6207.0

Reference No. 6.9

LEAVERS FROM SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS MAY 1975

MAIN FEATURES

- **Over one third (36.0 per cent) of all civilians aged 15 to 24 years attended an educational institution full time in 1974.**
- **Of these, 28.5 per cent did not return to full-time education in 1975.**
- **94.2 per cent of these leavers were in the labour force in May 1975. Of those in the labour force seven out of eight (87.2 per cent) were employed – nearly all full time – and one in eight (12.8 per cent) was unemployed.**
- **Nearly one quarter (23.3 per cent) of the school leavers were studying full time at a post-school educational institution in May 1975.**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In May 1975 a survey, based on the quarterly population survey sample, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain, amongst other things, information about persons aged 15 to 24 years who had attended full-time at a school, university or other educational institution at some time during 1974. Separate information was obtained in respect of persons who had returned to full-time education in 1975 and those who had not returned to full-time education (described in this publication as leavers). This survey continued the series of surveys carried out in February of each year from 1964 to 1974.

2. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covered about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information was obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being carried out during a four-week period.

Scope

3. The estimates in this publication relate to all persons aged 15 to 24 years, except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. Persons who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling, and persons reported as permanently unable to work were not asked the survey questions. An estimate of the total number of such persons is shown in Table 1.

Definitions

4. Each person was assigned to a labour force category on the basis of his actual activity in the *survey week*, i.e. the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place. The principal categories appearing in the tables in this bulletin are as follows:

(i) **Persons in the labour force** comprise those who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in (ii) and (iii) below.

(ii) **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 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 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.

(iii) **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.

(iv) **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.

5. For this survey, *leavers from shools, universities or other educational institutions* were defined as persons who, at the time of the survey, were not attending an educational institution full-time in a course normally lasting at least one academic year, and who had completed or withdrawn from such a course at an Australian educational institution in 1974 or 1975. *Non-leavers* were defined as persons who, at the time of the survey, were attending an Australian educational institution full-time in a course normally lasting at least one academic year and who had done so in 1974.

Discontinuity of series

6. In addition to information on leavers from educational institutions, the May 1975 survey obtained information about a number of other aspects of education. For this reason the questions asked differed somewhat from those in earlier surveys in this series. As the survey was conducted in May, information about the type of courses attended in 1975 related to courses actually attended at the time of the survey. Earlier surveys were conducted in February, generally before the start of the academic year for tertiary courses, and information was, of necessity, partly a reflection of expectations.

7. Most of the estimates in this bulletin are not comparable with those obtained from surveys conducted in 1971 and earlier years because trainee teachers (enrolled at Colleges of Advanced Education and in some cases enrolled also at other institutions), who were then classified as in the labour force are now included in the category "attended an educational institution full time in the previous year". It is estimated that in August 1971 there were about 7,000 males and 17,000 females who were reclassified in population surveys as not in the labour force.

Reliability of the estimates

8. Since the estimates 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. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 7.

Rounding

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

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr Damien Power on 52 6503 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 1. – PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS (a), FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE OR NON-ATTENDANCE AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

