a new data item, 'All reasons not available to start work within four weeks', has been collected in addition to 'Main reason not available to start work within four weeks'.

25 Prior to September 2008, the data item 'Main activity when not in the labour force' included the category 'Home duties or caring for children'. From September 2008, this category has been split into two separate categories, 'Home duties' and 'Caring for children'. Care should be taken in interpreting the data in these categories because some people with young children indicated that 'Home duties' was their main activity when not in the labour force, rather than 'Caring for children'.

26 From September 2009, a new response category, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' has been included in the data items 'Main reason not actively looking for work' and 'All reasons not actively looking for work'. This category is not presented in this publication, however, is available on request.

27 From September 2009, 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' together with 'No jobs in suitable hours' are now included with other responses to derive the population group 'Discouraged job seekers'. Prior to September 2009, 'No jobs in suitable hours' was included in the category, 'Other'. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing estimates from 2009 with previous years' data. The following table compares categories affected by the change between 2008 and 2009.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES *continued*

PERSONS WITH MARGINAL ATTACHMENT NOT ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK

	2009		2008	
	'000	%	'000	%
Discouraged jobseekers	111.8	14.9	73.9	9.9
Believes ill health or disability discourages employers (from 2009)	*5.8	*0.8	—	—
No jobs in suitable hours (from 2009)	10.5	1.4	—	—
Other reasons	711.6	94.9	676.1	90.1
Personal reasons	348.3	46.4	323.5	43.1
Family reasons	231.7	30.9	226.7	30.2
No jobs in suitable hours (prior to 2008)	—	—	*7.6	*1.0
Other reasons	64.8	8.6	61.8	8.2
Had a job to go to	52.5	7.0	47.0	6.3
Did not know	14.2	1.9	9.6	1.3
Total	823.4	100.0	750.0	100.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes
 — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

28 From September 2009, the method used to determine whether a respondent prefers full-time or part-time work has changed. In 2009, respondents were asked the number of hours they would prefer to work, whereas in previous years, they were asked whether they would prefer to work full-time or part-time. A new data item 'Preferred number of hours' is also now available. Both data items apply only to people who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months. As a result of this change, there is a break in time series and users need to exercise care when comparing the estimates in Table 5 of this publication with publications prior to September 2009.

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

29 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

30 The Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey was first conducted in May 1975 and again in May 1977. From 1979 to 1987 the survey was collected twice a year (March and September). Since then it has been conducted annually in September. Results of previous surveys were published in:

- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6220.0); and
- standard data service *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6220.0.40.001) for 1994 and 1995 (available in hardcopy only).

NEXT SURVEY

31 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in September 2010.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

32 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely 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*.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES Spreadsheets

33 Additional tables with time series data will be released in spreadsheet format. These tables will be made available from the ABS website.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

34 ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0);
- *Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia* (cat. no. 6239.0);
- *Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0);
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001); and
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (cat. no. 6265.0).

35 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the Statistics Page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
cat. no.	Catalogue number
ILO	International Labour Organization
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Persons Not in the Labour Force 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 person in the survey to whom the data item relates.

For more information about ABS data available on request, contact Labour Market Statistics on Canberra (02)6252 7206, or by facsimile on (02)6252 7102, or by email to <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

<i>Population 1:</i>	Persons not in the labour force
<i>Population 2:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work
<i>Population 3:</i>	Persons not in the labour force with marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 4:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 5:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who were discouraged job seekers
<i>Population 6:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks
<i>Population 7:</i>	Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children, who wanted to work but not actively looking for work
<i>Population 8:</i>	Persons not in the labour force who previously had a job
<i>Population 9:</i>	Persons not in the labour force without marginal attachment to the labour force
<i>Population 10:</i>	Persons not in the labour force whose last job was less than 20 years ago

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
1 State or territory of usual residence	All	5 Marital status	All
New South Wales		Married	
Victoria		Not married	
Queensland		6 Relationship in household	All
South Australia		Family member	
Western Australia		Husband, wife or partner	
Tasmania		With dependants	
Northern Territory		Without dependants	
Australian Capital Territory		Lone parent	
2 Area of usual residence	All	With dependants	
State capital city		Without dependants	
Balance of state/territory		Dependent student	
3 Region of usual residence	All	Non-dependent child	
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Other related individual	
4 Sex	All	Non-family member	
Males		Lone person	
Females		Not living alone	
		Relationship not determined	

