



SAFETY

IN THE HOME

MELBOURNE

NOVEMBER 1960



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INQUIRIES

Inquiries regarding these statistics may be made by telephoning Information Services on Melbourne (03) 615 7000. For advice on the interpretation of these statistics or to obtain additional data from the survey of Safety in the Home, please contact Adrian Serraglio, ABS Victoria on (03) 615 7352.

PREFACE

Each year the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducts a survey on behalf of the Victorian Government. This year the topic *Safety In The Home* was chosen, the submission being from the Department of Health and Community Services Victoria.

The survey was conducted to collect details on safety hazards and the prevalence of safety products in the home. This publication summarises the results of the survey which was conducted throughout the Melbourne Statistical Division during 12-23 November 1992 as a supplement to the Australia-wide Monthly Population Survey. Information was collected on home safety features such as smoke detectors, electrical safety switches, hand rails, pool fences and child resistant gates, medicine cupboards and stair guards. The incidence of first aid training and injuries in the home was also collected.

The ABS wishes to acknowledge the input provided by the following people: Dr Neil Powers, Mr Mark Blackburn, Dr Malcolm Dobbin (Department of Health and Community Services Victoria), Dr Joan Ozanne-Smith, Ms Irene Brumen and Dr Brian Fildes (Monash University Accident Research Centre).

Others who provided assistance include Dr Jane Elkington (NSW Health Department), Mr Ian Scott, Ms Lyndall Horton-James (Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Victoria), Mr David Moss (Ministry of Consumer Affairs), Mr Barry Parsons (Poisons Information Centre, Royal Children's Hospital), Dr Terry Nolan (Royal Children's Hospital), Dr James Harrison (National Injury Surveillance Unit), Ms Lynda Hannah (Child Safety Centre, Royal Children's Hospital), Ms Dawn Spinks (Queensland Department of Health), Chief Inspector Allan Ryan (Victoria Police), Mr Darren Leis (City of Waverley), and Ms Cheryl Joyce (St John Ambulance Australia).

The publication was compiled by Adrian Serraglio, Christine Holland, Evan Jones and Carol Soloff of the Melbourne office of the ABS.

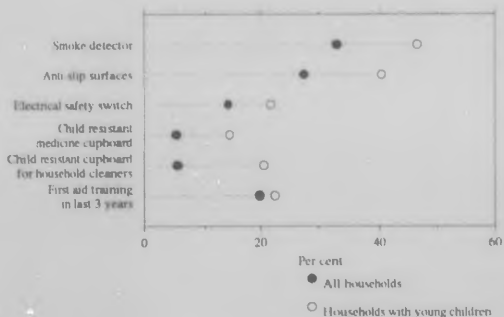
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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Households with young children

- 22 per cent had electrical safety switches.
- 47 per cent had smoke detectors.
- 23 per cent had a resident who had undertaken first aid training, which included cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), during the last three years.
- 85 per cent did not have child resistant medicine cabinets.
- 79 per cent did not have child resistant cupboards to store household cleaners.
- 16 per cent (28,600 households) had a babywalker.
- 20 per cent of households with young children which had steps and stairs inside the house had stair guards fitted.
- 79 per cent of households with young children with swimming pools had a fence surrounding the perimeter of the pool area. 35 per cent had child resistant gates.
- 40 per cent had anti slip surfaces in the bath or shower.

SAFETY APPLIANCES AND FIRST AID TRAINING



Households with older residents

- 35 per cent had baths or showers fitted with anti-slip surfaces.
- 25 per cent had hand rails in the bathroom or toilet. This increased to 40 per cent where there were residents aged 75 years or more.

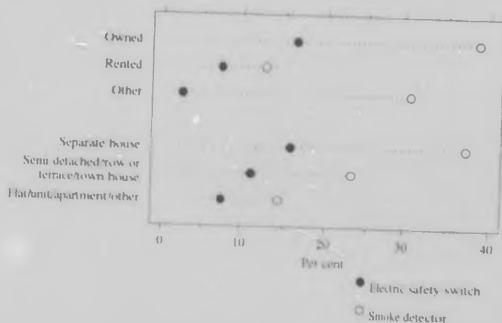
First aid training

- At least one member in 20 per cent of households had had first aid training with CPR during the last 3 years.

