

THE LABOUR FORCE, FEBRUARY 1972

Reference No. 6.20

Estimates of the civilian labour force are based on the results of the quarterly population survey, which is carried out on a one per cent sample throughout Australia in February, May, August and November each year. About 40,000 private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) are visited during each survey, as well as a sample of other dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.). The survey information is obtained by means of personal interviews carried out by specially trained enumerators. The sample used in the surveys covers the six States, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over, except members of the permanent armed forces, national servicemen enlisted in the Regular Army Supplement and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

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EXPLANATORY NOTESClassification of the labour force

1. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as "survey week", which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These survey weeks generally fall within the limits of the calendar month. The principal categories appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.

2. The labour force comprises all persons who, during survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4.

3. Employed persons comprise all those who, during survey week,

- (a) did any work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons), or
- (b) worked fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
- (c) had a job, business or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc., or because they were on strike.

A person who had a job but was temporarily laid off by his employer for the whole week without pay is excluded, and is classified in the tables as unemployed. A person who did some work during the week, however, before he either lost his job or was laid off, is classified as employed. A person who held more than one job is counted only once, in the job at which he worked most hours during survey week.

4. Unemployed persons comprise all those who, during survey week, did no work at all, and who either

- (a) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for work (including those who stated that they would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or believed no work was available, or had not already made definite arrangements to start work in a new job after survey week), or
- (b) were laid off from their jobs without pay for the whole week.

A person who either lost his job or was laid off during survey week, but did some work at his job during survey week, is classified as employed.

5. Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week.

Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

6. Persons not in the labour force are all those who, during survey week, were not in the categories "employed" or "unemployed" as defined. This category therefore includes persons without a job, business or farm who were not actively looking for work, and who, during survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily idle, permanently unable to work or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than fifteen hours without pay in a family business during survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

7. At the 1971 population census, trainee teachers were for the first time classified as not in the labour force. They were likewise excluded for the first time from the labour force estimates derived from the August 1971 population survey. Exclusion of these students constitutes a break in the series between May and August 1971, the numbers of males and females excluded from the labour force in August being approximately seven thousand and seventeen thousand respectively.

Estimates for earlier periods

8. The principal items in this bulletin are shown for the six latest quarters. Greater detail is given for the latest quarter only. A wider range of detailed estimates for each quarter from February 1964 to November 1970 has been published in bulletins entitled "The Labour Force", covering the period 1964 to 1968 and single years thereafter. (All Reference No. 6.22). Particulars for the year 1971 will be published in due course.

9. The survey periods for February 1971 and February 1972 were later than in the immediately preceding years, and as a consequence the estimate of the proportion of the population 15 years and over who "went to school" is correspondingly higher. No exact estimate of this effect is available; however, it may be conjectured that had the survey period been one week earlier, approximately twenty thousand fewer persons would have been classified in the "went to school" category.

10. In the August 1971 issue of this bulletin revised estimates of the numbers of persons employed in agriculture and other industries were published for the period from February 1968 to May 1971.

Seasonally adjusted series

11. Seasonally adjusted estimates for selected labour force characteristics are shown in Table 2. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these statistics are explained in "Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1971" (Reference No. 1.10), issued on 2 July 1971.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