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
7A Country of birth and period of arrival Born in Australia Born overseas Arrived before 1971 Arrived 1971–1980 Arrived 1981–1990 Arrived 1991–2000 Arrived 2001 to survey date	All	10A Persons not in the labour force summary variable <i>cont.</i> With marginal attachment to the labour force <i>cont.</i> Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks Discouraged job seekers Other Without marginal attachment to the labour force Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were not available to start work within four weeks Did not want to work Permanently unable to work	1, 8, 10
7B Country of birth (1) Born in Australia Born overseas Born in main English-speaking countries Born in other than main English-speaking countries	All	10B Marginal attachment summary variable	3
7C Country of birth (2) Born in Australia Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern Europe North Africa and the Middle East South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central Asia Americas Sub-Saharan Africa	All	Wanted to work and were actively looking for work Were available to start work within four weeks Were not available to start work within four weeks Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks Discouraged job seekers Other	
8 Age group (years) 15–19 20–24 25–34 35–44 45–54 55–59 60–64 65–69 70 and over Note: Age collected in single years	All	11 Whether wanted to work Wanted to work Might want to work Did not want to work Did not know	1, 8, 10
9 Full-time study status (15–24 year olds) Were full-time students Were not full-time students Did not know	All	12 Whether looked for work in the last 12 months Had looked for work Less than 5 weeks ago 5 weeks and less than 8 weeks ago 8 weeks and less than 13 weeks ago 13–52 weeks ago 13 weeks and less than 26 weeks ago 26 weeks and less than 39 weeks ago 39–52 weeks ago Had not looked for work	All
10A Persons not in the labour force summary variable With marginal attachment to the labour force Wanted to work and were actively looking for work Were available to start work within four weeks Were not available to start work within four weeks	1, 8, 10		

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
13 Main activity when not in the labour force Retired or voluntarily inactive Home duties Caring for children Attending an educational institution Own long-term health condition or disability Own short-term illness or injury Looking after ill or disabled person Travel, holiday or leisure activity Working in unpaid voluntary job Other	All	15 Reason for ceasing last job <i>cont.</i> Had a job <i>cont.</i> Left a job <i>cont.</i> Returned to studies Pregnancy or to have children To get married To look after family, house or someone else To have holidays, moved house or spouse transferred Own business closed down for other than economic reasons Other Never had a job	All
14A Time since last job Had a job Under 12 months 1 week and under 4 weeks 4 weeks and under 8 weeks 8 weeks and under 13 weeks 13 weeks and under 26 weeks 26 weeks and under 39 weeks 39 weeks and under 52 weeks 1 year and under 3 years 3 years and under 10 years 3 years and under 5 years 5 years and under 10 years 10 years or more 10 years and under 20 years 20 years or more Never had a job	All	16 Occupation in last job Last job less than 20 years ago Managers Professionals Technicians and trades workers Community and personal service workers Clerical and administrative workers Sales workers Machinery operators and drivers Labourers Last job 20 or more years ago Never had a job	All
14B Whether had a job in the last 20 years Had a job Last job less than 20 years ago Last job 20 or more years ago Never had a job	All	17A Status in employment in last job (1) Last job less than 20 years ago Employer Own account worker Employee Contributing family worker Unpaid voluntary worker Last job 20 or more years ago Never had a job	All
15 Reason for ceasing last job Had a job Lost a job Retrenched made redundant employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available Job was temporary or seasonal Own short-term illness or injury Own business closed down for economic reasons Left a job Unsatisfactory work arrangements Retired, did not work any longer Own long-term health condition or disability	All	17B Status in employment in last job (2) Last job less than 20 years ago Employee Own account worker/Employer Other Last job 20 or more years ago Never had a job	All
		18 Full-time or part-time status in last job Last job less than 20 years ago Full-time Part-time Varied/Did not know Last job 20 or more years ago Never had a job	All