Safety appliances

- 367,500 households (33 per cent) had a smoke detector installed in the dwelling.
- 39 per cent of households who owned their home had a smoke detector compared with 13 per cent of households who rented.
- Smoke detectors were most popular in the Outer Eastern Region (40 per cent) followed by the South Eastern and Inner Eastern (each 36 per cent) Regions. There were least in the Inner Melbourne Region (15 per cent), possibly because of the high percentage of rental accommodation in this area.
- 158,800 households (14 per cent) had an electrical safety switch.
- 16 per cent of households who owned their homes had a safety switch compared with 7 per cent of households who rented.

WHETHER HAD SMOKE ALARM AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY SWITCH



Pools

- 89,500 households (8 per cent) had an outdoor pool.
- 37 per cent of households with pools (33,100) had a fence surrounding the perimeter of the pool area.
- 16 per cent of pools had fences with child resistant gates.

Accidents

- 74,800 households (7 per cent of all households) reported an injury to an usual resident occurring in or around the home and requiring medical attention in the period 12 months prior to the survey.
- The injury occurred most frequently in the yard (33 per cent). Within the dwelling, injuries occurred most frequently in the kitchen.
- The most common cause of the accident was a fall (43 per cent). Falls accounted for the majority of accidents to young children and older residents.

TABLE 1: ALL HOUSEHOLDS: POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARDS AND SAFETY PRODUCTS IN HOUSEHOLDS BY WHETHER HAVE ANY YOUNG CHILDREN(a)

	Households ('000)			Per cent		
	Young child	No young child	Total	Young child	No young child	Total
Steps or stairs inside:	48.1	221.9	270.0	27.0	23.5	24.1
with stairguards	9.4	12.3	21.7	5.3	1.3	1.9
In ground pool	3.8	48.9	52.8	2.1	5.2	4.7
Above ground pool	6.3	30.5	36.8	3.5	3.2	3.3
Wading pool	24.9	4.9	29.7	14.0	0.5	2.7
Outdoor spa	4.4	25.4	29.8	2.5	2.7	2.7
Child resistant cupboard:						
for medicines/medications	25.9	32.7	58.6	14.5	3.5	5.2
for household cleaners	36.7	23.5	60.2	20.6	2.5	5.4
for home maintenance products(b)	83.5	357.5	441.0	46.8	37.9	39.3
Hot water that scalds at hottest	141.0	703.2	844.1	79.1	74.6	75.3
Adjustable thermostat:	114.1	594.6	708.7	64.0	63.1	63.2
gas hot water system	96.2	464.9	561.2	54.0	49.3	50.1
electric hot water system	17.6	125.4	143.0	9.9	13.3	12.8
Firearms:	15.3	69.4	84.7	8.6	7.4	7.6
stored in wardrobe/cupboard	8.7	40.2	48.8	4.9	4.3	4.4
stored in steel box/gun safe	3.9	16.0	19.9	2.2	1.7	1.8
Ammunition kept	10.2	48.5	58.7	5.7	5.1	5.2
Have dog	62.1	313.3	375.4	34.8	33.2	33.5
Smoke detector	83.0	284.4	367.5	46.6	30.2	32.8
Electrical safety switch	38.9	119.9	158.8	21.8	12.7	14.2
Anti slip surfaces in bath or shower	72.1	236.3	308.4	40.4	25.1	27.5
Resident with first aid training & CPR(c):						
within last 3 years	40.2	182.4	222.6	22.5	19.4	19.9
more than 3 years ago	48.6	201.3	249.9	27.3	21.4	22.3
Total households	178.3	942.6	1,120.9	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Young children are children aged 4 years or less.

