Reference No. 6.20
THE LABOUR FORCE, MAY 1974

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| SUMMMARY OF RESULTS, MAY 1974 (a) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Females | Persons |
| NUMBER (000) |  |  |  |
| Gvilian population aged 15 years and over |  |  |  |
| Not in the labour force | 863.9 | 2,822.3 | 3,686.2 |
| In the labour force | 3,875.8 | 1,991.8 | 5,867.7 |
| Employed | 3,830.5 | 1,941.9 | 5,772.4 |
| In fulltime jobs | 3,694.8 | 1,381.8 | 5,076.6 |
| In part-time jobs | 135.7 | 560.1 | 695.8 |
| Unemployed | 45.3 | 50.0 | 95.3 |
| Looking for full-time work | 41.0 | 30.8 | 71.8 |
| Looking for part-time work | 4.3 | 19.2 | 23.5 |
| Rates (Per cent) |  |  |  |
| Labour force participation rate (b) | 81.8 | 41.4 | 61.4 |
| Unemployment rate (c) - |  |  |  |
| Original | 1.2 | 2.5 | 1.6 |
| Seasonally adjusted | 1.2 | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| (a) For a note on persons excluded see paragraph 5. Definitions of the categories of the population shown in the table are given on pages 2 and 3. (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 in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. |  |  |  |

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This bulletin contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the results of the population survey, which is carried out on a sample basis throughout Australia in February, May, August and November each year.
2. A summary of results is published each quarter, in advance of this more detailed bulletin, in The Labour Force : Preliminary Statement (Reference No. 6.32).
3. Although emphasis in the survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on the demographic and labour force characteristics of the population, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. Statistics from supplementary surveys are published in mimeographed bulletins which are available free on request. (See page 17, of this bulletin for a list of titles.)

## The population survey

4. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 27,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. 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 four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

## Scope

5. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations.

## Classification of the labour force

6. The labour force classification used in the surveys conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. 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 principal categories of the labour force appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.
7. The labour force comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 .
8. Employed persons comprise all those who, during the 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 sc!f-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 the survey week.
9. Unemployed persons comprise all those who, during the survey week, did not work at all, and who either
(a) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for full-time or part-time 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 the 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 the survey week, but did some work at his job during the survey week, is classified as employed.
10. 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.
11. Persons not in the labour force are those who, during the 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 the 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 the survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

## Industry classification

12. In quarterly and annual Labour Force bulletins prior to November 1972 the industry estimates were based on the Classification of Industries used at the 1961 and 1966 population censuses. As from November 1972 industry has been classified according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC). Estimates for particular industries for November 1972 and later periods are not, therefore, directly comparable with those for August 1972 and earlier periods.
13. During the changeover to the use of the Australian Standard Industrial Classification the industry of persons in the labour force was classified according to both ASIC and the 1966 Population Census Classification for five consecutive surveys. An indication of the relationship between the two classifications was given by Tables 8 and 9 in the combined November 1972 and February 1973 issue of this bulletin, in which employed persons were classified by industry on both bases for the period August 1971 to August 1972. Unemployed persons classified by their last job according to ASIC were shown in Tables 21 and 22 for the period August 1971 to February 1973.

## Birthplace and year of arrival in Australia

14. A summary of the principal statistics of birthplace and year of arrival is given in Table 2. Very small estimates shown in this and other tables should be used with caution as they are subject to high relative standard errors. It is particularly important that the likely standard errors of such estimates be kept in mind. For example, although the number of persons who had arrived in Australia in the period 1967 to 1972 and who were unemployed in May 1974 is given as 8,400, this is not a precise measure; the approximate standard error of this estimate suggests that there are about nineteen chances in twenty that the figure obtained from a complete enumeration would have been within the wide range of 6,200 to 10,600 . The corresponding estimated percentage (2.0) is subject to almost the same relative sampling variability as is the estimate of the number unemployed. For further details concerning standard errors see the Technical Note, page 15.

## Effect of the revised sample

15. As explained on page 15 , the revised sample of dwellings was phased in over three surveys, May to November 1972. The February 1972 estimates were based entirely on the previous sample, and the November 1972 estimates were based entirely on the revised sample. Because of the introduction of the revised sample the standard errors on quarter-to-quarter movements between February and November 1972 were greater than usual (see page 15, paragraph 7). In addition, there was some discontinuity between results obtained from the previous and revised samples. Although investigation has indicated that the discontinuity was only slight and within the acceptable limits of standard error, care should be taken in interpreting movements in the estimates during this period. Long-term comparisons have not been affected.