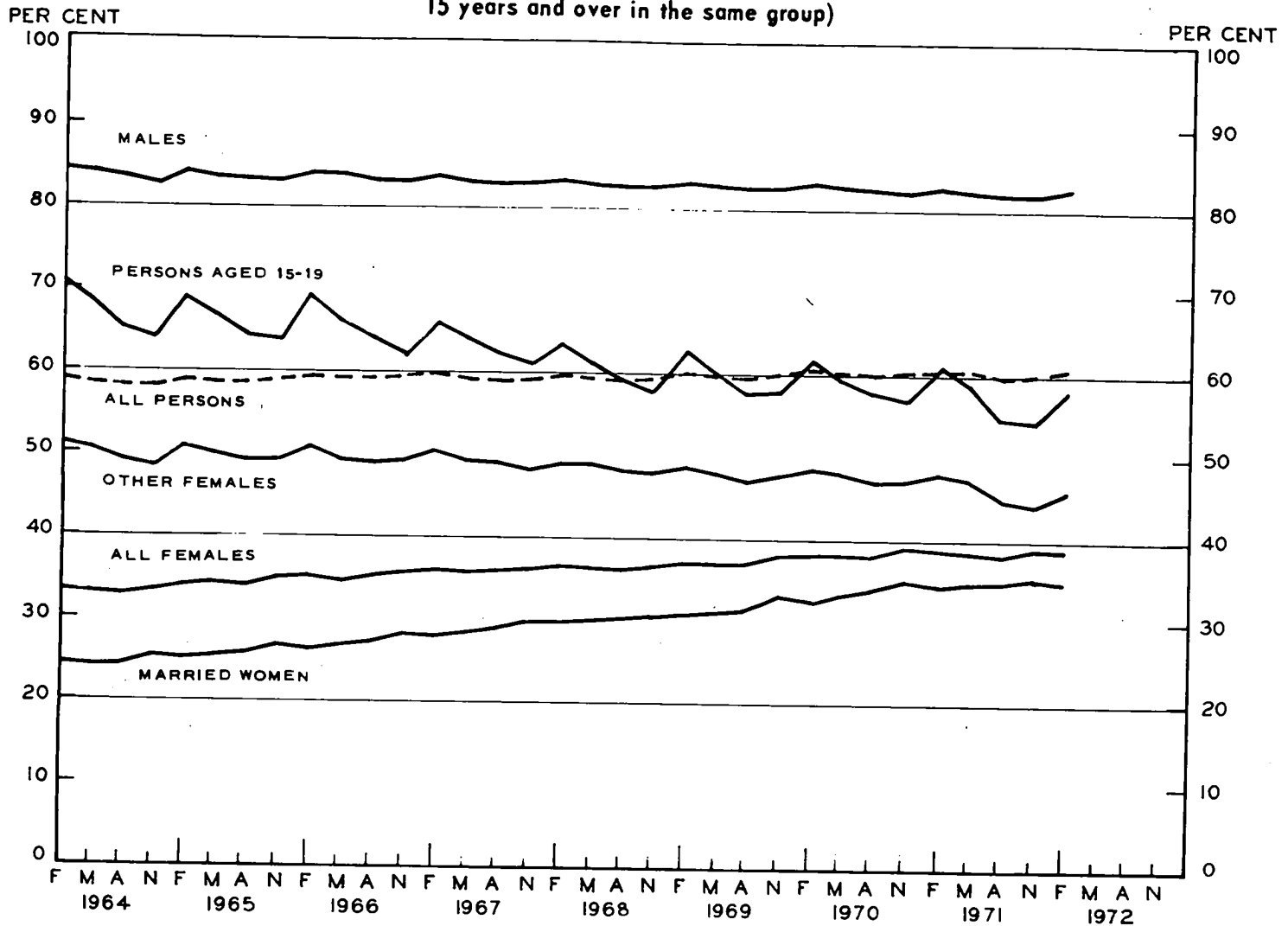
CIVILIAN POPULATION, BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS : SUMMARY, FEBRUARY 1972 (a)

	Males	Females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)			
Civilian population aged 15 and over	4,565.6	4,634.6	9,200.2
Not in the labour force	784.3	2,833.3	3,617.6
In the labour force	3,781.3	1,801.3	5,582.6
Employed	3,706.4	1,740.3	5,446.8
In full-time jobs	3,606.3	1,304.1	4,910.4
In part-time jobs	100.2	436.2	536.4
Unemployed	74.8	61.0	135.8
Looking for full-time work	69.6	45.4	115.1
Looking for part-time work	5.2	15.6	20.8
RATES (Percent)			
Labour force participation rate (b)	82.8	38.9	60.7
Unemployment rate (c) -			
original	2.0	3.4	2.4
seasonally adjusted	1.8	2.8	2.1

(a) For a note on persons excluded see page 1. Definitions of the categories of the population shown in the table are given on page 2. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group. (c) The unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labour force.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group)