(b) A lockable shed is considered a child resistant cupboard for home maintenance products

(c) CPR is cardio-pulmonary resuscitation

TABLE 2: ALL HOUSEHOLDS: POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARDS AND SAFETY PRODUCTS IN HOUSEHOLDS BY WHETHER HAVE ANY OLDER RESIDENT(a)

	Households ('000)			Per cent		
	Older resident	No older resident	Total	Older resident	No older resident	Total
Steps or stairs inside	62.0	208.0	270.0	19.2	26.1	24.1
Hot water that scalds at hottest	224.7	619.4	844.1	69.5	77.7	75.3
Adjustable thermostat	202.4	506.3	708.7	62.6	63.5	63.2
gas hot water system	141.5	419.6	561.2	43.8	52.6	50.1
electric hot water system	58.6	84.4	143.0	18.1	10.6	12.8
Smoke detector	107.3	260.1	367.5	33.2	32.6	32.8
Anti slip surfaces in bath or shower	114.7	193.7	308.4	35.4	24.3	27.5
Resident with first aid training & CPR(b)						
within last 3 years	18.8	203.8	222.6	5.8	25.6	19.9
more than 3 years ago	58.5	191.4	249.9	18.1	24.0	22.3
Total households	323.5	797.4	1,120.9	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Older residents are residents aged 60 years or more.

(b) CPR is cardio pulmonary resuscitation.

TABLE 3: HOUSEHOLDS WITH AN OLDER RESIDENT(a): WHETHER HAS HAND RAILS IN BATHROOM AND TYPE OF FLOOR COVERINGS BY AGE OF OLDEST RESIDENT IN HOUSEHOLD

	Households ('000)				Per cent			
	60-64 years	65-74 years	75 years or more	Total	60-64 years	65-74 years	75 years or more	Total
Hand rails	13.5	28.0	40.8	82.3	17.3	19.6	39.9	25.4
Doormats	28.7	50.5	35.9	115.2	36.8	35.3	35.1	35.6
Area rugs	22.8	41.9	25.1	89.8	29.2	29.3	24.6	27.8
Scatter rugs	26.1	53.4	38.3	117.8	33.4	37.3	37.5	36.4
Plastic carpet protectors	3.1	5.7	3.0	11.8	3.9	4.0	2.9	3.6
Total households	78.1	143.1	102.3	323.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Older residents are residents aged 60 years or more.

TABLE 4: ALL HOUSEHOLDS: WHETHER SMOKE ALARM OR DETECTOR AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY SWITCH IN HOUSE BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY, TYPE OF DWELLING AND MELBOURNE LABOUR FORCE REGION

	Smoke detector		Electrical safety switch		Total	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
Nature of occupancy						
Owned	332.7	38.6	140.3	16.3	862.5	100.0
Rented	31.3	12.7	18.2	7.4	247.1	100.0
Other	3.5	30.8	**0.3	**2.4	11.3	100.0
Type of dwelling						
Separate house	327.8	37.2	138.6	15.7	880.9	100.0
Semi-detached/row or terrace/town house	13.9	23.0	6.7	11.2	60.2	100.0
Flat/unit/apartment/other	25.8	14.4	13.4	7.5	179.9	100.0
Melbourne Labour Force Region						
Inner	15.0	15.2	11.4	11.6	98.8	100.0
Southern	39.1	28.1	18.5	13.3	139.0	100.0
Inner Eastern	53.7	35.5	22.8	15.1	151.5	100.0
North Eastern	41.8	32.4	19.7	15.3	129.0	100.0
North Western	26.5	31.3	12.0	14.2	84.5	100.0
Outer Western	57.2	35.1	22.8	14.0	162.8	100.0
Mornington Peninsular	28.3	35.4	9.9	12.4	79.8	100.0
Outer Eastern	64.4	39.9	25.4	15.8	161.2	100.0
South Eastern	41.6	36.4	16.2	14.2	114.3	100.0
Total households	367.5	32.8	158.8	14.2	1,120.9	100.0

TABLE 5: HOUSEHOLDS WITH A SWIMMING POOL: POOL FENCES AND POOL GATES BY WHETHER HAVE ANY YOUNG CHILDREN(a)