## Revision of present estimates

16. The survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex. As a
consequence, when the population estimates are revised it becomes necessary to revise the labour force estimates also.
17. Estimates of total population, revised on the basis of the 1971 population census, were published for the period 30 September 1966 to 30 June 1972 in the bulletin Summary of Vital and Population Statistics, June quarter 1972 (Reference No. 4.11). These indicate that the estimates used for the population surveys in mid-1971 were, overall, some 55,000 persons too high. The revised estimates classified by age over the intercensal period, which are necessary to enable the revision of the labour force estimates to be carried out, are not yet available. In the meantime, the estimates in this bulletin will continue to be published on the present basis, since they are regarded as sufficiently accurate for the measurement of short-term movements. However, caution should be exercised if they are used as indicators of long-term change.
18. A preliminary assessment of the effect of the revised population estimates indicates that it will be necessary to reduce the level of the estimated labour force from August 1971 onwards by about 28,000 persons (mostly males). Successively smaller revisions will be made to the estimates for earlier periods back to August 1966.

Differences between population census and population survey estimates
19. Results of the 1971 population census have been published in a series of bulletins entitled Summary of Population (Reference No. 2.83). The labour force estimates from the June 1971 census differ from the corresponding estimates derived from the population surveys of May and August 1971. Even when, as explained in paragraphs 16 to 18 above, the labour force estimates from the survey have been revised, this difference will still be substantial.
20. The definition of the labour force used in the population census is similar to that used in the survey (see paragraphs 6 to 9). However, evidence from census post-enumeration surveys indicates that the personal interview approach, as used in the quarterly survey, tends to identify a larger number of persons as being in the labour force than does the filling in of the questions on the census schedule by the householder, and that this tendency increased between the 1966 and 1971 censuses.
21. These considerations should be borne in mind if comparisons of the total labour force or of labour force participation rates are made between the 1971 census and the 1971 labour force survey estimates.

## Estimates for earlier periods

22. 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 1972 has been published in bulletins entitled The Labour Force, covering the period 1964 to 1968 and single years thereafter (all Reference No. 6.22).

## Discontinuity of series

23. The survey periods for February in the years 1971, 1972 and 1974 were later than in other years, and as a consequence the estimates of the proportion of the population 15 years and over who "went to school" are correspondingly higher. No exact estimates of this effect are available; however, it may be conjectured that had these survey periods been one week earlier approximately 20,000 fewer persons would have been classified in the "went to school" category. In addition, in February 1974 the survey period in Queensland was delayed by a further week in order to avoid as far as possible the effects of the flood.
24. At the 1971 population census, trainee teachers (enrolled at government teachers colleges and in some cases enrolled also at other institutions) were for the first time classified as not in the labour force, and since then they have also been excluded from labour force estimates derived from the 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 1971 being approximately 7,000 and 17,000 respectively.

## Seasonally adjusted series

25. Seasonally adjusted estimates for selected labour force characteristics are shown in Table 3. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these statistics are explained in Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1974 (Reference No. 1.10).

## Symbols used in this bulletin

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000 . See page 16 , paragraph 10 .
$\dagger$ Affected by industrial dispute.
NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.


## LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED.


## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE

(a) Never married, widowed and divorced.