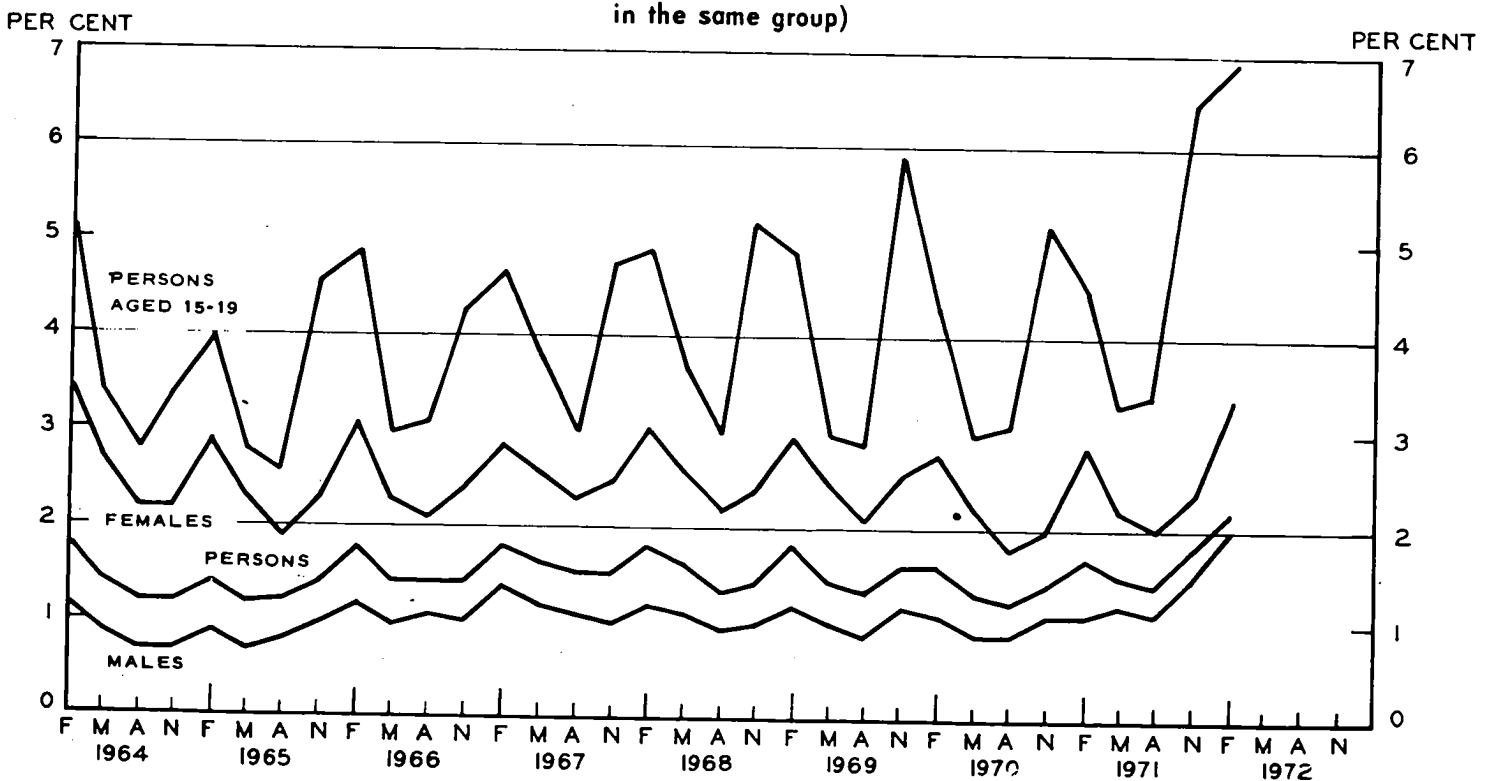


TABLE 1. - CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Month	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri-culture ('000)	Other industries ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force	Number ('000)	Per cent of population (c)		
MALES									
1970 Nov.	349.5	3,289.3	3,638.9	39.3	1.1	3,678.2	82.7	768.2	4,446.4
1971 Feb.(d)	352.7	3,327.1	3,679.8	41.7	1.1	3,721.5	83.1	755.0	4,476.5
May	343.2	<u>3,340.7</u>	<u>3,683.9</u>	44.0	1.2	<u>3,727.9</u>	<u>82.9</u>	<u>767.3</u>	4,495.2
Aug.	333.8	3,336.3	3,670.1	39.3	1.1	3,709.4	82.3	799.6	4,509.0
Nov.	344.1	3,333.4	3,677.5	57.0	1.5	3,734.6	82.3	804.4	4,539.0
1972 Feb.(d)	355.8	3,350.6	3,706.4	74.8	2.0	3,781.3	82.8	784.3	4,565.6
MARRIED WOMEN									
1970 Nov.	59.7	981.7	1,041.5	17.9	1.7	1,059.4	35.4	1,929.3	2,988.7
1971 Feb.(d)	60.1	955.1	1,015.2	30.2	2.9	1,045.4	34.7	1,966.7	3,012.1
May	50.3	<u>990.2</u>	<u>1,040.4</u>	24.1	2.3	<u>1,064.5</u>	<u>35.2</u>	<u>1,962.3</u>	3,026.8
Aug.	54.5	991.2	1,045.7	21.4	2.0	1,067.1	35.3	1,954.3	3,021.4
Nov.	54.6	1,023.7	1,078.2	19.5	1.8	1,097.7	35.9	1,955.9	3,053.6
1972 Feb.(d)	58.7	988.5	1,047.2	33.1	3.1	1,080.3	35.2	1,989.8	3,070.1
OTHER FEMALES (e)									
1970 Nov.	11.9	696.3	708.2	18.7	2.6	726.8	47.7	796.2	1,523.0
1971 Feb.(d)	12.3	712.7	725.0	21.1	2.8	746.1	48.8	781.9	1,528.1
May	11.6	<u>706.5</u>	<u>718.0</u>	14.6	2.0	<u>732.6</u>	<u>47.9</u>	<u>797.8</u>	1,530.4
Aug.	11.8	677.9	689.7	14.3	2.0	704.0	45.4	847.3	1,551.3
Nov.	12.0	662.3	674.4	23.2	3.3	697.5	44.9	854.3	1,551.9
1972 Feb.(d)	12.6	680.5	693.1	28.0	3.9	721.1	46.1	843.5	1,564.5
ALL FEMALES									
1970 Nov.	71.6	1,678.0	1,749.6	36.6	2.0	1,786.2	39.6	2,725.5	4,511.7
1971 Feb.(d)	72.3	1,667.9	1,740.2	51.3	2.9	1,791.5	39.5	2,748.7	4,540.2
May	61.8	<u>1,696.6</u>	<u>1,758.4</u>	38.7	2.2	<u>1,797.1</u>	<u>39.4</u>	<u>2,760.1</u>	4,557.2
Aug.	66.3	1,669.1	1,735.3	35.8	2.0	1,771.1	38.7	2,801.6	4,572.7
Nov.	66.6	1,686.0	1,752.6	42.7	2.4	1,795.2	39.0	2,810.3	4,605.5
1972 Feb.(d)	71.3	1,669.0	1,740.3	61.0	3.4	1,801.3	38.9	2,833.3	4,634.6
PERSONS									
1970 Nov.	421.2	4,967.3	5,388.5	75.9	1.4	5,464.4	61.0	3,493.7	8,958.1
1971 Feb.(d)	425.0	4,995.0	5,420.0	93.0	1.7	5,513.0	61.1	3,503.7	9,016.7