	Households ('000)			Per cent		
	Young child	No young child	Total	Young child	No young child	Total
Fence prevents access from own dwelling and neighbouring properties	7.9	25.2	33.1	78.6	31.7	36.9
Fence only prevents access from neighbouring properties	*1.6	44.2	45.9	*16.1	55.7	51.2
Other fence	**0.6	7.0	6.6	**5.3	7.5	7.3
No fence	**0	4.1	4.1	**0	5.1	4.5
Child resistant gate	3.5	11.2	14.7	34.8	14.1	16.4
Total households	10.1	79.4	89.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Young children are children aged 4 years or less

TABLE 6: HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN(a): TYPES OF CHILDREN'S FURNITURE BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF HOUSEHOLD REFERENCE PERSON

	Households ('000)				Per cent			
	Other MES(b)		Other	Total	Other MES(b)		Other	Total
	Australia	countries			Australia	countries		
Stroller(c):	81.6	11.9	37.6	131.0	76.8	74.2	67.0	73.5
with harness	62.0	8.8	26.2	97.0	58.4	55.0	46.7	54.4
without harness	19.6	3.1	11.4	34.0	18.4	19.2	20.3	19.1
Highchair(c):	58.8	7.2	24.0	89.9	55.3	44.9	42.7	50.5
with harness	42.0	3.3	14.0	59.2	39.5	20.4	24.9	33.2
without harness	16.8	3.9	10.0	30.7	15.8	24.5	17.8	17.2
Double bunk	19.4	*2.8	4.6	26.7	18.2	*17.4	8.2	15.0
Babywalker:	15.3	*1.4	11.9	28.6	14.4	*8.8	21.1	16.0
in use	6.4	**0.5	5.5	12.5	6.1	**3.4	9.8	7.0
not in use	8.9	*0.9	6.4	16.1	8.3	*5.4	11.3	9.0
Total households	106.2	16.0	56.1	178.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Young children are children aged 4 years or less

(b) Main English Speaking (MES) countries comprise United Kingdom and Ireland, United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa

(c) Strollers and highchairs include only those used in the past month

TABLE 7: HOUSEHOLDS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN(a): TYPE OF MEDICINES AND HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS KEPT BY WHETHER STORED IN A CHILD RESISTANT CUPBOARD

	Has child resistant cupboard				No child resistant cupboard		Total	
	Stored in cupboard		Stored elsewhere					
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
Medicines/medications								
Paracetamol:								
capsules/tablets/caplets	21.8	13.8	*1.6	*1.0	134.9	85.2	158.4	100.0
mixture	13.5	12.3	*2.8	*2.6	93.5	85.2	109.8	100.0
Aspirin	9.6	16.6	**0.3	**0.5	48.0	82.9	57.9	100.0
Cough and cold medicines	16.8	12.3	3.0	2.2	115.9	85.4	135.7	100.0
Eucalyptus oil/ti-tree oil	12.4	15.1	*2.2	*2.7	67.5	82.3	82.0	100.0
Iron tablets	6.2	14.9	*1.1	*2.7	34.2	82.4	41.5	100.0
Tranquillisers/antidepressants	*1.1	*16.2	**0	**0	5.7	83.8	6.8	100.0
Blood pressure/heart tablets	*1.3	*18.1	**0	**0	6.0	81.9	7.4	100.0
Other prescription medicines	10.7	12.9	*1.9	*2.3	70.5	84.7	83.2	100.0
Total households(b)	25.9	14.5	25.9	14.5	149.4	83.8	178.3	100.0
Household cleaners								
Dishwashing detergent	28.4	16.3	8.0	4.6	137.7	79.1	174.1	100.0
Automatic dishwasher detergent	15.6	21.8	3.6	5.0	52.5	73.2	71.7	100.0
Bleach	20.7	15.5	6.3	4.7	106.8	79.8	133.8	100.0
Disinfectants/antiseptics	26.8	16.6	7.1	4.4	127.5	79.0	161.4	100.0
Drain cleaner (caustic soda)	7.3	19.0	**0.5	**1.3	30.7	79.7	38.5	100.0
Oven cleaner	18.0	18.3	4.2	4.3	76.3	77.5	98.5	100.0
Total households(b)	36.7	20.6	36.7	20.6	140.8	79.0	178.3	100.0

(a) Young children are children aged 4 years or less.