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) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Agri- } \\ & \text { culture (c) } \\ & \text { ('000) } \end{aligned}$ | Other industries (c) ('000) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { ('000) } \end{gathered}$ | Number ('000) | Per cent of labour force | Number ('000) | Per cent of population (d) |  |  |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 311.2 | 3,452.2 | 3,763.4 | 67.9 | 1.8 | 3,831.3 | 82.6 | 806.8 | 4,638.1 |
| May | 309.4 | 3,453.7 | 3,763.1 | 50.7 | 1.3 | 3,813.8 | 82.0 | 839.0 | 4,652.8 |
| August | 316.3 | 3,464.7 | 3,781.1 | 41.0 | 1.1 | 3,822.1 | 82.0 | 839.9 | 4,662.0 |
| November $\dagger$ | 310.2 | 3,489.1 | 3,799.3 | 54.3 | 1.4 | 3,853.6 | 82.1 | 837.8 | 4,691.4 |
| 1974 - |  |  | 3.798 |  | 1.4 | 3,853.6 | 82. | 837.8 | 4,691.4 |
| Febriary (e) | 305.5 | 3,530.8 | 3,836.3 | 56.7 | 1.5 | 3,893.0 | 82.4 | 831.6 | 4,724.5 |
| May | 307.4 | 3,523.1 | 3,830.5 | 45.3 | 1.2 | 3,875.8 | 81.8 | 863.9 | 4,739.7 |
| MARRIED WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 59.4 | 1,068.4 | 1,127.8 | 39.3 | 3.4 | 1,167.1 | 37.2 | 1,971.2 | 3,138.4 |
| May | 54.5 | 1,099.9 | 1,154.4 | 25.9 | 2.2 | 1,180.3 | 37.3 | 1,980.8 | 3,161.1 |
| August | 58.5 | 1,114.5 | 1,173.0 | 21.5 | 1.8 | 1,194.5 | 38.0 | 1,947.8 | 3,142.3 |
| November $\dagger$ | 60.7 | 1,151.4 | 1,212.1 | 19.5 | 1.6 | 1,231.5 | 39.0 | 1,925.3 | 3,156.8 |
| 1974 - 10.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February (e) | 58.2 | 1,158.7 | 1,216.9 | 32.4 | 2.6 | 1,249.4 | 39.3 | 1,933.7 | 3,183.1 |
| May | 48.4 | 1,195.2 | 1,243.6 | 25.6 | 2.0 | 1,269.2 | 39.4 | 1,949.4 | 3,218.6 |
| OTHER FEMALES (f) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 11.3 | 694.6 | 705.9 | 36.3 | 4.9 | 742.3 | 47.0 | 836.3 | 1,578.5 |
| May | 10.5 | 672.9 | 683.4 | 23.6 | 3.3 | 707.0 | 45.1 | 859.1 | 1,566.1 |
| August | 10.4 | 681.8 | 692.3 | 19.1 | 2.7 | 711.4 | 44.7 | 879.1 | 1,590.5 |
| November $\dagger$ | 11.1 | 694.0 | 705.1 | 31.8 | 4.3 | 736.9 | 45.7 | 876.9 | 1,613.9 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February (e) | 9.8 | 707.1 | 716.9 | 31.2 | $4.2$ | 748.1 | 46.3 | 867.0 | $1,615.1$ |
| May | 10.8 | 687.5 | 698.3 | 24.4 | 3.4 | 722.6 | 45.3 | 872.9 | 1,595.6 |
| ALL FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 70.7 | 1,763.0 | 1,833.7 | 75.6 | 4.0 | 1,909.4 | 40.5 | 2,807.5 | 4,716.9 |
| May | 65.0 | 1,772.8 | 1,837.8 | 49.5 | 2.6 | 1,887.3 | 39.9 | 2,839.9 | 4,727.2 |
| August | 69.0 | 1,796.3 | 1,865.3 | 40.6 | 2.1 | 1,905.9 | 40.3 | 2,826.9 | 4,732.8 |
| November $\dagger$ | 71.8 | 1,845.4 | 1,917.2 | 51.3 | 2.6 | 1,968.5 | 41.3 | 2,802.2 | 4,770.7 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February (e) | 68.0 | 1,865.8 | 1,933.8 | 63.7 | 3.2 | 1,997.5 | 41.6 | 2,800.7 | 4,798.2 |
| May | 59.2 | 1,882.7 | 1,941.9 | 50.0 | 2.5 | 1,991.8 | 41.4 | 2,822.3 | 4,814.1 |
| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 382.0 | 5,215.2 | 5,597.2 | 143.5 | 2.5 | 5,740.7 | 61.4 | 3,614.3 | 9,355.0 |
| May | 374.4 | 5,226.5 | 5,600.9 | 100.2 | 1.8 | 5,701.1 | 60.8 | 3,678.9 | 9,380.0 |
| August | 385.3 | 5,261.0 | 5,646.3 | 81.6 | 1.4 | 5,728.0 | 61.0 | 3,666.8 | 9,394.8 |
| November $\dagger$ | 382.0 | 5,334.5 | 5,716.5 | 105.6 | 1.8 | 5,822.1 | 61.5 | 3,640.0 | 9,462.1 |
| 1974 - 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February (e) | 373.5 | 5,396.6 | 5,770.1 | 120.4 | 2.0 | 5,890.5 | 61.9 | 3,632.3 | 9,522.7 |
| May | 366.6 | 5,405.8 | 5,772.4 | 95.3 | 1.6 | 5,867.7 | 61.4 | 3,686.2 | 9,553.8 |

(a) For a note on persons excluded see page 2, paragraph 5. (b) For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 6 to 9. (c) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 12 and 13. (d) Th bbour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate). (e) See page 4, paragraph 23. (1) Never married, widowed and divorced.

TABLE 2. - CIVILLAN LABOUR FORCE (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA, MAY 1974

| Birthplace and year of arrival | Employed <br> (b) ('000) | Unemployed (b) |  | Totol labour force (b) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Number ('000) | Per cent of labour force (c) | Number ('000) | Per cent of population (d) |  |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Born in Australia | 2,773.6 | 30.2 | 1.1 | 2,803.8 | 81.8 |  |
| Born outside Australia - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arrived before 1955 | 353.3 | * | * | 356.5 | 76.7 |  |
| 1955 to 1961 | 228.9 | * | * | 230.8 | 90.7 |  |
| $1962 \text { to } 1966$ | 164.9 | * | * | 168.0 | 89.2 |  |
| $1967 \text { to } 1972$ | 254.5 | 5.2 | 2.0 | 259.7 | 91.1 | - |
| Jan. 1973 to May 1974 | 55.2 | * | * | 56.9 | 84.3 |  |
| Total born outside Australia | 1,056.8 | 15.1 | 1.4 | 1,072.0 | 85.1 |  |
| Total | 3,830.5 | 45.3 | 1.2 | 3,875.8 | 82.7 |  |


| MARRIED WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Born in Australia | 856.4 | 17.3 | 2.0 | 873.7 | 36.8 |
| Born outside Australia - |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arrived before 1955 | 99.9 | * | * | 101.0 | 38.2 |
| 1955 to 1961 | 88.4 | * | - | 90.7 | 49.8 |
| 1962 to 1966 | 68.0 | * | - | 69.3 | 50.2 |
| 1967 to 1972 | 112.5 | * | * | 114.8 | 55.1 |
| Jan. 1973 to May 1974 | 18.5 | * | * | 19.7 | 48.1 |
| Total born outside Australia | 387.2 | 83 | 2.1 | 395.5 | 47.4 |
| Total | 1,243.6 | 25.6 | 2.0 | 1,269.2 | 39.5 |