May	405.0	<u>5,037.3</u>	<u>5,442.3</u>	82.7	1.5	<u>5,525.0</u>	<u>61.0</u>	<u>3,527.4</u>	9,052.4
Aug.	400.1	5,005.3	5,405.4	75.1	1.4	5,480.5	60.3	3,601.2	9,081.7
Nov.	410.6	5,019.5	5,430.1	99.7	1.8	5,529.8	60.5	3,614.7	9,144.5
1972 Feb.(d)	427.2	5,019.6	5,446.8	135.8	2.4	5,582.6	60.7	3,617.6	9,200.2

(a) For a note on persons excluded see introductory note, page 1. (b) For definitions see page 2, paragraphs 2 to 4. (c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate). (d) See page 3, paragraph 9. (e) Never married, widowed and divorced.

NOTE. See page 2, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series.

TABLE 2. - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (a)

Month	Persons in the labour force (b) ('000)							
	Males		Married women		All females		Total	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1970 Nov.	3,678.2	3,688.7	1,059.4	1,041.9	1,786.2	1,777.4	5,464.4	5,465.8
1971 Feb. (c)	3,721.5	3,695.8	1,045.4	1,049.6	1,791.5	1,779.6	5,513.0	5,476.2
May	<u>3,727.9</u>	<u>3,727.2</u>	<u>1,064.5</u>	<u>1,070.2</u>	<u>1,797.1</u>	<u>1,800.8</u>	<u>5,525.0</u>	<u>5,527.9</u>
Aug.	3,709.4	3,725.5	1,067.1	1,075.4	1,771.1	1,788.3	5,480.5	5,513.4
Nov.	3,734.6	3,745.2	1,097.7	1,079.2	1,795.2	1,786.1	5,529.8	5,531.0
1972 Feb.(c)	3,781.3	3,755.1	1,080.3	1,084.7	1,801.3	1,789.4	5,582.6	5,545.2

Month	Participation rate (per cent) (d)				Unemployed persons ('000)					
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Total	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1970 Nov.	82.7	83.0	39.6	39.4	39.3	39.4	36.6	38.7	75.9	79.1
1971 Feb. (c)	83.1	82.7	39.5	39.3	41.7	36.6	51.3	42.0	93.0	78.1
May	<u>82.9</u>	<u>82.9</u>	<u>39.4</u>	<u>39.5</u>	44.0	45.0	38.7	39.2	82.7	84.7
Aug.	82.3	82.5	38.7	39.0	39.3	44.4	35.8	42.3	75.1	86.0
Nov.	82.3	82.5	39.0	38.8	57.0	57.0	42.7	45.2	99.7	103.7
1972 Feb.(c)	82.8	82.4	38.9	38.7	74.8	65.8	61.0	49.9	135.8	114.1

(a) See page 3, paragraph 11. (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 2, paragraphs 2 to 4. (c) See page 3, paragraph 9. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

NOTE. See page 2, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series.