(b) The totals for columns 1 and 3 (and for columns 2 and 4) are the same as a child resistant cupboard can have some items stored in it and others stored elsewhere

TABLE 8: HOUSEHOLDS WHERE AN INJURY HAS OCCURRED IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS: DETAILS OF ACCIDENT BY AGE OF PERSON INJURED IN MOST RECENT INJURY
(⁰⁰⁰)

	Age of person injured				Total
	0-4 years	5-14 years	15-59 years	60 years or more	
Where accident occurred					
Kitchen	*2.5	**0.3	8.5	*2.0	13.2
Other room inside house	8.4	4.0	7.3	3.8	23.5
Yard/path/driveway	3.1	4.6	10.9	6.1	24.7
Other(a)	*1.1	*2.4	6.0	3.8	13.3
Activity when injured					
Playing	10.9	5.2	*1.6	**0	17.6
Home duties	**0	**0.5	8.2	4.1	12.9
Home handyperson activity	**0	**0.8	12.9	5.5	19.2
Other	4.1	4.8	10.1	6.1	25.1
Type of accident					
Fall	8.3	4.6	9.0	9.9	31.9
Cut/laceration	3.6	3.5	11.8	3.4	22.3
Other	3.0	3.3	11.9	*2.3	20.6
Place of treatment or injury					
Hospital emergency department	5.8	5.7	12.3	4.8	28.6
General practice/doctor	8.6	5.4	19.6	10.6	44.2
Other	**0.5	**0.3	**0.9	**0.3	2.0
Total	15.0	11.4	32.8	15.7	74.8

(a) Includes garage, shed, etc.



SAFETY IN THE HOME

Need additional data?

The survey *Safety in the Home* provides information on selected common household hazards and safety items. A customised data service is now available to meet special data requirements. The survey covered the Melbourne Statistical Division.

Topics covered by the survey include:

Home safety products -

Smoke detectors, electrical safety switches, anti slip surfaces and hand rails.

Children's furniture and items -

Use of highchairs, strollers, babywalkers and double bunks.

Storage methods of medicines, household cleaners and home maintenance products.

Hot water temperature and whether it is adjustable.

Pools and spas-

Outdoor area fences and child resistant pool gates.

Stairs and stairguards.

Accidents occurring in and around the home.

First aid training.

Type of dog.

Possession and storage of firearms.

Data can be classified by variables including :

Household type

Children aged 4 years or less in the household

Persons aged 60 years or more in the household

Presence of visitors aged 4 years or less or aged 60 years or more

Dwelling type and ownership

Characteristics of the head and spouse of the household

Labour Force Region in Melbourne

To discuss your data requirements from *Safety in the Home* or for further information regarding this survey please contact Adrian Serraglio on (03) 615 7352.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

1 This publication summarises the results of a Survey on *Safety in the Home* which was conducted throughout the Melbourne Statistical Division during 12-23 November 1992 as a supplement to the Australia-wide Monthly Population Survey.

Monthly Population Survey

Survey design

2 The Monthly Population Survey is based on a multi-stage sample of private and non-private dwellings. Private dwellings include houses, flats, home units, tents, and any other structures used as private residences at the time of the survey. Special dwellings include hotels, caravan parks, hospitals, flop-houses, etc.

3 The sample covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the civilian population of Australia and includes about one-half of one per cent of Victoria's population. Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by personal interview.

4 The Monthly Population Survey comprises the Labour Force Survey and, for most months of the year, an additional supplementary topic. The main emphasis is on the regular collection of specific data on demographic and labour force characteristics of the population and, for this reason, this component is usually referred to as the Labour Force Survey. Supplementary surveys are carried out on a wide variety of topics.

Scope

5 All persons aged 15 years and over are included in the Labour Force Survey except:

- (a) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (b) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;
- (c) members of the permanent defence forces; and

- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants stationed in Australia).

Supplementary survey

Survey design

6 The Supplementary Survey was conducted using the sample of private dwellings in the Melbourne Statistical Division that were included in the Monthly Population Survey. This provided a sample of approximately 4,000 dwellings where a full response was obtained. Information was collected by personal interview of an adult in the household.