	Attended an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)				*Did not attend an educational institution full time in the previous year (b)*	*In hospitals, etc. (d)*	*Total persons aged 15 to 24 years*
		Non-leavers (c)					
	Leavers (c)		*Per cent of total*	*Total*			
	('000)	*('000)*		*('000)*	*('000)*	*('000)*	*('000)*
MALES							
Feb. –1970	95.1	232.4	71.0	327.5	733.9	9.5	1,070.9
1971	103.3	247.9	70.6	351.2	741.8	11.6	1,104.6
1972	101.2	262.8	72.2	364.0	744.6	11.6	1,120.1
1973	114.8	281.0	71.0	395.9	719.2	15.6	1,130.7
1974	119.4	283.3	70.3	402.7	722.7	12.1	1,137.5
May –1975	123.1	316.0	72.0	439.2	726.0	12.5	1,177.7
FEMALES							
Feb. –1970	91.7	180.6	66.3	272.3	777.6	4.6	1,054.5
1971	100.5	194.0	65.9	294.5	784.0	5.5	1,084.0
1972	92.0	225.4	71.0	317.3	774.1	7.0	1,098.4
1973	103.7	245.2	70.3	348.9	750.2	8.3	1,107.3
1974	109.9	246.9	69.2	356.8	753.7	*	1,114.3
May –1975	115.3	283.6	71.1	398.9	748.0	4.3	1,151.2
PERSONS							
Feb. –1970	186.8	413.0	68.9	599.8	1,511.5	14.0	2,125.4
1971	203.8	441.9	68.4	645.6	1,525.8	17.1	2,188.6
1972	193.1	488.2	71.7	681.3	1,518.7	18.6	2,218.5
1973	218.5	526.2	70.7	744.7	1,469.4	23.9	2,238.0
1974	229.4	530.2	69.8	759.6	1,476.5	15.8	2,251.8
May –1975	238.4	599.6	71.5	838.1	1,474.0	16.8	2,328.9

(a) At the time of the survey. (b) Excludes some patients in hospitals and sanitoria and some inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., at the time of the survey, and persons permanently unable to work who were not asked the survey questions. (c) For definitions *see* page 2, paragraphs 5 and 6. (d) Estimated numbers of persons for whom the hospital, sanitorium, gaol, reformatory, etc., was regarded as their dwelling and persons who were reported as permanently unable to work. Particulars of attendance at schools, etc., were not obtained in respect of such persons.

* Less than 4,000 *see* page 7, paragraph 5.

NOTE. *See* page 2, paragraphs 6 and 7, regarding discontinuities of the series.

TABLE 2. – PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS (a) : TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED FULL TIME IN 1974, AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, MAY 1975
('000)

	Males			*Females*			*Persons*		
	Aged 15 to 19 years	*Aged 20 to 24 years*	*Total*	*Aged 15 to 19 years*	*Aged 20 to 24 years*	*Total*	*Aged 15 to 19 years*	*Aged 20 to 24 years*	*Total*
BORN IN AUSTRALIA									
Attended an educational institution full time in 1974 (b)	319.1	52.8	371.9	314.4	35.1	349.5	633.5	87.9	721.4
School	299.2	*	302.7	281.1	*	282.0	580.4	4.3	584.7
University	8.8	29.3	38.0	8.5	14.3	22.9	17.3	43.6	60.9
College of Advanced Education (c)	8.0	14.0	22.0	13.4	18.2	31.7	21.4	32.3	53.7
Other	*	6.1	9.2	11.3	*	12.9	14.4	7.7	22.1
Did not attend full time in 1974 (b)	200.9	399.3	600.2	195.0	412.9	607.9	395.9	812.2	1,208.1
Total	520.0	452.1	972.0	509.5	448.0	957.5	1,029.4	900.1	1,929.5
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA									
Attended an educational institution full time in 1974 (b)	55.7	11.6	67.3	44.7	4.7	49.4	100.4	16.3	116.7
School	51.6	*	52.9	40.8	*	41.5	92.4	*	94.4
University	*	7.0	9.4	*	*	*	4.1	9.0	13.1
Other (d)	*	*	4.9	*	*	4.2	*	5.3	9.2
Did not attend full time in 1974 (b)	29.7	96.2	125.9	36.3	103.8	140.0	66.0	199.9	265.9
Total	85.4	107.7	193.2	81.0	108.5	189.4	166.4	216.2	382.6

(a) At the time of the survey. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. (b) In a course lasting one year or more. *See* page 2, paragraphs 5 and 6. (c) Includes teacher training college. (d) Includes College of Advanced Education.