TABLE 3. - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1972

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Per cent of population (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	344.5	18.0	313.7	658.1	60.1	40.4	56.3	58.2
20-24	506.2	157.7	328.9	835.0	92.4	45.9	60.6	76.6
25-34	892.6	273.7	348.5	1,241.1	97.6	35.3	40.2	69.6
35-44	760.7	302.4	346.7	1,107.4	97.9	45.1	47.4	73.4
45-54	706.5	241.6	306.0	1,012.5	95.9	39.4	42.3	69.4
55-59	277.8	58.4	91.1	369.0	90.4	24.4	28.7	59.1
60-64	196.5	21.8	42.5	239.1	77.0	12.8	16.1	46.0
65 and over	96.4	6.8	24.0	120.4	21.3	3.2	3.8	11.1
Total	3,781.3	1,080.3	1,801.3	5,582.6	82.8	35.2	38.9	60.7

(a) Aged 15 years and over. For definitions see page 2, paragraphs 2 to 4. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

TABLE 4. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY HOURS WORKED (b), FEBRUARY 1972

	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)					
Hours worked -					
0(d)	204.3	61.5	33.4	94.9	299.2
1-15	56.1	142.7	37.8	180.5	236.5
16-29	115.7	165.2	36.2	201.4	317.0
30-34	89.6	69.9	24.0	93.9	183.5
35-39	321.4	136.4	150.4	286.8	608.2
40	1,675.8	360.8	326.6	687.4	2,363.2
41-44	180.7	24.6	29.0	53.6	234.3
45-48	298.9	25.1	22.0	47.1	346.0
49 and over	764.0	61.2	33.7	94.8	858.8
Total	3,706.4	1,047.2	693.1	1,740.3	5,446.8
Full-time workers (e)	3,606.3	687.5	616.7	1,304.1	4,910.4
Part-time workers (e)	100.2	359.7	76.4	436.2	536.4

AVERAGE HOURS WORKED (f)

All industries -	41.3	31.1	35.6	32.9	38.6
All employed persons					
Full-time workers (e)	42.0	n.a.	n.a.	38.2	41.0
Part-time workers (e)	18.1	n.a.	n.a.	17.0	17.2
Manufacturing	38.7	32.6	35.9	33.6	37.4

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) Actual hours worked during survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Excludes persons laid off without pay for the whole of survey week; these persons are classified as unemployed. (e) For definitions see page 2, paragraph 5.

(f) Persons with jobs who did not work during survey week have been included in the calculation of average hours worked. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in slight lowering of the average hours figures. n.a. - Not available.

TABLE 5. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 1972

('000)

Industry group	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
Agriculture	355.8	58.7	12.6	71.3	427.2
Manufacturing	1,050.7	258.3	109.6	367.9	1,418.6
Building and construction	450.6	20.5	5.2	25.7	476.3
Transport and storage	255.2	20.4	13.0	33.4	288.6
Finance and property	141.0	36.5	66.0	102.5	243.5
Commerce	556.0	233.9	160.7	394.6	950.5
Community and business services (c)	292.8	239.7	201.8	441.4	734.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	150.9	130.3	70.8	201.1	351.9
Other industries	453.4	49.0	53.4	102.4	555.8
Total	3,706.4	1,047.2	693.1	1,740.3	5,446.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Comprises law, order and public safety; religion and social welfare; health, hospitals, etc.; education; and other community and business services (including professional).

TABLE 6. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY OCCUPATION, FEBRUARY 1972

('000)

Occupation group	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
Professional, technical and related workers	362.1	126.0	129.4	255.3	617.5
Administrative, executive and managerial workers	316.3	25.7	8.8	34.5	350.9
Clerical workers	313.8	289.0	275.8	564.7	878.5
Sales workers	225.3	138.5	86.1	224.6	449.9
Farmers, fishermen, timber getters, etc.	412.8	55.0	11.2	66.3	479.1
Transport and communication workers	281.9	31.7	16.8	48.5	330.4
Craftsmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (c)	1,630.1	189.0	67.9	257.0	1,887.0
Service, sport and recreation workers	164.1	192.2	97.3	289.5	453.6
Total	3,706.4	1,047.2	693.1	1,740.3	5,446.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

TABLE 7. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS (b), BY REASON, FEBRUARY 1972

('000)