Definitions

7 *Household.* A group of people who live together (in a single dwelling) as a single unit in the sense that they have common housekeeping arrangements, such as common provision for food and other essentials of living.

8 *Young child.* A child aged 4 years or less.

9 *Older resident.* An usual resident aged 60 years or more.

10 *Household reference person.* A person recorded on the household survey form around whom a family can be constructed. The reference person in a household is taken to be the person nominated by member(s) of the household.

11 *Child resistant gates.* Gates are considered child resistant if they are self closing, are self latching and have latches out of reach of young children.

12 *Child resistant cupboard.* A cupboard is considered child resistant if either it locks with a key or it has latches specially designed so that young children cannot open them.

13 *Electrical safety switch.* This refers to a switch which automatically cuts off the

electric current in order to prevent electrocution. They are also called circuit breakers. It does not include switches installed primarily to prevent current surge to electrical appliances.

14 *Anti-slip surfaces.* Any type of special surface in a bath or shower which will prevent slipping. It includes non-slip rubber mats.

15 *Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).* A combination of mouth to mouth resuscitation and heart massage.

Related publications

16 The ABS produces a wide range of publications relating to the Monthly Labour Force Survey. These include:

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) (\$13.00)

A Guide to Labour Statistics (6102.0) (\$3.60)

The Labour Force, Victoria (6202.2) (\$12.50)

Other ABS publications which relate to the survey topic include:

National Health Survey: Accidents (4384.0) (\$5.00)

Child Care, Australia (4402.0) (\$25.00)

Census 86 - Older People in Victoria (2501.2) (\$12.50)

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0), which is available from any ABS office.

Previous State Supplementary surveys

17 Users may be interested in reading past Victorian State Supplementary survey publications. These have included:

1983: *Housing, Victoria* (8790.2)

1984: *Travel to Work, School and Shops, Victoria* (9201.2)

1985: *Domiciliary Services, Victoria* (4402.2)

1986: *Water Using Appliances, Victoria* (8709.2)

1987: *Crime and Crime Prevention, Victoria* (4507.2)

1988: *Type and Conditions of Part-time Employment, Victoria* (6304.2) (\$12.50)

1989: *Sports Participation, Victoria* (4118.2) (\$10.00)

1990: *Community Participation in Energy Conservation, Victoria* (4120.2) (\$15.00)

1991: *Work Patterns of Women, Victoria* (6204.2) (\$14.00)

Symbols and other usages

* estimate is subject to a relative standard error of between 25 and 50 per cent.

** estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes (more than 50 per cent). Refer to the Technical Notes at the end of this publication.

V. LAZZARO

Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

TECHNICAL NOTES

1 The figures contained in this publication are estimates based on a sample of approximately 4,000 households in the Melbourne Statistical Division in November 1992.

Reliability of the estimates

2 The estimates provided in this publication may be subject to two types of error:

Sampling error

3 This is the difference which would be expected between the estimate and the corresponding figure that would have been obtained from a collection based on the whole population, using the same questionnaires and procedures.

Non-sampling error

4 Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing the data. These errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or a complete enumeration. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

Interpretation of results

5 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings both of the above error types must be considered.

Estimates of sampling error

6 One measure of the likely difference which would be expected between the estimate based on a sample and the figure that would have been obtained from a complete collection is the standard error (Table A).

7 There are about two chances in three (67 per cent) that an estimate will differ by less than one standard error from that which would have been obtained if all households had been included in the survey. There are about nineteen chances in twenty (95 per cent) that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

8 A standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate is known as the 'relative standard error'. For example, if an estimate of 4,500 persons has a standard error of 1125, then the estimate has a relative standard error of $1125/4500 \times 100 = 25$ per cent. The relative standard error is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling.

9 Estimates below 900 households have been included in this publication preceded by two asterisks (e.g. **0.8) because they are subject to high relative standard error (more than 50 per cent). Figures for these small components should not be regarded as reliable.

10 Estimates between 900 and 2,900 households have been included in this publication preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *2.6). This is to highlight the need for care in using the data because of the high relative standard error (between 25 and 50 per cent).