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
<p>19A Intention to enter the labour force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intended to enter Might enter Did not intend to enter Did not know Permanently unable to work Not applicable (full-time student) 	All	<p>21 Main reason for not actively looking for work <i>cont.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks <i>cont.</i> Other reasons <i>cont.</i> Personal reasons <i>cont.</i> Own long-term health condition or disability Pregnancy Attending an educational institution Had no need to work Welfare payments or pension may be affected Moved house or holidays Family reasons Ill health of other than self Caring for children No child care in locality No child care available at all Cost or too expensive Booked out or no places available Children too young or too old Prefers to look after children Quality of child care unsuitable Other reasons Other family considerations Other reasons Had a job to go to Did not know 	4
<p>19B Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intended to enter Might enter Did not intend to enter Did not know Permanently unable to work 	All		
<p>20 Full-time or part-time preference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full-time Part-time Did not know Not intending to work 	All		
<p>21 Main reason for not actively looking for work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wanted to work and were actively looking for work Were available to start work within four weeks Were not available to start work within four weeks Wanted to work but were not actively looking for work and were available to start work within four weeks Discouraged job seekers Considered too young by employers Considered too old by employers Believes ill health or disability discourages employers Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience Difficulties because of language or ethnic background No jobs in locality or line of work No jobs in suitable hours No jobs at all Other reasons Personal reasons Own short-term illness or injury 	4	<p>22 All reasons for not actively looking for work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discouraged job seekers Considered too young by employers Considered too old by employers Believes disability discourages employers Lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience Difficulties because of language or ethnic background No jobs in locality or line of work No job in suitable hours No jobs at all 	4

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Populations</i>
22 All reasons for not actively looking for work <i>cont.</i>	4	24 Main reason not available to start work within four weeks <i>cont.</i>	6
Other reasons		On a job-related training program	
Personal reasons		Other reasons	
Own short-term illness or injury		25 All reasons not available to start work within four weeks	6
Own long-term health condition or disability		Personal reasons	
Pregnancy		Own short-term illness or injury	
Attending an educational institution		Own long-term health condition or disability	
Had no need to work		Pregnancy	
Welfare payments or pension may be affected		Studying or returning to studies	
Moved house or holidays		Moved house or holidays	
Family reasons		Family reasons	
Ill health of other than self		Ill health of other than self	
Caring for children		Caring for children	
Other family considerations		On a job-related training program	
Other reasons		Other reasons	
Had a job to go to		26 Age of youngest child	7
Did not know		0–2 years	
23 Main reason not working due to caring for children	7	3–4 years	
No child care in locality		5 years	
No child care available at all		6–9 years	
Cost or too expensive		10–12 years	
Booked out or no places available		27 Number of children	7
Children too young or too old		Aged 0–2 years	
Prefers to look after children		Aged 3–4 years	
Quality of child care unsuitable		Aged 5 years	
Other child care reasons		Aged 6–9 years	
Aged 10–12 years		Aged 10–12 years	
24 Main reason not available to start work within four weeks	6	28 Preferred number of hours	All
Personal reasons		1–15 hours	
Own short-term illness or injury		16–29 hours	
Own long-term health condition or disability		30–34 hours	
Pregnancy		35–39 hours	
Studying or returning to studies		40 hours	
Moved house or holidays		41–44 hours	
Family reasons		45–48 hours	
Ill health of other than self		49 hours or more	
Unable to find suitable child care		Did not know	
Children too young or preferred to look after children		Not intending to work	

APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS LIST

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program and Multi-Purpose Household Survey program collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of labour surveys collected in these programs. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	<i>cat. no.</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Latest issue</i>
Monthly Population Supplementary Surveys			
Child Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2005
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2009
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2008
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	November 2008
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2009
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2009
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Irregular	November 2007
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2008
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(a)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2009
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2009
Working Time Arrangements, Australia(b)	6342.0	Irregular	November 2006
Multi-Purpose Household Surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2008–2009
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2008–2009
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2005–2006

(a) Latest data available on request July 2001.

(b) This product replaces the publication Working Time Arrangements, Australia, (cat. no. 6342.0).

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.