ALL FEMALES

| Born in Australia | 1,433.6 | 37.2 | 2.5 | 1,470.8 | 40.6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Born outside Australia - |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arrived before 1955 | 124.4 | * | * | 125.8 | 33.2 |
| 1955 to 1961 | 113.6 | * | * | 117.1 | 50.8 |
| 1962 to 1966 | 87.5 | * | * | 90.7 | 51.5 |
| 1967 to 1972 | 150.7 | * | * | 153.9 | 56.8 |
| Jan. 1973 to May 1974 | 32.1 | * | * | 33.6 | 53.4 |
| Total bom outside Australia | 508.3 | 12.8 | 2.5 | 521.1 | 46.6 |
| Total | 1,941.9 | 50.0 | 2.5 | 1,991.8 | 42.0 |
| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |
| Born in Australia | -4,207.2 | 67.4 | 1.6 | 4,274.6 | 60.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Arrived before 1955 | 477.7 | 4.5 | 0.9 | 482.3 | 57.2 |
| 1955 to 1961 | 342.5 | 5.4 | 1.5 | 347.9 | 71.7 |
| 1962 to 1966 | 252.4 | 6.3 | 2.5 | 258.7 | 71.0 |
| 1967 to 1972 | 405.2 | (e) 8.4 | (e)2.0 | 413.6 | 74.4 |
| Jan. 1973 to May 1974 | 87.3 | * | * | 90.5 | 69.4 |
| Total born outside Australia | 1,565.1 | 27.9 | 1.8 | 1.593 .0 | 67.0 |
| Total | 5,772.4 | 95.3 | 1.6 | 5,867.7 | 62.2 |

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 7 to 9. (c) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace or year of arrival in Australia for such persons. (e) See explanation of these figures in paragraph 14, page 3.

- Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 10.

TABLE 3. - 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 |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 3,831.3 | 3,808.8 | 1,167.1 | 1,173.4 | 1,909.4 | 1,898.1 | 5,740.7 | 5,707.7 |
| May | 3,813.8 | 3,812.3 | 1,180.3 | 1,189.0 | 1,887.3 | 1,900.2 | 5,701.1 | 5,710.4 |
| August | 3,822.1 | 3,839.9 | 1,194.5 | 1,199.6 | 1,905.9 | 1,923.2 | 5,728.0 | 5,764.0 |
| November $\dagger$ | 3,853.6 | 3,859.8 | 1,231.5 | 1,211.3 | 1,968.5 | 1,949.6 | 5,822.1 | 5,810.0 |
| 1974 - 5,810.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February (c) | 3,893.0 | 3,870.4 | 1,249.4 | 1,255.5 | 1,997.5 | 1,984.7 | 5,890.5 | 5,855.9 |
| May | 3,875.8 | 3,874.3 | 1,269.2 | 1,278.8 | 1,991.8 | 2,006.0 | 5,867.7 | 5,871.8 |


(a) For details of methods used in seasonally adjusting these series see Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1974 (Reference No. 1.10). (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 7 to 9. (c) See page 4, paragraph 23. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

TABLE 4. - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, MAY 1974

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Age } \\ & \text { group } \\ & \text { (years) } \end{aligned}$ | Number ('000) |  |  |  | Per cent of population (b) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Married women | All females | Persons | Males | Married women | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { females } \end{gathered}$ | Persons |
| 15-19 | 358.4 | 24.2 | 326.2 | 684.6 | 59.7 | 44.3 | 56.3 | 58.1 |
| 20-24 | 518.8 | 188.6 | 349.3 | 868.0 | 91.1 | 52.7 | 63.2 | 77.3 |
| 25-34 | 963.8 | 355.6 | 437.8 | 1,401.6 | 97.5 | 41.9 | 46.0 | 72.3 |
| 35-44 | 754.1 | 333.2 | 379.5 | 1,133.6 | 97.3 | 49.7 | 51.5 | 75.0 |
| 45-54 | 717.1 | 269.1 | 330.7 | 1,047.8 | 94.6 | 42.7 | 45.0 | 70.2 |
| 55-59 | 273.1 | 66.4 | 100.0 | 373.0 | 89.3 | 27.4 | 31.5 | 59.9 |
| 60-64 | 196.8 | 23.8 | 44.7 | 241.5 | 74.0 | 13.4 | 16.1 | 44.5 |
| 65 and over | 93.8 | 8.4 | 23.6 | 117.4 | 19.7 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 10.3 |
| Total | 3,875.8 | 1,269.2 | 1,991.8 | 5,867.7 | 81.8 | 39.4 | 41.4 | 61.4 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 7 to 9 . (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group (labour force participation rate).