Reason for working less than 35 hours	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
USUALLY WORK 35 HOURS OR MORE					
Leave or holiday	175.6	34.4	30.4	64.8	240.4
Own illness or injury	77.4	15.0	14.1	29.0	106.4
Bad weather, breakdown, etc.	20.0	4.9	*	5.1	25.1
Began or lost job in survey week	13.5	*	*	7.5	21.0
On short time	5.9	*	*	*	7.6
Other reasons (d)	73.0	20.2	6.0	26.2	99.2
Total	365.5	79.5	54.9	134.4	499.9
USUALLY WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS					
Prefer part-time work	87.4	339.2	68.1	407.3	494.8
Lack of work	9.2	12.4	6.2	18.6	27.8
Other reasons	*	8.1	*	10.3	13.8
Total	100.2	359.7	76.4	436.2	536.4

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) See note (b) to Table 4. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Includes persons directly involved in the Victorian power dispute and those laid off as a result. * Less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 8. - EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY AND HOURS WORKED (b), FEBRUARY 1972

('000)

Industry group	Part-time workers (c)				Full-time workers (c)	Total
	Hours worked (b)			Total		
	Under 16	16-29	30-34			
Agriculture	12.8	13.2	4.3	30.3	28.4	58.7
Manufacturing	14.7	18.0	9.0	41.7	216.6	258.3
Commerce	34.5	34.9	10.2	79.6	154.3	233.9
Community and business services (d)	36.5	39.2	24.3	99.9	139.7	239.7
Amusement, hotels, personal service	37.0	25.5	7.1	69.6	60.6	130.3
Other industries	21.0	13.3	4.3	38.6	87.8	126.4
Total	156.4	144.1	59.2	359.7	687.5	1,047.2

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) See note (b) to Table 4.

(c) For definitions see page 2, paragraph 5. (d) See note (c) to Table 5.

TABLE 9. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1972

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)				Per cent of labour force (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
Total	74.8	33.1	61.0	135.8	2.0	3.1	3.4	2.4
15-19	24.0	*	21.4	45.4	7.0	*	6.8	6.9
20 and over	50.8	31.0	39.7	90.4	1.5	3.4	2.7	1.8
20-24	13.5	6.2	11.3	24.8	2.7	3.9	3.4	3.0
25-34	12.9	12.4	14.0	27.0	1.4	4.5	4.0	2.2
35-44	9.9	8.3	9.2	19.1	1.3	2.8	2.6	1.7
45-54	8.5	*	*	12.4	1.2	*	*	1.2
55 and over	6.0	*	*	7.2	1.1	*	*	1.0

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 4. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 10. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS

(Per cent)

Month	State capital cities (b)			Other areas		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1970 November	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.1	3.0	1.6
1971 February	1.2	2.6	1.7	1.0	3.4	1.7
May	1.2	1.8	1.4	1.2	2.9	1.7
August	1.1	1.8	1.3	1.0	2.6	1.4
November	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.6	3.3	2.1

(a) Percentage of the labour force. (b) The figures relate to persons residing within the boundaries of the relevant Statistical Divisions. Explanatory notes on the delimitation of urban boundaries and maps showing the boundaries of the capital city Statistical Divisions were published in "Census of the Commonwealth of Australia, 30 June 1966 - Field Count Statement No. 4". NOTE - February 1972 estimates are not available.

TABLE 11. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK AND LOOKING FOR

PART-TIME WORK, FEBRUARY 1972

	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
Looking for full-time work (c)					
Number ('000)	69.6	20.2	25.3	45.4	115.1
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	1.9	2.9	3.9	3.4	2.3
Looking for part-time work (e)					
Number ('000)	5.2	12.9	*	15.6	20.8
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	5.0	3.5	*	3.4	3.7

(a) For definition see page 2, paragraph 4. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (d) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in each group. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs. * Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 12. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 1972

	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
Number unemployed ('000) -				
Under 2 weeks	12.6	7.8	12.2	24.8
2 weeks and under 4 weeks	20.0	9.9	17.5	37.5
4 " " " 8 weeks	17.1	7.4	14.1	31.1
8 " " " 13 weeks	17.2	4.5	10.8	28.0
13 weeks and over	7.9	*	6.5	14.4
Total	74.8	33.1	61.0	135.8
Average duration of unemployment (b) (weeks) -				
Aged 15-19 years	6.4	*	6.6	6.5
Aged 20 years and over	7.4	6.5	7.0	7.2
All unemployed persons	7.1	6.4	6.8	7.0

(a) For definition see page 2, paragraph 4. (b) Periods of unemployment are recorded only in complete weeks; the averages shown are affected accordingly.