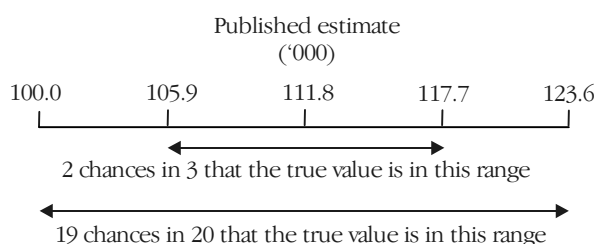
3 The LFS sample size in September 2009 was approximately 9% higher than the sample size in 2008. This is due to re-instated sample that was cut from Labour Force Survey (LFS) and supplementary surveys from July 2008. In combination, the sample re-instatement is expected to decrease the standard errors for estimates from the supplementary surveys by approximately 4% at the broad aggregate level, relative to estimates from 2008 (standard errors will vary at lower aggregate levels). Detailed information about the sample reduction/re-instatement is provided in *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Third edition)* (cat. no. 6269.0).

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

4 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 people in Australia who were discouraged job seekers was 111,800. Since the estimate is between 100,000 and 150,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 5,600 and 6,700 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 5,600 + \left(\left(\frac{111,800 - 100,000}{150,000 - 100,000} \right) \times (6,700 - 5,600) \right) \\
 &= 5,900 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

5 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 105,900 to 117,700 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 100,000 to 123,600. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR *continued*

6 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 that their value for most practical 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.*3.2) 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.**0.4), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES

7 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.

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

8 Considering the example above, of the 111,800 people who were discouraged job seekers, 59,500 or 53.2% were females. The SE of 59,500 may be calculated by interpolation as 4,500. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 4,500/59,500=7.6%. The SE for 111,800 was calculated previously as 5,900 which converted to an RSE is 5,900/111,800=5.3%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(7.6)^2 - (5.3)^2} = 5.4\%$$

9 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of discouraged job seekers who were females is 2.9 percentage points (= (53.2/100)x5.4). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who were discouraged job seekers was between 50.3% and 56.1% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 47.4% to 59.0%.

DIFFERENCES

10 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:

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

11 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.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES -

Size of estimates (persons)	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	AUST.	
									SE	RSE
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
100	180	190	160	170	170	120	110	100	130	130.0
200	290	300	260	250	270	180	150	170	220	110.0
300	380	380	340	300	340	220	180	230	300	100.0
500	520	510	470	390	450	280	230	300	430	86.0
700	640	620	580	460	540	330	270	360	540	77.1
1,000	780	750	710	550	640	380	320	410	680	68.0
1,500	980	920	880	650	780	440	390	480	870	58.0
2,000	1 130	1 060	1 020	740	890	490	450	520	1 030	51.5
2,500	1 250	1 200	1 150	800	1 000	550	500	550	1 150	46.0
3,000	1 400	1 300	1 250	900	1 050	550	550	550	1 300	43.3
3,500	1 500	1 400	1 350	950	1 100	600	600	600	1 400	40.0
4,000	1 600	1 450	1 400	1 000	1 200	600	650	650	1 500	37.5
5,000	1 750	1 600	1 550	1 100	1 300	650	750	700	1 700	34.0
7,000	2 050	1 850	1 800	1 200	1 450	800	1 000	850	2 000	28.6
10,000	2 350	2 150	2 100	1 400	1 650	950	1 350	1 050	2 350	23.5
15,000	2 750	2 500	2 400	1 650	1 950	1 150	1 900	1 400	2 750	18.3
20,000	3 100	2 800	2 650	1 850	2 200	1 350	2 400	1 650	3 100	15.5
30,000	3 550	3 200	3 050	2 300	2 800	1 700	3 300	2 000	3 550	11.8
40,000	3 900	3 550	3 450	2 700	3 300	1 950	4 050	2 250	3 950	9.9
50,000	4 300	3 900	3 850	3 050	3 750	2 200	4 750	2 400	4 250	8.5
100,000	5 950	5 650	5 650	4 300	5 500	3 000	7 350	2 750	5 600	5.6
150,000	7 550	7 250	7 150	5 200	6 800	3 550	9 250	2 750	6 700	4.5
200,000	9 050	8 600	8 350	5 900	7 800	4 000	..	..	7 650	3.8
300,000	11 400	10 950	10 300	6 950	9 350	4 650	..	..	9 350	3.1
500,000	14 750	14 700	13 000	8 350	11 600	5 600	..	..	12 200	2.4
1,000,000	19 700	21 600	17 050	10 350	15 000	..	..	..	18 050	1.8
2,000,000	24 550	31 300	21 200	12 350	18 750	..	..	..	26 200	1.3
5,000,000	29 500	49 800	25 950	..	..	..	..	..	37 750	0.8
10,000,000	31 250	69 550	..	..	..	..	..	..	45 300	0.5
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48 600	0.3