* Less than 4,000. *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

TABLE 3. – PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS (a) : TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ATTENDED FULL TIME IN 1974, LEAVERS AND NON-LEAVERS (b), MAY 1975
('000)

	Institution attended full time in 1974					
	School	*University*	*College of Advanced Education (c)*	*Technical College*	*Other*	*Total*
MALES						
Leavers (b)	100.6	9.5	7.3	5.2	*	123.1
Non-leavers (b)	255.0	38.0	18.3	*	*	316.0
Attending –						
Same type of institution in 1975	229.4	37.7	18.3	*	*	289.4
Different type of institution in 1975	25.7	*	*	*	*	26.7
Total	355.6	47.4	25.5	9.0	*	439.2
FEMALES						
Leavers (b)	90.5	5.0	8.9	7.5	*	115.3
Non-leavers (b)	233.0	21.6	25.7	*	*	283.6
Attending –						
Same type of institution in 1975	200.6	20.7	25.7	*	*	249.8
Different type of institution in 1975	32.4	*	*	*	*	33.8
Total	323.5	26.6	34.6	10.2	4.0	398.9
PERSONS						
Leavers (b)	191.1	14.5	16.1	12.8	4.0	238.4
Non-leavers (b)	488.0	59.5	44.0	6.4	*	599.6
Attending –						
Same type of institution in 1975	430.0	58.3	44.0	5.3	*	539.2
Different type of institution in 1975	58.1	*	*	*	*	60.5
Total	679.1	74.0	60.1	19.2	5.6	838.1

(a) At the time of the survey. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. (b) For definition *see* page 2, paragraph 5. (c) Includes teacher training college.

* Less than 4,000. *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

TABLE 4. – LEAVERS (a) : AGE (b), MAY 1975
('000)

Age (b) (years)	*Attended school in 1974*			*Attended any educational institution in 1974*		
	Males	*Females*	*Persons*	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*
15	20.7	18.4	39.1	20.7	18.4	39.1
16	36.1	34.5	70.5	36.1	35.4	71.4
17	23.7	22.3	46.0	24.3	27.4	51.7
18	13.4	12.9	26.2	14.4	15.5	29.9
19	4.0	*	5.8	6.1	4.6	10.7
20 and over	*	*	*	21.7	14.0	35.6
Total	100.6	90.5	191.1	123.1	115.3	238.4

(a) For definition *see* page 2, paragraph 5. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. (b) At the time of the survey.

* Less than 4,000. *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

TABLE 5. – LEAVERS (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND BIRTHPLACE, MAY 1975