TABLE 5. - LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, MAY 1974 (Per cent)

| Age group (years) | Born in Australia |  |  | Born outside Australia |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| 15-19 | 60.4 | 55.9 | 58.2 | 59.8 | 61.3 | 60.5 |
| 20-24 | 91.7 | 62.9 | 77.5 | 92.0 | 65.0 | 78.6 |
| 25-34 | 98.2 | 43.4 | 70.7 | 97.7 | 53.3 | 77.0 |
| 35-44 | 97.8 | 49.2 | 73.2 | 97.9 | 57.7 | 80.0 |
| 45-54 | 94.9 | 43.1 | 68.3 | 96.1 | 51.6 | 76.4 |
| 55-59 | 89.1 | 30.0 | 58.3 | 91.8 | 39.5 | 67.8 |
| 60-64 | 72.7 | 15.5 | 43.0 | 80.2 | 19.4 | 51.6 |
| 65 and over | 21.8 | 3.7 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 4.4 | 10.8 |
| Total | 81.8 | 40.6 | 60.6 | 85.1 | 46.6 | 67.0 |

(a) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace of such persons.

TABLE 6. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY HOURS WORKED (b), MAY 1974

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (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 3, paragraph 10.: (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 a slight lowering of the average hours figures. (g) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 12 and 13. (h) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. In May and August each year estimates are low as average hours worked by school teachers are affected by school holidays. (i) Employers, self-employed and unpaid family helpers.

TABLE 7. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS (b), BY REASON, MAY 1974 ('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 | 290.6 | 80.4 | 51.6 | 132.0 | 422.6 |
| Own illness or injury . | 117.1 | 31.3 | 19.5 | 50.8 | 167.9 |
| Bad weather, breakdown, etc. | 33.1 | * | * | * | 35.1 |
| Began or lost job in survey week | 7.2 | * | * | 5.5 | 12.7 . |
| On short time | * | * | * | * | - |
| Other reasons | 18.8 | * | * | 5.1 | 23.9 |
| Total | 468.5 | 119.4 | 77.6 | 197.1 | 665.6 |
| USUALLY WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS |  |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred part-time work | 123.0 | 431.1 | 94.7 | 525.8 | 648.8 |
| Lack of work | 5.7 | 10.2 | * | 12.9 | 18.6 |
| Other reasons | 7.0 | 17.7 | * | 21.5 | 28.5 |
| Total | 135.7 | 458.9 | 101.2 | 560.1 | 695.8 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8. (b) See note (b) to Table 6. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See page 16 , paragraph 10.

TABLE 8. - EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY (b) AND HOURS WORKED (c), MAY 1974 ( ${ }^{(000)}$

| Industry division (b) | Part-time workers (d) |  |  |  | Full-time warkers (d) | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Hours worked (c) |  |  | Total |  |  |
|  | Under 16 | 16-29 | 30-34 |  |  |  |
| Agriculture | 11.5 | 11.7 | 4.0 | 27.3 | 21.1 | 48.4 |
| Manufacturing | 18.8 | 24.0 | 11.8 | 54.5 | 214.0 | 268.5 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 52.7 | 52.4 | 13.3 | 118.4 | 193.1 | 311.5 |
| Community services (e) | 48.1 | 44.8 | 15.0 | 107.9 | 162.2 | 270.1 |
| Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services | 44.2 | 26.2 | 6.8 | 77.2 | 63.1 | 140.3 |
| Other industries . | 38.0 | 24.9 | 10.6 | 73.6 | 131.1 | 204.7 |
| Total | 213.3 | 184.1 | 61.6 | 458.9 | 784.7 | 1,243.6 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 8 . (b) See page 3, paragraphs 12 and 13 regarding the basis of industry coding. (c) See note (b) to Table 6. (d) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 10. (e) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services.

TABLE 9. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, MAY 1974

| Age group (years) | Number unemployed ('000) |  |  |  | Per cent of labour force (b) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Married women | All <br> females | Persons | Males | Married women | All females | Persons |
| 15-19 | 10.3 | * | 18.0 | 28.3 | 2.9 | * | 5.5 | 4.1 |
| 20 and over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20-24 | 10.9 | 6.1 | 10.4 | 21.2 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.4 |
| 25-34 | 8.3 | 9.8 | 10.1 | 18.3 | 0.9 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 1.3 |
| 35-44 | 5.9 | 4.9 | 6.0 | 11.9 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.1 |
| 45-54 | 6.2 | , | 4.0 | 10.2 | 0.9 | * | 1.2 | 1.0 |
| 55 and over | * | * | * | 5.2 | * | - | * | 0.7 |
| Total 20 and over | 35.0 | 25.0 | 31.9 | 67.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.3 |
| Total | 45.3 | 25.6 | 50.0 | 95.3 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 25 | 1.6 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (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 16, paragraph 10.