.. not applicable

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

	NSW	Vic.	Qld.	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
RSE of 25%	9 100	7 800	7 400	3 900	5 300	1 900	1 600	2 100	8 800
RSE of 50%	2 600	2 200	2 100	1 200	1 600	600	400	700	2 200

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

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work	People who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ registering with a Job Network employment agency;■ contacting an employment agency;■ contacting prospective employers;■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job;■ checking Centrelink touch screens;■ checking factory noticeboards;■ advertising or tendering for work; and■ contacting friends or relatives.
Age of youngest child	Age of the youngest child, 12 years and under, in the household.
Available to start work within four weeks	People who were available to start work within four weeks or, for people with children aged 12 years and under, could start work within four weeks if suitable child care was available.
Did not want to work	People who were not classified as employed or unemployed who answered 'no' when asked if they would like a job.
Discouraged job seekers	People with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ considered to be too young by employers;■ considered to be too old by employers;■ believes ill health or disability discourages employers;■ lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience;■ difficulties because of language or ethnic background;■ no jobs in their locality or line of work;■ no jobs in suitable hours; and■ no jobs at all.
Employed	People who, during the reference week: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 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■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or■ 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■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or■ on strike or locked out; or■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Family	Two or more people, 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.
Family reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes ill health of someone other than themselves, caring for children and other family considerations.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Full-time preference	People who preferred to work 35 hours or more a week. Note that for the purposes of this publication, full-time preference is derived from data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours and applies to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Full-time or part-time status of last job	The perception of people of whether they worked full-time or part-time in their last job.
Future starters	People waiting to start, within four weeks of the end of the reference week, a new job that they have already obtained (and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then). Under International Labour Organisation (ILO) guidelines, these persons do not have to be actively looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
Had a job to go to	People who were waiting to start a job, but would not be starting within four weeks. Also includes people who had a job but, up to the end of the reference week, had been away from work without pay for four weeks or longer and had not been actively looking for work.
Intention to enter the labour force in the next 12 months	The intention of people to work or look for work in the 12 months following the interview.
Job	Any employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.
Labour force	The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed people) and persons not in the labour force.
Left a job	People who are classified as voluntarily ceasing their last job.
Lost a job	People who are classified as involuntarily ceasing their last job.
Main activity when not in the labour force	The main activity of people who are not in the labour force since they last worked or looked for work (or in the last year if they haven't worked in that time).
Marginal attachment to the labour force	<p>People who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criteria to be classified as unemployed; or■ were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks. <p>The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.</p>
Main English-speaking countries	The list of main English-speaking countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States of America.
Occupation of last job	An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication, occupation refers to Major Group as defined by <i>ANZSCO—Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006</i> (cat. no. 1220.0) and relates to persons who have had a job less than 20 years ago only.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Part-time preference	People who preferred to work one to 34 hours a week. Note that for the purposes of this publication, part-time preference is derived from data collected on respondents' preferred number of hours and applies to those who intended to or might enter the labour force in the next 12 months.
Personal reasons for not actively looking for work	Includes 'own short-term illness or injury' or 'long-term health condition or disability', 'pregnancy', 'attending an educational institution', 'had no need to work', 'welfare payments or pension may be affected', and 'moved house or on holidays'.
Persons in the labour force	People who were classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.
Persons not in the labour force	People who were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined.
Persons not in the labour force because they were caring for children	People who wanted to work and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ were not actively looking for work because they were caring for children, but were available to start work within four weeks; or■ were not actively looking for work and reported that they were not available to start work within four weeks because they were caring for children.
Preferred number of hours	The number of hours people, who intend to enter the labour force in the next 12 months, would like to work each week.
Reference week	The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.
Status in employment of last job	People who had a job in the last 20 years classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, contributing family workers or unpaid voluntary workers in their last job.
Time since last job	The elapsed time since ceasing the last job.
Unemployed	People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 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■ 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.
Wanted to work	People not in the labour force who were not actively looking for work who answered 'yes' or 'maybe' when asked if they would like a job, as well as those people not in the labour force who were actively looking. It is assumed these people want a job as they are actively looking.

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