State	Employment status				Total leavers			
	Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed ('000)	Total in the labour force ('000)	Not in the labour force ('000)	Aged 15-19 years ('000)	Aged 20-24 years ('000)	Total Number ('000)	Total Participation rate (c) (per cent)
MALES								
New South Wales	38.3	4.2	42.5	*	34.6	9.4	44.0	96.6
Victoria	24.6	*	27.1	*	23.3	6.1	29.5	92.2
Queensland	16.3	*	18.1	*	17.3	*	19.1	94.9
South Australia	10.8	*	12.7	*	11.2	*	13.1	97.0
Western Australia	9.9	*	10.9	*	9.0	2.4	11.4	95.8
Tasmania	3.0	*	3.5	*	2.9	*	3.5	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	1.7	*	1.7	*	*	*	1.7	100.0
Australia (d)	*105.1*	*12.1*	*117.3*	*5.9*	*100.2*	*22.9*	*123.1*	*95.2*
Born in Australia	90.6	9.6	100.2	4.8	85.8	19.2	105.0	95.4
Born outside Australia	14.5	*	17.1	*	14.4	*	18.1	94.1
FEMALES								
New South Wales	35.2	5.1	40.4	*	37.3	5.2	42.6	94.7
Victoria	21.4	5.1	26.5	*	24.8	*	28.5	92.8
Queensland	12.9	*	15.1	*	14.8	*	16.4	92.2
South Australia	9.1	*	10.8	*	10.0	*	11.7	91.8
Western Australia	8.1	*	9.9	*	8.8	2.0	10.8	91.8
Tasmania	2.7	*	3.3	*	3.3	*	3.7	89.7
Australia (e)	*90.6*	*16.7*	*107.3*	*8.1*	*100.7*	*14.7*	*115.3*	*93.0*
Born in Australia	80.5	14.5	95.0	7.3	89.4	12.8	102.3	92.9
Born outside Australia	10.2	*	12.3	*	11.3	*	13.1	94.0
PERSONS								
New South Wales	73.4	9.3	82.7	*	71.8	14.6	86.6	95.7
Victoria	46.0	7.7	53.6	4.3	48.2	9.8	58.0	92.5
Queensland	29.3	4.0	33.2	*	32.1	3.3	35.5	93.7
South Australia	19.9	3.7	23.5	*	21.1	3.7	24.9	94.6
Western Australia	18.0	2.8	20.7	*	17.8	4.3	22.1	93.9
Tasmania	5.7	*	6.8	*	6.3	*	7.2	94.7
Australian Capital Territory	2.7	*	2.8	*	2.4	*	2.9	95.3
Australia (d)	*195.7*	*28.8*	*224.4*	*14.0*	*200.8*	*37.6*	*238.4*	*94.2*
Born in Australia	171.0	24.1	195.1	12.1	175.1	31.9	207.2	94.2
Born outside Australia	24.7	4.7	29.4	*	25.6	5.7	31.2	94.1

(a) For definitions *see* page 2, paragraph 5. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. (b) Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (c) Leavers in the labour force as a percentage of total leavers. (d) Includes the Northern Territory. (e) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

TABLE 6. – EMPLOYED LEAVERS (a) : INDUSTRY, MAY 1975
('000)

Industry division	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	8.9	*	9.6
Manufacturing	27.4	7.8	35.3
Construction	13.8	*	14.2
Wholesale and retail trade	22.5	26.7	49.1
Transport, storage and communication	5.3	*	7.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	8.3	14.8	23.1
Community services (b)	6.5	24.8	31.2
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	*	6.4	9.7
Other (c)	9.1	7.4	16.4
Total	105.1	90.6	195.7
Full-time workers	101.5	86.4	187.8
Part-time workers	*	4.2	8.0

(a) For definitions *see* page 2, paragraph 5. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (b) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (c) Comprises mining; electricity, gas and water; and public administration and defence.

* Less than 4,000, *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

TABLE 7. – EMPLOYED LEAVERS (a) : OCCUPATION, MAY 1975
('000)

Occupation group	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*
Professional and technical	10.8	19.4	30.2
Administrative, executive, managerial and clerical	15.1	41.5	56.5
Sales	7.2	13.4	20.6
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	9.7	*	10.4
Transport and communication	*	*	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers (n.e.c.) (b)	57.1	6.4	63.6
Service, sport and recreation	*	8.2	10.8
Total	105.1	90.6	195.7

(a) For definitions *see* page 2, paragraph 5. *See* also footnote (b) to Table 1. Includes wage and salary earners, employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (b) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

* Less than 4,000. *See* page 7, paragraph 5.

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.

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* for general application is given below. 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 quarterly labour force 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. An example of the use of the table 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 then 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.

4. 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 numerator can be obtained from the table below.

5. As the standard errors in the table below show *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard 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 the lowest levels shown in the table below have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases by derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. 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.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	*N.S.W.*	*Vic.*	*Qld*	*S.A.*	*W.A.*	*Tas.*	*N.T.*	*A.C.T.*	*Australia*	
									Number	*per cent of estimate*
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	600	700	400	650	900	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	800	1,000	400	900	1,300	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,000	1,500	500	1,300	2,000	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,100	2,000	600		3,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	1,200	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	1,500	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published – see paragraph 5 above.

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