TABLE 10. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, MAY 1974

| Age group (years) | Number unemployed ('000) |  |  | Per cent of labour force (b) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| BORN IN AUSTRALA |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 7.6 | 15.8 | 23.5 | 2.5 | 5.7 | 4.0 |
| 20 and over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20-24 | 8.9 | 7.5 | 16.4 | 2.2 | 2.7 | 2.4 |
| 25-34 | * | 6.2 | 10.1 | * | 2.1 | 1.1 |
| 35 and over | 9.8 | 7.6 | 17.4 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Total 20 and over | 22.6 | 21.4 | 43.9 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 1.2 |
| Total | 30.2 | 37.2 | 67.4 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 1.6 |
| BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | * | * | 4.8 | * | * | 5.0 |
| 20 and over - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -20-24 | * | * | 4.9 | * | * | 2.7 |
| 25-34 | 4.4 | * | 8.2 | 1.5 | * | 1.9 |
| 35 and over | 6.1 | * | 10.0 | 1.0 | * | 1.1 |
| Total 20 and over | 12.5 | 10.6 | 23.1 | 1.2 | 2.2 | 1.5 |
| Total | 15.1 | 12.8 | 27.9 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 1.8 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (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 16, paragraph 10.

TABLE 11. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS (Per cent)

| Month | State capital cities (b) |  |  | Other areas |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1.8 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 4.4 | 2.5 |
| May | 1.2 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 3.6 | 2.1 |
| August | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| November $\dagger$ | 1.4 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 3.5 | 2.0 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1.3 | 2.6 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 4.4 | 2.5 |
| May | 1.0 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 3.9 | 2.2 |

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (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 Population and Housing. 30 June 1971 - Field Count Statement Nos 3 to 8.

TABLE 12. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) LOOKING FOR FULLTIME AND LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK, MAY 1974

|  | . Males | Married women | Other females (b) | All females | Persons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Looking for full-time work (c) - |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number ('000) | 41.0 | 11.2 | 19.6 | 30.8 | 71.8 |
| Unemployment rate (d) (per cent) | 1.1 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 2.2 | 1.4 |
| Looking for part-ime work (e) - |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number ('000) | 4.3 | 14.4 | 4.8 | 19.2 | 23.5 |
| Unemployment rate (d) (per cent) | 3.1 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 3.3 | 3.3 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (d) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs.

TABLE 13. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), MAY 1974

|  | Males | Married <br> women | Other <br> females (c) | All <br> females | Persons |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (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) 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 16, paragraph 10.

TABLE 14. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC, MAY 1974 ('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 | * | 7.0 | * | 5.2 | 8.0 | * | 8.8 |
| 2 and under 4 | * | 12.2 | 6.8 | 8.9 | 14.0 | * | 15.7 |
| 4 and under 13 | * | 10.7 | 6.6 | 7.7 | 13.6 | - | 14.2 |
| 13 and over | * | 5.1 | * | * | 5.4 | * | 6.5 |
| Total | 10.3 | 35.0 | 20.6 | 24.7 | 41.0 | 4.3 | 45.3 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 2 | * | 10.5 | 8.6 | 5.7 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 14.2 |
| 2 and under 4 | 5.3 | 7.6 | 5.7 | 7.2 | 8.2 | 4.6 | 12.9 |
| 4 and under 13 | 5.7 | 10.1 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 10.4 | 5.4 | 15.8 |
| 13 and over | * | * | * | 4.2 | 4.8 | * | 7.1 |
| Total | 18.0 | 31.9 | 25.6 | 24.4 | 30.8 | 19.2 | 50.0 |
| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 2 | 5.6 | 17.5 | 12.2 | 10.9 | 15.4 | 7.7 | 23.1 |
| 2 and under 4 | 8.8 | 19.8 | 12.5 | 16.1 | 22.2 | 6.4 | 28.6 |
| $4 \text { and under } 13$ | 9.2 | 20.8 | 15.1 | 14.9 | 23.9 | 6.1 | 30.0 |
| 13 and over | 4.7 | 8.9 | 6.5 | 7.1 | 10.3 | * | 13.6 |
| Total | 28.3 | 67.0 | 46.2 | 49.1 | 71.8 | 23.5 | 95.3 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (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 16, paragraph 10.