* Less than, or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 13. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), FEBRUARY 1972

('000)							
Duration of unemployment (b) (weeks)	Age (years)		Married	Not married (c)	Looking for -		Total
	15-19	20 and over			Full-time work (d)	Part-time work (e)	
MALES							
Under 2	*	9.1	4.7	8.0	10.7	*	12.6
2 and under 4	5.2	14.8	8.1	11.9	18.7	*	20.0
4 and under 13	13.1	21.1	11.7	22.5	32.5	*	34.2
13 and over	*	5.8	*	4.6	7.7	*	7.9
Total	24.0	50.8	27.8	47.0	69.6	5.2	74.8
FEMALES							
Under 2	*	9.2	7.8	4.3	7.4	4.7	12.2
2 and under 4	6.4	11.1	9.9	7.6	13.0	4.5	17.5
4 and under 13	10.4	14.5	11.9	13.0	19.5	5.4	24.9
13 and over	*	4.9	*	*	5.5	*	6.5
Total	21.4	39.7	33.1	28.0	45.4	15.6	61.0
PERSONS							
Under 2	6.6	18.2	12.5	12.3	18.1	6.7	24.8
2 and under 4	11.6	25.9	18.0	19.5	31.7	5.9	37.5
4 and under 13	23.5	35.6	23.6	35.5	52.0	7.1	59.1
13 and over	*	10.7	6.8	7.6	13.2	*	14.4
Total	45.4	90.4	60.9	75.0	115.1	20.8	135.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 4. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of survey week. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced.

(d) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs. * Less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 14. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, FEBRUARY 1972

(Per cent)			
Industry group (b)	Unemployment rate	Occupation group (c)	Unemployment rate
Agriculture	1.0	Professional and technical workers	1.0
Manufacturing	2.5	Clerical workers	2.0
Building and construction	2.7	Sales workers	2.4
Transport and storage	1.4	Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc	1.0
Commerce	2.2	Transport and communication workers	1.5
Community and business services (d)	1.4	Craftsmen, production process workers and labourers n.e.c. (e)	2.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc	3.1	Service, sport and recreation workers	3.1
Other industries	1.1	Other occupations	*
No previous work experience	100.0	No previous work experience	100.0
Total	2.4	Total	2.4

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (b) Based on industry of last job. (c) Based on occupation of last job. (d) See note (c) to Table 5. (e) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers. * Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 15. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) : INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 1972

('000)

Industry group (b)	Number unemployed	Occupation group (c)	Number unemployed
Agriculture	4.3	Professional and technical workers	6.2
Manufacturing	36.6	Clerical workers	17.7
Under 2 weeks	7.7	Under 4 weeks	8.4
2 and under 4 weeks	9.8	4 and under 8 weeks	4.1
4 and under 8 weeks	8.3	Sales workers	11.2
8 and under 13 weeks	6.3	Under 4 weeks	6.1
Building and construction	13.0	Farmers, fishermen, timbergetters, etc.	4.8
Under 4 weeks	6.0	Transport and communication workers	5.0
Transport and storage	4.0	Craftsmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.i. (e)	50.0
Commerce	21.8	Under 2 weeks	9.8
Under 4 weeks	10.8	2 and under 4 weeks	14.6
4 and under 8 weeks	4.5	4 and under 8 weeks	10.4
8 and under 13 weeks	4.4	8 and under 13 weeks	9.6
Community and business services (d)	10.8	Service, sport and recreation workers	14.3
Under 4 weeks	6.1	Under 4 weeks	5.8
Amusement, hotels, personal (service) etc.	11.3	Other occupations	*
Under 4 weeks	4.9	No previous work experience	25.1
Other industries	8.8	Under 4 weeks	8.5
No previous work experience	25.1	4 and under 8 weeks	6.4
Under 4 weeks	8.5	8 and under 13 weeks	8.5
4 and under 8 weeks	6.4		
8 and under 13 weeks	8.5		
<u>Total</u>	135.8	<u>Total</u>	135.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 4. (b) See note (b) to Table 14.

(c) See note (c) to Table 14. (d) See note (c) to Table 5. (e) See note (e) to Table 14.

* Less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

TABLE 16. - PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, BY MAJOR ACTIVITY

('000)