11 An example of the calculation on use of standard errors is as follows. From Table A we see that a population estimate of 6,000 persons (column 1) has a standard error (SE) of 1000 (column 2). Therefore, there are two chances in three that the number which would result if all persons were included in the survey lies in the range 5,000 to 7,000 (one SE either side of the estimate, column 4). There are 19 chances in 20 that the true number lies in the range 4,000 to 8,000 (2 SEs either side of the estimate, column 5).

12 A more detailed explanation of standard errors can be found in the technical notes of the *Labour Force, Australia*, (6203.0).

TABLE A. STANDARD ERROR OF ESTIMATES (a),
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Size of estimate (⁰⁰⁰)	Standard error of estimate (⁰⁰⁰)	Relative standard error (Per cent)	There are about two chances in three that the actual population figure will fall in the range (b) (⁰⁰⁰)	There are about nineteen chances in twenty that the actual population figure will fall in the range (b) (⁰⁰⁰)
0.8	0.4	52.8	0.4 - 1.2	0.0 - 1.6
0.9	0.4	49.2	0.5 - 1.3	0.0 - 1.8
1.0	0.5	46.2	0.5 - 1.5	0.1 - 1.9
1.1	0.5	43.7	0.6 - 1.6	0.1 - 2.1
1.2	0.5	41.5	0.7 - 1.7	0.2 - 2.2
1.3	0.5	39.6	0.8 - 1.8	0.3 - 2.3
1.4	0.5	37.9	0.9 - 1.9	0.3 - 2.5
1.5	0.6	36.4	1.0 - 2.1	0.4 - 2.6
1.6	0.6	35.1	1.0 - 2.2	0.5 - 2.7
1.7	0.6	33.9	1.1 - 2.3	0.5 - 2.9
1.8	0.6	32.8	1.2 - 2.4	0.6 - 3.0
1.9	0.6	31.8	1.3 - 2.5	0.7 - 3.1
2.0	0.6	30.8	1.4 - 2.6	0.8 - 3.2
2.1	0.6	30.0	1.5 - 2.7	0.8 - 3.4
2.2	0.6	29.2	1.6 - 2.8	0.9 - 3.5
2.3	0.7	28.5	1.7 - 3.0	1.0 - 3.6
2.4	0.7	27.8	1.7 - 3.1	1.1 - 3.7
2.5	0.7	27.1	1.8 - 3.2	1.1 - 3.9
3.0	0.7	24.4	2.3 - 3.7	1.5 - 4.5
3.5	0.8	22.4	2.7 - 4.3	1.9 - 5.1
4.0	0.8	20.8	3.2 - 4.8	2.3 - 5.7
4.5	0.9	19.4	3.6 - 5.4	2.7 - 6.3
5.0	0.9	18.3	4.1 - 5.9	3.2 - 6.8
6.0	1.0	16.6	5.0 - 7.0	4.0 - 8.0
8.0	1.2	14.1	6.9 - 9.2	5.7 - 10.3
10.0	1.3	12.5	8.8 - 11.3	7.5 - 12.5
20.0	1.8	8.7	18.3 - 21.8	16.5 - 23.5
30.0	2.1	7.0	27.9 - 32.1	25.8 - 34.2
40.0	2.4	6.0	37.6 - 42.4	35.2 - 44.8
50.0	2.7	5.4	47.3 - 52.7	44.6 - 55.4
100.0	3.8	3.8	96.2 - 103.8	92.4 - 107.6
200.0	5.5	2.7	194.5 - 205.5	189.0 - 211.0
300.0	6.8	2.3	293.2 - 306.8	286.4 - 313.6
400.0	7.9	2.0	392.1 - 407.9	384.2 - 415.8
500.0	8.9	1.8	491.1 - 508.9	482.2 - 517.8
1,000.0	13.1	1.3	986.9 - 1,013.1	973.8 - 1,026.2
2,000.0	19.4	1.0	1,980.6 - 2,019.4	1,961.2 - 2,038.8

(a) These figures have been rounded to the nearest 100 (b) These figures have been calculated using the actual figures



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