TABLE 15. - UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, MAY 1974
(Per cent)

| Industry division (b) | Unemployment rate | Occupation group (c) | Unemployment rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture | 1.8 | Professional and technical | 0.7 |
| Manufacturing | 1.4 | Clerical | 1.5 |
| Construction | 1.3 | Sales | 1.8 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 1.5 | Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc. | 2.0 |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and business services | 1.3 | Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (e) | 1.5 |
| Community services (d) | 1.1 | Service, sport and recreation | 2.8 |
| Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services | 3.1 | Other occupations | 0.6 |
| Other ind ustries | 1.1 | . | : |
| Total | 1.6 | Total | 1.6 |

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in same group. (b) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 12 and 13. Based on industry of last job. (c) Based on occupation of last job. (d) See note (e) to Table 8. (e) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

TABLE 16. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) : INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b)
MAY 1974
('000)

| Industry division (c) | Number unemployed | Occupation group (d) | Number unemployed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture | 6.8 | Professional and technical | 4.9 |
| Under 8 weeks | 4.6 | Clerical | 14.9 |
| Manufacturing | 20.1 | Under 2 weeks | 4.3 |
| Under 4 weeks | 11.0 | 2 and under 8 weeks | 6.0 |
| 4 and under 13 weeks | 5.3 | 8 weeks and over | 4.6 |
| Construction | 7.2 | Sales | 9.2 |
| Under 8 weeks | 5.8 | Under 4 weeks | 4.2 |
| Wholesale and retail trade | 17.8 | 4 weeks and over | 5.0 |
| Under 2 weeks | 5.8 | Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc. | 8.5 |
| 2 and under 4 weeks | 4.7 | Under 8 weeks | 6.0 |
| 4 and under 13 weeks | 5.6 | Tradesmen, production-process workers |  |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and |  | and labourers, n.e.c. (f) | 29.4 |
| business services | 5.5 | Under 2 weeks | 7.1 |
| Under 8 weeks | 4.6 | 2 and under 4 weeks | 10.4 |
| Community services (e) | 7.7 | 4 and under 8 weeks | 4.6 |
| Under 8 weeks | 4.8 | 8 weeks and over | . 7.4 |
| Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, |  | Service, sport and recreation | 14.4 |
| hotels and personal services | 11.0 | Under 2 weeks | 4.0 |
| Under 4 weeks | 6.3 | 2 and under 4 weeks | 4.5 |
| 4 weeks and over | 4.6 | 4 and under 13 weeks | 4.4 |
| Other industries | 9.3 | Other occupations | 4.1 |
| Looking for first job | 9.8 | Looking for first job | 9.8 |
| Under 4 weeks | 4.5 | Under 4 weeks | 4.5 |
| 4 weeks and over | 5.3 | 4 weeks and over | 5.3 |
| Total | 95.3 | Total | 95.3 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 9. (b) Duration of unemployment is not available for all industry or occupational groups because of high standard errors on the estimates. (c) See note (b) to Table 15 . (d) See note (c) to Table 15. (e) See note (e) to Table 8. (f) See note (e) to Table 15.

TABLE 17. - PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE (a), BY MAJOR ACTIVITY ('000)

| Month | Kept house | Went to school, etc. | Retired or voluntarily idle | Permanently unable to work | Institutionalised (b) | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 9.4 | 197.5 | 498.2 | 40.4 | 61.4 | 806.8 |
| May | 9.7 | 269.0 | 462.1 | 41.6 | 56.7 | 839.0 |
| August | 12.1 | 275.0 | 464.8 | 38.4 | 49.6 | 839.9 |
| November $\dagger$ | 12.6 | 262.0 | 478.1 | 32.3 | 52.8 | 837.8 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fetruary | 11.2 | 218.6 | 517.2 | 39.4 | 45.1 | 831.6 |
| May | 8.4 | 269.4 | 481.9 | 51.3 | 52.9 | 863.9 |
| MARRIED WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1,928.6 | 4.7 | 21.9 | 5.0 | 11.1 | 1,971.2 |
| May | 1,934.1 | 5.4 | 25.4 | 5.9 | 10.0 | 1,980.8 |
| August | 1,900.5 | 7.4 | 25.3 | 5.6 | 8.9 | 1,947.8 |
| November $\dagger$ | 1,877.4 | 7.0 | 25.6 | * | 11.4 | 1,925.3 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 1,885.4 | 6.4 | 31.0 | * | 7.5 | 1,933.7 |
| May | 1,901.4 | 8.3 | 26.7 | 4.8 | 8.2 | 1,949.4 |
| OTHER FEMALES (c) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 453.9 | 171.4 | 136.2 | 19.8 | 55.0 | 836.3 |
| May | 445.3 | 223.4 | 114.8 | 18.2 | 57.5 | 859.1 |
| August | 443.6 | 242.2 | 118.3 | 16.7 | 58.3 | 879.1 |
| November $\dagger$ | 454.0 |  | 128.3 | 14.9 | 61.3 | 876.9 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 459.0 | 187.7 | 145.4 | 14.8 | 60.0 | 867.0 |
| May | 448.1 | 220.3 | 121.1 | 19.9 | 63.5 | 872.9 |
| ALL FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 2,382.5 | 176.1 | 158.1 | 24.8 | 66.1 | 2,807.5 |
| May | 2,379.4 | 228.8 | 140.2 | 24.1 | 67.4 | 2,839.9 |
| August | 2,344.1 | 249.6 | 143.6 | 22.3 | 67.3 | -2,826.9 |
| November $\dagger$ | 2,331.5 | 225.5 | . 153.9 | 18.7 | 72.7 | 2,802.2 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 2,344.4 | 194.2 | 176.4 | 18.1 | 67.6 | 2,800.7 |
| May | 2,349.5 | 228.6 | 147.8 | 24.8 | 71.7 | 2,822.3 |
| PERSONS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1973 - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| February | 2,391.8 | 373.6 | 656.3 | 65.1 | 127.5 | 3,614.3 |
| May | 2,389.1 | 497.8 | 602.3 | 65.7 | 124.1 | 3,678.9 |
| August | 2,356.2 | 524.7 | 608.4 | 60.7 | 116.9 | 3,666.8 |
| November $\dagger$ | 2,344.1 | 487.4 | 632.0 | 51.0 | 125.5 | 3,640.0 |
| 1974 - |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{1}$ |
| February | 2,355.6 | (d)412.8 | 693.6 | 57.5 | 112.7 | 3,632:3 |
| May | 2,357.9 | 497.9 | 629.8 | 76.1 | 124.6 | 3,686.2 |