Month	Kept house	Went to school, etc.	Retired or voluntarily idle	Permanently unable to work	Institutionalised (a)	Total
MALES						
1970 November	15.2	248.2	409.2	40.9	54.8	768.2
1971 February (b)	15.0	210.0	440.3	36.3	53.5	755.0
May	13.9	<u>246.5</u>	415.1	36.5	55.3	<u>767.3</u>
August	15.7	273.8	421.3	33.7	55.1	799.6
November	16.1	274.0	424.7	35.1	54.5	804.4
1972 February (b)	15.3	228.5	453.1	32.6	54.8	784.3
MARRIED WOMEN						
1970 November	1,895.0	*	17.8	*	10.3	1,929.3
1971 February (b)	1,927.4	*	21.4	*	11.2	1,966.7
May	1,923.8	*	21.6	*	11.6	<u>1,962.3</u>
August	1,912.7	5.6	21.9	*	11.1	1,954.3
November	1,917.3	4.1	19.2	*	12.0	1,955.9
1972 February (b)	1,947.3	5.4	23.0	*	11.1	1,989.8
OTHER FEMALES (c)						
1970 November	432.4	197.1	99.5	13.2	53.9	796.2
1971 February (b)	429.0	164.9	122.8	12.3	52.9	781.9
May	436.7	<u>193.8</u>	103.4	13.4	50.4	<u>797.8</u>
August	446.0	231.8	98.9	12.7	58.0	847.3
November	452.3	232.3	97.7	13.5	58.5	854.3
1972 February (b)	468.6	194.3	111.4	12.1	57.1	843.5
ALL FEMALES						
1970 November	2,327.4	199.6	117.3	17.0	64.2	2,725.5
1971 February (b)	2,356.3	168.3	144.2	15.8	64.1	2,748.7
May	2,360.5	<u>197.1</u>	125.0	15.5	62.0	<u>2,760.1</u>
August	2,358.7	237.3	120.8	15.7	69.0	2,801.6
November	2,369.5	236.3	116.9	17.0	70.5	2,810.3
1972 February (b)	2,415.9	199.6	134.4	15.1	68.2	2,833.3
PERSONS						
1970 November	2,342.6	447.8	526.5	57.9	119.0	3,493.7
1971 February (b)	2,371.3	378.3	584.5	52.0	117.6	3,503.7
May	2,374.5	<u>443.5</u>	540.1	52.0	117.3	<u>3,527.4</u>
August	2,374.4	511.1	542.2	49.4	124.1	3,601.2
November	2,385.6	510.3	541.6	52.1	125.0	3,614.7
1972 February (b)	2,431.3	428.1	587.5	47.7	123.0	3,617.6

(a) Comprises inmates of gaols, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. (b) See page 3, paragraph 9. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. * Less than 4,000. See page 15, paragraph 8.

NOTE. See page 2, paragraph 7, regarding discontinuity of the series.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

Estimates derived from the quarterly population survey are obtained by using a ratio estimation procedure. This procedure ensures that survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of standard errors which is intended to be of general application is therefore given below (Table A). Standard errors of estimates of quarter-to-quarter change are given in Table B, and approximate standard errors of estimates of the total number of persons in Australia in each of the principal employment status categories, classified by sex only, in Table C.

4. The standard errors in these tables are averages based on calculations for a limited number of surveys and are also averages over a wide range of labour force characteristics. These figures thus give not a precise measure but an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table A is as follows: if the estimate obtained from the sample is 100,000 and the standard error is 3 per cent of the estimate, i.e. 3,000, there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

5. The quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change will depend on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. Final estimates of standard errors of movement have not yet been calculated, but an indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter-to-quarter change is given in Table B, below. The estimates of standard error of quarter-to-quarter change apply only to estimates of change between two consecutive quarters. Changes between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive quarters, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in the table below.

TABLE A

STANDARD ERRORS OF QUARTERLY ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	Approximate standard error of estimates	
	Persons	Per cent of estimate
4,000	750	19
5,000	850	17
10,000	1,100	11
20,000	1,400	7
50,000	2,000	4
100,000	3,000	3
200,000	4,000	2
500,000	5,000	1
1,000,000	5,500	0.6
2,000,000	8,000	0.4

TABLE B

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF
QUARTER-TO-QUARTER CHANGE
(Persons)

Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change
1,000	1,300
2,000	2,500
3,000	3,600
4,000	4,300
5,000	4,700
6,000	5,000
7,000	5,200
8,000	5,300

TABLE C

STANDARD ERRORS OF PRINCIPAL EMPLOYMENT STATUS CATEGORIES

Category	Approximate standard error of estimates					
	Males		Females		Persons	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
Employed -						
Agriculture	15	4.3	5	8.0	18	4.3
Other industries	9	0.3	12	0.7	15	0.3
Total	8	0.2	12	0.7	15	0.3
Unemployed	3	4.5	2	4.7	3	3.5
Labour force	8	0.2	12	0.7	15	0.3
Not in the labour force	8	1.0	12	0.4	15	0.4

6. It should be noted that the standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors relative to estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.

7. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the denominator. Percentages quoted in this bulletin, and any other percentages calculated from figures presented herein, have generally somewhat lower standard errors (proportionally) than have the estimates which form the numerators of the percentages, particularly where the percentages are large.

8. As the standard errors in Tables A and B show, the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates would thus be subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates less than 4,000 have not been shown. Although figures for these small components can be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

9. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the non-sampling error, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only 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 operating procedures.

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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600 24 MAY 1972

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2427, or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.