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 11. (b) Comprises inmates of gaols, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) See page 4, paragraph 23.

[^0]
## TECHNICAL NOTE

## Estimation procedure

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

## Redesign and reselection of the sample

2. The design of the sample on which the labour force survey is based has been thoroughly investigated and a more efficient sampling plan has been devised. Data obtained in the 1971 Census of Population and Housing have been used to reselect the sample in accordance with the improved design.
3. Before the redesign, a one per cent sample throughout Australia was used. About 40,000 private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) as well as a sample of other dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) were included. In the revised sample the proportion of the population included varies from State to State, but in aggregate about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia is included. The revised sample consists of about 27,000 private dwellings as well as a sample of other dwellings.
4. In order to appraise changes in the estimates due to the introduction of the revised sample, it was phased in over three surveys. In the May 1972 survey half of the revised sample from metropolitan areas replaced half of the previous metropolitan sample. In August 1972 the other half of the revised metropolitan sample, together with half of the revised sample from non-metropolitan areas, was introduced. In November 1972 the changeover was completed with the introduction of the remaining half of the revised non-metropolitan sample.

## Reliability of the estimates

5. 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.
6. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of standard errors for general application to estimates from the revised sample is given below (Table A). These figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table $\mathbf{A}$ 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 .
7. The quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. Final estimates of the 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 Table B. Furthermore, changes during the period February to November 1972 will have greater standard error than indicated in Table B, because of the introduction of the revised sample. An example of the use of Table B is as follows : if the estimates for two successive quarters were 500,000 and 520,000 then from Table A it can be seen that the standard errors of these two estimates would be of the order of 6,000 and from Table B that the standard error of the quarter-to-quarter change would be 5,000 . That is, there are about two chances in three that the quarter-to-quarter change lies between 15,000 and 25,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 10,000 and 30,000 .

TABLE A
STANDARD ERRORS OF QUARTERLY ESTIMATES

|  | Approximate standard <br> Size of of of estimates <br> estimate <br> (persons) |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Persons | Per cent <br> of estimate |
| 4,000 | 800 | 20.0 |
| 5,000 | 900 | 18.0 |
| 10,000 | 1,200 | 12.0 |
| 20,000 | 1,600 | 8.0 |
| 50,000 | 2,300 | 4.6 |
| 100,000 | 3,000 | 3.0 |
| 200,000 | 4,000 | 2.0 |
| 500,000 | 6,000 | 1.2 |
| $1,000,000$ | 8,000 | 0.8 |
| $2,000,000$ | 10,000 | 0.5 |

8. 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 than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.
9. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.
10. As the standard errors in Table A show, the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard

TABLE B

| STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF <br> QUARTER-TOQUARTER CHANGE <br> (Persons) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Standard error |  |
| of quarterly | Standard error of |
| level | quarter-toquarter |
| 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 |

error. Very small estimates are thus 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 in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.
11. 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.

## POPULATION SURVEY REPORTS

Although emphasis in the population survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on demographic and labour force characteristics, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The results of these surveys are published separately. Copies of the following publications are available free on request.

## Title

Reference No
Assisted and Unassisted Migrants, August 1972
Australian Ex-service Personnel, November 1966
Ex-service Personnel, Widows and Children, November 197115.1
Child Care, May 1969 ..... 17.2
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Part 2 ..... 17.8
Part 3 ..... 17.12
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February 1972 ..... 6.9
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Superannuation, Victoria, May 1968 ..... 6.19
Superannuation, February 1974 (Preliminary Statement) ..... 6.41
The Labour Force : Country of Birth and Period of Residence, February 1972 ..... 6.31

## J. G. MILLER <br> Acting Commonwealth Statistician

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Canberra, A.C.T. 2000
NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Power on 639111 extension 2346 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics:


[^0]:    - Less than 4,000. See page 16, paragraph 10.

